Churchill Downs

Race 9 — 11/12/2026

Class: Claiming $40,000

Distance: 8.5f (1 1/16 miles)

Surface: Turf

Purse: $78,000

Claiming Price: $40,000

Starters: 12 + 4 also-eligibles

CLAIMING. Purse $78,000 (includes $9,200 KTDF - Kentucky TB Devt Fund) FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD. Three Year Olds, 120 lbs.; Older, 123 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race At A Mile Or Over On The Turf Since October 12 Allowed 2 lbs. Claiming Price $40,000 (Races Where Entered For $32,000 Or Less Not Considered In Allowances). (If deemed inadvisable by management to run this race over the turf course, it will be run on the main track at One and One Sixteenth mile.) (Rail at 24 feet).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Churchill Downs R9
Thursday, November 12, 2026 | 1 1/16 Miles Turf | 3YO & Up | Claiming $40,000

Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

True Front Runners

Demolition Duke (Post 2) — Led early at Churchill on 9/27 and at Ellis Park on 8/16. **Exact Estimate** (Post 11) — Led into the stretch at Ellis Park on 7/26 before finishing 3rd. **Sugoi** (Post 13, AE) — Led until the stretch at Ellis Park on 7/4 and pressed in his 2nd at this level at Churchill on 6/10. **Charge for Gold** (Post 6) — Has led early in several turf races this year.

Stalkers / Pressers

Out of Deductions (Post 10) — Stalks and rallies: 2nd at Ellis Park on 7/26 and 3rd, beaten a quarter length, at Churchill on 9/20. **Sea Singer** (Post 4) — Stalks in the second flight; he is not a pace-setter.

Closers

Risk Manager (Post 1), **Skyro** (Post 3) and **Son of a Birch** (Post 9) — Usually come from mid-pack or farther back.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **MODERATE** early pace—projected :24 1/5 opening quarter, :48 4/5 half-mile. Demolition Duke and Exact Estimate (and Sugoi, if he draws in) figure to be on the lead, which sets up stalkers like Out of Deductions.

Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Risk Manager	8-1	6%	11.1%	-5.1%
2	Demolition Duke	9-2	8%	18.2%	-10.2%
3	Skyro	10-1	4%	9.1%	-5.1%
4	Sea Singer	4-1	13%	20.0%	-7.0%
5	Professor Higgins	50-1	1%	2.0%	-1.0%
6	Charge for Gold	15-1	5%	6.3%	-1.3%
7	Sambalover	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
8	Baltimore Heart	8-1	7%	11.1%	-4.1%
9	Son of a Birch	6-1	11%	14.3%	-3.3%





Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
10	Out of Deductions	5-1	20%	16.7%	**+3.3%**
11	Exact Estimate	8-1	7%	11.1%	-4.1%
12	Real Fast	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
13	Sugoi (AE)	15-1	6%	6.3%	-0.3%
14	Woodcock Flight (AE)	30-1	1%	3.2%	-2.2%
15	Debt Paid (AE)	10-1	5%	9.1%	-4.1%
16	The Minkster (AE)	20-1	2%	4.8%	-2.8%
	TOTAL		**100%**	**149.7%**	

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (all 16 entries total 149.7%). Posts 13–16 are also-eligibles (AE). The table's model percentages are used throughout (the text gave Out of Deductions 19%, Sea Singer 12% and Son of a Birch 10%). The original table used scaled percentages, which created false overlays on Sugoi, Charge for Gold and Son of a Birch. At raw odds **Out of Deductions +3.3%** is the only overlay. Favorite **Sea Singer** –**7.0%**; **Demolition Duke** –**10.2%**.

Report Section 3: Contender Analysis

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

Out of Deductions (Post 10) — Model Win %: 20%

PTW Profile: The model's top horse. Six-year-old gelding, 3-for-24 ($250,296), not 4-for-13. 3rd, beaten a quarter length, at this $40,000 level on turf at Churchill on 6/10 (Sugoi 2nd); 2nd by 1 1/2 lengths in a $62,500 optional claimer at Ellis Park on 7/26; 3rd, beaten a quarter length, as the 2.30-1 favorite in an $80,000 optional claimer at Churchill on 9/20; then 4th as the .70-1 favorite on good turf at Indiana Grand on 10/15. Back to the claiming level. Trainer Chris Block; jockey Florent Geroux is 1-for-9 at the meet. At 5-1 (16.7% implied), +3.3%—the only overlay in the race.

Strengths: ELITE sustained speed; consistent in better company; stalking style fits the pace.

Concerns: Has been beaten as the favorite in his last two; slow to win (3-for-24).

Trip Projection: Stalks and rallies from post 10.

Sea Singer (Ire) (Post 4) — Model Win %: 13%

PTW Profile: Five-year-old gelding (not four), 3-for-15. 4th in optional claimers at Churchill on 6/12 and Saratoga on 7/23, 6th in a $500,000 handicap at Kentucky Downs on 8/29, then 2nd, beaten 5 3/4 lengths, as the 1.90-1 favorite in a four-horse optional claimer at Indiana Grand on 10/15 (Out of Deductions 4th). The two Santa Anita wins the report cited are from 2024–25, not his last five starts. Drops into a $40,000 claimer. Trainer Michael McCarthy; jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. is 10-for-27 (37%) at the meet. As the 4-1 morning-line favorite (20.0% implied), –7.0%.

Strengths: Most class in the field; top jockey.





Concerns: No win in his last four; underlay.

Trip Projection: Stalks in the second flight.

Son of a Birch (Post 9) — Model Win %: 11%

PTW Profile: Six-year-old gelding, 3-for-25 (not seven wins). 3rd in a turf sprint optional claimer at Saratoga on 7/26, then 5th at 7 furlongs on turf at Kentucky Downs on 9/9 in his first start for Mike Maker. Stretches back out to 1 1/16 miles. Jockey Jose Ortiz is 6-for-54 at the meet. At 6-1 (14.3% implied), –3.3%.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

Demolition Duke (Post 2) — Model Win %: 8%

PTW Profile: Six-year-old horse, 2-for-25. 2nd after leading at Ellis Park on 8/16, then 7th at Kentucky Downs on 9/3 and 6th after leading at Churchill on 9/27. Trainer Mike Maker is 0-for-16 at the meet; jockey Tyler Gaffalione is 9-for-61. At 9-2 (18.2% implied), –10.2%—a big underlay for a non-favorite.

Exact Estimate (Post 11) — Model Win %: 7%

PTW Profile: Seven-year-old horse, 5-for-23 ($436,844; a 22% win rate, not 7%). Claimed by Joe Sharp for $75,000 in May. 3rd after leading in a $62,500 optional claimer at Ellis Park on 7/26, then 9th in a turf sprint at Kentucky Downs on 9/9. Sharp is 7-for-26 at the meet; jockey Luis Saez is 14-for-58. At 8-1 (11.1% implied), –4.1%.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots (★★)

Baltimore Heart (Post 8, 7%): Five-year-old horse (not a young runner), 4-for-27. Won a $32,000 turf claimer at Ellis Park on 7/26 by 4 3/4 lengths; 3rd in a $50,000 turf claimer at Churchill on 9/18. –4.1%.

Risk Manager (Post 1, 6%): Eight-year-old horse, 11-for-46 ($618,012). 3rd and 4th in optional claimers at Ellis Park in July. –5.1%.

Sugoi (Post 13, AE, 6%): Nine-year-old gelding, 12-for-49 ($950,767). 2nd by a neck at this level at Churchill on 6/10; 6th in his last two. Must draw in. –0.3% (not an overlay).

Charge for Gold (Post 6, 5%): 3-for-25; 5th in a $50,000 turf claimer at Churchill on 9/18. Jockey Sheehy is 0-for-20 at the meet. –1.3% (not an overlay).

Others: Skyro (won a dirt claimer at Churchill in May; 2nd by a neck on turf at Ellis Park on 7/4), Debt Paid (AE; won his last two at lower levels and is also entered at Indiana Grand today), Professor Higgins, Sambalover, Real Fast, and also-eligibles Woodcock Flight and The Minkster.

Report Section 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Out of Deductions	STRONG	ELITE	Very Low — maintains speed





Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Exact Estimate	STRONG	STRONG	Low — consistent
Sea Singer	STRONG	STRONG	Low — reliable
Son of a Birch	STRONG	STRONG	Low — balanced
Sugoi (AE)	ELITE	VULNERABLE	High — pace collapse
Real Fast	STRONG	STRONG	Low — solid
Skyro	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate
Baltimore Heart	STRONG	STRONG	Low — consistent
Demolition Duke	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — deterioration
Charge for Gold	STRONG	STRONG	Low — competitive
Sambalover	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate
Risk Manager	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — pace vulnerability
Woodcock Flight (AE)	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate
Professor Higgins	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — velocity loss
The Minkster (AE)	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — deceleration
Debt Paid (AE)	STRONG	STRONG	Low — solid late

Critical MPH Insight

Out of Deductions has the only ELITE sustained speed rating. **Sugoi** has the only ELITE early speed but is VULNERABLE late, as are Demolition Duke, Risk Manager, Professor Higgins and The Minkster.

Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

Out of Deductions — Back to the claiming level where he just missed in June.

Sea Singer — Drops from optional claimers and stakes company.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Demolition Duke — Has faded after leading in two of his last three.

Risk Manager — Eight years old and winless in his recent starts.

Report Section 6: Suggested Bets





WIN BET: OUT OF DEDUCTIONS — Confidence 6/10 — Target odds: 4-1 or better

Model projects 20% win probability, the highest in the field. At 5-1 (16.7% implied), +3.3%. Fair price is 4-1.

Value Assessment: **OVERLAY** (+3.3%).

VALUE PLAY: None — Sugoi (–0.3%) is an underlay at raw odds, not an overlay.

LONGSHOT PLAY: None — Charge for Gold (–1.3%) is also an underlay.

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

A: Out of Deductions — 20%
B: Sea Singer — 13%
C: Son of a Birch — 11%

Combined Projected Probability: 44%

Report Section 7: Confidence Rating

★★★ (3 of 5 stars)

A big, wide-open turf claimer. **Out of Deductions** is the model's top horse and the only overlay, but at 20% he is not a heavy favorite. No favorite to fade: **Sea Singer** (4-1) is –7.0%. **Demolition Duke** (9-2, –10.2%) is the biggest underlay.

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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