

# GLOBEFORM'S BREEDERS' CUP SERVICE

Previews and ratings by Geir Stabell



## GLOBEFORM RATINGS

### BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT (G1) | 5 fur. Del Mar Sat. Nov 1.

Horses ranked in pounds (0.45kg). 1 length = 3 pounds over this distance

Rank		Name of horse	Globeform	GF most recent runs	Trainer / Jockey
From right to left (most recent first)					
0p	8	AG BULLET <i>mare</i>	GF 118p	118p 118p - 100++	Baltas / Velazquez
1p	10	SHISOSPICY <i>3yo filly</i> **	115p	115p - 0 - 113p	D'Angelo / I Ortiz Jr
3	5	BRING THEBAND HOME	118	102 - 117 - 118	M Casse / Castellano
3	1	MOTORIOUS <i>GF 118 BC Turf Sprint '24</i>	118	115+ 115 / 114	D'Amato / Fresu
3	3	ARIZONA BLAZE <i>3yo *</i>	116	116 - 92 - 115	Murray / D Egan
5p	12	INVINCIBLE PAPA	116p	116p - 109p - 104p	Ito / Sasaki
5	9	BEAR RIVER	116	116 - 111p - 104	Marquis / Graham
5	11	BUCANERO FUERTE	116	113 - 116 - 113	Murray / Rispoli
4 / 9	4	KHADEM <i>GF 114 Kent Downs '24</i> <i>GF 117 Ascot '24</i>	117 / 112	111+ 112 - 96	C Hills / Dettori
8	7	SHE'S QUALITY <i>GF 110 also 1 Aug '24</i>	110	108 - 110 - 96	Davison / Keane
11	2	REEF RUNNER	110	110 - 110 - ?+	Fawkes / Gaffalione
11		NO NAY HUDSON AE3	110	110 - 107 - 107	W Ward / TBA
11	6	GOVERNOR SAM <i>3yo *</i>	108	108 - 104 - 104	Weaver / Prat
12	13	PURO MAGIC <i>filly</i> <i>Entered stakes Friday</i> AE1	106	102 - 106 - 105	Yasuda / Murphy
13	14	YELLOW CARD AE2	108	108 - 108 - 106	McCarthy / Kimura
14	15	INCANTO <i>3yo</i> AE4	104	? - 104 - 91	Eurton / Berrios

\*\* *Fillies and mares: 3lbs sex weight allowance; add 3lbs to GF rating for direct comparison with males.*

\* *3-year-olds get a 2lb weight allowance.*

*Globeform weight-for-age 3yos vs. older horses over 5 fur. November: 0  
This means that we need to add 2lbs to 3yo's GF ratings for direct comparison.*

\*\* *3yo fillies thus get 5lbs lower weight than older males; add 5lbs to GF rating for direct comparison.*

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## Most recent winners of the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint

2024	STARLUST	GF 117+	Ralph Beckett	Rossa Ryan
2023	NOBALS	GF 116	Larry Rivelli	Gerardo Corrales
2022	CARAVEL	GF 117	Brad Cox	Tyler Gaffalione
2021	GOLDEN PAL	GF 120	Wesley Ward	Irada Ortiz Jr
2020	GLASS SLIPPERS	GF 118	Kevin Ryan	Tom Eaves
2019	BELVOIR BAY	GF 118	Peter Miller	Javier Castellano
2018	STORMY LIBERAL	GF 124	Peter Miller	Drayden Van Dyke
2017	STORMY LIBERAL	GF 117p	Peter Miller	Joel Rosario
2016	OBVIOUSLY	GF 116	Phil D'Amato	Flavien Prat
2015	MONGOLIAN SATURDAY	GF 116	Enebish Ganbat	Florent Geroux

Average winning Globeform: 117.9

## GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

**AG BULLET** ran third in this event twelve months ago, beaten just a neck and a nose behind Starlust and **MOTORIOUS**, who she is set to meet again. They both hold strong claims as they have another crack at the BC Turf Sprint, but Ag Bullet may be the one who comes out best this time. She has been in great form this season and is now coming off an excellent win in the Ladies Turf Sprint at Kentucky Downs, where she led every step of the way over 6.5 furlong and held on to beat Simply in Front by 3/4 length, with Jody's Pride third and Time to Dazzle fourth. Ag Bullet ran to **Globeform 118p** at Kentucky Downs. That may seem a bit high - and it may seem strange to have a "p" attached to the rating for a 5yo mare, but her performance was really strong, and the form has been backed up since. Simply in Front won the First Lady Stakes at Keeneland next time out and Time to Dazzle has since won the Franklin Stakes, also at Keeneland.

Having taken the 5.5-furlong Jaipur Stakes at Saratoga in early June, Ag Bullet was coming off an eleven-week break when winning at Kentucky Downs, and her second Breeders' Cup appearance will come after a nine-week rest. She returned **Globeform 118p** also in the Jaipur, a race she won easily by 2 lengths from My Boy Prince, who was later second to Notable Speech in the Woodbine Mile in Canada. The Jaipur was a case of compensation for Ag Bullet's team. She had been incredibly unlucky in the Unbridled Sidney Stakes at Churchill Downs a month earlier. Whether she would have been able to match strides with the impressive winner, Queen Maxima, is impossible to say but she would definitely have finished second with a clear run. She was completely blocked when trying to make a move by the rail at the finish, got stopped and was eventually eased to finish seventh. She might have won and if so she would be coming here with an unbeaten record in 2025. She has a big chance. >>>

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**SHISOSPICY** bounced back from a fruitless trip to Royal Ascot in June when winning the Music City Stakes over 6.5 furlongs at Kentucky Downs in early September. Her time in that race was no more than 0.16 sec slower than Ag Bullet's time over the same trip a week earlier, but Ag Bullet ran over a firm course and rain had changed it to good when Shisospicy ran. Her win was a very good performance, both on the clock and in terms of what she beat and how she beat them. Soon in front, she proved much too good for her 11 rivals, running on strongly through the last furlong to win the race by 3 lengths from her barnmate Cloe, who beat Tabiti by 1 1/4 lengths for second place. Cloe, a stakes winner in the spring and placed in three other graded stakes prior to Kentucky Downs, improved her form in the Music City, while Tabiti was an English raider coming off a shared G3 win at Goodwood (but only fifth in the Valley View at Keeneland on Oct. 24). Shisospicy improved to **Globeform 115p**. She had performed close to the same level when beating subsequent Test Stakes winner Kilwin easily by 4 1/4 lengths in the 5.5-furlong Mamzelle Stakes at Churchill Downs in May. Flashing sharp early speed, as seen in lesser company at Gulfstream Park and Keeneland previously, she looked a top class sprinter in the making already at that stage - and she is in with a winning chance in the BC Turf Sprint. She is a bit like Ag Bullet; a very fast lady who also has the stamina to win over further than the conventional sprint distances, even over the demanding Kentucky Downs course.

**BRING THEBAND HOME**, trained by Mark Casse, is the best turf sprinter in North America at the minute and **William Hill's 25-1 is completely wrong** about this horse for the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint. He finished last on his most recent start, when odds-on to win the Nearctic Stakes at Woodbine, but let's draw a line through that result. Nothing came to light but he ran too bad to be true. Trainer Mark Casse has told the media that the horse did not train well leading up to the race, but Bring Theband Home has looked good in the mornings in recent weeks. He breezed 4 furlongs in 47.11 at Belmont Park on October 19; the third fastest of 122 horses on the day. Having been a late developing sort, he does not have a high profile name but his best form has been very impressive, and it's been no fluke; Bring Theband Home surprised quite a few when powering home by over four lengths in the Harvey Park Stakes at Saratoga in July, and he confirmed the form with a similar performance in Troy Stakes the following month. Both of these races were over 5.5 furlongs but this 5yo son of Into Mischief has blistering speed and 5 furlongs at Del Mar should suit him just as well. It might even be his optimum trip.

He won the Harvey Pack by outclassing Works for Me, who took second from Outlaw Kid, a course record holder at Aqueduct. Mischievous Angel followed next, ahead of Witty. To deal with the latter first; Witty was coming off a strong win in the Jim McKay Turf Sprint at Pimlico in May, and he went on to win the Van Clief Stakes impressively at Colonial Downs in August. Works for Me, who ran second in the Harvey Pack, was exiting a good allowance win at Saratoga, while Mischievous Angel is also a useful yardstick. The Troy Stakes form also stands up to inspection. Bring Theband Home took this event readily by 1 1/2 lengths from Twenty Six Black, who he was spotting 2lbs. Determined Kingdom checked in third, Alogon ran third and Senbei came home in fourth place. Twenty Six Black won the Disco Partner Stakes next time out, beating Bold Journey and Outlaw Kid, the horse who ran third to Bring Theband Home in the Harvey Pack. Determined Kingdom is a solid turf sprinter with stakes wins in the book, as is Senbei, winner of the Ashley Cole Stakes at Aqueduct on his preceding start (when Bold Journey ran second and the luckless Twenty Six Black had to settle for fourth). Bring Theband Home improved to **Globeform 118** in the Harvey Pack and he returned GF 117 in the Troy Stakes. This puts him ahead of all other males in this division based on performances this season. If he runs back to that level he has a big chance. **Update: His Troy Stakes runner-up Twenty Six Black** won the New York Turf Sprint Championship at Aqueduct on October 25.

**MOTORIOUS** ran second to Starlust in the BC Turf Sprint last year, beaten a neck by the late charging Starlust, with **AG BULLET** just a nose behind him in third place. The battle hardened Phil D'Amato trainee performed to **Globeform 118**, his career best figure, that day and there's every chance that he can reach the same level as he has his third crack at this championship event (he was fifth back in 2023). Having had just two races earlier this season, the most recent a win through disqualification of **REEF RUNNER** (who beat him by a nose) in the Green Flash Handicap over 5 furlongs here at Del Mar in late August, he comes to the Breeders' Cup as a fresh horse. He was spotting Reef Runner 5lbs in the Green Flash and the form was franked when the latter went on to win the Eddie D Stakes over 6.5 furlongs at Santa Anita four weeks later. Reef Runner is also in good form but Motorious is the one with the best chance. He returned GF 115+ in the Green Flash, a run that will have set him up nicely for the BC Turf Sprint. He will go for this race also after a break, something that suits him well; last year's narrow defeat is the only time Motorious has beaten at Del Mar, where he is sporting an impressive 5; 4-1-0 record, 5 furlongs is ideal and he is a win contender. >>>

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**ARIZONA BLAZE**, a fast closing second in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint last year, is one of the best 3yo sprinters in Europe - though it needs mentioning that the sprint division is rather weak on the other side of the pond these days. This is a good colt but he is not in same league as last year's English trained winner Starlust. He moved up to GF 115 when winning the 5-furlong Sapphire Stakes at the Curragh in July, having been a close runner-up in the Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot in June (sub-standard G1 event), and he improved to **Globeform 116** as he took the Flying Five over the minimum trip at the same venue in September. In between these winning runs, Arizona Blaze ran well down the field in the prestigious Nunthorpe Stakes at York. He was up with speed all the way in the Sapphire Stakes, where he led a furlong out and beat Mgheera by 2 lengths. Mgheera was coming off a G2 win over **SHE'S QUALITY** a month earlier. Arizona Blaze showed early speed also in the Flying Five. Taking command two furlongs from the finish, he kept on gamely to win by a length from Nighteyes, with his barnmate **BUCANERO FUERTE** a close third. **SHE'S QUALITY** was fourth in that race, beaten 1 1/2 lengths. Bucanero Fuerte was coming off a win in the 6-furlong Phoenix Sprint in August, when he went gate to wire to beat G3 winner My Mate Alfie by 1 1/4 lengths and return **Globeform 116**. He had won the Sole Power Stakes leading every step of the way on his seasonal debut back in May, and Bucanero Fuerte has been nowhere near as busy as Arizona Blaze this term. There's nothing between these two on ratings. While Bucanero Fuerte is a horse that much prefers to lead, Arizona Blaze is more versatile (at least that's how it seemed at Del Mar last year, when he came from the clouds).

**INVINCIBLE PAPA** is an interesting contender from Japan. Given 111 as his official rating by the Breeders' Cup panel, he seems underrated and may be overlooked by most players in the big day. He ran to **Globeform 116p** when winning the CBC Sho, a 6-furlong sprint on good to firm turf at Chyoko in August, and this is a horse to take seriously in the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint. An Australian bred 4yo with a 6-1-1 record from 10 career starts, Invincible Papa was making only his second start on the lawn that day, having run fourth in a similar contest in June (running like he needed the run after a break; earned GF 109p). Going off at 13-1, he started from post 16 in a 17-runner field in the CBC Sho. He broke sharply and made swift headway to take the lead, dominated the race throughout and won by half a length from the closing-in runner-up June Blair, who beat Strauss by a neck. June Blair, a previous stakes winner, went on to run second in the prestigious Sprinters Stakes on his next start, beaten just a head by Win Carnelian. Win Carnelian is one of the best turf sprinters in Japan. He was second, 3/4 length behind the smart English filly Believing, in the Al Quoz Sprint on Dubai World Cup night back in April. Strauss, who was third to Invincible Papa at Chukyo, is a dual stakes winner in Japan. In beating these horses so readily, Invincible Papa booked his ticket to the Breeders' Cup and he fully deserves to take his chance at Del Mar. He showed such good speed when winning over 6 furlongs. It looked like 6 furlongs is as far as he likes to go and cutting back to five will probably suit him well; if so that's a big plus. In addition, we are here dealing with a young and fast improving runner, in fact the only such runner in the Turf Sprint field. It may or may not happen in this race, but it seems virtually certain that Invincible Papa will improve again and become a top notch speed merchant. He broke his maiden at the second time of asking last year and his placings since read 112117141; very likable consistency. Most bookmakers put him up at 16-1 a week out. That's not a bad price but he could be even bigger price on the day.

His sire, Shalaa, was a top class sprinter in Europe as a juvenile, when he won the Prix Morny at Deauville and the Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket, both over 6 furlongs. Sidelined right up to October in his 3yo season, the John Gosden trainee returned with an impressive G3 win at Ascot, but was then unplaced in British Champions Sprint at the same venue two weeks later and never raced again. Invincible Papa's dam, Shwaimsa, is a winning half-sister to Fractional, who won G3 races over 8 and 10 furlong in France, where he was trained by Andre Fabre.

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**CONCLUSION:** This is the most difficult race over the two days. It's close on ratings, it's got a number of unknown factors; and good starts, bad starts, good trips, bad trips will play a part. One can make a case for about half the field but the approach in this office is to use to against the lot; the proven top level turf sprinter Ag Bullet - who beats them all if she runs up to her best - *unless* the 3yo Shisospicy improves again, that is, and unless the Japanese raider Invincible Papa is even better than his current rating. He can also improve, and note that he overcame a wide post when impressing last time out. Pegged in at a **massive 20-1 on the morning line**, he should definitely be backed across the board or each-way. What these three have in common is that they combine speed with a bit of stamina; they have all done well over further than this 5-furlong trip. With plenty of pace signed on the last half-furlong will be tough for many of these sprinters. Bring Theband Home, recommended at 12-1 as a good value future bet and again at 25-1 a week ago, is part of the speed - he could be *the* speed - so will he be vulnerable? Yes he could, but his best form has been over 5.5 furlongs and he won over six on the main track as a 3yo (lesser company). He is also too big on the morning line, **12-1 does not reflect this gelding's chances**. Nicely drawn in 5 he has a good starting point. Motorious, second last year and coming here in fine form, and Arizona Blaze, who is also exiting a win and showed that he handles Del Mar when runner-up in the Juvenile Turf Sprint twelve months ago, should also be respected. How to play the race? Daringly; with Ag Bullet and Shisospicy to run 1st & 2nd or 1st & 3rd in a Tri plan. Throw in as many others as the budget allows; this is a race where strange things might happen.

## GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

<b>A</b>	<b>8 AG BULLET, 10 SHISOSPICY</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>1 MOTORIOUS, 5 BRING THEBAND HOME, 12 INVINCIBLE PAPA</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>3 ARIZONA BLAZE</b>

**Motorious 2nd / Ag Bullet 3rd / B Cup Turf Sprint '24:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ch00\\_XcWai8&t=16s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ch00_XcWai8&t=16s)

**Ag Bullet / Kentucky Downs Ladies Turf Sprint:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32mofBdw5oM>

**Shisospicy / Music City Stakes:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuCCqqa\\_RFxY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NuCCqqa_RFxY)

**Ag Bullet / Jaipur Stakes:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfoCZ-sV0ik>

**Bring Theband Home / Troy Stakes:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRuJbfzXyYg>

**Bring Theband Home / Harvey Pack Stakes:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ya9igNA4vTl>

**Motorious / Green Flash Handicap:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaPhUJoEWUI&t=77s>  
Reef Runner 1st past post, disqualified

**Invincible Papa / CBC Sho Stakes:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2njDRrrJE0>