

# OAK GROVE

RACING • GAMING • HOTEL

## The Players' Guide

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO TODAY'S RACES

**Tuesday, April 15, 2025 • Race Day 8**
Today's selections and commentary by: *Ray Cotolo*

### Full-Card Selections

<b>1</b> 9-1-4-7	<b>6</b> 6-3-7-5	<b>11</b> 3-5-1-2
<b>2</b> 4-1-9-5	<b>7</b> 5-6-3-2	<b>12</b> 4-3-7-1
<b>3</b> 1-4-9-2	<b>8</b> 5-4-1-7	<b>13</b>
<b>4</b> 4-1-3-5	<b>9</b> 7-5-6-2	<b>14</b>
<b>5</b> 5-1-4-2	<b>10</b> 1-4-3-6	<b>15</b>



### Pick 5 Ticket

Race 3: 1,4  
 Race 4: 1,4  
 Race 5: 1,4,5  
 Race 6: 6  
 Race 7: 5,6  
 Total Stake: \$4.80 for \$.20

### Race 1

#### 1 Mile / Trot • NW 1 EXT PM LT CD

(9) VITO'S LADY is the best horse in the field and she enters off a strong win at second asking. Second tier may not be too much of a problem for her, but she will need room to move somewhere around the half. (1) PRINCE OF ROYALS should go forward here to some success, since parking the mile from the pylon post is incredibly unlikely. (4) UNCLE RUCKAS can get forward and chase for a share, but will likely be an underlay for win if below 6-1. (7) BOOTS N BEER showed some ability at 2 and maybe debuts to grab a good chunk.

### Race 2

#### 1 Mile / Pace • Fillies & Mares NW 1 EXT PM LT

A race potentially determined off the gate. (4) KALLOS strolled on the point last out and figures to do so again. (1) ODDS ON SELENIUM offers contending speed and with a close seat and room to kick, she may be able to pounce at a mild price. (9) TH RIZZO will win here at some point. Maybe this is the day with speed to follow early? (5) MRS MADISON COUNTY was good here last year, but mostly a reliable use for exotics. She can show some speed to work a ground-saving trip for a share.

### Race 3

#### 1 Mile / Pace • Claiming \$10,000

(1) OTHER PEOPLES BEER just offers the best form on the page in a race full of inconsistent types. His Meadows miles are solid and Indof will likely launch with him. (4) COLD DECKED has the more eye-catching trips against cheaper in Ohio, but that versatility could go a long way against this group. (9) NUI BA DEN N is better suited punching into the race late as exhibited by his effort two weeks ago. He'll likely have a late say. (2) HURRIKANEKINGCARLO can show speed for early positioning and likely fares better with an inside draw this time around.

### Race 4

#### 1 Mile / Pace • Maiden / NW 1 EXT PM LT CD Claiming

If the qualifying form holds true, (4) WHELK BLUE CHIP will be tough to beat. He appears to have developed nicely from 2 to 3 and packs a rally that most in this field can't match. (1) BEYOND COOL still has to show what he can offer when not chasing better. He's a sibling to a sharp closer for the Putnams in A Cool Moment, but we'll see this season how far that bloodline permeates. (3) THAT'S THE STAR kept fighting despite getting roughgaited through the final turn last out. Curious if he'll be smoother, otherwise he's likely just trying for a piece. (5) HIGH PROOF has been good at snagging little checks and this draw likely poises her for a similar effort.

### Race 5

#### 1 Mile / Trot • NW \$7,500 L4 CD

This race drew the exact way needed to be really hard. (5) BEE OUR HONEY remains a fierce early speed, but he does need to carve things his way. He's lost to better twice at this class, but maybe the trip works here. (1) WHAT'S THE TALK ships off solid east coast miles, but will likely need to show speed to protect position. (4) BLUEBIRD DEACON got a perfect trip to win here two back, but tough to gauge how the trip will work here. (2) WAYS N MEANS has ample back class, but has been an even type most of his career. This likely is a Kentucky Sire Stake tightener, so take with that what you will.

### Race 6

#### 1 Mile / Pace • Maiden / NW 1 EXT PM LT

(6) PD'S DIAMOND HOPE is the only one in the field that shows any life late in the mile. Possibly his race. (3) FRISKY HILL may offer more speed now that he's on the gate. (7) THE HULKSTER can leave but usually just maintains his speed through the race. If he opens a decent cushion, maybe he gets across the line first. (5) JIM'S BIG BOY had some okay miles at 2 but no chance with the breaker ahead last week. Maybe a live price in a race full of conjecture.

## Race 7

### 1 Mile / Pace • Ky. Pref. NW \$2,550 L4 CD

(5) CRIUS N ROCK showed lots of life to just get caught in the end last week. He seems tight and ready to roll. (6) I GOT SIX SHOTS had to race from a tough spot last time with the second tier, but if Luna can be aggressive early and sit close he stands to do well. (3) JOKER ROCKWELL sat a perfect trip last time to take second in a weak race, but that form likely will translate to an okay piece against this group. (2) APRIL'S BIG GUY gets a good draw again and maybe hits the superfecta. Or hell, the trifecta.

## Race 8

### 1 Mile / Trot • NW \$2,500 L4 CD

(5) EMPIRE BUILDER has raced against much better over this track the last few years. He's been descending the ladder at Hoosier, so this is a logical bounce back spot. The price will be terrible, though. (4) COTTON CANDY CUTIE will hope to pick up some pieces if the race falls apart. (1) YO TATER was supposed to win last time and had little fight off the first-over mile. The trip was tough, but proceed here with more caution. (7) LUCKY STORMIN maybe shows some early speed and just chases at a price for a decent exotic?

## Race 9

### 1 Mile / Trot • Open

I was wrong to hold any doubt in (7) RAILEE SOMETHING on debut. My apologies to Ronald Mersky and Roger Cullipher and Brandon Bates. I won't make that mistake here. (5) OH LOOK MAGIC gets a draw that probably puts him more forward into the race, though he was great parking the whole mile on his return. (6) DP FREEDOMS CHROME sprinted over the top of the field to grab second last week. Curious what he has to offer in start No. 2. (2) SWEET MR PINETUCKY worked his golden trip and simply just chased better horses but held fourth. Solid effort for the old guy that he may be able to work again from this post.

## Race 10

### 1 Mile / Pace • NW \$4,000 L4 CD

Second tier was no good for (1) MADISONS ANGEL last time, though she tried well to climb into the race simply to no avail. Pylon post probably a better place for her to have a shot. (4) BIG GULP walks over this field class wise, but I have a hard time surrendering to these types. You often have more upside going against a class dropper with something to prove since they are always overbet. Same time, if he picks up where he left off he'll be tough. (3) MISTERTENAHKEY lands into a comfortable class for his ability. He'll need to sit close and hope for room late. (6) JK'S SHINING STAR offered a decent kick last time, but had to chase super sharp horses. This is a better spot for her, but she will still be behind the ball having to close into action.

## Race 11

### 1 Mile / Pace • NW 2 EXT PM LT

Like another Wrenn pupil earlier, the qualifiers signal that (3) ODDS ON OUTLIER may be ready to spring off the bench. His 2-year-old form towers over this field, but again you just never know how the first start back will work. (5) MY UPTOWN WISH has worked from an impossible spot twice to finish second twice. She can't close from way back every week, but she certainly is in form. (1) FLEET COMMANDER had a perfect race last time with minimal pressure. Big step up here so you'll at least get a better price if you're a believer. (2) FOX VALLEY YORK had a cleaner trip last out but didn't get a chance to really build his speed. His price will at least go up here and he probably can at least hit the exotics.

## Race 12

### 1 Mile / Pace • Ky. Pref. NW \$2,550 L4 CD

Everything about this race says Stephen White will try to bottom the well with (4) IDEAL ACE. Class drop, three starts under the belt, little speed to the inside... It's go time. But can he last? (3) MASTERY maybe has more of a late say against a group like this, unless the mile turns out pretty fast. (7) SWING DANCING has a decent amount of strength, but the outside draw makes his trip tricky. He can't park the mile and win... though, if there ever was a field for him to do it against... (1) HEAVY PRESSURE has a few starts in the coffers now and a good draw, so maybe a ground-saving trip is just what the doctor ordered for a purse share that pays for the doctor's orders.

## SHEET STATS

2025 STATS (6 DAYS)	WINS	TOP PICK	2ND PICK	3RD PICK	4TH PICK	ALL PICKS
# OF RACES	72	24	11	12	12	59
WIN %		33.33%	15.28%	16.67%	16.67%	81.94%
RETURN	(\$144)	\$107.18	\$98.14	\$110.46	\$127.20	\$442.98
ROI %		-25.57%	-31.85%	-23.29%	-11.67%	-23.09%
AVG RETURN		\$4.29	\$8.18	\$9.21	\$9.78	\$7.86
MEDIAN RETURN		\$3.74	\$6.21	\$6.87	\$5.98	\$5.19
AVG ODDS		2.77	7.05	11.23	15.83	9.22
MEDIAN ODDS		1.72	4.14	8.12	8.85	4.59