

R1 LE CROISE-LAROCHE [L-H]

C1 - GRAND NATIONAL DU TROT - 2825m (a2m) - Gr3 - Harness - EUR € 90,000

- 1. KARNAC WOOD** - Won Gr.3 Prix Michel Marcel Gougeon to kick off the new year. Most recently secured a Laval Class D and can give this a good go if he takes to the new profile
- 2. JOY DU CARNOIS** - Has run 2nd in all 4 starts this year, latterly a Marseille-Borely Class D on 17 April. Imposed last time here but seems to be taking on too much
- 3. JENTIL DIESCHOOT** - Made up for Marseille-Borély blip when 3rd, a place behind IALTO D'HERTALS (15), in GNT Gr.3 at Chateaubriant a month ago. Is unlikely to set off any fireworks but can still make first 5
- 4. JET EXPRESS** - Put in a good showing on re-entry at Caen 11 days ago. Pleased on sole start at the venue and from the front row can give KARAMBAR (9) a run for his money
- 5. HALL BLACK MESS** - Has twice failed to confirm 2nd place to JENTIL DIESCHOOT (3) in the Amiens leg in early-March. Is unlikely to take Le Croise-Laroche by storm but breaks in front and can pick up a cheque
- 6. INDIEN DE FONTAINE** - Steps up in category after coming 3rd in a Vincennes Class C 2.5 weeks ago and faces a very stiff test
- 7. HONEY KING** - Has been very disappointing so far this year and considering the opposition will have nothing to contribute
- 8. INHERIT** - Won a Vincennes Class C to kick off 2026 but has since come off the boil. Reverts to a previous formula but still offers little hope
- 9. KARAMBAR** - Won a pair at Vincennes before coming 2nd in a 2850m Class A here on 17 April. Has won 5 of last 7 barefoot starts and is in with a realistic shout of winning this
- 10. INDUS VAL** - Good servant that came 3rd, a place behind HURRICANE CARTER (12), in a 2100m Vincennes Class B 2.5 weeks ago, but at this level will need to find more
- 11. KANTO AVIS** - Capricious but capable individual making first appearance since coming 3rd in a Cagnes Class B in late-February. Is in better company this time though and is not about to spring any surprises
- 12. HURRICANE CARTER** - Put last month's comeback run behind him to come 2nd in a Vincennes Class B 2.5 weeks ago. Takes on a tougher bunch this time but can still play a small part
- 13. HEDIC GEMA** - Twice showed the limits of his capability last month, latterly 7th behind KARAMBAR (9) in a Vincennes Class A on 17 April, and can expect to have few friends
- 14. INVICTUS MADIBA** - Gave a good account on his first start back, coming 4th to KARAMBAR (9), at 106-1, in a Vincennes Class A on 17 April. Will not be available at such a generous price this time but is unlikely to be as competitive either
- 15. IALTO D'HERTALS** - Runner-up in all 5 starts since the turn of the year. Is as comfortable going left-handed as right- and will be expected to finish close once more
- 16. IBISCUS MAN** - 3rd in a 2825m Class D here in early-March. Enjoys a particularly good engagement and while not a priority is not to be entirely discounted either

Summary: In cracking form before being sent for a rest, KARAMBAR (9) has picked up this term where he left off and has every chance of making his debut at the track a winning one. Impressive on his recent Caen comeback, JET EXPRESS (4) is 25m better off and may yet represent the main danger. IALTO D'HERTALS (15) is a model of consistency when barefoot and even though incurring the penalty will be no easy touch. Recent Laval winner, KARNAC WOOD (1) is easy to like for a place in the picture. Winner of the Amiens leg in March, JENTIL DIESCHOOT (3) most recently pleased just behind the Duvaldestin horse at Chateaubriant and is unlikely to be far off the mark.

SELECTIONS

KARAMBAR (9) - JET EXPRESS (4) - IALTO D'HERTALS (15) - KARNAC WOOD (1)

**C2 - GRAND NATIONAL DES AMATEURS - 2800m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Drivers - Harness - EUR €
8,000**

- 1. KOQUETTE LIRE** - Surprise winner of a 2700m amateurs Class G here on 13 April but was unable to confirm a fortnight later, and others easier to back
- 2. KANZA DE NAVARY** - Failed to confirm Nancy performance when unplaced in a minor professional event at Gournay-en-Bray 10 days ago. Benefits from a 1st line break here though and can pick up some crumbs
- 3. KASHMIR PRESTANCE** - Reliability not his strong suit but has solid Croise-Laroche form. Has raced little to date, sports front pads for the occasion, and from the front row can have a say in the outcome
- 4. HOOKER DU PECH** - Well-known at this level and always gives his best. Has 2 runs under his belt and while unlikely to get his nose in front, can nevertheless compete for a first-5 payout
- 5. JUST LIKE A DREAM** - Consistently in the thick of things in the amateur division, latterly 3rd in a 2700m Class G here on 27 April. Enjoys a front-line break and will be no shrinking violet
- 6. JACKPOT DE VIETTE** - 2nd in a 2800m Strasbourg amateurs Class G a week ago. Has no particular fondness for the venue and can be ignored
- 7. INKERMEN DE PLAY** - Very hard to fault at this level and has been excelling on both turf and hard surfaces. Breaks from the 2nd line, has never delivered at the venue, but current condition bodes well for his prospects
- 8. JURASSIC** - Is reunited with Sven Hoste who drove him to victory under these conditions last October. Presents fine credentials at the venue and even from the 3rd row can finish close
- 9. IMPACT DE L'ITON** - Capable on a good day and has references at this level, but has just one race under his belt and the 50m handicap will do nothing for his amateur's morale
- 10. ISSI TOP** - Won an amateurs Class F at Vincennes on penultimate start of the winter. Is head-and-shoulders better than most of these and can wrap this up if he manages to overcome the handicap

Summary: ISSI TOP (10) may have imposed here just the once but he tends to acquit himself well otherwise. He has not been seen out since early-February but is confirmed when fresh and even from the 3rd row can impose. JURASSIC (8) won an amateurs Class G here last autumn, also starts on the back line, and a repeat of his April run at La Capelle would see him challenge for the win. Barefoot as he was when 3rd here late last month, JUST LIKE A DREAM (5) is 50m better off and Marine Ver Hulst will be keen to make hay. INKERMEN DE PLAY (7) is rarely far from the action when focused and in present shape looks competitive for a place in the picture.

SELECTIONS

ISSI TOP (10) - JURASSIC (8) - JUST LIKE A DREAM (5) - INKERMEN DE PLAY (7)

C3 - PRIX TERENCE - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D - Harness - EUR € 23,000

- 1. NEOH DAIRPET** - Back under harness after coming flatterring 3rd in a Vincennes monte Class D late last month and others easier to back
- 2. NEVALE VET** - Facile winner of a Châtelailon-La Rochelle Class F late last month on just 2nd start. Is sure to have come on for the race and will garner significant support
- 3. NERIC DAIRPET** - Qualified modestly at Grosbois last year, was eliminated on debut 10 days ago, and is not about to shake things up
- 4. NINA DU COJEUL** - Placed here on her March comeback but unremarkable in 4 subsequent outings and can be ruled out
- 5. NOMEN NESICIO** - Did not miss a beat on debut early this month when victorious in a Cholet Class F. Will have progressed for the race and climbs the category-ladder with a lot to offer
- 6. NOTHING COMPARES** - Confirmed March success at Victoria Park when dominating a Saint-Omer Class F on 1 May. Is an interesting future prospect and has a realistic chance of confirming
- 7. NICKEL CHROME** - Serious future prospect that got off the mark at Challans 3.5 weeks ago. In better company this time, but will be dangerous if his driver keeps him focused
- 8. NOURKIS** - Has done nothing but improve since running 4th here in March, most recently 2nd in a Class E at La Capelle 12 days ago, and should be good enough to make first 5

Summary: Eye-catching in qualification last December, NEVALE VET (2) took little time opening her account, which she did in good order late last month, and will be well-backed to repeat. That being said, NOTHING COMPARES (6) comes here on a hat-trick and Pierre-Yves Verva stays faithful. NOMEN NESICIO (5) confirmed his excellent qualification when imposing first time out and William Bigeon can be justifiably confident of another big run.

SELECTIONS

NEVALE VET (2) - NOTHING COMPARES (6) - NOMEN NESICIO (5) - NICKEL CHROME (7)

**C4 - PRIX DU PMU "L'INTERLUDE" LOOS - 2825m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Riders - Mounted - EUR €
23,000**

- 1. IRPIEU DE VARVILLE** - Got back in the game at Graignes early this month when 3rd in a 2700m Class G. Ran 4th under these conditions in December and is unlikely to return home empty-handed
- 2. IBLISS MAYBE** - Takes first competitive monte steps after having disappointed so far this year under harness and can be ruled out
- 3. IPSON WIND** - Has placed just once in 3 monte starts and has not been seen out since last November. No threat
- 4. JOBERMAN DU HOME** - Was given an unstressed return run at Caen 2.5 weeks ago. Has shown a liking for the venue and is easy to fancy for a place on the podium
- 5. KING TEJY** - Tricky character but appears to have found his way again. Moves back up in category but is still very hard to ignore. Chance
- 6. KARTER LEWIS** - Erratic but capable type that has yet to make any impact this term. Is confirmed here but must first reaffirm
- 7. KABIR BEDI** - Facile winner at Meslay-du-Maine on 9 April when debuting in the discipline, and a similar effort would see her repeat
- 8. ILEPSON** - Had made the first 3 just once in a dozen starts here. Has freshness on his side though and in this small field cannot be discounted
- 9. JOTT DU BOCAGE** - Lost his way after securing a 3-timer last summer, but returns to Le Croise-Laroche after a well-earned layup and must be taken seriously

Summary: A most impressive winner on his monte debut early last month, KABIR BEDI (7) subsequently prepped under harness and returns to the ridden code with a realistic chance of doubling up. He will still encounter resistance from the reinvigorated KING TEJY (5), and Charley Mottier's superbly-engaged JOTT DU BOCAGE (9) who has already won over course and distance. JOBERMAN DU HOME (4) has placed in all 3 starts at Le Croise-Laroche, has been re-shod and, if sufficiently-fit, can make a big impact.

SELECTIONS

KABIR BEDI (7) - KING TEJY (5) - JOTT DU BOCAGE (9) - JOBERMAN DU HOME (4)

C5 - PRIX PIERRE HENRI LEMAITRE - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D - Harness - EUR € 27,000

- 1. L'IDEALISTE** - In the frame in 3 of last 4, most recently 3rd in a Saint-Brieuc Class D late last month. Is obliged to start on the inside but still looks a serious proposition
- 2. LED ZEP VET** - Struggled to deliver in Paris twice last month, most recently 7th behind LAST DES BROUSSES (8). Faces a much less arduous task here and from the 2 slot will have his chances
- 3. L'ARC** - Returns to the mainstream after running 5th in an Enghien claimer last month and is unlikely to create an upset
- 4. LOUPIAC** - Runner-up in 2 of last 4, most recently 2nd in a Strasbourg Class E a week ago. Takes on a better bunch here but benefits from a good draw and can play a small part
- 5. LATINO PURA VIDA** - Has ability but looked decidedly ordinary at Enghien last month and can be passed over
- 6. LION DU HOULBET** - Classy individual but eliminated in 3 of 4 starts this term. Form is not in question though and, with application, can make this his own
- 7. LUCKY BOY VERTRAC** - Blows hot and cold but comfortably won a Class E at La Capelle a month ago. Has yet to show any particular appreciation for the venue but must still be taken seriously
- 8. LAST DES BROUSSES** - Held his own at both Enghien and Vincennes recently. Is new to Le Croise-Laroche but in current condition is hard to ignore. Place chance
- 9. LOCKI DU FER** - Got back in the winners' circle earlier in the month when securing a Class E at La Capelle. Has previously imposed here but a repeat seems unlikely
- 10. LOOK DU PARCQ** - Capable trotter with significantly better references in the other code. Is here for reasons of conditioning and has nothing to contribute
- 11. LIBERTIN MAZA** - Fine servant that seldom puts a foot out of line. Has not raced since late-January but is barefoot for the occasion and, in spite of a 2nd row draw, still looks competitively well in
- 12. L'AMIRAL CHATAULT** - Twice a winner here this term before running 5th at La Capelle. Would be preferred barefoot but is still worth keeping an eye on

Summary: Of the 14 races he has run, LION DU HOULBET (6) has been eliminated in 8 of them, but has won the other 6. Afforded time to recalibrate following a Saint-Brieuc elimination, he has every chance of securing this provided he deigns to stay in stride. Failing that, a barefoot L'IDEALISTE (1) will be set to give this a good go, as will LAST DES BROUSSES (8) despite being forced to break wide. LED ZEP VET (2) returns to the provinces after having found the going tough in the capital and, in this company, can figure more prominently.

SELECTIONS

LION DU HOULBET (6) - L'IDEALISTE (1) - LAST DES BROUSSES (8) - LED ZEP VET (2)

C6 - PRIX MOET ET CHANDON - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D - Harness - EUR € 23,000

- 1. MARISA DU CHATELET** - Showed improvement when 4th in a Vincennes Class D a fortnight ago. Has more to find but should nevertheless hold her own
- 2. MILLENIUM GALAXY** - Runner-up in last 2, latterly a Beaumont Class F 3 weeks ago. Excels in current configuration and makes his Croise-Laroche bow with a good hand to play.
- 3. MAJOR DE TIMM** - Serious individual with solid references in good company. Has not been seen out since October but is better than most here and can bring home the bacon
- 4. MOONLIGHT DU RHIN** - Goes barefoot for the first time following a pair of Vincennes eliminations. Is new to the venue but should nonetheless take well to the new conditions, and with stride in check is unlikely to let the side down
- 5. MIKA DE LA VALLEE** - Took little time getting back in the game after his winter break, coming 3rd in a Chateaubriant Class D. Eric Raffin stays faithful and will be expected to contest the finish
- 6. MAGIE DE CHAHAINS** - Filly with bags of potential and races barefoot for the first time. Has a race under her belt and is well-placed to pick up a place on the podium
- 7. MEWTWO** - Has a trio of runs in him since his lengthy layoff. Starts wide but is on the front line and, with shoes back on can finish in the mix
- 8. MUSE DE MONTCEAU** - Kicked the year off nicely but disappointing in next 2 starts. Has solid form at the venue but will first need to re-establish her credentials
- 9. MAJOR DU RUISSEAU** - Got straight down to business at La Capelle recently when competitively-shod for the first time. Has pulled a tough number but did impose last time at the venue and must not be overlooked
- 10. MARELLA DALEO** - Modest element with better references in the claiming category and will have nothing to offer
- 11. MOUSTACHE** - Has found the going tougher since returning from the Riviera. Sports 4 pads on this occasion and best to keep one's powder dry
- 12. MINK BOKO** - Returns to France after having impressed in all 3 starts this season at Victoria Park. Is first-time barefoot but starts on the second row and others easier to support
- 13. MARCUS BERRY** - Has just the one run under his belt since his well-earned layup. Races barefoot this time but the draw will do him no favours
- 14. MURPHY DU PONCELET** - Has been reconfigured after running 4th to MAJOR DU RUISSEAU (9) at La Capelle 12 days ago and is not a priority this time around
- 15. MAMOUNIA DE LUBLE** - Starts for the first time since being eliminated at Enghien just over 2 months ago. Is no slouch on a good day and, with application, can get a look in
- 16. MAFIA RINGEAT** - Capable filly but looked very ordinary on re-entry earlier this month and can be passed over

Summary: A Vincennes winner last season and generally a promising future prospect, MAJOR DE TIMM (3) will be competitively-shod for the first time and from the 3 slot can open his 2026 account. Alexandre Abrivard will still be keeping a watchful eye on MIKA DE LA VALLEE (5) who won for Eric Raffin in November, and MAGIE DE CHAHAINS (6) who will be first-time barefoot following her Chateaubriant return run. Useful racing either direction, MILLENIUM GALAXY (2) has been knocking at the door and must be taken seriously.

SELECTIONS

MAJOR DE TIMM (3) - MIKA DE LA VALLEE (5) - MAGIE DE CHAHAINS (6) - MILLENIUM GALAXY (2)

C7 - PRIX DE LA FEDERATION DU NORD - 2825m (a2m) - Class D - Mounted - EUR € 35,000

1. **BLAUER MAX** - Has shown decent aptitude for the discipline and has been showing his form under harness this year. Takes on a good bunch here but still has a lot going for him
2. **AMERICA DREAM** - Debuts in the discipline following some respectable harness efforts at home in Sweden but will have other priorities
3. **DEVIL OP** - Gave a good account on his first target of the season, running 2nd in a Caen Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Goes barefoot again and will not be far from the action. Place prospect
4. **MERCEDES STAR** - Has placed at home in The Netherlands but has yet to deliver under the saddle in France and is unlikely to spring any surprises
5. **REDBULL PELLINI** - Ran 3rd at Marseille in March first time under the saddle in France. Sports 4 pads for the first time and with Eric Raffin reining will be afforded every chance
6. **PARKER** - Has taken superbly to the ridden code and is plainly in rude health. Should appreciate the venue's profile and from the first tier can play a prominent role
7. **DAMISELA** - Can be hard to use but gave a very good account on comeback at Cordemais in mid-April. Will have improved for the race and the 25m head-start will do her prospects no disservice. Chance
8. **MADE OF STARS** - Previously a good sort but is being aimed too high again and will have few takers
9. **HORSY ROYAL** - Unexceptional 5th in a Vincennes Class D last week. Sports shoes this time and from the front row can be confidently disregarded
10. **NICE PRESENT** - Has not been seen under the saddle for almost 2 years, but has placed in 2 of 4. Is not a priority but is worth keeping an eye on all the same
11. **HANIELLE CREPIN** - Has returned to competition in excellent shape and has been showing her form at Enghien. Alexandre Abrivard in the bike for the first time which may just be her ticket to success
12. **JUS DE FRUIT** - It took some time but got back in the game at Caen on 9 May. Benefits from a terrific entry and a similar performance would see him pick up a first-5 payout

Summary: Quite obviously close to her race, which she demonstrated twice at Enghien recently, HANIELLE CREPIN (11) has an extra 25m to cover this time but still looks the pick of the field. DAMISELA (7) gave a fine account at Cordemais last month, on her first objective of the spring, and from the front row should figure prominently when it matters. DEVIL OP (3) has taken particularly well to his new vocation, is even better when barefoot, and from the front row will be no easy touch. PARKER (6) has similarly found a new lease on life and is not about to disappoint.

SELECTIONS

HANIELLE CREPIN (11) - DAMISELA (7) - DEVIL OP (3) - PARKER (6)

C8 - PRIX DE MARCQ-EN-BAROEUL - 2825m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 30,000

- 1. NAIL'EM** - Has ample ability but is not the most dependable of trotters. Entrusted to Alexandre Abrivard for the first time, will race barefoot, and could pleasantly surprise
- 2. ONE LOVE BIANCA** - Delicate sort that ran 3rd in a Vichy Quinte on 4 May, at 185-1. Failed to confirm a week later and is not a concern
- 3. MICHIGAN BRO** - Hardy Swedish raider making French debut after a short layup. Starts on the front row here and with Paul Ploquin at the helm is unlikely to disappoint
- 4. LINCOLN ABE BOKO** - Honest but tricky sort. Has no references at this level and can be passed over
- 5. JUDGE D.** - Handy Scandinavian element returning to France in excellent shape. Breaks in front but still not an obvious choice
- 6. JOYAU DARLING** - Returns to racing left-handed after coming 3rd in a Reims Class G on 23 April. Is on the front line this time, likes the venue, and will be expected to play an active role
- 7. JERIMOW** - Sprang something of a surprise when victorious in a Saint-Omer Class F early this month. Is the least performant of Pierre-Yves Vera's trio, has been reconfigured, and can be passed over
- 8. DOMENIK JET** - Should not be too hastily-judged for faulting at Vincennes on 24 April. Is plainly in shape, enjoys a good entry, and can pick up some prizemoney if he takes to the new conditions
- 9. DAYAK (ITY)** - Useful on a good day and has solid French references. Is barefoot for comeback but will be expected to need the race
- 10. ADAMO DIPA** - Pleased in first 2 starts of the season but was trounced at Vichy earlier in the month and can expect to have few friends
- 11. INDY DE LA FYE** - Returns to a venue he appreciates after returning to competition in Lyon 2.5 weeks ago. Is unlikely to win this but still has the wherewithal to contest a place on the podium
- 12. JALDO D'OCQUE** - Went from winning an Amiens Class E on 11 April to running 3rd in a 2175m Vincennes Class D 3 weeks ago. Is clearly at the top of his game and will be no pushover
- 13. INFIEL** - Undeniably capable but has struggled over recent months and needs to get his house in order
- 14. DIVINA TRIO** - Given a brief rest after a pair of fine runs at Laval and Avenches. Is well-engaged here and with Gabriele Gelormini reining will be afforded every chance. Challenger
- 15. JAGUAR DE LAUMAC** - Ran 4th at Amiens prior to coming close 2nd in a 2850m Vincennes Class D 2 weeks ago. Adores Le Croise-Laroche and, considering the entry, must be regarded as the leading candidate
- 16. DONIZETTI (SWE)** - Has been completely off the boil for some time and has no realistic chance

Summary: A fine campaigner that has never disappointed at Le Croise-Laroche, JAGUAR DE LAUMAC (15) showed at Vincennes a fortnight back that he is plainly close to his race and will take some beating. DIVINA TRIO (14) has also been knocking at the door and has nothing to prove at this level. JALDO D'OCQUE (12) has not put a foot wrong for over 2 months and despite a modest Croise-Laroche record, still looks a player. INDY DE LA FYE (11) may not be the most dependable of horses but he appreciates these conditions and must be afforded respect.

SELECTIONS

JAGUAR DE LAUMAC (15) - DIVINA TRIO (14) - JALDO D'OCQUE (12) - INDY DE LA FYE (11)

TODAY'S SELECTIONS

Horse of the day

HANIELLE CREPIN (711)

**Outsider of the day
MICHIGAN BRO (803)**

**Reverse forecast
DAMISELA (707) - HANIELLE CREPIN (711)**

**Three pick of the day
ISSI TOP (210) - HANIELLE CREPIN (711) - JAGUAR DE LAUMAC (815)**