

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C1 - PRIX DRAKKARS - 1700m (a1m 1/8) - ALL WEATHER - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 19,000

1. VILLEMACHO - Has finished 4th in consecutive outings over track and trip this year. Should have a role to play here

2. LAGOA SANTA - Has only won on the turf and remains inconsistent on PSF. Finished 15th in a handicap here last month, so is best watched for now

3. ZEYZOUN - Consistent veteran with sound form references, including a good 2nd in a claimer over track and trip on 18 January. Keep safe

4. RED GRACE - Winner on both turf and PSF but has been out of sorts, so has dropped below her last winning mark. Was 10th over 1900m last time and will need to improve to have a say

5. BATTLE OF THE NILE - Won on PSF at Wolverhampton in 2021 but has shown little on French soil, finishing unplaced in each of his last four starts on this surface at Pau. Others preferred

6. OLIVA - Showed early promise when finishing 2nd twice in 2022 but has failed to confirm that in 14 subsequent starts. Remains a maiden after 17 attempts and is probably more effective at a lower level

7. KISSWOOD - Won a PSF handicap in December 2022 but has struggled to maintain any form/consistency since, so can be ruled out

8. BON ESPRIT - Rewarded for consistency with a last-start success in a similar contest over track and trip on 7 January. Up 2kg but capable of following up

9. CAP SKIRRING - Has registered all five of her career successes on turf, though did show signs of improvement on this surface when finishing 6th over track and trip earlier this month. Dark horse

10. MINO PICO - Won a claimer over course and distance two starts back but finished a well-beaten 8th in a handicap last time. Others preferred

11. FIRST DREM - Has improved in recent outings off her current mark, finishing 3rd over track and trip with blinkers fitted before her last-start 5th over 2400m. Has claims here with headgear back on

12. ROXY MUSIC - Runner-up in four of his last five starts, including behind BON ESPRIT (8) over course and distance earlier this month. Will be a factor

13. BIG RIVER - Bounced back to form dropped to his current mark last time, finishing 4th in a PSF handicap at Pau over 1400m. Must confirm that improvement to get a look in here

Summary: ROXY MUSIC (12) finished 2nd to BON ESPRIT (8) over course and distance recently, and is better off at the weights this time around but the latter was impressive in winning that day so is good value to confirm his superiority. VILLEMACHO (1), 4th in consecutive starts this year on this track, ought to remain competitive with the shortlist completed by ZEYZOUN (3).

SELECTIONS

BON ESPRIT (8) - ROXY MUSIC (12) - VILLEMACHO (1) - ZEYZOUN (3)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C2 - PRIX LE CLIPPER - 1700m (a1m 1/8) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 16,000

1. **ZHIVAGO** - Continues to slide down the weights/ratings having finished downfield in each of his last five starts. Can be ruled out
2. **VEGA DREAM** - Has finished 14th in consecutive outings on PSF at Deauville this year, most recently in a handicap on 19 January. Unlikely to trouble the judge
3. **URAL** - Won a course-and-distance handicap two starts back but struggled under a 2kg penalty last time when only 12th over 1400m. Has a placed chance back at this trip
4. **ATLANTICA** - Has steadily been regaining her form recently dropped in the weights/ratings and was unlucky not to have finished closer when 6th over 1900m at Deauville on 12 January. Candidate for success
5. **COASTER** - Seldom far off the mark but rarely wins his races (1 victory from 22 outings). Was 4th in the benchmark race over course and distance two starts back, so could get a look in here judged on that form
6. **ERNAN CORTES** - Won a Chantilly PSF handicap over 1600m three starts back and proved his competitiveness off his current mark when an eye-catching 5th over track and trip on 7 January. Will fight for victory
7. **PEYTON PLACE** - Ran on well to finish 3rd over track and trip two starts back before confirming her form and well-being with a last-start victory over 2400m on 18 January. Up 2,5kg and back to 1700m but not taken lightly
8. **RAISE THE STAKES** - Won a handicap here over 2100m in December but has struggled to make an impression in subsequent outings under a penalty. Best watched for now
9. **LLOYD** - Finished a well-beaten 11th in a similar contest over track and trip recently, so is hard to recommend. Others preferred
10. **KIASTEP** - Won a handicap at Deauville in December 2022 off a higher mark but has been largely out of sorts since. Outsider
11. **COL NEM** - Bounced back to form when reverting to PSF last time, finishing 2nd over track and trip on 7 January. Could have a role to play
12. **LE GITAN** - Has finished 7th in consecutive outings over the course and distance this year, most recently in a claimer on 18 January. Others preferred
13. **BURN ONE DOWN** - Well-beaten 12th in a similar contest over track and trip recently, so is hard to make a case for here

Summary: ERNAN CORTES (6) caught the eye when running non from a long way back to finish 5th in the benchmark race on 7 January and from a good draw is likely to fight for victory. ATLANTICA (4) would've finished closer at Deauville last time if securing a clear run, so ought to pose a threat to the selection. PEYTON PLACE (7) ran on well to finish 3rd in the reference race before winning over further last time and she, too, should remain competitive under a penalty. COL NEM (11) will have a role to play if confirming the improvement of his latest outing.

SELECTIONS

ERNAN CORTES (6) - ATLANTICA (4) - PEYTON PLACE (7) - COL NEM (11)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C3 - PRIX LA CORVETTE - 1700m (a1m 1/8) - ALL WEATHER - Maiden - Flat - EUR € 18,000

1. HIGHLAND ARCHER - Runner-up on debut at Chantilly in February last year but has failed to confirm that promise in 5 subsequent outings. Others preferred

2. MONCAYO - The highest-rated runner in the race. Absent seen since finishing 2nd in a handicap on turf at Tarbes last May but is likely to be ready to go on his reappearance

3. SCHWENDI - Remains a maiden after 15 starts but, judged on his best references, ought to be competitive with his rider's 3,5kg allowance. Keep safe

4. LUNA DE PLATA - Has made the long trip from Marseille to run in this race - trainer's only runner at the meeting. Not taken lightly

5. SILVER SEA - Unplaced and soundly beaten in each of her 4 starts on both turf and PSF, so is difficult to recommend. Can be ruled out

6. FLEUR DE SEL - Has proven costly to follow and hard to win with, despite several near misses on both turf and PSF. Was 2nd in a claimer over track and trip two starts back so could have a role to play here on that form

7. MARIA THE GREAT - Unplaced and soundly beaten in both outings to date so is hard to make a case for. Others preferred

Summary: Bruno de Montzey has his string in good order and consistent MONCAYO (2) is expected to be ready to go on his return, so should prove hard to beat. LUNA DE PLATA (4) travels from afar to take her place in the lineup and does so with legitimate ambitions, especially with Alexandre Roussel engaged to ride. SCHWENDI (3) also warrants respect, as his rider's 3,5kg allowance is sure to aid his cause. FLEUR DE SEL (6) is another capable of getting into the picture.

SELECTIONS

MONCAYO (2) - LUNA DE PLATA (4) - SCHWENDI (3) - FLEUR DE SEL (6)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C4 - PRIX LA RECOUVRANCE - 1700m (a1m 1/8) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 - Flat - EUR € 16,000

1. GREAT ART - Showed signs of a return to form by finishing 4th in a claimer over track and trip on 17 December. Could get into the picture

2. ALAMSAR - At the top of his game and boasts sound form references/credentials on the PSF, including a last-start 4th in a handicap at Chantilly on 30 December. Candidate for success

3. OPIANA - Won a conditions race over track and trip last month before proving her competitiveness off her current mark at Deauville recently. Place chance

4. LE SICILIEN - Consistent sort for the most part. Finished 3rd in a PSF handicap at this venue last month and should have a role to play here off an unchanged mark

5. ATANASIO - Caught the eye with a last-start 2nd in a similar contest over track and trip on 10 December and should fight for victory once more

6. KER WELEN - Consistent performer with sound form references at this venue and in this grade. Ought to be competitive

7. BAILEYS MEMOIRE - Showed considerable early promise in 2022 but lost her way last year and was unplaced in consecutive starts at Chantilly in October and December. Watch for now

8. LA PELEMOISE - Finished 4th in a claimer at Deauville before finishing a well-beaten 13th over 1500m in a handicap last time. Overlook

Summary: An open race in which it could pay to side with ATANASIO (5), on the evidence of his last-start 2nd over course and distance and is likely to fight for victory. ALAMSAR (2) has performed well on this surface and ought to pose a threat, though, while KER WELEN (6) should also be competitive for the leading places after an eye-catching last start at Deauville. THE SICILIAN (4) comes next.

SELECTIONS

ATANASIO (5) - ALAMSAR (2) - LE SICILIEN (4) - KER WELEN (6)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C5 - PRIX QUEEN MARY 2 - 2100m (a1m 1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Class 3 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 19,000

1. OUI JE L ADORE - Has proven very competitive off her current mark, finishing 3rd twice in her last four starts on this surface. Candidate for success

2. MADENI - In very good form and close to opening his account, having finished 4th and 2nd over course and distance in his last two outings. One to beat

3. KUMRAN - Inconsistent sort whose best references are on turf, finishing 2nd at Durtal on debut and winning at Lignières in November. Made no impression on PSF at Chantilly last time

4. ART MYTHIQUE - Ran very well to finish 2nd over track and trip in November but has not been as effective in two subsequent starts over 2400m. Will be a factor back at this distance

5. RECOLEROS - Opened his account by winning a course-and-distance handicap four starts back but has struggled under a penalty in three subsequent outings. Others preferred

6. SUGERTIME - Unplaced in each of her four starts on this surface, so has no more than a minor role in a race of this nature

7. DSCHINGIS VOYAGE - Appreciated a return to PSF by finishing 4th in a conditions race over course and distance on 7 January. Could get into the picture

8. KIM DE GAUDEL - Seldom finishes far off the mark and was 7th over course and distance on 7 January, but has no more than a place chance

9. KREAM DU LARGE - More effective at a lower level on turf and made no impression on PSF last time when 9th in a handicap over track and trip. Overlook

Summary: MADENI (2) caught the eye when finishing 2nd on handicap attractive during his first attempt in a handicap, on this same course, and can aim for victory. YES I LOVE IT (1) ran better than its last ranking indicates and will logically be in sight. ART MYTHIQUE (4) performed very well in a similar event in November. DSCHINGIS VOYAGE (7) will try to confirm the slight improvement seen recently.

SELECTIONS

MADENI (2) - OUI JE L ADORE (1) - ART MYTHIQUE (4) - DSCHINGIS VOYAGE (7)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

**C6 - PRIX LA FREGATE - 2100m (a1m 1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Class 2 - Flat
- EUR € 22,000**

1. LORD MIESQUE - Unplaced in each of his three outings on PSF, including his only start at this venue on January. Can be ruled out

2. CHARTWELL - Lightly raced last-start winner with a progressive profile. Finished 3rd on debut before winning last time out and should have more to offer

3. KEDUREV - Inconsistent sort capable of getting into the picture but unlikely to open his account, having finished 5th in 2 of his last 3 starts over track and trip

4. CHESTER SKY - Improving sort with sound form references/credentials on PSF, including a 4th (over 1700m) and last-start 3rd over 2100m in two starts at this venue. Keep safe

5. CALON LAN - Has taken well to the PSF, winning and finishing 4th in his first two starts on this surface before an excusable last start (13th) at Deauville last month. Don't write off

6. SIMADA - Impressive winner of her last start over 2150m at Lyon-La Soie on 3 January and ought to continue her momentum. Winning chance

Summary: A potential match-race is in store here, with improving last-start winners SIMADA (6) and CHARTWELL (2) likely to fight for victory. CHESTER SKY (4) and CALON LAN (5) have the form and experience to pose a threat to the principals but will need to reproduce their best form to challenge for the leading places.

SELECTIONS

SIMADA (6) - CHARTWELL (2) - CHESTER SKY (4) - CALON LAN (5)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C7 - PRIX LE BELEM - 2400m (a1m 1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Claiming Handicap - Flat - EUR € 12,000

1. **SIXUNION** - Appreciated a return to PSF last time, finishing an improved 4th in a handicap over 3200m on 3 January at Lyon-La Soie. Has a winning chance here on that form
2. **SUDDEN DEATH** - Has only won on turf and has few references on PSF. Finished 12th in a handicap at Deauville on 29 December and is best watched for now
3. **SAGLYACAT** - Has maintained a good level of form/consistency at this track recently, finishing 2nd in two of her last four starts in handicap races. Ought to be competitive at this level
4. **MUSIC IS HER NAME** - Last-start winner over 2600m at Marseille-Vivaux on 9 January off her current mark. Will once again fight for victory
5. **CIRCO MASSIMO** - Unreliable type who seldom finishes far off the mark in similar contests on this surface but has no more than a place chance here, having finished unplaced (11th) at Marseille-Vivaux recently
6. **KAPTAIN NORDIK** - Appears to have lost his way since returning from a layoff, finishing unplaced in each of his three comeback outings. Did well enough at this venue last year to warrant consideration
7. **AL IMPACT** - Won a minor event on turf at Gabarret in May last year and has continued to struggle at this level, so can be ruled out
8. **MEANDRO** - Well-performed veteran of 93 starts with 14 career victories to his name. Currently out of sorts and is unlikely to trouble the judge
9. **LISBOA CHIRON** - Has placed just once in 12 starts and finished a well-beaten 15th last time in her first start on PSF, so is hard to make a case for
10. **ALF A STAR** - Runner-up in a course-and-distanced handicap in January 2020 but has only won on turf and has been poor on PSF recently. Outsider
11. **BARRAMEDA** - A battling long-time maiden with poor recent form to her name, so is hard to recommend. Others preferred
12. **KADANCE DE BOZOULS** - Has regained her form and consistency recently. Finished 4th in a claimer at Pau over this distance last time, so should have a role to play here

Summary: A tough call between the top two picks SIXUNION (1), who reassured with an improved 4th over a longer distance in his first start at this level last time, and last-start winner MUSIC IS HER NAME (4). Philippe Sogorb has supplemented KADANCE DE BOZOULS (12), who has the means to join that fight for victory, while SAGLYACAT (3) could also have a say in the matter if maintaining the same level of form which saw her finish 6th in a handicap last time out.

SELECTIONS

SIXUNION (1) - MUSIC IS HER NAME (4) - KADANCE DE BOZOULS (12) - SAGLYACAT (3)

TUESDAY, 30/01/24

C8 - PRIX PEN DUICK - 2400m (a1m 1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 - Flat - EUR € 16,000

1. SAKARI - Won a 2100m handicap at this venue two starts back but struggled to make an impression under a penalty in his last start and is unlikely to fare better off the same mark

2. TREZY BOUNTY - Last-start winner over 2100m on 7 January and is not incapable of staking a claim once more under a 1,5kg penalty. Outsider

3. HERMANO - Has regained momentum recently and should be a factor in the finish if confirming the improvement of his last-start 3rd over 2400m at Lyon-La Soie on 3 January

4. GOLDEN RIVER - Proved her competitiveness off her current mark by finishing 2nd in a handicap over 1800m on 11 January at Lyon-La Soie. Not taken lightly

5. PIPER'S HILL - Has improved in two starts at this venue/on PSF this year and has claims here after finishing 3rd over 3100m on 18 January

6. SEA TOWER - Finished 2nd over this distance on 30 November at Lyon-La Soie. Has regained freshness and should fight for victory

7. SIYOUCHKA - A model of consistency, though rarely wins (1 victory from 16 starts). Has sound form references/credentials on PSF and at this level, so ought to play a leading role here

Summary: SEA TOWER (6) finished an encouraging 2nd over this distance when last seen at Lyon-La Soie in November and will prove hard to beat here with a repeat of that performance on her reappearance. SIYOUCHKA (7) and HERMANO (3) are closely matched on the form of a recent meeting at the same venue and are likely to pose the biggest threats to the selection. GOLDEN RIVER (4) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

SEA TOWER (6) - SIYOUCHKA (7) - HERMANO (3) - GOLDEN RIVER (4)