AUTEUIL [L-H] - 25 February

Race 1 - PRIX AGITATO - 3500m STPLE CL1. Purse EUR €62,000.

1. **BLEKOLINA** - Was a little below par when fourth in a Listed steeplechase (3800m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time. That run followed a win in a steeplechase (3700m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer two back. Finds a nice race and can bounce back.

2. **LE GRAND JOUR** - Missed the frame two back in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau. Atoned for that run last time to grab second in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau, beaten 3.5 lengths. Looking elsewhere this time.

3. **MONTANA DU BERLAIS** - Promising debut when a good 1.75L third in a 3600m newcomers hurdle here in October. Interesting after a break.

4. **JAC JUMPER** - Returned from a 121-day spell last start with a solid third in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau. Key runner.

5. **JOKER D'AIRY** - Returns from a brief spell. Last appeared when he finished fifth in a G3 hurdle (3400m) at Compiegne three months ago. That effort followed a winning debut 30 days earlier in a hurdle (3400m) at Compiegne. Bold performance expected.

6. **BULLE BLEUE** - Found the frame two back in a steeplechase (3700m) at Pau then could only manage fourth last time in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau, beaten 16 lengths. Won't find this easy.

7. **JAZZY SENAM** - Is a strong first-up performer returning from a 105-day layoff. Kicked off with a win in a hurdle (3500m) at this track when last in work. Capable and looks an each-way chance.

Summary: BLEKOLINA (1) posted a highly creditable fourth in Listed company last time out. This is easier and sets the form standard. Can prove hard to beat. JOKER D'AIRY (5) looked a nice prospect on first campaign. Freshened and can continue progression following a break. Keep safe. JAC JUMPER (4) was beaten 6L into third at Pau on reappearance. Easy to fancy if building upon that now. JAZZY SENAM (7) has won twice at this track already. Threat to all returned here.

Selections BLEKOLINA (1) - JOKER D'AIRY (5) - JAC JUMPER (4) - JAZZY SENAM (7) 1. **HOMME DE COEUR** - Returns from a spell. Closed the last campaign with a placing in a Listed steeplechase (4400m) at this track beaten 5 lengths. Reliable type with five jumps wins. Definite winning chance.

2. **ARAUCARIAS** - Last raced pulled up in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau two months ago. Has performed well when resuming before but will find this a difficult assignment.

3. **SUMSAM** - Continued the outstanding recent form to score in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau, making it two wins in a row and an overall jumps record of five from 12. Can add to the growing tally.

4. **GALLOX** - Did not fire when he finished seventh in a G3 steeplechase (5300m) at Pau last time out, following on from a win in a steeplechase (4700m) at Pau. No surprise to see him back in form.

5. **EXUPERY** - Returns from a spell of 10 months. Closed the last campaign with a minor placing in a steeplechase (4400m) at this track. Reliable type with six jumps wins. Has claims.

6. **LOSANGE VERT** - Made a strong return from a 501-day layoff last time out in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau, finishing third. Needs to go up a level.

7. **IMAGE DE MARQUE** - Impressed when she won two runs ago in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau. Did a good job to finish third more recently in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau beaten just 3.5 lengths. Prefer others.

Summary: HOMME DE COEUR (1) was beaten 5L into second in the Listed Prix Fondeur chase when last seen. That is strong form and could prove hard to beat with a similar effort. SUMSAM (3) is thriving at present. Won three of last four starts and was particularly impressive when a 3L scorer at Pau last time. Keep safe. GALLOX (4) found G3 level too tough last time. Had won back to back starts previous to that however and worth another chance here. EXUPERY (5) holds each way claims on return.

Selections

HOMME DE COEUR (1) - SUMSAM (3) - GALLOX (4) - EXUPERY (5)

1. **LA MARCHE BLEUE** - Was very good when returning from a 274-day layoff most recently, scoring in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau by 8 lengths. Fitter and can be tough to beat.

2. **INAYA JONES** - Debuted with a win in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau two starts back then pulled up in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau as market leader nearly three weeks ago. Well-placed to bounce back to winning ways.

3. **ARAZZO** - Placed two runs ago in a hurdle (3500m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Repeated the dose last time when second in a hurdle (3400m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer, beaten 4 lengths. Ready to bounce back to winning form.

4. **JASEUR DE GUYE** - Returns from a 250-day spell. Finished off last prep with a win in a hurdle (3400m) at Clairefontaine, scoring by 4.5 lengths. Another bold showing expected while fresh.

5. **JAMESLAND** - Four-year-old gelding who resumes here off a 234 day break. Won his only start fresh when on debut. Looks well placed and expected to go close again.

6. **BESAN D'OR** - Was 15 lengths away in second last time out in a steeplechase (3700m) at Pau, proving no match for the dominant Premier Bleu. Sure to be prominent again.

7. JOLILAND - Promising debut when 5.5L third in a 3500m Class Two hurdle here in November. Can improve.

8. **JAR DU DESERT** - Was very good when returning from a 118-day layoff most recently, beaten 14 lengths into third in a hurdle (3172m) at Ludlow (UK). Nice chance with added fitness.

9. **OCASTLE DES MOTTES** - Returns after a brief layoff. Last appeared when he clocked-in fourth in a maiden hurdle (3400m) at Craon two months ago. Prefer others this time.

10. **JOYAU DU CHENET** - Has not appeared since he finished fourth at his first jumps appearance in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau on December 20. Consider.

11. **JUKIRIKO** - Fell two starts back at Pau on January 27 then ran sixth at Pau last time. Unlikely to finish in the winner's circle.

Summary: LA MARCHE BLEUE (1) represents a top trainer. Ran out a highly impressive 8L victor at Pau last time and sets the standard on that form. Hard to oppose confidently following that. JASEUR DE GUYE (4) powered clear for a 4.5L success on hurdle debut. Smart prospect in this sphere and looks a key player. JAMESLAND (5) made the perfect start when a head winner at Senonnes on debut. Could be anything at this stage and is worth keeping safe. ARAZZO (3) has placed on last three starts. Each way claims once more.

Selections

LA MARCHE BLEUE (1) - JASEUR DE GUYE (4) - JAMESLAND (5) - ARAZZO (3)

1. **FOLLY FOOT** - Went for a spell after running ninth in a Listed handicap hurdle (4300m) at this track. Good record when fresh. Certainly not ruled out.

2. **RISK DU BRIZAIS** - Returned from a spell last start with a modest tenth in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. Secondup record reads well, with two wins at this stage. Needs big jump from reappearance however.

3. **TROU NORMAND** - Just missed last start when second in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. Progressing all the time and whilst upped to listed grade now is expected to remain highly competitive.

4. **MOUJIK** - Clocked-in third last start in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. That followed success in a hurdle (3800m) at Fontainebleau by 4 lengths. Likeable sort that always gives running. Keep safe.

5. **PICNIC** - All three career victories have come in last five starts. Disappointing last time but should remain in good form.

6. **GEELONG SPORT** - Found G2 level too tough on final start last campaign, but had placed in the G3 Prix De La Gascogne on start before that. Resumes in easier company and has won fresh previously. Key player.

7. **INSIDE MONTLIOUX** - Made it two wins on the bounce when he scored by a head in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau last start. Versatile performer who is hard to go past. Upped in grade but remains a threat to all.

8. **GOLDEN WITCH** - Been highly tried this campaign and came up short. Prefer to just watch until showing more.

9. HALO ON FIRE - Ran in a Listed hurdle (4300m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time out but failed to finish. Worth another chance.

10. **SIX ONE** - Did a good job to finish second two back in a Listed handicap hurdle (4300m) at this track but could only manage fourth at Pau last time. Consistent gelding.

11. **GARRYGAL** - Was most recently at the races two months ago. Closed the last campaign with a win in a steeplechase (3850m) at Craon, getting home by a long neck. Worth including.

12. **CHICHI DE LA VEGA** - Hasn't had things go right recently. Two starts back finished fifth in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. Didn't bounce back when he was pulled up last start at Pau. Might find this a bit too tough.

13. **NEW PRESIDENT** - Did well to finish second two back in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. Improved to register a win in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau 31 days ago. Interesting.

14. **SAMBRILLON** - Ended a winning trot abruptly last start when she failed to complete the course in a hurdle (3800m) at Fontainebleau. No surprise to see her back in form today.

15. **JOHN LOCKE** - Took a step forward when a 1.3L winner at Pau. This is tougher again but would be hard to rule out.

16. **LUCKY ONE** - Missed the placings in a hurdle (3600m) at this track two back then did a better job to windup third in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau last time out. Each way chance.

Summary: TROU NORMAND (3) went down by just a head in a equally competitive affair at Pau latest. Can build upon that and rates as the one to beat. GEELONG SPORT (6) was beaten 6L into second in the G3 Prix de La Gascogne last campaign. Rates highly on that form and has a good record when fresh. Key player. MOUJIK (4) has won and placed already this campaign. Should continue progressing. INSIDE MONTLIOUX (7) is thriving at present and comes here following back to back victories at Pau. Threat to all in hat-trick bid. SIX ONE (10) represents a top trainer and has been performing consistently well since winning five starts ago at Clairefontaine. Solid each way option.

Selections

TROU NORMAND (3) - GEELONG SPORT (6) - MOUJIK (4) - INSIDE MONTLIOUX (7) - SIX ONE (10)

1. **BELGA QUEEN** - Returned from a spell of 125 days with a tough win in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau last time out at just her second appearance. Back in great order and hard to beat again.

2. **JOUE LE JEU** - Progressive four-year-old. Opened with a win in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau two starts back then clocked-in second in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau when favourite four weeks ago. Rates highly.

3. **DIVA DU LUY** - Exciting prospect who was unplaced on debut then won a hurdle (3500m) at Pau last time out, scoring by 0.8 lengths. Great chance.

4. **ENCORE UNE BELLE** - Pulled up on debut two starts back. Nice recovery to finish second in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau last time out. Right in the mix.

5. **LA HAUTE COUTURE** - Lightly raced filly who opened her account at her last outing two months ago, scoring by 10 lengths in a maiden hurdle (3400m) at Craon. Sure to make her presence felt.

6. **LES YEUX NOIRS** - Up-and-coming four-year-old back from a spell of two months. Scored in a hurdle (3600m) at Saint Brieuc on debut then pulled up at Fontainebleau most recently.

7. **BALKERIA** - Resumed after a 144-day spell last start with a modest 14th on the flat at Pornichet over 3100m, beaten 20 lengths. Needs more.

8. **CHRISTAL D'ANS** - Stretches out to 3600m for the first time, rising 1600m in distance on last run. Yet to finish in the placings from 10 career runs, the latest when seventh over 2000m at Pau All Weather. Needs to find more.

9. FICTION DU BERLAIS - Filly by Masked Marvel out of Legende Du Luy. Doesn't profile as the likely winner.

10. **PLACE VERLAINE** - Returns after a break of two months. Last appeared when she failed to complete the course on her jumps debut in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau.

11. ETA CARINAE - Filly by Kapgarde out of Al Doha. Market watch advised.

12. **TUTTI BELLA** - Fell on debut two starts back. Nice recovery to finish third in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau last time out. Must be respected.

Summary: BELGA QUEEN (1) gamely held rivals for a 1L victory at Pau. Open to further progression and has a big chance of now going back to back. JOUE LE JEU (2) made a winning debut and followed that with a placing tackling a strong contest at Pau. Smart prospect that is easy to fancy. DIVA DU LUY (3) took a big step forward from debut to win by 0.8L second up. Can improve further so is worth holding safe. LA HAUTE COUTURE (5) went clear for a 10L debut victory at Craon. Form is questionable but could be anything at this stage. Potential threat to all.

Selections BELGA QUEEN (1) - JOUE LE JEU (2) - DIVA DU LUY (3) - LA HAUTE COUTURE (5)

1. **HAPPY MONARCH** - Eight-year-old gelding who has a solid record at this journey, including three wins. Below best last campaign but of interest following absence.

2. **POLY GRANDCHAMP** - Racing for the first time since he finished third in the G1 Prix La Haye Jousselin steeplechase (5500m) at this track on November 13. Behind Grandeur Nature that day but is not much between the pair.

3. **SUROIT** - Comes into this searching for a hat-trick. Impressive 4L victor in the G3 Grand Prix De La Ville Nice - Bernard Secly chase at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Big winning chance.

4. **LE LUDE** - Returns from a 84-day spell. Generally goes well when fresh, with three wins and three placings from eight first-up runs. Kicked off last prep with success in a Listed steeplechase (4400m) at this track. Sure to make his presence felt.

5. **HANO DE LOI** - Returns from a spell. Closed the last campaign with a minor placing in a Listed steeplechase (4400m) at this track, beaten 12 lengths. Reliable type with four jumps wins. Must be considered.

6. **JIMBLE MOON** - Scored by a head two runs ago in a steeplechase (4200m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Not such a happy tale when pulled up last time out in a G3 steeplechase (4600m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Looks to have the job ahead.

7. **DOCTOR SQUEEZE** - Stayed on for a place two back in a G2 steeplechase (4400m) at this track but disappointing in Listed race since. Needs more.

8. **METASEQUOIA** - Placed two runs ago in a Listed steeplechase (4700m) at Pau. Repeated the dose last time when second in a G3 steeplechase (5300m) at Pau, beaten 1.3 lengths. Progressing all the time and has winning claims now.

9. **BANDERO** - Finished third two back in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau then could only manage fourth last time in a G3 steeplechase (5300m) at Pau, beaten 4.5 lengths. Finds winning difficult but certainly holds place claims.

10. **GRANDEUR NATURE** - Racing for the first time since he finished second in the G1 Prix La Haye Jousselin chase (5500m) at this track on November 13. Looks set to run well.

11. **EDDY DE BALME** - Well fancied in G3 company at Pau on reappearance but ran disappointingly. Coming back 900m in journey this time may help but prefer to see again.

Summary: SUROIT (3) is rapidly progressive. Powered clear for a 4L success in G3 level at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time and looks a leading player amongst this field. GRANDEUR NATURE (10) has been absent for three and a half months since a very good 3L second in G1 company. Rates highly on that effort and has a big winning chance. METASEQUOIA (8) was beaten 1.25L tackling a G3 last time. Close to a win on that form and could easily make amends now. POLY GRANDCHAMP (2) placed on all three starts last campaign. Solid each way option.

Selections

SUROIT (3) - GRANDEUR NATURE (10) - METASEQUOIA (8) - POLY GRANDCHAMP (2)

1. **GRAZANO** - Not enjoying the best of luck lately, including last start when he pulled up in a hurdle (4100m) at Angers. Might find this a bit too tough.

2. **KANBO** - Returns after a brief layoff. Last appeared when he finished fourth in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau two months ago, that effort a nice progression.

3. **HAEVA D'OR** - Unfortunately was pulled up in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer most recently. No surprise to see her back in form.

4. **DAYS DREAM** - Placed last start in a steeplechase (3800m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. That followed success in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer by 2.5 lengths. Winning chance.

5. **MESSI BLUE** - Finished a modest seventh in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer last start. Certainly worth another chance.

6. **GREAT FEELING** - Was unplaced two back in a hurdle (3500m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then again missed out in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time. Thereabouts on best form.

7. **FURY ROAD** - Resuming. Went for a spell after struggling last few runs including a last start seventh in a hurdle (3600m) at this track. Others look to have better credentials.

8. **FORZA** - Has returned in fair form. Placed when resuming two starts back in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnessur-Mer then was beaten 24 lengths into fifth in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer two months ago. Sure to improve this time.

9. **HELIO BORGET** - Making heavy weather of things lately, including last time out when he fell in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau. Cannot be written off.

10. **HENRY BRULARD** - Returns from a spell of three months. Closed the last campaign with a minor placing in a hurdle (3600m) at this track. Sure to feature on his best form.

11. **MAGIC LEG'S** - Returned from a 66-day break last start and eased out of the race in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. Big task ahead.

12. **NAOS** - Finished seventh the start before last in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then wound up in eighth most recently in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Won't find this easy.

13. **QUICK DADDY** - Clocked-in third two runs ago in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau. Repeated the dose at the latest outing when second in a hurdle (3800m) at Angers, beaten 5 lengths. Can return to winning form.

14. **IL EST DES NOTRES** - Was unplaced two back in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau then again missed out in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau last time. Major player on his best figures.

15. ASSAD LAWAL - Up to 497 days without a win and that poor run is likely to continue here. Looks tested.

16. **EASTER BOY** - Finished fourth two back in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau. Bounced back last time to fill a minor placing in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau, beaten a neck. Can return to winning ways.

17. **PATRICIEN** - Failed to clock-in for the second run in succession at the last outing two months ago in a hurdle (3500m) at Pau when pulled up. Big task ahead.

18. **SANTANA DU BERLAIS** - Pulled up in a hurdle over 3600m at this track at the last run before a break. Others preferred.

Summary: HENRY BRULARD (10) is both talented and consistent. Runs here following a mini-break but brings no fitness concerns. Sets the standard on best form and expected to prove hard to beat. EASTER BOY (16) was beaten just a neck at Pau last time. Close to a win on that form and can improve again. QUICK DADDY (13) has been working towards a victory of late. Easy to fancy. DAYS DREAM (4) impressed when winning at Cagnes-sur-Mer two starts ago. Good placed effort since and set to give another bold showing. FORZA (8) has shown promise in recent outings. Now third up should be primed to show best.

Selections

HENRY BRULARD (10) - EASTER BOY (16) - QUICK DADDY (13) - DAYS DREAM (4) - FORZA (8)

1. **SINGAPORE TRIP** - Sent out at long odds in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau last time when pulled up. Hard to recommend this time.

2. **HAPPY ROQUE** - Pulled up in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Was only 5 lengths from the winner when second two runs back in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Consider.

3. **ROYAL CAYMAN** - Failed to clock-in for the second run in succession at the last outing four weeks ago in a steeplechase (3900m) at Pau when he fell. Likely to make amends for recent mishaps.

4. **ROCK AND ROLL** - Came down two starts back. Made amends last time and filled a minor placing, beaten a nose, in a Listed hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. All set to return to the winner's list.

5. **DOMINATOR** - Returns after spelling for seven months. Opened the last campaign with a second in a hurdle (3500m) at Moulins, beaten 3.5 lengths, to make it two placings from two fresh runs. Holds claims.

6. **LOQUAS** - Finished fifth two runs ago when resuming in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Did a better job last time when he finished third in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Further progress likely.

7. **CELESTIN MERCURY** - Missed the frame two runs ago in a steeplechase (4200m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then could only manage fourth most recently in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. This looks too tough.

8. **GINGEMBRE MENTHE** - Finished fourth two back in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then again missed out in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau last time. Won't find this easy.

9. **HANDS UP SIVOLA** - Resumed with a ninth in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau then was 3.5 lengths adrift in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau nearly three weeks ago. Right in the mix if anywhere near her best.

10. **HOPLABOUM** - Well held at end of last campaign, the latest when fell in a steeplechase (4400m) at this track. Others look to have better credentials.

11. **CAPIVARI** - Missed the placings in a hurdle (3500m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer two back then did a better job to wind-up third in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau last start. Cannot be written off.

12. **YO** - Was unplaced two runs ago in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau then wound up in fourth most recently in a hurdle (3800m) at Pau. Big task ahead.

13. **REGAXOS** - Returns from a spell. Closed the last campaign with a minor placing in a hurdle (4200m) at Fontainebleau, beaten 4.5 lengths. Rates highly.

14. **HURON WENDAT** - Won two starts back in a hurdle (3500m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then didn't miss by much over 3800m in a hurdle at Fontainebleau. Chance on his best form.

15. **PAS DE QUARTIER** - Finished fourth the start before last in a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau. Did a better job last time when he won a steeplechase (4000m) at Pau. Hard to beat in this rich vain of form.

16. **LIGNOU** - Couldn't find the top three two back in a steeplechase (4200m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then again missed out in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time.

17. **PTITURF** - Fluctuating luck this prep. Did not finish the race two starts back when resuming. Bounced back with a 3 length win in a hurdle (3900m) at Machecoul last time. Must be a chance.

18. **MON VIEUX** - Finished seventh two runs ago in a hurdle (3400m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer then finished ninth most recently in a hurdle (4000m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. This looks too tough.

Summary: ROCK AND ROLL (4) was denied by just a nose in the Listed Prix De La Picardie handicap hurdle at Cagnes-sur-Mer latest. That form is strong and replication of that effort will see him prove hard to beat. PAS DE QUARTIER (15) left lasting impression when going clear for a 10L victory at Pau. Big chance of going back to back. REGAXOS (13) made a winning reappearance last campaign. Record when fresh is generally very good so look to keep safe. LOQUAS (6) has shown significant promise in recent runs. Now third up should be primed to show best. Big winning claims. DOMINATOR (5) is a potential threat to all on first start for seven months.

Selections

ROCK AND ROLL (4) - PAS DE QUARTIER (15) - REGAXOS (13) - LOQUAS (6) - DOMINATOR (5)