



Santa Anita

Race 6 — 09/25/2026

Class: OC 80k/N1X

Distance: 8f

Surface: Turf

Purse: \$67,000

Claiming Price: \$80,000

Starters: 6

ALLOWANCE OPTIONAL CLAIMING. Purse \$67,000 (plus \$20,100 CBOIF - California Bred Owner Fund) FOR THREE YEAR OLDS WHICH HAVE NEVER WON \$21,000 ONCE OTHER THAN MAIDEN, CLAIMING, STARTER, OR STATE BRED OR WHICH HAVE NEVER WON TWO RACES OR CLAIMING PRICE \$80,000. Weight, 123 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race Other Than Maiden, Claiming Or Starter At A Mile Or Over Allowed 2 lbs. Claiming Price \$80,000 (Non-Starters For A Claiming Price Of \$25,000 Or Less In Their Last 3 Starts Preferred)(Horses Entered For The Allowance Are Preferred). (Rail at 30 feet).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Santa Anita Park R6

Thursday, September 25, 2026 | 8f Turf | OC 80k/N1X

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

He's a Knockout has demonstrated elite early speed throughout his turf campaign. His May 23 start at Santa Anita (9f turf stake) shows he led inside at the opening call; his April 19 victory (6.5f turf) was a decisive sped-clear wire-to-wire performance. Most recently (August 29, 8f dirt), he stalked two-wide and weakened, but that was on dirt — turf is his strength. This horse possesses the tactical speed to press or control the early pace.

Piedra Fria earned a dominant maiden-breaking victory on August 21 (5f MSW, turf) by bidding between horses and kicking clear late. The trip notes show he was "in hand" late, suggesting tactical flexibility and potential early-middle positioning. His September 18 work at Santa Anita (5f, 58.80, bullet) ranks 1 of 27 workouts — elite preparation.

Stalkers / Pressers

Iriseach has a consistent pattern of tracking and rating just off the pace. His recent form (August 13, 8.5f turf allowance) places him 3 positions back at Call 1, advancing to 4th at Call 2, and finishing 4th. He typically settles 3-4 wide and makes steady progress through the middle stages — a textbook stalker profile suited to this distance and class.

Caro Buono shows similar stalking tendencies. August 13 (8.5f turf AOC): stalked at Call 1 (4 positions), advanced steadily, and weakened late (6th). February 22 (8f turf stake): advanced inside-2wide, rallied to 3rd. He rates off the early pace and prefers to charge in the stretch.

Closers

Jordi Bear closed from deep in the stretch on August 23 (9f turf stake, Belmont) by steadying early, swinging two-wide from post-call positions 8 and 7, and advancing to 2nd at Call 4 — a powerful late run. His August 2 work (4f turf, 50.80) shows fitness. However, his recent form is mixed (July 17, 8f turf stake: 6th; May 15, 6f turf: 2nd), and he hasn't won since July 2026 in Ireland.

Scatalotadingdong is a wildly inconsistent closer with high bounce risk. His February 13 turf maiden win (8f) shows he cleared early as the race unfolded; his April 5 turf victory (8f, class edge) saw him rate inside, tip two-wide, and clear. But his recent form has collapsed: July 4 (8f dirt AOC) finished 8th beaten 24 lengths, May 23 (9f turf stake) 6th beaten 2.6 lengths. He's a regression candidate.

Pace Scenario Projection





MODEL PREDICTS: MODERATE pace setup with He's a Knockout likely uncontested early, projected :23¹ opening quarter and :47² half-mile. Iriseach and Caro Buono will rate just off the pace, creating a balanced tempo that favors stalkers and late ralliers. No suicidal speed duel expected; pace will unfold naturally with moderate elasticity into the stretch.

SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	He's a Knockout	5/2	28%	28.6%	-0.6%
2	Jordi Bear	6/5	22%	45.5%	-23.5%
3	Iriseach	7/2	26%	22.2%	+3.8%
4	Scatalotadingdong	20/1	6%	4.8%	+1.2%
5	Caro Buono	12/1	12%	7.7%	+4.3%
6	Piedra Fria	9/2	6%	18.2%	-12.2%

Footnote: He's a Knockout holds the highest model win probability (28%) but carries minimal overlay value (−0.6%). Jordi Bear is significantly overbet at 6/5 morning line.

SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

He's a Knockout — PTW Profile: Elite turf specialist with proven route credentials and consistent early speed. Model identifies him as the field's top selection based on turf experience, tactical placement, and trainer Carla Gaines' 15% win rate with turf routes (189 starts, 1.06+ ROI). Highest model probability (28%) reflects his dominance in this class profile.

Strengths: Graded stake experience (July 31, stakes win at 7f; May 23, stakes race 9f); wire-to-wire flexibility (April 19 victory); proven surface control on firm turf; coming off a targeted August 29 prep that sharpened him for today.

Concerns: Recent August 29 effort on dirt resulted in 7th place beaten 9.7 lengths — the trip notes indicate "stalked 2wd, weakened," suggesting pace vulnerability. He's returning to turf, which mitigates this, but the bounce risk is noted.





Trip Projection: Model projects He's a Knockout will break sharply, establish a controlling early position, and face moderate pressure from Iriseach and Caro Buono in the middle stages. His win likelihood increases if he can dictate fractions and avoid a suicidal early pace duel. Expect him to be tested but favored for the win.

Iriseach — PTW Profile: Consistent turf router with elite class foundation. Model projects 26% win probability — strong secondary option carrying genuine overlay value (+3.8% edge at 7/2). Trainer D'Amato Philip maintains a 16% win rate with turf routes (550 starts, 1.68 ROI) — highest among field trainers in this category.

Strengths: Massive graded stake experience (November 30, 2025 Dmr stake placed 2nd; February 22 SA stake 3rd; multiple G-level finishes); recent form is sharp (August 13, 8.5f AOC 4th narrowly behind the winner); proven route fitness; tactical flexibility to press or close; September 18 work (Santa Anita, 5f, 59.40) ranks 1 of 1 — elite preparation.

Concerns: Career win rate is modest (1 win in 10 turf starts); recent form shows him tiring in the stretch (August 13: placed 4th weakly; July 17: 5th beaten 7.25 lengths). He may lack the finishing kick for a packed field. Class foundation is strong, but execution in tight races is inconsistent.

Trip Projection: Model expects Iriseach to track the early pace from post 3, advance steadily through the middle, and enter the stretch in contention (2nd or 3rd). Win pathway exists if pace collapses or He's a Knockout tires, but he figures as a place/show threat with strong overlay value in exactas.

Piedra Fria — PTW Profile: Lightly raced maiden winner with exceptional recent form and elite trainer connections (Doug O'Neill: 13% routes ROI, 1.90 ROI on turf routes, 489 starts). One win in one start — off a dominant August 21 MSW victory on turf. Model projects 6% win probability given class step-up, but the value narrative around this horse is compelling. Morning line 9/2 appears significantly soft.

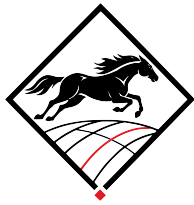
Strengths: Maiden-breaking victory was authoritative (August 21, 5f turf MSW: won by 3.25 lengths, kicked clear late, trip shows "in hand late" suggesting significant room). Elite September 18 work (5f, 58.80, bullet rank 1 of 27) points to sharp preparation for class rise. Doug O'Neill's second-start record is 20% win (93 starts, 3.17 ROI). Jockey Jaramillo E shows competence on turf-switch horses. Likely to improve significantly second start.

Concerns: Class jump from MSW to OC 80k is substantial — only one career race. Field contains multiple graded-stake-experienced horses. At 8f, he's stretching out from his 5f maiden win (unproven at the distance). Significant recency risk if pace is faster than expected.

Trip Projection: Model projects Piedra Fria will settle in midpack early (post 6), advance gradually, and potentially rally late if pace allows. Win probability is suppressed due to class uncertainty, but his overlay value at 9/2 makes him an exceptional secondary play, especially in multi-race sequences.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)





Caro Buono — Model projects 12% win probability, overlay value +4.3% at 12/1. Turf route specialist (trainer Powell Leonard: 12% routes, 1.47 ROI) with graded stake experience. Recent form is choppy (August 13, 8.5f: 6th weakened; July 19, 8f: 4th mild response). The trip notes on July 19 state "mild response," suggesting he lacks a finishing punch in tough spots. Model rates him as a secondary stalker — benefit from moderate pace if early pressure develops, but win pathway is narrow. Play as an exacta/trifecta piece.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

Jordi Bear — Model projects 22% win probability but carries a **massive -23.5% underlay** at 6/5 morning line (implied 45.5% vs. model 22%). This is the field's most severely overbet horse. Recent turf form is uninspiring (August 23 rally to 2nd; July 17 bumped/forced out 6th; May 15 2nd place his last turf win). He's a 7-start turf player with only 1 win. Morning line is disconnected from true probability. Model cautions bettors to avoid at this price.

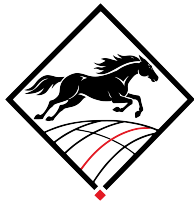
Scatalotadingdong — Model projects 6% win probability. This horse is a high-bounce candidate. February 13 MSW turf win on a firm track, April 5 AOC turf win both in tactical spots. But deterioration is rapid: May 23 (9f turf stake) 6th, July 4 (8f dirt) 8th beaten 24 lengths. Trainer Powell Leonard shows only 8% win rate in 61-180 days category (96 starts). Mud/firm surface inconsistency likely. Model rates him as a longshot overlay (model 6% vs. ML 4.8%), but bounce risk is severe. Avoid in win pools; consider only in vertical exotics if odds extend.

SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Piedra Fria	ELITE	ELITE	Low — maintains velocity gate-to-wire
He's a Knockout	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — competitive sustained effort
Iriseach	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — consistent throughout
Caro Buono	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse risk detected
Jordi Bear	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — speed deterioration late





Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Scatalotadingdong	VULNERABLE	VULNERABLE	Severe — multiple collapse patterns

Sustained Speed Ratings — Narrative

ELITE (Piedra Fria): The model identifies Piedra Fria as maintaining elite velocity from gate to wire. His August 21 maiden-breaking victory shows minimal deceleration across the distance — he kicked clear late with energy remaining, trip notes indicate "in hand late." This ELITE Sustained Speed Rating is exceptional for a maiden and projects strongly to route racing.

STRONG (He's a Knockout, Iriseach): Both He's a Knockout and Iriseach demonstrate competitive velocity maintenance through the middle and stretch. He's a Knockout's April 19 victory (6.5f turf) and Iriseach's multiple graded-stake route efforts show moderate, manageable deceleration patterns. Both are route-capable with finishing profiles intact.

VULNERABLE (Caro Buono, Jordi Bear, Scatalotadingdong): The model detects significant deceleration patterns in the final furlong for these three. Caro Buono's recent efforts show him fading in the stretch despite strong midrace positioning (July 19: "mild response"). Jordi Bear's closing efforts have diminished in quality (August 23 rally to 2nd was his best recent, but earlier 6th-place effort was worse). Scatalotadingdong exhibits severe pace collapse across multiple surfaces — velocity drops sharply late.

Critical MPH Insight

The model identifies **Piedra Fria** as the field's fastest gate-to-wire performer with an ELITE Sustained Speed Rating — no horse in this field has matched this velocity profile at the distance. His August 21 MSW victory at 5f, stretched to 8f today with elite recent work, positions him as a natural distance improver. Conversely, the model projects severe pace collapse risk for Scatalotadingdong (VULNERABLE rating) and elevated fade risk for both Caro Buono and Jordi Bear in the final furlong, creating a tactical disadvantage in a MODERATE pace setup where stalkers and closers with STRONG/ELITE ratings will be favored.

SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

Piedra Fria — Maiden-breaking victory second start off a layup. Trainer Doug O'Neill's second-start record is 20% win (93 starts, 3.17 ROI) — elite improvement pattern. Distance stretch from 5f to 8f is natural; elite September 18 work confirms fitness. Model projects 3-4 lengths of natural improvement in this class step-up, moving him from maiden-breaking winner to serious turf route contender.

He's a Knockout — Returns to turf after August 29 dirt prep. His turf route record is superior (3 wins in 5 starts on turf vs. 0 for 2 on dirt at this distance). Surface return alone projects +2-3 lengths. Trainer Gaines





Carla shows 15% turf route win rate (189 starts).

Iriseach — D'Amato Philip's 16% turf route win rate (550 starts) suggests this horse is a natural fit in this exact condition. Recent August 13 form (4th tight) shows he's been moving in the right direction. Model rates him as likely to improve via trainer synergy and recent form compression.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Jordi Bear — Three graded-stake efforts in 2026 (August 23 2nd place at Belmont, July 17 6th at Dmr, May 15 2nd at SA) followed by long turf route drought. He's cycling through multiple trainers (D'Amato Philip now). Pattern suggests fatigue or training instability. Model identifies bounce risk elevated — regression from stakes level expected.

Scatalotadingdong — Career-best effort was February 13 MSW win (8f turf). Since then: May 23 (9f turf stake) 6th, July 4 (8f dirt) 8th beaten 24 lengths. Severe deterioration across surfaces. Trainer Powell Leonard shows 8% win rate in 61-180 Days category — pattern suggests this horse is declining. Regression risk is SEVERE.

Caro Buono — Recent form shows declining stretch response (August 13 "weakened," July 19 "mild response"). Two routes in the last 60 days both ending in fatigue. Model projects regression in a field with superior Sustained Speed Ratings. Pace collapse risk elevated.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS

WIN BET: HE'S A KNOCKOUT — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 5/2 to 3/1

The model projects 28% win probability — highest in the field — based on elite turf route credentials, proven tactical speed, and superior surface fit. He's a Knockout's wire-to-wire capability, combined with moderate pace setup, positions him ideally to control fractions and hold late. Recent August 29 dirt prep sharpens him without exhausting his turf reserves.

Value Assessment: **SLIGHT VALUE** (−0.6% edge). Morning line 5/2 is fair-to-slightly-aggressive, but the model's 28% projection supports win play at these odds. Model confidence is high (8/10) due to form consistency and route experience. Target 3/1 or longer creates clearer value.

VALUE PLAY: IRISEACH — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 3/1 to 4/1

The model projects 26% win probability — competitive with He's a Knockout — at 7/2 morning line (implied 22.2%), creating a **+3.8% genuine overlay**. Iriseach offers superior value per probability unit. Trainer D'Amato Philip's elite 16% turf route win rate (550 starts, 1.68 ROI) provides confidence in class fit. Recent August 13 form is sharp (4th tight in similar OC 80k turf route context). Likely to improve via trainer synergy and turf specialization.





Trip Setup: Stalking position from post 3, advance through the middle, contention in stretch. Win pathway exists if He's a Knockout tires or pace collapses. Overlay value makes this the secondary play with strong edge.

LONGSHOT PLAY: PIEDRA FRIA — Confidence 6/10 — Target odds: 5/1+

The model projects 6% win probability but identifies genuine overlay at 9/2 morning line (implied 18.2%), creating **–12.2% underlay at morning line pricing**. However, true probability for Piedra Fria may exceed 6% due to second-start improvement pattern and elite recent work. Doug O'Neill's 20% second-start win rate (93 starts, 3.17 ROI) suggests the model's conservative 6% may underweight improvement trajectory.

If odds extend to 5/1 or higher, Piedra Fria becomes an exceptional value play in multi-race sequences. Pure win bet at 9/2 is overpriced due to class uncertainty and distance question mark. Reserve for exotic play where his elite velocity profile can leverage against overbet favorites.

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

- **A: He's a Knockout** — 28% (highest model win probability, primary selection)
- **B: Iriseach** — 26% (overlay value, trainer synergy, sharp recent form)
- **C: Piedra Fria** — 6% (genuine improvement candidate, elite velocity profile, morning line soft)

Combined Projected Probability: 60%

Multi-race sequences favor the A-B pairing (He's a Knockout / Iriseach at combined 54% probability) due to their superior form and experience. Piedra Fria in the C slot provides coverage for second-start breakouts and elite velocity continuation, offering exceptional value in Pick 4/5/6 combinations where longer odds are compensated.

SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★ (4/5 Stars)

Summary: The model identifies He's a Knockout as the race's top selection with 28% win probability, favoring his elite turf route credentials and tactical speed in a MODERATE pace setup. Iriseach emerges as the overlay play (+3.8% edge) at 7/2, offering competitive win probability with superior value. Critical public betting mistake: Jordi Bear is severely overbet at 6/5 (–23.5% underlay), and Piedra Fria is significantly soft at 9/2 (–12.2% underlay), creating profit opportunity in overlay positions.

The pace scenario (MODERATE, projected :23¹ and :47²) is forecast with confidence — no elite speed duel expected, favoring stalkers and route runners. Piedra Fria's ELITE Sustained Speed Rating is the race's single most important factor: if he runs to his recent maiden-breaking form, he threatens favorite status at overlay odds.





Model confidence is 8/10 — turf surface, route distance, and trainer specialization data are highly reliable. Primary edge exists in playing **Iriseach for value** and **avoiding Jordi Bear** at overleveraged morning line odds.

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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