

SUNDAY, 14/04/24

C1 - PRIX LORD SEYMOUR - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat - EUR € 52,000

1. RASHFORD - Smart, ultra-consistent colt with sound references/form credentials, including an encouraging last-start 2nd over 2400m at Saint-Cloud on his reappearance last month (21 March). Will strip fitter for that run so should fight for victory here

2. RUE BOISSONADE - A high-class performer who won last year's Group II Prix de Malleret over this course and distance before finishing 4th in consecutive Group I contests. Absent since finishing 6th in Qipco British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes on 21 October

3. GOLIATH - Won his first three starts, including a Listed race (all over this distance) before losing his unbeaten record when finishing 4th in the Group III Prix du Prince d'Orange at PairsLongchamp when last seen on 3 September. Respected on his return

4. VERT LIBERTE - Maturing, lightly raced (maiden) stayer with sound/consistent references in Group races - finished 5th in the Group I Qatar Prix du Cadran over 4000m at this venue. Absent since finishing 5th in a 3000m Fontainebleau Listed on 7 November

5. GALASHIELS - Highly regarded, lightly raced five-year-old whose two comeback outings on the PSF at Chantilly were very encouraging. Reverts to the turf for the first time this season after a fast-finishing/close-up 2nd over 1900m on 18 March

Summary: RASHFORD (1) made a very encouraging reappearance at Saint-Cloud following a five-month absence and would have tightened up with the benefit of that outing, so it should pay to follow his progress in this opening event. GALASHIELS (5) has caught the eye in both of his comeback outings on the PSF and could pose a threat back on the turf. RUE BOISSONADE (2) boasts solid Group I references and will have bigger targets on her agenda this season but has to be seriously respected on her return. GOLIATH (3) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

RASHFORD (1) - GALASHIELS (5) - RUE BOISSONADE (2) - GOLIATH (3)

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C2 - PRIX NOAILLES - 2100m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR € 80,000

1. CALANDAGAN - Confirmed the promise of his debut 3rd at Deauville in August by winning over 1900m on the PSF at Chantilly in October. Runner-up to BRIGHT PICTURE (7) on his seasonal introduction in a 2100m Listed race at ParisLongchamp on 16 March

2. SIBAYAN - Revealed considerable means as a two-year-old (won twice and finished 2nd) in three appearances last term. Confirmed that promise with a winning start to 2024 over 2150m in a Class 1 conditions race at Cagnes on 27 January. Respected

3. GOLDEN WEST - Undefeated British colt who won a 1600m PSF novice on debut at Newcastle in August and confirmed the encouragement of that victory by following up over 1700m at Epsom when last seen on 1 October. Could be anything - has to be respected

4. TRAFALGAR SQUARE - Ultra-consistent performer with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 3rd behind BRIGHT PICTURE (7) at Saint-Cloud in a Listed race over 2100m on 16 March. Won twice and finished 2nd three times in five previous outings

5. CASAPUEBLO - Won an 1800m maiden on the turf at Chantilly and backed that up with another course-and-distance success in a Class 2 conditional. Lost unbeaten record when 7th in the 2000m Group I Critérium de Saint-Cloud (22 October) - don't write off

6. BLACK RUN - Caught the eye on debut when finishing 3rd at Deauville in a lucrative Arqana Series des Poulains contest over 1400m. Built on that experience to open his on English soil over 1800m at Goodwood on 15 October - open to further progress

7. BRIGHT PICTURE - Unbeaten in two starts last year and looked even better when winning a Listed race over 2100m on his reappearance at Saint-Cloud on 16 March. Follow until beaten

Summary: BRIGHT PICTURE (7), unbeaten as a two-year-old after consecutive 1600m victories on the turf and PSF, was impressive on his reappearance in a 2100m Listed race over this distance at Saint-Cloud last month and, on the evidence of that victory over re-opposing CALANDAGAN (1), looks more than capable of preserving his 100% record and the step up to Group level. SIBAYAN (2), who has won 3 of 4 starts including his latest at Cagnes over 2150m in January, is progressive (destined for bigger/better things) and likely to pose a bigger threat if coping with this step up in class. Consistent TRAFALGAR SQUARE (4) finished 3rd behind the selection at Saint-Cloud last time, so competitive for a spot on the podium.

SELECTIONS

BRIGHT PICTURE (7) - SIBAYAN (2) - CALANDAGAN (1) - TRAFALGAR SQUARE (4)

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C3 - PRIX DU PAVILLON ROYAL - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Class 2 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 53,000

- 1. SIMPLY STRIKING** - Was very disappointing in the second half of last year and resumes here after a four-month absence. Well-beaten (15th) in a 1600m Quinte+ handicap on the PSF at Chantilly when last seen on 12 December
- 2. BULLACE** - Honest, versatile handicapper who established himself at this level on both surfaces last year - has sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 5th in a 1600m PSF Quinte+ on his reappearance at Chantilly on 30 March. Keep safe
- 3. GREENWOOD** - Won a Quinte+ against other three-year-olds in May last year but has blown hot and cold since. Seldom finishes far off the mark but has no more than a place chance here after a modest 5th over 1500m at Tarbes on 31 March - others preferred
- 4. TUMBLER** - Joined Nicolas Caullery's stable after finishing an improved/reassuring 2nd in an 1800m claimer at Compiègne (10 March) and didn't go unnoticed when 7th in a 1600m Quinte+ on the PSF at Chantilly on 30 March. Enjoys soft ground, dark horse
- 5. QUARTZ DU HOULEY** - Ultra-consistent colt with sound reference and form credentials (including a victory) in the Quinte+ category. Unplaced in both outings under a 3kg penalty but has the means to stake a claim - 6th in 1600m PSF Quinte+ at Chantilly on 30 March
- 6. LEV** - Found success hard to come by (won once in 18 starts), though has remained consistent/competitive off a slightly higher mark and has references at this level - was 5th in 1600m Quinte+ on PSF at Chantilly on 30 March. Candidate for success
- 7. NOLITO** - Finished a well-beaten 5th in the 1400m Prix Teddy at Saint-Cloud on his seasonal reappearance - showed signs he was in need of that outing on 12 March, so should fare better with improved fitness. Has proven his competitiveness at this level
- 8. MARZOUK** - A lightly raced/improving four-year-old gelding, rewarded for his consistency with a deserved first career win over 1600m at Fontainebleau on 15 March. Drawn in stall No 15 on his handicap/Quinte+ debut but has scope to improve - keep safe
- 9. ETEL DU NINIAN** - Maturing mare with four handicap victories (twice on both surfaces) from her last seven starts, including her latest on PSF at Deauville over 1400m on 4 November - up a total of 13kg as a result after her latest 2,5kg penalty. For another day
- 10. WOFF** - Won a 1600m PSF handicap at Cagnes in January but has struggled (finished unplaced) in both subsequent outings under a 3kg penalty - soundly beaten (12th) in a 1600m Quinte+ on the PSF at Chantilly on 5 March. Others preferred
- 11. COSMO BEAU** - Declared a non-runner in the April 9 event in Deauville, this veritable metronome falls back on this Quinté+. He returns to school, but discovers a prize theoretically within his reach. If he is not put off by the very soft ground, he will not be far from the truth.
- 12. MURCIANO** - Has held his own in four Quinte+ appearances - finished 3rd three times and was an encouraging 5th in the Prix Teddy at Saint-Cloud over 1400m on 12 March. Should have a role to play here back over a mile
- 13. NO LIMIT DREAM** - Hard-knocking handicapper who has thrived in the care of Edouard Lyon (since August 2023). Has sound references/form credentials in three starts at this level (twice 4th), including a last-start 6th in a 1400m Quinte+ at Saint-Cloud on 12 March

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14. PANDIA SELENE - Consistent, lightly raced filly who was soundly beaten (12th) on her reappearance at Chantilly in a 1600m PSF handicap on 30 March. Didn't go unnoticed in her only outing at this level (6th on PSF at Chantilly over 1900m) - for fans of outsiders

15. LINGOTTO - Consistent colt with sound references and form credentials, including a commendable 5th at Compiègne on his Quinté+ debut over 1800m on 19 March. Supplemented for this engagement after finishing 3rd in a handicap there on 29 March

16. MAX VERST - Performed consistently for most of 2023, winning 4 times, but appears to have lost his way this year on the evidence of his last 3 starts, in each of which he was soundly beaten at this level - the latest (8th) over 1800m at Compiègne on 19 March

Summary: LEV (6) has regained momentum with two encouraging comeback outings recently (finished an eye-catching 5th at Chantilly last time) and, on that evidence, is likely to fight for victory. COSMO BEAU (11) performed consistently/competitively in this category late last year and is capable of posing a threat, even on his reappearance. MURCIANO (12) has done little wrong since the start of his career and should make his presence felt too. LINGOTTO (15), on the right track after two improved efforts, last-start comeback winner MARZOUK (8), and TUMBLER (4), whose 7th in his first outing for Nicolas Caullery, also have the means to stake a claim. BULLACE (2) and NOLITO (7) are outsiders not without a chance.

SELECTIONS

LEV (6) - COSMO BEAU (11) - MURCIANO (12) - LINGOTTO (15)

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C4 - PRIX DE LA GROTTTE - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR € 80,000

1. CANDALA - Confirmed the promise of her course-and-distance debut 3rd in August by winning her next start at Chantilly on the turf over 1600m. Absent since that success on 28 September but open to improvement on her reappearance

2. MONTEILLE - Smart two-year-old last season, performed consistently/competitively at a good level. Runner-up in a Listed race and 3rd in a Group III contest (both over 1400m) in consecutive October appearances. Absent since the last of those on 27 October

3. ROSE BLOOM - High-class performer as a two-year-old. Won consecutive starts before suffering defeat for the first time when runner-up in the Group I Qatar Prix Marcel Boussac over course and distance on 1 October - absent since but has loads of ability

4. SPARKLING PLENTY - Unbeaten in two starts as a two-year-old and made a winning PSF debut on her reappearance over 1600m at Chantilly in February. Suffered defeat for the first time when finishing 3rd in a 1600m Listed race at Saint-Cloud on 16 March

5. NEVERCRY - Showed promise in back-to-back PSF outings over 1900m in February (3rd on debut and 2nd in her next start) and caught the eye in her first start on turf with blinkers fitted (retained) when 2nd in a 1600m Listed race at Saint-Cloud on 16 March

6. MINOUSHKA - Debut winner (1400m) at Compiègne but only 7th in 1400m Group III next start. She returned to form and has maintained consistency in 3 starts since (runner-up 2nd in the Prix Haras Bouquetot over track and trip in September). Encouraging 3rd on her reappearance on the PSF at Chantilly over 1600m on 14 March

7. TULIPA CHOPE - Exciting prospect who won four of her five starts last year, including two Listed events and a 1600m Group III at Deauville when last seen on 18 October. Looks the type to keep improving, so could be worth following

8. JULICA - Revealed considerable quality by winning three of her four starts last season - only defeat (8th) in the Group I Qatar Prix Marcel Boussac over track and trip on 1 October. Back to winning ways at Toulouse on 11 November but absent since

9. CETERA - Progressive last-start winner who scored on her reappearance and PSF debut over 1600m at Chantilly on 14 March. Open to further improvement

Summary: TULIPA CHOPE (7) enjoyed a fruitful 2023 campaign as a two-year-old and is likely to prove even better this term. She would've strengthened and improved over the winter, so could be worth siding with here on her reappearance. ROSE BLOOM (3), runner-up at Group I level last year, is the highest-rated runner in the race with the strongest form, so is another candidate for success. JULICA (8) lost her unbeaten record at Group I level and shouldn't be underestimated on her return. SPARKLING PLENTY (4) and CANDALA (1) have shown enough to warrant respect.

SELECTIONS

TULIPA CHOPE (7) - ROSE BLOOM (3) - JULICA (8) - SPARKLING PLENTY (4)

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**C5 - PRIX DE FONTAINEBLEAU - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat -
EUR € 80,000**

1. ZABIARI - Held in high regard by Jean-Claude Rouget and is seen as the trainer's main hope for the Poule d'Essai - won and finished 2nd twice each in his first four appearances. Acquitted himself well (5th) in Group I Prix Jean-Luc Lagardère on 1 October

2. BEAUVATIER - Best French two-year-old of 2023, having won 4 consecutive outings - including a Listed race and Group III contest - before losing his unbeaten record in the Group I Prix Jean-Luc Lagardère (finished a commendable 3rd) on 1 October. Follow

3. RAMADAN - Classy colt with a progressive profile. Confirmed the promise he showed last year with a winning reappearance in a 1600m Listed race at Saint-Cloud on 16 March

4. METROPOLITAN - Won on debut over 1600m on the turf at Deauville and maintained his unbeaten status by following up over the same trip on the turf at Chantilly when last seen (9 September). Absent since but is open to any amount of improvement - respect

5. TEN HORNS - On the podium in all 5 appearances - won twice and finished 3rd twice, including his latest appearance at Lyon-Parilly in a 1600m Listed race on 21 September. Dangerous to discount on his reappearance

6. GREY MAN - Won twice and runner-up 2nd three times in six starts as a two-year-old last season and confirmed his potential/quality by finishing 2nd in a 1600m Listed race on his reappearance at Saint-Cloud on 16 March. Should have more to offer

Summary: BEAUVATIER (2) was beaten for the first time in 5 starts but lost nothing in defeat when finishing 3rd in the Group I Prix Jean-Luc Lagardère over 1400m on this course last season, and makes his eagerly anticipated reappearance in a very winnable race. RAMADAN (3) is the only runner in the race with a comeback outing under his belt so should play a leading role, especially given the margin of his recent 1600m Listed victory at Saint-Cloud. ZABIARI (1) and GRAY MAN (6) showed last year that they, too, have the means to make their presence felt on their reappearances.

SELECTIONS

BEAUVATIER (2) - RAMADAN (3) - ZABIARI (1) - GREY MAN (6)

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C6 - PRIX JACQUES LAFFITTE - 1850m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat - EUR € 52,000

1. WOODCHUCK - Has some ability and was fourth last time out in a Conditions race at Chantilly over 2000m on 17 October. Tougher task but could make the frame

2. MQSE DE SEVIGNE - Ultra-consistent and was runner-up last time out in a Group 1 at Newmarket over 1600m on 7 October. Can win if fit from the break

3. AZKA - Usually gives of his best and was third last time out in a Conditions race at Chantilly over 2000m on 27 October. Capable of playing a minor role

4. ANTHORUS - Last win was in 2022 but has been consistent and was runner-up last time out in a Conditions race at Saint-Cloud over 1600m on 17 November. Tough task but could earn some minor money

5. SKALLETI - Loves this course and was by no means disgraced when third in a Group 1 at Germany over 2000m on 30 July. Deserves respect returning from a break

6. ANDROMEDE - A bit of a disappointment when only fifth in a Group 3 race at this course over 2000m on 3 September. Can contest the finish this shorter distance

7. TURN CARTWHEELS - Disappointing last run when only 8th in a Group 3 at Toulouse over 2100m on 11 November. Consistent before that and could play a minor role

8. SERIE - May have needed her last start when 7th in a Conditions race at Chantilly 1900m on 18 March. Fitter now but tackles stronger

Summary: MQSE DE SEVIGNE (2) only found one better on the day in Group 1 company at Newmarket last time out. She is returning from a break like most of the runners in this race so her fitness will need to be taken on trust but she is clearly the one to beat. SKALLETI (5), the veteran remains in very good form and should fight out the finish once again. ANDROMEDE (6) and WOODCHUCK (1) do have ability and deserve some respect.

SELECTIONS

MQSE DE SEVIGNE (2) - SKALLETI (5) - ANDROMEDE (6) - WOODCHUCK (1)

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C7 - PRIX DU PAVILLON DAUPHINE - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 27,000

- 1. MY UNIVERSE** - Regained momentum after two (unplaced) comeback outings and has dropped 1,5kg in the weights/ratings after finishing 7th over 1800m in a handicap at Compiègne on 29 March. Keep safe
- 2. HENRY THE LION** - Made an encouraging reappearance (finished 5th) over 1900m at Bordeaux on 16 March and ought to have come on since
- 3. RISING UP** - Unreliable handicapper with uninspiring recent form (unplaced in all 3 appearances this year), though has dropped in the weights/ratings and could resurface as a result. Was a well-beaten 12th in a 1500m turf Quinte+ at Cagnes on 26 February
- 4. L'IENISSEI** - Has alternated between handicaps and the claiming category with success in his last 4 outings. Finished 5th in an 1800m PSF claimer at Chantilly when last seen on 1 March
- 5. BOZZO** - Lightly raced gelding, seldom far off the mark but rarely threatens - finished 5th in a 1600m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 30 March. Outsider
- 6. MELBORA** - Won a 1500m turf handicap at Saint-Cloud off this mark in May last year but struggled in the second half of 2023 and has finished unplaced in both outings (PSF handicaps) this term. Finished 8th over 2100m at Chantilly on 1 March - overlook
- 7. COGNAC** - A 13-start maiden who lacks references in handicaps and is unlikely to open his account here. Didn't go unnoticed (6th) in a 1600m Quinte+ at Chantilly in sole handicap appearance but was 8th in a 3300m hurdles race at Cagnes on 14 December
- 8. HARTWOOD MAN** - Honest, versatile handicapper with sound references/form credentials at this level on both surfaces. Finished 8th in a PSF handicap over 1600m at Chantilly on 30 March but has to be respected with Mickaël Barzalona engaged
- 9. JACK O'BOY** - Unreliable veteran who showed his form and well-being by winning a 1400m handicap on his reappearance (5 April) at Saint-Cloud. Ought to remain competitive despite a 1,5kg penalty
- 10. AIGUIERE D'ARGENT** - Sparked improvement and showed signs of a return to form when 5th in a 1600m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 5 March. Confirmation required
- 11. SIMONS KING** - Showed considerable promise when arriving on French soil (won a Quinte+ 7,5kg higher than his current mark) but went off the boil some time ago. Can be ruled out - was 15th in a 1600m Chantilly PSF handicap when last seen (12 December)
- 12. LARNO** - Unplaced and soundly beaten in each of his 5 appearances this year, so is hard to make a case for. Well-beaten 14th over 1800m in a Quinte+ at Compiègne on 19 March
- 13. AMERICAN HOPE** - Won a 1500m PSF claimer at Deauville in December but has struggled (finished unplaced) in all 4 subsequent outings (this year). Can be overlooked on the evidence of his last-start 9th in an 1800m handicap at Compiègne on 29 March
- 14. TALISMAN TOUCH** - At the peak of his powers, in good form and physical condition - has strung together a fine run of competitive/consistent performances, including a last-start 2nd over 1800m in a Quinte+ at Compiègne on 19 March. Sets the standard

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15. INATTENDU - Has proven his competitiveness in both outings off this mark, having earned a 2,5kg penalty for winning three starts back. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th in a 1600m PSF handicap at Chantilly

16. MARLOWE - Showed his form and well-being recently in PSF handicaps (6th over 1400m at Deauville on 10 April) but has references on the turf. Dark horse under a lightweight

17. KING HARTWOOD - Won a 1600m turf handicap at Saint-Cloud in October but has struggled (finished unplaced) in all 6 subsequent outings. Hard to make a case for after finishing 9th in a 1600m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 30 March

Summary: TALISMAN TOUCH (14) has looked better than ever for several months and is a genuine contender for success in this handicap, having finished 2nd in a Quinte+ at Compiègne last time. MY UNIVERSE (1) would've come on since his latest Compiègne outing and ought to be competitive off a dangerous mark. INATTENDU (15) is also in good order (hasn't gone unnoticed in recent PSF handicaps at Chantilly) and warrants respect with Cristian Demuro aboard. Enigmatic HARTWOOD MAN (8) is unreliable but has the means to make his presence felt too, with the shortlist completed by the likes of JACK O'BOY (9) and HENRY THE LION (2). Others aren't out of it either!

SELECTIONS

TALISMAN TOUCH (14) - MY UNIVERSE (1) - INATTENDU (15) - HARTWOOD MAN (8)

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**C8 - PRIX DE LA MUETTE - 1850m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Handicap - Flat -
EUR € 25,000**

- 1. EXIGENCE** - Disappointing form of late and was 8th last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1800m on 25 March. Capable of better but others are preferred
- 2. MADEMOISELLE MIA** - Improving and was a solid winner of a Conditions race last time out at Fontainebleau over 1800m on 25 March. Can follow up on handicap
- 3. BIMBO** - Showed fair form on the PSF in first two starts but did not repeat it last time out when 9th in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 2200m on 2 March. More is needed to win
- 4. RUBY IN THE ROCKS** - Disappointing last run when 6th in a handicap at Fontainebleau over 1800m on 15 March. Capable of playing a minor role
- 5. SILLABUB** - Showed what she is capable when winning first crack on the grass in a Conditions race at La Teste-de-Buch over 2000m on 23 March. Can follow up on handicap debut
- 6. SHARQANA** - Won a claimer on debut but has been disappointing since and was 9th last time out in a handicap at Chantilly over 1900m on 28 March. Others are preferred
- 7. CLASH ROYALE** - Has only been modest of late and was 7th last time out in a Claimer at Chantilly over 2200m on 4 April. Others are much preferred
- 8. GRAND ANGEL** - Improving and ran well when third last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1400m on 2 April. Should be a threat on handicap debut
- 9. SUBLIME CHOPE** - Effective off this handicap mark and was fourth last time out in a handicap at Compiègne over 1600m on 29 March. Can do even better this time
- 10. NOUSDEUX** - Disappointing last run when 9th in a handicap at Compiègne over 1600m on 29 March. Capable of better and could be the surprise package of the race
- 11. DAROMY** - Yet to win a race but was not disgraced when fourth last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1800m on 25 March. Not out of it

Summary: MADEMOISELLE MIA (2) has just won nicely at Fontainebleau, over a similar distance, and seems correctly treated for her first handicap. GRAND ANGEL (8) was not disgraced when trying the grass last time out and could like this longer distance. SUBLIME CHOPE (9) remains on two good outings at this level and is not out of it. DAROMY (11) is battling to win a race but can get very close to the selection if running to the level of her last performance.

SELECTIONS

MADMOISELLE MIA (2) - GRAND ANGEL (8) - SUBLIME CHOPE (9) - DAROMY (11)