

R2 NANTES [L-H]

C1 - PRIX DE L'ASCENSION - 2275m (a1m1/2) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 24,000

- 1. KOEUR DE VANILLE** - Never far from losing his action, which he did here last December, but returns to racing shod which may be just the ticket. Attention
- 2. KING'S RETURN** - Produced a pair of good performances before losing his action at Graignes. Failed to make any impression on sole start at the venue but in current condition is unlikely to let the side down, provided he stays in stride
- 3. KOSTELLO DE LOU** - Has just the 2 races in him since the winter break. Stays shod and best to keep one's powder dry
- 4. KISS ME DU RUEL** - Undeniably capable but has got the new season off to a poor start and must get her house in order
- 5. KISS COOL MIJACK** - Hardy element that gave a very good account on comeback at Chartres in mid-March. Is confirmed here and in the day's configuration cannot be discounted
- 6. KRYSTA DE KERYANN** - Handy mare making first start since 19 February and with shoes on is unlikely to set off any fireworks
- 7. KAZAN DE VANDEL** - No slouch on a good day but has looked rather ordinary of late and must first re-establish his credentials
- 8. KINOHA D'OURVILLE** - Back under harness after 2 return runs in the other code. Is new to Nantes but has form at this level and the engagement of Matthieu Abrivard will do her prospects no disservice
- 9. KAISER TURGOT** - Barring an Enghien blip, has been in excellent shape this year. Comfortably won a 2200m Caen Class F late last month and is eminently capable of repeating
- 10. KERIBIA DU ROC** - Serious mare that took no time showing her form. Steps up in category after running 2nd in a Cholet Class F on 1 May and Julien Balu will be keen to keep their Nantes record intact
- 11. KANELLE DE TILLARD** - Has done little of note for some time and latest Graignes performance did little to convince
- 12. KOSMOPOLITAINE** - Has not once failed to deliver in 2 starts under these conditions. Would have picked up a cheque at Graignes had she kept trotting, but is reunited with Oliver Raffin for whom she goes well, and with application will be no pushover
- 13. KING AULNAIES** - Has not put a foot wrong since returning to competition in late-March. Is clearly close to his race and can finally open his Nantes account

Summary: Runner-up in both starts this term, it will not be long before KING AULNAIES (13) gets back in the winners' enclosure, but Franck Nivard will nevertheless be wary of Nantes debutant KAISER TURGOT (9) who, with Eric Raffin in the bike, has a realistic chance of imposing. Winner over longer here last autumn, KERIBIA DU ROC (10) ran close at Cholet early this month and even over this shorter trip can contest a place on the podium. KING'S RETURN (2) should not be too hastily-judged for faulting at Graignes and with Antoine Wiels reining will be expected to get back in the game.

SELECTIONS

KING AULNAIES (13) - KAISER TURGOT (9) - KERIBIA DU ROC (10) - KING'S RETURN (2)

C2 - PRIX PASCAL JOLY - 2275m (a1m1/2) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 21,000

- 1. NAO YAMM** - Qualified respectably at Meslay-du-Maine in April before losing his action at Cholet 2 weeks ago, first time out, and already looks outclassed
- 2. NEUTRON DE BRION** - Lost his action on debut at Durtal early this month. Left a good impression nevertheless and is unlikely to be far off the mark if Matthieu Abrivard keeps him trotting
- 3. NIKITA PERRINE** - Qualified decently last month but was trounced at Laval on racecourse bow 3 weeks ago, and has a lot more to find
- 4. NI OUI NI NON** - Debuted 3rd at Meral before running 2nd in a 2700m Graignes Class F 2 weeks ago. Takes on a better bunch this time but should nevertheless hold her own
- 5. NEW YORKER** - Debuted 3rd at Ecommoy in early-April prior to running 2nd in a 2500m Châtelailon-La Rochelle Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Is unlikely to get off the mark this time but can still look competitive for a place in the picture
- 6. NATACHA CASTEL** - Opened her account at Ranès in late-April, comfortably winning a 2150m Class G. Has earned the right to take her chances at this level and while not a priority, will sport front pads and is unlikely to return home empty-handed
- 7. NIMBUS DU COUDOU** - Has twice failed to confirm March success, most recently finishing last of 11 in a 3200m Fougeres Class G late last week, and is unlikely to garner much support
- 8. NOBEL DU GERS** - Well-related colt that met no opposition on debut early last month in a 2475m Royan Class F. Takes to a hard surface this time but, if as capable as his pedigree suggests, should double his money
- 9. NORMAN PIERJI** - Made short work of his debut, easily winning a 2850m Laon Class F early this month, winning in a good time. Competitively-shod on this occasion and looks principal danger to NOBEL DU GERS (8)
- 10. NORMAN HAPPY** - In the frame in both starts to date, most recently 3rd of 6 finishers in a 2825m Class F at Le Croise-Laroche 2.5 weeks ago. Is not about to lose his maiden label but has potential and is worth retaining

Summary: NOBEL DU GERS (8) did everything asked of him at Royan last month, first time out. He has been afforded time to get back in shape and, among the numerous good engagements that Eric Raffin has here, this is arguably the most exciting. That being said, he will still be keeping a watchful eye on Thierry Duvaldestin's NORMAN PIERJI (9) who will be fitted with front pads after smartly opening his account at Laon a fortnight ago. NEW YORKER (5) has been knocking at the door since last month's Ecommoy bow and can again make the frame. NEUTRON DE BRION (2) was quickly eliminated at Durtal but subsequently showed his form and must not be underestimated.

SELECTIONS

NOBEL DU GERS (8) - NORMAN PIERJI (9) - NEW YORKER (5) - NEUTRON DE BRION (2)

C3 - PRIX DE LIGNE - 3000m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 21,000

- 1. MAYA D'ECHAL** - Has never shown any aptitude for the harness code. Is here for a change of scenery and can be ignored
- 2. MIRACLE D'ALEXIANE** - Met no opposition when easily winning a Class F under these conditions earlier in the year. Benefits from a terrific entry and is very much in the picture
- 3. MAGICO** - Interesting trotter making first appearance since just missing out on the hat-trick last September. Front pads fitted and even in the absence of his trainer in the bike, he starts in front and can finish in the mix
- 4. MEPHISTONS DIDJEAP** - Kicked the season off superbly but eliminated in a Vincennes Class D 3 weeks ago. Would have finished 4th that day though and on better behaviour can make amends
- 5. MARBELLA** - Fine filly that just recently returned to competition after a lengthy stint on the sidelines and is going to need the race
- 6. MELODICA BELLA** - Has done almost everything right to date. Is unseen for over 3 months but showed at Maure that she is hot when fresh and, considering the stable's form, will be no soft touch
- 7. MY CHARMING** - Smart filly with decent harness credentials but stays shod for comeback and best to hold off
- 8. MILORD D'IRAI** - Modest colt starting for the first time since last October and will have nothing to offer
- 9. MOLLY DU VALLON** - Sent for a spell after 3 lacklustre runs this term. Is plainly useful when focused but will first need to re-establish her credentials
- 10. MAZAR DE VANDEL** - Quality individual with a pair of runs under his belt since the winter break. Sports modified shoeing and, if sufficiently fit, will not be far from the action
- 11. MISTER LOVE JULMA** - Has shown significant improvement since starting to race barefoot. Pleased on sole Nantes start and can again play a leading role
- 12. MANFREDO** - Serious colt that should not be condemned for losing his action at Chateaubriant 3 weeks ago. Has form in better company and enjoys a realistic chance of keeping his perfect left-handed record intact

Summary: Winner of his only left-handed start, and quite clearly in fine shape, the excellent MANFREDO (12) benefits from a superb entry, has been re-shod, and can wrap this up if he gets off on the right foot. A filly with a bright future, MELODICA BELLA (6) has not raced since imposing on her comeback in early-February, but will have been prepared for this and looks the main danger. MISTER LOVE JULMA (11) has taken his game to a new level recently and will be reunited with Guillaume Martin. Course-and-distance winner in January, MIRACLE D'ALEXIANE (2) has not raced since February but he starts in front, sports pads for the first time, and Eric Raffin has stayed faithful.

SELECTIONS

MANFREDO (12) - MELODICA BELLA (6) - MISTER LOVE JULMA (11) - MIRACLE D'ALEXIANE (2)

C4 - PRIX DE LA ROCHE-BLANCHE - 3000m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 24,000

1. **LIGNE DE CHANCE** - Unexceptional filly that finished unthreatening 6th behind LALOUISIA GIRL (2) in a 2975m Jallais Class H early this month and has no possible chance
2. **LALOUISIA GIRL** - Never far from losing her action but has bags of talent. Tends to show more going clockwise but with Eric Raffin back in the bike can be expected to garner the lion's share of support
3. **LANHELEN DU PILET** - Already has 36 races to her name but has yet to lose her maiden tag and is not about to this time either
4. **LADY DES SOURCES** - Made up for Laval elimination when victorious in a Nancy Class F 3.5 weeks ago. Is clearly in rude health and has a decent chance of giving LALOUISIA GIRL (2) a run for her money
5. **LUBIE DE LOIRON** - Makes Nantes debut after running 2nd in a Châtelailon-La Rochelle Class F on comeback 2 weeks ago. Will have improved for the race and on good behaviour can again finish close
6. **LEGENDE D'OLIVERIE** - Held her own to finish 4th in a Pontchateau Class E a month ago on first goal of the season. Is unlikely to shake things up but can nevertheless get in on the action
7. **LISBETH MIX** - Progressive filly starting for the first time in 4 months. Takes on a better lot this time but is in competition-mode and can get a look in
8. **LENA ZEN** - Benefits from a fine entry, and will race barefoot, but has not been at her sharpest lately and needs to raise her game
9. **LIYAVA** - Has just the one win to her name in 3 dozen starts. Showed her form at Laval last time but shoes on here and best to wait
10. **LAGUNA SECA** - Got back in the game at Vire last Friday when 2nd in a 2800m Class F. Front shoes off for the first time and, from the back row or not, still looks a player
11. **LOUMA DE MALOU** - Has not been seen out since being trounced in a Vincennes monte Class C last January and has nothing to offer here
12. **LUCIA DE LA CRIERE** - Oddly out of sorts at Saint-Brieuc late last month but has otherwise been in good shape and left a very good impression here earlier in the year. Forced to incur the handicap this time but can still make first 5

Summary: Capricious she may be but LALOUISIA GIRL (2) gave a reassuring account at Jallais earlier in the month and, barefoot for the occasion, can win this if Eric Raffin keeps her focused. He can nonetheless expect to encounter resistance from LADY DES SOURCES (4) who got back in the winners' circle at Nancy last month, and the tricky but capable LUBIE DE LOIRON (5) who gave a reassuringly-good account at Châtelailon-La Rochelle a fortnight ago. Inspiringly-named, and sporting a fresh formula, LAGUNA SECA (10) showed improvement at Vire late last week and even though incurring the penalty has been entrusted to Anthony Barrier for the first time and will have her chances.

SELECTIONS

LALOUISIA GIRL (2) - LADY DES SOURCES (4) - LUBIE DE LOIRON (5) - LAGUNA SECA (10)

C5 - PRIX DE POUILLE-LES-COTEAUX - 3000m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 24,000

- 1. LOUIS D'OR** - Modest individual that seldom makes his presence felt and is not about to change his ways
- 2. LAUTREC CARISAIE** - Pleasantly surprising winner of a 2800m Pontchateau Class E, at the expense of L'AMIRAL SACHA (10), early this month. Is unlikely to repeat but with form maintained can again figure prominently
- 3. LUCKY BLUE** - Flattering 5th in a 2800m Vire Class F last Friday. Goes first-time barefoot but is still not an obvious choice
- 4. LACSAP DREAM** - Useful trotter when focused but has failed to impress since the winter break and can expect to have few friends
- 5. LULO DE SUHARDIERE** - Useful on a good day but has been off the boil so far this term and has too much to do
- 6. LANCOME DE JUMILLY** - Honest element that ran 3rd in a Savenay Class F on re-entry early this month. Takes on a better bunch this time but will have come on for the run and cannot be discounted
- 7. LOUXOR TONIQUE** - Imposed on first barefoot start, comfortably securing a 2800m Cholet Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Mattheiu Abrivard in the bike this time and is not to be underestimated
- 8. LOKY D'ANCLEMAX** - Has no left-handed references but is hard to knock when focused. Is just 70 Euros from elimination, has won 3 times when shod and make it 4
- 9. LOCKED UP** - Handy dual-purpose trotter but has just the one race under his belt since the layoff and would be preferred barefoot
- 10. L'AMIRAL SACHA** - Serious type that has not once finished out of the first 3 in 8 provincial starts. Should take well to Nantes conditions and Eric Raffin gets the nod this time. Chance
- 11. LOVE YOU PHYT'S** - Put a trio of eliminations behind him to dominate a Chartres Class D 2.5 weeks ago. Won his only race at the venue and can repeat if Anthony barrier succeeds in keeping him focused
- 12. LEADER BEACH** - Did not enjoy the easiest of starts to his season but has since come good, latterly securing a Vitre Class E 11 days ago. Ran 3rd here earlier in the year and can again make the frame

Summary: Guillaume Marin could not have wished for a better engagement for LOKY D'ANCLEMAX (8) who gave a courageous account at Chateaubriant 3 weeks ago and, back to racing shod, is arguably the horse to beat this time. That said, he will meet opposition from L'AMIRAL SACHA (10) who, despite the extra 25m to travel, still looks dangerous. Both recent winners, LOVE YOU PHYT'S (11) and LEADER BEACH (12) are unlikely to disappoint even though both start on the back line.

SELECTIONS

LOKY D'ANCLEMAX (8) - L'AMIRAL SACHA (10) - LOVE YOU PHYT'S (11) - LEADER BEACH (12)

C6 - PRIX DE LA FETE DES COURSES - 3000m (a2m) - Class G - Mounted - EUR € 25,000

1. **KEVISE BECO** - Completely lost her way last summer and was eliminated on recent harness comeback. Disregard
2. **KARTING DU VIVIER** - In the frame in 2 of last 4. Has shown considerable aptitude for the discipline and, with application, is unlikely to disappoint. First 5
3. **JASON WILD** - Not the worst horse in the field but has been rather disappointing lately and with shoes fitted will have nothing to contribute
4. **KIRMANE DE LAVAU** - Returns to the ridden code after being trounced at Saint-Brieuc 2 weeks ago, and cannot be regarded a contender
5. **JIVASO EFBE** - Modest trotter with little flair for the monte discipline and is not a concern
6. **KAIRAVE DES BAUX** - Honest type that consistently gives his best. Will have progressed for his re-entry run and can get in on the action if he takes to the new profile
7. **KATENKINO** - Unraced under the saddle since placing at Arras last June. Has been entrusted to Guillaume Martin and warrants attention
8. **KARTING BOY** - Not the sharpest horse in the field, and comes here after 3 straight eliminations, but is well-engaged on the front row and can get a look in if he deigns to keep his action together
9. **KOALA DES ARCS** - Still somewhat tricky but has taken well to his new vocation. Has been reconfigured for return to the venue and, with application, can pick up a place cheque
10. **HOLAF D'OURVILLE** - Has failed to make any impact in either code this year and is unlikely to generate much interest
11. **KOME ON ERCA** - Put on a good show to secure a Saint-Brieuc Class F on 30 April. Tends to go well for Clement Frecelle, has won 3 of last 4 barefoot starts, and is not about to go down without a fight
12. **INDIGODARCHE** - Surprise 4th in a Graignes Class G a fortnight back but appears to have nothing going for him here
13. **KRACUS DE GUEZ** - Serious trotter that has never disappointed under the saddle. Smartly won a Vincennes Class C on 14 April and will be well-backed to repeat
14. **KAIROUAN GLAM** - Complicated sort but has decent monte form. Hind shoes off this time and can play a small role
15. **KROME** - Previously a good sort but has looked decidedly ordinary so far this season and will need to get his house in order

Summary: Although not entirely at his ease at Vincennes a month back, KRACUS DE GUEZ (13) nonetheless imposed in good order and, reunited with Eric Raffin, will be a tough nut to crack if focused. KOME ON ERCA (11) clinched victory at Saint-Brieuc 2 weeks ago on his first objective of the season and represents the main threat. Back racing left-handed after having pleasantly surprised at Meslay, and sporting 4 pads for the first time, KOALA DES ARCS (9) will have his chances if focused. KAIRAVE DES BAUX (6) has a race under his belt following a lengthy break, is 25m better off and, if fully-fit, can finish in the mix.

SELECTIONS

KRACUS DE GUEZ (13) - KOME ON ERCA (11) - KOALA DES ARCS (9) - KAIRAVE DES BAUX (6)

C7 - PRIX BRASSERIE LE QUINZE - 3000m (a2m) - Class D - Harness - EUR € 27,000

1. **JOREK** - Has only recently returned from an extended stint on the sidelines. Sports a fresh configuration but still not a priority
2. **KING DU PRESOIR** - Ended last season on a low note and has picked up this term where he left off. Ignore
3. **KASH MADRIK** - Has done nothing noteworthy since imposing at Vincennes in February 2024 and latest eliminations do little to inspire confidence
4. **KALINDA SPOKEN** - Back in the professional ranks after running 2nd in a Châtelailon-La Rochelle amateurs Class G 2 weeks ago. Is clearly in excellent shape, ran 3rd under these conditions in February, and from the front row can give this a good go
5. **KOBE BEJI** - Not the easiest of horses to use but has not put a foot out of line lately and can make a big splash if Eric Raffin keeps him focused
6. **KSAR UNICK** - Kicked the year off victoriously but has not been as sharp since. Shoes fitted this time and will have nothing to offer
7. **JIPANGA DE NILE** - Unremarkable mare with better prospects at a lower level and can be confidently ruled out
8. **KARELLE DU DORAT** - Useful mare that ran 3rd here earlier in the year but is in conditioning-mode this time and is not an obvious choice
9. **KUROKO LAUAR** - Gave a better account at Vincennes late last month than the result would suggest. Is unlikely to win this but is well-entered, re-shod and, with form maintained, can make first 5
10. **KABRI** - Gave a fine account at Fougères a fortnight ago when 2nd in a 3200m Class E. Goes barefoot this time, is ideally-placed on the front line, and can bring the fight to KYRIA BELLA (14)
11. **KAFU** - Fine servant with excellent Nantes references but has not been seen out since 21 February and will need the run
12. **JOY DU RIF** - Failed to confirm Toulouse performance when eliminated in a Pontchâteau Class E a fortnight ago, and the penalty does her chances no favours
13. **KARLA DE BANVILLE** - Has a pair of races under her belt since the break. Has never failed to fire at Nantes and should prove competitive for a place cheque
14. **KYRIA BELLA** - Won on re-entry early last month, then ran 3rd in a Laval Class D a fortnight back. Has shown a liking for Nantes and even from the 2nd row is very easy to like for the win
15. **KAZAN BEACH** - Quality individual but stays shod following recent Vincennes performance and best to hold off
16. **KELYO DU SOLNAN** - Gelding with ample ability but eliminated in both starts since the break. Reverts to a previous configuration, is well-engaged here, and will not be far from the action if Nils Pacha manages to keep him trotting

Summary: Difficult to knock when focused, and confirmed under these conditions, KYRIA BELLA (14) has been most impressive since returning to competition. Second on her only Nantes run, she looks a marginally better bet than the barefoot and in-form KABRI (10) who benefits from a terrific entry on the front row. KOBE BEJI (5) has been like a horse reborn over recent weeks and the Eric Raffin-factor must be taken into account. KARLA DE BANVILLE (13) returns to a track she likes after a pair of conditioners and can challenge for a place in the picture.

SELECTIONS

KYRIA BELLA (14) - KABRI (10) - KOBE BEJI (5) - KARLA DE BANVILLE (13)

C8 - GRAND PRIX DU PAYS D'ANCENIS - 3000m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 30,000

- 1. HISTOIRE DE LIERRE** - Gave a good account on return from a spell when 4th in an amateurs Class F at Vincennes late last month. Sports a new configuration but at this level is not an obvious choice
- 2. HAHICHA GIRL** - Showed the limit of her capacity in this category when last of 12 to JALNA GIRL (8) in a Jallais Class F earlier in the month and can be passed over
- 3. ICONE PONT VAUTIER** - Opened her 2026 account at Senonnes-Pouancé early this month, but in this field is the weakest link
- 4. JAVA DE BOITRON** - Has twice failed to confirm Pontchateau success but can trot when focused and cannot be ruled out
- 5. JONQUILLE DE MEAT** - Hardy mare that pleased in the amateur category on re-entry at Pontchateau 2 weeks ago. Takes on a better lot here though and chances appear limited
- 6. JAVA DU CHERISAY** - Form has done nothing but regress of late and will have nothing to contribute
- 7. JUSTICE BRICKELL** - Came 3rd in an Enghien Class D in mid-April before running 6th to JALNA GIRL (8) in a Jallais Class F earlier in the month. Is back on a hard surface though and, simply superb at Nantes, is easy to fancy for a first-5 payout
- 8. JALNA GIRL** - Has excelled in both the amateur and professional ranks this year. Has won 4 of last 5 and will be expected to make her Nantes bow a triumphant one
- 9. JUMBY BAY** - Has not put a foot out of line all season, latterly 4th behind JALNA GIRL (8) in a 2350m Angers Class E on 1 April. Comes here fresh, with hind shoes off, and will be no shrinking violet. Chance
- 10. ITALICA** - Seldom disappoints and has been competing well in good company lately. Is new to the venue but has shown considerable versatility and can finish close
- 11. HEIDI DU BISET** - Mixes the good with the less-good but seems to have lost her way somewhat and must first reaffirm
- 12. JOSEPHA CHOUP** - Has been in cracking form so far this season. Conditioned nicely at Royan and, plainly in race-mode this time, can play a prominent role
- 13. ISIS DE SYVA** - Failed to live up to expectations when 7th to JALNA GIRL (8) in a Jallais Class F earlier in the month. Matthieu Abrivard in the bike though and should not be overlooked

Summary: JALNA GIRL (8) has enjoyed quite the renaissance since being reunited with Eric Raffin and looks to be on the cusp of securing her first hat-trick. After a winless but productive winter in Paris, JUMBY BAY (9) prepped nicely behind her at Angers and will be competitively-shod this time. ITALICA (10) is as dependable as they come, goes as well left-handed as right-, and in current condition can finish close. JOSEPHA CHOUP (12) has a particular fondness for Nantes, is barefoot following a good Royan prep, and has the wherewithal to trot her way into the money.

SELECTIONS

JALNA GIRL (8) - JUMBY BAY (9) - ITALICA (10) - JOSEPHA CHOUP (12)

TODAY'S SELECTIONS

Horse of the day
MANFREDO (312)

Outsider of the day
KUROKO LAUAR (709)

Reverse forecast
LOKY D'ANCMAX (508) - L'AMIRAL SACHA (510)

Three pick of the day

MANFREDO (312) - LOKY D'ANCLEMAX (508) - KYRIA BELLA (714)