

# Breeders' Cup Rankings

By MIKE WATCHMAKER

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## Classic contenders

3-year-olds & up, 1 1/4 miles. Purse: \$5 million

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Bernardini	T. Albertrani	8-5
Now boasts four straight Beyer Figures between 113 and 117; wowl!			
2	Discreet Cat	S. bin Suroor	7-2
Would only compete if something untoward befalls Bernardini			
3	Sun King	N. Zito	12-1
Ran against speed bias in Woodward; nose behind Invasor in Whitney			
4	Invasor	K. McLaughlin	8-1
Talented, but it's hard to love him now due to his poorly timed illness			
5	Lava Man	D. O'Neill	5-1
Only reason why he isn't rated higher is the uncertainty over shipping			
6	George Washington	A. O'Brien	12-1
Distance a question, and after the Dylan Thomas debacle, so is dirt			
7	Shirocco	A. Fabre	15-1
Though this is a possible target, he's more likely to run in the Turf			
8	David Junior	B. Meehan	15-1
Considered a 1 1/4-mile specialist, that's why this Euro is eying this			
9	Brother Derek	D. Hendricks	20-1
His second to Lava Man in the Goodwood was his best race in a while			
10	Strong Contender	J. Ward Jr.	20-1
Solid win in Super Derby; can still improve; then again, he'll have to			

## Juvenile contenders

2-year-old colts & geldings, 1 1/16 miles. Purse: \$2 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	<b>Principle Secret</b>	C. Paasch	4-1
Game 2nd in Norfolk after setting fast pace; this division is wide open			
2	<b>Great Hunter</b>	D. O'Neill	6-1
Was it Polytrack, or the two turns that triggered his Kee breakthrough?			
3	<b>Circular Quay</b>	T. Pletcher	7-2
Won't get too down on him for Polytrack loss, but he still disappointed			
4	<b>Stormello</b>	W. Currin	6-1
Not sure where it came from, but his Norfolk win was a strong effort			
5	<b>Scat Daddy</b>	T. Pletcher	5-1
Ran well to win the Champagne; helps makes this race more complex			
6	<b>C P West</b>	N. Zito	10-1
Good second in Bel. Futurity in only second start; improvement likely			
7	<b>King of the Roxy</b>	T. Pletcher	6-1
His win in the Belmont Futurity was workmanlike, at the very best			
8	<b>Pegasus Wind</b>	D. W. Lukas	15-1
A good bet to make the early lead; winning this is another matter			
9	<b>Street Sense</b>	C. Natzger	20-1
Needs to raise his game, but his third in the Breeders' Fty was okay			
10	<b>U D Ghetto</b>	A. Reinstedler	30-1
Overcame post 12 to win Ky. Cup Juvenile, though it was a slow race			

## Mile contenders

3-year-olds & up, 1 mile (turf). Purse: \$2 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	George Washington	A. O'Brien	9-5
Impressive QE II winner is now more likely to compete in the Classic			
2	Araafa	J. Nosedá	5-1
Second in QE II, but upset George Washington in Irish 2000 Guineas			
3	Gorella	P. Biancone	6-1
Was an unlucky third in this last year, and is in better form right now			
4	Aragorn	N. Drysdale	4-1
Most recent win wasn't great, even if he wasn't primed for a peak race			
5	Aussie Rules	A. O'Brien	12-1
His Shadwell Mile win had to be a big boost for European hopes here			
6	Librettist	S. bin Suroor	10-1
Physical ailments after his poor QE II weren't as bad as first thought			
7	Showing Up	B. Tagg	12-1
Very nice 3-year-old, but his best distance might be 9 to 10 furlongs			
8	Misque's Approval	M. Wolfson	20-1
Mediocre fourth in the Shadwell Mile suggests his form has plateaued			
9	Echo of Light	S. bin Suroor	20-1
Won last two over lesser, but his European form appears a cut below			
10	Ad Valorem	A. O'Brien	20-1
Not as good as the other two O'Brien horses listed; not a stiff, either			

## Distaff contenders

3-year-olds & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/8 miles. Purse: \$2 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Fleet Indian	T. Pletcher	9-5
As if she wasn't already dangerous enough, now she rates and wins			
2	Balletto	T. Albertrani	6-1
Got the contested pace she needs, ran top one to a photo in Beldame			
3	Pine Island	C. McGaughy	5-1
Barn won this last year with a lesser performer; comes into this fresh			
4	Spun Sugar	T. Pletcher	6-1
Not willing to take her loss in the Polytrack-Spinstar as a true indicator			
5	Healthy Addiction	J. Sadler	8-1
On another win streak, but her Lady's Secret Beyer fig was very low			
6	Happy Ticket	A. Leggio Jr.	10-1
As with Spun Sugar, best not to take her Spinstar loss at face value			
7	Pool Land	T. Pletcher	15-1
Ruffian winner helps strengthen Pletcher's powerful hand in this race			
8	Round Pond	M. Matz	20-1
She has a right to improve off her third in the Beldame; she needs to			
9	Asi Siempre	P. Biancone	15-1
It's up to her to prove that her Spinstar win wasn't a Polytrack fluke			
10	Bushfire	E. Kenneally	20-1
Despite having three Gr. 1 wins, she has yet to run reasonably fast			

## Juvenile Fillies contenders

2-year-old fillies, 1 1/16 miles. Purse: \$2 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Cash Included	C. Dollase	3-1
Her decisive Oak Leaf win, though surprising, seemed totally for real			
2	Point Ashley	B. Baffert	5-2
Whether primed for the Oak Leaf or not, she was merely second best			
3	Dreaming of Anna	W. Catalano	4-1
The question here is if she can transfer her fine turf stakes form to dirt			
4	Untouched Talent	J. Bonde	8-1
Second in the Alcibiades while going against a Polytrack closer's bias			
5	Bel Air Beauty	F. Brothers	15-1
Upset the Alcibiades at 47-1; let's see her validate that on a dirt track			
6	Featherbed	T. Pletcher	12-1
Set a fast pace under pressure when beaten a head in the Matron			
7	Appealing Zophie	S. Blasi	15-1
Tired after setting Alcibiades pace; won't hold that loss against her			
8	Octave	T. Pletcher	15-1
Was part of that three-way photo in Matron, her fastest race so far			
9	Cotton Blossom	T. Pletcher	12-1
Must get considerably faster soon; yet to crack an 80 Beyer Figure			
10	Sutra	M. Stidham	20-1
Won Frizette with 68 Beyer; that must be a record low for a Gr. 1 win			

## Sprint contenders

3-year-olds & up, 6 furlongs. Purse: \$2 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Bordonaro	W. Spawr	3-1
Terrific winning Ancient Title; him being supplemented is good news			
2	Henny Hughes	K. McLaughlin	2-1
Most impressive winning Vosburgh; stage is set for a great match up			
3	Siren Lure	A. Sherman	6-1
Has won six of his last seven starts; wonder if he prefers 7 furlongs			
4	Pomeroy	M. Wolfson	8-1
Questions here are, does he prefer Saratoga, as well as 7 furlongs?			
5	War Front	H. A. Jenkins	10-1
In excellent form, but there always seems to be one better than him			
6	Dubai Escapade	E. Harty	12-1
Connections should consider this given how she won the Ballerina			
7	Too Much Bling	B. Baffert	12-1
Like Henny Hughes, he's a talented 3-year-old who certainly belongs			
8	Thor's Echo	D. O'Neill	15-1
His second to Bordonaro in the Ancient Title was very good; intriguing			
9	Attila's Storm	R. Schosberg	15-1
Questions has a right to improve on his third in Vosburgh off long layoff			
10	Kelly's Landing	E. Kenneally	20-1
Polytrack issues aside, his Phoenix win was not fast enough for this			

## Turf contenders

3-year-olds & up, 1 1/2 miles (turf). Purse: \$3 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Shirocco	A. Fabre	4-1
Dull Arc effort from last year's Turf winner might be best overlooked			
2	English Channel	T. Pletcher	5-1
Beat little, but his Joe Hirsch Turf Classic win signaled a return to form			
3	Hurricane Run	A. Fabre	7-2
Back in the picture for this, but only he or Shirocco will run, not both			
4	Cacique	R. Frankel	6-1
Showed a particularly powerful late kick when he won the Man o' War			
5	The Tin Man	R. Mandella	6-1
Tougher than expected win last time; still perfect in the U.S. this year			
6	Red Rocks	B. Meehan	10-1
Factor if he can run back to his second to Arc winner Rail Link in July			
7	Scorpion	A. O'Brien	12-1
Figures to improve off recent return from long layoff; classy last year			
8	David Junior	B. Meehan	8-1
Classic is his distinct preference, but this remains a potential option			
9	T. H. Approval	E. Inda	20-1
Has never been this good; then again, he's never been in better form			
10	Better Talk Now	H. G. Motion	20-1
Now that the Melbourne Cup is out; this race is back on old pro's radar			

## Filly & Mare Turf contenders

3-year-olds & up, fillies & mares, 1 3/8 miles (turf). Purse: \$2 million.

RANK	HORSE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Quija Board	E. Dunlop	2-1
The 2004 winner is in better form than when second in this last year			
2	Wait a While	T. Pletcher	3-1
Her Yellow Ribbon score was tremendous; can give the top one fits			
3	Gorella	P. Biancone	4-1
Appears almost certain that she will compete in the Mile instead of this			
4	Honey Ryder	T. Pletcher	8-1
Got back on the beam in Flower Bowl, but still seems a notch below			
5	Film Maker	H. G. Motion	12-1
Very little between her and Honey Ryder, except for racing luck			
6	Satwa Queen	J. de Roualle	12-1
All her races this year were good, but not as good as the top one's			
7	Vacare	C. Block	15-1
Won QE II Cup to stay perfect; stepping into a different league here			
8	Germance	J. Rouget	20-1
Disappointed when fourth in the QE II Cup, but is capable of better			
9	Quiet Royal	T. Pletcher	30-1
Okay third in the QE II Cup; this would be her first start for Pletcher			
10	Dancing Edie	C. Dollase	30-1
Likely pacesetter would have to improve a ton just to contend			