



## Breeders' Cup value bet

### REBEL'S ROMANCE 8-1 Breeders' Cup Turf

**We already hold 14-1 about Look de Vega** for the Breeders' Cup Turf (see GF News Aug 28); he can still be backed at 12-1 if you missed it; and recommending **REBEL'S ROMANCE** at **8-1** for the same race is not done because of wavering enthusiasm for Look de Vega's chances. The French Derby winner was beaten in the Prix Niel but that does not affect his chances of success at the Breeders' Cup. The slow-paced Niel was run totally different to what he needs to show his best; he was coming off a long break and his rider was not hard on him. The winning time was almost three seconds (about 15 lengths) slower than Bluestocking's time in the Prix Vermeille and Look de Vega was on the lead - that's not where he should be; his classic win was gained with a strong run from off the pace. Look de Vega can still win the 'Arc' and his current odds for that race (13-2) is way too big. As mentioned before, even a placed effort at Longchamp would set him up as one of the favorites at Del Mar.

Having two on our team of future bet horses for the Breeders' Cup Turf makes sense, and taking 8-1 about Rebel's Romance today, before he lines up as the heavy favorite for the Preis von Europa in Germany tomorrow, is a must bet - for several reasons. He was nominated also for the Hirsch Turf Classic at Aqueduct next week, obviously as a plan b should the race in Germany not come up ideal, and Charlie Appleby seems to have his eye on the Breeders' Cup Turf, a race Rebel's Romance won two years ago. Appleby's successful US team is not in the same great shape as was the case in the summer, they have done a lot of work and may have become tired, while Rebel's Romance is relatively fresh. He was on the engine the whole way when winning the Sheema Classic at Meydan (a great running style at Del Mar), then went to Hong Kong where he beat inferior rivals with ease. A break followed, and he came back with a good run in the prestigious King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes in July. Goliath, the best 12-furlong horse around, was way too good and Bluestocking also beat Rebel's Romance but his third placed finish was a fine effort, especially given that Ascot is not his type of course. Not that one can say he needs a particular configuration to be win races, this battle hardened and well travelled gelding has been successful at Newmarket, Hoppegarten, Cologne, Keeneland, Doha, Sha Tin and Meydan. His best performances have come at flat, left handed tracks though, and the short finish at Del Mar means that front-runners often enjoy a big advantage.

So this conender belongs, no doubt about that. Furthermore, a quick check on horses prominent in the ante post lists reveals several that are either not going to be pointed at the Breeders' Cup, or are at least doubtful for a trip to Del Mar. **Calandagan** (as low as 7-2) is just as likely to run in the Champion Stakes at Ascot two weeks prior to the Breeders' Cup, **Auguste Rodin** (as low as 4-1) is not shipping to Del Mar, as his next start will be the Japan Cup, **Goliath** (6-1) is also being aimed at the big race in Japan three weeks after the Breeders' Cup, **Sosie** (6-1), the current 'Arc' favorite, may head to Del Mar but after his win in the Prix Niel his jockey Maxime Guyon said; "he does not have a turn of foot and he needs a long stretch"...will Andre Fabre send a horse like that to Del Mar? We'll see. **Bluestocking** (8-1) is likely to be supplemented for the Arc and a run there will almost certainly be her last this year, as she has had a busy campaign. Her alternatives to the big race in Paris are the Champion Stakes or Champions Filly & Mare Stakes (Oct 19). **City of Troy** (8-1) goes for the BC Classic, and **Economics** (8-1) is sure to go to the Champion Stakes (unless the ground gets heavy at Ascot) as his final run this year. These are the horses that are *shorter* than Rebel's Romance in the betting. In addition, there must be a question mark over Godolphin's **Measured Time** (no works since Aug 16 and not nominated to the Hirsch Turf Classic, as was the plan). He was said to be their best BC Turf hope from their group trained in North America. Most likely, their best hope is running at Cologne tomorrow. I'm taking 8-1 and also doing a double with Carl Spackler at 12-1 for the BC Mile.

The conclusion is that Rebel's Romance and Look de Vega should be nowhere near as big as they are in the BC Turf betting. Take out those mentioned above, and they become first and second favorite in my book.

**GEIR STABELL**





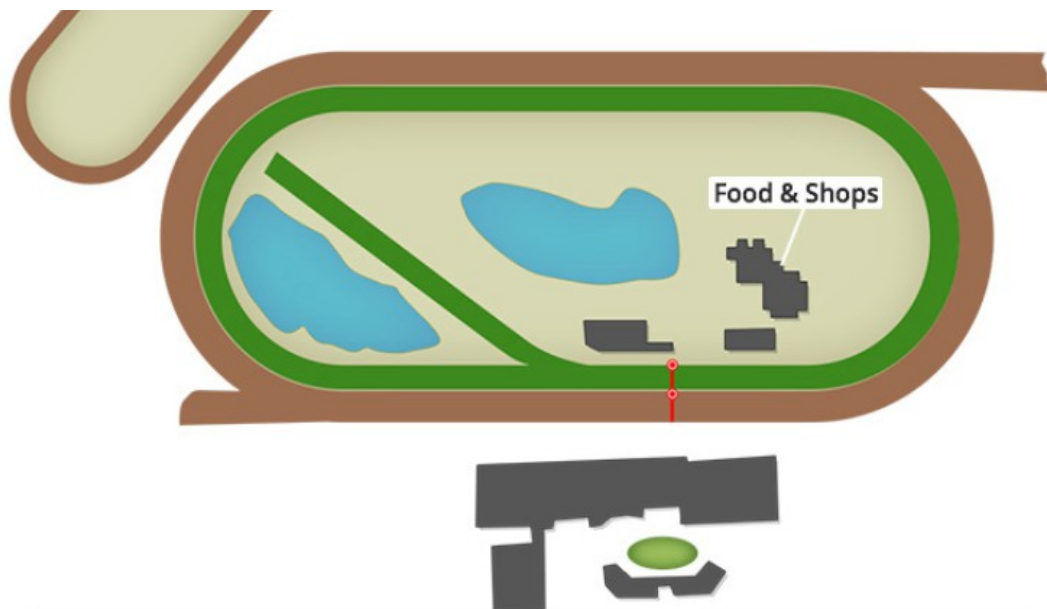
## RECOMMENDED BETS

WIN: REBEL'S ROMANCE 8-1 / B Cup Turf

EW DOUBLE: CARL SPACKLER 12-1 / B Cup Mile  
and REBEL'S ROMANCE 8-1 / B Cup Turf

Carl Spackler recommended at 12-1 earlier

## DEL MAR CONFIGURATON



TRACK	LENGTH	DIST. FROM LAST TURN TO FINISH
 Dirt	5280 ft	919 ft
 Turf	4620 ft	varies

