

# FRIDAY, 22/03/24

## R4 LE CROISE-LAROCHE [L-H]

**C1 - PRIX JEAN-MICHEL DE KERGORLAY - 1800m (a1m 1/8) - TURF -  
Maiden - Flat - EUR € 21,000**

**1. LET'S FLY** - German gelding whose four appearances on home soil have all resulted in 3rd place finishes, the last of which was over 1300m on turf at Krefield on 21 October. One to watch in his first start on French soil

**2. DREAM OF KMILL** - Open to improvement with the benefit of an introductory outing in which she finished 8th over 1900m on PSF at Chantilly on 1 March

**3. FATU HIVA** - Finished 8th of 10 runners on debut over 1600m on the PSF at Chantilly on 9 February. Watch for improvement

**4. WASAYA** - Well-beaten 11th on the PSF at Pornichet on debut and finished unplaced again when 7th over 1600m on turf at Lignières on 2 March. Others preferred

**5. PEBBLESSHINYBRIGHT** - Has maintained a consistent level of form in five starts on the PSF and wasn't beaten far when finishing 7th on 23 February at Chantilly over 1900m. Takes on slightly lesser opposition in her first outing on turf - keep safe

**6. QUEEN LIZZIE** - Improving filly who has finished 3rd in consecutive starts, the most recent of which on her reappearance over 1800m at Marseille-Borély on heavy ground. Has made a long trip to run in this race with legitimate ambitions

**7. MERI LILOU** - Finished a well-beaten 13th on debut last year over 1900m on PSF but made significant improvement on heavy ground over 2350m at Machecoul on 25 February when finishing 5th. Must confirm that progress to have a say

**8. TWO O'CLOCK JUMP** - Nicolas Clement-trained newcomer to be ridden by Sébastien Maillot. This Shalaa gelding is related to Group I winner Coquerelle

**9. RUESGA** - A newcomer trained by Carlos Laffon-Parias. This Zarak filly didn't go unnoticed in an AFASEC 'schooling' race, so cannot be underestimated

**10. JIL IS LUCKY** - Stéphane Wattel-trained Acclamation debutante to be ridden by Alison Massin with the benefit of a 1,5kg allowance

**11. FASHIONABLY** - Andre Fabre-trained Zoffany debutante purchased for €320,000 as a yearling. A well-bred filly who will benefit from her rider César Belmont's 2,5kg allowance

**Summary:** Newcomer FASHIONABLY (11) was a €320,000 purchase in the summer of 2022 and, although not engaged in the spring Classics, is likely to feature prominently on debut for André Fabre in a race of this nature. PEBBLESSHINYBRIGHT (5) fluffed her lines last time but has the form and experience to fight for victory, judged on the evidence of her previous performances. QUEEN LIZZIE (6) didn't go unnoticed on her reappearance and ought to build on that effort to make her presence felt. RUESGA (9) is another to make note of on debut.

### SELECTIONS

**FASHIONABLY (11) - PEBBLESSHINYBRIGHT (5) - QUEEN LIZZIE (6) - RUESGA (9)**

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## C2 - PRIX DE LENS - 1800m (a1m 1/8) - TURF - Class 4 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 17,000

- 1. DOWNEVA** - Won a 1400m handicap at Clairefontaine in August but struggled under a penalty in both subsequent starts. Has not been seen since finishing 15th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Deauville on 19 October
- 2. TRIPLE TROUBLE** - Improving last-start winner over 1600m at Lignières in just his second outing for this stable. Ought to continue his momentum
- 3. SWIFT FLIGHT** - Consistent for the most part but has been hard to win with (1 victory from 22 starts), though seldom finishes far off the mark. Has to improve to have a say after finishing 7th in a 1300m PSF race at Deauville on 10 February
- 4. STARKEY** - Inconsistent 5-start maiden who has revealed sufficient means to be competitive in a race of this nature - back on turf in a handicap for the first time. Finished 12th in a 1600m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 13 January
- 5. MAGNETIQUE** - Won a 2150m handicap at Cagnes in January but has struggled under a penalty in three subsequent starts. Was last seen finishing a well-beaten 15th in a 2000m handicap at Fontainebleau on 6 March
- 6. BLACK MORNING** - Inconsistent but has undeniable means and is competitive at this level, which she confirmed by finishing 3rd in a 2200m handicap at Fontainebleau on 15 March. Winning chance
- 7. GOLDEN TRIP** - A 15-start maiden unlikely to break her duck here after finishing unplaced (8th) in an 1800m conditions race at Compiègne on 10 March
- 8. LEX LUTHOR** - Consistent hard-knocking handicapper with sound references, especially on this course. Caught the eye when finishing an encouraging 3rd on his reappearance in a 1400m handicap at Nancy on 10 March
- 9. WHATEVER IT COSTS** - Won a 1500m handicap at Saint-Cloud in November but has struggled under a penalty in subsequent starts - finished 8th in both outings, the most recent of which was over 1600m at Le Mans on 11 March
- 10. LE HOULME** - Hard-knocking who has gone off the boil but dropped to a dangerously low mark. Needs to improve, though, after finishing 8th in a 1600m handicap at Saint-Cloud when last seen on 24 November
- 11. PORTRERO** - Finished a well-beaten 10th in a 2000m handicap at Fontainebleau on 6 March but shouldn't be condemned for that failure. Capable of better judged on his earlier form/references
- 12. JOAO** - Won a 1600m handicap at Saint-Cloud in November but finished unplaced under a penalty in both starts since. Was last seen finishing 7th over 1500m on PSF at Mons on 21 December
- 13. NACOMA** - An honest, hard-knocking mare with better references at a lower level. Finished 6th on PSF at Mons over 1500m on 21 December and is best watched for now
- 14. BAILEYS DIABLE** - Veteran handicapper whose best recent references have been achieved in the claiming category. Finished 15th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 24 February

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**15. CIRCO MASSIMO** - Has plummeted down the weights/ratings after losing his way last year. Finished 9th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 24 February

**Summary:** Supplemented to participate in this event, last-start Lignières TRIPLE TROUBLE (2) has a good opportunity to double his tally here. He will, however, have to fend off BLACK MORNING (6) and course-winner LEX LUTHOR (8), who should have improved following a much-needed comeback outing at Nancy. PORTRERO (11), JOAO (12) as well as STARKEY (4) are among several other possibilities.

## SELECTIONS

**TRIPLE TROUBLE (2) - BLACK MORNING (6) - LEX LUTHOR (8) - PORTRERO (11)**

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## C3 - PRIX DE CALAIS - 1800m (a1m 1/8) - TURF - Class 4 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 15,000

- 1. PRINCESSE VERA** - Won a handicap on heavy ground at Marseille-Borély before finishing 5th at Bordeaux over 1400m last month (22 February). Sets the standard
- 2. DETESNOUVELLES** - Plumetted down the weights/ratings after losing her way more than a year ago. Finished 14th in a 2100m turf handicap at Sanit-Cloud on 30 October and is best watched for now
- 3. NOT SO SILLY** - Has well and truly lost his way, having been soundly beaten in eight of his last nine appearances. Finished 12th in a 2000m handicap at Fontainebleau on 6 March
- 4. HYPNOTIZED** - Confirmed the improvement of her previous outing (5th) with an encouraging 3rd in a 1600m turf handicap on heavy ground at Le Mans on 11 March
- 5. ROCHEUX** - Hard-knocking handicapper who has been hard to win with (2 victories from 30 starts) but is seldom far off the mark. Has to improve back on the turf after finishing 9th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 24 February
- 6. PALETUVIER** - Consistent handicapper with references at this level on both turf and PSF. Proved his form and well-being with an encouraging 4th in a 2000m handicap at Saint-Cloud on 16 March
- 7. GOJI BERRY** - Has confirmed the form and improvement of his 1600m Saint-Cloud handicap success by remaining consistent in four subsequent outings. Was 3rd in handicaps over 1600m and 2000m at Fontainebleau earlier this month
- 8. GRACE OF CLIFFS** - Inconsistent but has a habit of running well on this course, albeit without success. Was soundly beaten (15th) in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 30 December but is more effective on turf
- 9. TRIPTAJIKA** - Sparked improvement dropped to mark by finishing a reassuring 4th in a 2000m handicap on heavy ground at Marseille-Borély on 27 February. Needs to confirm that form/progress to have a say here
- 10. FINDON FLYER** - A 13-start maiden who is most unlikely to open his account after finishing downfield in each of his last 5 starts in PSF handicaps. Made no impression when 15th over 1900m at Deauville on 25 January
- 11. SWEET BETSY** - An honest mare and hard-knocking handicapper who has been hard to win with (1 victory from 30 starts) but is seldom far off the mark. Finished 5th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 14 March
- 12. GARDOL MOON** - Has plumetted down the weights/ratings after losing her way in January last year. Finished a well-beaten 11th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 24 February
- 13. MA BEREZINA** - Unplaced in each of her 11 appearances on turf and PSF in claimers, handicaps and conditions races. Finished 7th in a 2000m handicap at Saint-Cloud on 16 March
- 14. ANGEL DUST** - Finished 3rd over course and distance three starts back but went off the boil in subsequent outings - was 11th in a 2000m handicap at Nancy when last seen in November. One to watch on her reappearance

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**15. JAVA JAMES** - A 17-start maiden unlikely to break her duck here having been soundly beaten in each of her last four handicap appearances - was 12th in a 1300m handicap at Le Touquet on 16 August. Others preferred

**Summary:** Top-weight PRINCESSE VERA (1) proved her competitiveness off this revised mark with an encouraging 5th last time and ought to fight for victory here under Alexis Pouchin. GOJI BERRY (7) arrives in good form and physical condition having finished 3rd in both starts this year, so is likely to pose a threat. As is HYPNOTIZED (4), whose recent 3rd on heavy ground at Le Mans bodes well for her chances in a race of this nature. Consistent PALETUVIER (6), who was 4th at Saint-Cloud recently, fits a similar profile and can also play a leading role.

## SELECTIONS

**PRINCESSE VERA (1) - GOJI BERRY (7) - HYPNOTIZED (4) - PALETUVIER (6)**

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**C4 - PRIX ROBERT DIERS - 1800m (a1m 1/8) - TURF - Class 4 - Flat - EUR  
€ 16,000**

**1. SWEEP AWAY** - Runner-up over 1900m on the PSF at Chantilly when resuming after a four-month absence on 15 February. Has won on very soft ground, so cannot be underestimated

**2. SAKURA GLITTERS** - Improving last-start winner who opened her account on handicap debut over 1900m on the PSF at Chantilly on 15 February. Should be effective on soft/heavy ground given her pedigree

**3. ZELINA** - Consistent and versatile filly with sound references on both surfaces. Finished 3rd on an 1800m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 1 March when returning from a three-month absence

**4. NEOWISE** - Began her career in Ireland where she placed once in 3 starts. Inconsistent since arriving on French soil - could only finish 7th in a 1660m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 8 March - and needs to improve to get into the picture

**5. LADY ACE** - Sparingly raced filly who has dropped in the weights/ratings having finished unplaced in each of her last four starts - was 11th over 2100m on PSF at Chantilly on 5 March after a four-month absence. Watch for now

**6. LOVER WITH A G** - Inconsistent although seldom finishes far off the mark. Won 1800m turf handicap at this track on good ground in May last year but hasn't been seen since finishing 2nd on a 1650m claimer on turf at Amiens on 9 October

**Summary:** Given her pedigree, SAKURA GLITTERS (2) ought to be effective on rain-softened ground so is good value to follow up her winning handicap debut with a second successive victory. ZELINA (3) won on very soft ground at Clairefontaine last summer and, after her encouraging reappearance (3rd) on the PSF earlier this month, is likely to pose a threat. The same applies to SWEEP AWAY (1) who caught the eye when finishing 2nd last month on her return from a four-month absence and was supplemented to run in this race. NEOWISE (4) completes the shortlist.

## SELECTIONS

**SAKURA GLITTERS (2) - ZELINA (3) - SWEEP AWAY (1) - NEOWISE (4)**

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**C5 - PRIX DE BOUVINES - 1100m (a5f 1/2) - TURF - Handicap - Flat - EUR  
€ 20,000**

**1. BOTTOMS UP** - Revealed early potential as a two-year-old but failed to build on that promise throughout last year - could only finish 8th on handicap debut over 1200m on the turf at Chantilly on 7 October

**2. RHETORIQUE** - Has been disappointing to this point and confirmed as much by only finishing 9th over 1900m on the PSF at Chantilly on 23 February. Drops considerably in distance and in class so could give a better account of herself

**3. FORTUNATE SON** - Unplaced in both starts on the turf last year and looked to have regressed when only 9th over 1300m on PSF at Chantilly on 23 February. Open to improvement with that comeback outing under his belt

**4. BOMBHEY** - Finished 3rd in a claimer behind BAWE ISLAND (5) on this course last September and didn't go unnoticed when finishing 4th in a 1400m claimer on his reappearance at Saint-Cloud on 12 March

**5. BAWE ISLAND** - Finished 2nd and 4th in two visits to Le Croisé-Laroche. Was a well-beaten 11th on a 1200m handicap last time at Fontainebleau on 6 March but shouldn't be hastily condemned

**6. RUE MIA** - Consistent filly whose recent failure (9th) in her first start on the PSF at Chantilly on 18 March is best ignored. Finished 2nd at Fontainebleau in a 1200m handicap before that so has a winning chance here

**7. GOGOGADGET** - An inconsistent 13-start maiden who is unlikely to break his duck here, having finished 7th and 8th in 1300m claimers on PSF at Deauville in December. Watch for now

**8. WAHAYEB** - Unplaced in her first four appearances on PSF but sparked improvement to finish a reassuring 2nd in her first start on turf over 1100m at Angoulême on 3 March. Confirmation expected

**9. WAITING CALL** - Consistent performer unlikely to remain a maiden for too much longer. Finished a creditable 5th on handicap debut over 1400m on PSF at Chantilly on 18 March and could confirm that form reverting to the turf

**10. ZELDA REBEL** - Soundly beaten in four starts on PSF before showing signs of improvement last time to finish 6th in a 1600m turf handicap at Le Mans. More needed

**Summary:** Mathieu Boutin holds a strong hand with four runners and can count on RUE MIA (6), who shouldn't be condemned for his recent failure on the PSF. RHETORIQUE (2) is unexposed over this distance but the booking of Alexis Pouchin bodes well for his chances. Already confirmed on this Le Croisé-Laroche layout, BAWE ISLAND (5) is also likely to be competitive along with both WAHAYEB (8) and WAITING CALL (9), who will benefit from Marie Vélon's 1,5kg allowance.

## SELECTIONS

**RUE MIA (6) - RHETORIQUE (2) - BAWE ISLAND (5) - WAHAYEB (8)**

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## C6 - PRIX DE LAMBERSART - 1100m (a5f 1/2) - TURF - Class 4 Claiming Handicap - Flat - EUR € 13,000

**1. INVOLABLE SPIRIT** - Finished 3rd over track and trip when last seen at this level almost a year ago to the day (24 March 2023). Out of sorts but is seldom far off the mark - finished 5th on a 1300m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 29 February

**2. GLICOURT** - Unreliable although undeniably capable veteran gelding of 130 appearances with 13 victories. Has references off higher marks but needs to improve after a modest 13th in an 1100m handicap at Fontainebleau on 6 March

**3. INTREPID ITALIAN** - Made a promising start to his career in England and has already established himself on French soil at this level. Finished 9th in a 1000m handicap at Vichy on 26 September but has the means to make a winning comeback

**4. PAPATEOU** - Has won two of three appearances at this course, including a similar course-and-distance race two starts back. Absent since finishing 8th in a 1300m PSF handicap at Deauville on 6 December but is respected on his return

**5. ZENIGATA** - Consistent in the claiming category off higher marks, albeit without success. Finished 15th at Chantilly in a PSF handicap over 1600m on 12 December but ought to fare better at this level, even on her reappearance

**6. EXCALIBUR** - A capable veteran who finished a well-beaten 14th in a 1300m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 29 February when returning after a three-month absence. Former course-and-distance winner with the means to play a role here

**7. MADDOX** - A 24-start maiden unlikely to break his duck, though does have a place chance in a race of this nature after an encouraging last-start 5th in an 1100m handicap at Fontainebleau on 6 March

**8. PERMENTON** - Won a 1300m turf handicap on French soil at Le Touquet in August 2022 but has been unconvincing since. Won twice over 1200m at Ostende in August last year, albeit at a lower level, and has been absent since November

**9. MAGIC SWORD** - Unreliable but remains undeniably capable of resurfacing in a race of this nature - finished 2nd and 3rd in two appearances at this venue over course and distance. Was 17th in a 1300m PSF handicap at Chantilly last month

**10. TALLINSKI** - Unreliable veteran of 93 starts with 7 victories to his name. Has references at this level, especially on grass, but needs to bounce back after finishing a well-beaten 11th in an 1300m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 29 February

**11. GIORGIANA** - Inconsistent and currently out of sorts but has sound references in handicaps off higher marks, so shouldn't be easily overlooked. Dropped 1kg after finishing 9th in an 1100m handicap at Fontainebleau on 6 March

**Summary:** Top-rated INTREPID ITALIAN (3) has not been seen since September but is favourably treated under these conditions and, if judged on his best references, needn't be fully tuned to make a winning reappearance. PAPATEOU (4), with two victories on this course to his name, is also capable of playing a leading role with Marie Velon's 1,5kg allowance a boost to his chances. Sofie Lanslots sends out three runners, with EXCALIBUR (6) and stablemate MAGIC SWORD (9) likely to lead her charge. GIORGIANA (11) appeals most of the remainder.



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**SELECTIONS**

**INTREPID ITALIAN (3) - PAPATEOU (4) - EXCALIBUR (6) - MAGIC SWORD (9)**

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## C7 - PRIX DE MONS-EN-BAROEUL - 2500m (a1m 1/2) - TURF - Class 4 Claiming Handicap - Flat - EUR € 13,000

**1. BREATH OF FIRE** - Inconsistent but not entirely incapable of getting into the picture in a race of this nature. Didn't go unnoticed in consecutive 2000m turf handicaps earlier this month (6th and 3rd) so cannot be underestimated in this grade

**2. MOONFLIGHT** - Finished 3rd in a conditions race over track and trip last fall so shouldn't be hastily condemned after finishing a modest 7th in a 2400m claimer on PSF at Cagnes on 12 February

**3. RAINBOW WARRIOR** - Showed considerable early promise and let the side down recently when only finishing 7th in his first outing at this level over 2200m at Fontainebleau on 6 March. Dangerous to dismiss dropped 3kg in the weights/ratings

**4. SKIP CHOP** - Has not been seen since finishing an encouraging 3rd over track and trip in a similar contest on 6 November. Dark horse

**5. FAWKES** - Achieved his only career success at Mont-de-Marsan in July 2022. Ran well in three subsequent outings at this level but has lost his way since - was soundly beaten (13th) in a 2400m handicap at Compiègne on 10 March

**6. SADANORI** - Unplaced and soundly beaten in each of his last three starts in PSF handicaps but has dropped to an attractive mark as a result and is more effective on turf. Won over track and trip in his only outing at this venue in 2021

**7. SIR WALTER** - Soundly beaten in both starts this year at Cagnes in PSF handicaps over 2000m. Ought to fare better in his first appearance at this level and would have a chance here on his earlier form references

**8. WONDER OF YOU** - Consistent performer in handicap and conditions races with proven references/competitiveness off his current mark. Finished 4th over 2600m at Nîmes on 18 February and should have a leading role to play at this level

**9. RUE DE VOLGA** - Finished 3rd in a 2150m turf handicap at Cagnes in February last year off a much higher mark but has gone off the boil since. Was last seen finishing 14th in a 2500m PSF handicap at Deauville on 29 December

**10. LOUNA CHOPE** - Soundly beaten in both starts this year at Deauville and Chantilly in PSF handicaps over 2500m and 2700m. Has references in the claiming category off a higher mark, so could resurface in a race of this nature

**Summary:** Having shown his form and well-being at Nîmes last month, WONDER OF YOU (8) sets the standard on his return to the claiming category. He will, however, have to be wary of MOONFLIGHT (2) who finished 3rd over track and trip in his only appearance at this venue. RAINBOW WARRIOR (3), after a series of poor performances, has a good opportunity at this level to spark improvement and play a role in the finish. SADANORI (6), a winner on this course, isn't without a prayer and could get involved.

### SELECTIONS

WONDER OF YOU (8) - MOONFLIGHT (2) - RAINBOW WARRIOR (3) - SADANORI (6)

# FRIDAY, 22/03/24

**C8 - PRIX DE SAINT-ANDRE - 2500m (a1m 1/2) - TURF - Class 3 - Flat -  
EUR € 15,000**

**1. ROARING GALLAGHER** - Lightly raced, boasts the best references of the runners engaged in this race, including a 2600m victory at Nîmes last month. Showed his form and well-being by finishing 2nd on the PSF at Lyon-La Soie on 3 March

**2. MANDLYX LOVE** - Made no impression (13th) in a 2000m PSF claimer at Cagnes in February and was a well-beaten 9th there over in a 2400m PSF claimer on 11 February. Hard to make a case for

**3. BALDO** - An 8-start maiden with one place to his name - was 3rd over 2400m in a minor event at Ostend on 21 August. Hasn't been seen since finishing a modest 9th in a 2100m PSF race at Mons on 21 December

**4. MASTER OF HOPE** - Debut winner over 2400m on the turf at Lignières last month, on 18 February. Faces tougher opposition but is open to any amount of improvement

**5. POLARKLY** - Unplaced in each of his 4 starts, all on the PSF at Mons - twice in December and twice since the turn of the year. Finished a well-beaten 9th over 2100m on 5 March so will need to improve in his first outing on the turf

**6. EASTERN STAR** - Showed promise in his two first starts in the claiming category, finishing 2nd on debut at Nancy before winning at Le Mans (both in May last year). Absent since finishing 5th at Compiègne over 2800m on 9 June 2023

**7. LILY OF THE SEA** - Anastasia Wattel-trained Recoletos debutante purchased for €18,000 back in October 2021. One to note on her belated racecourse debut

**8. WAYA WAYA** - An 8-start maiden whose solitary place was achieved in an 1100m claimer on this course in October 2022. Has been absent since finishing 10th in a 1400m handicap at Nancy on 8 April 2023

**Summary:** ROARING GALLAGHER (1), co-owned by Juventus head coach Massimiliano Allégri, is hard to oppose under these conditions. He is likely to find debut winner MASTER OF HOPE (4), open to any amount of improvement, his biggest danger with newcomer LILY OF THE SEA (7) not incapable of making her presence felt either. The returning EASTERN STAR (6) also has the means to get involved.

## SELECTIONS

**ROARING GALLAGHER (1) - MASTER OF HOPE (4) - LILY OF THE SEA (7) - EASTERN  
STAR (6)**