

SUNDAY, 13/08/23

R1 DEAUVILLE [L-H]

**C1 - CIRCUS MAXIMUS PRIX FRANCOIS BOUTIN - 1400m (a7f) - TURF -
Group 3 - Group - Flat - EUR € 80.000**

1. KUMITE - Consistent colt with solid form references and the advantage of greater experience. Not taken lightly

2. MAJESTIC ONE - Godolphin colt who was a convincing winner on debut and was deemed good enough to compete at Group level. Keep safe

3. GREY MAN - Has won two of three starts and was beaten only by a subsequent Group III winner. Will have a role to play

4. EVADE - Debut winner closely related to Jean-Luc Lagardère winner National Defense. Will pay to follow his progress

5. MYTHOLOGY - Ballydoyle colt rewarded for his consistency with a last-start win. More to do here but has scope to improve

Summary : A small field of five to contest this Group III opening event that features four last-start winners. It could, however, go the way of either EVADE (4) or MAJESTIC ONE (2). Both represent powerful connections and are likely to build on the promise of their winning debuts pitched straight into Group company. All 3 of their rivals, though, have the form and experience to pose a threat, with GRAY MAN (3) preferred ahead of KUMITE (1) and then MYTHOLOGY (5).

SELECTIONS

EVADE (4) - MAJESTIC ONE (2) - GREY MAN (3) - KUMITE (1)

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**C2 - PRIX MINERVE - 2500m (a1 9/16m) - TURF - Group 3 - Group - Flat -
EUR € 80.000**

- 1. DSCHINGIS STAR** - Winner over 1950m at Châteaubriant and has finished 2nd in her four starts, although this demands a great deal more. Outsider
- 2. ANGEL GUIDANCE** - Improved after a pleasing debut 5th over 2000m to win her next start when stepped up to 2400m. More to come
- 3. WINNING SIDE** - Has revealed a fair degree of potential in winning two of her four starts, including over 2400m last time. More required at this level
- 4. PERAMA** - Consistent filly with solid form references, including a last-start in the Listed Derby du Languedoc behind a very good colt
- 5. TASMANIA** - Steps up in distance after finishing a commendable 3rd in Group I Prix de Diane. Ought to have a say here
- 6. ENGALIWE** - Won a Listed race over 2200m before finishing 3rd in a Group III over 2400m last time. Dark horse
- 7. SHAMWARI** - Justify filly who bounced back to her earlier form/promise to win last time out. Should have more to offer
- 8. SCARLETT O'HARA** - Consistent filly with solid form credentials, including a recent 3rd at Group III level in Ireland. Respected
- 9. CRACK OF LIGHT** - Finished 2nd when starting favourite in the Group II Prix de Malleret last time. Has the form to be competitive

Summary : Absent since finishing a superb 3rd in the Group I Prix de Diane, TASMANIA (5) could prove too good for these rivals if demonstrating the same level over this classic distance. British fillies SCARLETT O'HARA (8) and CRACK OF LIGHT (9), on the other hand, have no issue with the trip so ought to be competitive. PERAMA (4) and ANGEL GUIDANCE (2) are up in class but have legitimate claims too.

SELECTIONS

TASMANIA (5) - SCARLETT O'HARA (8) - CRACK OF LIGHT (9) - PERAMA (4)

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C3 - PRIX DES CHENETTES - 1900m (a1 3/16m) - ALL WEATHER - Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 55.000

- 1. AZKA** - Irreproachable for many weeks now and was rewarded by winning a Quinté+ last time after a fine end to the race. Has claims again despite a 3,5kg penalty
- 2. DURANGO** - New to Davide Satalia's stable after performing well in a ParisLongchamp Quinté+. Capable of taking an active part in the finish
- 3. WOODSTOCK CITY** - Supported in the betting in both Quinté+ outings, finishing well each time though not enthusiastic. Can get into the picture
- 4. MAGELLAN** - Ran well to finish 3rd in his first Quinté+ but was somewhat disappointing at Dieppe. Has no margin off this mark, so others are preferred
- 5. EL CHACO** - Runner-up to champion Big Rock in February and has already distinguished himself in this category. Returns after gelding so is one to note
- 6. YES ZARA** - Finished last of five in the Listed Derby du Languedoc and is now pitched into a handicap for the first time on a surface she has not yet to proved effective. Outsider
- 7. CAMERON** - Was beaten only by two higher-rated rivals when finishing 3rd last time and, given that form, could find his way now pitched into a handicap. Value
- 8. I'M A BELIEVER** - Won a handicap in April and has twice proven that he remains competitive under the penalty. Again associated with Stéphane Pasquier, he ought to be competitive
- 9. MELBORA** - After several good performances in handicap races, was unsuited by very deep ground last time. Remains capable of better
- 10. MANADA** -
- 11. VALENTINO FACE** - Opened his account in his first start of the year on this track but has failed to produce that form or performance since and made no impression on his handicap debut. No
- 12. GRECIAN BONANZA** - Has shown commendable regularity by never finishing out of the top four. Effective on the PSF and is proven at this level too
- 13. BO LYWOOD** - Has improved stepped up in distance, as evidenced by his two recent handicap wins. Should remain competitive despite a 3,5kg penalty
- 14. SNOWFINCH** - With only four races on the clock, this Dubawi filly is open to improvement. Failed on her handicap debut having acquitted herself well in good company, can still do better
- 15. OAK HILL** - Victory at Argentan aside, he has been unable to shine this year. Dropped in the weights as a result but needs to reaffirm and is best watched for now
- 16. SEE THE LIGHT** - Unlucky in a Quinté+ at ParisLongchamp and has held his own in both subsequent outings, despite finishing unplaced. Dark horse

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Summary : In a typically wide-open Quinte+ handicap, a chance could be taken on CAMERON (7) who finished 3rd behind rivals with ratings above 40. He looks well placed at this value (37) and seems capable of playing a leading in his first start at this level. BO LYWOOD (13) has continued to improve since he was stepped up in trip, so is also a candidate for success. However, so too is AZKA (1), who won from a wide draw last time and ought to remain competitive from gate No 9 here. Consistent GRECIAN BONANZA (12) and SEE THE LIGHT (16), who has tumbled in the weights, are not out of business in this lineup either. Both I'M A BELIEVER (8), who has already proven himself at this level, and DURANGO (2), a good 3rd last time, will be on the premises as well.

SELECTIONS

CAMERON (7) - BO LYWOOD (13) - AZKA (1) - GRECIAN BONANZA (12)

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C4 - PRIX NUREYEV - 2000m (a1 1/4m) - TURF - Condition Race - Listed - Flat - EUR € 55.000

- 1. MERKUR** - Inconsistent sort who has been found wanting in pattern company, including German Derby last time (12th). Outsider
- 2. BRAVAIS** - Capable sort who has shown enough in two Listed races to warrant consideration. Has only a place chance though
- 3. ALASHAR** - Consistent for the most part and was runner-up in a Listed race two starts back. Failed to confirm that form though when only 7th last time
- 4. DEVIL IN THE SKY** - Not disgraced though was slightly disappointing when only finishing 4th last time. Will find this trip more to his liking
- 5. WOODCHUCK** - Progressive sort who was narrowly in his hat-trick bid last time, finishing 2nd at Listed level last month. Player
- 6. TRACK OF TIME** - Has done everything asked of him thus far and moves up in class here with legitimate ambitions. Keep safe
- 7. BOLD ACT** - Consistent and battle-hardened sort with the best form credentials of the field. Sets a good standard
- 8. VICTORY DANCE** - Second string to Charlie Appleby's bow but a capable colt in his own right, with sound form references too. Not making up the numbers
- 9. FORTUNE** - Unbeaten in two starts last year but has found it tough this season and been unable to reach those heights. Watch for now

Summary : BOLD ACT (7) has maintained his form and consistency competing at a higher level and should make his experience count by returning to winning ways here. WOODCHUCK (5) has done little wrong and ought to make his presence felt after finishing 2nd at this level last time. DEVIL IN THE SKY (4) remains capable of better than his recent 4th and could get into contention too, along with TRACK OF TIME (6) who could be up to this step up in class.

SELECTIONS

BOLD ACT (7) - WOODCHUCK (5) - DEVIL IN THE SKY (4) - TRACK OF TIME (6)

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C5 - PRIX DU HARAS DE FRESNAY-LE-BUFFARD JACQUES LE MAROIS - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Group 1 - Group - Flat - EUR € 1.000.000

- 1. EREVANN** - Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 5th in the Group I Prix d'Ispahan and has regained freshness since. Beware
- 2. TRIPLE TIME** - Last-start winner of the Group I Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot on a similar course. Warrants respect
- 3. ONESTO** - The highest-rated runner in the race but absent since the Japan Cup in November. Not to be underestimated
- 4. LIGHT INFANTRY** - Well-performed colt who has already proven himself at this level and will once again be in contention for the places. Dark horse
- 5. INSPIRAL** - Not at her best in the Group I Sussex Stakes recently after finishing 2nd, beaten a neck, by TRIPLE TIME (2) at Royal Ascot. Keep safe
- 6. LIFE IN MOTION** - Takes her chances here after running a huge race (2nd) in the Group I Prix Rothschild. Not taken lightly
- 7. HI ROYAL** - Placed in both the English and Irish 2000 Guineas before finishing 9th of 12 behind GOOD GUESS (9) last time. Can do better back over this trip
- 8. MARHABA YA SANAFI** - Acquitted himself well in the Group I Prix du Jockey Club and will find this trip more to his liking. Won the French Guineas
- 9. GOOD GUESS** - Classy colt and winner of a Group I at this course last time. Bidding to complete the Jacques Le Marois and Jean Prat double
- 10. ANGERS** - Won for just the second time with victory in the German Guineas back in May. Absent since, so is best watched for now
- 11. BIG ROCK** - Had his winning streak ended by a crack colt in the Group I Prix du Jockey Club last time (2nd). Capable of reconnecting with success

Summary : Will the three-year-olds beat their elders in the highlight of this Deauville meeting? Both BIG ROCK (11) and GOOD GUESS (9) offer certain guarantees to think so. Judged on the form of the Group I Queen Anne Stakes, TRIPLE TIME (2) and INSPIRAL (5) are both capable of fighting for victory too, along with Group I Poule d'Essai winner MARHABA YA SANAFI (8). Great race!

SELECTIONS

BIG ROCK (11) - GOOD GUESS (9) - TRIPLE TIME (2) - INSPIRAL (5)

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C6 - PRIX GONTAUT-BIRON HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB - 2000m (a1 1/4m) - TURF - Group 3 - Group - Flat - EUR € 80.000

- 1. MONTY** - Well-performed and consistent veteran with solid form references. Not incapable of getting into the picture
- 2. REX OF THUNDER** - Winner last time out after finishing 2nd in consecutive prior outings. Has more to do in this grade/company
- 3. CENTRICAL** - Beaten for the first time in three starts this year when unplaced (8th) in a Group III last time. Should not be condemned hastily for that failure
- 4. RESHABAR** - Unreliable sort but seldom finishes far off the mark. Hard to trust but isn't easy to rule out either
- 5. BOLTHOLE** - Battle-hardened colt who found only a smart British mare too good when 2nd in the Group III Grand Prix de Vichy last time
- 6. KERTEZ** - Has maintained a good level of form and consistency at this level and ought to go well again here. Keep safe
- 7. PLACE DU CARROUSEL** - Smart filly with Group I success to her name. Absent since April but boasts, by far, the best references
- 8. ZARIYANKA** - Capable mare but she looks up against it here on these terms (weights/ratings). Best watched for now

Summary : This renewal of the Group III Prix Gontaut-Biron is at the mercy of PLACE DU CARROUSEL (7), winner of last year's Group I Prix de l'Opéra, but she has run just once this year and has been absent since April. As a result, it could pay to take her on with BOLTHOLE (5) whose physical condition could give sway the result in his favour . KERTEZ (6) is a safe bet at this level and likely to make his presence felt, along with CENTRICAL (3) who deserves another chance in this category.

SELECTIONS

BOLTHOLE (5) - PLACE DU CARROUSEL (7) - KERTEZ (6) - CENTRICAL (3)

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C7 - PRIX DES BERGERIES - 1900m (a1 3/16m) - ALL WEATHER - Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 28.000

- 1. PANGAEA** - Returned to form by winning last time and was penalised just 1kg for that success. Can have a say again
- 2. VENICE** - Finished a reassuring 2nd last time and could get into the picture here if confirming that improvement
- 3. SAINT ETIENNE** - Consistent for the most part and lines up in good order having finished 3rd in his last 3 starts. Worth chancing on his handicap/PSF debut
- 4. ALMAGRO** - Has yet to fulfill his potential but could have more to offer now sent handicapping. Not taken lightly
- 5. DIANE'STAR** - Improving last-start winner whose limits may not yet have been reached. Should have a role to play here
- 6. RIDIPINTURA** - Unreliable but is usually competitive at this level and will be associated with Maxime Guyon. Respected
- 7. GOLDEN RIVER** - Unreliable filly but seldom finishes far off the mark on a going day. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
- 8. SHAZAM** - Last-start winner at ParisLongchamp and likely to remain competitive switching to the PSF for the first time. Respect
- 9. MONTGAUDRY** - Inconsistent but not incapable of staking a claim in a race of this nature. Could get into the picture
- 10. EMOZIONE** - Nothing noteworthy to his name for a considerable period now so can be easily ruled out. Others preferred
- 11. EYGALIERES** - Has struggled for form and consistency to this point so isn't likely to trouble the judge here. Outsider
- 12. DE QUEVEDO** - Showed signs of improvement when finishing 3rd last time but needs to confirm that form here to get a look in

Summary : A tricky handicap in which it could pay to side with consistent SAINT ETIENNE (3) on his handicap debut and first start on the fibresand. Last-start winners SHAZAM (8) and PANGAEA (1) ought to have their say and are also capable of fighting for victory. DIANE'STAR (5) is gaining momentum and should make her presence felt with ALMAGRO (4) the likely killjoy.

SELECTIONS

SAINT ETIENNE (3) - SHAZAM (8) - PANGAEA (1) - DIANE'STAR (5)

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C8 - PRIX DU QUAI SAINT-ETIENNE - 1500m (a7 1/2f) - ALL WEATHER - Divided Handicap - Class 3 - Flat - EUR € 23.000

1. **BUTI** - Struggling to regain form or find any consistency for some now so not likely to trouble the judge here
2. **STORMY AIR** - Consistent sort, in good form and physical condition boasting solid form references. Big runner
3. **MONTIGNY** - Inconsistent sort but is not incapable of staking a claim in a race of this nature. Upset potential
4. **JUST IN LOVE** - Nothing noteworthy to her name for a considerable period now so is easily ruled out. Others preferred
5. **GURZUF** - Has finished on the podium in each of his three starts on this surface. Ought to remain competitive
6. **JORDAN BAKER** - Unreliable but seldom finishes far off the mark on a going day. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
7. **HEARTBEAT** - He was in contention for a role in the finish when running into traffic problems. Can do better, keep safe
8. **SAPIENS** - Has looked distinctly ordinary for some time now, so his chances are limited here even at this level
9. **ITALO** - Reverts to his preferred surface with his weight situation more in line with his means. Not taken lightly
10. **SOAN** - Inconsistent sort but not incapable of getting into the picture in a race of this nature. Dark horse
11. **L'IENISSEI** - Started favourite for the reference race and was not disgraced in finishing 6th that day. Dark horse
12. **VILLA ROYALE** - Unreliable mare but she is seldom far off the mark on a going day. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
13. **THE CHAMP** - Has nothing noteworthy to his name for some time so does not warrant consideration here. Can be ruled out
14. **MASCALINO** - Undeniably capable but has been off the boil in his last two starts so needs to reaffirm. Watch for now
15. **GREY BELLE** - Has been beating around the bush for some time now and is closely matched with STORMY AIR (2) on recent form. Chance
16. **ATOME** - Unplaced in both outings this year but did catch the eye in the reference race. Will be a factor here

Summary : The form of the Prix de la Villa Persane, contested on this track, serves as the base here. Therefore, both STORMY AIR (2) and GRAY BELLE (15) constitute obvious points of support. ATOM (16) and HEARTBEAT (7) endured misfortune that day and are likely to pose more of a threat, so cannot be discounted. Of the remainder, PSF specialist GURZUF (5) makes most appeal with Christophe Soumillon engaged to ride.

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SELECTIONS

ATOME (16) - STORMY AIR (2) - GREY BELLE (15) - GURZUF (5)

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C9 - PRIX DU QUAI DE LA QUARANTAINE - 1500m (a7 1/2f) - ALL WEATHER - Divised Handicap - Class 3 - Flat - EUR € 21.000

1. **SANPEDRO** - Last-start winner with Maxime Guyon aboard and has been successful over this course and distance. Big runner
2. **LA FLACA** - Struggles to retain her form or any consistency and is unlikely to trouble the judge. Others make more appeal
3. **ILLOIS** - Unreliable but seldom finishes far off the mark on a going day. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
4. **KANDERAS** - Consistent, in good shape and is suited to this surface, so ought to be competitive. Not taken lightly
5. **MOON FLOWER** - Back on the right track and often does well racing on the fibresand. Has a good chance of getting into contention
6. **TOPINAMBUR** - Was in good form prior to his failure at Wissembourg last time. Capable of better and is too soon to write off
7. **MR SLICKER** - Nothing noteworthy to his name for a considerable period and can be easily ruled out as a result. Overlook
8. **PAINT IT BLACK** - Has incurred a penalty for winning in June but has run well since and at this venue too so ought to play a leading role
9. **ELUSIVE NELSON** - Has looked distinctly ordinary for some time now so her chances are limited here even at this level. Ignore
10. **STIRLING** - Has been struggling for some time now and is unlikely to trouble the judge here. Can be ruled out
11. **PLENTY CITY** - Maintaining a good level of form and consistency, and has won twice at this venue. Will make his presence felt again
12. **PINK VALENTINE** - Nothing noteworthy to her name for a considerable period now so can be ruled out. Others preferred
13. **OYAPOCK** - Struggles to retain any form or consistency so not likely to have a say here. Others make more appeal
14. **JOAO** - Nothing noteworthy to his name for a considerable period and can be easily ruled out as a result. Overlook
15. **DANCE COLONY** - Out of sorts and has struggled for some time now and unlikely to play a role in the finish. Can be ruled out
16. **BOZA** - Has been holding form well recently but has to overcome a wide No 16 stall to feature in the finish. Capable

Summary : Both in great shape, PAINT IT BLACK (8) and SANPEDRO (1) constitute two solid points of support in this handicap. BOZA (16) has against him an uncomfortable position in the starting stalls but could join the fight for victory. KANDERAS (4) and PLENTY CITY (11) are consistent and won't leave their share of the pie behind either. MOON FLOWER (5) could surprise.

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SELECTIONS

PAINT IT BLACK (8) - SANPEDRO (1) - BOZA (16) - KANDERAS (4)