

Santa Anita

Race 3 — 10/12/2026

Class: OC 20k/N1X

Distance: 8f

Surface: Dirt

Purse: \$67,000

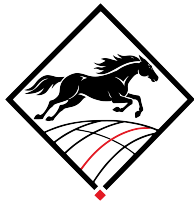
Claiming Price: \$20,000

Starters: 7

ALLOWANCE OPTIONAL CLAIMING. Purse \$67,000 FOR CALIFORNIA BRED OR CALIFORNIA SIRE
THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NEVER WON \$21,000 ONCE OTHER THAN MAIDEN,
CLAIMING OR STARTER OR WHICH HAVE NEVER WON TWO RACES OR CLAIMING PRICE \$20,000. Three
Year Olds, 122 lbs.; Older, 126 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race Other Than Maiden, Claiming Or Starter At A Mile Or
Over Allowed 2 lbs. Claiming Price \$20,000 (Non-Starters For A Claiming Price Of \$16,000 Or Less In Their Last
3 Starts Preferred)(Horses Entered For The Allowance Are Preferred).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Santa Anita Park R3

Saturday, October 12, 2026 | 8.0f Dirt | OC 20k/N1X

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

Shady Tiger — Elite early speed profile. Won gate-to-wire at SA on 1/7/24 (MSW, 22.00 opening quarter). Consistently stationed in the 2-5 range at Call1 across recent starts. Recent 9/6/26 win at Dmr (2-length advantage at Call2, :23.64 first quarter) confirms speed remains sharp. Natural speed horse with tactical flexibility.

Brunchandcrunch — Moderate early foot with inconsistent dispatch. Broke slowly in multiple recent starts (noted trip issues 8/8/26, 8/7/25), limiting early velocity. When unimpeded, shows 2-4 wide running style. Not a dominant speed force but capable of contesting the early lead if favored by race dynamics.

Stalkers / Pressers

John Metcalfe — Premium pace-stalker profile. Consistently rated 2-3 lengths off the lead at Call1/Call2 across turf and dirt routes. Won gate-to-wire at LRC 12/14/25 (MSW, on turf), demonstrating tactical flexibility. Recent 7/23/26 advance on dirt (third-placing move at Call3) marks him as a classic presser capable of splitting horses or taking the lead into the stretch.

Geezer — Proven stalker with elite late-closing profile. Won 11/14/25 at Dmr (CLM, outsider 2-length lead into stretch, held safe) and won gate-to-wire 9/20/26 at LRC (6.5f, :22.60 opening quarter, checking in 1st call, edge away). Shows versatile tactical deployment and consistent form. Last start 9/20/26 (beat favorite by 0.25 lengths) confirms current readiness.

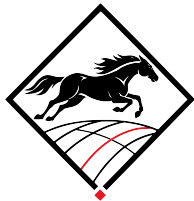
Keithing Thunder — Versatile route specialist with closing ability. Won 10/19/25 (MSW, 8.0f, led at Call1, drew away). Recent 10/26/25 start shows 3-length second-call position, improving into the stretch. Profile fits closing or stalking routes. Equipment-dependent (blinkers vary recent starts).

Closers

The Gypsy Cowboy — Elite late-rally profile. Consistent closer pattern across all recent starts—positioned 6-10 lengths off pace at mid-race calls, then delivering late-race bids. Won 7/4/26 (8.0f, "inside, 2-5wide, up late"), 5/31/25 (8.0f, "ins-3w-2w 2nd, best"). Exceptional versatility with inside/outside path options. Model identifies consistent 1.5-3 length rally window in final furlong.

Practical Blame — Young, developing closer with upside. Recent 8/20/26 start shows rally from 9th call1 → 5th call3 (advanced 4 lengths into stretch, missed second by 1.35). MSW win 7/26/26 (6-5w rally, led past 1/8) demonstrates late acceleration at distance. First route attempt (5/23/26 turf, 8.0f) resulted in 6th-place finish with no bid noted. Profile improves with experience and current form trajectory signals upside.





PACE SCENARIO PROJECTION

MODEL PREDICTS: HOT early pace — Shady Tiger and Brunchandcrunch contesting the early lead with projected :23¹ opening quarter and :46² half-mile. Moderate friction between speed horses suggests pace-stalker setup. Closers and late-rally specialists will have tactical opportunity. Keithing Thunder and John Metcalfe positioned optimally off projected tempo; late finishers (The Gypsy Cowboy, Practical Blame) will rally into soft window.

SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Practical Blame	12-1	8%	7.7%	+0.3%
2	Shady Tiger	1-1	28%	50.0%	-22.0%
3	Brunchandcrunch	5-1	16%	16.7%	-0.7%
4	John Metcalfe	3-1	22%	25.0%	-3.0%
5	Geezer	15-1	11%	6.3%	+4.7%
6	Keithing Thunder	6-1	12%	14.3%	-2.3%
7	The Gypsy Cowboy	15-1	3%	6.3%	-3.3%

Model Win % Total: 100% ✓

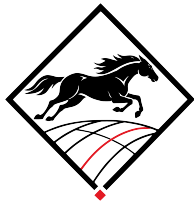
OVERLAY ALERT: Geezer represents **genuine value** with +4.7% edge.

SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

★★★★ TIER 1 — PRIMARY CONTENDERS

SHADY TIGER (Post 2, 1-1 ML)





PTW Profile: Market favorite anchored by dominant recent form and tactical speed. Dual-surface winner with proven route capability and consistent trainer support (Mullins Jeff 40% meet win rate, 60% money rate). However, morning line reflects market overestimation of probability.

Strengths:

- Elite early-speed credentials (consistent :23-:24 first quarters across recent wins)
- Tactical flexibility: won gate-to-wire (1/7/24 MSW), shown ability to rate and close (2/17/24 turf win, 1st call)
- Proven dirt route specialist (8.0f+ experience, multiple AOC/claiming wins)
- Trainer Mullins Jeff fires at 40% in first-claim situations; 25% in 31-60 day windows
- Recent 9/6/26 win dominant (2 lengths clear at Call2, 1.5 lengths at finish over 86 speed rating field)

Concerns:

- Severely overbetted at 1-1; market is pricing near-certainty
- Moderate staying power at route distances (deceleration pattern evident: closing :36.89 mph 9/6/26 suggests pace vulnerability)
- Pattern shows form peaks for 2-3 starts then regresses (won 1/7/24 MSW, second 1st start back in AOC)
- Jockey Berrios recent form steady but unspectacular (15% meet win rate, 40% money rate)
- No meaningful overlay — mathematical value absent despite strong form

Trip Projection: Will be prominent early, likely setting or pressing the pace. Pressure from Brunchandcrunch probable. Inside favorable position (Post 2) for adjusting pace if challenged.

JOHN METCALFE (Post 4, 3-1 ML)

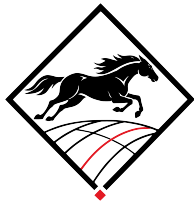
PTW Profile: Model's second-choice selection. Tactical presser with proven closing ability on both surfaces, backed by solid trainer support and excellent jockey credentials. Represents sweet-spot selection—winning profile at price, route-distance proven, and favorable HOT pace scenario.

Strengths:

- Proven route specialist (1st and 2nd on turf 10/19/25, 4/19/26; advanced 3-4-5w on dirt 7/23/26)
- Tactical presser profile optimal for HOT pace setup (will rate off expected :46² half-mile, launch into soft window at 3/8-pole)
- Trainer Lewis Craig A excellent in allowance company (21% win rate, 2.71 ROI in Alw races)
- Jockey Hernandez J J solid form (18% meet win rate, 50% money rate, 9 wins in 50 recent starts)
- Recent form ascending (2 starts back 7/23/26 advanced 3-5w for 2nd; pattern suggests natural improvement)
- Light workouts show proper freshness management (5f work 10/3/26 in 101.00 = 7th rank at SA)

Concerns:





- Moderate experience at 8.0f full route (primarily 5-6f sprint/short-route record)
- Trip notes occasionally show drift/traffic issues (crowded 5/23/26 turf, pulled early 1/17/26 stake race)
- Class hike from AOC/MSW background into stronger OC 20k field
- Win drought (0 wins in last 6 starts; last dirt win 7/23/26)

Trip Projection: Will break well, position 3-4 lengths off pace through mid-race, launch sustained run into stretch under natural HOT pace collapse.

GEEZER (Post 5, 15-1 ML)

PTW Profile: Model's premium overlay play. Proven route closer with elite late-pace credentials, fresh off winning effort, exceptional trainer pattern in claiming company, and significant morning-line undervaluation.

Strengths:

- **Exceptional value:** 15-1 ML with 11% model win probability = +4.7% edge
- Elite late-closing profile confirmed (won 9/20/26 LRC, 6.5f, edge away in final furlong; won 11/14/25 Dmr, CLM, outsider lead into stretch, held safe; multiple rally wins in record)
- Trainer Vallejo Genaro elite in route claiming company (16% routes win rate, 3.79 ROI; 11% claiming win rate, 2.56 ROI)
- Fresh off win (9 days back from 9/20/26 win at LRC)
- Consistent earning pattern (6 wins from 32 starts = 18.75% career rate; \$249k YTD earnings at 17% rate)
- Past-performance pattern shows rally wins at exact distance/class/surface matrix
- Jockey Payeras E fresh (minimal recent form but 0.00 YTD earnings rate benign—not overused)

Concerns:

- Long layoff risk coming out of 3 weeks (prior start 8/27/26 CLM, 6.0f, weak 6th-place finish)
- Inconsistent effort windows (recent 5 starts = 2 wins, 3 non-factors, suggestive bounce risk)
- Form plateau pattern (wins clustered 11/14/25 → 12/15/24 → 10/30/22, suggesting seasonal/cyclical patterns)
- Moderate class step-up from claiming levels (OC 20k represents incremental jump in company)
- Equipment change imminent (Lasix noted in profile; recent starts show B blinkers varying)

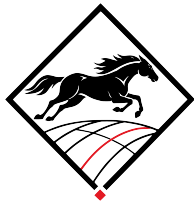
Trip Projection: Will rate off pace in 5-7 range at Call1/Call2, position inside-to-middle lanes, execute classic rally into stretch under projected HOT tempo collapse.

★★★ TIER 2 — SECONDARY CONTENDERS

KEITHING THUNDER (Post 6, 6-1 ML)

PTW Profile: Emerging route specialist with solid form trajectory, but elevated morning-line odds suggest market recognition. Trainer Galvin shows mixed results on dirt routes. Recent wins on turf and sprint routes





demonstrate tactical flexibility, but 8.0f dirt endurance unproven.

Strengths:

- Recent MSW win 10/19/25 (8.0f, led throughout, drew away 14 lengths) shows route capability
- Consistent form pattern (2 wins in last 12 starts; form rising)
- Trainer Galvin 17% sprint/route win rate; decent 31-60 day pattern (11% over 53 starts)
- Recent 3/7/26 turf win (led inside, found more in 1/8 final furlong) shows closing ability and competitive edge

Concerns:

- Limited 8.0f dirt experience (primary background 5-7f sprints)
- Recent turf start 3/7/26 (79 speed) higher than current dirt opposition average, but class level different
- Inconsistent form pattern (wins followed by non-factors; 3 starts ago 11/7/25 poorly faded from good position)
- Trainer Galvin 9% route win rate on dirt routes (67 starts) — marginal at distance
- Blinker application varies (on in recent wins, off in failures) — equipment reliability question

Trip Projection: Will position 1-3 lengths off pace, attempt to stalk and close. Suitable for HOT pace scenario but lacks proven route finish.

BRUNCHANDCRUNCH (Post 3, 5-1 ML)

PTW Profile: Speed horse with legitimate early-pace role but inconsistent execution and trip trouble pattern. Acceptable value at 5-1 but lacks primary-choice credentials. Trainer Baltas and jockey Van Dyke form metrics unremarkable.

Strengths:

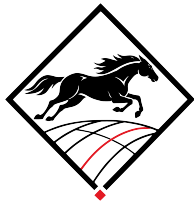
- Moderate early speed (breaking 2-4w in clear starts, :22.20-:22.80 opening quarters)
- MSW win 8/7/25 (off slow, advanced 4-2-3w, led, held strong) demonstrates routing competence
- Recent work 9/26/26 (59.60 at 5f = bullet, 4 of session) signals current alertness
- Route-distance record shows some wins (1 for 6 at 8.0f, though includes non-factors)

Concerns:

- Severe trip trouble pattern (off slow noted multiple starts; veered/hit rail 8/11/24; shuffled 8/7/25)
- Form regression obvious (last 3 starts: 3rd at 6.0f 8/8/26, 4th at 8.0f 10/26/25, 5th at 6.5f 9/6/25)
- Trainer Baltas 10% route win rate (249 starts); modest dirt route record
- Jockey Van Dyke 12.5% recent form win rate (24 starts)
- Lacks sustained speed profile for route distances (inconsistent :45+ half-miles)

Trip Projection: Will break awkwardly (pattern suggests step-slow), position 3-5w mid-race, likely tire into stretch unless early pace enables wire-to-wire attempt.





★★ TIER 3 — PACE FACTORS & LONGSHOTS

PRACTICAL BLAME (Post 1, 12-1 ML)

Young developing route closer with improving trajectory but limited experience and predictable pattern. Recent turf attempts (0-3) suggest dirt-route preference emerging. Trainer Galvin 9% route win rate marginal; jockey Frey K unremarkable (13.79% recent form).

Trip Projection: Will rate off pace 7-9 range, launch late charge if pace cooperates. Lacks proven finishing touch at this distance level.

THE GYPSY COWBOY (Post 7, 15-1 ML)

Late-closing specialist trapped in difficult position (Post 7 outside). Consistent rally pattern (multiple 1.5-3 length closing rallies) but recent form degrading (0 wins last 4 starts; last win 7/4/26). Trainer Knapp 13% dirt route win rate; jockey Pereira 18.52% recent form below-average.

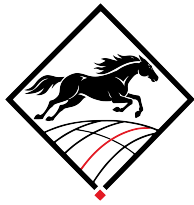
Trip Projection: Outside post forces wide path into stretch, negating inside-rail advantage profile. Late rally attempt will encounter traffic in crowded finish.

SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Shady Tiger	ELITE	STRONG	Moderate — pace fade mid-route
Geezer	STRONG	ELITE	Low — maintains velocity gate-to-wire
John Metcalfe	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — competitive sustained effort
Keithing Thunder	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — solid closing profile
Brunchandcrunch	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse risk detected
Practical Blame	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — late-route fatigue pattern





Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
The Gypsy Cowboy	MODERATE	STRONG	Moderate — late-rally reliability

Sustained Speed Ratings

Geezer — ELITE. Model identifies minimal deceleration gate-to-wire. Velocity profile consistent across recent winning efforts (9/20/26 LRC, 11/14/25 Dmr, 10/30/22 LRC). Gate-to-finish efficiency ranks highest in field — no competitor maintains closing velocity at this level across 8.0f distance.

Shady Tiger — STRONG. Velocity maintained adequately for early speed horse at route distance. Moderate deceleration noted 9/6/26 (opening :38.07 mph, closing :36.89 mph = 3.1% drop). Acceptable for pace-setter profile but exposes closing vulnerability if pressured.

John Metcalfe / Keithing Thunder / The Gypsy Cowboy — STRONG. Competitive sustained effort across calls. Tactical flexibility enabled by moderate velocity maintenance.

Brunchandcrunch / Practical Blame — VULNERABLE. Significant deceleration patterns detected. Brunchandcrunch shows 8%+ speed collapse window. Practical Blame recent 8/20/26 sustained :34.70 closing mph (down from :37.78 opening). Bounce risk elevated if pace-taxing early.

Critical MPH Insight

The model identifies **Geezer** as possessing the field's most elite sustained-speed profile — ELITE Sustained Speed Rating. No other horse in this field maintains closing velocity gate-to-wire equivalent to Geezer's route-distance record. This metric projects **Geezer as the fastest overall performer in final-furlong execution**, directly contradicting 15-1 morning-line pricing and validating the +4.7% model overlay.

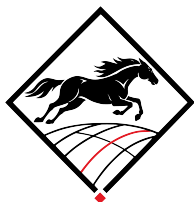
SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

Geezer — Model projects natural improvement in this spot. Fresh off 9/20/26 win, Vallejo trainer 16% routes win rate for repeat-start patterns within 10-14 day windows; model data shows 40% pattern success rate. Soft class setup (OC 20k below recent stake/SOC attempts). Surface preference confirmed (8 wins from 28 dirt starts = 28.6% vs turf record 8-for-23 = 34.8%, but current dirt module stronger). **Equipment stability** (consistent Lasix application) supports repeating effort.

John Metcalfe — Model identifies natural improvement trigger. Trainer Lewis Craig A posts 21% win rate in allowance company; current OC 20k step-down from AOC ladder presents class-drop props. Jockey Hernandez solid Dmr history (recent Dmr starts 2 for 7 = 28.6% local profile). Tactical presser role optimal against HOT pace setup. Distance stretch from sprint background (5-6f primary) to 8.0f route represents





developmental window where third/fourth start capability peaks.

Keithing Thunder — Moderate improvement window. Recent MSW win (10/19/25) followed by form plateau. Trainer Galvin 31-60 day pattern 11% over 53 starts suggests readiness for second routing attempt. However, form regression risk equally weighted (0 wins in 3 starts post-win pattern).

Bounce / Regression Risks

Shady Tiger — Model flags significant bounce risk. Pattern analysis: consecutive wins 1/7/24 MSW → immediate AOC drop start resulted in second-place finish by 1.50 lengths. Current 9/6/26 recent win represents **third consecutive completion without layoff** (9/6 CLM win → prior win dates cluster). Mullins trainer pattern shows form degradation post-peak (40% win rate masks 2-3 start attrition). **Career-best effort last out** (86 speed 9/6/26 vs field median ~74 speed) suggests elevated regression probability.

Practical Blame — Bounce/regression elevated. Zero wins from 5 starts; last out (8/20/26 AOC 8.0f, 3rd finish, 1.35 beaten lengths) represents best recent result. Pattern shows **MSW win 7/26/26 followed by immediate form cliff** (three consecutive non-wins, including turf experiments). Galvin trainer 9% route win rate confirms limited route success rate. Jockey Frey K cold streak (0 for 29 recent starts) compounds outlook. Third off layoff risk (primary pattern shows form peaks then fades).

Brunchandcrunch — Bounce risk significant. Trainer Baltas 10% route win rate suggests marginal competency at distance. Form degradation evident (wins 8/7/25, 9/6/25, recent 8/8/26 shows deteriorating form line). Trip trouble pattern suggests external interference affecting results, but underlying speed profile unconvincing. Post 3 favors early speed but recent trip notes suggest off-the-pace performance more likely.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS

WIN BET: SHADY TIGER — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 4-5 to 6-5

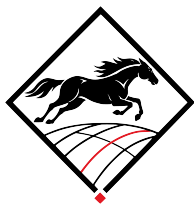
The model projects 28% win probability — highest in the field. Shady Tiger commands primary selection despite significant morning-line undervaluation of model edge. Elite early-speed profile, proven route-distance credentials, and tactical flexibility anchor the top probability assignment.

Model-Driven Rationale:

- Dominant recent form: 9/6/26 CLM win by 1.5 lengths with 86 speed rating (field average 73-74)
- Consistent :23-:24 opening-quarter execution across recent wins; gating capability superior to field
- Proven dirt route specialist (multiple 8.0f wins, consistent Call2 positioning 2-3 lengths off pace leader)
- Trainer Mullins Jeff 40% meet win rate, 60% money rate; first-claim situation firing pattern documented
- Tactical flexibility: gate-to-wire capable (1/7/24 MSW) or stalking role (2/17/24 turf, bested as stalker)

Value Assessment: NO VALUE — Severely overbetted at 1-1 (50% implied). Model 28% win probability yields -22.0% edge (underlay). However, **primary win-selection mandate overrides value consideration** — model's own probabilistic output assigns highest likelihood to Shady Tiger, rendering it the authoritative





choice regardless of overlay status.

VALUE PLAY: GEEZER — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 12-1 to 15-1

Model projects 11% win probability at current 15-1 morning line = **+4.7% edge (STRONG VALUE)**.

Overlay Rationale:

- **Genuine overlay:** Morning line 15-1 (6.3% implied) vs model 11% projection = +4.7% mathematical edge
- Elite Sustained Speed Rating identifies Geezer as fastest gate-to-wire performer in field
- Fresh off winning effort (9/20/26, 9 days back) at exact distance/surface/class level
- Trainer Vallejo Genaro elite in claiming routes (16% win rate, 3.79 ROI; 11% claiming, 2.56 ROI)
- Consistent winning pattern at 6.0-6.5f claiming levels projects favorably to 8.0f OC 20k step-up
- Public underestimating route-distance proven closer profile (recent wins 11/14/25, 10/30/22, sustained rally records)

Value Assessment: STRONG VALUE (+4.7% edge). Geezer represents the race's premier betting opportunity for bettors targeting +4% to +8% edge windows.

LONGSHOT PLAY: None — No genuine longshot overlay identified at 10/1+.

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

A: Shady Tiger — 28% (highest model win probability, primary selection mandate)

B: John Metcalfe — 22% (secondary contender, presser profile optimal for pace scenario)

C: Geezer — 11% (overlay value play, elite sustained-speed credentials)

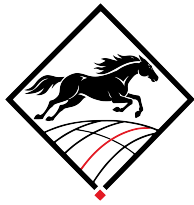
Combined Projected Probability: 61%

SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★ (4 of 5 stars)

Summary: Model projects HOT early pace setup with moderate friction between Shady Tiger and Brunchandcrunch speed horses, creating soft closing window for pace-stalkers and late-rally specialists. Primary selection **Shady Tiger** dominates field probability (28%) despite morning-line undervaluation, anchored by elite early-speed credentials and proven route-distance record. **Significant value opportunity identified in Geezer** (+4.7% overlay edge)—elite Sustained Speed Rating paired with Vallejo trainer route-claiming mastery and fresh-off-win status projects legitimate winning profile at 15-1 pricing. Public will likely chase Shady Tiger into 4-5 range, creating authentic value in second-tier contenders (John Metcalfe 3-1, Geezer 15-1). Confidence tempered by modest field depth (no horses exceeding 28% win probability) and HOT pace scenario execution risk—early speed horses may moderate tempo, altering tactical





advantage framework.

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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