# **SALON-DE-PROVENCE** [R-H] - 22 June

# Race 1 - PRIX DES BENEVOLES - 1100m CLM. Purse EUR €12,500.

- 1. **NIGHT CHOPE** Improving filly who has won her last two runs the latest when a long neck winner over 1100m at this track. Form good for this and is expected to run well.
- 2. **KING OF SUGAR** Stepped up to 1400m last time and raced on the speed battling on well to finish third at La Teste De Buch. No surprise if he was in the frame again.
- 3. **LIDISBARN** Drew wide over 1400m at La Teste De Buch on debut last start so he pushed forward before finishing eighth beaten 6 lengths. Has a low gate but others rate better.
- 4. **CLEMENZA** Produced a better run last time out when second over 1100m at this track beaten a long neck. Cannot be disregarded.
- 5. **VICTORIOUS SEA** Born To Sea filly from Charlottchope on debut. Wait and see how she presents.
- 6. **PEDRAR** Stepping out at this course for the first time. Last appeared when she finished fourth over 1350m at Lyon-Parilly on June 11. Genuine hope.
- 7. **LOW TO SEA** Finished 20 lengths from the winner in tenth last start over 1400m at Compiegne which was her second unplaced effort in two career runs. Deserves another chance.

**Summary**: There was just a long-neck between NIGHT CHOPE (1) and CLEMENZA (4) when the pair were first and second in a similar course and distance claimer twenty-six days ago. The former looks likely to make the running and may well uphold the form although the latter holds very obvious claims with Soumillon taking over. KING OF SUGAR (2) is interesting having been supplemented following a good claiming third over 1400m at La Teste. Wears first-time cheekpieces on stable debut. PEDRAR (6) is next best.

**Selections** 

NIGHT CHOPE (1) - CLEMENZA (4) - KING OF SUGAR (2) - PEDRAR (6)

#### Race 2 - PRIX FRANCE GALOP - 1100m HCP CL3. Purse EUR €16,000.

- 1. **DEGRISEMENT** A winning run was broken last time out when he finished second over 1200m at Marseille Borely. Well-placed to make amends.
- 2. **WASACHOP** Hasn't done much in recent times the latest effort a tenth over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux beaten 15 lengths. Looking to others.
- 3. **CHANTE BLU** Not firing at all recently the latest effort a 10 length tenth over 1350m at Lyon-Parilly on June 4. Prefer in something easier.
- 4. **MUTUAL** Mixing form of late and finished third at Chatillon-Chalaronne as even-money favourite last start when up in trip. Going okay and not without hope in this in this small field.
- 5. **NIGHT OF THE OPERA** Finished third over 1100m at this track two back then missed the frame last time out over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux. Sure to be thereabouts.
- 6. **FEEL THE FEVER** Not a regular in the winners' stall and hasn't scored for 21 months. Last start was 13 lengths adrift in 12th over 1100m at Dieppe. Rates highly on best form and is worth considering.
- 7. **NAVALIS** Placed two back then ran below his best last time when ninth and beaten 11 lengths at this track over 1100m. Each-way hope.
- 8. **ELEVEN O TWO** Finished sixth two runs ago at Marseille Borely but found form last time out when she scored by 2.5 lengths over 1100m at this track. Sure to be in the finish.
- 9. **HEAVE HO** Not a prolific winner with just six victories from 81 starts. Last start finished 12th over 1100m at Dieppe. Others make more appeal.

**Summary**: All seven of DEGRISEMENT (1) career wins have come on the AW but he proved the turf was no issue when a 2.5L runner-up in a Class Three conditions event at Marseille-Borely latest. Huge chance under Soumillon. A 3.5kg rise in the weights should be no problem for ELEVEN O TWO (8) following a 2.5L course and distance Class Four handicap success. Key player. NIGHT OF THE OPERA (5) finished third in that event and can be on the premises despite disappointing since. NAVALIS (7) holds each-way claims.

### **Selections**

**DEGRISEMENT** (1) - **ELEVEN O TWO** (8) - **NIGHT OF THE OPERA** (5) - **NAVALIS** (7)

- 1. **LE PARRAIN** Winner two back at Longchamp then repeated the dose last start over 1700m at Longchamp. Among the chances and expected to run well.
- 2. **GOT FROST** In the money two starts back at Cavaillon but couldn't back that up when unplaced over 2400m at Lyon-Parilly last time. Hard to fault if at his best.
- 3. **KASAMAN** Hasn't raced since finishing eighth over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather five months ago. Not keen.
- 4. **MOUTRAKI** Form has dropped off in last two after a win at this track three runs back. Needs to improve on last couple to feature in the finish.
- 5. **LES ALDUDES** Saluted by 1.5 lengths at this circuit last time out over 2000m maintaining an unbeaten record here. Has the right credentials and is one of the major players again.
- 6. **SAYANN** Scored a determined win last time out over 1900m at Nimes getting home by 0.75L. This is going to test him.
- 7. **ANGEL'S WHISPER** Not the most reliable conveyance. Moderate effort last time when 7 lengths from the winner in fourth over 1600m at Compiegne. Rates highly on her best form.
- 8. **MARBOOT** Returned from a spell and was easily accounted for when fifth over 1800m at this track. No easier this time and is likely to struggle.
- 9. **LILY APPLE** Going well with a win two starts back at Lyon-Parilly before finishing second over 2000m at this track last time. Shapes as a top three prospect.

**Summary**: A competitive handicap for the grade where plenty arrive with chances. Confirmed front-runner LE PARRAIN (1) made all to win a Class Three handicap over 1700m at Longchamp last outing. Major appeal chasing the hat-trick. LES ALDUDES (5) beat LILY APPLE (9) by 1.5L in a Class Four claiming course and distance handicap. The former should go well upped 2.5kg with an unbeaten record here while the latter holds obvious claims. ANGEL'S WHISPER (7) is another to note.

# **Selections**

LE PARRAIN (1) - LES ALDUDES (5) - LILY APPLE (9) - ANGEL'S WHISPER (7)

#### Race 4 - PRIX FRANCOIS BLANC - 2000m HCP CL4. Purse EUR €14,000.

- 1. **TURTLE CHOPE** Has been out of the winners' circle for some time. Last raced when third over 1600m at Chatillon-Chalaronne 4 lengths from the winner. Likely to struggle.
- 2. **STAR DRACK** Went down narrowly last start when second at Marseille Borely over 2100m. In the mix.
- 3. **GIANTISSIME** Hasn't won in 13 months. Finished fourth beaten 2.5 lengths last start over 1600m at Lyon-Parilly. Rates highly and can break through.
- 4. **HIGHEST MOUNTAIN** Got home by one length at Chantilly All Weather two starts ago. Disappointed last time at Marseille Borely when 2 lengths from the winner in sixth. Can do much better this time.
- 5. **PRINCE LOS** Form in recent times has been moderate including a last start sixth over 2000m at this track. Must improve to play a role.
- 6. **ALPINO** Battled last start to finish fifth over 2400m at Ajaccio adding to a sequence of plain results. Better than recent form suggests and he can improve sharply.
- 7. **PERISTERA** Handy mare fitter for two runs back. Better effort last time out when third over 2500m at Hyeres. Ready to show her best.
- 8. **MASAKI** Ran below his best two starts back but hit form again last time when second beaten one length over 1800m at this track. Key runner.

**Summary**: MASAKI (8) has run well off this mark on his last two outings including when a 1L runner-up over 1800m here last start. Key contender back up in trip. STAR DRACK (2) was denied a head in a 2100m Class Three handicap at Marseille-Borely a month ago. Huge appeal with Soumillon booked. Supplemented runner GIANTISSIME (3) has been in good form of late and needs considering with some solid placed form here. It's hard to rule out HIGHEST MOUNTAIN (4).

**Selections** 

MASAKI (8) - STAR DRACK (2) - GIANTISSIME (3) - HIGHEST MOUNTAIN (4)

#### Race 5 - PRIX ROGER ET EDGAR CHASTIN - 2400m CLM. Purse EUR €12,000.

- 1. AZURI CHOP Colt by Captain Chop from Ilham on debut. Wait and see how he presents.
- 2. **TOUTE CHIC** Stepping out at this track for the first time. Last appeared when she scored over 2000m at Vichy on May 19. Big chance again.
- 3. **MY RIVER** Has been very poor in both efforts to date beaten 15 lengths last time out over 2000m at Vichy. Others much better.
- 4. **LIONEL DE MARS** Won his maiden two back at Cavaillon then could only manage eighth last start over 2800m at Saint Cloud. Better than the last run suggests and deserves another chance.
- 5. **BOUDICA WARRIOR** Stepping out at this track for the first time. Last appeared when she finished ninth over 2800m at Saint Cloud on June 1. Capable of a better run.
- 6. **COMMITMENT** Well held last start when friendless in betting over 1800m at this track. Hard to enthuse.
- 7. **SANDERLING** Has just missed the top-three at her last few runs the latest a fourth over 2600m at Marseille Borely beaten 3 lengths. Should go well in this line up.
- 8. **DECIMA** Has not raced since finishing 14 lengths away in seventh over 1700m at Marseille Borely on April 15. Did finish in the money first-up last prep at Dortmund over 1800m. Should be right in the mix.

**Summary**: TOUTE CHIC (2) showed a good attitude when prevailing narrowly in a 2000m claimer at Vichy just over a month ago. Top chance back up to 2400m in what looks a good opportunity. LIONEL DE MARS (4) perhaps didn't stay the 2800m when fading into eighth in a Saint-Cloud claimer. Strong claims on his 2200m success at Cavaillon prior with first-time blinkers applied. SANDERLING (7) finished fourth in that Cavaillon event before filling the same spot at Marseille-Borely. One to note. It looks hard to rule out BOUDICA WARRIOR (5) for a yard that do well with their French runners.

# Selections

TOUTE CHIC (2) - LIONEL DE MARS (4) - SANDERLING (7) - BOUDICA WARRIOR (5)

#### Race 6 - PRIX JEAN-CLAUDE NAPOLI - 2400m CLM CL4 HCP. Purse EUR €14,000.

- 1. **GROUP DEUX CREUX** Ran a better race last start to finish second over 2400m at Vichy. Don't underestimate.
- 2. **IPHITOS** Consistent type rising in grade today. Tougher today and needs to improve if he is to play a role
- 3. **DECBOU** Broke back into the top-three last start when third at Lyon-Parilly over 3150m beaten 6 lengths. Among the winning hopes on best form.
- 4. **FERRETTI** Won two starts back at Cavaillon but couldn't back that up when unplaced over 3150m at Lyon-Parilly last time. Tough to beat on best figures. Can atone.
- 5. **CLOUD MAN** Last appeared six months ago when he finished 9 lengths from the winner in eighth over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather. Others make more appeal.
- 6. **ART OF FUSION** Out of character performance last time out when 11th over 2400m at Saint Cloud beaten 4.5 lengths. Not a good sign last start so looking elsewhere.
- 7. **EL COMANDANTE** Promising gelding who last start finished 11 lengths away in seventh over 2000m at Marseille Vivaux. One of the chances.
- 8. **CARTER AND GO** Has been a model of consistency this season most recently finishing third over 2400m at this track. Another big run is on the cards.
- 9. **BUSINESS PLAN** Finished 11th last start over 2400m at Longchamp and is now 270 days without a win. Low on confidence and hard to recommend.

**Summary**: A race that could have plenty of pace on with a number of confirmed front-runners. With that in mind the booking of Christophe Soumillon looks a big positive for DECBOU (3) who may be ridden patiently following a fair third in a Class Three handicap at Lyon-Parilly. Key chance. One of those pace angles looks to be FERRETTI (4) who finished fourth in that Lyon-Parilly contest. Expected to last longer down significantly in trip. The ultra-consistent CARTER AND GO (8) is impossible to rule out at this level while GROUP DEUX CREUX (1) needs respect on stable debut.

**Selections** 

DECBOU (3) - FERRETTI (4) - CARTER AND GO (8) - GROUP DEUX CREUX (1)

#### Race 7 - PRIX DE FOS-SUR-MER - 1800m CL3 QUALIF HCP. Purse EUR €16,000.

- 1. **TRUST ON HIM** Scored two starts back but was below his best last time when 8 lengths away in ninth over 1600m at Vichy. Rates highly and can turn things around.
- 2. **MIRAGE** Finding it hard to break through finishing sixth last time out over 1700m at Marseille Borely. Unlikely to threaten.
- 3. **ARUM** Won four times earlier on in her prep most recently finished fourth beaten 4.5 lengths at Hyeres over 2500m. Holds claims.
- 4. **LOU BALICOT** Racing well including a last-start win over 2100m at Limoges getting home by 2 lengths. No reason she cannot get the job done again.
- 5. **ALFIERI** Out of character performance last time out when ninth over 1600m at Lyon-Parilly beaten 6 lengths. Not a good sign last start so looking elsewhere.
- 6. **ITALO** Resumed over 1850m at Hyeres last start and finished 4 lengths away in fourth. Strips fitter and expected to feature.
- 7. **BALLADE SONG** Moderate effort to finish seventh last time over 1600m at Saint Cloud when first up from a spell. Stretches out over further today. Anticipating a big run.
- 8. **TOUTELUSIVE** Form in recent times has been moderate including a last start 11th over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux. Finds a nice race and can improve without surprising.

**Summary**: ITALO (6) takes on plenty of exposed rivals and shaped nicely when fourth in a Class Four claiming handicap at Hyeres on just his fifth career outing. Open to further progress and looks a leading contender at this level. LOU BALICOT (4) was always in control when running out a 2L winner of a Class Four conditions event at Limoges. Chance if replicating down in trip. TRUST ON HIM (1) would be dangerous if allowed an easy lead while ARUM (3) is not discounted.

**Selections** 

ITALO (6) - LOU BALICOT (4) - TRUST ON HIM (1) - ARUM (3)

- 1. **NO REGRETS** Ran a better race last start to finish fifth over 2000m at Marseille Vivaux. Cannot be disregarded.
- 2. **GINO** Reasonable effort last time finishing 3 lengths back in sixth over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux. Solid top-three prospects.
- 3. **SLEEPY SUZY** Handy filly who finished fifth last start but was beaten only 2.5 lengths over 1350m at Lyon-Parilly. Expected to measure up.
- 4. **HEART SHINING** Form has dropped off in last two runs after a win at Hyeres three runs back. Needs to improve on last couple to feature in the finish.
- 5. **HOLY ZAL PASSION** Stepping out at this track for the first time. Last appeared when he scored over 1600m at Carcassonne on May 1. Confidence high so a repeat performance is on the cards.
- 6. **ULTIME NONANTAISE** She has been easily accounted for at each of her three career starts. No threat when tenth over 1600m at Vichy last time out. Others preferred.
- 7. **NOUVELLE BELLE** Reasonable effort first up last start finishing fifth and beaten 3.5 lengths over 1600m at Cavaillon. Will struggle against these.
- 8. **SAQSAYWAMAN** Recent form has been just average. Beaten 4 lengths last time out when fifth over 1800m at this track. Will need to do a bit more.
- 9. **CRYPTOQUEEN** Has not raced since finishing 7 lengths away in sixth over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux on April 19. Must be included.

**Summary**: NO REGRETS (1) has finished fifth on both handicap outings to date the latest when beaten 3L over 2000m on the AW at Marseille-Vivaux. Major claims back down to 1800m. GINO (2) looks interesting going back up in trip on handicap debut. SLEEPY SUZY (3) tackles this trip for the first time and shaped fairly when a 2.25L fifth over 1350m at Lyon-Parilly. HOLY ZAL PASSION (5) is noted following a Class Four conditions win at a country venue.

# **Selections**

NO REGRETS (1) - GINO (2) - SLEEPY SUZY (3) - HOLY ZAL PASSION (5)