Belmont Park

Race 1 — 11/01/2026

Class: Md Sp Wt 100k

Distance: 8.5f

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $100,000

Starters: 6

MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT. Purse $100,000 (UP TO $17,400 NYSBFOA) FOR MAIDENS, TWO YEARS OLD. Weight, 123 lbs. (Non-Starters For A Claiming Price Of $55,000 Or Less In The Last 5 Starts Preferred).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Belmont Park R1

November 01, 2026 | 8.5f Dirt | Maiden Special Weight

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

The model identifies **Election Hero** and **Live** as the primary early-speed threats in this field. Election Hero broke from post 5 in his only prior start (10/03/2026, 8.5f at BEL) and fired out hard to establish position, moving to the 2-furlong call in 25.52s (adjusted for 11.60 lengths beaten). Live demonstrated tactical speed in multiple routes, showing consistent inside positioning at the 2f call and pressing from post 6. Both horses profile as horses willing to test the pace early.

Stalkers / Pressers

Sconset Bluff (post 4) carries elite workout credentials with multiple bullet works and gate works, suggesting tactical flexibility to rate just off the pace. **Horizontal Rain** showed early positioning (3rd at 2f) in his sole start (09/30/2026, 6f) and possesses the breeding and trainer pattern to improve into a stalking role at the route.

Closers

Captivated (post 1) is a first-time starter with consistent workouts but no prior race data to establish a profile. **Hold'em** (post 2) has shown limited early foot in both prior starts, trailing substantially early (11th at 2f both times), marking him as a closer-dependent type.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: MODERATE early pace with Election Hero and Live contesting for position, projected :23² opening quarter and :46■ half-mile. This setup favors tactical horses and pace-stalkers — early speed will incur manageable pressure rather than suicidal pace, creating a balanced race benefiting versatile runners and late closers with position.

SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Captivated	5/2	19%	28.6%	-9.6%
2	Hold'em	15/1	4%	6.3%	-2.3%





Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
3	Horizontal Rain	3/1	18%	25.0%	-7.0%
4	Sconset Bluff	8/1	19%	11.1%	+7.9%
5	Election Hero	9/5	28%	22.2%	+5.8%
6	Live	7/2	12%	6.8%	+5.2%
	TOTAL		**100%**	**100.0%**	

SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

Election Hero — Model projects 28% win probability. **PTW Profile:** Second-time starter showing clear early intent in inaugural route outing (10/03/2026, 8.5f at BEL). Hit the gate at the break but recovered to race inside, moving to a 7th-place position at the 2f call (25.52s adjusted) before advancing through the race, finishing 3rd beaten 11 lengths. Inside racing pattern throughout confirms tactical willingness. **Strengths:** Sire Early Voting produces route-ready runners; trainer Chad Brown shows 28% win rate in maiden 2nd-start situations (197 starts, 55 wins); blinkers applied today signal focused effort; route experience vs. field's shorter baseline. **Concerns:** Gate trouble in debut suggests immaturity; 11-length gap to winner indicates pace was hot and he couldn't sustain velocity; not the fastest horse available. **Trip Projection:** Should break cleanly today without equipment issues and settle inside off early pace, positioning for a rallying finish into :46■ pace scenario.

Sconset Bluff — Model projects 19% win probability. **PTW Profile:** First-time starter with sharp workout pattern. Shows five bullet works over the past six weeks, including back-to-back bullets on 09/17 (:47.40 gate work on dirt) and 09/02 (:36.20 bullet on dirt, ranked 1st of 10). Gate work specifically signals race-day readiness. Trainer William Mott historically underperforms in first-time maiden starters (6%, 163 starts, 10 wins), suggesting this is a pace-setup play rather than a high-confidence maiden debut. **Strengths:** Elite workout progression; Omaha Beach pedigree carries dirt affinity; sire War Front produced successful runners; tactical flexibility noted in work patterns; morning line 8/1 offers overlay value. **Concerns:** Zero prior race experience in a competitive field; Mott's first-start numbers don't inspire confidence; no proven route stamina. **Trip Projection:** Likely to break well and establish position outside the early speed, using fresh legs to close into moderate pace scenario.

Horizontal Rain — Model projects 18% win probability. **PTW Profile:** One-time starter (09/30/2026, 6f sprint) who showed legitimate early ability before fading. Broke out positively to 3rd at the 2f call (:22.60 leader time, horse at 22.60s — led or within lengths early), then drifted back to 4th by the 6f call (:57.40 leader, horse at 58.50s — 1.1 lengths). Finished 4th beaten 7 lengths at 6f. **Strengths:** Nyquist pedigree is





proven at extended distances; trainer Brendan Walsh shows 18% win rate in maiden 2nd-start situations (152 starts, 27 wins) — high-percentage angle; sharp workout at Saratoga (10/22 5-furlong bullet work ranked 2nd) confirms he retained fitness; move from sprint to route targets natural distance progression. **Concerns:** Tired in sprint — deceleration risk evident, faded 1.1 lengths in the final furlong; beat-down in tight race; no evidence of sustained speed at route distance yet. **Trip Projection:** Should break and position close to early pace off post 3, tracking Election Hero and Live through moderate fractions before testing closing ability in the stretch.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

Captivated — Model projects 19% win probability. **PTW Profile:** First-time starter with consistent but unspectacular workout pattern. Works range from 48.00–50.20 in 4-furlong drills; no bullet works or gate works noted. Trainer Chad Brown maintains 18% win rate in first-time starters (304 starts, 55 wins), respectable for debuts but not elite. Curlin pedigree (Smart Strike sire line) shows dirt/route affinity. Post 1 offers minimal pace assistance. **Strengths:** Trainer win rate respectable; consistent work pattern; morning line 5/2 shows alignment with model projection; eligible for Brown's pattern of developing maiden runners. **Concerns:** No elite workout indicators; first-time starter without gate work or bullet works; post 1 forces immediate pressure or requires early pace to soften; no proven form. **Trip Projection:** Will likely race outside the early-speed pressure given post position, settling into a waiting role if pace develops moderately, closing from behind if fractions accelerate.

Live — Model projects 12% win probability. **PTW Profile:** Two-time starter with mixed form. Showed early tactical positioning in both races (6th at 2f in 09/18 race, 9th at 2f in 08/08 race at Saratoga). September 18 effort at BEL (8f, MSW) ended in 4th place beaten 8 lengths; August 8 at Saratoga (6.5f, MSW) resulted in 9th place beaten 12.9 lengths. Both races show energy early followed by a fade. Trainer Todd Pletcher maintains modest 5% win rate in maiden special weight company (512 starts, 27 wins). Life Is Good pedigree is elite, but early-fade pattern limits confidence. **Concerns:** Two-start maiden with no wins; faded in both efforts despite early positioning; 12.9-length loss in dirt sprint signals setup/distance questions; Pletcher MSW record is weak. **Trip Projection:** Will race inside early, positioning close to Election Hero, but sustainability questions loom for the 8.5f route.

Tier 3 — Pace Factor / Longshot (★★)

Hold'em — Model projects 4% win probability. **PTW Profile:** Two-time starter with consistent non-competitive form. Ran 10th in both prior starts despite having tactical opportunities: 10th (6.30 lengths) at 2f in 10/18 race (8f, turf), then 10th (7.30 lengths) at 2f in 09/20 race (8f, fast). Trainer William Mott shows 11% win rate in maiden special weight (482 starts, 53 wins). Scalding pedigree (Nyquist sire) is respectable but horse has shown limited ability to threaten. Recent bullet work (10/29 3-furlong in :37.40, ranked 1st) offers minor hope for second-start improvement. **Concerns:** Two winless starts with minimal late-race impact; heavy beaten lengths throughout both races; poor tactical positioning both times; low trainer MSW win rate. **Trip Projection:** Will chase from behind again; bullet work may help him mount closer challenge but unlikely to produce win in this field.





SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Horizontal Rain	ELITE	ELITE	Low — maintains velocity
Election Hero	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — versatile finish
Live	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse risk
Hold'em	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse risk
Sconset Bluff	UNRATED	UNRATED	No usable data
Captivated	UNRATED	UNRATED	No usable data

Critical MPH Insight

The model identifies **Horizontal Rain** as the field's strongest sustained finisher — lowest deceleration rate among horses with usable data, demonstrating velocity maintenance through the stretch. Election Hero ranks STRONG with more balanced early-to-late profiles, while both Live and Hold'em carry VULNERABLE ratings driven by significant velocity loss in final segments. The two first-time starters (Sconset Bluff, Captivated) are UNRATED due to absence of fractional data, representing unknown variables in speed-based analysis. Horizontal Rain's pace-maintenance edge becomes critical in a moderate early-pace scenario where late velocity preservation directly influences placings.

SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

- **Horizontal Rain** — Second-start angle in prime range; trainer Walsh shows 18% win rate in maiden 2nd starts; move from 6f sprint to 8.5f route targets natural distance progression; sharp recent work (10/22 bullet); fade in sprint explained by setup (short distance, likely hot pace) rather than ability questions. High-percentage improvement candidate.
- **Election Hero** — Second-start route runner; trainer Brown's 28% rate in this exact situation is among the field's highest; gate trouble in debut obscured ability (broke awkwardly but still finished 3rd in a likely





hot-pace race); blinkers applied today suggest focused training; improved in-race positioning likely with clean break.

• **Sconset Bluff** — First-time starter with elite workout pattern (multiple bullets, gate works) signals race-ready fitness; Mott debuts typically show sharp improvement once racing experience accumulates; tactical flexibility in works supports closing angle if early pace sets up.

Bounce / Regression Risks

• **Live** — Two-start maiden with fade-in-both-efforts pattern; early positioning not translating to competitive finish; trainer Pletcher's weak MSW numbers suggest this horse is below the barn's typical standard; 12.9-length loss at Saratoga (dirt sprint) flags potential distance mismatch; carrying 7/2 morning line but regression risk elevated given two prior non-competitive efforts.

• **Captivated** — First-time starter without gate work or bullet work indicators; trainer Brown FTS rate (18%) is respectable but not elite; no proven fitness marker for route distance; post 1 creates early-pace pressure or tucked-inside scenario, limiting position flexibility typical of successful maiden debuts. Uptempo pace scenario would expose any fitness gaps.

• **Hold'em** — Career-maiden type with two starts, zero wins, and substantial beaten lengths in both races; trainer Mott FTS record is poor (6%); recent bullet work is too late a recovery signal; deceleration profile VULNERABLE suggests pace cannot be sustained in moderate-or-faster scenarios. Regression risk if field establishes faster pace than 09/20 race.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS

WIN BET: ELECTION HERO — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 9/5–2/1

Model projects 28% win probability — highest in field. Election Hero carries the optimal combination of second-start maiden advantage (trainer Brown 28% rate in this exact category), proven route distance (8.5f debut already completed), and today's pace scenario fit (moderate fractions favor his inside-to-outside rally pattern). Blinkers applied signal focused training adjustment. Current morning line of 9/5 (35.7% implied) shows an underlay, but the model's 28% projection reflects superior win likelihood. Value assessment: **NO VALUE** at current odds, but confidence in win probability remains highest in field. This is the model's anchor selection due to superior probability and lowest execution risk.

VALUE PLAY: SCONSET BLUFF — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 6/1–10/1

Model projects 19% win probability at morning line 8/1 (11.1% implied) — +7.9% edge. Sconset Bluff offers the field's most legitimate overlay. First-time starter with elite workout credentials (bullets, gate works) typically underestimated in public betting; Mott's poor first-time record (6%) creates public underestimation, but private workout quality suggests this is a live closing angle. Moderate pace scenario benefits fresh legs and tactical positioning. Genuine strong value play at 8/1+.

LONGSHOT PLAY: CAPTIVATED — Confidence 5/10 — Target odds: 4/1+





Model projects 19% win probability at morning line 5/2 (28.6% implied) — shows -9.6% underlay at current odds. However, if morning line drifts to 4/1 or higher in track betting, Captivated moves into longshot overlay territory (19% win probability becomes +6.4% edge at 4/1). Inclusion conditional on post-parade odds movement above 5/2. Trainer Brown's respectable first-time record (18%) and consistent workout pattern provide minor leverage if field dynamics shift.

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

- **A: Election Hero** — 28% *(Win Bet selection)*
- **B: Sconset Bluff** — 19%
- **C: Horizontal Rain** — 18%

Combined Projected Probability: 65%

SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★

This is a textbook moderate-pace maiden route setup favoring horses with tactical flexibility and sustained velocity profiles. Election Hero's second-start positioning, route experience, and trainer edge make him the model's top selection with 28% win probability — the highest in field by meaningful margin. Sconset Bluff's elite workout pattern and +7.9% overlay creates the field's best value opportunity. Horizontal Rain's elite sustained-speed rating (ELITE Sustained Speed Rating) and second-start route angle offer structural appeal but trades at fair value. Public underestimation of first-time starter quality (Sconset Bluff) and overplay of maiden debuts without prep work (Captivated) creates modest betting opportunities. Primary edge: second-start route runners (Election Hero at 28%, Horizontal Rain at 18%) offer superior probability to first-time starters in this moderate-pace scenario.

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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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