

DEL MAR - August 16, 2026 - Race 5

STAKES Rancho Bernardo S. Grade 3 - Thoroughbred
FOR FILLIES AND MARES, THREE-YEAR-OLDS AND UPWARD. By subscription of \$100 each, which shall accompany the nomination, Closed Thursday August 6,2026 with 9 nominations or by supplementary nomination of \$1,000 each by closing time of entries. \$1,500 additional to start, with \$100,000 Guaranteed, of which \$60,000 to first, \$20,000 to second, \$12,000 to third, \$6,000 to fourth and \$2,000 to fifth. Three-year-olds 122 lbs.; Older 125 lbs. Non-winners of a graded stakes since November 2, 2025 allowed 3 lbs.;The Rancho Bernardo Stakes has been selected as a Breeders' Cup Dirt Dozen Bonus Series Race for the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint on October 31, 2026 at Keeneland. The nominated winner of the Rancho Bernardo Stakes will receive a credit of \$15,000 toward entry fees into the 2026 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint, 2nd place will receive \$7,500 credit toward entry fees and 3rd place will receive \$3,750 credit toward entry fees. A trophy will be presented to the winning owner.

Distance: Six And One Half Furlongs On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Native Paster - 1:13.60 - September 4, 1988)

Purse: \$100,000 Guaranteed

Available Money: \$100,000

Value of Race: \$100,000 1st \$60,000, 2nd \$20,000, 3rd \$12,000, 4th \$6,000, 5th \$2,000

Weather: Clear, 76° Track: Fast

Off at: 4:12 Start: Good for all Timing Method: Electronic

[Video Race Replay](#)

[GPS Race Chart](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
4Jul26 ⁸ LRC ¹	5	Sweet Azteca (Hernandez, Juan)	125	--	5	2	2 ⁵	2 ^{7 1/2}	1 ^{1 1/2}	1 ^{4 3/4}	0.30*	outsd,clear,coastd1/16
25May26 ⁴ LS ¹	1	Thermal (Rosario, Joel)	122	--	1	1	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1/2}	2 ^{6 1/2}	2 ^{3 1/4}	2.00	led ins,yielded upper
11Jun26 ² SA ⁴	3	Antifona (FR) (Fresu, Antonio)	122	--	3	3	4 ^{2 1/2}	3 ^{Head}	3 ^{1/2}	3 ^{Neck}	22.70	broke thru gate,inside
24Jul26 ³ DMR ¹	4	Fire Ban (Ayuso, Armando)	122	b	4	4	3 ¹	4 ⁴	4 ⁶	4 ^{7 1/4}	18.50	broke thru gate, 3wide
5Jul26 ² LRC ¹	2	Catalina Cocktail (Jaramillo, Emisael) 	122	b	2	5	5	5	5	5	22.50	3wide, no impact

Fractional Times: 22.49 44.94 1:09.64 Final Time: 1:16.51 Time from Gate: 1:18.49

Split Times: (22:45) (24:70) (6:87)

Run-Up: 50 feet

Winner: Sweet Azteca, Gray or Roan Mare, by Sharp Azteca out of So Sweetitiz, by Grand Slam. Foaled Feb 26, 2020 in Kentucky.

Breeder: Pamela Cee Ziebarth

Owner: Pamela C. Ziebarth

Trainer: Baltas, Richard

Scratched Horse(s): Sweet Gal of Mine (Trainer)

Total WPS Pool: \$531,675

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
5	Sweet Azteca	2.60	2.10	2.10	\$1.00 Exacta	5-1	1.90	157,284
1	Thermal		2.40	2.10	\$2.00 Quinella	1-5	2.80	6,601
3	Antifona (FR)			3.00	\$0.50 Trifecta	5-1-3	3.75	82,258
					\$2.00 Daily Double	8-5	17.00	59,797
					\$0.50 Pick 3	8-8-5 (3 correct)	276.30	103,076
					\$0.50 Pick 4	5-8-8-5/6 (4 correct)	2,522.20	179,468
					\$0.50 Pick 5	4-5-8-8-5/6 (5 correct)	5,323.90	584,063
					\$0.10 Superfecta	5-1-3-4	0.99	49,343

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin
5	Sweet Azteca	2	2 ^{1/2}	2 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1 1/2}	1 ^{4 3/4}
1	Thermal	1	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1/2}	2 ^{1 1/2}	2 ^{4 3/4}
3	Antifona (FR)	3	4 ^{6 1/2}	3 ⁸	3 ⁸	3 ⁸
4	Fire Ban	4	3 ^{5 1/2}	4 ⁸	4 ^{8 1/2}	4 ^{8 1/4}
2	Catalina Cocktail	5	5 ⁹	5 ¹²	5 ^{14 1/2}	5 ^{15 1/2}

Trainers: 5 - Baltas, Richard; 1 - Sadler, John; 3 - Cerin, Vladimir; 4 - Koriner, Brian; 2 - Sadler, John

Owners: 5 -Pamela C. Ziebarth; 1 - By Talla Racing LLC and John W. Sadler Racing, Inc.; 3 - Wilson, Holly and Wilson, David; 4 -James F. Cahill; 2 -Alan G. Mindell;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

SWEET AZTECA pressed THERMAL from outside, ridden along on the turn, gained the advantage late on the bend, put THERMAL away in upper stretch, drew away under hand urging past the eighth pole and coasted the last sixteenth. THERMAL jumped out to the front, showed the way under pressure from SWEET AZTECA to the outside, maintained a short lead to the quarter pole, lost the lead late on the turn, failed to kick on with SWEET AZTECA in upper stretch and stayed on to secure second. ANTIFONA (FR) broke through the gate but did not leave the stall, settled off the top pair on the inside, stayed on the fence to the stretch, failed to summon the needed rally but was able to hold third. FIRE BAN broke through the gate, was brought back around and reloaded, coaxed along early from off the pace, traveled in the three path on the turn and got outdueled for the show honors. CATALINA COCKTAIL lacked early speed, trailed three wide around the turn and never got involved.

 Denotes OBS Graduate