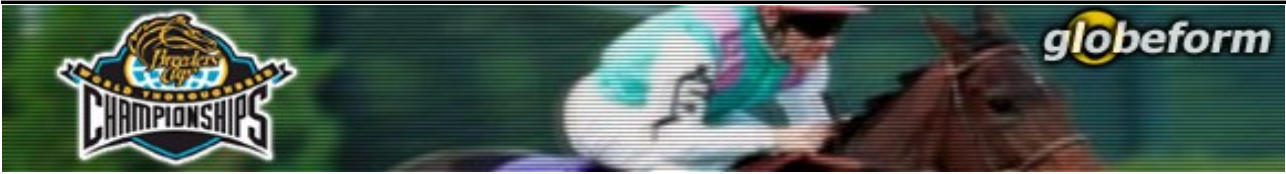


Globeform's Breeders' Cup Special '23

Globeform Newsletter 1 – September 5



GLOBEFORM VALUE BET, BREEDERS' CUP

BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC: WHITE ABARRIO 12-1

Watching the Travers Stakes, Pacific Classic and Jockey Club Gold Cup, I became more and more convinced that one name sticks out as an early value bet among this year's Breeders' Cup Classic contenders, namely **White Abarrio**, the impressive winner of the Whitney Stakes at Saratoga in early August. He performed to **Globeform 128** in the Whitney, improving markedly on his previous best, GF 119p, recorded in a 7-furlong allowance race at Gulfstream Park back in March, when he was still trained by Saffie Joseph Jr.

His Whitney performance was by far the best of all Breeders' Cup Classic preps to date and the question may be; can we believe in that sudden jump up the ratings ladder? Looking at the horses he beat, the form looks quite solid, and it seems that his new trainer, Richard Dutrow, has found the key to unlocking this four-year-old's full potential. White Abarrio has always looked a high class horse. He crushed Simplification and Mo Donegal when coming back from a layoff in the Holy Bull Stakes at three, a win that set him up for a fine win in the Florida Derby, where he beat In Charge and Simplification readily. Three disappointing runs followed; the Kentucky Derby (unplaced after very wide trip), the Ohio Derby (second to Tawny Port) and the Haskell Invitational (virtually pulled up), before he ran fifth in the Pennsylvania Derby and third in the Cigar Mile, his final outing in 2022.

His allowance win at Gulfstream Park in March was his second start in '23 (after a flop in the Pegasus World Cup) and he outclassed two subsequent winners to win by 4 1/2 lengths that day; beating Weyburn and Collaborate like they were allowance runners at best. I wrote 'Met Mile' in my notes on White Abarrio after this win. Weyburn won the Sir Shackleton next time out, while Collaborate took an allowance race en route to the Sir Shackleton (where he ran fifth).

White Abarrio did turn up in the Met Mile, but he was coming off a two-month break and had also changed stables in the meantime, having moved to Dutrow after the unfortunate problems Joseph Jr experienced in the spring. The son of Race Day ran a respectable race in the Met Mile, staying on from the back to take third, beaten 3 1/4 lengths and a head behind Cody's Wish and Zandon.

Stepping up to 9 furlongs in the Whitney, White Abarrio turned the tables on both of these rivals at Saratoga. Cody's Wish failed to stay the trip but Zandon, who as one of the better 3yos last year, produced another decent performance to take second, albeit 6 1/4 lengths behind White Abarrio, who powered away for an impressive win after having taken the lead 2 1/2 furlongs from home. He broke sharply and was ridden in second quite early, just off the 20-1 leader Giant Game. Irad Ortiz Jr rode White Abarrio like a horse guaranteed to stay the trip, and he was right - the colt took charge at the top of the lane and drew right off, racing home with great zest. He never looked in any danger through the stretch.

Cody's Wish will go for the BC Mile, the rest of the older horses are somewhat moderate, and the three-year-old crop is sub-standard, so **at 12-1 White Abarrio is a must bet for the BC Classic**. True, he has run to GF 128 only once, but - in all probability - 128 won't be needed to win at Santa Anita, a track that should suit his prominent running style. Will he stay 10 furlongs? The way he finished at Saratoga indicated that he has a good chance of doing so, though his sire, Race Day, was at his best when winning G2 races over 9 furlongs and his dam, Catching Diamonds (who was 0-3), comes from the family of the G3 winning sprint / miler Cool Cowboy. His pedigree may not spell ten furlongs but then again, White Abarrio is by far the best horse in this family and let's assess him on what he has done, not what his relatives never tried to do. One plus with this contender; he will be shipped to Santa Anita already on Sep 12, and get used to the track by training there up to the Breeders' Cup. He has performed well over four different tracks in the past.

Whitney Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-XGoMj8QY>

Breeders' Cup Classic odds

<https://www.oddschecker.com/horse-racing/ante-post-racing/breeders-cup/breeders-cup-classic/winner>

DRF: <https://www.drf.com/news/white-abarrio-will-head-west-sept-12-prepare-bc-classic>