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EPICENTER 9-2 FAVORITE OVER MESSIER AT CONCLUSION OF KENTUCKY DERBY FUTURE WAGER POOL 5

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, April 9, 2022) – Four weeks in advance of the 148th running of the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (Grade I), bettors made Louisiana Derby (GII) winner **Epicenter** the 9-2 favorite over Santa Anita Derby participant **Messier** at 6-1 in the fifth and final pool of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager (KDFW). Santa Anita Derby entry **Forbidden Kingdom** and Blue Grass runner **Smile Happy** both closed at 9-1.

The three-day pool closed Saturday at 4:30 p.m. ET in advance of the day's trio of Road to the Kentucky Derby Championship Series races: the Wood Memorial, Blue Grass and Santa Anita Derby.

Horses in order of the public's betting choice (with trainer, Pool 5 odds and \$2 Win will pays): #7 **Epicenter** (Steve Asmussen, 9-2, \$11.20); #11 **Messier** (Tim Yakteen, 6-1, \$14); #17 **Smile Happy** (Kenny McPeck, 9-1, \$20); #9 **Forbidden Kingdom** (Richard Mandella, 9-1, \$21.60); #21 **White Abarrio** (Saffie Joseph Jr., 12-1, \$26.60); #13 **Morello** (Steve Asmussen, 15-1, \$33); #2 **Charge It** (Todd Pletcher, 16-1, \$34.20); #4 **Cyberknife** (Brad Cox, 17-1, \$37.80); #24 **"All Other 3-Year-Olds"** (18-1, \$39); #22 **Zandon** (Chad Brown, 18-1, \$39.20); #20 **Tiz the Bomb** (Kenny McPeck, 22-1, \$46.80); #3 **Crown Pride (JPN)** (Koichi Shintani, 24-1, \$51.20); #12 **Mo Donegal** (Todd Pletcher, 24-1, \$51.60); #1 **Barber Road** (John Ortiz, 28-1, \$58.80); #5 **Early Voting** (Chad Brown, 29-1, \$60.80); #15 **Simplification** (Antonio Sano, 32-1, \$66.80); #6 **Emmanuel** (Todd Pletcher, 35-1, \$72.80); #8 **Ethereal Road** (D. Wayne Lukas, 40-1, \$82.20); #23 **Zozos** (Brad Cox, 40-1, \$83.40); #16 **Slow Down Andy** (Doug O'Neill, 50-1, \$103.80); #18 **Summer Is Tomorrow** (Bhupat Seemar, 66-1, \$135.20); #10 **In Due Time** (Kelly Breen, 95-1, \$192.40); #19 **Tawny Port** (Brad Cox, 114-1, \$231.60); and #14 **Pioneer of Medina** (Todd Pletcher, 123-1, \$249.80).

Total handle for the April 7-9 KDFW pool – the final future wager pool in advance of the Kentucky Derby on Saturday, May 7 – was \$444,338 (\$320,064 in the Win pool and \$124,274 in Exactas), a 20.2% increase from last year's \$369,695 (\$242,140 in the Win pool and \$127,555 in Exactas).

Since last November, a record total of \$2,060,691 has been bet on future wagers for the Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks, a 15.7% increase from last year's \$1,780,403.

Visit www.KentuckyDerby.com/FutureWager for more information.

ABOUT CHURCHILL DOWNS RACETRACK

Churchill Downs Racetrack ("CDRT"), the world's most legendary racetrack, has been the home of The Kentucky Derby, the longest continually held annual sporting event in the United States, since 1875. Located in Louisville, CDRT features a series of themed race days during Derby Week, including the Kentucky Oaks, and conducts Thoroughbred horse racing during three race meets in the Spring, September, and the Fall. CDRT is located on 175 acres and has a one-mile dirt track, a 7/8-mile turf track, a stabling area, and provides seating for approximately 60,000 guests. The saddling paddock and the stable area has barns sufficient to accommodate 1,400 horses and a 114-room dormitory for backstretch personnel. CDRT also has a year-round simulcast wagering facility. www.ChurchillDowns.com.

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