

Today's NY Hot List races to watch – May 19, 2017 at Belmont Park

By Bob Ehalt and Shawn Rychling

Hot List Key:

A: A preferred horse to watch **B:** Secondary horse to watch

***C:** Went down 2 or more betting notches and finished 1st through 3rd

***D:** Went down 2 or more betting notches and finished 4th or worse

* - 4 or more betting notches if 11-1 or more.

2nd race – (5) **Preziosa** (D) drops down a notch after posting a career-best speed figure in debut vs. winners. (2) Vouch for Kitten has just one race on dirt and it was the best effort of her career. (3) War Canoe should be able to compete at this level. (6) On the List can take this one with repeat of Parx race from three starts back.

5th race – (8) **Double Dose** (D) was superb last time when switching to the turf. (5) Bright Side Up has been away since November, but turf races have been excellent. (7) Awesome Quick merits a look off her last race and is 3 for 8 lifetime over the BEL turf. (4) Swayed has improved in three starts on grass.

6th race – (2) **Zap Zap Zap** (A) owns best, last-race speed figure and is eligible to improve off solid debut try. (5) **Lucullan** (C) was similarly stellar in debut and barn is 23 percent with second-time maidens. (6) **California Swing** (B) should improve second off a layoff and drilled a bullet six days ago in preps for this attempt. (7) Saraab is eligible to improve second off a freshening for Pletcher.

9th race – (2) **Peppermint Zip** (D) is back after the failed dirt experiment and last two turf races are a couple notches above what this bunch has done. (6) Tu Exageres drops in first time for a tag. (10) Conquest Espresso should be sharper second off a layoff and is interesting here making debut on grass. (7) River Knight has been competitive, especially at Belmont.

Best bets: Double Dose (5th); Peppermint Zip (9th); **Best value:** Preziosa (2nd); Zap Zap Zap (6th)

No.	Name	Letter/ last race	Today's Race	Comments
(2)	Our American Star	C on 5/5	1	Steps up a notch off career best
(5)	Preziosa	D on 4/8	2	Shows forward moves last 4 starts
(2)	Splashy Rise	A on 4/20	4	Gained ground late last time
(8)	Double Dose	D on 4/12	5	Big chance off form in two grass races
(2)	Zap Zap Zap	A on 4/12	6	Barn is 29 percent w/ maidens making 2 nd start
(5)	Lucullan	C on 4/14	6	Like the stretchout here off sharp debut
(6)	California Swing	B on 4/14	6	Expect forward move second off bench
(2)	Peppermint Zip	D on 2/20	9	Draw a line through the dirt debacle

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