



Selections provided by Fair Grounds racing analyst Joe Kristufek, who has an extensive background in the horse racing industry as a handicapper, on-air talent, producer and fan development specialist. He is well recognized for his creative analysis and wagering tactics and he loves interacting with racing fans. **Follow on Twitter @JoeyDaKRacing**

Joe Kristufek's Kentucky Derby Future Pool 3 and Kentucky Oaks Pool 1 Recommendations (based on value offered entering Sunday)

Closes Sunday, March 11 at 6 p.m. ET (5 p.m. CT) – wager on twinspires.com

Kentucky Derby Pool 3

#16 Mendelssohn – Finally made a winning return to the races on Friday in Ireland, and he will be pointed next to the UAE Derby (G1) in Dubai on March 31. Euro wild card is tutored by all-world trainer Aidan O'Brien. Winner of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf, he is a half-brother to dirt stars Beholder and Into Mischief. The current 30-1 offering seems more than fair.

#11 Instilled Regard – Million-dollar baby was bred to be a star. I know his fourth in the Risen Star was disappointing, but the Lecomte win at Fair Grounds was extremely professional, and there's a good chance he'll bounce back in a big way in either the Louisiana Derby or the Santa Anita Derby. A recent bullet work was a very good sign. If he were to defeat divisional leaders Bolt d'Oro and McKinzie in California, he'd likely head to Kentucky as one of the Derby favorites. That's a big IF, but right now he's 47-1.

I'm not ready to give up on **#10 Good Magic** off his third in the Fountain of Youth. He's 10-1 in the Derby Futures III at the start of Sunday, and I'd need a little float up to 15-1 before backing him again (Blue Grass up next) Expect the current prices on fan favorite Bolt d'Oro, McKinzie and Justify (if he wins today) to go down today, allowing us to get some float on a few others I like, including **#1 Audible** (currently 13-1, Florida Derby next) and **#17 My Boy Jack** (23-1, Louisiana Derby). If you like **#20 Solomini** (Rebel), the current 19-1 offering has to be inviting.

Kentucky Oaks Pool 1

#7 Cosmic Burst – She's won her last four starts on a fast track, including Saturday's Honey Bee at Oaklawn. She's also already visited the Churchill Downs winner's circle, which is a plus. The current 50-1 odds are entirely too high.

#18 Red Ruby – Her fourth behind Cosmic Burst in the Honey Bee was slightly disappointing, but she was compromised early in the race. She too has run well at Churchill, and I expect to get quite a bit of float on her current 20-1 offering.

#12 Midnight Bisou and **#14 Monomoy Girl** are the division leaders and they are currently 6-1 and 5-1 respectively. If the Kentucky Oaks were to be run today, they'd likely be less than half of that. Is the risk worth the potential reward? If you like one of them a lot, It just might be.