

OptixEQ Looks at the 2020 Breeders' Cup Fillies and Mares Sprint (G1) by Emily Gullikson

INTRO

A highly contentious event with some of the top female sprinters in training lined up to compete for the \$1 million purse of the Breeders' Cup Fillies and Mares Sprint (G1), an 7-furlong test over the Keeneland main track.

OPTIXPLOT

The "Green" **OptixPLOT** PlotFit will be used along with the "Fire" Contention and 34 SpeedRate to assess pace and as always, **OptixNOTES** will be used in conjunction to help assess the pace scenario.

OPTIXGRID/QUADPCT

QuadPCT highlights runners in Quad I and III and will be the starting point for handicapping starting off by assessing the favorite.

#3 GAMINE (7-5/SOFT) she has the benefit of being one of those *Quad I/III* positioned runners as well as a being a *Square*. Her *OptixFIG* all in *Range*, and on the high side of that *Range* looking at the *Past 3 Runlines* and the *SHORTER Keyword* is also a positive. While she has all of that in her favor, there are some concerns with how she handles this level of *Contention/Fire* once again. The Oaks was the first time in her career she had to deal with the *Fire* and came up short on the day. At a short price, she is worth taking on and looking for alternatives.

#7 SERENGETI EMPRESS (3-1/NO_VALUE) similar concerns with her in terms of the "Fire" *Contention* once again this afternoon. She has been most effective with either that *LONE* trip or a *lower SpeedRate*, neither of which look in play here.

#6 VENETIAN HARBOR (8-1/VALUE) in terms of the *Quad I* runners she presents as a value alternative. In addition to the position in *Quad I*, she hold *OptixFIG* in *Range* as well as positives (*no red Keywords*) in her *Past 3 Runlines*. As she makes her second start of the form cycle here and remaining at Keeneland (positive intent) following the G2 Raven Run take a step forward with the fitness achieved from that start.

#1 SPEECH (6-1/ABOVE) looking at her on *Standard* she looks well-positioned to get the ideal inside tracking trip with first run on the *Quad I* runners and has some finish as a *Square*. In terms of her *Surface/Distance Circle*, she has not run at a sprint distance in about nine-months and reasonable to expect some improvement from those races based on her current form. In terms of *OptixFIG* she fits in *Range* as well as *Class* with the *B+* *OptixGRADE* in the G1 Ashland over this Keeneland main track in July. It is possible to see her overlooked even from the 6-1 morning

line coming off the fourth place finish in the G1 Oaks where trip was not ideal for her and could just fall into ideal today.

#5 SCONSIN (20-1/EXOTIC KEY) in terms of position on the *PLOT* as well as *OptixFIG* and *Past 3 Runlines* (Form) there is little between the three *Quad IV Squares*. Pace and trip can be similar though also some subtle differences and that looks to be the key here. **SCONSIN** draws a post in the middle of the field and should be able to establish a tracking position from mid-pack with that post. From the outside **#8 SALLY'S CURLIN (20-1/UNDERNEATH)** more of a confirmed closer will have to drop back early to make her one run, whereas **#9 BELL'S THE ONE (6-1/NO_VALUE)** has a tougher task. She will either have to take back and work a trip as a *Closer* or use for position early on which could result in both ground and energy loss.

#3 COME DANCING and **#4 INTHEMIDSTOFBIZ** both fillies rank **BELOW** this afternoon lacking an edge in terms of *Plot* and *OptixFIG/FORM* either *below* or on the *lower end of RANGE*.

CONCLUSION: A playable opportunity with the *Soft Favorite* **#2 GAMINE** and *value lacking* on second choice **#7 SERENGETI EMPRESS** to create some overlays on the board.