



GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS - TONALIST

TONALIST looks the main danger to Shared Belief. Winner of the Belmont Stakes (G1) in June, he took another big step forward when winning the 10-furlong Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) at the same venue five weeks prior to the Breeders' Cup. The son of Tapit was coming off a game third in the Travers Stakes (G1) at Saratoga, where he was compromisingly close to a vary hot pace. That he went down by 2 ½ lengths to V.E. Day, who came with a winning run from the back, was no mean feat. Trainer Christophe Clement decided to remove the blinkers – which the colt had worn in all his starts – for the Gold Cup. The change was a very positive one, as Tonalist relaxed nicely at the back, biding his time when Big Cazanova, then Moreno, cut out the early fractions. Tonalist began to roll around the bend, getting closer to the leaders with each and every stride. He had five rivals in front of him two furlongs out, but his stamina took him past them all at the finish. He led half a furlong out and kept on gamely to beat Zivo by 1 ¾ lengths. Long River filled third, ahead of Moreno (who was disqualified for having caused the interference that knocked Wicked Strong out of the race shortly after the halfway stage). Tonalist was clearly the best on the day, and – as was the case also in the Belmont – his stamina stood him in good stead. In between the Belmont and the Travers, he ran second to Wicked Strong in the Jim Dandy (G2) at Saratoga (looking unfit following his break). The Classic will be his first start on the west coast. Having raced at Gulfstream, Belmont Park and Saratoga, he will find Santa Anita somewhat different. An imposing colt, he is a progressive sort, and he is sure to stay the distance in the BC Classic.

A strong early pace would help Tonalist's chances greatly on the big day. Globeform 124p

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