

FRIDAY, 12/04/24

R5 PONT DE VIVAUX [L-H]

**C1 - PRIX DE SUGITON - 1500m (a7f1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 3
Handicap - Flat - EUR € 20,000**

- 1. HAYEJOHN** - Consistent for the most part and confirmed as much with an encouraging last-start 4th in a 1500m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivaux on 14 March. Has obvious claims
- 2. MAGIC VATI** - An honest veteran handicapper with sound references/form credentials, including a 5th in a 1500m PSF claimer at Chantilly on 24 February
- 3. GRIEGOS** - Won the benchmark race over the same track and trip on 14 March. Should remain competitive despite a 3,5kg penalty
- 4. INVESTISSEUR** - Inconsistent but versatile performer with sound references on this surface. Not without a chance here off a reduced (1kg) mark having finished 10th in a 1200m Quinte+ on turf at Fontainebleau on 25 March
- 5. SINNERMAN** - Won over track and trip in just his second start on 20 March 2023 and a handicap on the turf off a similar (0,5kg higher) mark. Should do better here after finishing 7th in a PSF conditions race over 1400m at Chantilly on 1 March
- 6. MAMAMOUCHI** - Out of sorts but has dropped in the weights/ratings to a competitive mark. Dangerous to discount, despite finishing 10th in an 1800m Salon-de-Provence handicap on heavy ground on 3 April
- 7. ACCLAM** - Has rediscovered his form/consistency in two PSF handicaps at Lyon-La Soie recently. Has obvious claims on the evidence of his last-start 4th over 1800m on 24 March
- 8. PRECIOSITE** - Inconsistent and was out of sorts in turf handicaps last year before a subsequent layoff. Absent since finishing 10th on heavy ground over 1600m at Lyon-Parilly on 9 November
- 9. CERVARO** - Completed a hat-trick of wins by winning consecutive course-and-distance handicaps late last year. Has struggled under a subsequent 4,5kg penalty (9th over track and trip on 14 March) but has the means to get into the picture
- 10. MANAROLA** - Unreliable but capable veteran mare with sound references in handicap races on both surfaces. Can't be written off despite finishing 11th in a 1400m Fontainebleau Quinte+ on 2 April
- 11. NARCISSUS** - Unplaced in all three starts (handicaps) this year off of higher marks but, judged on his best references, has sufficient means to earn a cheque. Finished 8th at Marseille-Borely over 1200m on 20 March
- 12. FEEL EMOTION** - Last-start winner of a 1700m turf handicap at Marseille-Borély on 13 March. Has already won over course and distance, so ought to remain competitive under a 2kg penalty
- 13. IDENTIFIED** - Inconsistent and has been out of sorts in PSF handicaps on French soil this year. Others preferred

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14. PRINCESS ZIZOU - Consistent, lightly raced mare with sufficient means and sound references on PSF. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th on an 1800m handicap on heavy ground at Salon-de-Provence on 3 April

Summary: SINNERMAN (5), Damien de Watrigant's only runner at the meeting, has already proven his competitiveness in handicaps at this level and is making an ambitious trip to take up this engagement so could be worth siding with here in the opener. On the form of the benchmark race at this venue, last-start winner GRIEGOS (3) could fight for victory despite a resultant penalty. HAYEJOHN (1), with the aid of Coralie Pacaut's 1,5kg allowance, and another recent scorer in FEEL EMOTION (12) also have the means to make their presence felt.

SELECTIONS

SINNERMAN (5) - GRIEGOS (3) - HAYEJOHN (1) - FEEL EMOTION (12)

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C2 - PRIX CORDOBA - 2000m (a1m1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 17,000

- 1. VALYRIAN STEEL** - Has finished unplaced in all four comeback outings this year, including consecutive PSF handicaps - 10th over 1500m on this course; 9th over 1800m at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March
- 2. MARVANCO** - Has bounced back to form with consecutive podium finishes in handicap over track and trip last month. Has obvious claims on the form of his last-start 3rd on 23 March
- 3. DE QUEVEDO** - Has been off the boil for some time now - hard to make a case for on the evidence of his last-start 12th in a handicap over course and distance on 23 March. Others preferred
- 4. DENIA** - She repeats her races and finds the handicaps at a value that gives her a chance.
- 5. HEART SHINING** - Returned to form with a reassuring 4th over course and distance on 23 March. Not taken lightly
- 6. INTERSTELLA** - Won a 2600m PSF handicap on this course last month and proved her competitiveness off this mark when finishing 2nd here over the same distance on 5 April
- 7. ESTOKENIA** - Won back-to-back handicaps over this track and trip in December and January but has struggled (unplaced) in all 3 starts since - 10th over course and distance on 23 March
- 8. VILLA JOALI** - Was soundly beaten in all three outings this year, including consecutive recent starts at this venue - finished 9th in a 2600m PSF handicap on 23 March
- 9. VITTVITT** - Consistent PSF handicapper whose encouraging last-start 2nd in a course-and-distance handicap on 23 March gives her winning chance in a race of this nature
- 10. COLBY CHOP** - Has shown signs of improvement after dropping in the weights/ratings and confirmed as much by finishing 5th in the benchmark race over track and trip on 23 March
- 11. SPORT COUPE** - Has been off the boil for some time now - hard to recommend on the evidence of his 9th in a handicap over course and distance on 9 March. Best watched for now
- 12. LES ALDUDES** - Has struggled (finished unplaced) in all 3 starts under a penalty after winning a handicap over 1700m on PSF at Marseille-Borely on 27 February. Hard to recommend

Summary: Consistent VITTVITT (9) and in-form INTERSTELLA (6) seem most likely to fight for victory in this handicap. However, the former is awkwardly positioned in the starting stalls while the latter races over a shorter trip. MARVANCO (2) has also shown his form and well-being in recent outings and has the means to make life difficult for them. DENIA (4) makes her return to the handicaps off a competitive mark and is dangerous to dismiss.

SELECTIONS

VITTVITT (9) - INTERSTELLA (6) - MARVANCO (2) - DENIA (4)

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C3 - PRIX MELCHIOR ROUSSIER - 2000m (a1m1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 15,000

1. **INTERIEUR** - Showed signs of a return to form by finishing 6th over course and distance on 23 March. Steadily dropping in the weights/ratings, so has claims here on the evidence of that form
2. **BALAGAN** - Won a 2000m PSF handicap at Cagnes in February but has struggled (finished unplaced) in all three subsequent outings - was only 9th over track and trip on 23 March
3. **RABBAH** - Runner-up in a 2000m PSF handicap at Cagnes in February 2022 but finished unplaced in all 3 subsequent PSF appearances - was only 11th over track and trip on 23 March
4. **STADE VELODROME** - Inconsistent veteran handicapper who continues to drop in the weights/ratings having lost form this year. Finished 8th over track and trip last time (23 March)
5. **MOON FLOWER** - Showed signs of a return to form by finishing 6th over course and distance on 23 March. Steadily dropping in the weights/ratings, so has claims here on the evidence of that form
6. **DRAGON LOVE** - Consistent veteran handicapper with sound references/form credentials, which includes an encouraging last-start 3rd over 2600m on this course on 5 April. Candidate for success
7. **FOLLOW YOU** - Seldom finishes far off the mark in handicaps on the turf but lacks references on the PSF. Finished 5th in a 1600m handicap on heavy ground at Chantilly on 4 April
8. **EVAGRO** - Unreliable veteran with sufficient means to play a role, judged on his best references. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th in a 2150m PSF handicap at Lyon-La Soie
9. **ALFIERI** - Honest 11-year-old veteran whose competitiveness in handicaps at this level, especially over course and distance, is beyond doubt. Finished 4th over 1500m here on 5 April
10. **PRINCE LOS** - Returned to form with a reassuring 2nd in a similar contest over track and trip last time (23 March) behind a subsequent winner. Winning chance here on that form
11. **ILLOIS** - Sparked improvement to finish a reassuring 4th over 1850 at Hyères on 1 April and could have a role to play if confirming that improvement on the PSF
12. **JONH FOR ALWAYS** - Showed his form and well-being with a reassuring 3rd over 2900m at Cavallon on 6 April and could have a role to play if confirming that improvement on the PSF

Summary: In a race of this nature, PRINCE LOS (10) could enjoy the joys of success that he has pursued for 18 months now. Consistent rivals DRAGON LOVE (6), with blinkers fitted this time, and ALFIERI (9) have the means to fight for victory. INTERIEUR (1) and MOON FLOWER (5) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

PRINCE LOS (10) - DRAGON LOVE (6) - ALFIERI (9) - INTERIEUR (1)

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C4 - PRIX DE LA FONTAINE DE VAUCLUSE - 1500m (a7f1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Race - Flat - EUR € 14,000

- 1. VENES** - Showed signs of a return to form by finishing 4th at Lignières over 1600m on 31 March. Needs to confirm
- 2. OPPORTUN** - Consistent for the most part with sound references in handicaps and on this track/trip. Should fare better back on PSF after finishing 9th in a 1200m turf handicap on 20 March at Marseille-Borely
- 3. MAMMALINA** - Made an encouraging track debut in a similar contest over course and distance, finishing 4th on 23 March. Has a winning chance
- 4. ROCKENVOY** - Improved recently off his current mark in consecutive course-and-distance handicaps. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 4th on 5 April
- 5. QU'HUBO** - Capable but inconsistent veteran handicapper with references off a higher mark. Should fare better at this level off a reduced mark, despite a last-start 14th in a 1600m handicap on the PSF at Chantilly on 5 March
- 6. HEYTESBURY LANE** - Returned to form with a reassuring 2nd in a 1600m claimer on the turf at Fontainebleau on 15 March. Has claims here on that form/improvement
- 7. VANILLE BLEUE** - Caught the eye with an improved 3rd in a course-and-distance handicap on 5 April. Not taken lightly
- 8. QUEEN KAHINA** - Battling 20-start maiden with just 4 places to her name, so is hard to recommend. Made no impression when only 8th in a 1600m claimer at Cavillon on 6 April - watch for now
- 9. WONDER WOOD** - Unplaced in all 8 appearances and has made no impression in either comeback outing. Finished 7th in a 1300m PSF claimer at Cagnes on 17 February - others preferred

Summary: MAMMALINA (3) caught the eye with a reassuring last start (4th) and ought to confirm that improvement with the aid of rider Coralie Pacaut's 1,5kg allowance. She gets the nod here in this conditions race at the expense of veteran QU HUBO (5) who has a good opportunity to resurface/return to form in a race of this nature. HEYTESBURY LANE (6), who performs well in this category, and VANILLE BLEUE (7), confirmed on the course, also have the means to stake a claim.

SELECTIONS

MAMMALINA (3) - QU'HUBO (5) - HEYTESBURY LANE (6) - VANILLE BLEUE (7)

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C5 - PRIX DE CARRO - 1500m (a7f1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Handicap - Flat - EUR € 20,000

1. LOUIS DE LA KLAUSS - Consistent colt with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 4th over track and trip on 14 March. Winning chance with Manon Brunelli's 2,5kg allowance

2. ASTRA DREAM - Rewarded for consistency with a deserved course-and-distance success on 14 March. Ought to remain competitive

3. NOBLE COTAI - Finished 3rd in a conditions race over track and trip in November but was unplaced (9th) in a course-and-distance handicap in December. Finished 5th over 1600m at Toulouse in his last start on his reappearance last month (4 March)

4. PRETTY BERRY - Consistent filly with sound references in handicaps on both surfaces, including a good 5th over 1100m at Salon-de-Provence on 3 April. Wears blinkers for the first time

5. QUEEN LIZZIE - Improving filly whose two encouraging comeback outings, including a last-start 2nd over 1800m on turf at Le Croise-Laroche on 22 March - make her a candidate for success

6. VULDETRADE - Has run well enough in both comeback outings to warrant respect. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 4th over 1200m at Nimes on 24 March

7. SILAHAI GIRL - Unplaced in all three outings on turf in conditions races. Makes her handicap/PSF debut after finishing 7th over 1500m at Cagnes on 1 February

8. HOUBI - Consistent sort whose sound references in handicaps on both surfaces include a 3rd over 1100m on heavy ground at Salon-de-Provence on 3 April. Not taken lightly

Summary: There are several with serious winning claims in this handicap, though none appeal more than LOUIS DE LA KLAUSS (1) who benefits from a rider's allowance for the first time and could open his account. ASTRA DREAM (2), who beat that rival on 14 March at this venue, may struggle to confirm his superiority on 3,5kg worse terms. QUEEN LIZZIE (5), her stable companion, and PRETTY BERRY (4), with blinkers fitted, are also capable of staking a claim.

SELECTIONS

LOUIS DE LA KLAUSS (1) - ASTRA DREAM (2) - QUEEN LIZZIE (5) - PRETTY BERRY (4)

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C6 - PRIX DE BOUC-BEL-AIR - 2000m (a1m1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Claiming - Flat - EUR € 12,000

- 1. DABASIR** - Consistent sort with sound references and solid form credentials at this level, including a last-start 2nd over 1700m on turf at Marseille-Borely on 20 March. High on the shortlist
- 2. MAKEMAKE** - Has placed in all three appearances in the claiming category, including her latest outing (2nd) at Marseille-Borely on turf over 1700m on 20 March. Not taken lightly
- 3. I HAVE THE TOUCH** - Has established herself in the claiming category by never finishing worse than 3rd in five outings at this level. Runner-up at Hyères in a 2500m claimer on 1 April
- 4. MOUJDAB** - Hasn't gone unnoticed in finishing 5th in consecutive outings at this level - the latest on this course over 2600m on 23 March. Outside chance
- 5. SALMA** - Returned to winning ways on her return from a 3-month absence in a 2500m claimer at Hyeres on 1 April and is capable of confirming that form/improvement back on the PSF
- 6. TESUMI** - Unplaced in all 9 appearances, including five at this level, so is hard to make a case for. Could only finished 6th over 2150m in a PSF claimer at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March
- 7. SOLTANA BELIEVE** - Sparked improvement to finish a reassuring 3rd over 2150m in a claimer at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March. Place chance

Summary: SALMA (5) won for new connections for the first time in her latest outing at Hyères and has already proven her efficiency/competitiveness on this surface, so is good value to follow up here. DABASIR (1), confirmed in this category, ultra-consistent I HAVE THE TOUCH (3) and consistent MAKEMAKE (2), who is a maiden, will be competitive for a spot on the podium.

SELECTIONS

SALMA (5) - DABASIR (1) - I HAVE THE TOUCH (3) - MAKEMAKE (2)

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C7 - PRIX DE LA VALENTINE - 2000m (a1m1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Claiming - Flat - EUR € 16,000

- 1. HELIOPOLIS** - Holding form and was fourth last time out in a Claimer over this course and distance on 23 March. Not out of it
- 2. ROCQUEMONT** - In good form of late and was runner-up last time out in a Claimer over this course and distance on 23 March. Be right there at the finish once again
- 3. ROI DE FLANDRE** - Disappointing last run when 12th in a Claimer at Cagnes-sur-Mer over 1600m on 12 February. Unreliable and won a handicap before that. Place chance
- 4. BLACK FALCON** - Ignore the last run when 9th in a Conditions race over this track and trip on 5 April. Better in this division and can bounce back to score
- 5. AQUILON** - Disappointing this year and was well beaten last time out in a handicap at Chantilly over 1600m on 8 March, Can surprise back on the turf
- 6. SURPRIZE ME** - Disappointing recent form and was 10th last time out in a Conditions race at Lyon La Soie over 2150m on 6 April. More is needed to win this race
- 7. MUELHEIMER PERLE** - A bit of a disappointment this year but was not disgraced when third last time out in a Claimer over this track and trip on 23 March. Not out of it

Summary: If he repeats his performance from March 23, right here, BLACK FALCON (4) will be hard to beat. He had all three of these rivals behind him that day. ROCQUEMONT (2), looking for a first victory this season was second that day. MUELHEIMER PERLE (7), who benefits from an additional advantage in weight was third but can get closer this time. HELIOPOLIS (1), wants further but can contest the finish.

SELECTIONS

BLACK FALCON (4) - ROCQUEMONT (2) - MUELHEIMER PERLE (7) - HELIOPOLIS (1)

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C8 - PRIX DE CAMARGUE - 2000m (a1m1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Maiden Race - Flat - EUR € 21,000

1. MIRADERO - Holding form well and was runner-up last time out in a Conditions race over this track and trip on 14 March, Can go one better this time

2. SABROZURA - Improving and was runner-up last time out in a Conditions race at Lyon La Soie over 1800m on 24 March. Can earn some more money

3. DREAM RONY - Did not show much on debut but did better when fourth in a Conditions race over this track and trip on 14 March. More is needed to beat these rivals

4. PALMAROLA - Not disgraced when third on debut in a Conditions race at Cagnes-sur-Mer over this distance. can do even better this time

5. ALBINE - Fair form so far and 5th last time out in a Conditions race at this course over 1500m on 14 March. Could like this longer distance and is not out of it

Summary: A small but competitive field for the lucky last race. MIRADERO (1) only found one better on the day last time out over this track and trip and is the one to beat. PALMAROLA (4) was not disgraced on debut and should have improvement forthcoming. ALBINE (5) steps up in distance and is not out of it. SABROZURA (2) is improving and has to be considered a possible winner.

SELECTIONS

MIRADERO (1) - PALMAROLA (4) - ALBINE (5) - SABROZURA (2)