

THURSDAY, 18/01/24

R3 CAGNES-SUR-MER [L-H]

**C1 - PRIX DE MONS - 1500m (a7 1/2f) - TURF - Handicap - Flat - EUR €
15.000**

- 1. MI C'INFILO** - Shot up 9,5kg for winning three consecutive outings in November. Has regained freshness since but hasn't won off a mark this high
- 2. CALIFANO** - Inconsistent of late but remains a capable sort with sufficient means to play a leading role. Not taken lightly
- 3. PACO** - Consistent sort in good form and physical condition, which can also be said of his trainer whose stable is enjoying a purple patch. One to beat
- 4. POWER PAPERS** - Out of sorts at present but well to climb the ranks last year, so is not incapable of resurfacing in a race of this nature
- 5. ALROUCHA** - Unreliable but not incapable of getting into the picture judged on her best references. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
- 6. CHICHIMADAME** - The highest-rated runner in the race with sound form references to her name. Finished 5th recently on her reappearance at Deauville, so warrants respect here
- 7. FIRST LADY TIME** - Finished a reassuring 2nd last time but will need to build on that progress to get a look in here. Dark horse
- 8. SAMBA VANILLA** - Proven at this level and has won off of higher marks in the past, so could get into the picture. Place chance
- 9. WASACHOP** - Struggling to regain any form or show signs of improvement needed to be competitive here, so unlikely to trouble the judge

Summary : Jérôme Reynier won four races at the opening fixture of the meeting and consistent PACO (3) is likely to continue the stable's hot streak by winning here. CALIFANO (2), a regular at this meeting, has been inconsistent of late but retains sufficient means to pose a threat. CHICHIMADAME (6) finished 5th on her reappearance at Deauville last time and is the highest-rated runner in the lineup, so ought to be competitive in a race of this nature with improved fitness on her side. POWER PAPERS (4) appeals most of the remainder.

SELECTIONS

PACO (3) - CALIFANO (2) - CHICHIMADAME (6) - POWER PAPERS (4)

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C2 - PRIX DES COQUELICOTS - 1600m (a1m) - ALL WEATHER - A RECLAMER - Flat - EUR € 16.000

- 1. RUBY IN THE ROCKS** - Consistent filly with sound form references, including consecutive recent outings over longer distances. Has never finished worse than 2nd in three outings over this trip
- 2. LORD MIESQUE** - Has looked decidedly ordinary for some time now so her chances here, even at this level, are limited. Others preferred
- 3. PROKOVIEV** - Improved last time to finish 2nd in a claiming race at Deauville in December. Will have more to offer
- 4. MOUJDAB** - Unreliable but did finish 2nd in a Marseille maiden two starts back, so has claims at this level on that form
- 5. DO IT FOR ME** - Seldom far off the mark in recent outings and has already won at this level of competition, so is capable of redeeming herself here
- 6. GEE WHIZZER** - Confirmed the improvement of her previous outing (5th) by finishing 4th last time at Pau. Should have a role to play
- 7. POMELEO** - A consistent performer in this category and boasts sound form references at this level. Will be competitive for he places
- 8. BLACK MAMBA** - Struggling to regain any form or show signs of improvement needed to be competitive here, so unlikely to trouble the judge
- 9. ZHANNA** - Struggling to regain any form or show signs of improvement needed to be competitive here, so unlikely to trouble the judge
- 10. URBAN CHOPE** - Out of sorts and not likely to trouble the judge here on the evidence of recent displays. For another day

Summary : Consistent RUBY IN THE ROCKS (1) is the highest-rated of the runners engaged in this claiming event and, with the benefit of her rider's 1,5kg allowance, ought to appreciate the drop back in trip to a more suitable distance, so gets the nod here ahead of improving PROKOVIEV (3) who finished 2nd when last seen and is likely to make further progress, especially at this level. Both GEE WHIZZER (6) and MOUJDAB (4) are also capable of challenging for a spot on the podium.

SELECTIONS

RUBY IN THE ROCKS (1) - PROKOVIEV (3) - GEE WHIZZER (6) - MOUJDAB (4)

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**C3 - PRIX CHERET - 2150m (a1 5/16m) - TURF - A RECLAMER - Flat - EUR
€ 16.000**

- 1. DECIDEMENT** - Inconsistent but has finished 3rd on both this surface and turf, so has the means to be competitive at this level
- 2. CLASH OF CURRENTS** - Inconsistent although not entirely incapable of getting a look in here. Has more of a place chance than a winning one
- 3. MIDDLE KICK** - Runner-up in consecutive outings before finishing a creditable 5th last time. Won't be inconvenienced by either longer distance or change of surface
- 4. YOUNG GENTLEMAN** - Changed hands after winning a claiming race at Nantes two starts back before finishing 4th last time at Le Croisé-Laroche for new connections. Leading light
- 5. RATEL KABOWD** - Has looked decidedly ordinary for some time now so her chances here, even at this level, are limited. Others preferred
- 6. SECRET CHOPE** - Struggling to regain any form or show signs of improvement needed to be competitive here, so unlikely to trouble the judge
- 7. HAYSSOUVIE** - Seldom finishes far off the mark and did not go unnoticed last time (6th) in her first outing at this level. Place chance
- 8. LIANE** - Out of sorts last time (8th) and isn't likely to trouble the judge here on the evidence of recent displays. For another day
- 9. SHEEMA'S ROSE** - Well-bred Edouard Monfort-trained Anodin filly who needn't be special to play a leading role on debut in a race of this nature
- 10. TESUMI** - Caught the eye with an improved staying-on 4th at Lyon-La Soie earlier this month. Needs to confirm that improvement

Summary : An open claiming race that could go the way of MIDDLE KICK (3), a winner at this level on turf last summer. She's been 2nd in two of her last three starts so wouldn't be winning out of turn, and won't be bothered by either the switch to this surface or step up to this longer distance. Already a winner in this category, YOUNG GENTLEMAN (4) is also capable of fighting for victory if as effective over this longer trip. DECIDEMENT (1) is another with claims in his first start at this level, as is debutante SHEEMA'S ROSE (9).

SELECTIONS

MIDDLE KICK (3) - YOUNG GENTLEMAN (4) - DECIDEMENT (1) - SHEEMA'S ROSE (9)

THURSDAY, 18/01/24

**C4 - PRIX DE CAILLE - 2000m (a1 1/4m) - ALL WEATHER - Class - Flat -
EUR € 16.000**

- 1. MUELHEIMER PERLE** - Inconsistent of late but did not go unnoticed last time (6th). Proven at this level and is comfortable on this track, so has a lot in her favour here
- 2. WHITE WHISKY** - Has looked decidedly ordinary for some time now so her chances here, even at this level, are limited. Others preferred
- 3. SPARKEL FOR US** - Would have gained plenty from the experience of his debut outing (6th) and should have more to offer
- 4. LEPTI PRINSADI** - Out of sorts and not likely to trouble the judge here on the evidence of recent displays. For another day
- 5. ETHION** - Finished 4th in a Quinté+ on this course last winter and has never finished worse than 3rd in five outings at this level
- 6. WOODY WOOD** - Confirmed the improvement of his previous outing (2nd) with a last-start success and could play another leading role in his first start at this venue
- 7. GEOPOLITIC** - Acquitted himself very well (5th) in a competitive field in his first start on French soil. Could have more to offer
- 8. LORD OF THE ALPS** - Consistent veteran who finished 4th on his return to French soil last time. Could have a role to play here if confirming that form
- 9. SHANAKILL** - Seldom finishes far off the mark so could get into the picture here, though has no more than a place chance
- 10. KING OF MEADOWS** - Successful in the claiming category before failing to take advantage of a favorable trip last time when finishing unplaced in a handicap. Can do better
- 11. DAINTY BIT** - Miroslav Rulec-trained De Treuille gelding to be ridden on debut by Stéphane Pasquier. For another day

Summary : MUELHEIMER PERLE (1) is the highest-rated runner in the race and will appreciate a return to this track, so she is preferred to consistent LORD OF THE ALPS (8), who is also a candidate for success. ETHION (5) returned to form last time and has never disappointed at this level, so ought to pose a threat too. GEOPOLITIC (7) and last-start winner WOODY WOOD (6) are capable of challenging for a spot on the podium.

SELECTIONS

MUELHEIMER PERLE (1) - LORD OF THE ALPS (8) - ETHION (5) - GEOPOLITIC (7)

THURSDAY, 18/01/24

C5 - PRIX DU VAL BORRIGO - 1300m (a6 1/2f) - TURF - Divised Handicap - Flat - EUR € 24.000

1. I DARE - Arrives in poor form and faces an uphill battle against some in form opponents. Weight off the back is the only positive. Hard to fancy

2. WINNAN - Inconsistent type that isn't currently thriving and needs to show a lot more enthusiasm in order to feature. Would be a surprise winner

3. SLEEPY SUZY - Arrives in solid, hard-knocking form following a narrow defeat at her last start when back in 2nd position. Principle contender

4. DON FALCO - Put his best foot forward when winning in his first start for the year over 1500m but is up in class for this event. Others preferred

5. ASTRACHEM - Finished 4th in his final start for 2023 over 1500m but he faces a tougher task here, now rising in Class. Capable but not reliable

6. VAUTRIN - Finished 8th in his first run for the year over this trip and more is required if he is to start challenging. Easy to pass by

7. PINK VALENTINE - Ran a nice race back in 3rd last time out over 1300m and could certainly earn once again despite meeting a competitive field. Place chance

8. BOZA - Cracking performance just three days ago when finishing 3rd over 1600m at this venue and he seems to be ideally placed. Big runner

9. THE DIG - This gelding has come a long way down in the ratings and could start featuring more prominently over a more suitable distance. Can pop up

10. WHY CHOPE - Last victory came over this trip in August last year and she now looks to be on a more realistic mark. Expect some improvement

11. URI - Drawn next door to Boza who finished in front off him three days ago and he should get every opportunity to win here. Solid claims

12. BLOOD CHOPE - Finished 6th last time out over 1300m and her form prior was very pleasing over this trip. Should be in the shake up

Summary : BOZA (8) is a very fit horse heading into this event and was a touch unlucky a few days ago so he could make amends here. SLEEPY SUZY (3) is running to a useful level and is getting close to another victory which doesn't seem far away. URI (11) was just behind Boza last time out and could certainly turn the form around with a bit of luck on his side. BLOOD CHOPE (12) enjoys this trip and should run a good race once again.

SELECTIONS

BOZA (8) - SLEEPY SUZY (3) - URI (11) - BLOOD CHOPE (12)

THURSDAY, 18/01/24

C6 - PRIX D'ANNONCIADE - 1300m (a6 1/2f) - TURF - Divised Handicap - Flat - EUR € 28.000

- 1. ROSANNE DU GOUET** - Inconsistent type that doesn't bring in the most inspiring form and will need to up her game to challenge. Unreliable type
- 2. TILL WE DIE** - Finished 6th over 1000m at her most recent outing but will need to up her game against this lot. One to pass by
- 3. WIND OF CHANGE** - This gelding tends to flash up when least expected so is hard to assess and his form isn't consistent enough to have confidence in his ability. Hard to fancy
- 4. DROIT DE PAROLE** - Jumps from a deep draw which is a slight negative but the apprentice is retained and his last start was pleasing when finishing 3rd. Include in the play
- 5. ELUSIVE FOOT** - Won a nice race in his first start for 2024 over 1500m and there could be more to come from him with his confidence booming. Strong winning chance
- 6. J'AURAIS DU** - This individual has already had two runs in 2024 and ran a very nice race when back in 2nd position 5 days ago. Should run well
- 7. SCARFACE** - His last run which came on the 6th of January this year wasn't the greatest but his form prior is excellent and should be able to reproduce that here. Include in all bets
- 8. OCEAN** - Finished 4th at this venue a few days ago and will be a pretty fit horse heading into this event with the drop in trip in his favor. Can win this
- 9. OISSEL** - 2023 wasn't the best year for this filly who had very patchy form and she will be looking to start off the new year on the right foot. Improvement is required
- 10. MOWAEVA** - Two years without a win and despite coming down in the ratings, his recent form hasn't improved which doesn't help his claims. Others make more appeal
- 11. MONSIEURVALCHOP** - Showed a lot of courage to win last time out and receives weight off the back which is an advantage and he can compete strongly. Must inclusion
- 12. HY DREAM** - Arrives in poor form and a complete turnaround is needed if she is to find herself being competitive. Would be a shock winner

Summary : ELUSIVE FOOT (5) has been very competitive in this grade and found the in drop in class to his liking last time out. He is very much the one to beat. J'AURAIS DU (6) just found one two good last time out and could go one better in this. SCARFACE (7) is better judged on previous form which could see him run a big race. OCEAN (8) is one that can never be ignored and brings the right credentials into this.

SELECTIONS

ELUSIVE FOOT (5) - J'AURAIS DU (6) - SCARFACE (7) - OCEAN (8)

THURSDAY, 18/01/24

C7 - PRIX DE LA GAUDE - 2500m (a1 9/16m) - TURF - Divised Handicap - Flat - EUR € 24.000

- 1. BREIZH WOOD** - Runner up in his last two races and he's got an apprentice aboard again which could just be the what he needs to extract that bit extra. Go very close
- 2. DOCTEUR TOURNESOL** - Ran a very good 3rd two starts back over a similar trip and he looks perfectly poised to put in a bold showing. Will run well
- 3. WINELATO LAUJAC** - Not in the greatest form at present and needs to do more to keep her followers interested despite dropping in the ratings. Easy to pass by
- 4. SAPRISTI** - He has had five starts to date in which he hasn't shone and his career seems to be going downhill. Would be a shock winner
- 5. SWEET WISH** - Her form towards the back end of 2023 and the start of 2024 seems to have tapered off and more is needed now with the cheekpieces applied. Others preferred
- 6. CELEB** - Remains a maiden after eleven outings but hasn't been too far off the action lately which could indicate that he is in for a big performance. Warrants an inclusion
- 7. ZEPHYR DE LA MARE** - His last two efforts have not been ideal but he drops back in trip which could see him run an improved race off a reasonable mark. Outside place chance
- 8. PATZESTEVE** - Eleven runs as a maiden and recent form is solid enough to see him hold decent claims in this. Place chance
- 9. SUCCUBA** - Finished 8th last time out and her form leaves very little to be desired. Further step up in trip. Hard to fancy
- 10. COCO LOVE** - Three efforts to date for three 8th placed efforts and there isn't much going for her at present. Hard to fancy
- 11. SENDMEASTAR** - Finished 5th in a claimer last time out where she was far from disgraced and she could get involved for the minor spots. Place chance at best
- 12. TORINOBELLO** - Remains a maiden after twelve outings and he isn't doing a lot currently to have any confidence in his chances. Easy to look elsewhere
- 13. NOIRELLE** - No show from five appearances to date and a lot more is needed if she is to be a threat. Would be a shock winner
- 14. SPELLBINDER** - Finished 7th in her first start for the year and her overall form is rather moderate so she is likely to battle here. One to pass by

Summary : BREIZH WOOD (1) is knocking on the door and it could finally open for him with 1.5kgs off the back. DOCTEUR TOURNESOL (2) has the right credentials and will be very effective. CELEB (6) does enough to keep one interested and he will be in the shake up. PATZESTEVE (8) has been consistent without winning and should earn again.

SELECTIONS

BREIZH WOOD (1) - DOCTEUR TOURNESOL (2) - CELEB (6) - PATZESTEVE (8)

THURSDAY, 18/01/24

C8 - PRIX DE SAINT-JEANNET - 2500m (a1 9/16m) - TURF - Divised Handicap - Flat - EUR € 28.000

- 1. TOP OF MIND** - Finished 6th last time out when dropped in Grade, failing to muster anything useful but isn't one to just dismiss. Can pop up
- 2. CATCH THE STARS** - Bounced back to winning ways with a fine display last time out and more can be expected from this colt whose already won four times. Winning claims
- 3. YES ZARA** - Finished a close up 3rd over 2500m last time out and on the evidence off that performance, she could be a serious threat. Include in all bets
- 4. WUKHANN** - Seldom far off the action but will need to up his game if he is to win in a race of this nature. Others make more appeal
- 5. MANADA** - Winner of her most recent start over 2400m and she will have a chance to repeat the dose in a highly competitive field.
- 6. ONE POINT** - Showed great determination to win over 2400m last time out and with her confidence restored, she could win again. Strong chance
- 7. KAR VERT** - Won a nice race on debut but has failed to kick on with his career since then and needs to do more to feature. One that could surprise
- 8. MONA TREZY** - Ran an improved race over 2400m last time out but will need to confirm that promise here. Upset potential
- 9. WAITARA** - Well held back in 4th last time out but steps up significantly in trip which could extract some improvement. Place claims at best
- 10. DREAM WUKAIR** - Showed her best form to win over 2350m at her latest outing but will find it slightly tougher to repeat that. Place chance
- 11. AIXELLENCE** - Ran a fair 3rd two starts back and with the form of that run expected to be franked a race earlier, he could offer some value. Worth an inclusion
- 12. WONDER OF YOU** - Cristian Demuro takes over in the ions which is a very interesting jockey arrangement given that this individual doesn't represent the best form. More needed
- 13. WHYDAH GALLY** - Showed a bit early on in his career but his last two runs have been rather average and based on that, it's hard to fancy his chances. One to pass by
- 14. ROCH** - Arrives with uninspiring form and a huge amount more is needed if he is to get involved for the minor positions. Unlikely winner

Summary : ONE POINT (6) did everything right to win last time out and she should make her presence felt in a big way considering she's never far off them. CATCH THE STARS (2) put his best foot forward to recapture some of his earlier form and will be a player. YES ZARA (3) bounced back to find a determined finish last time out and needs to be respected again. MANADA (5) needs to be respected in this line up.

SELECTIONS

ONE POINT (6) - CATCH THE STARS (2) - YES ZARA (3) - MANADA (5)