

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

C1 - PRIX RAMSES - 2100m (a1 5/16m) - Class - Harness - EUR € 38.000

- 1. LOVER BLONDY** - Got his career off to a fine start before disappointing in last 2. Should take well to this flatter profile but others still preferred
- 2. LORD DES FANES** - Quality colt but still rather green. Failed to make his mark with pads fitted but, with shoes on this time, can seat the record straight
- 3. LUCHADOR** - Has done everything asked of him to date. Pleased on recent Vincennes appearance and is sufficiently well-positioned to give this a good go
- 4. LUDIVER DES VAUX** - Handed a fine draw but is a modest individual that seldom looks dangerous and, even with front pads fitted, will struggle to make his mark
- 5. LORD SMART** - Made amends for his debut sanction with a solid effort at Laval next time. Has had time to freshen up and, well-placed on the front line, will have a lot to offer
- 6. LUCKY DE MAC** - Yet to get his nose in front but has shown potential. Is plainly in form and, from the front line, can get a look in
- 7. LIZZANO D'ALOUETTE** - Confirmed his excellent summer qualification with an authoritative debut success last month and, with form maintained, can repeat
- 8. LINDSTEDT** - Has merit but has been handed a wide draw. Hind pads fitted for the first time and should show improvement, but still not a priority
- 9. LAMSOU SAN** - Yet to show his true value but is a decent colt in the making. Reunited with Franck Nivard, who placed with him here in early-December, and can pick up another cheque
- 10. LE PRINCE BELLEVUE** - Yet to deliver in 3 public outings but Eric Raffin has been drafted in for the occasion and, despite a 2nd line draw, will generate some interest
- 11. LOOK MESLOIS** - Pleased first time out before being sanctioned on comeback. Races left-handed for the first time and the draw will not help his cause

Summary : Facile winner on his Laval debut a month back, LIZZANO D'ALOUETTE (7) looks the sort that will take well to Vincennes conditions and, despite a wide draw, can double his money. Arnaud Chavatte will still be keeping a watchful eye on the better-positioned, but complicated, LORD SMART (5) who left a very good impression last time out, and the ideally-placed LUCHADOR (3) who demonstrated his liking for the short track earlier in the month. Confirmed over the inner course, but not an easy horse to handle, LORD DES FANES (2) returns to racing shod and will be in with a shout if Benjamin Rochard can keep him trotting.

SELECTIONS

LIZZANO D'ALOUETTE (7) - LORD SMART (5) - LUCHADOR (3) - LORD DES FANES (2)

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

**C2 - PRIX DE GUERLESQUIN - 2850m (a1 3/4m) - Class - Harness - EUR €
35.000**

1. **KAROLENE D'ETANG** - Showed promise in 2023 despite her capricious nature. Sanctioned early last time when well-supported and the new shoeing formula may do just the trick
2. **KIARA BLUE** - Still a maiden but has come close more than once. Had gas in the tank when denied a run here recently, but gets to race barefoot, and can put things right
3. **KELLISIA GIRL** - Useful filly that was sanctioned in her first 2 here before finishing a flattering 5th next time. Revised configuration but others still preferred
4. **KITA DE REVE** - Has ample ability and debuted decently over track and trip late last month. Remains shod but still looks good enough to make the first 5
5. **KOMEDIE SOMOLLI** - Interesting filly with undeniable ability but has not been seen out since October and will need the run
6. **KAYA DU SAPTEL** - Secured a double earlier in her maiden year but has disappointed since. Is barefoot for her first start of 2024 but still looks an outsider
7. **KARA DE PADD** - Competent type that encouraged here last month despite being disqualified but, in this company, will not find it an easy task
8. **KOSEDIA** - Twice showed a different side to herself last month before giving a respectable account in the race of reference. Should take well to the short course and, with modified shoeing, will be expected to show some improvement
9. **KULTA** - Still in search of that first success but is a useful filly nonetheless. Has 2 races under her belt, is first-time barefoot and, entrusted to Franck Nivard again, is not going to be far off the mark
10. **KELLY DES LOYAUX** - Has not won for some time but caught the eye behind KEY TO THE HIGHWAY (12) here last month and, with form maintained, can challenge for the win this time
11. **KOPAZE DE HOUELLE** - Disappointing since returning to competition during the autumn but is clearly on the right road and, racing barefoot for the occasion, can play a leading role
12. **KEY TO THE HIGHWAY** - Quality individual that looks head-and-shoulders superior to most others here. Reassured last time out and, with stride in check, can get that maiden monkey off her back
13. **KARMEN DE MONTCEAU** - Looked good last spring but subsequently lost her way. Races first time barefoot but others still easier to back
14. **KOSMOPOLITAINE** - Useful sort but failed to deliver on her lone appearance here. New configuration this time though and, with Eric Raffin reining, will be afforded every chance

Summary : A fine trotter in the making, KEY TO THE HIGHWAY (12) set the record straight 3 weeks ago after losing her action here in late November; she races with front pads this time around and, with application, can finally get off the mark. She will still face opposition though from the improving, but tricky, first-time-barefoot KOPAZE DE HOUELLE (11) whose form is heading in the right direction, and KELLY DES LOYAUX (10) who races unshod behind on a track which should suit her better. Full of running when sanctioned here late last month, KIARA BLUE (2) is shoeless for the occasion and, on good behaviour, will be no soft touch.

SELECTIONS

KEY TO THE HIGHWAY (12) - KOPAZE DE HOUELLE (11) - KELLY DES LOYAUX (10) - KIARA BLUE (2)

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

C3 - PRIX DE MARVEJOLS - 2100m (a1 5/16m) - Apprentices - Harness - EUR € 18.000

1. **HAKIM GRIFF** - Has taken particularly well to the claiming division. 2 of his 3 wins have come over track and trip and a 3rd would be no surprise
2. **I ALONE** - Like HAKIM GRIFF (1), has won 2 of 3 claimers. Appreciates the short course and, given the nature of her recent success, is very easy to like
3. **HOPE** - Erratic sort but has references at this level. Disqualified last time, but form is not in doubt and, with application, will be competitive
4. **IPSO DU FER** - Has yet to make his mark over 2100m on the inner track but is clearly in shape and the plum draw will earn him a few more fans
5. **IENA D'ORGERES** - Hardy sort that seldom goes home empty-handed. Sanctioned in last 2 but takes a big dip in category and can challenge for a place on the podium if her driver manages to keep her trotting
6. **HELICIANE D'ERABLE** - Known for her exploits in the amateur division but has also won 6 of 16 claimers. Below-par of late though and represents no more than a minor place chance
7. **HARFAN DES GRANGES** - Trotted 4th to HEQUILEO JIEL (10) and HOPE (3) last November on his most recent outing at this level, but still appears to have too much to do
8. **IMPACT CASTELETS** - Remarkably consistent in this category last season, goes over any trip and, even though drawn wide, is barefoot for the occasion and must be respected
9. **IZIO DU POMMEREUX** - Occasionally loses focus but has otherwise fine credentials under these conditions. Handed a second-line draw but, on good behaviour, will not be far from the action
10. **HEQUILEO JIEL** - Appears to have found his mark in the claiming category recently. Unraced since winning over course and distance late-November but sports a new configuration and, despite the draw, is not to be overlooked
11. **IL MIO** - Capable type that pleased in last 2 claimers here. Sports a revised configuration but the draw will do him no favours
12. **HOLDEM POKER** - Confirmed at this level but has no particular love for Vincennes and recent efforts have done little to convince
13. **INES TURGOT** - Modest mare that seldom makes any impact these days and is not about to change her ways
14. **HERMES PLANCHETTE** - Unexceptional trotter that has done nothing noteworthy for some time and the poor draw only compounds the matter

Summary : Twice a winner in 3 claiming starts, HAKIM GRIFF (1) won easily over course and distance last time out and is eminently capable of repeating. He is not going to have it all his own way though given the form of I ALONE (2) who is marginally better-placed behind the car. IZIO DU POMMEREUX (9) boasts a good record over 2100m and, shod to preference this time, is unlikely to disappoint. IENA D'ORGERES (5) has solid references in superior company and, if applied, will be no pushover from the 5-spot.

SELECTIONS

HAKIM GRIFF (1) - I ALONE (2) - IZIO DU POMMEREUX (9) - IENA D'ORGERES (5)

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

**C4 - PRIX DE BOLLENE - 2700m (a1 11/16m) - Class - Mounted - EUR €
43.000**

1. LE ROI SOLEIL - Untried colt from a top yard. Entrusted to a leading jockey and, if as good as expected, can get straight down to business

2. LORD OF WAR - Unexceptional in qualification and has proved unexceptional so far under the saddle. Disregard

3. LUSSABEAU - Has yet to show any particular flair for either discipline and is unlikely to shake things up

4. LUCKY SIBEY - Ironically, was not the most fortunate last time out. Has the class to challenge for the win though, but must first deign to stay in stride from one end of the race to the other

5. LEANDRO DE MER - Trotted 4th to LUPIN DE LA VALLEE (7) on debut before repeating behind the favourite 11 days ago, but is unlikely to improve on that

6. LARGO D'ENFER - Respectable under harness and is confirmed over the short course. Faces a tougher task on this occasion though and others preferred

7. LUPIN DE LA VALLEE - Demonstrated decent aptitude under harness before showing a different side on recent monté debut. Will have come on for the run and can again trot his way onto the podium

8. LUKAS D'OLIVERIE - Barring a Vincennes-debut-sanction, has looked very impressive so far. Flew up here recently and can double his money if he takes to the main track profile

Summary : On paper, this looks a 2-horse race between the progressive LUKAS D'OLIVERIE (8) who recently opened his account in style over the inner track, and the clearly talented LUCKY SIBEY (4) who was quick to lose focus that day; Eric Raffin stays faithful to him though and redemption is anticipated. Closest opposition is expected to take the form of LUPIN DE LA VALLEE (7), who beat a number of these last month, and racecourse debutante, LE ROI SOLEIL (1) who looks a player despite not having set off any fireworks on his recent qualification.

SELECTIONS

**LUKAS D'OLIVERIE (8) - LUCKY SIBEY (4) - LUPIN DE LA VALLEE (7) - LE ROI SOLEIL
(1)**

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

**C5 - PRIX DE LA MOSELLE - 2100m (a1 5/16m) - Class - Harness - EUR €
35.000**

1. JIZOU D'ETANG - Sanctioned as often as not but, when focused, never goes home with one arm as long as the other. Goes barefoot after 3 modest efforts here recently and, with application, can bring the fight to JASMIN DHELPA (4)

2. JET SPE - Has evident ability but takes a hike in category and, even sporting a new configuration, will have too much to do

3. JOKER DE VOUEDE - Has yet to make his mark on the long course but is plainly back in fine shape and, with hind shoes off this time, will not be far off the mark

4. JASMIN DHELPA - Has been enjoying something of a renaissance over recent months. Faces a much tougher test this time, but will be reined by Gabriele Gelormini for the occasion, and can make it 4-in-a-row if he takes to the new conditions

5. JAOUEN - Moderate type that seldom disappoints when unshod. Shoes on this time though and will have other priorities

6. JOY EASTER - Has not got his nose in front for 10 months but is a tough nut when barefoot and applied, and his recent effort under these conditions bodes well for his prospects of making the podium

7. JEFFERSON MELOC - Competent sort at a lower level but has no love for Vincennes. Shoes back on and no threat

8. JUSTIN DE MARCAY - Fine type that made an encouraging return to competition on Christmas Eve. Takes on some better horses this time but the Benjamin Rochard-factor must be taken into account

Summary : Although like a horse reborn over the past 2.5 months, JASMIN DHELPA (4) has no references racing left-handed, but he makes his Vincennes debut on a 4-timer and, first time barefoot, can win this if he turns. He will still encounter resistance from the complicated but talented JIZOU D'ETANG (1) who returns to racing unshod all 4, and the useful JOY EASTER (6) who defied her odds to finish 4th over course and distance a fortnight ago. JOKER DE VOUEDE (3) has a good spot behind the car and, although not having previously delivered over the main track, he races with hind shoes off and looks a decent place chance once more.

SELECTIONS

JASMIN DHELPA (4) - JIZOU D'ETANG (1) - JOY EASTER (6) - JOKER DE VOUEDE (3)

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

**C6 - PRIX DU BOUSCAT - 2700m (a1 11/16m) - Class - Mounted - EUR €
53.000**

- 1. IQUITA VILI** - Justifiably well-regarded mare but below-par behind ICAMORA DE HOUELLE (3) last time. Has yet to fire for Eric Raffin and others preferred
- 2. INVICTUS DE HOERDT** - Sanctioned on lone appearance under the saddle [2021]. Returns to the code after some lacklustre harness performances and can expect to have few takers
- 3. ICAMORA DE HOUELLE** - Fine mare in both codes and current form cannot be questioned. In better company this time but has shown tenacity and is unlikely to be far off the mark
- 4. IMPALA DE VAL** - Made short work of his recent task when unshod behind for the first time. Pitted against better on this occasion but is unlikely to let the side down
- 5. ITRO** - Previously a good sort but is a shadow of his former self and, even sporting a new configuration, can be confidently passed over
- 6. IBIS PETTEVINIERE** - Gave a fine account behind IMPALA DE VAL (4) here last month before imposing under harness at Bordeaux. Bonne out to make hay and must be considered a respectable first-5 prospect
- 7. ICARE DU LEARD** - Constantly in the thick of things in this branch of the business. Has earned the right to race in this company and, on current trajectory, is certainly one for the shortlist
- 8. ILTON ROYAL** - Has not won for 13 months but they don't get much more consistent. Drops back in class after a superb effort over 2850m here last month and, entrusted to Alexandre Abrivard this time, can challenge for the win
- 9. INDICE DELADOU** - Produced a brace of good provincial performances before losing his action early recently but, given the opposition, appears to be facing a stiff test
- 10. IGO CLEA** - Good class of trotter that won at this level last time under the saddle. Has been specifically prepared for this and the double may well be on the cards

Summary : A host of horses in contention here but a tentative nod nevertheless goes to the fine IGO CLEA (10) who is shod to preference after a fresher under harness and legitimately bids to pick up where he left off. That being said, ILTON ROYAL (8) is a model of consistency, boasts a fine record over 2700m here, and will not go down easily. ICARE DU LEARD (7) steps up in category after his Christmas Eve romp and must be taken seriously. ICAMORA DE HOUELLE (3) has returned to competition in flying form and, similarly climbing the category ladder, still looks in with a decent chance of making the frame.

SELECTIONS

IGO CLEA (10) - ILTON ROYAL (8) - ICARE DU LEARD (7) - ICAMORA DE HOUELLE (3)

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

C7 - PRIX DE FRANCHEVILLE - LA BARRE - 2175m (a1 5/16m) - Class - Harness - EUR € 52.000

- 1. KAPORAL DU PONT** - Unexceptional sort with no place in this line-up and looks thoroughly outclassed
- 2. KOELHO DE NAPPES** - Competent colt that has taken well to Vincennes but, unshod behind or not, he still faces a stiff test
- 3. KERMES** - Blows hot and cold but ability is not in question. Lost his action earlier in the month, but JMB back in the sulky, and is not to be underestimated
- 4. KAISER DES GRANGES** - Yet to get off the mark but is as consistent as they come. Appreciates these shorter trips, and is barefoot for the first time, but the step up in category may be a step too far
- 5. KALINOU QUICK** - Second-favourite of Jean-Michel Baudouin's 2 runners but nevertheless has significant talent. Gave a good account here recently and the return to 2175m will do his prospects no disservice
- 6. KAKOU CAYENNAIS** - Stumbled briefly during the autumn but has since set the record straight. Is proven under these conditions and, first-time barefoot, can make a big splash
- 7. KANT** - Evidently capable but has looked rather ordinary over recent months. Is barefoot this time though, and finishing in the money is not beyond his capacity
- 8. KATIM DU GOUTIER** - Sprang quite the surprise when beating KILLER QUICK (12) and KALINOU QUICK (5) here last month, but confirmation is unlikely
- 9. KESITO D'URVILLE** - Pleasingly consistent sort that acquitted himself well in superior company last time out, but a repeat seems improbable
- 10. KIR NORMAND** - Capable colt but is not the easiest to handle. Is confirmed on the main track and can get a look in if Alexandre Abrivard gets him off on the right foot
- 11. KIF DU BIEF** - Has bags of talent but form tailed off late last season. Afforded the chance to race unshod behind this time and can put things right
- 12. KILLER QUICK** - Plainly talented and has already won for Raffin. Unshod all 4 on this occasion and must be considered a leading proposition
- 13. KIWI CHARENTAIS** - Fine sort that just keeps getting better. Ran a close 2nd here recently and, in the absence of that winner, should be in a position to open his 2024 account
- 14. KRAKEN CASTELETS** - Went into his autumn break on a high note but has failed to convince in 2 since. Barefoot on this occasion but others still easier to back
- 15. KUNG FU QUICK** - Highly-impressive last spring and summer but failed to deliver when stepped up in category. Showed improvement last time though and, with more luck in running, can redeem himself

Summary : One of the more open events of the day, but it is still hard to ignore the impressively-progressive KIWI CHARENTAIS (13) who missed out on the double by a hair's breadth here recently and, barefoot again, can put things right. A serious colt last year before fading at the end of the season, KIF DU BIEF (11) gets to race without hind shoes for the first time and has an ideal opportunity to get back in the game. KILLER QUICK (12) was oddly lacklustre here mid-December but has otherwise been in fine shape and, first-time barefoot, looks a major player. Stablemate KALINOU QUICK (5) encouraged behind the favourite last time and, once again has a reasonable chance of making the frame.

SELECTIONS

KIWI CHARENTAIS (13) - KIF DU BIEF (11) - KILLER QUICK (12) - KALINOU QUICK (5)

FRIDAY, 12/01/24

**C8 - PRIX DE MAURIAC - 2850m (a1 3/4m) - European - Harness - EUR €
52.000**

1. **GOLD EAGLE (SWE)** - Capable Scandinavian trotter making his first trip south. Has not been seen out since last June however and will need the run
2. **SPARTAKUS** - Capable in his native Sweden but is still in conditioning mode and best to hold off
3. **DIE HARD (ITY)** - Regular for the most part when he can keep his action together, but takes on a very good bunch on this occasion and chances limited
4. **MANSKENSTOSEN** - Interesting Swedish raider that showed her form at home before being denied a run on her recent Vincennes debut. Takes on the boys this time though and not an obvious choice
5. **LOOK OF LOVE** - Hardy mare returning to Vincennes after winning at Mons. Is confirmed at the venue and will be no soft touch with Eric Raffin at the helm
6. **YAHOO DIAMANT** - Quality German type making his Vincennes debut in good shape. Has never been tested beyond 2600m but is barefoot for the occasion and will legitimately generate interest
7. **DEA SPRINT BAR** - Has not won for 14 months but always gives her best. Has shown form at home in Italy but has never delivered over 2850m here and others preferred
8. **JONGLEUSE DE LUNE** - Honest trotter that consistently finishes in the thick of things. Seldom disappoints in this category and, although up against better this time, still merits respect
9. **JAGUAR DU GOUTIER** - Fine dual-discipline type but has been struggling for past 7 months and must first reaffirm
10. **JANGO VICI** - Reliability not his strong suit, but can trot. Surprisingly lacklustre last time, but has a good replacement in Benjamin Rochard and is not to be underestimated
11. **JINGLE DELO** - Well-regarded at home but blows hot and cold. Unthreatening in the race of reference and is not expected to shake things up
12. **JUST FOR LOVA** - Group-class horse early last year but subsequently went off the boil and must get his house in order
13. **JASON** - Turned a corner last year and latterly imposed well over course and distance. Has won his last 4 Vincennes starts and is not incapable of pulling off the 5-timer
14. **JOLIE SURPRISE** - Faithful servant with solid references over course and distance. 3rd to JINGLE DU PONT (16) last time out and, fresh for the occasion, is unlikely to disappoint
15. **JEEGHA PRIDE** - Quality mare that was late to find daylight behind JASON (13) last month, but is clearly in excellent shape and, similarly-shod, will be no pushover
16. **JINGLE DU PONT** - Fine campaigner that has already won a Gr.3 under these conditions. Gave a superb account last time out and looks the main threat to DUNDEE AS (17)
17. **DUNDEE AS** - Serious trotter with fine credentials at a superior level. Won his only start over track and trip and his recent Gr.3 performance augurs well for his prospects

Summary : A good race in prospect this and Jean-Michel Bazire appears to have the key. Ideally-entered at the limit of earnings, DUNDEE AS (17) has nothing to prove under these conditions and, in current form, seems a marginally better bet than stablemate JINGLE DU PONT (16) who missed out by the smallest of margins under these conditions earlier in the month. An absolute steamroller when unshod, JASON (13) returns to the venue on a hat-trick and, even though in better company this time, is still in with a realistic shout. 5th to him last time out, JEEGHA PRIDE (15) was very unlucky that day and Théo Duvaldestin will be out to set the record straight.

SELECTIONS

DUNDEE AS (17) - JINGLE DU PONT (16) - JASON (13) - JEEGHA PRIDE (15)