



PACIFIC CLASSIC BETTING GUIDE

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AT A GLANCE

A look at the current Del Mar meet: July 19, 2017 through August 13, 2017

AVG. WINNING ODDS: 4.99 – 1

FAVORITE WIN%: 29% **FAVORITE ITM%:** 70%

EXOTICS	PAYOFF
Quinella	40.23
Exacta	77.27
Daily Double	85.80
Trifecta	549.16
Pick 3	713.49
Superfecta	3,201.52
Pick 6	33,308.07
Pick 4	4,991.94
Pick 5	20,518.27
Pick 6 Jackpot	95,443.58
Place Pick All	7,570.03
Super High Five	18,257.22



TRACK BIAS MEET (07/19 – 08/13)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
5.0fDirt	13	46%	E	Outside
6.5fDirt	21	43%	E	Inside
1 MileDirt	26	19%	E	Middle
1 1/16mDirt	3	33%	E	Outside
Turf Sprint	12	17%	S	Rail/Ins
Turf Routes	53	15%	S	Rail/Ins

TRACK BIAS WEEK (08/07 – 08/13)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
5.0fDirt	5	40%	E	Rail/Ins
6.5fDirt	7	29%	E	Inside
1 MileDirt	9	22%	E	Outside
1 1/16mDirt	1	0%	P	Outside
Turf Sprint	4	0%	S	Rail/Ins
Turf Routes	10	20%	S	Rail/Ins

WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT

HOT TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Baffert Bob	12	4	2	1	3.48	2	28%
Proctor Thomas F.	5	3	0	2	2.58	2	19%
McCarthy Michael W.	8	3	2	1	8.70	1	13%
Pederson Dean	3	2	0	0	9.30	1	17%
Carava Jack	4	2	0	1	13.28	0	17%
Pender Michael	5	2	0	1	13.90	0	9%
Spawr William	5	2	0	0	11.10	1	20%

HOT JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Prat Flavien	23	7	3	4	3.80	3	19%
Desormeaux Kent J.	23	6	7	4	6.16	2	19%
Gutierrez Mario	12	3	0	2	12.83	0	13%

COLD TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Beaten Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Palma Hector O.	10	0	0	1	17.11	0	13%
Pearson Molly J.	10	0	0	1	21.30	0	12%

COLD JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Beaten Favorites	'16-' 17 Win %
Gonzalez Santiago	13	0	3	1	22.95	0	12%
Theriot Jamie	10	0	2	1	19.06	1	9%

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



27TH RUNNING OF THE PACIFIC CLASSIC

The Pacific Classic (Gr 1)

1 1/4-Miles

PURSE \$1,000,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Royal Albert Hall (GB)	30-1
2	Collected	5-2
3	Accelerate	3-1
4	Sorry Erik	30-1
5	Hard Aces	20-1
6	Donworth	15-1
7	Curlin Road	20-1
8	Arrogate	1-1

TOP PICKS	
8	Arrogate
3	Accelerate
2	Collected
\$20 EXACTAS	
8 over 2,3 (\$40)	
\$20 EXACTA BOX	
3-8 (\$40)	
\$2 TRIFECTA PART-WHEEL	
8 over 2,3 over all (\$24)	

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The \$1 million Pacific Classic (G1) is the centerpiece of the Del Mar summer meet and the last three winners – California Chrome, Beholder and Shared Belief – were all champions. Arrogate will bring enormous star power to the starting gate, posting successive Grade 1 wins in the Travers, Breeders' Cup Classic, Pegasus World Cup and Dubai World Cup, but he will be trying to rebound after having a seven-race win streak come to a sudden end in the San Diego H. (G2) at Del Mar on July 22.

With the Breeders' Cup Classic being held at Del Mar this fall, the Pacific Classic couldn't be more critical for Arrogate. He's fastest member of the eight-horse field, registering BRIS Speed numbers as high as 124, and relishes the 1 ¼-mile distance. But he didn't narrowly lose the San Diego, coming up completely empty in a well-beaten fourth, and the flat performance has Thoroughbred racing fans questioning whether Arrogate can perform his best at the seaside oval.

We predict Arrogate will get back on track with a victory, but the gray 4-year-old must get past a couple of dangerous rivals.

Accelerate runs his best races at Del Mar, improving to 3-for-3 locally with an 8 ½-length romp in the San Diego. Collected has posted convincing wins in all three starts this season, most recently taking the Precisionist (G3) at Santa Anita by a 14-length margin in late June. Both appear quite capable if Arrogate shows up with another subpar effort.

PACIFIC CLASSIC PERSPECTIVE

by Vance Hanson

Despite a shocking loss at odds of 1-20 in last month's San Diego H. (G2), most fans and followers will expect Arrogate to rebound with a victory in the \$1 million Pacific Classic (G1) on Saturday.

The Pacific Classic is also likely to mark the seventh time in Arrogate's career where he will start as an odds-on favorite. That does not include the Dubai World Cup (G1), which officially has no wagering.

Favorites have won eight of the 26 editions of the Pacific Classic, a rate of nearly 31 percent. That's slightly below the normal rate of success for favorites, but it's worth noting the last four winners of the race (California Chrome, Beholder, Shared Belief, and Game On Dude) went off as the public choice.



However, none of them started at less than even-money. Only four horses have ever started as an odds-on choice in the Pacific Classic, and if there's a trend to be gleaned from that small sample, Arrogate could be in trouble.

The only horse ever to win the 1 1/4-mile test at odds-on was Gentlemen in 1997. In fact, the Richard Mandella trainee was the first favorite ever to win the Pacific Classic.

Mandella also played a role in the biggest upset in race history when his 39-1 chance Dare and Go defeated Cigar, who was seeking his 17th consecutive victory, one year earlier. Cigar started at 1-10, a price Arrogate is unlikely to match.

The late Bobby Frankel had a hand in the other two Pacific Classics that involved odds-on favorites. In 1993, the Frankel-trained Bertrando led wire-to-wire while 2-5 favorite Best Pal, the inaugural Pacific Classic winner two years earlier, finished third.

Frankel's luck wasn't quite as good in 2003 as Medaglia d'Oro, who was 3-5 to beat just three rivals, proved no match versus Candy Ride.

Cigar was a victim of pace and opposition tactics, while Best Pal and Medaglia d'Oro lost to horses that were arguably better. Bertrando was the divisional champion in 1993, while Candy Ride retired undefeated after the Pacific Classic.

Among the Pacific Classic probables, it's hard to argue any are better than Arrogate in a general sense. And unless Arrogate unexpectedly shows the kind of speed he did winning the Travers (G1), pace won't necessarily play a major role in him winning or losing.

Still, there are a couple serious rivals for the favorite to be concerned with on Saturday. Accelerate has beaten Arrogate to the finish line in both of the champion's losses, while fellow Bob Baffert trainee Collected rides in on an impressive three-race win streak.

Many bettors will undoubtedly think twice about taking too short a price in light of the San Diego result.

ARROGATE PEDIGREE ANALYSIS

by Alastair Bull

There's only one question leading into the \$1 million Pacific Classic (G1) at Del Mar this weekend: which Arrogate will show up?

Will it be the one that dominated the Travers Stakes, Breeders' Cup Classic, Pegasus World Cup, and Dubai World Cup, becoming the highest-rated U.S. horse in many years? Or the one that ran a shocking fourth place in the 1 1/16-mile San Diego Handicap (G2) at Del Mar last month, more than 15 lengths behind the winner?

You can come up with any number of reasons why Arrogate failed so badly in the San Diego Handicap.

Undoubtedly Arrogate wasn't likely to be at his best in his first run in four months, given he had the Pacific Classic and Breeders' Cup Classic as his major aims. But it wasn't the defeat that was so concerning as the margin of defeat against horses he should have been much closer to.

Trainer Bob Baffert said after the failure that he may not have trained Arrogate hard enough; a little while later, however, there were thoughts that a 1:11 six-furlong workout at Santa Anita a week before the race may have taken too much out of him.

It's possible Arrogate may not like Del Mar as much as other tracks he's raced on; his only other start there was a 1-1/4 length victory over Kristo on Aug. 4 last year, closer than might have been expected given the 13-length lesson he gave the best 3-year-olds in the land in the Travers Stakes three weeks later. But it seems a bit of a stretch to blame Del Mar.

One thing that will help Arrogate in the Pacific Classic is the 1 1/4 mile distance; all his major victories bar the 1 1/8-mile Pegasus World Cup were at that trip. You can't blame the trip for his San Diego Handicap defeat, but the extra 3/16 of a mile will help him on Saturday.

Ultimately it's hard to work out why Arrogate ran so badly. The hope is that it was a one-off, rather than a sign of decline. Baffert is happy with his preparation for this race, so it's best to give him the benefit of the doubt.

Arrogate was a \$560,000 purchase for Juddmonte Farms at the 2014 Keeneland September yearling sale. He is the best progeny to date of the very good sire Unbridled's Song, himself a winner of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile; other outstanding runners by his sire include Will Take Charge, Liam's Map, Zensational, Midshipman, and Forever Unbridled.

He is the first foal of the Distorted Humor mare Bubbler; a stakes-winning, grade 3-placed mare who won six of her nine starts racing at two and three. His third dam is the 1990 champion juvenile filly Meadow Star.

If the real Arrogate shows up, he should be very hard to beat in the Pacific Classic. For racing's sake, it would be great if he does.



ARROGATE POLISHES OFF PACIFIC CLASSIC PREPARATIONS

by Kellie Reilly

Champion Arrogate, on a retrieval mission in Saturday's \$1 million Pacific Classic (G1) after a listless display in the San Diego (G2), turned in his third successive strong move at Del Mar on Monday.

Working solo beneath Martin Garcia, the Bob Baffert trainee sped through fractions of :24.20 and :35.40 and finished his half-mile in :47.60, tying for the second-fastest of 56 at the distance on the day.

But Arrogate wasn't done yet while rolling through a double gallop-out. After five furlongs in 1:00, the gray made it six in 1:14.20.

There was one thing, however, of potential import. Garcia had a "slight issue with the colt changing leads nearing the eighth pole," as Del Mar publicity phrased it. He had his head cocked to the right leaving the far turn, and appeared a bit awkward as Garcia persuaded him onto the right lead in upper stretch, but he quickly straightened out, and connections were unfazed by it.

"He just cruised around there," Baffert said. "We're set (for Saturday)."

Fellow Hall of Famer Mike Smith, who will be back aboard the Unbridled's Song colt in the Pacific Classic, also liked what he saw from his perch in the grandstand.

"I thought he looked good," Smith said. "He looked happy to me."

That mental angle could be the most significant of all. While Arrogate's physical ability is incontestable, his dull fourth in the San Diego raised questions about whether he was still interested in competing. Indeed, Smith reported that Arrogate wasn't even trying.



Thus the Pacific Classic takes on added importance, not just as a "Win and You're In" launching pad to the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) over the same track and 1 1/4-mile trip, but as a crucial test of Arrogate's frame of mind. Will we see the devastating Arrogate of the 2016 Travers (G1) and Breeders' Cup Classic, and this year's Pegasus World Cup (G1) and Dubai World Cup (G1)?

Perhaps Arrogate hadn't gotten out of vacation mode for the San Diego, his first start since Dubai, where he became North America's all-time richest Thoroughbred with more than \$17 million in earnings. He'd been working sharply for his return, but at Santa Anita. He did not get a tune-up at Del Mar prior to the San Diego, so maybe he was still getting his bearings at the seaside.

Arrogate has had his game face on, however, in his trio of works at Del Mar since his San Diego flop. Coming right back with a bullet half in :47.20 on August 1, he motored seven furlongs in 1:25.20 on August 8, and polished off his preparation Monday. In all three, Arrogate worked by himself, offering more encouragement that he's still got zest.

Only the heat of battle can confirm it. His head carriage coming out of the turn on Monday, and lead change, will provide fodder for those probing for vulnerability.

Entries for the Pacific Classic will close Tuesday morning, with the draw to follow later that afternoon (3:30-5:30 p.m. PDT) at the Brigantine Restaurant.

The Pacific Classic will give Arrogate a rematch with San Diego romper Accelerate, who was receiving nine pounds from him last time. Now Accelerate meets Arrogate at level weights, and at 1 1/4 miles, a far better scenario for the champion than the San Diego's 1 1/16 miles.

An additional wrinkle for Accelerate is Baffert's other intended Pacific Classic starter, Collected, in the form of his life at present. A perfect three-for-three this season after crushing the Santana Mile, Californian (G2), and most recently the Precisionist (G3) by 14 lengths, Collected has the early speed to prevent Accelerate from getting away with a soft lead. Accelerate was a remote third to Collected in the Precisionist, never factoring from off the pace. But the John Sadler colt improved markedly when new rider, Hall of Famer Victor Espinoza, put him on the lead in the San Diego.

Doug O'Neill is expected to enter both Donworth, the San Diego runner-up, and Curlin Road, who will cut back in trip after his photo-finish score in the 1 1/2-mile Cougar II (G3).

Former O'Neill charge Royal Albert Hall, just claimed for \$50,000 by Kristin Mulhall out of a fourth in a turf race, has been mentioned as a Pacific Classic possible. Plans were to be firmed up after his Monday work on the main track. Since he posted the bullet in :47, three-fifths faster than Arrogate, the British-bred turfer may have worked himself into an ambitious dirt debut.

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