

RICOH WOODBINE MILE WAGERING GUIDE

By Jeremy Plonk

Saturday, September 16, 2017 – Woodbine Racetrack Race 12

Race Notes: Favourites are 6-for-20 in the Woodbine Mile since becoming a grass mile in 1997, though 5 of the last 6 have finished 1st or 2nd ... 14 of 20 Woodbine Mile winners exited a winning prep and only 3 winners rebounded from an off-the-board final tune-up ... 18 of 20 Mile renewals have been decided by a winning margin of 1 ½ lengths or less, including the last 3 editions each by a half-length.

1 – World Approval: G1 winner at ages 4 and 5, including Saratoga's Fourstardave most recently – a successful springboard here for Wise Dan, Leroidesanimaux. Third and 8th in pair of WO turf stakes bids last fall, so some concern about the course. He's won 3 of his 4 starts this year. Trainer Mark Casse seeks back-to-back scores in this race after Tepin a year ago. Only trainer to win this race back-to-back with different horses was Charlie LoPresti (Turallure '11-Wise Dan '12).

2 – Tower of Texas: Third WO Mile appearance (7th in '15, runner-up at 23/1 last year). Roger Attfield seeks his first win in this race since it became a turf mile in 1997. Tower of Texas just 1 for his last 11, a victory in June's Connaught Cup. Last WO Mile winner to exit the Play the King Stakes was Becrux in '06.

3 – Long On Value: On a 7-race skid and has not won a graded stakes since Feb. '15, but world traveler in turf sprint ranks will try to stretch back out to a mile. Trainer Bill Mott won the '97 Woodbine Mile with Geri and was runner-up in '15 with Lea and fourth a year ago with Full Mast.

4 – Best Bard: Norm McKnight's 3-time claiming winner takes major rise in class looking for first stakes win.

5 – Dragon Bay: \$6k yearling buy has banked more than \$360k Trainer Stuart Simon has yet to win a G1 and his only G2 career wins have come this meet with Dragon Bay, who upset the Eclipse and Nijinsky at longer trips.

6 – Deauville: Galileo colt 3: 1-0-2 in North American forays, winning '16 Belmont Derby Invitational and third in past two Arlington Millions (most recently by ¾-L as 9/5 favorite). Trainer Aidan O'Brien looks for his first WO Mile victory, but has had success at Woodbine twice winning the G1 Canadian International with raiders.

7 – Conquest Panthera: G2 Play the King winner can become first horse to sweep that race and WO Mile since Soaring Free in '04. Conquest Panthera is 2-2 at WO on grass, including allowance win. Trainer Mark Casse got his first WO Mile win last year with Tepin (had been 2nd here w/ Kaigun prior). Only trainer to win this back-to-back with different horses was Charlie LoPresti (Turallure '11 & Wise Dan '12).

8 – Mondialiste: The '15 WO Mile winner looks to join Wise Dan as this race's only 2-time winner and first to do so in non-consecutive years. Trainer David O'Meara has only 5 starts in North America, but wins with this horse in the WO Mile and '16 G1 Arlington Million. Mondialiste has lost 8 in a row dating back to Aug. '16 Arlington Million – including 7 off-the-board finishes.

9 – Arod: Fifth in this race last year at 18/1 while racing on Lasix for the first time. Was in Peter Chapple-Hyam barn last year, now David Simcock, a trainer who won this race in 2014 with Trade Storm. Arod has lost 14 straight dating back to '15 G2 Summer Mile at Ascot. Showed little in Australia since last Canadian appearance while then under local care of Chris Waller.

10 – Lancaster Bomber: Son of War Front runner-up in last year's Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. He's lost 9 straight, though was runner-up in G1 St. James's Palace at Royal Ascot in June. Trainer Aidan O'Brien looks for his first WO Mile victory, but has had success at Woodbine twice winning the G1 Canadian International with raiders.

11 – Dutch Connection: Off-the-board in 2 NA invasions (5th Shadwell Mile '15; 12th Breeders' Cup Mile '16). Godolphin and its trainer Charlie Hills look for their first WO Mile victory. Perhaps a Goodwood horse-for-course as he's 2-2 there and 0-9 elsewhere in his last 11 starts. Adds Lasix.

12 – Glenville Gardens: Pacemaker in last year's WO Mile faded to finish 7th at 26/1. Trainer Sid Attard won this race in 2001 with Numerous Times at 6/1. Former \$40k claimer. Owns 9-19 lifetime record, but is just 1-6 in graded stakes.

Jeremy Plonk's Picks: 1-6-2-8

Win 1. Exactas 1-6 heavier, 1-2 lighter.

Woodbine Mile Winners' Preps

'16 Tepin, 1st Queen Anne (Ascot)
'15 Mondialiste, 1st Strensall (York)
'14 Trade Storm, 2nd Strensall (York)
'13 Wise Dan, 1st, Fourstardave (Sar)
'12 Wise Dan, 1st, Fourstardave (Sar)
'11 Turallure, 1st, Bernard Baruch (Sar)
'10 Court Vision, 6th, Manhattan (Bel)
'09 Ventura, 2nd, Madison (Kee)
'08 Rahy's Attorney, 4th, Nijinsky (WO)
'07 Shakespeare, 1st, allowance (Sar)
'06 Becrux, 2nd, Play The King (WO)
'05 Leroidesanimaux, 1st, Fourstardave (Sar)
'04 Soaring Free, 1st, Play The King (WO)
'03 Touch of the Blues, 1st, Wickerr (Dmr)
'02 Good Journey, 1st, Firecracker (CD)
'01 Numerous Times, 1st, allowance (WO)
'00 Riviera, 1st, Wickerr (Dmr)
'99 Quiet Resolve, 1st, allowance (WO)
'98 Labeeb, 1st, Shoemaker Mile (Hol)
'97 Geri, 5th, Arlington Million (AP)

Woodbine Mile Favourites' Finishes

'16 Tepin, 1st (2/5)
'15 Lea, 2nd (2/1)
'14 Jack Milton, 9th (7/2)
'13 Wise Dan, 1st (1/5)
'12 Wise Dan, 1st (2/5)
'11 Courageous Cat, 2nd (6/5)
'10 Famous Name, 7th (5/2)
'09 Bribon, 5th (2/1)
'08 Kip Deville, 5th (1/2)
'07 Shakespeare, 1st (5/2)
'06 Three Valleys, 7th (5/2)
'05 Leroidesanimaux, 1st (3/5)
'04 Soaring Free, 1st (2/1)
'03 Wando, 4th (3/1)
'02 Noverre, 6th (5/2)
'01 Affirmed Success, 2nd (3/1)
'00 Ladies Din, 4th (9/5)
'99 Garbu, 8th (7/2)
'98 Elusive Quality, 4th, (7/5)
'97 Gentlemen, 5th (2/5)

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Full-Card Picks By Brian Nadeau

1	#5 – Lassie’s Tears #8 – Miss Danielle #7 – Silent Consort #4 – Gizmo’s Destiny	8	#1 – Quidura #3 – Starship Jubilee #5 – Elysea’s World #7 – Involuntary
2	#6 – Forestella #1 – Jupiter’s Eagle #2 – Sky Vision #8 – Crimson Ring	9	#2 – Conquest Swagman #6 – Blue Wave #5 – Allied Sugar Ray #3 – Rare Appeal
3	#10 – Avie’s Mineshaft #3 – Loopety Loo #5 – Power Empire #8 – Trini Pleasure	10	#8 – Hawkbill #5 – Pumpkin Rumble #4 – Messi #3 – Noble Thought
4	#2 – Cortado Bay #1 – Grace and Dignity #8 – Angel #10 – Tomato Bisque	11	#4 – Big Bazinga #10 – Bear’sway #11 – Narrow Escape #2 – Niigon’s Glory
5	#8 – Aciano #5 – My Cantata #4 – Turbo Driven Diva #3 – Malibu Bonnie	12	#3 – Long On Value #6 – Deauville 1 – World Approval #8 – Mondialiste
6	#6 – Majestic Slew #5 – Unbridled Juan #7 – Circle of Friends #4 – Good Bye Greg	13	#5 – Prized Bourbon #2 – Rockport Dancer #4 – Katrina’s Way #1 – Orphan Queen #13 – Paddy Point
7	#7 – Releasethe Glacken #1 – Friendship Ring #5 – Did You Hear Me #4 – North Gale		Best Bets Denoted in Bold

WAGERING NOTES

- \$1.4 million carryover in Jackpot Hi-5 on Race 13. It’s a mandatory payout, so there doesn’t need to be a lone-ticket winner. Track officials anticipate \$2-\$3 million pool by the close of wagering.
- Woodbine/NYRA all-turf special pick five offered (20-cent minimum, 15% takeout). WO Races 8, 10, 12 combine with Belmont Races 7, 9.
- Today’s early pick 4 pool is guaranteed at \$100,000 (R4-7); the late pick 4 pool is guaranteed at \$300,000 (R9-12).
- Today’s early pick 5 pool is guaranteed at \$50,000 (R2-6); the late pick 5 pool is guaranteed at \$200,000 (R8-12).
- Pick up a free copy of Brian Nadeau’s full-card picks in our Woodbine NOW newsletter every Wednesday & Saturday of the meeting. Go to Horseplayernow.com weekly and click on “The Latest” for the link.

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