

THURSDAY, 25/01/24

R3 PAU [R-H]

**C1 - PRIX D'URT - 4700m (a3m) - TURF - Class 3 - Steeple Chase - EUR €
37,000**

- 1. EDIBOUM** - Dislodged jockey last time out on 10 January in a chase at Pau over 4000m. Unreliable but could play a minor role
- 2. HEDENN BIHOUE** - Bounced back to win a conditions chase on 4 January over 3900m at Pau last time out. Unreliable but can follow up
- 3. INFRA ROUGE** - Disappointing last run when behind rivals HEDENN BIHOUE (2) and HUPECA DE THAIX (4) last time out. Capable of better and is not out of it
- 4. HUPECA DE THAIX** - Runner-up to rival in this HEDENN BIHOUE (2) in a conditions chase over 3900m at Pau last time. Should be a threat once again
- 5. IN VICTIS** - Fourth in a handicap hurdle over 3800m at Pau on 2 January. Yet to win a race but could contest the finish
- 6. GINO DES DUNES** - Lost jockey last time out in a chase on 4 January. Ignore that run is capable of bouncing back to score
- 7. GRAINE DE CHAMP** - Fourth in a condition chase over 3500m at Dax when last seen in 2021. Returns from a lengthy break and others are preferred
- 8. IVKAROZH** - 7th in a condition case over 4000m at Pau on 23 December last time out. Needed that run returning from a break and should improve. Can upset
- 9. GREEN LINK** - On a long losing streak and dislodged rider on 19 December. Fair form before that and can earn some money

Summary: HEDENN BIHOUE (2) and HUPECA DE THAIX (4) fought out the finish at this course earlier this month and they can do it again. HEDENN BIHOUE (2) won that day and can follow up. IN VICTIS (5) has yet to win a race but was not disgraced when fourth in a hurdle race last time out and can do better back in a chase. The last run of GINO DES DUNES (6) is best ignored and can be a real threat this time.

SELECTIONS

HEDENN BIHOUE (2) - HUPECA DE THAIX (4) - IN VICTIS (5) - GINO DES DUNES (6)

THURSDAY, 25/01/24

C2 - PRIX HARRY LA MONTAGNE - 3700m (a2m 1/4) - TURF - Claiming - Steeple Chase - EUR € 20,000

- 1. JACK TOP** - Improving and won a claiming Chase over 3400m at this course on 8 January. Capable of doubling up
- 2. MADRILENE** - Not disgraced when fifth in a condition chase on 31 December over 3400m at Pau. Capable of improvement dropped to a claimer
- 3. KABICHAULIRIC** - Has not shown much in three starts and needs major improvement to win this race
- 4. KENAVO BAIE** - 5th in a claimer and behind many of these rivals last time out. Needs to find a few lengths to win this race
- 5. EVER FASTER** - Third behind rivals JACK TOP (1) and BONITA DE LA SERRE (11) last time out when trying the larger obstacles. Should contest the finish again
- 6. KING D'ANJOU** - Probably needed the run when sixth in a conditions chase on 16 January at this course over 3700m. Can improve dropped to a claimer
- 7. ANNE DE BEAUJEU** - Fourth behind rivals JACK TOP (1), BONITA DE LA SERRE (11) and EVER FASTER (5) last time out. Can earn some more money
- 8. AMADEO PERUGIA** - Did not show much on debut in 19 January over 3300m in a hurdle claimer when 11th. More needed to win
- 9. FLYING MONEY** - Seventh and behind many of these rivals in a claimer on 8 January. More needed to win this race
- 10. PAPILLON CYAN** - A winner of a chase claimer and was not disgraced when third in this division last time out on 3 January. Might place
- 11. BONITA DE LA SERRE** - Runner-up behind rival in this race JACK TOP (1) last time out and can fight out the finish once again

Summary: JACK TOP (1) beat a number of these runners when scoring in a claimer last time out and there is no real reason he cannot beat them again. BONITA DE LA SERRE (11) chased home JACK TOP (1) that day and can do so again. EVER FASTER (5) should improve after finishing third behind both those rivals last time out as it was his first chase. MADRILENE (2) drops to a claimer and is not out of it.

SELECTIONS

JACK TOP (1) - BONITA DE LA SERRE (11) - EVER FASTER (5) - MADRILENE (2)

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**C3 - PRIX FAIRPLAY - 4700m (a3m) - TURF - Class 3 - Cross - EUR €
32,000**

- 1. IRIDIA** - Fell last time out in the cross-country race behind rival in this THATSMYSEAT (7). Ignore that run and can bounce back to score
- 2. ALL GOLD** - Not disgraced when fifth in a 5600m cross-country race last time out at this course on 6 January. Better this distance and is not out of it
- 3. LUCKY NET LOVE** - In good form and was third in a 5600m cross-country race on 6 January last time out. Go close
- 4. GUENOLA CONTI** - Unreliable of late but was not disgraced when fourth over 5600m cross-country race at this course on 6 January. Place chance
- 5. EMIRA DU GOUET** - Unreliable of late and dislodged rider last time out at this course on 12 January. Not out of it on best form
- 6. FEU DU LARGE** - 5th in a cross-country race over 4100m at this course on 23 December. Unreliable but did win over a similar distance in November so deserves respect
- 7. THATSMYSEAT** - Likes this course and was runner-up in a cross-country 4100m conditions race last time out. Better that distance but has a leading claim
- 8. GENTLEMAN DE REVE** - Returned from a lengthy break when sixth in a cross-country race over 4100m at this course last time out. Can improve and has a place chance
- 9. GRAVITY BLUE** - Clearly in need of last outing when 7th in a cross-country race over 4100m at this course last time out returning from a break. Can improve and has a place chance

Summary: A very competitive race. THATSMYSEAT (7) is coming off a good runner-up performance at this course in a race where rival IRIDIA (1) fell. THATSMYSEAT (7) has done best over that shorter distance but may confirm that result with IRIDIA (1). EMIRA DU GOUET (5) is capable of scoring and her last run is best ignored. LUCKY NET LOVE (3) is in good form and deserves the utmost respect in this line-up.

SELECTIONS

THATSMYSEAT (7) - IRIDIA (1) - EMIRA DU GOUET (5) - LUCKY NET LOVE (3)

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**C4 - PRIX D'ABERE - 2000m (a1m 1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Maiden - Flat -
EUR € 21,000**

1. SAMBERAN - Third in a conditions race over 2000m at this course on 13 December. Should be smarter and can fight out the finish

2. WELCOMETORO - Has yet to show much and was 10th over this course and distance last time out. Others are preferred

3. BAK'S WOOD - Has only been modest so far and last time out was seventh in a handicap over 1600m at this course on 31 December. Others are preferred

4. MAWSIM - Not disgraced when fourth and behind rival in this SAMBERAN (1) on debut. Should improve and be a threat

5. BASHEER - Holding form well and was third over this course and distance on 2 January. Be right there at the finish once again

6. MARKER - Returns from a break since October after finishing sixth over this course and distance. Can improve and is not out of it

7. LOUIS D'ALICE - A three-year-old colt by Marmelo out of Isopyre who is making his debut. Watch the betting

8. HAGET - A three-year-old gelding by Kheleyf out of Hurry was is making is debut. Watch the betting

Summary: SAMBERAN (1) had rival in this MAWSIM (4) behind him when both showed promise on debut. SAMBERAN (1) looks more likely to do show the improvement needed to score and gets a confident vote. BASHEER (5) is holding form and could split those rivals. MARKER (6) returns from a break but has scope for improvement and is not out of it in this line-up.

SELECTIONS

SAMBERAN (1) - BASHEER (5) - MAWSIM (4) - MARKER (6)

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C5 - PRIX GUILLAUME DE PRACOMTAL - 3900m (a2m 1/2) - TURF - Handicap - Steeple Chase - EUR € 56,000

- 1. INAYA JONES** - Consistent performer with sound form references, including a good 4th in a Listed race over 4700m at Pau on 6 January. Warrants respect
- 2. JUSTICE** - Has won three of five starts in the steeplechase category, including a Class 3 Conditions race over this course and distance on 4 January. Winning chance
- 3. JUS DE CAROTTE** - Finished ahead of re-opposing subsequent winner JUSTICE (2) in a course-and-distance handicap on 17 December. Candidate for success
- 4. ENCORE UNE BELLE** - Last-start winner who has improved with each outing over fences. Won a 3400m Conditions chase at this venue last time and ought to remain competitive
- 5. JAIPALETEMPS** - Consistent performer for the most part but does appear a more effective chaser, having finished 2nd over fences to ENCORE UNE BELLE (4) on Christmas Day. Has claims here on 1,5kg better terms
- 6. MELGARRY** - Relatively consistent sort who has not been seen since falling at Angers in a 3800m Conditions event on 9 December. Watch for now
- 7. AGATHEA** - Progressive and versatile mare who has won back-to-back outings over hurdles and, more recently, over fences in a 3600m Handicap chase at Fontainebleau on 12 December. Keep safe
- 8. JAZZ FESTIVAL** - Registered his only career success over fences in June last year and did finish 3rd in his only outing at this course. Was only 6th in a Class 2 over 3800m last time, so others are preferred here
- 9. OUR DREAM** - Consistent for the most part but has only won over hurdles. Runner-up in a claimer here over 3700m on 6 January, so will need to raise his game pitched into a handicap now
- 10. DIVA DU LUY** - Has revealed sufficient means over both the smaller and larger obstacles but has only completed one of four outings in steeplechase races. Outsider
- 11. CAPE OF LOVE** - Finished 7th of 9 in his first steeplechase appearance over 3400m at Pau on Christmas Day. Others are preferred

Summary: Quality steeplechase handicap in which it could pay to side with JUSTICE (2), who finished behind JUS DE CAROTTE (3) on 17 December but is, on the evidence of her subsequent last-start victory, good value to turn the tables on that rival. Versatile hat-trick-seeking AGATHEA (7), however, and consistent INAYA JONES (1) are both capable of posing a threat, while ENCORE UNE BELLE (4) and JAIPALETEMPS (5) are closely matched and also strong contenders for the podium.

SELECTIONS

JUSTICE (2) - JUS DE CAROTTE (3) - AGATHEA (7) - INAYA JONES (1)

THURSDAY, 25/01/24

C6 - PRIX DE RONTIGNON - 2400m (a1m 1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 3 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 23,000

- 1. ROATAN** - Last-start winner of a similar handicap over course and distance on 31 December and seems capable of following up under a 2,5kg penalty
- 2. GLORIETTE SAN** - Caught the eye when running on strongly to finish 3rd in the benchmark race (course-and-distance handicap) on 31 December. Chief threat
- 3. BLUE SHADE** - Finished 3rd over hurdles three starts back but has been unplaced in both subsequent outings back on the flat. Others preferred
- 4. KERDINA** - Versatile and consistent filly with sound references on turf and PSF at claimers, conditions races and handicaps. Won a claiming race over course and distance on 19 January
- 5. AKINOOS** - Consistent performer in handicap and claiming races recently, finishing in the first four positions in each of his last six outings including over track and trip on 31 December. Will be a factor
- 6. VERSION COX** - Yet to open her account after 9 starts but did perform consistently prior to her recent failure (11th) in a handicap at Pornichet-La Baule on 17 December. Can do better but has only a place chance here
- 7. MY HOPE** - Seldom far off the mark and did finish 3rd in a handicap over this track and trip but failed to confirm that improvement by only finishing 10th in a similar contest on New Year's eve. Others preferred
- 8. LANCEUR D'ALERTE** - Inconsistent sort, although not incapable, having already performed well at this level over track and trip. Finished 8th in a handicap at this venue last month but has the means to get into the picture
- 9. SWEET WISH** - Won a minor event at Pompadour over 2200m in August but has finished unplaced in each of her five subsequent outings, including three consecutive handicap races at this venue. Others preferred
- 10. ROI MERCURE** - Yet to win after 14 outings and soundly beaten in each of his last three starts, including back-to-back races at this course. Overlook
- 11. SANSKRIT** - Placed three times in minor conditions events at Montauban, Carcassonne and La Roche-sur-Yon last year before losing his way in three subsequent starts, including consecutive starts at this venue

Summary: ROATAN (1) was scoring for the second time in his last three outings when winning a similar handicap over track and trip on 31 December and is good value to defy a 2,5kg penalty. Consistent GLORIETTE SAN (2) is, however, expected to pose a threat, having run on strongly to finish 3rd in the aforementioned race. Both AKINOOS (5) and KERDINA (4) are in good form and physical condition, so are also likely to be competitive for the podium places.

SELECTIONS

ROATAN (1) - GLORIETTE SAN (2) - AKINOOS (5) - KERDINA (4)

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C7 - PRIX AL CAPONE II - 3500m (a2m 1/4) - TURF - Class 3 - Hurdles - EUR € 37,000

- 1. KIRIAKOS** - Improved to finish 3rd over hurdles in a course and distance race on 8 January. Will be a factor here if confirming that progress
- 2. KADOR DE ROCHAUDE** - Made no impression in his first start over hurdles, finishing 10th in a conditions race over course and distance on 2 January. Outsider
- 3. KADOR BAIE** - Was not disgraced in any of his three starts to date, including his first start over hurdles at Auteuil on 3 October. Dark horse
- 4. KRISTAL BAIE** - Finished 5th on debut at Durtal on the flat over 2900m on 17 December. Open to improvement going over hurdles now
- 5. KUFLOWER DE COUELY** - Was pulled up on debut over this course and distance on 2 January so needs to improve a great deal to have a say. Watch for now
- 6. KARMA DE REVE** - Has finished unplaced in both outings to date, on the flat (PSF) at Pau on debut over 2400m and over hurdles last time on 2 January. Needs to show more
- 7. KRAC DORE** - Has placed once in six starts, in a minor event at Saumur, on the flat so is hard to make a case for over hurdles for the first time. Outsider
- 8. KAMISAMA** - Showed some means on the flat but was pulled up in his first start over hurdles on 2 January over the same course and distance. Watch for now
- 9. KARNIQUET** - The only unraced runner in the race, this Kapgarde gelding is owned and trained by Isabelle Pacault who has engaged Théo Chevillard to ride
- 10. KISS FROM NIKY** - Made a winning debut on the flat last summer at Vittel over 2400m. Could be anything sent hurdling on her reappearance
- 11. KRISTAL PLAYER** - Finished 4th on debut over 3000m on the flat and was well in contention over hurdles last time until dislodging her jockey over this course and distance on 4 January. Not taken lightly
- 12. KHILIDA** - Inconsistent but did show some means on the flat before finishing 7th over this course and distance in her first start over hurdles on 4 January. Watch for now
- 13. KAMELIA DE CORTON** - Finished 3rd on debut (PSF) over 2400m on the flat and 6th over hurdles over this track and trip last time on 4 January. Keep safe

Summary: A hard race to assess. KISS FROM NIKY (10) made a winning debut on the flat last year and her progress could be worth following as she goes hurdling for the first time on her reappearance. KIRIAKOS (1), after an improved 3rd over hurdles in his first outing of the year, KAMELIA DE CORTON (13), who has revealed sufficient means on the flat and over hurdles in her two outings, as well as KRISTAL PLAYER (11), who dropped her rider in a hurdles race last time, are likely to fight for victory.

SELECTIONS

**KISS FROM NIKY (10) - KIRIAKOS (1) - KAMELIA DE CORTON (13) - KRISTAL PLAYER
(11)**

THURSDAY, 25/01/24

C8 - PRIX D'ESPELETTE - 2000m (a1m 1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Maiden - Flat - EUR € 21,000

- 1. AL AAMRIYA** - Finished an encouraging 4th on debut over 1900m at Bordeaux-Le Bouscat at the end of October and is open to any amount improvement switched to PSF. Keep safe
- 2. RAYO DE LUZ** - Finished a much-improved 2nd in the benchmark event over track and trip on 2 January. Could fight for victory if confirming that progress
- 3. BLUE CHANEL** - Unplaced in each of her three outings to date, including her first start on PSF at Pornichet-La Baule last time (7th) on 2 October. Needs to improve on her return
- 4. MADAME LYDIA** - Has improved her finishing position with each outing, finishing 5th in her first start on PSF last month so could get into the picture
- 5. PRINCESSE CHLOE** - Improved with a tongue-tie fitted to finish 4th over 1600m at this venue on 10 December. Could have a role to play
- 6. LAYE CHOPE** - Unplaced in both outings last year and will need to improve on her reappearance to get a look in here
- 7. NUIT CHOPE** - Has finished 5th in her two starts, both in claiming races, the latest of which was at Toulouse last month. Others preferred
- 8. GOLDEN GRACE** - Caught the eye when finishing a good 4th on debut over course and distance on 2 January. Should be competitive for victory
- 9. TOUQUETOISE** - Finished a well-beaten 7th over 1200m on debut at Bordeaux-Le Bouscat in May last year. Will need to improve
- 10. MRS ROBINSON** - Didn't go unnoticed on debut when finishing 6th over course and distance on 2 January. Should have more to offer
- 11. TORNILLA** - Improved with blinkers fitted to finish 3rd over this course and distance last time on 2 January. Ought to be competitive
- 12. ISFALIA** - Didier Guillemin-trained Lethal Force debutante whose dam won at ParisLongchamp. Clément Merille rides
- 13. DIANE SPIRIT** - French Fifteen filly out of a Galileo mare who has already produced fair foals. Marlène Meyer rides for Philippe Sogorb
- 14. BETTY NELSON** - Nicely bred New Approach filly who Guillaume Guedj-Gay rides for trainer Xavier Thomas-Demeaulte. One to keep an eye on

Summary: Jean-Claude Rouget's GOLDEN GRACE (8) finished a promising 4th on debut at this venue and that experience ought to stand his filly, who is open to any amount of improvement, in good stead here. With the benefit of that experience under her belt, she's good value to reverse the form of that race with RAYO DE LUZ (2) and TORNILLA (11) who finished 2nd and 3rd respectively. AL AAMRIYA (1) as well as newcomers DIANE SPIRIT (13) and ISFALIA (12) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

GOLDEN GRACE (8) - RAYO DE LUZ (2) - AL AAMRIYA (1) - TORNILLA (11)

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