Churchill Downs

Race 6 — 11/07/2026

Class: Allowance Optional Claiming $175,000

Distance: 8.5f (1 1/16 miles)

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $148,000

Claiming Price: $175,000

Starters: 6

ALLOWANCE OPTIONAL CLAIMING. Purse $148,000 (include $53,000 KTDF - Kentucky TB Devt Fund) FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NOT WON TWO RACES OTHER THAN MAIDEN, CLAIMING, STARTER, RATING, RESTRICTED, OR STATE BRED OVER A MILE SINCE DECEMBER 25, 2025 OR CLAIMING PRICE $175,000. Three Year Olds, 122 lbs.; Older, 125 lbs. Non-winners Of A Graded Sweepstakes At A Mile Or Over In 2026 Allowed 2 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race At A Mile Or Over In 2026 Allowed 4 lbs. Claiming Price $175,000 (Races Where Entered For $100,000 Or Less Not Considered In Allowances).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Churchill Downs R6
Saturday, November 7, 2026 | 1 1/16 Miles Dirt | 3YO & Up | Allowance Optional Claiming $175,000

Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

True Front Runners

Macho Music (Post 6) — ELITE early speed. Away alertly and battled for the lead at Colonial on 8/20; led early at Churchill on 9/26 before weakening at the 5/16 pole.

Stalkers / Pressers

Cooke Creek (Post 4) — Races two or three wide off the pace and bids from position. **Gearing Up** (Post 1) — Stalked, took over and held at a mile on 9/10.

Closers

Mackman (Post 5) — Rallies when given room. **Poster** (Post 2) — Won a 1-mile turf race at Churchill on 11/9/25 with a rally from the inside to four wide; recent form has faded.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **HOT** early pace—projected :22 3/5 opening quarter, :45 1/5 half-mile. Macho Music sets the tempo with Gearing Up and Cooke Creek tracking; the pace should favor horses that can sustain their speed through the final furlong.

Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Gearing Up	7-2	25%	22.2%	**+2.8%**
2	Poster	3-1	16%	25.0%	-9.0%
3	Prince of Power	8-1	9%	11.1%	-2.1%
4	Cooke Creek	5-2	31%	28.6%	**+2.4%**
5	Mackman	3-1	12%	25.0%	-13.0%
6	Macho Music	5-1	7%	16.7%	-9.7%
	TOTAL		**100%**	**128.6%**	

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (field total 128.6%). The original table showed Macho Music at 0.0% implied (+7.0%) and Mackman at 13.1% despite a 3-1 morning line. At raw odds Macho Music is –9.7% and Mackman –13.0%.

Report Section 3: Contender Analysis





Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

Cooke Creek (Post 4) — Model Win %: 31%

PTW Profile: The model's top horse. Seven-year-old gelding with seven wins from 33 starts, including a wire-to-wire stakes win at Delaware on 9/28/25. Recent starts: 5th at Saratoga on 6/5, 3rd at Saratoga on 8/21, and 2nd at Delaware on 10/3. Hasn't won at Churchill since 2021. Trainer Mike Maker 17% in routes and 19% in the 31-60 day pattern; Tyler Gaffalione rides. Blinkers off. As the 5-2 morning-line favorite (28.6% implied), +2.4%.

Strengths: ELITE early and sustained speed—the field's best; route proven; class.

Concerns: Age; winless in his last three starts; winless at Churchill since 2021.

Trip Projection: Settles two or three wide tracking the speed and takes over in the stretch.

Gearing Up (Post 1) — Model Win %: 25%

PTW Profile: Four-year-old colt; two wins in his last seven starts, including a route win on 7/25 and a 1-mile win on 9/10 when he stalked, took over and held. Trainer George Arnold II 15% in routes and 18% in allowances; jockey C. A. Torres. At 7-2 (22.2% implied), +2.8%—the best overlay in the race.

Strengths: Tactical; sharp recent form; trainer's allowance numbers.

Concerns: Steps up in class; STRONG (not ELITE) late.

Trip Projection: Tracks Macho Music from the rail and takes over in the stretch.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

Poster (Post 2) — Model Win %: 16%

PTW Profile: Four-year-old with four wins from nine starts and graded stakes experience; won on dirt on 12/7/24 and on the Churchill turf on 11/9/25. Pressed and faded in a turf route at Keeneland on 10/8; returns to dirt. At 3-1 (25.0% implied), –9.0%.

Strengths: Class; winning record; route experience.

Concerns: VULNERABLE late; faded last out; overbet.

Trip Projection: Races mid-pack and rallies if the pace allows.

Mackman (Post 5) — Model Win %: 12%

PTW Profile: Six-year-old with four wins in his last 18 starts; won a stakes at Oaklawn on 2/6, then 3rd at Oaklawn on 5/2 in his last start. Trainer Matt Shirer; jockey J. L. Ortiz (16.7% at the meet). At 3-1 (25.0% implied), –13.0%—the biggest underlay in the race.

Strengths: STRONG early and late; sharp rider.

Concerns: More than six months off; overbet.

Trip Projection: Settles three or four wide and rallies if the pace opens up.





Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

Prince of Power (Post 3, 9%): Five-year-old gelding with graded stakes placings; led and dug in at Ellis Park on 8/10/25. Off slowly and 6th at Churchill on 9/26. VULNERABLE late. At 8-1 (11.1% implied), –2.1%.

Macho Music (Post 6, 7%): The speed of the race, but weakened at the 5/16 pole at Churchill on 9/26. VULNERABLE late, with the worst deceleration profile in the field. At 5-1 (16.7% implied), –9.7%.

Report Section 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Cooke Creek	ELITE	ELITE	Low — field leader in speed maintenance
Gearing Up	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — competitive
Mackman	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — holds position
Poster	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — recent fade pattern
Prince of Power	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse
Macho Music	ELITE	VULNERABLE	Very High — sharp drop late

Critical MPH Insight

Cooke Creek is the field's best sustained finisher (ELITE). **Macho Music**'s ELITE early speed is offset by the worst deceleration in the field, so a HOT pace sets him up to be passed in the stretch.

Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

Cooke Creek — Maker 19% in the 31-60 day pattern; blinkers off; the pace suits him.

Gearing Up — Two wins in his last seven; trainer 18% in allowances.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Macho Music — Weakened late last out; likely pressured early.

Prince of Power — Off slowly and no factor last out.

Mackman — Long layoff.

Report Section 6: Suggested Bets

WIN BET: COOKE CREEK — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 5-2 or better





Model projects 31% win probability, the highest in the field, at 5-2 (28.6% implied): +2.4%. The field's only ELITE/ELITE profile in a HOT pace. Fair price is about 9-4.

Value Assessment: **OVERLAY** (+2.4%).

VALUE PLAY: GEARING UP — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 3-1 or better

Model projects 25% at 7-2 (22.2% implied): +2.8%. Tactical and in form; can track Macho Music and take over. Fair price is 3-1.

Value Assessment: **OVERLAY** (+2.8%).

LONGSHOT PLAY: None.

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

A: Cooke Creek — 31%
B: Gearing Up — 25%
C: Poster — 16%

Combined Projected Probability: 72%

Report Section 7: Confidence Rating

★★★★ (4 of 5 stars)

Cooke Creek is the class of the race with the only ELITE sustained-speed rating, and he's a slight overlay as the 5-2 favorite. **Gearing Up** (+2.8%) is the other value play. **Mackman** at 3-1 is badly overbet off a six-month layoff (–13.0%), and **Macho Music**'s speed is likely to fade in a HOT pace.

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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