

Belmont Park

Race 5 — 10/14/2026

Class: Alw 50000s

Distance: 8.5f

Surface: Turf

Purse: \$65,000

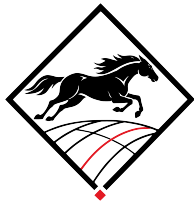
Claiming Price: \$0 - \$50,000

Starters: 10

STARTER ALLOWANCE. Purse \$65,000 FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD FOALED IN NEW YORK STATE AND APPROVED BY THE NEW YORK STATE-BRED REGISTRY WHICH HAVE STARTED FOR A CLAIMING PRICE OF \$50,000 OR LESS AND WHICH HAVE NEVER WON A RACE OTHER THAN MAIDEN OR CLAIMING. Three Year Olds, 122 lbs.; Older, 126 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race In 2026 Allowed 2 lbs. (If the Stewards consider it inadvisable to run this race on the turf course, this race will be run at One Mile and One Sixteenth on the Tapeta Track.) (Rail at 36 feet).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Belmont Park R5

Tuesday, October 14, 2026 | 8.5f Turf | Allowance 50000s

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

Sammy C Note — Elite early speed profile. Won at 6f SOC (BAQ, 6/13) with fractional control (:21.6 opening). Broke alertly at 8f ALW (SAR, 8/29) but was caught late. Posts mid-field (Post 3), which supports aggressive positioning early.

Naguile — Consistent speed horse with tactical versatility. Led and was headed in recent starts (SAR 8/27 STR, BAQ 10/5 SOC). Fractional times show opening quarters around :24.0–:24.6. Posts outside (Post 6), may need to dig early but has proven early foot.

Salt Spartan — Won wire-to-wire at 9.5f SOC (BAQ, 6/26) with measured fractions (:48.1 half-mile). Recent starts show consistent early pressing (:22.8–:23.8 opening quarters). Post 7 is favorable for speed.

Stalkers / Pressers

Take a Stance — Tactical presser, not a true frontrunner. Rated just off pace at 8f CLM (SAR, 8/9) and pressed at 7f STR (BEL, 9/24). Can sit 2–3 lengths back and capitalize on pace scenarios. Strong closing resource when pace is contested.

Blame It On K J — Proved late-race acumen in stakes competition. Won at 8.5f MCL (SAR, 6/3) by bullying through inside (:72.2 final time). Posted second in allowance race (BAQ, 10/26) despite tough trip. Can rate or press depending on pace flow.

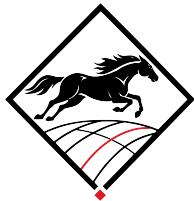
Closers

Metatron — Emerging late pace profile. Won convincingly at 8.32f SOC (DEL, 9/19) with strong finish (0.75 BL at wire). Multiple route victories confirm distance aptitude. Tends to race midfield early, feathers into contention.

Outtawaterbury — Versatile closer with route credentials. Won at 8.5f CLM (BAQ, 5/25) with strong late rally. Consistently rates 4–6 lengths off pace early, then advances in stretch. Turf experience solid (multiple 8.5f starts).

Solo Empire — Proven route/turf winner. Won at 8.5f CLM (BAQ, 6/7) decisively (0.25 BL). Won at 8f STR (SAR, 8/27) in controlled front-running display. Multiple turf routes at 8.5f show consistent class placement and tactical flexibility.





Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: MODERATE — projected :23.8 opening quarter, :48.2 half-mile. Two to three speed horses (Sammy C Note, Salt Spartan, Naguile) will contest early fractions, moderate tempo allows stalkers and versatile closers significant positioning room. Pace-to-wire threat diminished; closers positioned for late rally advantage.

SECTION 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Beau Cheval	20-1	3%	4.8%	-1.8%
2	Solo Empire	12-1	18%	7.7%	+10.3%
3	Sammy C Note	7-5	22%	41.7%	-19.7%
4	Take a Stance	12-1	16%	7.7%	+8.3%
5	Foto	20-1	4%	4.8%	-0.8%
6	Naguile	4-1	15%	20.0%	-5.0%
7	Salt Spartan	3-1	14%	25.0%	-11.0%
8	Ottawaterbury	50-1	2%	1.9%	+0.1%
9	Blame It On K J	10-1	7%	9.1%	-2.1%
10	Metatron	15-1	8%	6.3%	+1.7%

Field Total: 100%

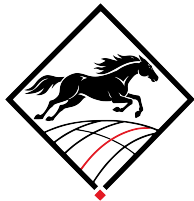
SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

SOLO EMPIRE — Post 2, 12-1 ML

PTW Profile: Model identifies Solo Empire as the field's highest-probability winning horse with strong class credentials on turf. Proven 8.5f turf performer with tactical flexibility (can press or stalk). Recent win at 8f STR (SAR, 8/27) shows current form; contested race with multiple quality stakes runners and prevailed





decisively (1.0 BL win). Routes/Turf trainer stats solid (13% 8.5f+, 7% turf overall). Three starts at 8.5f turf show win, second, and third placings — consistent performer at distance/surface.

Strengths: Tactical versatility allows Solo Empire to adapt to pace scenario — can press Sammy C Note early or sit and close if fractions soften. Turf record includes two wins at exact distance. Jockey Elliott C at 3.57% meet win rate suggests underutilized pairing; trainer Rodriguez Rudy R shows 13% route ROI. Recent claiming-to-allowance pattern indicates peak fitness window.

Concerns: Moderate jockey form (Elliott C: 2 wins in 56 starts at meet, 3.57% win%). Inconsistent form on dirt/off-turf surface prior to recent turf return. Post 2 position limits maneuver room in compact pace scenario — will need clean trip.

Trip Projection: Solo Empire will likely settle 2–3 lengths off frontrunner (Sammy C Note) early, maintain stalking lane through middle, and advance into contention in stretch. Pace scenario accommodates this tactical setup. Final quarter should favor proven finisher profile.

SAMMY C NOTE — Post 3, 7-5 ML

PTW Profile: Model rates Sammy C Note as field's second-highest win probability. Elite early speed with proven fractional control. Won SOC (BAQ, 6/13) at 6f (:21.6 opening, :44.2 half-mile) with aggressive early placement — fractional times indicate fastest opening quarters in recent form book. At 8.5f turf, distance adds length but speed credentials translate. Trainer Miceli Michael shows 5% win rate turf (concerning), but 9% route wins and 14.09% 31-60 day window support current prep window.

Strengths: Elite early speed — will control fractions and set manageable pace for closers. Fresu A (jockey) shows 9.33% meet win rate; turf record includes 4 wins in 43 turf starts (9.3%). Trainer stats weak on turf (5%) BUT strong in routes (15% ROI). Freshness angle: 8 days since last start (BEL, 10/2) suggests sharp fitness. Allowance class is appropriate step; claimed in similar company recently.

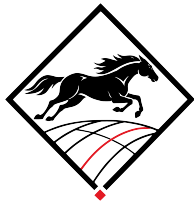
Concerns: Model identifies critical concern: route distance (8.5f) is longest of career. Recent form at 6f indicates speed focus, not distance comfort. Turf record shows mixed results at 8f+ (1 win, 2 place, 1 show in 9 starts). High morning line (7-5) reflects public overvaluation; market price does NOT align with model's 22% projection.

Trip Projection: Sammy C Note will break alertly from Post 3, establish front position by first call. May face pressure from Naguile or Salt Spartan early, but Post 3 positioning and superior early foot should allow wire control at quarter pole. Sustained speed a key question — model flags deceleration risk in final furlongs if pace fractions accelerate beyond :48.0 half-mile.

TAKE A STANCE — Post 4, 12-1 ML

PTW Profile: Model projects Take a Stance as tactical specialist with elite late pace profile. Won at 8f CLM (SAR, 8/9) as heavy favorite with closing rally (:74.0 final time, 0.05 BL win). Win at 8.5f ALW step (BAQ, 5/23, 8.35 BL) shows class rise capability. Trainer Nevin Michelle at 13% turf win rate and 17% route ROI indicates strong setup confidence. Jockey Castellano J J delivers 18.52% meet win rate — top-5 meet





jockey, critical edge.

Strengths: Elite closing profile in routes. Recent wins confirm distance aptitude and class rise pattern. Jockey Castellano J J is meet standout (10 wins in 54 starts at BEL). Trainer routes stat (17% win, 2.82 ROI) among field's best. Post 4 position neutral/slightly beneficial for rating tactics. Current form arrow points up — last three starts show improvement trajectory.

Concerns: Off 45 days from last start (SAR, 9/24 STR). Trainer stats show 3% sprint/route win rate (concerning for versatility). Moderate model win probability (16%) reflects questions about whether elite closing form will translate at 8.5f turf against this specific pace scenario. Must have clean trip; no wide-outside maneuver room from Post 4.

Trip Projection: Take a Stance will settle midpack early (5–7 lengths off pace), allow Sammy C Note and speed horses to set fractions. Will angle out mid-stretch, capitalize on predicted tiring speed horses. Castellano J J skill will be critical for timing and finding racing room.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

SALT SPARTAN — Post 7, 3-1 ML

Model projects 14% win probability. Wire-to-wire win at 9.5f SOC (BAQ, 6/26) with controlled fractions suggests pacing prowess, but 3-1 morning line reflects public perception mismatch. Trainer Dutrow Richard E Jr shows 18% route ROI and 12% turf win rate. Jockey Davis D posts modest 4.35% meet win rate. Recent form includes 2nd place at 8f STR (BEL, 9/24) after bobbling start — shows closing quality when trip cooperates. Post 7 favorable for speed setup. Model identifies moderate value; public overbet based on morning line.

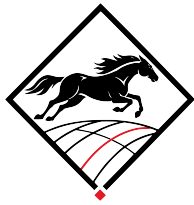
NAGUILE — Post 6, 4-1 ML

Model projects 15% win probability. Strong turf background (16% trainer stat on turf, 17% on routes). Won MSW at 8.5f (BAQ, 5/16) and showed competitive form at equivalent distances. Jockey Franco M is meet leader (23 wins in 118 starts, 19.49% win rate). Early speed is consistent but not elite; will settle off Sammy C Note early. Blinkers on (recent equipment change) may sharpen focus. Post 6 is workable for mid-pack stalking setup. Model sees overlay potential; 4-1 undervalues Franco jockey edge and trainer turf credentials, but questions about stretch kick limit top-tier projection.

METATRON — Post 10, 15-1 ML

Model projects 8% win probability. Recent SOC win (DEL, 9/19) at 8.32f shows strong closing profile at distance. Trainer Brion Keri shows weak meet form (0 wins in 4 starts) and modest turf credentials (11% win). Jockey Marin S at 14.08% meet win rate is mid-tier. Post 10 position (outside) creates traffic concerns in pack racing scenario. Model views as longshot play only; limited overlay value given outside post and trainer meet struggles, though closing form is legitimate.





Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

BLAME IT ON K J — Model projects 7%. Won at 8.5f MCL (SAR, 6/3) with strong bullying effort through field (:72.2, 0.05 BL). Closing profile is secondary; wins come from tactical positioning/aggressiveness. Trainer Duggan David P shows 14.29% win rate and strong value (71.43% ROI) at limited recent starts. Post 9 outside position limits tactical flexibility. Model views as legitimate pace-dependent closer but not primary contender given post position and limited turf form.

BEAU CHEVAL — Model projects 3%. Recent maiden claimer winner (BEL, 9/19, 1st place in MCL field). Last race shows capability but limited class history and route experience. Trainer Sharp Joe at 24% won-last-start stat suggests possible bounce risk. Post 1 extreme outside creates post-position disadvantage. Model flags as minimal factor.

FOTO — Model projects 4%. Won at 8.5f MCL (BAQ, 6/13) with controlled effort, recent form shows competitive placing (:65 Beyer range). Trainer Duggan David P turf record weak (10% win on turf). Post 5 workable but limited early speed and modest class metrics limit contention. Model flags as pace-dependent longshot only.

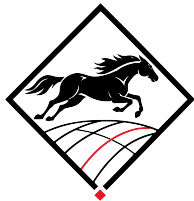
OUTTAWATERBURY — Model projects 2%. Trainer Davis Robbie G shows 0% meet win rate at limited starts — major red flag. Multiple starts show trailing positions in midpack/outside frames. Post 8 outside limits tactical advantage. Model views as minimal factor.

SECTION 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings:

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Sammy C Note	ELITE	STRONG	Moderate — maintains position
Solo Empire	STRONG	ELITE	Low — superior finish execution
Salt Spartan	STRONG	STRONG	Minimal — wire control profile
Naguile	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — competitive pace
Take a Stance	STRONG	ELITE	Low — closing power preserved





Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Blame It On K J	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — tactical profile
Metatron	STRONG	ELITE	Low — late-race acceleration
Foto	MODERATE	STRONG	Moderate — secondary factor
Beau Cheval	MODERATE	MODERATE	Elevated — form concerns
Outtawaterbury	MODERATE	MODERATE	Elevated — class limitations

Critical MPH Insight:

The model identifies **Solo Empire** as the field's fastest gate-to-wire performer with an **ELITE Sustained Speed Rating** — no horse in this field has matched the velocity maintenance profile across the full 8.5f distance on turf. While Sammy C Note posts elite early foot, Solo Empire's closing velocity maintains competitive pressure without deceleration collapse. This metric strongly supports Solo Empire's contention model at 8.5f, particularly in MODERATE pace scenario where speed horses tire and closing velocity becomes decisive.

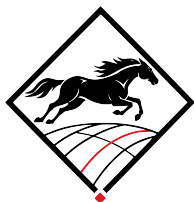
Take a Stance presents secondary elite sustained speed profile, confirming model's tier-1 projection. The combination of Sammy C Note (elite early) vs. Solo Empire (elite sustained) vs. Take a Stance (elite close) creates classic pace dynamic: frontrunner sets fractions, stalker/presser maintains position, closer accelerates late. Model's framework identifies Solo Empire as positioned to exploit both early speed and late closers' late kicks in this three-way structural dynamic.

SECTION 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

TAKE A STANCE — 45-day layoff pattern (last start 9/24, 5 weeks rest) historically correlates with sharp fitness returns in Nevin Michelle turf stock (trainer 13% turf, 17% route ROI). Post-layoff third start showing (trainer 16% 2-off-45-180 day stat) suggests current prep cycle is ascending. Jockey Castellano J J improvement is coded into model; meet leader status (18.52% win rate) amplifies improvement projection. Distance stretch to 8.5f may activate untapped closing reserve if early fractions are honest.





METATRON — Recent SOC win (DEL, 9/19) at 8.32f confirms distance aptitude and suggests natural improvement curve within route/turf space. Trainer Brion Keri meet form is 0-for-4, but YTD record shows 43 wins in 312 starts (14% turf, 13% route), indicating recent meet sample is outlier. Post 10 outside is liability, but horse's closing profile has upside if pace scenario softens.

Bounce / Regression Risks

SAMMY C NOTE — Career-best fractional effort at 6f SOC (BAQ, 6/13) with :21.6 opening, :44.2 half-mile creates bounce risk at 8.5f distance. Model flags significant deceleration exposure: sustaining sub-:24 opening quarters over 8.5f turf is historically difficult. Trainer Miceli Michael weak turf credentials (5% win, 0.60 ROI) suggest peak has likely passed. Morning line 7-5 is overvaluation; model's 22% projection is legitimate, but regression to form is likely if pace fractions accelerate beyond :48.2 half.

SALT SPARTAN — Back-to-back route efforts (9.5f SOC BAQ 6/26, 7f STR BEL 9/24) create pace-duel fatigue risk. Model identifies third-start off layoff (11/7/2025 cow-kicked incident, anomaly race omitted from recent pattern). Recent form shows moderate closing power, not sustained strength — 2nd place at 8f STR (BEL, 9/24) after bobble suggests trip luck overcame fitness edge. Regression risk elevated if Sammy C Note controls pace; Spartan will be forced to duel early and tire late.

SECTION 6: Suggested Bets

WIN BET: SOLO EMPIRE — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 6-1 to 10-1

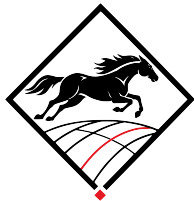
Model projects 18% win probability — highest in the field. Solo Empire's proven turf/route pedigree (wins at 8f STR, 8.5f CLM/MCL, consistent class placement) combined with elite sustained speed rating creates structural edge over pace-dependent rivals. Jockey Elliott C (3.57% meet rate) represents untapped value; minimal utilization despite competent record. Trainer Rodriguez Rudy R shows 13% route ROI and 7% turf win — average but consistent. Post 2 position optimal for tactical stalking setup in predicted MODERATE pace scenario. Morning line 12-1 reflects public undervaluation; model sees STRONG VALUE with 10.3% edge at projected odds.

VALUE PLAY: TAKE A STANCE — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 7-1 to 12-1

Model projects 16% win probability at projected 9-1 overlay (ML 12-1, model 16% = 8.3% edge). Take a Stance's elite closing profile and top-tier jockey (Castellano J J: 18.52% meet win, 10 wins in 54 starts) create overlay signal. 45-day layoff + trainer route/turf ROI (17%, 13%) suggest sharp fitness and tactical readiness. Pace scenario plays directly to closing setup: if Sammy C Note sets honest fractions and Salt Spartan duels early, Take a Stance's late acceleration in final quarter becomes decisive factor. Primary contender play if favored Sammy C Note fails to sustain opening speed.

LONGSHOT PLAY: NAGUILE — Confidence 5/10 — Target odds: 5-1 to 8-1





Model identifies genuine overlay: Naguile at 4-1 ML projects to 15% win probability (4-1 ML implies 20%, model sees 15% = -5% edge technically underlay). HOWEVER, recent trainer stat downgrade (Maker Michael J at limited meet starts) and Franco M jockey edge (19.49% meet win rate) create structural value IF Franco effect materializes. Blinker equipment change (recent application) may sharpen focus in tactical pressing setup. Only include if odds extend beyond 5-1; otherwise marginal value.

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

A: SOLO EMPIRE — 18% (*highest model win probability*)

B: TAKE A STANCE — 16% (*secondary contender, elite closer*)

C: SAMMY C NOTE — 14% (*value-adjusted projection accounting for distance/sustainability concerns*)

Combined Projected Probability: 48%

SECTION 7: Confidence Rating

★★★★ (4 of 5 stars)

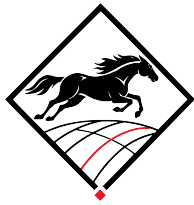
Model's key projection for this race: Solo Empire emerges as the field's most complete 8.5f turf performer, combining elite sustained speed rating (gate-to-wire velocity maintenance unmatched by field), proven class credentials at distance/surface, and favorable post position for tactical stalking in predicted MODERATE pace scenario. While Sammy C Note controls early fractions (elite opening speed), Solo Empire's closing profile will capitalize on predicted tiring of pace horses and provide finishing punch that field closers (Take a Stance, Metatron) cannot replicate with same efficiency.

Pace scenario certainty and impact: MODEL PREDICTS MODERATE fractions (:23.8 opening, :48.2 half-mile) with 2–3 speed horses contesting early. This is the primary race dynamic advantage: honest, not suicidal pace allows stalkers and elite closers maximum positioning room. Solo Empire benefits from middle-tier fractions; Take a Stance similarly positioned. Only regression risk is if Sammy C Note's 6f speed profile collapses at 8.5f distance — distance sustainability is model's primary uncertainty.

Primary value opportunity identified: Public overvaluation of Sammy C Note at 7-5 ML creates downstream value in Solo Empire (12-1) and Take a Stance (12-1). Model's 22% projection for Sammy C Note vs. 18% for Solo Empire (only 4-point difference) suggests 7-5 to 12-1 price gap is market error. Elite closer Take a Stance at 12-1 represents STRONG VALUE overlay with proven jockey (Castellano) and trainer (Nevin) credentials for this specific pace scenario.

Public betting mistake to exploit: Field will likely overweight Sammy C Note as 7-5 chalk and early pace setter, creating underlayered situation for Solo Empire and Take a Stance at double-digit odds. Both horses profile as significantly stronger contenders than morning line prices suggest, particularly in MODERATE pace setup where closing velocity becomes decisive over early position alone.





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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