Saint-Cloud [L-H] - 09 March

Race 1 - PRIX DE LA GASCOGNE - 2000m HCP CL2. Purse EUR €53,000.

1. **WATCH HIM** - Finished second at Deauville All Weather two runs back then turned in a handy run again when fifth over 1900m at Deauville All Weather last start. Definite threat over this longer trip.

2. **JACKSUN** - Heading in the right direction after finishing fifth second up over 2500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time. Bold showing expected.

3. **RUE DES IRLANDAIS** - Returns after a break of four months. Finished her last campaign impressively, scoring by one length over 2000m at this track. Expect she is primed for a big first-up performance.

4. **JOEY UP** - Tends to mix his form but improved last start to score over 2500m at Deauville All Weather. Can continue his ascendency.

5. **PLAIN BEAU** - Returned from a layoff last start and was beaten 2.5 lengths into fifth over 2700m at Chantilly All Weather. Fitter for that run and expected to be in the finish this time.

6. **SPELL ON YOU** - Resumed in impressive fashion last start, scoring by 0.8 lengths at Mont-de-Marsan over 2000m. Among the top chances.

7. **LIGHTED GLORY** - Struggling to break through this campaign, the latest effort a 12 length 15th over 2000m at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather. Will need to improve sharply.

8. **PIERRE LE GRAND** - Stepping out at this circuit for the first time. Last appeared when he finished second over 2000m at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather on February 15. Should be right in the finish.

9. **PEGASUS** - Form since resuming has been quite poor, including a seventh at the latest appearance over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Happy to overlook.

10. **HUNTBA** - Broke through last time over 2000m at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather by 1.3 lengths. Last-start winner who can measure up again.

11. **ABASTO** - Handy gelding fitter for two runs back. Better effort last time out when third over 1600m at Chantilly All Weather. Reaching his peak now and is worth including.

12. **SAPHIRA DREAM** - Well held of late including last start when 13th over 1600m at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather. Hard to see her playing a role.

13. **AKYO** - Hit and miss type who improved last start to finish third over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Still favouring others today.

14. **ROLLEVILLE** - Has been very ordinary since winning at this track four starts back. Beaten 9 lengths when tenth over 1900m at Deauville All Weather last start. Prepared to overlook.

15. **YOU ROCK** - Last appeared three-and-a-half months ago when he finished a long neck from the winner in second over 2500m at Deauville All Weather. Worth noting he filled a placing first-up last prep at Le Croise-Laroche.

16. **COEUR DAVIER** - Hasn't won in two-and-a-half years. Finished ninth, beaten 4 lengths last start over 2500m at Deauville All Weather. Looking to others.

Summary: WATCH HIM (1) looks capable of delivering a victory following a 2.25L fifth in a 1900m handicap at Deauville AW. Serious player. SPELL ON YOU (6) rates a big threat having finished 0.75L clear of her rivals in a 2000m conditions race at Mont-de-Marsan. PIERRE LE GRAND (8) delivered a 2L second tackling a 2000m handicap at Cagnes-sur-Mer AW. Dangerous back on turf. JOEY UP (4) won by a neck over 2500m at Deauville AW. Warrants close consideration. PLAIN BEAU (5) holds claims.

Selections WATCH HIM (1) - SPELL ON YOU (6) - PIERRE LE GRAND (8) - JOEY UP (4) - PLAIN BEAU (5) 1. **DON DIEGO DE VEGA** - Went for a spell after winning on debut at Deauville All Weather over 1900m on December 9. Promising type who can get the job done again.

2. **HIGHWIND** - Has looked good in his three career starts, most recently scoring by 2.5 lengths over 1900m at Deauville All Weather. Key chance.

3. **ST JAMES PARK** - Resumes. Finished off last campaign with a maiden win by 3.5 lengths over 1600m at this track on November 17. Prefer to see.

4. **PONTY** - Has not raced since finishing 9 lengths away in fourth over 1800m at Chantilly on October 5. Did win first-up last prep at Compiegne. Marginal chance.

5. **ENDS OF THE EARTH** - Won on debut with a bit to spare at Chantilly All Weather over 1900m back on November 16 and has not been sighted since. One of the better chances.

6. **YES ZARA** - Good effort last start to win her maiden over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer at just her second appearance by half a length. Fitter and worth following up.

Summary: HIGHWIND (2) saw off a subsequent winner when victorious by 2.5L in a 1900m maiden at Deauville AW. Selected to make a winning turf debut. DON DIEGO DE VEGA (1) registered a neck victory over 1900m in a Deauville AW newcomers event. Expected to challenge for the win. ENDS OF THE EARTH (5) rates a threat following a 1.5L success tackling 1900m at Chantilly AW on his first start. In the mix. YES ZARA (6) took a marked step forward when winning by 0.5L attempting 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Shortlisted.

Selections

HIGHWIND (2) - DON DIEGO DE VEGA (1) - ENDS OF THE EARTH (5) - YES ZARA (6)

1. **PENSEE DU JOUR** - Impressed when scoring by 4L in a 1900m newcomers race at Chantilly AW last month. Leading contender for a top stable.

2. A MINARDIERE - Held 6.75L fifth over 2000m at Cagnes-sur-Mer AW last month. Capable of better.

3. **KHAHIRA** - Returned to action with a 2.25L third in a 1600m conditions race at Chantilly AW two weeks ago. Of note in this field.

4. **ELUSIVE PRINCESS** - Registered wins in her last two starts including over 1800m in a Class Two contest at Longchamp in October. Of note in this field.

5. **CRACKSMANIA** - Made a winning debut when successful by 3.5L over 2000m at Pau AW 24 days ago. Considered on first start on turf.

6. **OLKOVSKHA** - Ended last year with a 1.25L victory over 2000m at Lyon-Parilly in November. Not written off on seasonal reappearance.

7. **AKAGERA** - Registered a head victory when debuting in an 1800m newcomers contest at Fontainebleau in November last year. Strong claims.

8. AVOLTA - Completed a double when winning by 0.75L over 2000m at Pau AW. Bold show expected.

9. CARVANA - Held 3.25L fifth over 1600m at Chantilly AW two weeks ago. Best watched.

10. **ROMINA POWER** - Placed second when beaten 1.25L in a 2000m maiden at Cagnes-sur-Mer AW three weeks ago. Notable runner.

Summary: PENSEE DU JOUR (1) impressed when debuting with a 4L victory in a 1900m newcomers race at Chantilly AW. Selected to follow up for a leading stable. AVOLTA (8) is expected to go well following two wins over this distance at Pau AW. AKAGERA (7) performed well when winning by a head over 1800m at Fontainebleau on debut. Shortlisted. ROMINA POWER (10) registered a 1.25L second in a 2000m maiden at Cagnes-sur-Mer AW. Of note having run well here in the past.

Selections

PENSEE DU JOUR (1) - AVOLTA (8) - AKAGERA (7) - ROMINA POWER (10)

1. **BREATH OF FIRE** - Has not raced since finishing 12 lengths away in 15th over 3200m at Chantilly All Weather on December 13. Doesn't appeal.

2. **YOUNG MERLIN** - Is coming back sharply in trip after he finished seventh last start over 3200m at Cagnessur-Mer. Can play a role in the outcome.

3. **DREAMS** - Has two wins and five placings from 15 career starts. Looks close to a win, the latest finishing second at Chantilly All Weather. Expected to go close on best form.

4. **BROK** - Failed to impress last prep, finishing 12th over 2000m at this track at the last run before a break. Will improve on what he does today.

5. **COGOLIN** - Has not raced since he was safely held in 14th over 2000m at this track on November 17. Will improve on what he does here.

6. **TRICK OF THE MIND** - Last appeared 11 months ago when he won over 2400m at this track. This is an ideal race to kick off. Top hope.

7. **LETTYT STORM** - Returns to racing after a spell of five months. Opened last prep with a win at Morlaix over 2600m. Goes well at the start of his campaigns. Best figures should see him run well.

8. **KARUSO DE GRUCHY** - Was unplaced and well beaten in all runs last campaign, the latest when ninth over 4000m at Cagnes-sur-Mer three-and-a-half months ago.

9. **FULL FLOW** - Resumes from a break of four-and-a-half months. Finished tenth at her most recent appearance over 2500m at this track. Good fresh performer. Among the chances.

10. **MORISOT** - Has not raced since finishing 2 lengths away in fifth over 2000m at this track on September 23. Worth noting she won first-up last prep at Orleans. Form shown last campaign makes for good reading.

11. LA TEMPLIERE - Fresh from a spell of nine months. Yet to miss a minor placing in two first-up runs. Bold showing expected.

Summary: MORISOT (10) ended 2022 with a 2L fifth in a similar race to this. Selected to make a winning seasonal debut. TRICK OF THE MIND (6) battled to a head victory in a 2400m handicap at this circuit. Looks up to playing a hand in the finish. DREAMS (3) gets a chance to shine on the back of a 0.75L second in a 1900m handicap at Chantilly AW. LETTYT STORM (7) is another with claims on his first start since a 7L fifth tackling 3400m at Les Sables-d'Olonne last October.

Selections

MORISOT (10) - TRICK OF THE MIND (6) - DREAMS (3) - LETTYT STORM (7)

1. **THE REVENANT** - Winner of this race in both 2019 and twelve months ago he registered a 5.25L seventh in the G1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot (UK) in October. Has won five of his seven starts here and is expected to prove hard to beat.

2. **BENNETOT** - Faded when 5L seventh over 2000m in a Cagnes-sur-Mer AW conditions race. One to note down in trip.

3. **TITANIUM** - Failed to complete a hat-trick when 5.25L fourth in the Listed Prix Tantieme over this track and trip in November. Of note in this contest.

4. **MONARCHIC** - Victorious by 0.5L in a conditions race over 1600m at Chantilly AW. Claims.

5. **ANTHORUS** - Held 5L sixth in the Listed Prix Saonois over 1600m at Cagnes-sur-Mer AW. Others preferred.

6. **BEST LIGHTNING** - Close up fifth when beaten 1L in the G2 Brunner - Oettingen Rennen over 1600m at Baden-Baden (Germany) last September. Bold show expected.

7. **SIAM PARAGON** - Impressive 3L winner of a 1300m conditions event at Deauville AW in early November. Strong claims.

8. **LOLIWOOD** - Failed to shine when 3.75L sixth over 1300m at Deauville AW in December. Others hold more obvious claims.

9. JACINDA - Struggled 8L seventh over 1500m at Marseille-Vivaux in early November. Unlikely.

Summary: THE REVENANT (1) is selected to score here down markedly in grade following a 5.25L seventh in the G1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot (UK) last October. Leading contender. BEST LIGHTNING (6) registered a 1L fifth in the G2 Brunner - Oettingen Rennen over 1600m at Baden-Baden (Germany). Strong claims of resuming with a victory. SIAM PARAGON (7) looks a threat on the back of a 3L triumph in a 1300m contest at Deauville AW. BENNETOT (2) faded when 5L seventh in a 2000m AW event at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Better expected now.

Selections

THE REVENANT (1) - BEST LIGHTNING (6) - SIAM PARAGON (7) - BENNETOT (2)

1. **MI C'INFILO** - Finished third over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer two back then missed the frame last time out over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Great chance to atone.

2. **WALDKAUZ** - Has been out of the money recently including last time out when fifth over 2000m at Cagnessur-Mer All Weather two-and-a-half weeks ago, beaten 3.5 lengths. Tested again.

3. **ORANGE VIF** - Not a prolific winner with just two victories from 21 starts. Last start finished 14th over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather. Happy to overlook.

4. **EL ROY** - Came from a wide gate and could only manage to finish seventh last time out over 2500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer.

5. **AJSAMAN** - Six-year-old gelding who didn't make an impression last start when resuming at Bordeaux over 1900m, beaten 17 lengths into 12th. Not keen on his chances.

6. **GREEN SPIRIT** - Last appeared three-and-a-half months ago when he finished 5 lengths from the winner in 11th over 1900m at Deauville All Weather. Bold performance expected first-up.

7. **LAURENT** - Has been in pretty ordinary form, including a last start 11th over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Cannot recommend.

8. **RUE JONAS** - Has not raced since finishing second over 2000m at this track on November 17. Can return with a bold run.

9. **NEVA NEVADA** - Drops in trip from the latest outing when fifth over 2500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer, finishing 3 lengths off the winner. Holds claims.

10. **SIM CARD** - Honest gelding with a good top-three strike rate. Good effort last start but found a couple better when third over 2100m at Pornichet. Respected.

11. **CHUBASCO** - Capable galloper but has been out of the placings at his last few runs, the latest when 11th over 1900m at Deauville All Weather. Rates highly this time so expect sharp improvement.

12. **APRIL ANGEL** - Has been out of the winners' circle for some time. Last raced when ninth over 1600m at Fontainebleau, 4.5 lengths from the winner. Finds a nice race and should be competitive.

Summary: SIM CARD (10) has placed on each of his last four starts. Taken to return to turf with a victory following a 2L third over 2100m at Pornichet. Leading player. Top weight MI C'INFILO (1) looks a threat following a 5.5L sixth over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. GREEN SPIRIT (6) is expected to go well on seasonal debut with a top jockey booked to ride. NEVA NEVADA (9) is another to consider following a 3L fifth tackling 2500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. CHUBASCO (11) is capable of better than he's shown on the AW of late.

Selections

SIM CARD (10) - MI C'INFILO (1) - GREEN SPIRIT (6) - NEVA NEVADA (9) - CHUBASCO (11)

1. **DAZZLE AT DAWN** - Placed two starts back at Deauville All Weather but couldn't back that up when unplaced over 1500m at Deauville All Weather last time. Certainly worth another chance.

2. **MR RASCAL** - Finished third over 1006m at Newcastle All Weather (UK) two back then missed the frame last time out over 1421m at Southwell All Weather (UK). Certainly worth another chance.

3. **FRECCETTA** - Resumes today. Last appeared at Pornichet over 1700m when 11th 12 weeks ago. Can play a major role.

4. **MISSANDEI** - Filly by Birchwood out of Miss Mary. Purchased for EUR 2,500 (Arqana 2021 November Yearling Sale) and makes her debut. Betting is only guide to chances.

5. **IKIRU** - Came from a wide gate and could only manage to finish fifth last time out over 1500m at Deauville All Weather.

6. **PORTRERO** - Three-year-old who punters have shunned recently and he's been running accordingly. Last raced when 16 lengths back in 11th over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather three-and-a-half weeks ago.

7. URAL - Hasn't shown much in his five career starts to date and unlikely to feature given current form.

8. **FURORE** - Yet to find the frame in two runs, the latest when ninth over 2100m at Chantilly All Weather. Others rate better.

9. **INSEATU** - Resumes. Started just once last campaign and disappointed when 15th and beaten 16 lengths at Chantilly All Weather. Yet to do much in two career runs and happy to pass again.

10. **GAME ON** - Ran a better race last start to finish third at Deauville All Weather over 1900m. Nicely placed and rates highly off that run.

11. **LA SWISS** - Last appeared ten weeks ago when she finished 29 lengths from the winner in 12th over 1900m at Deauville All Weather. Can sneak into the finish.

12. **DSCHINGIS SHAAN** - Had to contend with a wide draw at her latest run and finished fifth over 1700m at Pornichet.

13. LOVER WITH A G - Has not raced since finishing 10 lengths away in seventh over 1700m at Pornichet on December 8. Worth keeping in mind.

14. **AL KANDOO** - Yet to fill a placing in five runs, most recently when 11 lengths back in seventh over 2150m at Lyon-Ia-Soie. Finds a suitable race.

15. **SAGGEZZA** - Finished fifth 28 days ago over 1300m at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather. Best form is good enough so worth another chance.

Summary: GAME ON (10) placed third when beaten 1.5L in a claiming contest over 1900m at Deauville AW. Selected to deliver a victory debuting for a new trainer. SAGGEZZA (15) looks a threat following a 5.75L fifth over 1300m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. MR RASCAL (2) registered a 4L fifth in a 1421m AW handicap at Southwell (UK). Shortlisted debuting for a new trainer. DAZZLE AT DAWN (1) is another to consider having been beaten 3.5L when third tackling 1500m at Deauville AW on his penultimate outing.

Selections

GAME ON (10) - SAGGEZZA (15) - MR RASCAL (2) - DAZZLE AT DAWN (1)

1. **JAAFAR** - Returned from a spell last start with a solid second, beaten 1.5 lengths at Pau All Weather over 2400m. Hard to beat.

2. **DAIQUIRI DREAM** - Lightly raced filly who progressed nicely last start with a win by one length over 2700m at Chantilly All Weather. Key runner.

3. **FLATTEN THE CURVE** - Improved sharply last start over the longer journey to register his maiden win at Chantilly All Weather. Sure to appreciate the extra ground again this time. Among the top chances.

4. **AND WE DANCED** - Safely held recently. Theo Bachelot goes on after a last-start seventh over 3200m at Chantilly All Weather. Key runner on her best form.

5. **AMI SOLEDAD** - Scored two starts back at Lyon-la-Soie before finishing 3 lengths from the winner in third last time over 2700m at Chantilly All Weather. In the mix.

6. **KER STORMY** - Resumes today. Last appeared at Dieppe over 2400m when second four months ago. Looks a tough line-up and others preferred.

7. **BELLA ROSSA** - Has not raced since finishing 4.5 lengths away in seventh over 2700m at Chantilly All Weather on November 16. Hard to recommend.

8. **BE SURE** - Returns after a spell of three months. Closed the last campaign in lukewarm fashion, with a eighth over 2500m at Deauville All Weather the latest offering. Plenty of more attractive propositions in this race.

9. **FINITO PIPO** - Has not raced since finishing fifth over 2700m at Chantilly All Weather on November 16. See how he returns.

10. **TOSNY** - Has not raced since finishing 12 lengths away in sixth over 3100m at Chantilly All Weather on December 23. Useful type who should go well.

Summary: DAIQUIRI DREAM (2) registered a victory in a 2700m maiden at Chantilly AW. Selected to complete a double on turf debut. JAAFAR (1) placed second when beaten 1.5L over 2400m in a Pau AW conditions race. Strong claims of going one place better. FLATTEN THE CURVE (3) enters calculations having triumphed by 1.5L tackling 2700m at Chantilly AW. include. AMI SOLEDAD (5) came home 3L third that day. Shortlisted.

Selections

DAIQUIRI DREAM (2) - JAAFAR (1) - FLATTEN THE CURVE (3) - AMI SOLEDAD (5)