# Fair Grounds

## Race 5 — 11/28/2026

Class: Maiden Special Weight

Distance: 6 Furlongs

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $52,000

Starters: 6

Post Time: 2:45 CT

MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT. Purse $52,000 (includes $4,000 Other Sources and plus $4,000 ALBSS-Accredited LA Bred Slot Supplement) FOR MAIDENS, THREE YEARS OLD AND UPWARD. Three Year Olds, 122 lbs.; Older, 124 lbs.

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# COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

**Fair Grounds R5**
**Saturday, November 28, 2026 | 6 Furlongs Dirt | 3-Year-Olds & Up | Maiden Special Weight | Purse: $52,000**

**Field note: Same races:** Churchill $100,000 maiden claimer on 10/29—Dark Force 2nd, Circle Me 4th; Fair Grounds maiden on 12/20/25—Obelus 3rd, Samcelot 9th. **Blinkers on:** Dark Force. **First start as a gelding:** Circle Me. **Class rises:** Dark Force and Circle Me, from a maiden claimer (the report called it 'class relief'). **Layoffs:** Obelus 266 days (turf to dirt), Samcelot 166 days. No also-eligibles. The report published raw MPH figures, which are removed.

## Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

### True Front Runners

**Dark Force** (Post 4) — 3rd to 2nd early, 2nd by 3 1/2 on 10/29. **Emilio** (Post 3) — 2nd early in his only start (not a debut today). **Samcelot** (Post 1) — Led early in two of his four starts.

### Stalkers / Pressers

**La Norme de Jour** (Post 6) — 3rd early at Delta Downs on 10/16. **Obelus** (Post 5) — 4th to 6th early.

### Closers

**Circle Me** (Post 2) — 5th to 7th early.

### Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **MODERATE** early pace—projected :22 2/5 opening quarter, :45 1/5 half-mile. At 6 furlongs, a :45 1/5 half is MODERATE (the report said HOT).

## Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

| Post | Horse | ML Odds | Model Win % | Implied ML % | Edge |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Samcelot | 10-1 | 7% | 9.1% | -2.1% |
| 2 | Circle Me | 8-1 | 10% | 11.1% | -1.1% |
| 3 | Emilio | 9-5 | 17% | 35.7% | -18.7% |
| 4 | Dark Force | 2-1 | 28% | 33.3% | -5.3% |
| 5 | Obelus | 3-1 | 25% | 25.0% | 0.0% |
| 6 | La Norme de Jour | 8-1 | 13% | 11.1% | **+1.9%** |
| | **TOTAL** | | **100%** | **125.3%** | |

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (the report had 9-5 at 17.0% and 2-1 at 31.1%). **Fade: Emilio**, the 9-5 morning-line favorite, is –18.7% (the report had him at 0.0%). **La Norme de Jour** +1.9% (not +3.2%) is the only overlay. Dark Force is –5.3% (not –3.1%) and Obelus







0.0% (not +1.6%).

## Report Section 3: Contender Analysis

**Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★)**

**Dark Force** (Post 4) — Model Win %: 28%

PTW Profile: A 3-year-old colt, 0 for 2. 2nd by 3 1/2 in a $100,000 maiden claimer at Churchill on 10/29 after pressing; 7th by 15 1/4 in a Saratoga maiden special weight on 8/13. Blinkers on. George Weaver trains.

Concerns: Up from a maiden claimer. At 2-1 (33.3% implied), –5.3%.

**Obelus** (Post 5) — Model Win %: 25%

PTW Profile: A 3-year-old gelding, 0 for 5. 2nd by 3/4 in a turf mile maiden here on 3/7; 4th by 8 3/4 in a 6-furlong maiden here on 1/24; 3rd by 1 3/4 here on 12/20/25. Lindsay Schultz trains.

Concerns: Off 266 days; back to dirt. At 3-1 (25.0% implied), 0.0%.

**Emilio** (Post 3) — Model Win %: 17% — **FADE**

PTW Profile: A 3-year-old colt, 0 for 1 (not a debut). 7th by 12 as the 9-4 favorite in a sloppy Keeneland maiden on 10/11 after pressing 2nd. Brad Cox trains.

Concerns: Beaten 12 lengths as the favorite in his only start. At 9-5 (35.7% implied), –18.7%.

**Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★)**

**La Norme de Jour** (Post 6) — Model Win %: 13%

PTW Profile: A 3-year-old colt, 0 for 6 (the report's 'August 11 El Paso 7f victory' is not in his record). 4th by 3 1/2 as the favorite in a 5-furlong maiden at Delta Downs on 10/16; 9th in an optional claimer here on 3/16. William Bret Calhoun trains.

Concerns: 0 for 6. At 8-1 (11.1% implied), +1.9%.

**Tier 3 — Pace Factors & Longshots (★)**

**Circle Me** (8-1) — 4th by 6 1/4 in Dark Force's 10/29 race; first start as a gelding. –1.1%. **Samcelot** (10-1) — 3rd by 5 3/4 at Indiana Grand on 6/15 after leading; off 166 days. –2.1%.

Raw MPH figures, trainer-percentage and trainer-ROI claims removed throughout.

## Report Section 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

**PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings**

| Horse | Opening Speed | Sustained Speed | Deceleration Profile |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dark Force | STRONG | STRONG | Moderate — pressed, 2nd by 3 1/2 on 10/29 |







| Horse | Opening Speed | Sustained Speed | Deceleration Profile |
|---|---|---|---|
| Obelus | VULNERABLE | STRONG | Moderate — 2nd by 3/4 on turf 3/7 |
| Emilio | STRONG | VULNERABLE | High — 7th by 12 as favorite 10/11 |
| La Norme de Jour | STRONG | VULNERABLE | High — 4th by 3 1/2 as favorite 10/16 |
| Circle Me | VULNERABLE | VULNERABLE | High — 4th by 6 1/4 on 10/29 |
| Samcelot | ELITE | VULNERABLE | High — led, 3rd by 5 3/4 on 6/15 |

**Critical MPH Insight**

The report's best sustained finisher, **La Norme de Jour** (ELITE), is 0 for 6 and lost as the favorite last out (changed to STRONG/VULNERABLE). **Dark Force** pressed and held 2nd last out (changed from ELITE/VULNERABLE to STRONG/STRONG).

## Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

**Likely to Improve**

**Dark Force** — Blinkers on after a 2nd.

**Obelus** — Placed in three of five starts.

**Bounce / Regression Risks**

**Emilio** — 9-5 favorite off a 12-length loss.

**Samcelot** — Off 166 days.

## Report Section 6: Suggested Bets

**WIN BET: DARK FORCE** — Confidence 3/10 — Target odds: 11-4 or better

Model projects 28% at 2-1 (33.3% implied): –5.3%. Top model horse; fair odds are about 2.6-1.

**VALUE PLAY: LA NORME DE JOUR** — Confidence 2/10 — Target odds: 7-1 or better

Model projects 13% at 8-1 (11.1% implied): +1.9%, the only overlay.

**LONGSHOT PLAY: NONE** — No overlay at 10-1 or higher.

**SECOND PLAY: OBELUS** — Confidence 2/10 — Target odds: 3-1 or better

Model projects 25% at 3-1 (25.0% implied): 0.0%. Next unused model horse.

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

**A: Dark Force** — 28%
**B: Obelus** — 25%





**C: La Norme de Jour** — 13%

**Combined Projected Probability: 66%**

Emilio (the fade) replaces with La Norme de Jour.

## Report Section 7: Confidence Rating

★★ (2 of 5 stars)

A short maiden field. **Dark Force** is the play. The 9-5 favorite **Emilio**, beaten 12 lengths as the favorite in his only start, is the fade at –18.7%.

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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