Belmont Park

Race 5 — 11/06/2026

Class: Claiming $20,000 (N3L / non-winners since 11/6/2025)

Distance: 8f (1 mile)

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $40,000

Claiming Price: $20,000 (NY-bred $25,000)

Starters: 10

CLAIMING. Purse $40,000 FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NEVER WON THREE RACES OR WHICH HAVE NOT WON A RACE SINCE NOVEMBER 6, 2025. Three Year Olds, 123 lbs.; Older, 126 lbs. Claiming Price $20,000 (1.5% Aftercare Assessment Due At Time Of Claim Otherwise Claim Will Be Void). New York Bred Claiming Price $25,000.

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Belmont Park R5
Friday, November 6, 2026 | 1 Mile Dirt | 3YO & Up | Claiming $20,000

Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

True Front Runners

Sara's Shaman (Post 8) — Contested the pace and finished 3rd at Belmont on 10/10 and led into the stretch at Oaklawn on 4/19. Blinkers on today.

Mike's Magic (Post 7) — Broke well and set sharp fractions in recent 6f sprints; stretches out to a mile.

Stalkers / Pressers

Whittington Park (Post 5) — ELITE early and late; tactical enough to sit just off the speed. Rallied five wide at Saratoga on 8/17/2025.

Expensive Cut (Post 2) — Follows just outside the speed in his one-mile starts and runs on late. **Shattuck** (Post 10) — Rated off the pace to finish 2nd at Belmont on 10/10.

Closers

Palace Boss (Post 6) — Wins built on stretch runs from mid-pack. **Salming** (Post 9) — Won a 6.5f claimer on 7/24 by saving ground on the turn and driving late.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **HOT** early pace—projected :23 2/5 opening quarter, :46 1/5 half-mile. Sara's Shaman and Mike's Magic want the lead, with Whittington Park close up. If the speed engages, stalkers get clean trips and closers get a setup.

Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Unbridled Bomber	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
2	Expensive Cut	6-1	9%	14.3%	-5.3%
3	Lexington Pike	15-1	5%	6.3%	-1.3%
4	Swiss Army Knife	15-1	4%	6.3%	-2.3%
5	Whittington Park	8-5	28%	38.5%	-10.5%
6	Palace Boss	8-1	12%	11.1%	**+0.9%**
7	Mike's Magic	20-1	6%	4.8%	**+1.2%**



Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
8	Sara's Shaman	9-2	16%	18.2%	-2.2%
9	Salming	15-1	8%	6.3%	**+1.7%**
10	Shattuck	4-1	10%	20.0%	-10.0%
	TOTAL		**100%**	**129.0%**	

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (field total 129.0%). The original table used adjusted figures (Whittington Park –1.9%, Shattuck –5.5%), and the bet section rescaled the 8-5 morning line to 13.8% for a claimed +13.2% edge. At raw odds **Whittington Park is** –**10.5%** and Shattuck –10.0%. The text's model figures (Whittington Park 27%, Sara's Shaman 15%) differed from the table; the table figures are used throughout.

Report Section 3: Contender Analysis

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

Whittington Park (Post 5) — Model Win %: 28%

PTW Profile: The model's top horse. Eight wins from 37 starts, including the Haynesfield Stakes (2024); has run in the Gr. 2 Carter and Gr. 3 Westchester. First start since a 3rd in an allowance optional claimer at Saratoga on 7/18, and his first career start in a claiming race after 2026 starts of 3rd, 4th, 7th, 2nd and 3rd at the allowance level. Last win 9/25/2025. Trainer Horacio De Paz 18% in routes and 19% with claimers; Christopher Elliott rides. As the 8-5 morning-line favorite (38.5% implied), –10.5%—the biggest underlay in the race.

Strengths: Only horse in the field with ELITE early and sustained speed; a big class edge dropping from allowance and stakes company.

Concerns: Nearly four months off; a first-time drop into a claimer can be a red flag; winless since 9/25/2025; heavily overbet.

Trip Projection: Stalks the speed of Sara's Shaman and Mike's Magic, holds a position on the inside, and drives through the stretch.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

Sara's Shaman (Post 8) — Model Win %: 16%

PTW Profile: Front-running type with route experience; contested the pace and finished 3rd at Belmont on 10/10 and led into the stretch at Oaklawn on 4/19. Trainer Mertkan Kantarmaci 13% with claimers, 15% in routes; Samy Marin rides. Blinkers on. At 9-2 (18.2% implied), –2.2%.

Strengths: Tactical speed; consistent at this level; blinker change could sharpen him.

Concerns: STRONG (not ELITE) sustained speed; wide post in a HOT pace; little evidence of winning from off the pace.

Trip Projection: Contests the early pace alongside Whittington Park and Mike's Magic.





Palace Boss (Post 6) — Model Win %: 12%

PTW Profile: Five-year-old closer; two wins from 17 starts (a maiden special weight on 5/2/2025 and an allowance on 5/24/2025). Five straight off-the-board finishes in allowance optional claimers, most recently 6th at Belmont on 10/18. First career start in a claiming race. Jockey J. Nolasco. At 8-1 (11.1% implied), +0.9%.

Strengths: Strong closing profile; a HOT pace sets up his style; class drop.

Concerns: STRONG (not ELITE) sustained speed; hasn't hit the board since 9/12/2025 (2nd).

Trip Projection: Rates behind the speed, finds cover and launches his bid in the stretch.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

Shattuck (Post 10, 10%): 4-1 morning line (20.0% implied) for a horse the model has at 10%—–10.0%. Rated off the pace to finish 2nd at Belmont on 10/10. Inconsistent form; VULNERABLE late with a high deceleration pattern.

Expensive Cut (Post 2, 9%): Stalker with a long string of $20,000 claiming starts, out of the money in four of his last eight. At 6-1 (14.3% implied), –5.3%.

Salming (Post 9, 8%): Won a 6.5f claimer on 7/24 for trainer Rudy Rodriguez; stretches out to a mile. VULNERABLE late. At 15-1 (6.3% implied), +1.7%.

Mike's Magic (Post 7, 6%): ELITE early speed in sprints, but VULNERABLE late; stretches out to a mile. At 20-1 (4.8% implied), +1.2%.

Lexington Pike (Post 3, 5%): Three-year-old; two wins from nine starts (maiden special weight at Delaware on 6/24, claimer at Belmont on 10/8), then 6th at Belmont on 10/18. Trainer James Ferraro. STRONG early and late. –1.3%.

Swiss Army Knife (Post 4, 4%): Sprint speed that hasn't carried in routes. –2.3%.

Unbridled Bomber (Post 1, 2%): 39 career starts with a pattern of fading late. –1.2%.

Report Section 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Whittington Park	ELITE	ELITE	Low — maintains speed throughout
Palace Boss	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — solid finisher
Sara's Shaman	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — adequate
Expensive Cut	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — mid-field closer
Lexington Pike	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — route finisher





Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Shattuck	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — fade pattern
Salming	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — weakens late
Mike's Magic	ELITE	VULNERABLE	Moderate-High — speed doesn't sustain
Swiss Army Knife	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — sprint speed only
Unbridled Bomber	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — repeated fades

Critical MPH Insight

Whittington Park is the only horse with ELITE early and ELITE sustained speed. In a HOT pace, the VULNERABLE group (Shattuck, Salming, Mike's Magic, Swiss Army Knife, Unbridled Bomber) is likely to tire late.

Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

Whittington Park — Drops from allowance and stakes company into a claimer for the first time.

Palace Boss — First-time claimer; a HOT pace suits his closing style.

Sara's Shaman — Blinkers on.

Lexington Pike — Lightly raced three-year-old who won at this level on 10/8.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Shattuck — Boom-or-bust form and VULNERABLE late.

Unbridled Bomber — Chronic late fader.

Expensive Cut — Form trending down.

Report Section 6: Suggested Bets

WIN BET: WHITTINGTON PARK — Confidence 9/10 — Target odds: 3-1 or better

Model projects 28% win probability, the highest in the field, at 8-5 (38.5% implied): –10.5%. The only horse with ELITE early and sustained speed, and a big class drop, but he returns from a layoff and is the most overbet horse in the race. Fair price is about 13-5; play only at 3-1 or better.

Value Assessment: **UNDERLAY at the morning line** (–10.5%).

VALUE PLAY: PALACE BOSS — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 15-2 or better





Model projects 12% at 8-1 (11.1% implied): +0.9%. Closer dropping into a claimer for the first time, into a HOT pace; five straight off the board. Fair price is about 7-1.

Value Assessment: **SLIGHT OVERLAY** (+0.9%).

LONGSHOT PLAY: SALMING — Confidence 6/10 — Target odds: 12-1 or better

Model projects 8% at 15-1 (6.3% implied): +1.7%. Stretching out off a 6.5f win; VULNERABLE late, so price is everything. Fair price is about 11-1.

Value Assessment: **OVERLAY** (+1.7%).

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

A: Whittington Park — 28%
B: Sara's Shaman — 16%
C: Palace Boss — 12%

Combined Projected Probability: 56%

Report Section 7: Confidence Rating

★★★★ (4 of 5 stars)

Whittington Park is the most complete horse in the race and the model's top pick at 28%, but at 8-5 (38.5% implied) the public has him at –10.5%. **Shattuck** at 4-1 is the other big underlay (–10.0%). The value is with **Palace Boss** and **Salming**.

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.

Methodology is proprietary and confidential. Reproduction of this analysis without authorization is prohibited.

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