

WEDNESDAY, 21/05/25

R1 LE CROISE-LAROCHE [L-H]

**C1 - GRAND NATIONAL DU TROT - 2800m (a2m) - Gr3 Race - Harness -
EUR € 90,000**

1. HELLO PANAME - Disappointing 8th of 10 to JONGLEUSE DE LUNE (5) in a 2700m Vincennes Class C on 3 May. Goes barefoot as he was when 2nd in Salon stage and will be expected to play an active role

2. IMPERATOR D'ELA - Last but one when preparing for this in a 2460m Caen Class C 11 days ago. Shoes off this time and will be competitive for a place in the frame

3. INSHOT JOSSELYN - Would have finished in the money had he not faulted in a 2450m Caen Class C on 10 May. Placed in the Amiens stage and, reconfigured for the occasion, will be expected to make amends. First 5

4. GORDON MIJACK - Unlucky 8th of 14 in GNT stage at Reims last month before being sanctioned early in a 2450m Caen Class C on 10 May. Is so much better than his recent numbers would imply and should not be ruled out

5. JONGLEUSE DE LUNE - Ran 4th in Maure-de-Bretagne leg before securing a 2700m Vincennes Class C 2.5 weeks ago. Is new to the venue but in current condition looks a serious proposition

6. HOLD UP DU SAPTEL - Faithful servant that ran 4th of 10 to JONGLEUSE DE LUNE (5) in a 2700m Vincennes Class C on 3 May. Has won 4 of 5 here and is in with a realistic shout of finishing close

7. HABIT DE SOIREE - 7th of 14, a place behind HELLO PANAME (1), in a 2550m Reims GNT Gr.3 on 9 April. Trainer in the wagon this time but could pleasantly surprise if she doesn't see daylight until the latter stage of the race

8. JANGO VICI - 3rd of 13 in a 2800m Cholet Class C on 28 April. Won his only start at the venue and will be no pushover if he runs to his mark

9. HORATIUS D'ELA - Secured first objective of the year in April before running 3rd of 11 in a 2850m Vincennes Class A a week ago. Forced to incur the penalty this time but must still be retained

10. INVICTUS MADIBA - Did not enjoy a good run 2.5 weeks ago when 9th of 11 behind HEDE DARLING (11) in a 2100m Vincennes Class B. Has not imposed for some time and is unlikely to on this occasion, but can still get a look-in

11. HEDE DARLING - 4th of 12, at 41/1, in 2100m Vincennes Class B 2.5 weeks ago. Unlikely to repeat but can still hold his own

12. HARLEY GEMA - Has not been seen out since running 6th of 12 finishers in a 2850m Vincennes Class B late-January. Races barefoot but chances slim all the same

13. HAPPY DANICA - 8th of 11 behind IMPERATOR D'ELA (2) in a 2850m Vincennes Class A a week ago. Is no slouch on a good day and even though reconfigured is still not easy to recommend

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14. JAZZMAN DEBAILLEUL - Classy campaigner that won a 2850m Vincennes Class A on 18 April. Has nothing to prove in this category of race and has every chance of imposing

15. J'AIME LE FOOT - Has not been seen out since running 5th of 10 in a 2850m Vincennes monte Gr.1 on 1 March. Shoes fitted and no danger

16. HIDALGO DES NOES - Confirmed Vitre performance when 4th of 18 in a 2800m Rambouillet Class A 10 days ago but on 3rd line here and has no possible chance

Summary: In cracking form, entrusted to Franck Nivard, and well-engaged on the second line, JAZZMAN DEBAILLEUL (14) is very easy to fancy for the win. He will still face resistance from front row starters JONGLEUSE DE LUNE (5) who was eye-catching in Paris earlier in the month, IMPERATOR D'ELA (2) who is a tough nut to crack when barefoot, and HOLD UP DU SAPTEL (6) who ran 4th to Franck Leblanc's mare last time out. JANGO VICI (8) is 25m worse off but he reassured at Cholet, has been reconfigured, and must be respected.

SELECTIONS

JAZZMAN DEBAILLEUL (14) - JONGLEUSE DE LUNE (5) - IMPERATOR D'ELA (2) - HOLD UP DU SAPTEL (6)

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

1. **JACKARY D'OCQUE** - Last but one in a 2825m Strasbourg Class E on 27 April. Barefoot this time but still no danger
2. **JUST LIKE A DREAM** - 6th of 12 in a 2700m amateurs Class G here 9 days ago after previously having won here in the professional ranks and from the front row must be considered a major player
3. **HOOKE DU PECH** - Ran 3rd here before coming 2nd of 14 in a 2850m Laon amateurs Class G on 1 May. Is close to his race but on this occasion looks more a minor place chance
4. **I AM A FAN** - Ran 2nd on comeback but subsequently sanctioned in a 2800m Strasbourg Class F last week and will struggle to make his mark
5. **ILLUSTRE BLUE** - Pulled-up in a 3225m Vitre amateurs Class F on 27 April. Is not without merit but faces a stiffer test this time around
6. **JULLIAN DADDY** - 6th of 12 in a 2825m Strasbourg Class E on 27 April. Has shown decent aptitude at this level however and, even though shod, must not be ruled out
7. **IT'S DU QUENNE** - Has never delivered here but came 3rd of 8 in a 2800m Strasbourg amateurs Class G last week. Enjoys a good entry on front line and even with pads fitted should be capable of picking up a cheque
8. **JUST REMEMBER** - Enjoying a new lease on life since moving to the amateur division, latterly winning a 3150m Abbeville Class H 10 days ago. Should take well to the new profile and the 3-timer is a distinct possibility
9. **JACKPOT D'ORGUEIL** - In the frame in 3 before running 5th of 13 in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle 2.5 weeks ago. Has never disappointed here and is not about to start now
10. **IMITCH DU MOULIN** - Makes first start since being sanctioned in a 2700m amateurs Class G at La Capelle 2 months ago. Has nothing to prove at the venue and on good behaviour can figure prominently
11. **JACKPOT JOMUNA** - Placed in Kuurne before running 4th of 13 in a 3175m Saint-Omer Class F on 1 May. On back line this time and even though reconfigured, chances still limited
12. **GOPTION MONTAVAL** - Sanctioned in a 2650m Laon claimer last Sunday. Breaks on back line and has no possible chance
13. **JADE DE NAVARY** - Quality mare returning to her own back yard after coming 3rd of 11 in a 2700m Vincennes Class D on 2 May. Is plainly in form and can give JUST REMEMBER (8) a run for his money
14. **GAVROCHE D'IDEE** - Back under harness after finishing 10th of 18 in a 2975m Jallais monte Class H 2.5 weeks ago and is unlikely to shake things up
15. **GRANDE MALICE** - Returns to racing barefoot after coming 5th of 8 behind IT'S DU QUENNE (7) in a 2800m Strasbourg amateurs Class G last week. Runs barefoot this time but others still easier to back

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Summary: Three times a winner in 4 amateur starts this year, JUST REMEMBER (8) takes to Le Croise-Laroche for the first time but has demonstrated good versatility and, shod as he was at Maure, can pull off the hat-trick. He is unlikely to have it all his own way though considering how well JADE DE NAVARY (13) has been acquitting herself in the professional ranks. IMITCH DU MOULIN (10) races barefoot again following 4 straight sanctions but won last time here and with application will be no pushover. JUST LIKE A DREAM (2) is better than his last result would suggest, is barefoot for the occasion, and the 25m head-start will only work to his advantage.

SELECTIONS

JUST REMEMBER (8) - JADE DE NAVARY (13) - IMITCH DU MOULIN (10) - JUST LIKE A DREAM (2)

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C3 - PRIX PIERRE HENRI LEMAITRE - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D Race - Harness - EUR € 23,000

1. **MALDINI ELLIS** - Sanctioned in first 3 before making short work of a 2850m Laon Class F on 1 May and can confirm if Thibaut Dromigny keeps him trotting
2. **MELIUS AVIS** - Ran 2nd on debut at Saint-Omer on 13 April before repeating in a Class F over course and distance a fortnight later, and it will not be long before he opens his account
3. **MOZART DU DOLLAR** - Got off the mark at Nancy last month before coming 2nd of 11 to MISTER PARKER (5) in a 2700m Class E at La Capelle on 8 May and is well-placed to give this a good go
4. **MAKINA DANICA** - Last of 7 on comeback in a 2700m Vincennes Class C on 6 May and appears to have no realistic chance
5. **MISTER PARKER** - Promising future prospect that met little opposition en route to victory in a 2700m Class E at La Capelle on 8 May and has a realistic chance of confirming
6. **MASSILIO BLOND** - Returns to the provinces after being sanctioned in a 2700m Vincennes Class D last week and is unlikely to generate much interest
7. **MONEY DI MALAVITA** - Comfortable winner at Amiens before finishing last of 8 behind MISS JENILOU (8) in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle 2.5 weeks ago. Is plainly better than that though and should finish closer this time
8. **MISS JENILOU** - Showed improvement when 4th of 8 in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle 2.5 weeks ago. Looks to be on the way up and is unlikely to return home empty-handed
9. **MAJOR DU RUISSEAU** - Won a 2850m Mauquenchy on 13 January only to be subsequently disqualified. Has not been seen since and will be race-rusty
10. **MAGNOLIA DES ARRIS** - Made up for debut sanction with victory in a 2850m Laon Class F on 1 May. Looks a progressive sort and, here on his merits, can make a big splash
11. **MARQUIS DU CHENE** - Ran 4th here late-April but unable to confirm when sanctioned in a 2825m Class F, also here, 9 days ago, and others easier to back
12. **MOJITO CENE** - Put a brace of sanctions behind him to come 5th of 10 in a 2825m Class F here on 12 May. Pulled a tricky number and is unlikely to spring any surprises
13. **MY LADY DE CAHOT** - Made it 2 straight sanctions after faulting in a 2825m Class F here 9 days ago and can be confidently passed over

Summary: It's a very open affair this but preference nevertheless goes to the complicated MALDINI ELLIS (1) who flew up at Laon earlier in the month. With application he should just have the edge over the better-placed MISTER PARKER (5) who got off the mark a fortnight back. MAGNOLIA DES ARRIS (10) also lost his maiden status last time out and while Franck Ouvrie would have preferred a better draw, he can still count on his colt for a big run. MELIUS AVIS (2) has looked thoroughly professional so far and Pierre-Yves Verva keeps the drive.

SELECTIONS

MALDINI ELLIS (1) - MISTER PARKER (5) - MAGNOLIA DES ARRIS (10) - MELIUS AVIS

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(2)

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C4 - PRIX DU PMU "LE RALLYE" VALENCIENNES - 2825m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Riders Race - Mounted - EUR € 23,000

1. **JULIOSCA MANNETOT** - 3rd of 8 over 2275m in Mons a fortnight ago. Takes a notable rise in category and will have limited chances
2. **INFAILLIBLE** - Sanctioned in both starts since the break, most recently a 2750m Elbeuf Class H late last month, and others easier to trust
3. **JERICO D'ORGERES** - Steps up in category after winning a 2750m Elbeuf Class H 3.5 weeks ago but represents no more than a minor place prospect this time
4. **JYLVE DE GUEUDE** - Pleasant 5th of 16 in a 2800m Rambouillet harness Class F on 4 May. Unexceptional in this branch of the business and not an obvious choice
5. **JESSIE LAKE** - Takes first competitive monte steps after coming 5th of 12 in a 2750m harness Class E at La Capelle 2.5 weeks ago and is not about to cause an upset
6. **ICEMAN DU KLAU** - Modest individual returning to the code after coming 9th of 11 finishers in a 2700m harness amateurs Class G here 9 days ago and can be disregarded
7. **ILEPSON** - Disqualified when preparing for this in a 2700m harness amateurs Class G here 9 days ago. Showed his form at Arras late last month and warrants serious respect
8. **IDEAL DU BISTON** - Returns to racing with front pads after running 6th of 13 in a 3175m Saint-Omer harness Class F 3 weeks ago. Appreciates the venue and should not be underestimated first time under the saddle
9. **JUPITER DU PERCHE** - Considerably better than recent results would suggest, latterly sanctioned when well-backed in a 2700m amateurs Class G here on 12 May. Has nothing to prove at this level under the saddle and can challenge for the win
10. **ISCO DE CORDAY** - Encouraging 5th of 10 finishers in a 2800m Rambouillet Class G 2.5 weeks ago. Has never failed to deliver under the saddle here and despite the hike in category is still worth retaining
11. **JAMIROQUAI** - Failed to confirm Enghien performance when 11th of 15 in a 2850m Maure harness Class F 10 days ago. Is new to the discipline but has ample ability and will not be far from the action if ability transitions
12. **IN LOVE DE L'ITON** - Strangely lacklustre 10th of 16 in a 2650m Alencon Class G 10 days ago, but has otherwise been in fine fettle and, winner here late-March, should be able to repeat

Summary: Oddly below-par earlier in the month, the wonderfully-entered IN LOVE DE L'ITON (12) returns to the venue, and configuration, of his last victory and can get back to winning ways. Mathis Champenois will still be keeping a keen eye on JUPITER DU PERCHE (9) who boasts solid ridden credentials, and IDEAL DU BISTON (8) who sports modified shoeing for his monte debut. ILEPSON (7) got back in the winners' circle at Arras and is not to be underestimated.

SELECTIONS

IN LOVE DE L'ITON (12) - JUPITER DU PERCHE (9) - IDEAL DU BISTON (8) - ILEPSON (7)

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C5 - PRIX LABEL EQUURES - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D Race - Harness - EUR € 27,000

1. KHEOPS BOURBON - Last but one behind KOUROUX (4) in a 2800m Rambouillet Class E 10 days ago. Has done little of note lately but races barefoot, has been entrusted to Alexandre Abrivard, and should not be overlooked

2. KARAMBA KARACHO - Won 2 on the trot before being unluckily sanctioned in a 2875m Enghien Class D on 19 April. Has had time to recover and will not be far off the mark if he stays in stride

3. KANSAS QUESNOT - Makes first appearance here after winning a 2400m Amiens Class E on 3 May. Well-positioned on front line and must be considered a player

4. KOUROUX - Pleasantly surprising 3rd of 11 finishers in a 2800m Rambouillet Class E 10 days ago. Enjoys a good draw, and has been reconfigured, but will nonetheless struggle to repeat

5. KAID FORTUNA - In the frame in 4 straight before losing his action in a 2800m Rambouillet Class E 10 days ago. Hind shoes off this time, goes well for Paul Ploquin, and looks a decent first-3 contender

6. KONG D'HOLLOW - Quality sort that ran 3rd of 15 in a 2800m Rambouillet Class E a month back. Is unbeaten in the day's configuration, is unbeaten at the venue, and can keep those facts relevant. Chance

7. KOOL LUDOIS - Failed to confirm Tours performance when 6th of 10 in a 2575m Saint-Brieuc Class E on 2 May. Starts wide and others preferred

8. KITO TURGOT - Ran 3rd at Caen before coming 5th of 10 finishers in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle a fortnight ago. Unlikely to get his nose in front but has been reconfigured and can still make first 5

9. KALYPSO DE THIERRE - Is in his category and is useful on a good day, but will need to improve on latest 7th of 10 finishers behind KITO TURGOT (8) in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle a fortnight ago

10. KEFIR COHAIS - Capable sort that ran 10th of 12 to KANSAS QUESNOT (3), on re-entry, in a 2400m Amiens Class E on 3 May. Will have progressed for the run but stays shod and best to hold off

11. KYO FEFAY - Has 2 runs under his belt since the break, latterly sanctioned in a 2450m Caen monte Class E on 26 April, and is clearly out of his league

12. KEVERT - Made no bones about imposing on first start for new handler, winning a 3175m Saint-Omer Class F 3 weeks ago. Is behind in earnings and despite the draw can confirm

Summary: Winner first time out in his new colours following a lengthy absence, KEVERT (12) is forced to start on the 2nd line here but will have come on for the run and is marginally preferred to the in-form KONG D'HOLLOW (6) who has been reconfigured in his bid to remain undefeated at Le Croise-Laroche, and KARAMBA KARACHO (2) who has won 2 of his last 3 starts. Plainly close to his race, KAID FORTUNA (5) has pulled a good number behind the car, is shod to preference, and with application will be no easy touch.

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KEVERT (12) - KONG D'HOLLOW (6) - KARAMBA KARACHO (2) - KAID FORTUNA (5)

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C6 - PRIX HAVAS COULEURS DU MONDE - 2825m (a2m) - Class D Race - Mounted - EUR € 35,000

1. ISBA DU VIVIER - 3rd of 9, on first ridden start of the year, in a 2875m Enghien Class E 3 weeks ago. Has never delivered here but in present form is easy to like for a place in the frame

2. IKITORI - Drops in category after running 5th of 7 in a 2700m Vincennes Class D a fortnight ago. Likes the venue's profile and will be considerably more competitive this time around

3. PURPLE RAIN (GER) - In the frame in 3 of last 4, latterly 2nd of 7 over 2000m under harness at Gelsenkirchen 3 weeks ago. Won his only ridden start and with Benjamin Rochard in the irons can wrap this up

4. HOLLYWOOD GIRL - Dependable mare that was surprisingly sanctioned in a Class F over course and distance 9 days ago. Is plainly in form, boasts excellent references here, and looks a solid first-5 choice

5. ISIS WILD - Last of 7 in a 2800m Rambouillet Class F 10 days ago and will have nothing to contribute

6. GREATMAN DE BUSSET - Debuted nicely under the saddle 9 days ago when 2nd of 11 in a Class F over course and distance. Hind shoes off this time but considering the company will have limited prospects

7. NYMKE BRIGADOON - Last of 10 when prepping for this in a 2100m Vincennes harness Class E on 25 April. Has solid references in this category and can challenge for the win

8. IT'S MY DREAM - Returns to the discipline after running 8th of 11 in a 2800m Strasbourg Class D last weekend will have few friends

9. GAROU DU CHENE - Returns to the monte code after finishing 7th of 16 in a 2850m Vincennes harness Class D on 9 May, and returns to the code with modest ambition

10. HOTKATISSIME - Reliable type that came 2nd of 7 in a 2875m Meslay Class D on 5 May. Tends to go well here, races barefoot this time, and even from the back row will have a say

11. HUIS CLOS (SWE) - Versatile sort taking a dip in category after running 6th of 13 behind GLADIATOR BOY (14) in a 2875m Enghien Class C a month back. Reunited with Alexandre Abrivard and will not be far from the action

12. HEROS DE BEYLEV - 7th of 11 in a 2850m Maure-de-Bretagne Class D on 23 April. Has done nothing of note this year and can be passed over

13. GALION - Ran 5th of 10 in a 2700m Vincennes harness Class C on 3 May. Pleased on lone monte start and it would be foolhardy to write him off entirely

14. GLADIATOR BOY - Ran 3rd at Enghien before running 8th of 15 in a 450m Caen Class B 11 days ago. Terrifically-engaged here though and could pleasantly surprise if Lilian Bertin gets him off on the right foot

Summary: The front row seems to have the advantage here with the barefoot German PURPLE RAIN (GER) (3) looking the one to beat given his current form and the choice of jockey. They should nevertheless feel the heat from NYMKE BRIGADOON (7) who is superbly-engaged for a return to her code of preference, and ISBA DU VIVIER (1) who did not displease at Enghien late last month. IKITORI (2) is in his category, appreciates Le Croise-Laroche conditions, and is unlikely to disappoint.

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SELECTIONS

PURPLE RAIN (GER) (3) - NYMKE BRIGADOON (7) - ISBA DU VIVIER (1) - IKITORI (2)

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C7 - PRIX DE LA FEDERATION DU NORD - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D Race - Harness - EUR € 23,000

1. **LOOK PEJI** - Disappointing so far this season, latterly 8th of 12 in a 2700m Vincennes Class D on 25 April, and is not about to influence the outcome
2. **LORIGRE** - Last but one on re-entry in a 2700m Vincennes Class D on 2 May. Will have progressed for the race and, sporting a new configuration, is not to be underestimated
3. **LADY DU POMMEREUX** - Pleasantly surprising 2nd of 7 in a 2950m Vichy Class E 10 days ago. Enjoys a decent spot behind the car but a repeat still seems improbable
4. **LUCIFER** - Has not been seen out since finishing last of 11 in a 2700m Cagnes Class C in early-February. Is clearly better than that but would be preferred unshod
5. **LADRA DI MALAVITA** - Last but one in a 2175m Vincennes Class D on 6 May. Is some way off her best and needs to reestablish her credentials
6. **LIFOU IRIS'EYES** - Sprang a 115/1 surprise when clinching a 2750m Class D at La Capelle on 8 May. Alexandre Abrivard reining this time and must be taken more seriously
7. **LADY DU VALLON** - Opened 2025 account in a 2625m Class E at La Rochelle on 1 May. Goes barefoot again, with Franck Nivard in the bike, and from the front row can give this a good go. Attention
8. **LOCKI DU FER** - Quality element that ran 3rd of 6 finishers to LIFOU IRIS'EYES (6) in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle 2 weeks ago, on first start since December. Sports front pads again and will be dangerous if Pierre-Yves Verva positions him early
9. **LOUPIAC** - Failed to confirm Reims performance when sanctioned in 8 May race of reference. Showed his form that day though and if applied can go close
10. **LOOK DAIRPET** - 6th of 12 in a 2800m Chartres Class E 2 weeks ago. Takes on an even better lot this time and can be ruled out
11. **LOTHBROCK** - Sanctioned when well-supported in a 2700m Vincennes Class D on 25 April. Benjamin Rochard in the bike this time and can win this if his charge stays in stride
12. **LETS GO HAPPY** - Courageous 4th of 6 finishers to LIFOU IRIS'EYES (6) in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle a fortnight ago. Competitively shod this time and despite the draw is still worth monitoring
13. **LUMIERE MIKA** - Has looked ordinary for some time, most recently sanctioned in a 2850m Vincennes claimer 8 days ago. Disregard
14. **LIMO DE MER** - Showed marked improvement when 2nd of 6 finishers to LIFOU IRIS'EYES (6) in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle a fortnight ago. Franck Ouvrie would have preferred a better number but can still challenge for a spot on the podium
15. **LOUPIAC DE GODREL** - Has 2 runs in him since the break, latterly sanctioned in a 2850m Vincennes claimer last week, but still has nothing to contribute. Not devoid of ability but would still be preferred at a lower level
16. **LOUNA D'OR** - Encouraged at La Capelle before running 7th of 12 in a 2700m Vincennes Class E mid-April. Handed a bad draw and can be passed over

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Summary: LOTHBROCK (11) is by no means an easy horse to handle but is hard to knock when focused; he has been handed a 2nd line draw but is still good enough to win a race of this nature. That being said, LOCKI DU FER (8) left a good impression on re-entry and despite the wide draw, nevertheless looks the main threat. LOUPIAC (9) also pulled a tough number but, freshly reconfigured, can more than make up for his sanction at La Capelle. Second that day, LIMO DE MER (14) also sports modified shoeing and must be considered a contender.

SELECTIONS

LOTHBROCK (11) - LOCKI DU FER (8) - LOUPIAC (9) - LIMO DE MER (14)

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

1. **ICARE DE MONTFORT** - Gave a good account of himself when 4th of 16 in a 2900m Amiens Class F on 26 April. Appreciates the venue's profile and is not incapable of making first 5
2. **INTENSE DES VAUX** - 6th of 16 in a 3150m Abbeville Class E 10 days ago. Seldom gets her nose in front but is confirmed here and should not be written off
3. **NEVELE HALL GRAUX** - Returns to France having run 3rd of 9 over 2840m in Mons 3 weeks ago but appears to be taking on too much
4. **UN MEC PAASLOO** - Makes first start at the venue after winning over 2000m at Gelsenkirchen 3 weeks ago. Pierre-Yves Verva in the bike this time and will be expected to play an important role
5. **IMOKO MADRIK** - 10th of 11, a place behind ILLUMINATI (8), in a 2625m Saint-Omer Class E on 13 April. Shoes back on and will have nothing to offer
6. **IN AMERICA** - Produced a good effort to come 3rd of 16 in a 2550m Reims Class G on 24 April. Appears to be close to his race and the 25m head-start will do his prospects no disservice
7. **IVAJALE** - Failed to confirm Mauquenchy performance when 10th of 16 in a 2700m Class F at La Capelle a month back. Should not be too hastily judged though and could yet spice things up
8. **ILLUMINATI** - Out of the picture in both starts this term, latterly 9th of 11 in a 2625m Saint-Omer Class E on 13 April. By no means the worst horse here but still needs to raise his game
9. **DANTE GODIVA** - Makes first appearance at the venue after having finished 5th of 6 over 2300m in Kuurne a month ago. Races barefoot but still looks to be out of his depth
10. **FLAMENCO** - Ran 3rd at Maure-de-Bretagne before coming 15th of 17 in a 3200m Landivisiau Class E on 8 May. Has never delivered here and even though reconfigured is unlikely to garner much support
11. **IDYLLE DU PERSIL** - Starts for first time since finishing 12th of 13 behind GLOUGLOU D'EMI (12) in a 2100m Vincennes Class E on 28 March, and with shoes on will have few if any takers
12. **GLOUGLOU D'EMI** - Drops in category after running 7th of 16 in a 2100m Vincennes Class D a week ago. Incurs the penalty but is plainly in good shape and will not be far from the action
13. **MISTER INVICTUS** - Runner-up in 2 of last 3, latterly a 2700m Vincennes Class D 2.5 weeks ago. Excels in this category when applied and can make this his own
14. **ANOTHER CREATION** - Serious mare but makes first appearance since October 2023 and is going to need the run
15. **BAYARD (GER)** - Makes Croise-Laroche debut after running 5th of 7 over 2000m at Gelsenkirchen 3 weeks ago. Has solid references at this level, enjoys a super entry, and will be expected to contest the finish

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Summary: Although never far from losing his action, MISTER INVICTUS (13) is seldom far off the mark when focused and is eminently capable of winning a race of this nature. BAYARD (GER) (15) is considerably better than his latest run would suggest and rarely disappoints when shipped to France. UN MEC PAASLOO (4) also travels for the occasion and enjoys a front-row break. IN AMERICA (6) left a very good impression at Reims and the Franck Nivard-factor must be taken into account.

SELECTIONS

MISTER INVICTUS (13) - BAYARD (GER) (15) - UN MEC PAASLOO (4) - IN AMERICA (6)