

DAX [R-H] - 25 August

Race 1 - PRIX DE L'HOTEL DE CHIEVRES - 2100m CLM. Purse EUR €12,000.

1. **STEPASIDE BELL** - Fourth beaten 2L at Clairefontaine over 2200m in a claimer. This looks easier and can go close.
2. **SHAYHINDAR** - Eighth beaten 6.5L at Dax over 2300m in a maiden on debut. Some promise shown and interesting in a claimer.
3. **MEU LEIRO** - Well beaten on last four outings. Tough to consider.
4. **CORIMBO** - Third at Madrid in a conditions race recently. Interesting for French debut.
5. **REY** - Beaten a distance at Pompadour (aw) after a spell. Had shown some form prior and wears first time blinkers.
6. **KASSUMAY** - Fifth beaten 7.75L at La Teste in a maiden over 2100m. Dropping to a claimer and wears first time blinkers.
7. **IZANA BERE** - Third beaten 2.25L at a country track over 2400m in a claimer. More needed to win but could place.

Summary: STEPASIDE BELL (1) ran fourth beaten 2L at Clairefontaine in a claimer over 2200m. This is a more moderate affair and can win. SHAYHINDAR (2) managed a solid debut beaten 6.5L at this venue in a maiden. Interesting second up dropping to a claimer. CORIMBO (4) makes French debut. Showed form in native Spain. IZANA BERE (7) placed in a country track claimer recently. Place.

Selections

STEPASIDE BELL (1) - SHAYHINDAR (2) - CORIMBO (4) - IZANA BERE (7)

Race 2 - PRIX DU CHENE DE SAINT-VINCENT DE PAUL - 1400m MDN. Purse EUR €16,000.

1. **SPEED BALL** - Fifth beaten 6.5L at la Teste in a maiden over 1400m. Not the strongest event and can feature.
2. **SKIN IN THE GAME** - Ninth at Mont de Marsan over 1400m in a maiden beaten 7L. First time blinkers.
3. **CAVIAR D'ORIENT** - Seventh at Mont de Marsan in July in a maiden on debut over 1400m beaten 4.75L. Solid.
4. **IDA ANZU** - Well beaten at La Teste in a newcomers race over 1400m. Needs significant improvement.
5. **BLUECTOT** - Fourth beaten 4.75L at La Teste in a newcomers race over 1400m. Should progress second up and the winner has won again.
6. **SUNSET BEACH** - Well beaten at Mont de Marsan recently. Needs first time tongue tie to bring improvement.
7. **BLACK GAIA** - Seventh beaten 6L at La Teste in a newcomers race over 1400m. Entitled to improve second up.

Summary: BLUECTOT (5) was fourth on debut in a newcomers race over 1400m at La Teste beaten 4.75L. The winner has since won again and looks the one to beat. BLACK GAIA (7) ran seventh at La Teste on debut over 1400m beaten 6L. Could progress second up and blinkers are applied. SPEED BALL (1) showed ability in three maidens to date and finds a lesser race. CAVIAR D'ORIENT (3) produced a solid seventh on debut when beaten 4.75L tackling 1400m. Finished strongly and might improve.

<p style="text-align: center;">Selections</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">BLUECTOT (5) - BLACK GAIA (7) - SPEED BALL (1) - CAVIAR D'ORIENT (3)</p>
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Race 3 - PRIX DES TROIS COURONNES - 1400m CL2. Purse EUR €27,000.

1. **MAROON SIX** - Tried to make all at La Teste in a Listed contest over 1200m when beaten a long neck into second. Down in class and will be hard to pass.
2. **AL WAKRAH** - Seventh beaten 6.75L at La Teste in a Listed race with Maroon Six in second. Lightly raced and has won at this level.
3. **OURAIKA** - Made all on second outing to win over course and distance in a maiden by 3.5L. Up in class but impressive latest.
4. **ARDANZA** - Won by 1.75L at La Teste in a maiden over 1400m on second outing. Entitled to improve again and represents a top trainer.
5. **VALINA** - Made all to win on debut at La Teste in a newcomers race over 1400m by 1.25L. Well worth a try up in class.
6. **FULLDITCH** - Placed on first three outings to date including in this class. Solid but vulnerable to improvers.

Summary: MAROON SIX (1) tried to make all in a 1200m Listed race at La Teste when second beaten a long-neck. Drops in class and will be hard to beat if staying the additional 200m. OURAIKA (3) was impressive second up over course and distance winning by 3.5L in a maiden. Can be considered. VALINA (5) made all on debut in a newcomers event at La Teste. Open to plenty of improvement delivering second outing. ARDANZA (4) improved second up to break her maiden. Represents Jean Claude Rouget and might progress again.

<p style="text-align: center;">Selections</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">MAROON SIX (1) - OURAIKA (3) - VALINA (5) - ARDANZA (4)</p>

Race 4 - PRIX R. DE MONBEL - 1400m HCP CL4. Purse EUR €12,000.

1. **HONG KONG STAR** - Third beaten 1.25L over course and distance in a handicap. Consistent and going well.
2. **JAVEA** - Fourth over course and distance when beaten 0.75L behind a couple of these. More than capable.
3. **KENSHOW** - Was fourth beaten 0.75L in a handicap at La Teste behind a couple of these. Solid again.
4. **JUST ONE LOOK** - Well beaten latest over course and distance in a claimer and this looks tough.
5. **JONH FOR ALWAYS** - Third beaten 1.5L at Mont de Marsan two starts back in a handicap. Well beaten since.
6. **BASSIM** - Midfield on recent outings and may need more than the 0.5kg drop from the handicapper.
7. **EVA GLITTERS** - Fifth beaten 3.25L over course and distance in a handicap. With four of these in front of her.
8. **GENERALIFE** - Fourth beaten 2L over course and distance in a handicap. Not ruled out.
9. **SERAPHIM** - Midfield ten days ago in a Vichy handicap. Third the time before and could refind form.
10. **SUGAR BAY** - Beaten by a number of these when eighth beaten 6L in a handicap here. The 1kg drop might not be enough.
11. **DANTZIG CHOP** - Runner-up over course and distance beaten 1.25L in a handicap. Had a couple of these behind him.
12. **IZAKAYA** - Sixth beaten 3.5L over course and distance two weeks ago in a handicap. Not ruled out.

Summary: This race seems to revolve around a course and handicap contest earlier this month where DANTZIG CHOP (11) and HONG KONG STAR (1) were second and third respectively. Both are expected to go close once more. JAVEA (2) was fourth here last week in a handicap beaten only 0.75L. May feature. KENSHOW (3) only just missed the placings at La Teste in July and could go close.

<p style="text-align: center;">Selections</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">DANTZIG CHOP (11) - HONG KONG STAR (1) - JAVEA (2) - KENSHOW (3)</p>
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Race 5 - PRIX DE LA BARRE - 2300m HCP. Purse EUR €18,000.

1. **DAKINI** - Game 1.3L winner at this track and trip last time. That was a first career success and seems to be progressing all the time. No surprise were she to go back to back.
2. **IALLA DE BOZOULS** - Impressive 4.5L winner at Montauban two runs ago. Far from disgraced upped to this grade since and worth another chance.
3. **DUCESSE TANGO** - Impressive 2L winner at Vittel when last seen. Can improve further and should conditions here. Shortlist.
4. **EL CORRO** - Placed on reappearance although not at same level in two subsequent runs. Also concerning he is now 17 runs without a win so likely a place will prove best.
5. **ALMERIAC** - Game winner at Mont de Marsan two runs ago and run since too bad to be true. Worth another chance.
6. **UNRUFFLED** - Took a step forwards when a 1L second at this track last time. Switches from maiden to handicap company now but can improve again. Interesting.
7. **SANTA MONICA** - String of disappointing efforts following promising debut. Needs to re-find that form.
8. **KUROS** - Yet to even place after 8 starts. Best watched once more.
9. **TANGO** - Uninspiring form figures and easily opposed.

Summary: DUCESSE TANGO (3) powered clear for an impressive victory at Vittel last time. Progressive and is the one to beat once more. DAKINI (1) is progressing with each start this campaign. Won here attempting latest and deserves to try a better race. Big chance of going back to back. ALMERIAC (5) held excuses when trailing the field last time. Won the start prior and is a threat to all on that form. UNRUFFLED (6) ran a nice race when placing at this journey and rates an each way player if building upon that.

<p style="text-align: center;">Selections</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">DUCESSE TANGO (3) - DAKINI (1) - ALMERIAC (5) - UNRUFFLED (6)</p>

Race 6 - GRAND PRIX DE LA VILLE DE DAX - 2300m CL2. Purse EUR €22,000.

1. **MAD RIVER** - Head victory at Mont-de-Marsan last time. Is an honest performer and loves running at this track. Threat to all.
2. **KASPAR** - First time starter by Pedro The Great. Will need to be very smart to factor in this field first up.
3. **AL HAWRA** - Game 1.3L winner at this track to make it 3 wins from just 5 starts so far. Improving all the time and this is only slightly tougher. Keep safe.
4. **CHIEF OF STALL** - Placed first up and then a better performance despite just missing the placings on second run. Interesting if able to take another step forwards.
5. **BELLACIAOCIAO** - With top yard and has won twice already this campaign. Receives handy apprentice weight allowance and expected to take beating once more.
6. **MADINA** - Resumes after three month break. Head winner here on final start last campaign and should be primed for return. Shortlist.

Summary: BELLACIAOCIAO (5) powered clear for an impressive 4L victory last time. Tackles similar and is expected to prove hard to beat. AL HAWRA (3) won three of five starts so far. Smart prospect holding chances in this field. MAD RIVER (1) maintains a great overall record and comes into this following a win last time. Keep safe. MADINA (6) resumes after a three month absence. Threat to all if primed for this.

<p style="text-align: center;">Selections</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">BELLACIAOCIAO (5) - AL HAWRA (3) - MAD RIVER (1) - MADINA (6)</p>

Race 7 - PRIX DE SAUBAGNAC - 2100m HCP CL3. Purse EUR €18,000.

1. **VA S'Y MIX** - Placed on only previous run for this jockey but not in the best of form at present. Needs to bounce back.
2. **INCITATUS** - Solid 3.5L second here last time. Progressing all the time and should give another bold showing.
3. **SCHWANENSEE** - Last two runs have been below best but this unexposed filly is hard to rule out amongst this field.
4. **ALMAZORA** - 0.8L fourth at Vittel last time. That was a good effort and had been an impressive winner on start before that. Big chance once more.
5. **GIRLY PEARL** - Won five starts ago and performed creditably in defeat since. Each way.
6. **MACHISTADOR** - Has placed twice and won in last four starts. Clearly in good form and worth try in new grade now. Shortlist.
7. **PANDEMONIUM** - String of modest efforts and happy to oppose here.
8. **DANN** - A much better performance when a 1.5L second at La Teste last time. Interesting if able to build upon that.
9. **CHIEF'S APP** - Running consistently well this campaign. Placed twice and won in last four starts. Solid each way claims once more.
10. **MA NOSTALGIE** - 2.5L second at La Teste last time. Needs more for win purposes and is upped in grade here. Place likely best once more.
11. **BAFAITI** - Won four starts ago but not at same level since. In better race and likely best watched.

Summary: INCITATUS (2) won two of three prior to placing here last time. Clearly thriving at present and expected to take beating once more. ALMAZORA (4) is an honest mare who comes into this following some good runs. Keep safe. MACHISTADOR (6) looks to be going well this campaign. Deserves to try a better race and holds each way claims. DANN (8) returned to form placing last time. Can improve upon that and rates a potential threat to all.

<p style="text-align: center;">Selections</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INCITATUS (2) - ALMAZORA (4) - MACHISTADOR (6) - DANN (8)</p>
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Race 8 - PRIX ERMACK - 2100m HCP CL4. Purse EUR €14,000.

1. **BURN ONE DOWN** - Had been progressing with racing prior to disappointing effort last time. Worth another chance here.
2. **CANADA** - Running creditably in defeat recently however needs to improve if he is to better his one previous career win.
3. **LE RAFALE** - Uninspiring recent form figures and easily opposed.
4. **LARANZA** - Game 0.8L winner at Mont-De-Marsan two starts ago although not at same level returned there since. Threat to all at best but hard to fully trust.
5. **SWEET OR BITTER** - Only seventh last time however having been beaten just 2L it was clearly still a good run. Each way claims here.
6. **JOE BLINING** - Beaten just 0.8L into second at Mont-de-Marsan last time. That was a good effort and can improve further. Keep safe.
7. **CHARTWELL** - Modest form last campaign and will need to improve sharply to factor on return.
8. **AZORIN** - Well beaten on reappearance and happy to oppose following that.
9. **CURLY CHOP** - 0.8L fourth here last time. Drop in trip will suit and has won here previously. Threat to all with conditions to suit.
10. **REVE DE CHOP** - Out of form and would be a surprise if he was able to factor.

Summary: JOE BLINING (6) rates well on form of a latest placed effort providing best form in some time. Expected to build upon that and is the one to beat. CURLY CHOP (9) is progressing with racing recently including beaten just 0.8L last time. Close to a win. Keep safe. SWEET OR BITTER (5) went well the past two starts and can improve further. Solid each way choice in this field. BURN ONE DOWN (1) can be excused disappointing run last time. Interesting judging on performances before that. Each way player.

<p>Selections</p>

<p>JOE BLINING (6) - CURLY CHOP (9) - SWEET OR BITTER (5) - BURN ONE DOWN (1)</p>
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