

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

R1 LE CROISE-LAROCHE [L-H]

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

- 1. IRISH NICE ELGE** - Good consistent campaigner returning to the venue after winning a 2925m Cagnes Class A on 8 March. Shoes off but can still expect to face a stiff test
- 2. JAGUAR MARANCOURT** - Has not been seen out since faulting in a 2700m Vincennes Gr.3 late-February. Competitively-shod for comeback and can play a role if Gabriele Gelormini keeps him trotting
- 3. IALTO D'HERTALS** - Capable on a good day but lacklustre 9th of 16 in a 2100m Vincennes Class C last Friday and will need to raise his game
- 4. HELLO SPORT** - Has 2 races in him since the break, most recently 8th of 16 in a 2450m Caen Class C 11 days ago and is not about to spring a surprise
- 5. GILMOUR** - Regressive form, most recently 10th of 16 in a 2450m Caen Class C and, even with modified shoeing, will first need to reaffirm
- 6. EMBLEME ORANGE** - A total write-off this year, most recently last of 14 finishers in Gr.3 Lyon-La Soie edition over 3250m last month and has no realistic chance
- 7. GINKO DU ROUSSOIR** - 6th of 16 in Lyon-La Soie edition before enduring a tough run when 8th of 16 in a 2700m Vincennes Class C on 4 May. Starts on the front row, sports a new configuration, and is not going to be far from the action
- 8. EUREKA VRIE** - Very hard to knock when applied, most recently 3rd behind HAVE A DREAM (9) in a 2100m Vincennes Class B earlier in the month. Unlikely to make the frame but still represents a respectable first-5 pick
- 9. HAVE A DREAM** - Left a good impression when 2nd of 15 in a 2100m Vincennes Class B on 4 May. Takes on some better 6 year-olds but still looks a decent place prospect
- 10. EBERTON** - Sanctioned in a 2850m Vincennes Class A a week ago. Has ample ability but dependability not his friend, and can be ruled out
- 11. IBIKI DE HOUELLE** - Fine 2nd in a similar event at Cordemais before winning a 2625m Class B at La Rochelle 10 days ago and, with form maintained, should prove main threat to INO DU LUPIN (14)
- 12. IT'S A DOLLARMAKER** - Serious trotter making first appearance since coming 5th in Gr.1 Prix de Paris. Barefoot for the occasion with Lebourgeois reining this time, and looks good enough to trot his way onto the podium
- 13. HARLEM DE BUCY** - Quality element with GNT form. Has not raced since coming 12th of 15 in a 2850m Vincennes Class B on 1 February and even though shod for competition, others still preferred
- 14. INO DU LUPIN** - Remarkable campaigner with an enviable strike-rate. Is new to the venue but is still unlikely to be bested

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

Summary: Unbeaten in 6 outings since the start of the year, INO DU LUPIN (14) is as versatile as they come and even from the back line, will take all the beating. Antoine Wiels will nevertheless be keeping a watchful eye on IBIKI DE HOUELLE (11) who finished 2nd in the Cordemais edition before romping at La Rochelle, and Gr.1-placed IT'S A DOLLARMAKER (12) who is barefoot for re-entry. HAVE A DREAM (9) produced an excellent effort earlier this month and should logically have a say in the outcome.

SELECTIONS

INO DU LUPIN (14) - IBIKI DE HOUELLE (11) - IT'S A DOLLARMAKER (12) - HAVE A DREAM (9)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

C2 - PRIX WWW.CROISE-LAROCHE.FR - 2825m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Riders Race - Mounted - EUR € 23,000

1. GENERAL WOOD - 3rd of 9, under harness, over 2300m at Mons a fortnight back. Yet to show any aptitude for the game and is not about to start now

2. ILOS DU GOUTIER - Returns to his code of preference after coming last of 13 in a 3125m Granville Class E on Sunday. Has turned a corner since the start of the year and looks a leading contender

3. HADRIEN MERITE - Clearly useful but sanctioned in both return runs, latterly a 2600m Class F at Châlons-en-Champagne 2 weeks ago, and others easier to trust

4. GREAT GATSBY - 2nd over course and distance early-April before being sanctioned 9 days later in a 2700m Lyon-La Soie Class E, however there are considerably better options to choose from

5. IDEAL D'ARTONGES - Sanctioned early, when clearly in form, in a 2550m Reims Class F on 25 April. Placed just once in 4 under the saddle here though and no more than a minor place prospect

6. ICARE DU DOLLAR - 5th of 11 in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle on 5 May. Hind shoes off for the occasion, won twice under harness over course and distance earlier this term, and can get straight down to business

7. ISCO DE CORDAY - Made up for his Orléans sanction when 3rd of 13 in a 2800m Rambouillet Class G 3 weeks ago. Is proven here and, in current form, is very easy to like. Place prospect

8. IESOLO D'HERIPRE - Last of 5 finishers in a 2650m Class G at L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue on 27 April. Seldom seen under the saddle but has won 1 of 2, and a return to the code may be just what the doctor ordered. Attention

9. ICARE DU POMMEREUX - Last of 8 in a 2450m Caen Class F earlier this month. Is unbeaten over course and distance though and should not be written off

Summary: Although untried in public under the saddle, ICARE DU DOLLAR (6) clearly has a liking for the venue and, unshod-behind, is eminently capable of opening his monté account at the first time of asking. It is unlikely to be all plane sailing though considering how performant ILOS DU GOUTIER (2) is in this branch of the business, and how well ISCO DE CORDAY (7) comported himself on turf last time out. IESOLO D'HERIPRE (8) has little experience of the discipline but nevertheless boasts a 50% strike-rate and is not incapable of trotting his way into the frame.

SELECTIONS

ICARE DU DOLLAR (6) - ILOS DU GOUTIER (2) - ISCO DE CORDAY (7) - IESOLO
D'HERIPRE (8)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

C3 - GRAND NATIONAL DES AMATEURS - 2800m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Drivers Race - Harness - EUR € 8,000

- 1. IT'S DU QUENNE** - Defied his odds to come 4th of 15 in a 2825m professionals Class F here on 1 April but a repeat seems improbable
- 2. GIORGIO DU VIVIER** - Returns to France after winning over 2300m at Mons a weeks ago. Has never delivered here however and is not about to cause an upset
- 3. INFINI DU TRY** - 4th, a place behind HYSIA D'HUON (6), in a 2700m amateurs Class G here 9 days ago. Is clearly close to his race and Sven Hoste will be out to prove a point. Chance
- 4. IXEL BILOU** - Disappointed among the pros here on 25 March before finishing 5th of 13, at 55/1, in a 2600m Nancy Class F 5 days later. Breaks in front but others still preferred
- 5. HIVAROSA DU BOCAGE** - Very good servant in the amateur division, most recently 2nd of 9 in a 2625m Class G at La Rochelle 10 days ago. Takes on some better horses here but, handicap or not, can pick up a cheque
- 6. HYSIA D'HUON** - Surprising 3rd of 10 in a 2700m amateurs Class G here 9 days ago. Just front shoes off this time and should not be overlooked
- 7. HOT SHOT** - Drops back in category after coming 4th of 18 in a 2800m Strasbourg Class F last week. Appreciates the venue, has front pads fitted, and makes his amateur debut with realistic ambition
- 8. IPOCALYPSE LOVE** - Produced 2 good efforts before finishing last but one in a 2700m Class D here 9 days ago. Is back in his category though and can more than make amends
- 9. GRANDE MALICE** - 3rd at Laon before disappointing 8th of 11 in a 1800m Class F, in the professional ranks, on 10 May. In this field, will have little to offer
- 10. FALMACO DES ANGLES** - Honest sort that finished a respectable 4th of 8 in a 2525m Cavaillon amateurs Class G on April. Has no particular love for Le Croisé-Laroche though and others easier to back
- 11. FLICFLAC DU LOGIS** - 6th of 9 finishers in a 2825m Chartres amateurs Class G 2 weeks ago. Races barefoot this time, is confirmed here, and will be expected to figure more prominently. Place chance
- 12. GAMINE DE RIBEAU** - 2nd of 15 in a 2600m Class F at Châlons-en-Champagne a fortnight ago. Very hard to fault when barefoot here and, even though alone on the 3rd line, still looks a decent first-5 prospect

Summary: Ideally-entered on the front line, and reassuring at Strasbourg, HOT SHOT (7) races with front pads for the first time and has a realistic claim on the trophy. Sébastien Grisez will still want to be wary of the similarly well-positioned INFINI DU TRY (3) who has twice pleased here recently, and 2nd row starter IPOCALYPSE LOVE (8) who, even though shod, will still have his chances. Proven under these conditions, FLICFLAC DU LOGIS (11) races barefoot and will be no soft touch.

SELECTIONS

HOT SHOT (7) - INFINI DU TRY (3) - IPOCALYPSE LOVE (8) - FLICFLAC DU LOGIS (11)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

C4 - PRIX DU PMU "LE CHANTILLY" CAMBRAI - 2700m (a1m1/2) - Class D Race - Harness - EUR € 23,000

- 1. LONDON EYE** - Opened his account with ease in a 2700m Graignes Class F on 3 May. Lebourgeois reining again and can pull off the double
- 2. LABORANTIN** - Pleasant 4th at Caen on re-entry before finishing 10th of 16 in a 2350m Angers Class D on 11 April. Comes here fresh, is well-placed in front, but others still preferred
- 3. LYS PETTEVINIERE** - Won over 2825m here first time out. 2nd, on return from his spell, in a 2700m Class E at La Capelle 12 days ago and the good draw will do his prospects no disservice
- 4. LOCKI DU FER** - Debuted nicely at La Capelle before dead-heating for victory in a 2400m Amiens Class F a month ago. Has stacks of progress in him and is ideally-positioned to repeat
- 5. LETS GO DE MONCHEL** - Returns to the provinces after coming 6th off 7 finishers in a 2700m Vincennes Class D last week, and has a realistic chance of making first 5
- 6. LADY OH** - Going well when faulting in a 2700m Vincennes Class D last week. Has evident ability though and will be no pushover if Bernard Piton keeps her trotting
- 7. LUMIERE MIKA** - Has found the going tough since late last year, latterly sanctioned in a 2700m Vincennes Class D, and will have few friends
- 8. LAURA DE MAI** - 4th of 7 finishers in a 2500m Bihorel-lès-Rouen claimer and, under these conditions, will have little to offer
- 9. LUSANIO DE WARNOC** - Handy colt that has shown potential, most recently 3rd of 12 in a Class F over 2825m here on 29 April. Tough draw but will still not be available at 206/1 this time around
- 10. LEONA JELMA** - Qualified in 1'20"1 at Grosbois late last year and is unlikely to make much of an impact on career debut
- 11. LEADER DE CERISY** - Won a claimer at Vire before losing his action in a similar event over 2600m at Lyon-Parilly on 5 May, and will struggle to make his presence felt
- 12. LOVE ME ALWAYS** - Sanctioned, when looking a first-5 prospect, in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle earlier this month. Would have preferred a better draw but is still worth monitoring

Summary: It took LONDON EYE (1) a few runs to make good on his promise but he did so very professionally at Graignes and Yoann Lebourgeois will be justifiably hopeful of a repeat. That said, LOCKI DU FER (4) is clearly a decent colt in the making and the excellent draw will stand him in good stead. LYS PETTEVINIERE (3) is not badly-placed on the front line either and has a decent chance of confirming his debut Le Croisé-Laroche victory. LADY OH (6) is still chasing that elusive first win but, with application, will have her chances.

SELECTIONS

LONDON EYE (1) - LOCKI DU FER (4) - LYS PETTEVINIERE (3) - LADY OH (6)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

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

- 1. JASMIN DHELPA** - Switches back to racing unshod-behind after coming 4th of 15 in a 2450m Caen Class D on 5 May. Is not far off his mark and will be competitive for a place in the frame
- 2. JAGUAR DU BOCAGE** - 6th of 14, on re-entry, in a 2800m Rambouillet Class E a month back. Unbeaten in 3 starts for Gabriele Gelormini but races shod and has other priorities
- 3. JACKPOT D'ORGUEIL** - 5th behind JAFAR DE FAEL (5) in a 2450m Caen Class E late-April. Is unbeaten in 2 starts over track and trip and must not be underestimated
- 4. JIRENZO** - Has done nothing but improve this term, most recently 2nd of 8 finishers in a 2700m Vincennes Class E on 3 May. Boasts a good record at the venue and looks the pick of the field
- 5. JAFAR DE FAEL** - 5th, a place behind JASMIN DHELPA (1), in a 2450m Caen Class D on 5 May. Modified configuration and, from the 5-spot, will be expected to finish closer
- 6. JOKER DE L'EPINE** - 2nd of 14, on first seasonal objective, in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle on 10 May. Will have come on for the run and is sufficiently well-placed to finish in the mix
- 7. JACK DU CAUX** - Good class of trotter with 2 runs under his belt, latterly last of 9 finishers in a 2500m Reims Class D on 17 April. Has never disappointed when barefoot and can finish close
- 8. JUST BUILT** - Failed to confirm his Nancy performance when 7th of 14 in a 2875m Enghien Class D a month ago. Handed an unattractive draw but is no slouch on a good day and will generate some interest
- 9. JINNOVE DAB** - Sanctioned early in a 2700m Vincennes Class E last week. Is otherwise an excellent servant that likes these conditions and even from the back line, can make his presence felt
- 10. JARDIN D'ERABLE** - 6th of 15 in a 2700m Class D at La Capelle on 5 May. Has otherwise been in excellent shape, goes unshod-in-front, but others still easier to back
- 11. JUPITER MADRIK** - Disappointing 7th of 15, behind JARDIN D'ERABLE (10), in a 2700m Class D at La Capelle earlier this month and is unlikely to shake things up
- 12. JACKSON HILL** - Never far from faulting but finished close 4th to JOKER DE L'EPINE (6) in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle on 10 May. Yet to shine when barefoot and not an obvious choice

Summary: In excellent shape and plainly close to his race, JIRENZO (4) has made his mark here more than once and is better-placed than the useful JACK DU CAUX (7) who is barefoot for his first objective of the year. Twice a winner earlier in the season, JASMIN DHELPA (1) has again been knocking at the door and, hind shoes off for the occasion, looks a player. A place behind him at Caen earlier in the month, JAFAR DE FAEL (5) reverts to a previous configuration and the draw will do his chances no harm.

SELECTIONS

JIRENZO (4) - JACK DU CAUX (7) - JASMIN DHELPA (1) - JAFAR DE FAEL (5)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

C6 - PRIX DES HAUTS-DE-FRANCE - 2825m (a2m) - Class D Race - Mounted - EUR € 35,000

- 1. HERCULE DE BEA** - Pleased at Reims in this configuration before coming 7th of 13 in a 2750m Class F at La Capelle on 5 May. Has a front-line start and must be respected
- 2. GUOPECK DE VIVOIN** - Has ability but never easy to gauge, latterly 7th of 8 finishers in a Class F over course and distance 9 days ago. Goes barefoot this time and, while not a priority, can still get in on the action
- 3. GRISBI DU PERSIL** - 9th of 13 in a 2150m Vichy Class F 10 days ago and even from the front row, can be passed over
- 4. VIKING BRODDE** - Has struggled since coming south, most recently last of 10 in a 2050m Lyon-La Soie Class D early-April, and an can expect to remain friendless
- 5. HUIS CLOS (SWE)** - Serious trotter looking to complete the double after winning a 2700m Vincennes Class E a fortnight back and, with form maintained, can confirm
- 6. EXPRESS DUO** - Never prominent when last but one in a 2175m Vincennes Class D late-April and will need to step up his game
- 7. DEVS DEFINITIF** - Sanctioned, on re-entry, in a 2100m Vincennes harness Class D on 3 May. Returns to his code of preference and is unlikely to let the side down
- 8. GADGET DU GADE** - Has evident ability but is a long way from his best, faulting in a 3000m Marseille-Borély Class C last Friday and, with shoes on, will have few friends
- 9. FIROS** - Races barefoot following 2 return runs, most recently faulting in a 2100m Vincennes Class C last week, and will have his supporters
- 10. GIUSEPPE** - Drops down the class ladder after trotting 4th of 15 in a 2875m Enghien Class C a month ago. Has never raced barefoot here but can impose if Benjamin Chauve-Laffay keeps him trotting
- 11. FAKIR DE L'AULNE** - Useful sort returning to the code after coming last but one when prepping shod in a 2850m Vincennes harness Class D 12 days ago. Pads fitted, with leading jockey riding, and will be competitive

Summary: Sanctioned in all 4 harness starts here, GIUSEPPE (10) is a very different horse in this branch of the business and even from the back line, can win this. Principal opposition will surely hail from HUIS CLOS (SWE) (5) who returned to winning ways in Paris a fortnight ago, and FAKIR DE L'AULNE (11) who is fitted with pads and who benefits from an Eric Raffin ride this time around. DEVS DEFINITIF (7) seldom disappoints in the monté code and, if fully-fit, can finish in the mix.

SELECTIONS

GIUSEPPE (10) - HUIS CLOS (SWE) (5) - FAKIR DE L'AULNE (11) - DEVS DEFINITIF (7)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

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

1. KATARINA DE LOU - Complicated but has bags of ability, most recently sanctioned in a 2175m Vincennes Class D a fortnight ago. Races first time barefoot though and will be dangerous if Yoann Lebourgeois keeps her trotting

2. KILDARE OF LOVE - Returns to the harness code after coming 2nd in a 2200m Vincennes monté Class D early last month. Has never disappointed here but has different priorities and others preferred

3. KAMELIE DU CAMPUS - Won over course and distance, at 61/1, before faulting early in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle on 10 May. Shoes back on and, while unlikely to cause an upset, should still acquit herself honourably. First-5 chance

4. KILIMANDJARO - 4th of 13 finishers, at 34/1, in a 2875m Argentan Class E mid-April. Front shoes off this time, is well-positioned in front, and is not about to go home empty-handed

5. KAI LA SHA - Good 2nd of 13 in a 2450m Caen Class E on 5 May. Is proven here (despite being disqualified), enjoys a decent spot in front, and can bring home the bacon

6. KANEM - Won at La Capelle before coming 4th of 12 in a 2700m Vincennes Class D on 26 April. Has a good engine and a realistic chance of making the frame

7. KOOL DU PORHOET - Decent 5th of 12 in a 2175m Vincennes Class D 12 days ago. Won under these conditions in November, and racing barefoot this time must be worth keeping an eye on

8. KANDIE D'ARDENNES - Last of 8 finishers, on comeback, in a 2750m Class D at La Capelle on 10 May. Front shoes off for the first time but still not easy to like

9. KASSIOPEE NANIE - 8th of 10 finishers in a Class E over course and distance last week and already looks out of her depth

10. KOREDE - Sanctioned in last 2, most recently a 2000m Class E at Lyon-Parilly on 3 May. Not ideally-drawn and appears to have too much to do

Summary: KAI LA SHA (5) has returned to competition in excellent condition, is confirmed here, and from the 5-spot can win this. Franck Ouvrie will still expect to meet resistance from KATARINA DE LOU (1) who, barefoot for the first time, can put to bed her recent sanctions. KANEM (6) has turned a corner this season and returns to Le Croisé-Laroche with a good hand to play. Better off on his inside, KILIMANDJARO (4) has been progressing and, with front shoes off this time, must be taken seriously.

SELECTIONS

KAI LA SHA (5) - KATARINA DE LOU (1) - KANEM (6) - KILIMANDJARO (4)

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

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

- 1. HORTENSIA DE LARRE** - Kicked the year off well before going off the boil, most recently faulting in a 2800m Vichy Class E earlier this month, and will have few takers
- 2. HYPERION DU BOCAGE** - 4th of 16 in a 2700m Class F at La Capelle late last month but has little love for Le Croisé-Laroche and others easier to back
- 3. HOMMAGE DU TRIO** - 8th of 16, after having faulted early, in a 2825m Chartres Class F 2 weeks ago. Leading driver in charge this time and will have his chances from the front line
- 4. HANDZARO DU BOCAGE** - Reassuring 3rd of 16 in a 2725m amateurs Class H at Jullouville-les-Pins 2 weeks ago but, in this company, is not about to spring any surprises
- 5. HAMILTON DU LUPIN** - Makes first start since winning a 2800m Cholet Class F 3 months ago. Shoes off for return but is no more than a minor place prospect
- 6. HARMONIA BELLA** - Occasionally a handful but nevertheless won smartly over 2625m in a Class F at La Rochelle 3 weeks ago. Thrives with Jérémy Lehericey in the wagon and must be considered a major player
- 7. HANACK DE VIVOIN** - Disappointing lately, most recently 7th of 17 in a 2950m Class F at Le Mans 2 weeks ago and can be passed over
- 8. HELIOS D'EURVAD** - 5th of 17 in a 2950m Class F at Le Mans a fortnight ago. Has a good entry in front but others still preferred
- 9. GAVROCHE MAZA** - No longer the horse he once was. Has not been seen out since faulting over 2600m at Wolvega last September and can be confidently ruled out
- 10. GRINGO SAVA** - Last of 13 on comeback in a 2750m Class E at La Capelle earlier in the month. Has other priorities however and can be disregarded
- 11. GLYCINA BELLA** - 4th of 18 in a 2900m Argentan Class F mid-March. Has nothing to prove in this category and even from the back line looks a player
- 12. FAUCON DE L'ALBA** - Encouraging 5th of 16 in a 2100m Vincennes Class D, despite some bad luck, a week ago. On the back line here but is still good enough to get a look-in
- 13. GALANTIS** - Sanctioned on re-entry in a 2825m Cordemais Class E a month ago. Will have come of for the run and, with Eric Raffin reining, will be no easy touch
- 14. NICE PRESENT** - Quality dual-discipline type racing barefoot this time after coming 2nd of 10 in a 2550m Reims monté Class E on 17 April. Romain Derieux reining here and, even though 25m worse off, can get in on the action
- 15. DOLLAR DOC** - Has struggled with form all year, latterly sanctioned in a 2850m Laval monté Class D late last month and will not be troubling the judge
- 16. GAYLORD AM** - Hardy type that reassured with success in a 2800m Cholet Class C late last month. Ideally-engaged at the limit of earnings and can make this his own

WEDNESDAY, 22/05/24

Summary: Reassuring and tenacious winner at Cholet last time out, GAYLORD AM (16) makes his first appearance at the venue but should take well to the new profile and Damien Bonne will be loathe to pass up such a good opportunity. 25m better off and entrusted to Yoann Lebourgeois, HOMMAGE DU TRIO (3) can make up for his Chartres effort. Sanctioned at Pontchâteau, HARMONIA BELLA (6) made amends with victory at La Rochelle early this month and, barefoot this time, looks a contender. GLYCINA BELLA (11) is plainly in good shape and, even though incurring the handicap, will be competitive for a step on the podium.

SELECTIONS

GAYLORD AM (16) - HOMMAGE DU TRIO (3) - HARMONIA BELLA (6) - GLYCINA BELLA (11)