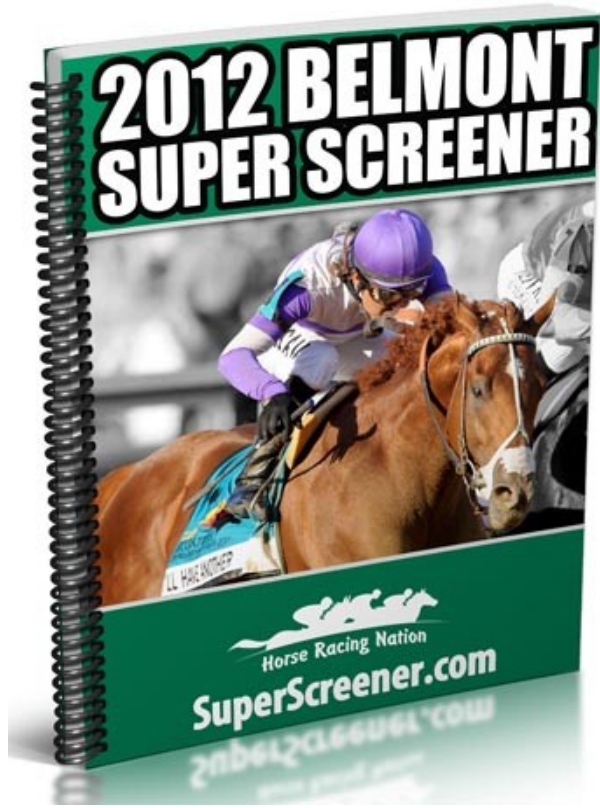


2012 Belmont Super Screener



## 2012 Belmont Super Screener

### Introduction

The Belmont Stakes is perhaps THE greatest test a thoroughbred will ever encounter in its entire career. Think about it...most Belmont Stakes starters will never run the 1½ miles distance again. Some of the Belmont starters will run three “marathon” races within five weeks requiring several months off to recover from this triathlon of thoroughbred racing. Clearly, it requires not just a horse at the top of his game to win, but a horse that can meet the incredible demands that are unique to the third jewel of the Triple Crown.

As we began our intense and in-depth analysis to uncover the Super Screener criteria that most accurately isolates the top finishers of the Belmont Stakes, we had to wonder out loud, how much of the emerging criteria would be common to both the Derby and Preakness Super Screeners? To our surprise, the Belmont Super Screener criteria that we unearthed was almost completely different from that which emanated from the Derby and Preakness analyses!

As we began to examine and test the Belmont Stakes Super Screener criteria, an interesting but discernible, pattern emerged. For the first time we were able to isolate the underlying variables (and their relationship to one another) that resulted in highly accurate and consistent predictions of the top Belmont Stakes finishers of the past. This new criteria struck a remarkable screening balance among stamina, total energy reserve, optimal energy distributions and tests of fitness. And, it is the deadly combination of these criteria that produced jaw-dropping results when back-tested against prior Belmont Stakes fields.

## Horse Racing Nation's Belmont Super Screener

The Belmont Stakes Super Screener is based on the same time-tested research methodology that produced the highly-effective Kentucky Derby and Preakness Super Screeners driven by a powerful set of rules that...

- Are based on evaluating the **“how”** a horse has run leading up to the Belmont versus, the far less important, **“where”** he finished and in **“what”** time he completed his prior races.
- **Compare the Belmont field to time-tested, reliable “benchmarks of performance” produced by past Belmont winners** centering on the key “hows” that led to their victory.
- Consistently **separate horses that will finish in the top half of the field versus those that will finish in the bottom half** of the field.
- **Tosses vulnerable, low-priced horses** or ranks them in the bottom half of the field.
- **Isolates bombers** with the best chance to hit the board.
- Identifies the three horses to **hit the trifecta within the top six horses** as ranked by the Belmont Stakes Super Screener.

### The Belmont Super Screener Study

As we learned while conducting the **Kentucky Derby** and **Preakness Stakes Super Screener** research studies, pace figures were critical to the development of exceptional screening criteria that effectively separates contenders from pretenders. We used BRIS pace and speed ratings because they provide a consistent framework of pace and speed figures going back many years.

For this study, we went as far back as 1995 when Thunder Gulch tracked the speed throughout and then drew away in complete command at the wire for a convincing validation of his dramatic Kentucky Derby victory. For every year from 1995 to 2011, we extracted the BRIS pace and speed ratings for each Belmont Stakes winner’s two races leading up to the Belmont. As we learned in the **Kentucky Derby** and **Preakness Super Screener** studies, you never want to look back more than two races run prior to the Belmont in applying the **Super Screener** criteria (unless truly horrible trips were produced in the two prior races, which is rare). The Belmont Stakes requires recent displays of peak fitness and stamina.

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Our next step was to compare the top half finishers from the bottom half finishers of the field paying particular attention to the short-priced horses that ended up in the bottom half and long shots that finished in the top four. We wanted to understand what factors beyond final speed ratings best separates the top from the bottom.

Finally, we then compared the running lines of all Belmont winners over the past 17 years to one another (see the table below) to uncover reliable performance benchmarks against which all future Belmont Stakes contenders will be screened. That final step completed the formulation of our Belmont Stakes Super Screener criteria.

### Past Belmont Stakes Winners And Final Prep Pace/Speed Ratings

Year	Winner	Prep	1st Call	2nd Call	Late Pace	Speed Figure
1995	<b>Thunder Gulch</b>	Preakness	84	94	100	<b>102</b>
		KY Derby	88	104	89	<b>104</b>
1996	<b>Editor's Note</b>	Preakness	74	88	113	<b>105</b>
		KY Derby	67	94	92	<b>100</b>
1997	<b>Touch Gold</b>	Preakness	82	102	108	<b>110</b>
		KY Derby	96	118	93	<b>108</b>
1998	<b>Victory Gallop</b>	Preakness	78	97	101	<b>104</b>
		KY Derby	62	78	97	<b>101</b>
1999	<b>Lemon Drop Kid</b>	Peter Pan	100	116	91	<b>106</b>
		KY Derby	74	92	97	<b>99</b>
2000	<b>Commendable</b>	KY Derby	90	95	57	<b>79</b>
		Lexington	102	107	80	<b>94</b>
2001	<b>Point Given</b>	Preakness	85	106	103	<b>107</b>
		KY Derby	97	111	75	<b>97</b>
2002	<b>Sarava</b>	Sir Barton	89	102	102	<b>104</b>
		Allowance	84	87	96	<b>92</b>
2003	<b>Empire Maker</b>	KY Derby	88	111	92	<b>106</b>
		Wood	96	109	108	<b>111</b>
2004	<b>Birdstone</b>	KY Derby	84	98	74	<b>90</b>
		Lane's End	86	99	72	<b>87</b>
2005	<b>Afleet Alex</b>	Preakness	99	112	105	<b>112</b>
		KY Derby	88	105	82	<b>99</b>
2006	<b>Jazil</b>	KY Derby	69	86	103	<b>99</b>
		Wood	71	84	114	<b>101</b>

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2007	<b>Rags to Riches</b>	KY Oaks	94	102	111	<b>109</b>
		SA Oaks	87	89	105	<b>98</b>
2008	<b>Da' Tara</b>	Barbaro	79	99	96	<b>99</b>
		Derby Trial	91	102	91	<b>96</b>
2009	<b>Summer Bird</b>	KY Derby	76	92	92	<b>96</b>
		Ark. Derby	75	84	109	<b>98</b>
2010	<b>Drosselmeyer</b>	Dwyer	82	83	103	<b>94</b>
		LA Derby	81	90	98	<b>96</b>
2011*	<b>Ruler On Ice</b>	Frederic Tesio	80	94	91	<b>93</b>
		Sunland Derby	79	84	93	<b>93</b>

\* Sloppy track

As in our other Super Screener studies, we found little overlap between the Belmont Stakes Super Screener and either the Kentucky Derby or Preakness Super Screener criteria. In other words, you couldn't simply apply the Kentucky Derby or Preakness Stakes Super Screener criteria to the Belmont field and optimize success. This is great news in that while other handicappers will tackle this race the same way they do the other Triple Crown races, Super Screener users will secure the edge as they apply the screening criteria that is solely and unequivocally unique to the Belmont Stakes.

Presented in the following section are the Super Screener criteria unique to the Belmont Stakes that emerged from our comprehensive study and back testing.

## Belmont Stakes Top 10 Screening Criteria

### 1. RACE IN MAY

Recent work is an absolute critical factor to winning the Belmont Stakes. **Every one of the past 17 Belmont Stakes winners had run a race in May prior to going on to Belmont victory.** With horses exiting the Preakness or Kentucky Derby or both, you are talking about sharp horses with a tremendous conditioning advantage. Even the new shooters (horses that have not run in the Derby or Preakness) that have won the Belmont Stakes had run sometime in May. This may seem like an obvious screen but in combination with other Super Screener criteria it can help eliminate some very short-priced horses. For example, in 2010, the highly regarded Uptowncharlybrown was coming into the Belmont Stakes after an 8-week layoff (while missing other criteria) and failed to hit the board at 10-1.

### 2. KENTUCKY DERBY/OAKS START

It is interesting to note that 12 of the last 17 Belmont Stakes winners started in the Kentucky Derby (the filly, Rag to Riches started in the Oaks). Of the 12 Belmont Stakes winners that started in the Derby, only 4 also ran in the Preakness. Finally, one Belmont Stakes winner,

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Touch Gold, had a start in the Preakness but with no start in the Derby. **What we can conclude then is a start in the Derby is an important screening variable. And, of the probable Belmont starters, horses that had a start in the Derby but skipped the Preakness have, historically, run the best and deserve extra credit.** Winning the Belmont Stakes after running in both the Derby and Preakness is such a demanding, energy-depleting feat, that only a few have done it in the past 17 years. Now, imagine what it takes to win all three Triple Crown races!

### 3. OFF THE PACE MAKES THE RACE

You often hear people say that because the Belmont Stakes is run at 1 ½ miles, it is a closer's race. Is this true? Here's how the past 17 winners of the Belmont Stakes breakdown based on Energy Distribution Profiles observed in races leading up to the Belmont

Wire to Wire = 1

Presser = 1

Off the Pace = 10

Closer = 5

**Total Winners = 17**

So, 15 of the past 17 Belmont Stakes winners were either Off-the-Pace or Closer types but the vast majority coming from the former. An Off-the-Pace type is one with an energy distribution profile that is defined by a more steady release of energy throughout the race versus most of their energy dispensed early or late. You will typically find these horses running about mid-pack, 3-5 lengths off the early leaders. The actual pace of the Belmont Stakes doesn't seem to matter as much as it does in the Kentucky Derby when it comes to impact on running style. For example, as the Past Belmont Winners chart above shows, Drosselmeyer, Rags to Riches and Thunder Gulch overcame the slowest Belmont Stakes pace set ups to win with their off-the-pace energy distribution profile. Wire-to-wire winner Da' Tara cut swift fractions but still went on to Belmont Stakes victory. Crazy fast early fractions, as those encountered by Editor's Note will certainly favor closers in particular. This tells us that even if wire-to-wire and early presser types can slow it down early, generally, the 1 ½ distance proves to be just too much. As we rate future Belmont Stakes fields, we'll project the likely pace, but Off-the-Pace types will be favored by the Belmont Stakes Super Screener.

### 4. THE PERFECT 10+

Stamina as measured in total energy reserve is so critical in predicting which horses have the best shot at winning the Belmont Stakes. The best measure of total energy reserve come from examining "how" a horse has run in his prior two races to the Belmont Stakes as will become apparent in the Super Screener criteria that follows. Breeding can also provide us clues, however, and BRIS produces the Average Winning Distance (AWD) figures for a horses sire and

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dam to provide us with additional stamina insight. If you take the sire's AWD figure and half of the dam's AWD figure, you'll want to arrive at a total of 10+. For example, if the sire's AWD is 7.0 and the dam's AWD is 6.8, then the total score is  $7.0 + 3.4 = 10.4$ . While performance trumps breeding, this screen still offers additional clues to a horse's ability to perform well at 1 ½ miles. It is also very useful in evaluating horses making the jump from 1 1/16 or 1 1/8 miles to the Belmont Stakes 1 ½ mile distance.

### 5. AVOID 103+ 1st CALL HORSES

**If a horse has run a 103+ 1st Call in their race prior to the Belmont Stakes, history has shown these are not good win candidates** (though they can still hit the board if they meet a number of other Super Screener criteria). This is typically a horse that may look good on paper but just releases too much energy early on to have a shot at winning the Belmont. Also, if a horse is running that fast in the race prior to the Belmont, they typically will regress when it comes to the big dance. In 2010, First Dude met this "win eliminator" criteria and finished third.

### 6. 102+ ANYWHERE in 2nd CALL PACE, LATE PACE OR SPEED RATING

This criterion is screening horses for general energy reserve. While we want to avoid early types with a high figure in the 1st CALL PACE category achieved in the race run prior to the Belmont Stakes, we demand, for all running styles a figure of at least 102 in be achieved in any of the other PACE or SPEED ratings produced in at least one of the final two races run prior to the Belmont Stakes (1 1/16+ miles). Of course, multiple 102+ figures are even better. All 17 past Belmont Stakes winners meet this criterion with the exception of Birdstone and Ruler On Ice.

### 7. 2nd CALL + LATE PACE = 187+

As the Super Screener begins testing for stamina, energy reserve and optimal energy distribution, we look to how a horse is running from mid race to the finish line. **When you add the BRIS 2nd Call Pace number and the Late Pace number, a horse needs a total of 187+ to be considered a win contender (1 1/16+ miles)**. All of the past 17 Belmont Stakes winners qualify on this criterion. You won't eliminate many horses in the Belmont field with this criterion, but you can, with confidence, toss any horse that doesn't meet it. They just don't possess sufficient energy reserve to come close to hitting the board.

### 8. LATE PACE = 96+

**Regardless of running style, demand a BRIS Late Pace figure of at least 96 in one or, preferably, both of the two races run prior to the Belmont (1 1/16+ miles)**. All Belmont Stakes winners but Commendable and Ruler On Ice meet this criteria. This rule reflects the fact that stamina, even for front runners, is an absolute must to win this race.

A word about Birdstone...note that in the Past Belmont Winners chart that we pulled not just two but three races for analytic purposes. Like 2010 Preakness winner, Lookin At Lucky featured in our Preakness Super Screener analysis, Birdstone's trips in the two races leading up to the Belmont Stakes were so atrocious (meeting almost none of the Super Screener criteria) that we

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had to go back to his third prior race to find a representative race. When evaluating probable Belmont Stakes starters, it will be rare that a horse encountered not just one, but two horrendous trips in the two races run prior to the Belmont so the need to go back another race will be exercised judiciously.

### 9. 197+ -- LATE PACE or 2nd CALL + SPEED

It is assumed that horses that get out fast early have no stamina. That's just not true. Despite the fact that it is difficult for an early foot type to win the third leg of the Triple Crown, stamina transcends running style. This next rule is one of the most powerful of all the Belmont Stakes Super Screener Criteria. Every one of the past 17 winners of the Belmont Stakes met this criterion (with the exception of Ruler on Ice) and it is a strong eliminator of pretenders.

**Depending on running style, a Belmont Stakes win contender must have produced a LATE PACE figure (off-the-pace and closer types) or 2nd CALL PACE figure (pace types or pressers), plus, SPEED figure total of 197+.** In 2010, half the field did not meet this criterion and all six of those horses finished off the board including Derby closers like Make Music For Me and Stately Victor as well as the sentimental favorite, Uptowncharlybrown. This criterion does a superb job of screening for not only total energy reserve but also for optimal energy distribution.

### Other interesting Belmont Stakes Super Screener analysis findings:

- **Half of the Belmont Stakes winners studied ran a top race at Gulfstream Park earlier in the year**, prior to winning the Belmont. No other track came close to this level of productivity.
- New Shooters (horses that did not run in any prior Triple Crown races) were historically poor performers in the Belmont until recently. **Four of the last five Belmont Stakes races were won by New Shooters** (Ruler on Ice, Drosselmeyer, Da' Tara and Rags To Riches).
- **The top big bomber Belmont Stakes winners (there were 7 such winners in the past 17 years) did not run in the Preakness Stakes** though 4 of 7 did run in Kentucky Derby.
- In the past 10 years, 10 horses at odds of 20-1 or higher have finished in the Superfecta (and 4 have won the Belmont Stakes). Here are attributes common to these bomber board hitters:
  - All ran last race in May
  - None of these bombers ran in the Preakness and only 2 ran in the Derby



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- All ran their last race at Pimlico, Belmont or Churchill Downs
- All posted a sharp final work
- Nick Zito accounted for half of the Belmont bomber board hitters
- **Over the past 10 years there have been six horses that went off at odds of 5-1 or lower that failed to hit the board in the Belmont Stakes (Animal Kingdom Ice Box, Big Brown, Bob & John, Giacomo and War Emblem).** What was common to these 5 vulnerable favorites?
  - 5 of 6 ran in **BOTH** the Derby and Preakness (Bob & John ran in the Derby and skipped the Preakness).
  - 5 of 6 showed either a decline or no more than one-point increase in their BRIS Speed Rating figure in their last two races prior to the Belmont Stakes.
  - Half posted a dull work prior to the Belmont Stakes.

Now that we have identified and defined the screening criteria unique to the Belmont Stakes Super Screener, let's summarize it all in easy-to-use, bullet form:

### Belmont Stakes Top Screening Criteria

1. **RACE IN MAY** – Horse must have run his prior race in May to be considered a win contender or even an on-the-board finisher.
2. **KENTUCKY DERBY/OAKS START** – A start in the Derby/Oaks is a very strong screening factor. Give double check marks to horses that ran in the Derby/Oaks but not the Preakness. Discount horses that ran in the Preakness but not the Derby.
3. **OFF THE PACE MAKES THE RACE** – A horse with an energy distribution profile that puts him into an off-the-pace position in the Belmont Stakes is a highly favorable screening criterion.
4. **THE PERFECT 10+** -- Using BRIS AWD (Average Winning Distance), the horse's sire's AWD plus half of the dam's AWD must equal 10+.
5. **AVOID 103+ 1ST CALL HORSES** – Avoid horses in the win spot that ran a first call of 103+ in their race prior to the Belmont.
6. **102+ ANYWHERE in 2nd CALL PACE, LATE PACE OR SPEED RATING** – Demand a BRIS 102+ figure in either the 2nd Call Pace or Late Pace or Speed Rating in one or both of the races run prior to the Belmont Stakes.

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7. **2nd CALL + LATE PACE = 187+** – Require that the total of a horse's BRIS 2nd Call plus Late Pace figures equal 187+ for at least one of the two races run prior to the Belmont Stakes.
8. **LATE PACE = 96+** -- Regardless of running style, a horse must have achieved a 96+ Late Pace figure in one of his two races leading up to the Belmont Stakes.
9. **LATE PACE or 2nd CALL + SPEED = 197+** -- A horse must have produced a total of 197+ by adding the 2nd Call pace figure (wire-to-wire or presser type) or Late Pace figure (off-the-pace or closer type) plus the speed figure in at least one of his two races run prior to the Belmont Stakes.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2011?

For those of you that witnessed the 2011 Belmont Stakes it was a race that you could just put a big line through. No matter what approach or methodology one applied to this race, no one got it right. How come?

Here's what happened:

1. It is extremely rare for the Belmont Stakes to come up sloppy. The rating of "sloppy" for the 2011 Belmont Stakes was an understatement. The track took several inches of water starting the night before the race and right up to the race. This was completely unexpected by all even as late as the Friday afternoon prior. All day long, if you were not 1st or 2nd out of the gate, you had no chance at victory. The dirt track was extremely biased toward speed.
2. The favorite, Animal Kingdom, was completely taken out of the race early after he was bumped severely by Mucho Macho Man resulting in Velasquez losing his left iron and Animal Kingdom sustaining a brutal gash on his back leg. Animal Kingdom would not run again until the Spring of 2012.
3. Master of Hounds broke very slow and connections warned that if the track came up sloppy it would be a surface on which he would struggle...and that, indeed, was the result.
4. Mucho Macho Man was taken out early as Isn't He Perfect came over and knocked him off his stride sending him propelling into Animal Kingdom.
5. As all this chaos plagued the favorites, Ruler On Ice avoided trouble and was wisely forwardly placed for the first and last time in his career (to date) stalking an easy pace set by Shackleford (who was suspect at the 1 ½ miles distance). His breeding suggested that, along with Stay Thirsty (2nd place finisher in the Belmont), he would relish the off

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going. Ruler On Ice posted a career top in the Belmont Stakes which was clearly aided by the biased surface and hindered favorites.

The debut of the 2011 Belmont Super Screener was a flop. Despite this outcome, we put a line through that race and turn undeterred to the reliable screening criteria that our massive research study unearthed resulted in the most discriminating criteria that, in every year but last year, produced extraordinary results.

Let's go back then to the 2010 when the track was fast and the Belmont Stakes field was full to compare how the Belmont Super Screener ranked that field compared to their actual finish in the race.

<u>Strong Win Contender (Horses That Meet ALL Criteria)</u>	<u>Finish</u>
<b>Drosselmeyer</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>
Ice Box	9 <sup>th</sup>
 <u>Marginal Win Contenders, Strong Place Contenders</u>	
<b>Fly Down</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>First Dude</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>Game On Dude</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>
Stay Put	6 <sup>th</sup>
 <u>Best Bottom Of Trifecta and Superfecta Contenders</u>	
Stately Victor	8 <sup>th</sup>
Make Music For Me	10 <sup>th</sup>
 <u>Super Screener Toss-outs</u>	
Spangled Star	12 <sup>th</sup>
Uptowncharlybrown	5 <sup>th</sup>
Interactif	7 <sup>th</sup>
Dave In Dixie	11 <sup>th</sup>
 <b>\$2 Exacta = \$144.50</b>	
 <b>\$2 Trifecta = \$766.00</b>	
 <b>\$2 Superfecta = \$10,658</b>	

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# The 2012 Belmont Field

## UNION RAGS

KY Derby	1 ¼ miles	Closer	74	96	94	100
FL Derby	1 ½ miles		78	87	113	102



Put a line through Union Rags Kentucky Derby race. He was severely compromised by the now highly publicized horrible trip. He was out of the race before it even began having been squeezed back early to nearly last place on a track that was favoring speed. He then had to take up in traffic before entering the far turn before finally getting in the clear and running on late. His pilot, Julien LeParoux, will be replaced by John Velazquez for the Belmont Stakes. Beware of these Derby “trouble” horses that finish in the top half of the Derby field, pass on the Preakness and then come back in the Belmont Stakes. Union Rags is the primary threat to upsetting I’ll Have Another’s Triple Crown bid. The troubled Derby run shouldn’t have taken much out of Union Rags though he was bruised and suffered minor cuts. We certainly haven’t seen the best from this Michael Matz-trained charge and the Super Screener says he meets all screening criteria and is rated as the top win contender. Though this horse seems to find trouble wherever he runs, he should find himself well positioned in this race sitting about 4th or 5th. With the Derby debacle and all attention focused on I’ll Have Another, you are likely to get a juicy price of 6-1 or higher on Union Rags in the Belmont Stakes. His strong win on this surface is a big plus in his favor. Recent work on the Belmont surface with his new pilot aboard was nothing less than sensational. May finally get the opportunity to validate his former status as the nation’s top 3 year-old in training.

## DULLAHAN

KY Derby	1 1/4 miles	Closer	88	111	91	106
Bluegrass	1 1/8 miles		102	106	93	102



Though the Kentucky Derby Super Screener had Dullahan ranked in the top three, there were plenty of doubters regarding his ability to run well on dirt. His game third place finish dispelled any concerns on that front and he comes into the Belmont Stakes rested and ready to move forward as he has done in each of his last 7 races. He meets one of the most powerful screening criteria which is a strong finish in the Derby, followed by a break before the Belmont Stakes. According to Dale Romans, he is training tremendously well and will have no problem with the 1 ½ miles distance. His recent work on the Belmont surface was clearly the best of all the Belmont Stakes starters. He will need some pace to run at and you will find him closer to the pace than usual in this race. Hasn’t been off the board in his last seven races and will be there again in the Belmont Stakes. He meets all but one of the Super Screener criteria (Late Pace = 96+) but we have to make a judgement call on that as this closer encountered wicked paces in his last two races which resulted in his energy distribution be forced to shift to the earlier portions of those races. Looking deeper into his record, he

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has three route races in which he posted BRIS Late Pace figures that exceed 96+. Given that exception, he qualifies as a top win contender and seems to be coming into another lifetime best.

### I'LL HAVE ANOTHER

Preakness	1 3/16 miles	Off the Pace	92	105	108	<b>109</b>
KY Derby	1 1/4 miles		97	117	89	<b>108</b>



THE horse to beat as I'll Have Another seeks Triple Crown glory in the Belmont Stakes. He passes all Super Screener criteria with flying colors. Connections are saying he is training super well and shows no ill effects from running back-to-back, energy-zapping races. Should sit the perfect trip behind pace setters Unstoppable U and Paynter. On numbers alone he ranks on top in this field. Like Smarty Jones and other horses attempting to take down the Triple Crown, I'll Have Another will have a big target on his backside and you can be sure the connections of the other horses in here will be doing all they can to deny I'll Have Another his shot at glory.

There is a reason we haven't had a Triple Crown winner in 34 years. The close spacing of the Triple Crown races plus running hard in both the Derby and Preakness races (let alone winning both) takes a tremendous toll on a three year-old. As we saw in our study, running in the Derby and Preakness and posting a decline or no more than a one-point increase in the BRIS Speed Rating in the Preakness has contributed to Belmont losses by such highly regarded horses as Big Brown, War Emblem, Smarty Jones, Animal Kingdom and others. This doesn't mean I'll Have Another will join this list of Belmont also rans but it does provide us with tremendous perspective on how difficult of a feat I'll Have Another will be attempting. Super Screener says...top win contender...but fighting against history.

### STREET LIFE

Peter Pan	1 1/8 miles	Deep Closer	81	95	101	100
Wood Mem.	1 1/8 miles		75	82	102	94



Super Screener says a top "New Shooter" in the field but a step below the top three. This deep closer has improved in each of his lifetime starts and, off super works, projects to move forward here again in a big way. Screener likes the good efforts at the 1 1/8 miles distance and the Peter Pan Stakes run on the Belmont surface has historically supplied a good share of long shots that hit the board in the Belmont Stakes. Meets all Super Screener criteria for which he qualifies. New Shooters have taken down 4 of the last 5 Belmont Stakes and the Screener gives this one a remote shot at another Belmont shocker. Certainly a strong board-hitting

contender.

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### PAYNTER

Allowance	1 1/8 miles	Presser	83	99	109	107
Derby Trial	1 mile		108	117	89	105



Though Bodemeister may be back in the barn, Bob Baffert is unleashing another lethal weapon for the Belmont in the form of this formidable “New Shooter”, Paynter. Like Street Life, he meets all Super Screener criteria for which he is eligible and rates equal to Street Life as top “New Shooter” for the Belmont Stakes. How do you think Bob Baffert is feeling right now after two close Derby and Preakness defeats at the hands of I’ll Have Another? Do you think he might be seeking some redemption? Look, he’s no Bodemeister, but what Paynter lacks in seasoning and Triple Crown conditioning, he makes up for by coming into this race super fresh, is getting better with each race and he possesses that deadly tactical speed that will work to his favor in what is projecting to be a soft-paced Belmont. Keep in mind, he finished just 3 ¾ lengths behind I’ll Have Another in the Santa Anita Derby...and we know how game California colts have been this year. He is training extremely well over the Belmont surface and he will definitely make I’ll Have Another work for the win. Dangerous type that must be included in your Trifecta and Superfecta wagers and a potential “New Shooter” win shocker.

### ATIGUN

Opt Claiming	1 1/16 miles	Deep Closer	77	84	104	96
Ark Derby	1 1/8 miles		74	84	99	93



This improving colt was soundly defeated along the Derby prep trail by the likes of Bodemeister, Secret Circle, Optimizer and Gemologist. He barely meets most Super Screener criteria but did so off a 1 1/16th miles effort against nothing special on a sealed muddy track at Churchill Downs on Derby day. However, he has the look of so many other long shot bombers that have completed the Superfecta in Belmonts past. Breeding says he can run all day long. Works say he is ready to move forward in a big way. Look for this one to be passing tired horses late with a shot to complete the Superfecta at choice odds.

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### OPTIMIZER

Preakness	1 3/16 miles	Deep Closer	74	92	91	92
KY Derby	1 ¼ miles		88	101	80	95



Not sure what D Wayne Lukas is trying to accomplish with this horse. He has finished 15.5 and 12 lengths behind I'll Have Another, respectively in the Preakness and Derby. This horse clearly needs a break. Super Screener for the third time says...pass.

### UNSTOPPABLE U

Opt Claiming	1 mile	Pace	65	72	106	88
Maiden	6 furlongs		94	99	92	95



one of his two charges.

This very lightly raced 3 year-old (only 2 lifetime starts) is one of two (Atigun the other) entered in the field by Ken McPeck (who won the 2002 Belmont with Sarava at 76-1). He's been catching the eye of clockers in the AM and he is your likely pace setter in the Belmont Stakes. He does meet a handful of Super Screener criteria but earned those check marks against far weaker. At around 50-1 consider including him at the bottom of your Superfecta tickets as the weak projected pace for this year's Belmont Stakes may have this pace setter hanging on for a piece. Either way, it seems that Ken McPeck has a viable shot to hit the board at huge odds with

### RAVELO'S BOY

Tampa Bay Derby	1 1/16 miles	Deep Closer	74	83	92	88
Sam Davis	1 1/16 miles		73	77	101	89



This well seasoned colt hasn't raced since March which is a big knock. He also hasn't cracked the BRIS 89 Speed Rating mark in 13 starts. His breeding suggests stamina and he does meet one other Super Screener criteria...a BRIS Late Pace 96+ earned in the Sam Davis stakes. Super Screener says toss.

## 2012 Belmont Super Screener

### GUYANA STAR DWEEJ

Opt Claiming	1 mile	Closer	59	69	96	80
Maiden	1 mile		91	103	90	97



If he is screened off that Maiden victory he meets many Super Screener criteria. However, it was against maiden company and the 1 mile distance, so we need to take that into serious consideration. Bred to run all day and at 50-1 or higher, might be another that could shock in the four hole in your Superfecta's, however, other closers in this field present a better option. Super Screener says...toss.

### FIVE SIXTEEN

Allowance	1 1/8 miles	Off-the-pace	83	94	87	92
Maiden	1 1/8 miles		90	87	84	87



Has the right running style for this race and possesses stamina breeding on the sire side (Invasor), however meets none of the other criteria and is a Super Screener toss.

### MY ADONIS

Canonero II	1 1/16 miles	Presser	71	75	103	89
Wood Memorial	1 1/8 miles		99	104	75	91



This last minute addition to the Belmont Stakes field draws the outside post and attracts leading New York jockey, Ramon Dominguez. He has that enviable presser running style in race that is certainly not top heavy on the speed front. Decision was made to enter him off how well he has been training as of late. Super Screener says he meets three lesser criteria and misses on four of the more critical criteria. This qualifies him as a marginal bottom of superfecta bomber contender. Will have to run a lifetime top just to finish fourth.



## 2012 Belmont Super Screener

# 2012 Belmont Screener Final Rankings

### Horses That Met All Super Screener Criteria

PP	Horse	Odds	Trainer	Jockey
3	Union Rags	6-1	M. Matz	J. Velazquez
11	I'll Have Another	4-5	G. Motion	J. Velazquez
5	Dullahan	5-1	D. Romans	J. Castellano

### Horses That Missed No More Than Two Criteria (Marginal Win Contenders; Top Place Contenders)

1	Street Life	12-1	C. Brown	J. Lezcano
9	Paynter	8-1	B. Baffert	M. Smith

### Horses That Met Two Or More Super Screener Criteria (Best Bottom Of Trifecta And Superfecta Bombers)

4	Atigun	30-1	K. McPeek	J. Lejaroux
12	My Adonis	20-1	K. Breen	R. Dominguez

### Horses That Missed On All Or Most Super Screener Criteria (Toss)

10	Optimizer	20-1	D. Lukas	C. Nakatani
7	Five Sixteen	50-1	R. Napravnik	D. Schettino
2	Unstoppable U	30-1	K. McPeek	J. Alvarado
6	Ravelo's Boy	50-1	A. Solis	M. Azpurua
8	Guyana Star Dweej	50-1	K. Desormeaux	D. Shivmangal

- Union Rags and Dullahan will be I'll Have Another's most competitive rivals as they both come into the Belmont meeting that Super Screener top criteria of Derby/No Preakness pattern.
- I'll Have Another is well positioned to become the first Triple Crown winner in 34 years. The pace will be favorable, his tactical speed is a major plus, field size is manageable and he meets all Super Screener criteria. He just needs to overcome having just run two top races and he needs to show a sharp work prior to the Belmont Stakes.
- Street Life offers tremendous value behind the top three.
- The Super Screener is tabbing Atigun as the 30-1+ bomber with the best shot to crack the Superfecta.

## 2012 Belmont Super Screener

# Recommended Super Screener Wagers

Let's put this all together now in the form of recommended wagers. We have provided suggested wagers covering several budget levels. Within each budget category we offer a few ticket options. Each ticket option is equal to or less than the designated budget. We are approaching the ticket building using the following assumptions:

1. The winner will come from the top three ranked Super Screener horses. Long shot win shockers are the next ranked New Shooters...Paynter and Street Life.
2. All else equal, this is I'll Have Another's race to lose. With a clean trip and an easy pace, he has few excuses. History is working against him, however, so we need to cover for that possibility.
3. Union Rags, Dullahan and Paynter are the best candidates to upset in the win spot.
4. Street Life is a very solid play in the bottom of Trifecta's and Superfecta's.
5. Several horses have the opportunity to shock at the bottom of Superfectas so we'll be narrow in the top two tiers and go wide in the fourth tier of Superfecta wagers.

<b>SMALL</b>	\$4 Exacta Box	3,5,11	\$24
	\$2 Exacta	3,5,11 with 1,9 AND \$2 Exacta 1,9 with 3,5,11	\$24
	\$1 Trifecta	1,3,4,5,9 with 11 with 1,3,4,5,9	\$20
	\$1 Trifecta	3,11 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11	\$32
	\$1 Trifecta	1,3,5,9,11 with 1,5,9,11 with 3,5,11	\$36
<b>MEDIUM</b>	\$1 Tri. Box	1,3,5,9,11	\$60
	\$2 Trifecta	5,11 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11	\$64
	\$1 Trifecta	1,3,5,9,11 with 5,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11	\$64
	\$0.70 Super.	3,5,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 3,5,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11,12	\$67.20
	\$0.50 Super.	3,5,11 with 1,9 with 3,5,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,10,11,12	\$60
	\$0.50 Super.	1,3,4,5,9,11 with 1,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,10,11,12	\$60

## 2012 Belmont Super Screener

### Wagers Continued...

LARGE	\$1 Trifecta	3,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 3,5,11	\$72
	\$1 Trifecta	3,5,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11,12	\$75
	\$5 Trifecta	3,5,11 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 3,5,11	\$90
	\$1 Super.	11 with 1,3,4,5,9 with 1,3,4,5,9 with 1,3,4,5,9,10,12	\$96
	\$1 Super.	1,3,4,5,9 with 11 with 1,3,4,5,9 with 1,3,4,5,9,10,12	\$96
AGGRESSIVE	\$1 Superfecta	1,3,5,9,11 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 3,5 with 1,3,4,5,9,10,11,12	\$120
	\$1 Superfecta	1,11 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11,12	\$128
	\$1 Superfecta	3,5,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11	\$144
	\$1 Superfecta	3,5,11 w 3,11 w 1,3,5,9,11 w 1,3,4,5,9,11 w 1,3,4,5,9,10,11,12	\$144
	\$1 Superfecta	3,5 with 1,3,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,11 with 1,3,4,5,9,10,11,12	\$160

## 2012 Belmont Super Screener

### **Good Luck!**

You now are fully equipped to tackle the 2012 Belmont field head on with confidence to secure your shot at the potential “score of a lifetime”.

Best of luck to all and...GO FAST AND WIN!!!