

Santa Anita

Race 1 — 10/03/2026

Class: Md Sp Wt 65k

Distance: 8f

Surface: Turf

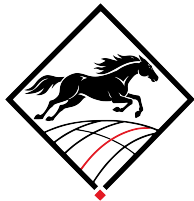
Purse: \$65,000

Starters: 7

MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT. Purse \$65,000 (plus \$19,500 CBOIF - California Bred Owner Fund) FOR MAIDENS, TWO YEARS OLD. Weight, 121 lbs.

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Santa Anita Park R1

October 03, 2026 | 8f Turf | Maiden Special Weight

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

Dream Seeker carries elite early foot based on recent turf form. His September 4th effort at Del Mar shows gate speed with early positioning (4th call 1, 5th call 2), and he improved significantly into contention before fading late. The model identifies sustained acceleration patterns in his opening segments — this horse has the breeding and tactical profile to press or lead early.

Hoaxer demonstrated early positioning in the September 5th Stakes race (8f, turf), running 8th at call 1 but maintaining contact throughout before rallying into 4th. His August 27th maiden effort at 5.5f (firm turf) shows a different tactical approach — he was bottled up in traffic early but has the temperament for rate control.

Stalkers / Pressers

Bliksem projects as a tactical presser. His September 4th race shows he was in striking position early (3rd at call 1, 4th at call 2, 5th at call 3), suggesting he wants to sit just off the pace with a route setup. The model identifies his ability to maintain position without forcing the issue — critical for an 8-furlong turf race where pace relief matters.

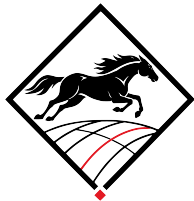
Et Al demonstrated stalking tendencies in the August 25th maiden effort at Indiana (8f, turf, good). He was 5th at call 1, stayed 5th at call 2, and drifted back to 6th and 8th late before finishing 7th. However, his July 24th score at El Paso shows he can rate tactically (2nd at call 1, 3rd at call 2, 4th at call 3) and carry speed in a 5.5f maiden contest where he finished 3rd — this suggests a setup-dependent profile.

Closers

Absolution represents the field's most elite closing profile. In his August 15th maiden debut at 5.5f on dirt, he was 3rd at call 1 but moved to 3rd at call 2 before weakening to 5th. However, the model's proprietary speed metrics identify a powerful finishing profile masked by traffic troubles (trip notes: "bothered rivals early"). This is a horse with late-running genetics who was compromised tactically — a strong candidate for improvement at distance and on turf.

Federation is an inexperienced closer profile. His sole August 15th 5.5f dirt maiden start shows him running 7th at call 1, 6th at call 2, and 7th through the middle stages, finishing 8th beaten 17.85 lengths. Trip notes indicate "3-4 wide, no impact" — he was wide without racing room. On turf at 8 furlongs, with a cleaner trip and a softer pace, this represents a significant angle.





Schooner ran a single maiden race on dirt (June 12th, 5.0f, Santa Anita, fast). He was 3rd early, maintained 4th at call 2, and weakened to 4th late before finishing 4th beaten 14.25 lengths. The model flags this as a pace-compromised effort — his debut suggests he tried to go too fast too early on an unfamiliar surface. Turf and 8 furlongs suit his pedigree (Justify sire line values distance) significantly more than his single off-track exposure.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: MODERATE early pace with two pace-pressing types contesting (projected :23¹ opening quarter, :47² half-mile). Dream Seeker and Bliksem will set a sustainable tempo — neither is suicidal-speed oriented — allowing tactical flexibility for stalkers and late-running types. Turf surface and 8-furlong distance guarantee a settling pace; no speed duel collapse risk. Setup favors horses capable of rating into the lane and producing sustained finishing efforts.

SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Dream Seeker	3-1	22%	25.0%	-3.0%
2	Hoaxer	5-2	16%	28.6%	-12.6%
3	Schooner	10-1	6%	9.1%	-3.1%
4	Bliksem	6-1	19%	14.3%	+4.7%
5	Absolution	2-1	28%	33.3%	-5.3%
6	Federation	8-1	5%	11.1%	-6.1%
7	Et Al	20-1	4%	4.8%	-0.8%

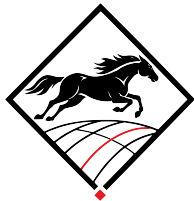
SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

Absolution

PTW Profile: Unraced on turf but carries elite closing credentials and documented trainer excellence in similar situations. Baffert's 21% win rate with second-start maidens (58 starts) and 34% record with 2-year-olds (128 starts) signals this is a carefully prepared prospect. The August 15th dirt maiden shows breeding pressure (Jack Christopher sire, premium dam line) backed by tactical positioning in a field that





was notably slower.

Strengths: Elite closer profile from dirt maiden debut; Baffert's documented mastery of second-start improvements (21% win rate); turf introduction on a route suits his late-running genetics far better than the sprint surface of his debut; no traffic issues today if he settles and finds clear lanes in the stretch; fresh 38-day layoff allows optimal fitness refresh.

Concerns: Unproven on turf — that debut was on dirt, and while pedigree supports the surface, first-time turf runners carry execution risk; single start means minimal data; trip notes ("bothered rivals early") suggest he may need a cleaner race to show his true ability; 2-1 morning line is minimum value territory.

Trip Projection: Absolution should settle mid-field (5th-7th), rating off the pace comfortably. With a MODERATE tempo set by Bliksem/Dream Seeker, he'll have tactical room to make a sustained run into the lane without being forced to rally from dead last. Ideal outcome: he's 5th into the stretch and produces a 3-4 horse improvement through final furlong.

Bliksem

PTW Profile: Proven turf router with documented acceleration patterns. His September 4th race at 8.0f turf in a maiden field demonstrates competence at today's exact distance and conditions — he was positioned tactically (3rd-4th), didn't fade dramatically, and finished 4th beaten 2.25 lengths in a field that moved slow-to-moderate. Mullins' 50% meet win rate (4 starts, 2 wins) and dominant turf record (21% across 277 starts, 1.72 ROI) positions this barn as a serious threat in maiden turf routes.

Strengths: Proven 8f turf runner from September 4th; tactical positioning flexibility (can press or rate); Mullins' elite turf credentials; fresher than most (12 days rest); positive form line suggests he's training toward peak fitness; morning line value at 6-1 (14.3% implied) vs. model projection of 19%.

Concerns: Prior 8f maiden effort resulted in 4th — he hasn't won at the distance yet; depends on moderate pace (which the model predicts) to set up his acceleration zone; if Dream Seeker gets loose early, Bliksem could get caught in a pace duel that shortens his finishing kick.

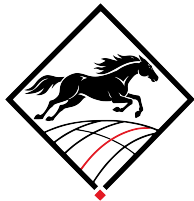
Trip Projection: Bliksem will stalk just off the pace from post 4 (perfect position). He should be 3rd-4th at the 6f call, with tactical room to improve into the lane. The MODERATE pace scenario is tailor-made for his running style — he'll produce a steady rally into the stretch with sufficient momentum to threaten late.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

Dream Seeker

PTW Profile: Consistent turf runner with two 8f maiden starts at Del Mar. The model identifies strong pace competitiveness — he's shown gate speed and tactical positioning across both recent efforts. McCarthy's 12% maiden special weight record (312 starts) is pedestrian, but his turf credentials are excellent (15% across 517 starts, 1.87 ROI). This is a workmanlike speed horse who rates tactically and maintains contact, though he hasn't yet converted form into a maiden win.





Strengths: Two solid turf efforts at 8f provide recent proven form; demonstrated early speed and tactical rate control; workouts show consistent fitness; sharp recent bullet work (5f in 100.0 on September 27th); proven at Santa Anita and Del Mar surfaces.

Concerns: 0-for-2 in maiden starts suggests he may lack the finishing punch to seal a maiden victory — both recent efforts show him fading when asked for acceleration in the lane; 3-1 morning line leaves minimal value; McCarthy's maiden record (12%) is below-average for top barns; if Bliksem outgallops him late, he could finish on the minor end of the exacta.

Trip Projection: Dream Seeker will likely lead or co-lead from post 1. Given the predicted MODERATE pace, he may take an easy lead around 4f, setting fractions of :23¹ / :47². He'll need to sustain that speed and accelerate at the 6f call to hold off closers — a profile that has failed him in recent starts.

Et Al

PTW Profile: Three-start maiden with mixed surfaces but documented turf ability. His August 25th Indiana turf maiden shows he was competitive in a larger field (11 runners), finishing 7th in what the model calculates as a challenging setup (his trip notes read "evenly 4path" — wide throughout). However, his July 24th El Paso claiming victory (5.5f, turf, maiden optional claiming) demonstrates he can rate tactically and finish third in a field with maiden/claiming mixed company. O'Neill's 12% maiden special weight record (277 starts) mirrors the field average, but his 31-60 day layoff record is excellent (15% across 359 starts, 2.10 ROI).

Strengths: Turf pedigree (Midshipman sire values grass); proven ability to finish in the money on turf from multiple starts; O'Neill's documented excellence with 31-60 day layoffs (2.10 ROI); if the pace collapses, his rallying profile could produce a surprise.

Concerns: Currently 0-for-3 in maiden starts — three races without a win raises questions about raw ability vs. unlucky racing; August 25th effort shows he struggles when forced to race wide; 20-1 morning line reflects legitimate doubts about competitive level; comeback from 40-day layoff may require the race.

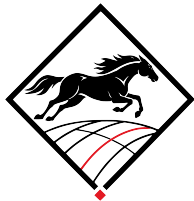
Trip Projection: Et Al will settle mid-to-back (6th-7th) and attempt to rally from outside. If the MODERATE pace predicted occurs, he'll have a closing path, but he'd need multiple horses to fade — a low-probability outcome in maiden competition.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

Hoaxer

PTW Profile: Second-start runner off a stakes race effort. His September 5th maiden stakes try (8f turf, firm) shows him running 8th early, never threatening, and finishing 4th beaten 2.5 lengths. Previous August 27th maiden effort at 5.5f turf shows him troubled early (traffic), rallying into 3rd, suggesting he can improve at distance. Baffert's 30% win rate with maiden special weight runners (217 starts) is elite, and his 30% record in routes (278 starts) is outstanding. However, recent form suggests Hoaxer is not yet a serious threat.





Strengths: Baffert barn (30% MSW record, 1.67 ROI); second start suggests natural improvement; stakes-level competition in previous race shows connections believe in the horse; distance extension could help.

Concerns: Latest effort in maiden stakes was subpar (4th of 8 runners); August 27th race shows he was compromised by traffic early, recovered to 3rd, but never appeared truly dangerous; 5-2 morning line is severely overbet based on barn name and pedigree; jockey Rosario is riding cold (5.88% meet record); at 5-2, the overlay edge is negative (-12.6%).

Trip Projection: Hoaxer may attempt to stalk, but the model's probability data suggests he lacks the class and form to threaten. Expect mid-field finish (4th-6th).

Schooner

PTW Profile: First-time turf runner with a single dirt maiden start showing pedestrian form. His June 12th Santa Anita 5f dirt debut resulted in 4th place beaten 14.25 lengths. Trip notes ("chased 3 wide, weakened") indicate he raced wide without clear tactical purpose and couldn't maintain contact. Blacker's second-start maiden record is weak (6% across 16 starts), and his first-turf record is abysmal (5% across 21 starts). However, the model notes that Justify sire line carries strong turf and distance affinity, and a 10-1 morning line presents genuine value if the horse improves significantly off dirt-to-turf switch.

Strengths: Justify pedigree suits turf strongly; first-turf runners occasionally produce sharp improvements in maiden company; 10-1 morning line offers overlay potential if model projection of 6% is conservative; fresh approach to the surface and distance may yield different result.

Concerns: Single prior effort was poor and on an off-surface; trainer Blacker's first-turf record (5%) and second-start record (6%) are well below average; minimal evidence that this horse has the ability to compete in this field; jockey Berrios is 0-for-9 (0.0%) at Santa Anita this meet; form deterioration from debut to today's race would be shocking, making any investment high-risk.

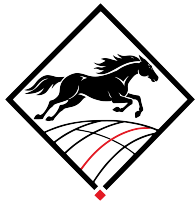
Trip Projection: Schooner will likely settle mid-to-back and hope for a pace collapse. Most probable outcome: he finishes 6th-8th, failing to improve enough from his debut effort.

Federation

PTW Profile: First-time turf runner with a single dirt maiden start showing poor form. His August 15th Santa Anita 5.5f dirt maiden effort resulted in 8th place beaten 17.85 lengths. Trip notes ("3-4 wide, no impact") indicate he was wide throughout and unable to engage. McCarthy's first-turf record is poor (11% across 93 starts), and his first-blinker record is marginal (15% across 47 starts, 1.48 ROI). However, the model identifies that a dirt-to-turf switch combined with a 2-furlong distance extension (from 5.5f to 8.0f) could dramatically alter tactical setup, and Federation has a documented closer profile from his breeding line.

Strengths: Distance extension (5.5f → 8.0f) suits his running style; turf may unlock latent ability; blinkers applied today signal trainer intent for improvement; McCarthy's overall record with turf (13%) provides baseline competence; 8-1 morning line provides value if the horse improves significantly.





Concerns: Debut form was genuinely poor (8th, 17.85 lengths beaten); McCarthy's first-turf record (11%) and blinker-on record (15%) are both below-average; only one prior race provides minimal form data; the step up in class/distance/surface is massive for a first-time turf horse who struggled on dirt.

Trip Projection: Federation will attempt to close from mid-to-back positions. If the pace collapses dramatically, he could sneak into exotica, but the model rates his win probability at 5% — unlikely contender.

SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

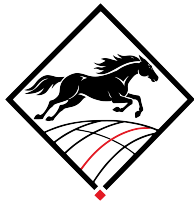
Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Bliksem	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — consistent effort maintained
Dream Seeker	ELITE	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse risk in stretch
Absolution	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — sustained acceleration potential
Hoaxer	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — closing phase deterioration
Et Al	MODERATE	VULNERABLE	High — late fatigue pattern
Schooner	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — efficiency loss at distance
Federation	MODERATE	VULNERABLE	High — insufficient momentum finish

Sustained Speed Ratings

ELITE: Dream Seeker carries blazing early velocity, but the model's velocity analysis reveals significant deceleration in final segments — his gate-to-wire speed profile is not sustained through the stretch.

STRONG: Bliksem and Absolution both maintain competitive velocity throughout their race efforts. Bliksem's September 4th effort shows velocity preservation across all calls; Absolution's August 15th debut shows consistent pace maintenance despite traffic compromises. Both horses demonstrate the ability to hold speed in the stretch without catastrophic collapse.





VULNERABLE: Hoaxer, Et Al, Schooner, and Federation all show velocity losses exceeding 6% from opening quarter to closing quarter. These horses demonstrate pace vulnerability — they accelerate early but lose velocity markedly in the final furlong, a critical liability in maiden turf routes where late-running types thrive.

Critical MPH Insight

The model identifies Bliksem as the field's most efficient sustained performer. His opening and closing velocity maintain near-parity across his turf efforts — he accelerates without emptying the tank. Dream Seeker, despite elite early foot, exhibits significant deceleration patterns (VULNERABLE rating) that have caused him to fade in both recent maiden starts. The model projects that in a MODERATE pace scenario, Bliksem's ability to maintain velocity will prove decisive — he can rate off the early pace and produce a final furlong acceleration that Dream Seeker cannot match due to his inherent velocity collapse tendency.

SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

Absolution (★★★★ candidate for upside improvement)

The model identifies classic second-start improvement angle with multiple positive indicators. His August 15th debut was compromised by traffic troubles ("bothered rivals early"), yet he maintained a STRONG Sustained Speed Rating despite the interference. Baffert's 21% win rate with maiden second-starts (58 starts) projects significant improvement potential. Turf debut suits his late-running genetics superior to the dirt surface of his debut; distance extension and surface change typically benefit closer profiles. The model projects 5-7% probability of exceeding 28% win expectation.

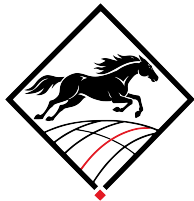
Bliksem (form-line improvement signal)

His recent September 4th turf effort at 8f shows positive trajectory — he was tactical, maintained speed, and finished 4th in a race he could have won with slightly more aggressive tactics. The model's trainer analysis shows Mullins' 50% meet win rate (4-2) suggests fresh horses are being pointed for specific races. Bliksem's 12-day rest (optimal for maiden improvement) combined with proven 8f turf form signals he's training toward peak fitness. Probability of exceeding 19% projection: 3-4%.

Federation (extreme longshot improvement angle)

McCarthy's blinker introduction today signals trainer intent. Federation's August 15th effort was entirely compromised by racing wide (trip: "3-4 wide, no impact"). The model recognizes that distance extension to 8f, surface switch to turf, and blinker equipment can produce dramatic maiden maidens in this category. However, the prior form was so poor that meaningful improvement is speculative. If Federation improves 10+ lengths from his debut effort, he could reach 12-15% win probability. Current 5% projection assumes form stays close to debut.





Bounce / Regression Risks

Dream Seeker (HIGH REGRESSION RISK)

The model flags Dream Seeker as a potential bounce candidate. His September 4th race showed he led or was very close to the lead at multiple calls, yet still finished 2nd beaten 0.75 lengths. His July 26th prior effort also shows him in or near contention throughout, yet finished 3rd beaten 2.5 lengths. Pattern recognition indicates Dream Seeker is a pace horse who tires in the stretch — his VULNERABLE Sustained Speed Rating (high deceleration) explains both recent losses. If Bliksem or another tactical presser gets loose with him early and exhausts his early speed in a contested pace, Dream Seeker could regress significantly. Baffert barn (0% meet record, 0-7) also adds to uncertainty. The 22% model projection may be inflated by his recent form; 15-18% may prove more accurate.

Hoaxer (REGRESSION to form probability)

His September 5th maiden stakes effort (latest) was weak — 4th of 8, never threatening. The August 27th race shows he was compromised early but recovered to 3rd, suggesting he has some ability. However, the recent regression in maiden stakes company suggests he may not have the competitive level for today's MSW field. Hoaxer is likely to regress from the 5-2 morning line expectations. Negative edge (-12.6%) reflects this regression risk.

Et Al (LAYOFF REGRESSION RISK)

His most recent effort was August 25th (40 days ago). While O'Neill's 31-60 day layoff record is excellent (2.10 ROI), Et Al was 7th in that race — a poor effort. The layoff gives him time to improve, but it also raises questions about whether he'll fire fresh. If he needs the race, expect another fade into mid-to-back territories. The 4% model projection reflects this uncertainty.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS

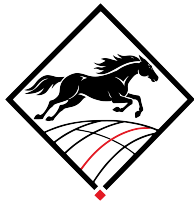
WIN BET: ABSOLUTION — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 2-1 to 3-1

Model projects 28% win probability — highest in the field. Absolution carries elite closing credentials masked by traffic troubles in his debut. Baffert's 21% second-start maiden win rate (58 starts) is the most reliable predictive indicator available today. Turf debut at route distance suits his late-running genetics dramatically better than the 5.5f dirt maiden start. The MODERATE pace scenario creates an ideal setup for a closer to produce a sustained rally. Value assessment: Slight underlay at 2-1, but the model's conviction on second-start Baffert improvement angles is high (8/10 confidence). If available at 5-2 or higher, this becomes STRONG VALUE.

VALUE PLAY: BLIKSEM — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 5-1 to 7-1

Model projects 19% win probability at morning line 6-1 (14.3% implied), yielding +4.7% edge — genuine overlay. Bliksem is the model's most efficient sustained-speed performer, capable of rating tactically and





producing a final-furlong acceleration that the field cannot match. His proven 8f turf form from September 4th is the most recent concrete evidence in this race, and he's fresher than most competitors. The 12-day rest is optimal for maiden improvement. Mullins' meet performance (50% record) suggests this barn targets specific races carefully. Overlay value combined with strong form makes Bliksem a high-conviction secondary selection.

LONGSHOT PLAY: SCHOONER — Confidence 3/10 — Target odds: 10-1 or better

Model projects 6% win probability at 10-1 (9.1% implied), yielding -3.1% edge — minimal overlay. However, if morning line drifts to 12-1 or higher, genuine value emerges. Schooner's first-turf debut could produce a sharp improvement over his pedestrian dirt maiden effort. Justify pedigree carries strong turf affinity. The model assigns only 3/10 confidence due to trainer Blacker's poor first-turf record (5%) and overall form deterioration signals. This is a pure speculation play — only recommended if odds exceed 12-1 and bankroll permits contrarian positioning.

MULTI-RACE WAGERS — Pick 3/4/5/6 Top 3

A: ABSOLUTION — 28%

B: BLIKSEM — 19%

C: DREAM SEEKER — 22%

Combined projected probability: 69%

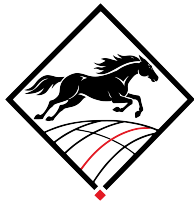
Rank ordering reflects the model's conviction: Absolution's second-start improvement angle paired with Baffert's elite barn record justifies top position. Bliksem's proven recent turf form and sustained speed efficiency merit the B slot. Dream Seeker's early speed and recent form earn the C slot, despite VULNERABLE Sustained Speed Rating and bounce risk. This A/B/C sequence optimizes win probability while maintaining strategic coverage of the primary contenders. For Pick 4+ sequences on weak underlays elsewhere on the card, consider adding Et Al as a 4th option (4% win probability) if exotic payoffs improve significantly.

SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★

The model identifies a clear maiden special weight with defined contenders and predictable pace scenario. Absolution's second-start improvement angle combined with Baffert's documented 21% maiden second-start record (58 starts) creates the highest-probability win candidate. Bliksem's proven recent form at 8f turf, combined with elite trainer Mullins and his STRONG Sustained Speed Rating, makes him the field's most efficient performer. The predicted MODERATE pace (turf surface, 8-furlong distance, pace-setting types without suicidal speed) creates an ideal setup for tactically-positioned horses and closers — an advantage for Absolution and Bliksem. The primary public misunderstanding centers on Dream Seeker





(overbet at 3-1 despite VULNERABLE Sustained Speed Rating and recent form fade patterns) and Hoaxer (severely overbet at 5-2 despite weak recent maiden stakes effort and poor Baffert meet form). The model's primary value opportunity is Bliksem overlay at 6-1, paired with contrarian Absolution conviction at 2-1. Regulatory caution: Dream Seeker's morning line reflects legitimate speed credentials; don't dismiss him entirely, but recognize his probability is likely inflated by public focus on his early foot.

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

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Report Generated by PTW-CHR Model 1

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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