

# Globeform's Santa Anita Special

Opening Weekend Dec 26-27-28, 2024

## 7



### GLOBEFORM RANKING

### SAN GABRIEL STAKES (G2) 9 fur Turf, Santa Anita Dec 26

Horses ranked in pounds (0.45kg). 1 length = 2 pounds over this distance

Rank	No.	Name of horse	GF	GF most recent runs	Trainer / Jockey
From right to left (most recent first)					
0	4	JOHANNES	119	119 - 117p - 117p	Yakteen / Rispoli
0 / 5	2	EASTER <i>GF 113 in Mar '24</i> <i>GF 115 in San Gabriel '23</i>	115 / 110	108+ 110 - 105	D'Amato / Fresu
5	1	ASTRONOMER	110	110 - 104 - 110	Callaghan / Kimura
6	6	DICEY MO CHARA	109	0 - 108 - 109	Powell / Velazquez
7	8	NINEEVENTURBO	108	108 - 0 - 108	Drysdale / J J Hernandez
7	3	CABO SPIRIT	112	96 - 105 - 112	Papaprodromou / Dettori
9p	9	SEAL TEAM	106p	106 - 101 / 106p	R Mandella / Prat
10	7	MI HERMANO RAMON	109	109 - 106p - 102	Glatt / Hector Berrios
13	5	ESCAPE ARTIST	102	98 - 102 - 98	Knapp / Rosario

### Most recent winners of the San Gabriel

2023	EASTER	GF 115	Phil D'Amato	Antonio Fresu
2022	DICEY MO CHARA	GF 108	Leonard Powell	Juan J Hernandez
2021	BOB AND JACKIE <b>DIRT</b> <i>Run on December 26</i>	GF 109	Richard Baltas	Jose Valdivia Jr
2021	ANOTHERWISAFATE <i>Run on January 2</i>	GF 118	Peter Miller	Joel Rosario
2020	DESERT STONE	GF 108	Richard Baltas	Geovanni Franco
2019	NEXT SHARES	GF 110	Richard Baltas	Geovanni Franco

Average winning Globeform 111.3

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## GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

**JOHANNES** is impossible to oppose after his excellent runner-up effort in the Breeders' Cup Mile at Del Mar last month. Running on well at the finish, he lost by just three parts of a length to the late charging More Than Looks, beating dual European G1 winner Notable Speech by a head for the place. Johannes improved to **Globeform 119** on that occasion, having returned GF 117p in his two preceding races; smooth wins in the Eddie Read Stakes over 9 furlongs at Del Mar in late July and the City of Hope Mile at Santa Anita in late September. He was up with the pace all the way at Del Mar and, as there's not much speed signed on, we can expect to see him in a similar role in the San Gabriel. Johannes is a flexible runner, he can adapt to different pace scenarios, and he is a very game and consistent runner. There can be no doubt that he had a hard race at the Breeders' Cup, so the dreaded 'bounce factor' could be a worry; but Johannes has had just five runs in 2024 and they have been well spaced out and a couple of his wins were comfortable; thus not taking much out of him. If he runs up to his best, he wins this race, and even if he runs a bit below his best he wins this race (unless last year's winner Easter regains his best form, that is).

**EASTER** performed to **Globeform 115**, a personal best, to capture this event 12 months ago and he ran to GF 113 when second to Du Jour in the Kilroe Mile on his next start, but his form on four subsequent outings has not been up to the same level; he was chasing Johannes in the first three. He was 1 3/4 lengths behind him when fifth in the City of Hope Mile, where Johannes carried 2lbs more than Easter. The difference is 4lbs here, something that should help, and Easter is coming off an eye catching fourth in the Seabiscuit Handicap at Del Mar about for weeks ago. As is often the case, he was a bit slow from the gates and raced freely at the back but he was saving ground all the way and his finish was good; Easter was just a stride or two from grabbing third and he galloped out in a really positive manner.

**MI HERMANO RAMON**, a good **11-1 winner for us**, took the Seabiscuit Handicap, beating Redistricting and **ASTRONOMER** by half a length and a neck, while **EASTER** was beaten a length by the winner. It might be tempting to use Mi Hermano Ramon once more; he is in great form and he could improve again but he is also up against it at the weights. Astronomer is 7lbs better off with him, Easter is 6lbs better off and **SEAL TEAM**, who was fifth just a nose behind Easter in the Seabiscuit, is 4lbs better off. Strictly at the weights, Astronomer holds the best chance but, while Easter will love the added distance, Astronomer is more of a miler and might find 9 furlongs a bit far. This is not quite that simple though; the distance will help Easter, and a moderate pace (seems likely) would help Astronomer. Seal Team was the one who tired close home, running very much like a drop back to a mile would be better than stretching out to nine panels.

Stepping back up to 9 furlongs, and coming back to Santa Anita, where the home stretch is 71 feet longer than at Del Mar and thus suits him much better, Easter is a logical B-selection in the San Gabriel. Having won the 2023 edition, sporting a 2-1-0 record from 5 runs over the track, and being well drawn in stall three, he must have every chance of hitting the board.

**DICEY MO CHARA** was eased right down in the Hollywood Turf Cup and something must have been amiss. His form leading into that 12-furlong test was solid though and it's interesting to see him dropping back down in distance for the San Gabriel, a race he won in 2022 (running to GF 108). He lost by 2 lengths when fourth to Cabo Spirit in the John Henry Turf Cup at Santa Anita two starts back. He is now 4lbs better off at the weights with that rival, and he could be a Trifecta horse. >>>

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**CABO SPIRIT** nicked the race from the front when winning the 10-furlong John Henry Turf Cup. He was not on the lead when cutting back to 8.5 furlongs in the Seabiscuit but he was in a stalking position early; and getting to that pitch, from stall 12, required using a bit of gas early on but not enough to explain his absolute retreat and tenth placed finish. Perhaps he has simply lost his form. He put up a game performance when leading every step of the way in the John Henry, returning a career best **Globeform 112**, but he was also handed a soft lead and able to cruise along at a slow pace (25.13 - 50.43 - 1.15.13...). His winning time was more than four seconds outside the track record. That equals about 20 lengths and the clock says it all.

**Conclusion:** He may be the shortest priced favorite in the stakes races on opening day, so backing Johannes won't offer value, but he is the most likely winner and going against him doesn't make much sense. Frankie Dettori, so good on horses that like to be on the lead, rides Cabo Spirit; so perhaps he will inject some early pace from stall three, possibly pressed / stalked by Johannes and Dicey Mo Chara. Hopefully, the pace will be at least honest, enabling Easter to come late for a slice of it.

## GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

<b>A</b>	<b>4 JOHANNES</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2 EASTER</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>1 ASTRONOMER</b>

**Mi Hermano Ramon / Seabiscuit Hcap:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Duw1f7z0B1U&t=178s>  
*3rd Astronomer, 4th Easter, 5th Seal Team*

**Johannes 2nd / Breeders' Cup Mile:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uK6WmdfYBSo&t=10s>