Fair Grounds

Race 2 — 11/19/2026

Class: John Valene Memorial Stakes ($100,000)

Distance: 1 Mile 70 Yards (8.32f)

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $100,000

Starters: 6

Post Time: 1:25 CT

THE JOHN VALENE MEMORIAL. Purse $100,000 FOR FILLIES AND MARES THREE YEARS OLD AND UPWARD, ACCREDITED LOUISIANA BRED. Free nomination by Monday, November 9. $550 to enter, $550 additional to start. $100,000 Guaranteed of which 60% to the winner, 20% to second, 11% to third, 6% to fourth and 3% to fifth. Weight: Three Year Olds 121 lbs. Older 124 lbs. Non-winners of a Sweepstakes at a mile or over in 2026 allowed 2 lbs., $15,000 twice at a mile or over since June 19, 2026, allowed 4 lbs. One such race since then allowed 6 lbs.

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Fair Grounds R2
Thursday, November 19, 2026 | 1 Mile 70 Yards Dirt | LA-Bred Fillies & Mares 3YO+ | John Valene Memorial Stakes | Purse: $100,000

Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

True Front Runners

Blue Fire (Post 2) — Led throughout to win at this distance here on 3/22, beating Margie's Intention; also won wire-to-wire at this trip in January 2025. **Kalil** (Post 5) — Speed; won a $100,000 stakes wire-to-wire at Evangeline on 6/6. **Braken Poppa** (Post 3) — Led or pressed in all four wins.

Stalkers / Pressers

Little Miss Curlin (Post 6) — A stalker/presser, not a deep closer: vied early in most of her wins. **Margie's Intention** (Post 4) and **Moonie Pie** (Post 1) — Sit 3rd–5th.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **HOT** early pace—projected :23 2/5 opening quarter, :47 1/5 half-mile. 1 mile 70 yards is not covered by the half-mile bands, so the label is judged by the number of speed horses: Blue Fire, Kalil and Braken Poppa, with Little Miss Curlin close up. Pressure on Blue Fire helps Margie's Intention and Moonie Pie.

Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Moonie Pie	6-1	11%	14.3%	-3.3%
2	Blue Fire	3-1	26%	25.0%	**+1.0%**
3	Braken Poppa	9-2	18%	18.2%	-0.2%
4	Margie's Intention	8-5	14%	38.5%	-24.5%
5	Kalil	12-1	7%	7.7%	-0.7%
6	Little Miss Curlin	7-2	24%	22.2%	**+1.8%**
	TOTAL		**100%**	**125.9%**	

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (the report's column was scaled). **FADE: Margie's Intention, the 8-5 favorite**—38.5% implied (not 15.1%) vs 14% model, –**24.5%**. Overlays: **Blue Fire +1.0%** and **Little Miss Curlin +1.8%** (not +3.5%).

Report Section 3: Contender Analysis

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★)





Blue Fire (Post 2) — Model Win %: 26%

PTW Profile: The model's top horse. 4-year-old filly, 6 wins in 16; **6 for 8 at Fair Grounds** and 2 for 3 at the distance. Won the 3/22 stakes here wire-to-wire over Margie's Intention (she beat her in two other stakes here, too). 2nd in a Churchill optional claimer on 9/11; 7th in the Apple Blossom (G1).

Strengths: Speed and a dominant local record. Steve Asmussen trains.

Concerns: Off 69 days. Kalil and Braken Poppa will press her. At 3-1 (25.0% implied), +1.0%.

Trip Projection: Goes to the front and tries to hold everyone off.

Little Miss Curlin (Post 6) — Model Win %: 24%

PTW Profile: 3-year-old filly, 7 wins in 10. **2 wins in her last 4** (not 3). Won the $100,000 Magnolia Stakes at **Delta Downs** (not Delaware Park) at 7f on 10/9; 6th in the Charles Town Oaks (G2) on 8/28. **First route try**—all 10 starts were at 5–7f, so "proven route capability" is wrong. 3 for 3 at Fair Grounds.

Strengths: Patrick Devereux is 42% in stakes and 16-for-44 in 2026. Gets weight (115).

Concerns: Distance; outside post. At 7-2 (22.2% implied), +1.8%.

Trip Projection: Stalks Blue Fire from the outside, bids at the quarter pole.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★)

Braken Poppa (Post 3) — Model Win %: 18%

PTW Profile: 3-year-old filly, 4 wins in 6 (**not undefeated**). Won two $100,000 LA-bred stakes here (2/28 and 3/21). 7th in the Black-Eyed Susan (G2) at Laurel on 5/15 after stumbling at the start. **Off 188 days** (the report does not note the layoff). Asmussen is 12% off more than 180 days. At 9-2 (18.2% implied), –0.2%.

Margie's Intention (Post 4) — Model Win %: 14% — **FADE**

PTW Profile: **The 8-5 favorite.** 4-year-old filly, 4 wins in 13, with real graded credentials: won the Black-Eyed Susan (G2) in 2025; 3rd in the Beldame (G2) and Alabama (G1). She did **not** win her last three: won a Laurel listed stakes on 5/15, then 5th in the Personal Ensign (G1) and 5th in the Delaware Handicap (G3). 0 for 3 at this distance, all 2nds—two of them to Blue Fire.

Concerns: At 8-5 (38.5% implied), –24.5%: badly overbet.

Tier 3 — Longshots (★)

Moonie Pie (Post 1) — Model Win %: 11%

PTW Profile: 4-year-old filly, 4 wins in 14. Won back-to-back at Evangeline on 7/4 and 8/1; 4th in a $100,000 stakes on 8/31. Today is a stakes, not a "$100K claiming" race. Sam David Jr. is 9-for-19 in stakes. At 6-1 (14.3% implied), –3.3%.

Kalil (Post 5) — Model Win %: 7%



PTW Profile: 4-year-old filly, 4 wins in 17. She **has** won at this level: the $100,000 Louisiana Legends on 6/6. Stopped in her last two, both on turf. Jeff Delhomme is 12-for-32 in 2026. At 12-1 (7.7% implied), –0.7%.

Report Section 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Blue Fire	ELITE	STRONG	Moderate — no extra 9/11
Little Miss Curlin	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — first route
Braken Poppa	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — off 188 days
Margie's Intention	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — weakened twice
Moonie Pie	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — drew clear 8/1
Kalil	ELITE	VULNERABLE	High — stopped last two

Critical MPH Insight

Blue Fire has the most early speed but is changed from ELITE sustained to STRONG: she had no extra late on 9/11. **Little Miss Curlin** is changed from ELITE sustained to STRONG: she has never run beyond 7f. **Kalil** is fast early (changed from VULNERABLE opening to ELITE) but has stopped twice.

Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

Blue Fire — Back home at Fair Grounds (6 for 8).

Moonie Pie — Two wins this summer; trainer 47% in stakes.

Kalil — Back on dirt after two turf starts.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Margie's Intention — Weakened in her last two.

Braken Poppa — Off 188 days.

Little Miss Curlin — First route try.

Report Section 6: Suggested Bets

WIN BET: BLUE FIRE — Confidence 4/10 — Target odds: 3-1 or better

Model projects 26% win probability, the highest in the field. At 3-1 (25.0% implied), +1.0%: SLIGHT VALUE.





VALUE PLAY: LITTLE MISS CURLIN — Confidence 3/10 — Target odds: 7-2 or better

Model projects 24% at 7-2 (22.2% implied): +1.8%. First route try.

LONGSHOT PLAY: None. Kalil (12-1) is –0.7%.

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

A: Blue Fire — 26%
B: Little Miss Curlin — 24%
C: Braken Poppa — 18%

Combined Projected Probability: 68%

Report Section 7: Confidence Rating

★★★ (3 of 5 stars)

Blue Fire owns this track and this distance. The big edge is against the favorite, **Margie's Intention**, at –24.5%—the report had her implied at 15.1% instead of 38.5%.

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.

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