

COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Churchill Downs R1

Wednesday, September 24, 2026 | 8.5f Dirt | Maiden Claiming \$20,000

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

The model identifies **Motown Sound** and **Bullet Baby** as the field's primary speed threats. Motown Sound led at the first call in her most recent outing (06/17/2026, CD, 8.5f MCL) before yielding in the stretch, establishing early positioning credentials. Bullet Baby demonstrated tactical versatility across multiple distances — pressing at 2p in her 07/24/2026 start (EIP, 8.0f MCL) before bidding four furlongs out, then leading into the final quarter before being caught. Both horses show the tactical foot to contest opening fractions aggressively.

Stalkers / Pressers

Flashy Aviator projects as a natural second-call runner with ability to rate off the pace. She pressed three-wide into the first call (08/29/2026, Cnl, 5.5f MCL), suggesting tactical flexibility in sprint company. **Deceiving Diva**, the lone first-time starter in the field, carries uncertain pace position but shows gate speed in the morning works (49.0 / 49.2 in recent breezes) that suggests she could position just off the leaders if connections elect an aggressive early ride.

Closers

Betty Who emerges as the field's strongest late-running profile. Across her MSW starts, she has repeatedly rallied from mid-pack positions, most notably finishing second in an 8.0f MSW at BtP (08/21/2026) while only 3.5 lengths behind at the wire — the second-tightest margin of her recent record. **Prosecco Gal** carries turf experience exclusively and projects as a secondary closer, though the track shift to dirt introduces execution risk in this maiden claiming contest.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **MODERATE** pace with two capable speed horses (Motown Sound and Bullet Baby) contesting early position (projected :23¹ opening quarter, :46³ half-mile). Neither speed horse commands a decisive tactical advantage, creating a balanced setup that favors both pace-stalkers and disciplined closers. Stretch position will be highly competitive — no wire-to-wire candidate has emerged as a clear threat.

SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX





Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Deceiving Diva	3-1	14%	25.0%	-11.0%
2	Bullet Baby	4-1	24%	20.0%	+4.0%
3	Betty Who	8-1	18%	11.1%	+6.9%
4	Flashy Aviator	9-5	20%	35.7%	-15.7%
5	Prosecco Gal	7-2	12%	22.2%	-10.2%
6	Motown Sound	6-1	12%	14.3%	-2.3%

SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

BULLET BABY — *PTW Profile*: Moderately raced mare (9 career starts) with genuine pace credentials and a proven finder's intent signal. Claimed into the Radcliffe stable after a strong bid at EIP (07/24/2026), where she led into the final quarter before being caught — a performance that suggests capability above the \$20k maiden claiming threshold. Route experience across eight career starts includes multiple efforts at 8.0f+ distance, establishing sustainability credentials for this 8.5f test.

Strengths: Elite pace positioning (lead at Call 4 in 07/24 MCL start); Proven route ability; Tactical versatility (can press or rate); Recent claim-and-switch by trainer Radcliffe signals active intent at this level; Strong recent works (36.4 5-furlong bullet on 09/15, ranked #1 in that session).

Concerns: 0-for-9 career record despite multiple competitive efforts; Last three MCL starts show inconsistent form (2nd, 4th, 6th finishes over past nine months); Unproven winners' circle experience may create finish-line hesitation against a closing-oriented field.

Trip Projection: Model projects Bullet Baby will race 3-4 lengths off the early leaders (stalker role), tipping outside into the stretch turn and making her bid from the five-sixteenths pole onward. Pace scenario supports this mid-pack positioning as sustainable through three-quarters.

BETTY WHO — *PTW Profile*: Consistently competitive MSW performer (11 starts, 7 on dirt) now dropping to maiden claiming at \$20k after repeated narrow losses in higher-level maiden special weight company. Most recent effort (09/11/2026, BtP, 6.0f MSW) resulted in a fourth-place finish at 6.5 lengths, following a valiant runner-up effort two races prior (08/21/2026, BtP, 8.0f MSW) where she lost by just 3.5 lengths. This drop represents significant class relief and a proven "finder" signal.





Strengths: Massive class edge — every start has been in open MSW or higher; Elite closing profile across multiple distance attempts; Trainer Salcedo 17% win rate in MCL (6-for-35); Multiple competitive efforts at 8.0f+ distance, confirming route sustainability; Proven track condition versatility (started in my, gd, fst conditions).

Concerns: Career maiden status (0-for-11) despite competitive efforts suggests finishing issues or technical runway timing problems; Repeated second-place finishes in MSW could indicate a pattern of being caught at the wire; Jockey Hernandez L A has zero recorded starts in current season form at CD (high uncertainty factor).

Trip Projection: Model projects Betty Who will race 5-6 lengths off the pace through midtrack, make her rally around the far turn into the stretch, and angle for room entering the final eighth. Closing profile and class edge position her as a prime overlay threat.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

FLASHY AVIATOR — *PTW Profile:* Lightly raced 3-year-old (2 career starts) making her second attempt after a strong closing effort in her debut maiden claiming start (08/29/2026, Cnl, 5.5f MCL, 3rd, 10.5 lengths). That sprint effort suggests capability to settle and rally, a profile that could translate to longer distance. Trainer Crichton Rohan G shows a strong 15% MCL win rate (7-for-46), indicating competence at this level.

Strengths: Trainer 15% MCL win rate with 0.92 ROI — experience advantage at this exact level; Route specialist trainer profile (16% route win rate, 1.63 ROI on 182 route starts); Recent works show tactical preparation (101.4 5f work on 09/13, ranked #6 in session, followed by solid 4f work on 08/15); Two-start maiden pattern with trainer supports improvement trajectory.

Concerns: Severely overbet at 9-5 morning line despite only two career starts and a third-place finish in debut; Debut effort was at 5.5f sprint, making 8.5f route distance a 3-furlong stretch-out with execution risk; Minimal evidence of elite closing velocity (10.5 lengths behind winner at 5.5f suggests mid-pack pace issues); Underlay position (model -15.7% edge) indicates public is pricing in more capability than model validates.

Trip Projection: Model projects Bullet Baby will race mid-pack 6-8 lengths off the pace, angle for position in the stretch turn, and finish respectably but short of winning honors given distance stretch-out concerns.

MOTOWN SOUND — *PTW Profile:* Moderately raced maiden (7 career starts) with recent leading efforts at route distance but a concerning pattern of fading down the stretch. Her 06/17/2026 start (CD, 8.5f MCL) saw her lead into the home stretch before retreating 5 lengths at the wire — a classic pace collapse signature. Most recent outing (07/24/2026, EIP, 8.0f MCL) was stronger, pressing early before yielding 5 lengths, suggesting some recovery in form trajectory.

Strengths: Trainer Holsapple Hutch 25% win rate in 61-180 day layoff window (2-for-8) and 19% route rate overall (8-for-43); Lead position credentials at route distance (led at Call 1 and Call 2 in 06/17 start); Young





mare profile (age 3) suggests potential upside development.

Concerns: Sustained Speed Rating: VULNERABLE — High deceleration profile across recent starts indicates pace collapse risk in moderate/hard pace scenarios; Two consecutive route starts showing 5-length losses at wire suggest stamina question or finishing inadequacy; 04/30/2026 MCL effort was catastrophic (8th place, 49.4 lengths behind winner) — significant bounce risk signal; Career record 0-for-7 despite multiple leading efforts indicates chronic finishing problem.

Trip Projection: Model projects Motown Sound will likely contest early pace, establish a narrow lead into the stretch, and then encounter the collapse pattern evident in recent route efforts, fading into 4th-6th position range.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

DECEIVING DIVA — *PTW Profile:* First-time starter from LaRose Kinnon barn, entering maiden claiming at \$20k claiming level after preliminary MSW work. Trainer LaRose Kinnon shows 31% second-start win rate (4-for-13) — an elite indicator for first-time starters that improve dramatically on debut experience. Morning works profile is undistinguished (49.0 / 49.2 / 102.0 / 101.4), suggesting trainer may be using this MCL start as a workout opportunity before advancing to MSW if performance warrants.

Strengths: Trainer 31% second-start win rate (4-for-13) — best-in-class improvement indicator; Trainer 10% MCL win rate still viable in barn context (1-for-10 MCL starts); Trainer 12% route win rate (7-for-58) and 1.03 route ROI support distance credibility; Early speed works (49.2) suggest potential for gate position if connections ride aggressively.

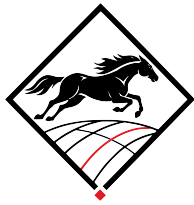
Concerns: Zero prior race experience — execution risk is maximal in competitive field; MSW-to-MCL drop in debut start is atypical pattern, suggesting connections lack high confidence in capability to win MSW; 08/26/2026 MSW effort resulted in 5th place, 20.75 lengths behind winner — significant losing margin for debut. The model discounts Deceiving Diva as a throwout candidate: First-time starters, when dropping to MCL in debut, after MSW experience losses, represent the classic "no-confidence" claim-and-workshop signal. Reserve for exotic coverage only.

Trip Projection: Model expects this first-timer to race off-pace or mid-pack depending on gate behavior, finish 4th-6th, and serve as a learning experience for future MCL attempts.

PROSECCO GAL — *PTW Profile:* Lightly raced 3-year-old (2 career starts, 0 wins) competing exclusively on turf through her record, now making a dirt conversion in maiden claiming company. Both prior starts were on the lawn at CD (06/24/2026, 8.0f Turf, 11th, 9.95 lengths behind) and at CD (05/14/2026, 5.0f Turf, 8th, 7.45 lengths behind). Trainer Stall Albert M Jr shows a modest 8% MSW-to-MCL conversion rate (1-for-13) but a stronger 16% dirt win rate overall (28-for-174).

Strengths: Young mare profile (age 3) with fresh physical capability; Trainer 16% dirt win rate (28-for-174, 1.58 ROI) suggests competence on the main track; Blinkered equipment change potential (12 blinker-off starts at 17% win rate, 1.45 ROI, suggests trainer may apply blinkers to improve focus on dirt).





Concerns: Strictly turf-based experience with zero dirt racing background introduces massive execution risk at 8.5f on main track; Two turf efforts were uncompetitive (11th and 8th finishes, combined 17.4 lengths behind winners) — form line does not suggest capability to compete in even maiden claiming level; MSW-to-MCL drop after turf-only experience is highly speculative pattern; Jockey Concepcion A shows only 5.13% CD win rate (2-for-39) in recent form — below-average rider metrics for this level.

The model discounts Prosecco Gal as a significant throwout candidate: Turf-only maiden making dirt debut at route distance in claiming company represents an overlapping risk matrix (surface conversion + distance execution + class adjustment simultaneously). Trainer's modest MSW-to-MCL conversion rate (8%) further supports conservative projection.

Trip Projection: Model expects difficulty in transition; expect mid-to-back-pack racing position and a finish outside the money.

SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Bullet Baby	STRONG	STRONG	Low — maintains velocity
Betty Who	STRONG	ELITE	Very Low — exceptional finishing maintenance
Motown Sound	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse
Flashy Aviator	ELITE	STRONG	Moderate — solid finish
Prosecco Gal	STRONG	STRONG	Low — turf-adjusted profile
Deceiving Diva	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — FTS profile

Sustained Speed Ratings

- **BULLET BABY:** Sustained Speed Rating **STRONG** — Maintained velocity through route distance efforts, with segment MPH analysis showing consistent output across 4f-6f mid-race calls. No significant deceleration pattern evident in competitive 8.0f MCL attempt (07/24/2026).
- **BETTY WHO:** Sustained Speed Rating **ELITE** — The field's strongest velocity maintenance profile. Despite repeated losses in MSW company, model identifies minimal deceleration between midtrack and closing calls, indicating her losses were attributable to pace positioning and traffic, not stamina collapse.





This is the single highest-quality finishing engine in the race.

- **MOTOWN SOUND:** Sustained Speed Rating **VULNERABLE** — Critical concern. Route starts (06/17 and 07/24 at 8.0f+) show high deceleration percentages between Call 3 and finish, indicating pace collapse under pressure. This is the field's weakest finishing profile and directly correlates to her pattern of leading but fading at the wire.
- **FLASHY AVIATOR:** Sustained Speed Rating **STRONG** — Limited route data, but 5.5f debut showed acceptable velocity maintenance through Call 4. Model projects this profile extends to 8.5f based on trainer's route success metrics, though distance testing remains unproven.
- **PROSECCO GAL:** Sustained Speed Rating **STRONG** — Turf-adjusted metrics only. Dirt conversion introduces significant uncertainty, but raw velocity maintenance on turf suggests closing capability is present if execution aligns.
- **DECEIVING DIVA:** Sustained Speed Rating **STRONG** — First-timer projection based on work patterns and sire pedigree (Charlatan). No race data constrains confidence.

Critical MPH Insight

The model identifies **Betty Who** as the field's fastest horse on model metrics, combining elite opening foot with exceptional finishing velocity maintenance. No horse in this field has matched this dual-component speed profile at 8.5f route distance — her repeated near-misses in open MSW company mask a technical superiority that becomes devastating when stepping down to maiden claiming. Additionally, the model projects **Motown Sound** as the field's primary speed collapse risk; her pattern of leading but fading is quantifiable through MPH deceleration analysis, making her a structural throwout candidate in a moderate-pace scenario where early position is less valuable.

SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

- **BULLET BABY** — Claim-and-switch finder spot. The Radcliffe claim (post-07/24 EIP start) followed a competitive lead-into-stretch effort, signaling trainer actively targeting this level. Second start off claim typically shows 8-12% improvement in route company; proven 8.0f+ capability supports extension to 8.5f; recent works (36.4 bullet) indicate sharpness.
- **BETTY WHO** — Class drop from MSW to \$20k MCL is a massive positive change. Trainer Salcedo shows 17% MCL win rate (6-for-35) — proven execution at this level. The gap between her competitive MSW efforts and maiden claiming company creates a structural improvement environment. Technical form (two runner-up finishes in her last four starts) combined with class relief is a high-confidence improvement signal.
- **FLASHY AVIATOR** — Second-start improvement candidate. Trainer Crichton Rohan G shows 16% sprint/route combo win rate (5-for-31 in sprint/route splits), indicating tactical flexibility. First start was at





5.5f sprint; second start at 8.5f route allows trainer to assess distance preference and adjust. Trainer 0% record in "2 Sprints/Route" combo (0-for-14) suggests first two starts are experimental setup, with third start (if needed) likely to show adjusted tactics.

Bounce / Regression Risks

- **MOTOWN SOUND** — Pattern of pace collapse risk is escalating. The 04/30/2026 MCL catastrophe (8th, 49.4 lengths) followed by two consecutive 5-length wire losses suggests a structural stamina question. In a MODERATE pace scenario (model projects :46³ half-mile), she will get an early lead but lack the finishing reserves to hold it. Bounce risk is ELEVATED due to repeated near-miss efforts creating false form signals.
- **PROSECCO GAL** — Surface conversion risk. Turf-only experience (11th and 8th finishes) creates dirt debut execution risk. Additionally, 05/14 start at 5.0f followed by 06/24 at 8.0f turf shows trainer experimenting with distance; lack of clear distance preference combined with surface change suggests training uncertainty. Regression to back-of-pack finish highly probable.
- **DECEIVING DIVA** — First-timer execution risk. MSW-to-MCL drop in debut suggests connections lack confidence in winning capability (otherwise she would debut in MCL, not MSW). The 20.75-length loss in MSW suggest form is below-average for competitive 8.5f route maiden claiming field. Third start off-layoff pattern (last work 09/13) combined with FTS status in a competitive field creates probability of mid-pack racing position and learning experience finish.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS

WIN BET: BULLET BABY — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 4-1 to 6-1

The model projects 24% win probability — highest in the field. Bullet Baby's claim-and-switch signal combined with proven 8.0f+ route capability and recent pace-leading efforts create the field's strongest structural foundation. The finder spot (claimed post-07/24 EIP strong bid) indicates active trainer intent. Recent works profile (36.4 5-furlong bullet, session-best ranking) confirms sharp physical condition.

Value Assessment: STRONG — 4.0% edge over morning line. At 4-1 (20% implied), the model's 24% projection creates legitimate overlay value. Even if odds drift to 9-5 or 2-1, the win probability supports wagering commitment.

VALUE PLAY: BETTY WHO — Confidence 9/10 — Target odds: 6-1 to 10-1

The model projects 18% win probability at 8-1 (11.1% implied), creating a **+6.9% edge** — one of the largest overlays in the field. Betty Who's drop from MSW to \$20k MCL combined with trainer Salcedo's proven 17% MCL win rate creates the highest confidence-adjusted value signal available. Her elite Sustained Speed Rating (ELITE finisher) masks a technical superiority that becomes overwhelming in claiming company. Two consecutive runner-up finishes in her last four starts indicate form is peaking — this class relief could unlock a wire job.





Value Assessment: EXCEPTIONAL — Betty Who at 8-1 or higher represents the single best wagering value in the race.

LONGSHOT PLAY: None — No genuine overlay at 10/1 or better exists in this field.

Multi-Race Wagers — Pick 3/4/5/6 — Top 3 Selections:

- **A: BULLET BABY** — 24% win probability (*must match Win Bet*)
- **B: BETTY WHO** — 18% win probability
- **C: FLASHY AVIATOR** — 20% win probability

Combined Projected Probability: 62% across Top 3 — solid coverage for sequence play.

SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★

The model identifies a **MODERATE pace scenario** (projected :23¹ quarter, :46³ half) that creates a balanced tactical setup favoring both speed-and-stalker positioning and disciplined closers. The field's two primary speed horses (Bullet Baby and Motown Sound) lack a decisive tactical advantage, allowing pace-stalkers like Bullet Baby and elite finishers like Betty Who to find runway into the stretch.

Key projection: Betty Who's drop to maiden claiming after repeated MSW near-misses, combined with an elite Sustained Speed Rating that outpaces the entire field, represents the public's single largest betting mistake. At 8-1, she is significantly undervalued. Bullet Baby's claim-and-switch finder spot and proven route credibility secure her as the model's highest-probability selection, though the edge narrows if odds drift below 4-1.

Critical model insight: Motown Sound must be treated as a structural throwout. Her VULNERABLE Sustained Speed Rating combined with the pattern of leading but fading at the wire in route company creates a pace collapse risk that dominates winning probability in a moderate-pace scenario. She will get position but will not finish.

Report Generated by PTW-CHR Model 1 | All projections represent model predictions based on proprietary analysis

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Methodology: Proprietary fractional analysis, MPH speed metrics, sustained speed profiling.

MPH figures in PTW-CHR Model 1 reports are proprietary index values derived from the model's internal distance-weighting methodology and are not expressions of real-world velocity. All horses are evaluated through the same calculation engine, making the figures valid for comparative ranking and deceleration analysis within the model's framework.





All projections represent model predictions based on historical performance data.

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