



# FAIR GROUNDS BETTING GUIDE

presented by **twinspires™**

## SEE INSIDE

- 🏇 Fair Grounds Stakes Schedule
- 🏇 Kentucky Derby Prep Races at Fair Grounds

# FAIR GROUNDS STAKES SCHEDULE

Date	Race	Grade	Purse	Restrictions	Surface	Distance
Saturday, Nov 18	Mr. Sulu Overnight Stakes (LA)		\$50,000	3&UP	Turf	1 Mile
	Happy Ticket Overnight Stakes (LA)		\$50,000	F&M 3&UP	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	Heitai Overnight Stakes (LA)		\$50,000	3&UP	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	Si Cima Overnight Stakes (LA)		\$50,000	F&M 3&UP	Turf	1 Mile
Thursday, Nov 23	Thanksgiving Handicap		\$75,000	3&UP	Dirt	6 Furlongs
Saturday, Dec 2	Richard R. Scherer Memorial Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F&M 3&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
Friday, Dec 8	The Magic City Classic		\$40,000	3&UP	Turf	1 Mile
Saturday, Dec 9	LA Champions Day Handicap Stakes		\$50,000	3&UP	Turf	1 Mile
	LA Champions Day Ladies Turf		\$100,000	F&M 3&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	LA Champions Day Juvenile		\$100,000	2YO	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	LA Champions Day Sprint		\$100,000	3&UP	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	LA Champions Day Ladies Sprint		\$100,000	F&M 3&UP	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	LA Champions Day Lassie		\$100,000	F2YO	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	LA Champions Day Classic		\$150,000	3&UP	Dirt	1 1/8 Miles
Saturday, Dec 16	LA Champions Day Turf		\$100,000	3&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	Tenacious Stakes		\$75,000	3&UP	Dirt	1 Mile 70 Yards
	Bonapaw		\$75,000	3&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
	Blushing Kid		\$75,000	F&M 3&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	Buddy Diliberto		\$75,000	3&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	Letellier Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F2YO	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	Sugar Bowl Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	2YO	Dirt	6 Furlongs
Tuesday, Dec 26	Tiffany Lass Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F&M 3&UP	Dirt	1 Mile 70 Yards
Saturday, Dec 30	Woodchopper		\$75,000	3YO	Turf	1 Mile
	Pago Hop		\$75,000	F3YO	Turf	1 Mile
Sunday, Dec 31	LA Futurity Boys (LA)		\$100,000	C&G2YO	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	LA Futurity Girls (LA)		\$100,000	F2YO	Dirt	6 Furlongs
Saturday, Jan 6	Pan Zareta Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
Saturday, Jan 13	Lecomte Stakes 🏆	III	\$200,000	3YO	Dirt	1 Mile 70 Yards
	Silverbulletday 🏆		\$150,000	F3YO	Dirt	1 Mile 70 Yards
	Duncan F. Kenner Stakes		\$75,000	4&UP	Dirt	6 Furlongs
	Louisiana Stakes		\$75,000	4&UP	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles
	Col E.R. Bradley Handicap	III	\$125,000	4&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	Marie G. Krantz Memorial Stakes		\$75,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	Mardi Gras Stakes		\$75,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
Tuesday, Feb 13	Mineshaft Stakes		\$150,000	4&UP	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles
Saturday, Feb 17	Risen Star Stakes 🏆	II	\$400,000	3YO	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles
	Rachel Alexandra Stakes 🏆	II	\$200,000	F3YO	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles
	Fair Grounds Handicap	III	\$150,000	4&UP	Turf	1 1/8 Miles
	Colonel Power Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	4&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
	Daisy Devine Stakes		\$75,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
Saturday, Mar 3	Black Gold Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	3YO	Turf	1 Mile
	Dixie Poker Ace (LA)		\$60,000	4&UP	Turf	1 Mile
Saturday, Mar 10	Allen Lacombe Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F3YO	Turf	1 Mile
	Nelson J. Menard Memorial Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
Saturday, Mar 17	Red Camilia		\$60,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	1 Mile
Saturday, Mar 24	New Orleans Ladies Overnight Stakes		\$50,000	F&M 4&UP	Turf	1 1/16 Miles
	Costa Rising (LA)		\$60,000	4&UP	Turf	5 1/2 Furlongs
	Muniz Memorial Handicap	II	\$300,000	4&UP	Turf	1 1/8 Miles
	New Orleans Handicap	II	\$400,000	4&UP	Dirt	1 1/8 Miles
	Fair Grounds Oaks 🏆	II	\$400,000	F3YO	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles
	Louisiana Derby 🏆	I	\$1,000,000	3YO	Dirt	1 1/8 Miles
	Crescent City Derby (LA)		\$75,000	3YO	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles
	Crescent City Oaks (LA)		\$75,000	F3YO	Dirt	1 Mile 70 Yards
	Star Guitar (LA)		\$60,000	4&UP	Dirt	1 1/16 Miles

# AT A GLANCE

A look at the previous full Fair Grounds meet: November 19, 2016 through April 2, 2017

**AVG. WINNING ODDS:** 4.98 - 1

**FAVORITE WIN%:** 42% **FAVORITE ITM%:** 78%

EXOTICS	PAYOFF
Exacta	81.13
Daily Double	83.29
Trifecta	530.98
Pick 3	469.21
Superfecta	4,448.62
Pick 4	3,518.75
Pick 5 Jackpot	33,316.33
Super High Five	3,988.58



## TRACK BIAS MEET (11/19 - 04/02)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
5.5fDirt	74	34%	E	Rail/Ins
6.0fDirt	221	36%	E	Rail/Ins
1 MileDirt	116	28%	E	Rail/Ins
1 1/16mDirt	19	37%	E	Inside
Turf Sprint	95	18%	P	Rail
Turf Routes	160	19%	E/P	Rail/Ins

## TRACK BIAS WEEK (03/27 - 04/02)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
5.5fDirt	13	23%	E	Mid/Out
6.0fDirt	5	20%	E	Inside
1 MileDirt	16	6%	E/P	Outside
1 1/16mDirt	4	50%	E	Mid/Out
Turf Sprint	7	43%	E/P	Middle
Turf Routes	12	17%	E	Rail/Ins

## WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT

HOT TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Stall, Jr. Albert M.	11	6	0	0	3.45	3	22%
Stidham Michael	14	6	1	2	4.79	3	18%
Faucheux Ron	8	4	0	0	3.54	1	21%
Ingram Steve	5	3	0	0	27.94	2	19%
Margolis Steve	6	3	0	0	9.72	1	12%
Heitzmann Eric L.	4	2	0	1	11.80	0	13%
Shirer Matt A.	4	2	0	0	10.80	2	21%

HOT JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Hernandez, Jr. Brian Joseph	14	4	3	1	12.61	2	15%

COLD TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Beaten Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Foster Joseph M.	23	0	3	3	17.82	1	15%
Breaux Samuel	19	0	0	1	28.06	0	14%
Gelner Scott	15	0	1	2	16.77	0	11%
Alonzo Howard	14	0	2	2	17.22	0	11%
Daniels Connie L.	10	0	0	0	44.09	0	8%

COLD JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Beaten Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Kay Winston R.	13	0	0	1	45.55	0	4%
Martin, Jr. Eddie	13	0	0	0	40.70	0	12%
Clark Kerwin D.	10	0	0	1	38.51	0	12%



# STAKES OVERVIEW

by Alastair Bull

Important Kentucky Derby and Oaks prep races and some high-quality races for older horses on dirt and turf highlight 60 stakes races at the 2017-18 Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots winter meeting.

The meeting at the New Orleans track begins Nov. 18, with four \$50,000 races for Louisiana-breds three years old and up. The first big day is Louisiana Champions Day on December 9, featuring eight races for Louisiana-bred Thoroughbreds. Most of the races are worth \$100,000, with the highlight being the 1 1/8-mile \$150,000 Louisiana Champions Day Classic.

Santa Saturday arrives Dec. 16 with six stakes races, and there are five further stakes in December, setting the stage for the January start of Fair Grounds' biggest races, featuring three major race days.

The first is Road to the Derby Kickoff Day Jan. 13. The \$200,000 LeComte Stakes (G3), for 3-year-olds at 1 mile 70 yards, is the highlight of the day, and is part of the Road to the Kentucky Derby prep race series. Also featuring that day is the \$150,000 Silverbulletday Stakes, over the same trip as the LeComte, and part of the Road to the Kentucky Oaks.

Four other stakes races are run Jan. 13, the most important being the Col. E.R. Bradley Handicap (G3), over 1 1/16 miles on turf.

Five weeks after that is Louisiana Derby Preview Day, Feb. 17. The highlight of the day is the 1 1/16-mile Risen Star Stakes

(G2). It's a valuable lead-up not only to the Louisiana Derby but also the Kentucky Derby – the winner gets 50 points on the Road to the Kentucky Derby table.

Run the same day is the Rachel Alexandra Stakes (G2) at the same 1 1/16-mile trip as the Risen Star. It has 50 points available on the Road to the Kentucky Oaks table for the winner. Two grade three races for older horses also feature: the 1 1/16-mile Mineshaft Handicap on dirt and the 1 1/8-mile Fair Grounds Handicap on turf.

It all leads to the big day, March 24, in which \$2.36 million is allocated between five open stakes races and three Louisiana-bred stakes races.

Headlining the day is the \$1 million Louisiana Derby (G2), run over 1 1/8 miles. The winner gets 100 Road to the Kentucky Derby points, ensuring they get a start in the Run for the Roses. There's also 100 points on the Road to the Kentucky Oaks table for the winner of the \$400,000 Fair Grounds Oaks (G2).

Don't forget the other big races on the day, either: the \$400,000 New Orleans Handicap (G2) over 1 1/8-miles on dirt, and the \$300,000 Muniz Memorial Handicap (G2) over 1 1/8 miles on turf.

It all adds up to some great racing, and some great wagering opportunities. Enjoy!



# KENTUCKY DERBY PREP RACES

by Alastair Bull

If you're at all interested in searching for Kentucky Derby horses, it's vital to keep an eye on the prep races at Fair Grounds.

The New Orleans track hosts three races in which points can be earned on the Road to the Kentucky Derby table: the LeComte Stakes (G3), the Risen Star Stakes (G2), and the Louisiana Derby (G2). Not only do horses win places in the Kentucky Derby in these races, they often go on to do well in the Derby and in subsequent races.

Take the last two Louisiana Derby winners, for example. The 2017 winner Girvin didn't run to his best because of injury in the Kentucky Derby, but came out later to win the Haskell Invitational (G1). The previous year's Louisiana Derby was won by Gun Runner, who subsequently ran third in the Kentucky Derby before a great 2017 that was capped off with the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) Nov. 4.

The LeComte Stakes, run at 1 1/16 miles in January, often goes the way of the most seasoned 3-year-old, one that has run at least a little way into winter. But it has produced some very good horses. Going back a way, the 1972 winner No Le Haze later finished second in both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes, while 1982 winner Linkage finished second in the Preakness. The 2007 winner, Hard Spun, also finished second in the Derby, while 2013 winner Oxbow went on to win the Preakness.

Though the LeComte gets some very good horses, there's almost always a stronger field for the Risen Star Stakes (G2), run at 1 1/8 miles in February. Formerly the Louisiana Derby

Trial, it was renamed in 1989 after the Louisiana-owned colt that won the Derby Trial and the Louisiana Derby prior to winning the Preakness and the Belmont the year beforehand. New horses that didn't run in the LeComte can often win, as Gun Runner and Girvin did.

The field gets stronger again in the 1 1/8-mile Louisiana Derby (G2) in March. Here, the Risen Star Stakes is definitely the key race to watch when looking for the winner. The last three winners of the Risen Star – Girvin, Gun Runner, and International Star – all went on to take the Louisiana Derby. Since 1973, 13 horses have completed the double, while another 10 Risen Star Stakes winners finished in the top three of the Louisiana Derby.

Only two Louisiana Derby winners – Black Gold in 1924 and Grindstone in 1996 – have gone on to win the Kentucky Derby, though 2003 Louisiana Derby runner-up Funny Cide went on to win at Churchill Downs.

However, several horses have finished in the first three in both races – they include Gun Runner, Commanding Curve, Revolutionary, Mucho Macho Man, Peace Rules, and Risen Star.

The record is good enough that smart Kentucky Derby punters will keep an eye on Fair Grounds. If the horses look good, they'll have a chance at Churchill Downs.





# twinspires.com™

# BET ANYWHERE!

DOWNLOAD THE TWINSPIRES APP  
SIGN UP FOR A \$100 BONUS!\*

SELECT  
TRACK

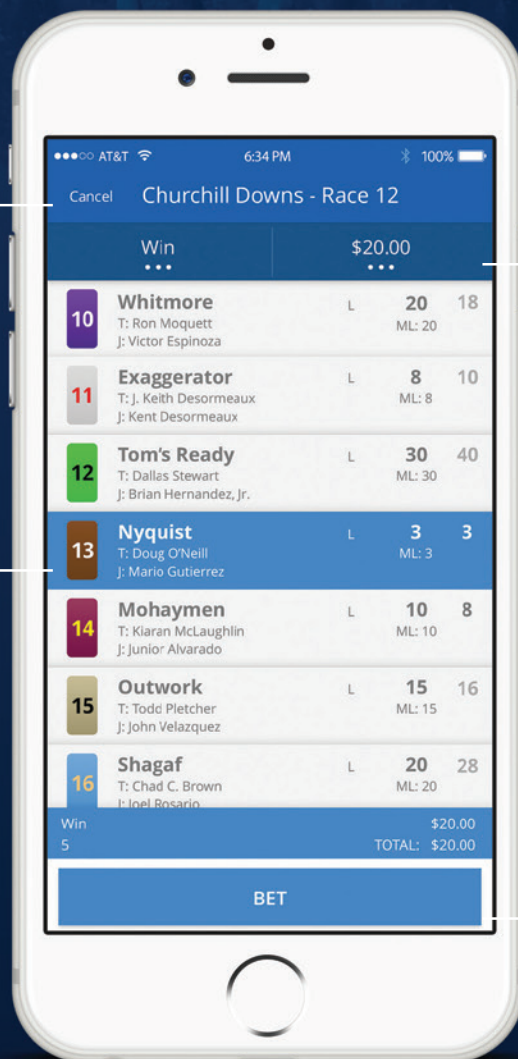
1

CHOOSE  
WAGER  
TYPE/AMOUNT

2

SELECT  
RUNNER

3



4

CLICK 'BET'

OFFICIAL BETTING PARTNER OF THE  
BREEDERS' CUP AND KENTUCKY DERBY



\*See TwinSpire.com for full details.