### C1 - PRIX RMC (PRIX DE MANDELIEU) - 2175m (a1 5/16m) - European -Class D - Mounted - EUR € 46.000

1. HAPPY FEW (SWE) - Has taken superbly to his new vocation. Got off the mark a fortnight ago and is not incapable of repeating

2. GABEUR DAIRPET - Serious element in the monté code but lacklustre of late and must first reaffirm

**3. BEAUTIFUL BOY(ITY)** - Has done nothing noteworthy since placing at La Capelle last spring and, even racing barefoot, is unlikely to generate much interest

**4. BEETHOVEN (SWE) -** Showed marked improvement at Reims recently on just his 2nd appearance in the discipline but, on this occasion, will struggle to repeat

**5. FROMHEAVEN IDZARDA** - Has shown decent capacity for the discipline in his native Sweden but takes on a better bunch here and will have too much to do

**6. NEW EXPRESS -** In the frame in all 5 appearances in the monté code. Yet to open his ridden account but has had a breather under harness and, unshod behind this time, can play another prominent part

**7. TWIGS HONOR -** Got his monté career off to a flying start at home in Sweden. Placed in 1 of 2 in France, is better than his recent run would suggest, and can more than make amends

**8. YUVARAJ** - Useful nordic visitor that got off the monté mark at the first time of asking. Takes his first competitive French steps in good company but still looks competitive for a spot in the mix at the finish

**9. HIRO DE L'ORMERIE -** Never far from losing his action but has already made his mark over track and trip. Form is not in doubt and, with application, can get in on the action

**10. HISTORIEN DE LARRE -** Not without ability but is never the easiest of horses to gauge and is unlikely to shake things up

**11. DANTE GODIVA -** Useful under harness but made a modest monté debut at home in Sweden. Front shoes off this time but still not an obvious choice

**12. HORIZON CARISAIE** - Good class of horse in this branch of the game. Has solid course-and-distance credentials and, fully fit by now, can make this his own

**13. GIBALDI DE HOUELLE -** Has demonstrated considerably better aptitude for the monté code than he has lately under harness and, barefoot for the occasion, should not be ignored

**14. HARVEST** - Fine servant that rarely disappoints under the saddle. Has nothing to prove under these conditions and, competitively-shod, can give HORIZON CARISAIE (12) a run for his money

**Summary :** After having proved himself under harness, HORIZON CARISAIE (12) was successfully switched to the monté code and, given his form over 2175m here, can get his winter season off to a victorious start. He is, however, going to face significant opposition from the tenacious HARVEST (14) who has a fine record under similar conditions and who is shod for competition. HAPPY FEW (SWE) (1) left a very good impression on his monté debut 2 months ago before opening his account next time and is sure to play a prominent role once more. The complicated HIRO DE L'ORMERIE (9) could well have finished closer last time had he not faulted, but returns to racing barefoot and can set the record straight.

### SELECTIONS

HORIZON CARISAIE (12) - HARVEST (14) - HAPPY FEW (SWE) (1) - HIRO DE L'ORMERIE (9)

### C2 - PRIX JEAN MAURICE BETEAU - 2850m (a1 3/4m) - Class E - Class E -Harness - EUR € 35.000

**1. JADE DE NAVARY -** Showed early promise but has looked very ordinary recently and others easier to back

**2. JORDANIE -** Promising monté horse still being conditioned for the winter and will have nothing to give

**3. JAKIRA -** Erratic but not devoid of talent. Has placed just once in 9 appearances on the main track and chances limited

**4. JOLIE GRAVURE -** Filly of significant ability that caught the eye on her recent return. Will have come on for the run and can open her 2023 account

**5. JORIA MESLOISE -** Quality sort that has taken well to racing barefoot. Put in a good finish at Enghien last time and, fresh for her main track debut, must be considered a leading contender

**6. JESS D'HERTALS -** Has decent references in the provinces and has won 2 of last 3. Takes on better this time but is one to monitor all the same

**7. JALAYA DES BROUETS -** Has turned a corner since starting to race unshod all 4. Is confirmed on the main track and, with form maintained, can break into the first 5

**8. JET SET -** Considerably better than recent numbers would suggest. Pleased last time at the venue and can more than make amends for her recent effort

**9. JOLLY LADY -** Has never finished closer than 4th over the long course but is clearly capable. Has 3 runs under her belt since the summer break and, barefoot this time, can make her presence felt

**10. JOY TO GIS -** Showed bags of promise at 2 before disappointing last season. Appears to be back in business and, barefoot for the occasion, can make a big impact

**11. JOFESCA BUISSONAY** - Pleasant filly that always gives her best. Is evidently in form and, although better racing clockwise, is not one to be overlooked

**12. JOY D'OURVILLE -** Has been acquitting herself respectably of late but, in this company, will struggle to make her presence felt

**13. JAMAICA ISLAND -** Useful sort that has already won a trio since moving to France. Has not been seen out for 3 months but is expected to be fit and, hind shoes off for comeback, should not be far off the mark

**Summary**: Solid so far on the inner track, JOLIE GRAVURE (4) gave a good account of herself here a fortnight ago, is clearly on the way up, and deserves to be rewarded with a first success of the Winter Meeting. Matthieu Abrivard can nevertheless expect to encounter resistance from the progressive JORIA MESLOISE (5), who was impressive on her return to competition last month, and JOY TO GIS (10) who is barefoot following a promising re-entry at Les Sables d'Olonne. JET SET (8) raced better here last time than the result would imply and must be afforded respect.

### SELECTIONS

JOLIE GRAVURE (4) - JORIA MESLOISE (5) - JOY TO GIS (10) - JET SET (8)

# C3 - PRIX WTW HIPCOVER ASSURANCES HIPPIQUES - 2700m (a1 11/16m) - Class D - Class D - Mounted - EUR € 59.000

1. GYPSIE ROYALE - Moderate type that just last month finished her first monté race unscathed, but confirmation is decidedly unlikely

2. ESPERANCE GIRL - Complicated mare that has returned to the monté code in fine shape. Not expected to spring any surprises but is not one to be completely disregarded either

3. FAKIR STARDUST - Previously a good sort but has done little of note for some time and recent sanctions do nothing to enhance his prospects on return to the ridden code

4. GRIGRI BOY - Competent trotter that has previously won under these conditions but, at this level, will have his work cut out

5. EKINOA DU PATURAL - Faithful mare for the most part but seldom gets her nose in front and would have better prospects a level down

6. GENERAL - Hardy sort that has been showing improvement over recent months. Gave a courageous account behind GLADIATOR BOY (12) last time and, although unlikely to repeat, should still acquit himself competitively

7. DEXTER BLUE - Unexceptional sort that has yet to show any particular flair for the discipline and can be passed over

8. FORAIN JENILOU - By no means the worst horse here but made little impression last term. Is barefoot following a return run but others still preferred

**9. GOLD DU VAL -** Solid in 3 this autumn before disappointing somewhat behind GLADIATOR BOY (12) last month. Is not incapable of redeeming himself though and must be respected

**10. ELVIS MADJI -** Excellent trotter that goes over any distance and appreciates Vincennes. Will be fully fit by now, races unshod all 4, and with Alexandre Abrivard riding this time can strike again

**11. FADILA** - No slouch under the saddle when focused. Sanctioned on re-entry but will have come on for the run and could well get a look in

12. GLADIATOR BOY - Alternates between the good and the less good but was most impressive here last time out and looks main threat to ELVIS MADJI (10)

**13. GLOSSY BOY** - Not the most reliable and has failed to make the frame in his last three starts, but is not devoid of ability and will have his supporters

14. GALA D'URFIST - Decent trotter but is never far from losing his action. Has decent references in this category and, with shoes off for the occasion, looks competitively well in

**15. FARCEUR ACE -** Impressive under harness during spring and summer but has since come off the boil. Returns, competitively-shod, to his code of preference though and should not be entirely overlooked

16. GO GO GIGI - Good mare but has little room for manoeuvre here. Is plainly in excellent condition though and will be no soft touch

**17. GAZETTA DE LOU -** Not the most reliable but sprang a massive surprise here earlier in the month. Switches code for the first time and, if form transitions, will be dangerous

**Summary**: A tough individual under the saddle, ELVIS MADJI (10) has won 3 of his last 4 races when barefoot at Vincennes and, with a brace of return runs under his belt, can open his winter account. Alexandre Abrivard will still be keeping a keen eye on the revitalised GLADIATOR BOY (12) who imposed superbly over course and distance late last month, and the delicate but talented GALA D'URFIST (14) who races barefoot in the monté code for the first time since last January. GAZETTA DE LOU (17) makes her first public appearance in this branch of the business and her recent harness victory here sets her up nicely.

#### SELECTIONS

#### ELVIS MADJI (10) - GLADIATOR BOY (12) - GALA D'URFIST (14) - GAZETTA DE LOU (17)

# C4 - PRIX DE BRETAGNE-AMÉRIQUE RACES PMU Q1 - 2700m (a1 11/16m) - International - Group 2 - Harness - EUR € 120.000

1. HIP HOP HAUFOR - Won this race 12 months ago before trotting 4th in the Amérique. Gave a good account in the race of reference but is unlikely to impose 2 years in a row

2. FARAH DES CAUX - Unremarkable mare that has never delivered at this level. Defied her odds here 6 days ago but a repeat looks most improbable

3. JUST LOVE YOU - The lone 4 year-old in the field and, although remarkably talented, she races shod this time and best to hold off

4. IDEAL DU POMMEAU - Gr.1 winner in 2022. Has been productive since returning to competition during the summer and his latest Gr.3 success bodes well for his chances

5. ORACLE TILE - Very hard to knock when racing with hind shoes off. Has one run under his belt, thrives at Vincennes and looks competitively well in

6. GANAY DE BANVILLE - Quality trotter that was off the track for 21 months but now seems to be close to form. Solid until his recent sanction but returns to a proven configuration and should not disappoint

7. HOKKAIDO JIEL - Winner at the highest level but occasionally loses his action. Impressive on his first start of the season though and, barefoot this time, will have a lot to offer

8. HORSY DREAM - Excellent servant that qualified last year after winning the Prix Ténor de Baune. Faces a tougher, older bunch here but has been in cracking form and, unshod behind this time, looks a more serious proposition

9. HUSSARD DU LANDRET - Tough individual that finished 5th in this race last year before trotting 2nd in the Bourbonnais. Encouraged behind IZOARD VEDAQUAIS (10) recently but still represents no more than a minor place prospect

10. IZOARD VEDAQUAIS - High-class trotter with nothing to prove at this level. Appears to have left his stride woes behind him, imposed with consummate ease last time out, and can get his Prix d'Amérique campaign off to a successful start

11. ELVIS DU VALLON - Hardy trotter still going strong aged 9. Ran 2nd in the Prix des Cévennes earlier this month and will again give everything he has

12. HANNA DES MOLLES - Excellent servant under the saddle. Being prepared for a shot at the Cornulier and will not be troubling the judge

13. GU D'HERIPRE - 3rd in 2021 Prix d'Amérique but unthreatening 12 months on. Pleased in the race of reference but is unlikely to be up to the task

14. BLEFF DIPA - Useful Italian raider with decent Vincennes references but looks to be biting off more than he can chew this time

**15. SAN MOTEUR** - Classy Swedish raider with form at the highest level at home. Takes his first competitive steps since coming south and, given his excellent form over 2640m, will not want to be underestimated

16. DIABLE DE VAUVERT - Acquitted himself well in 2 editions of Prix d'Amérique but has not been quite as sharp this term and can be ruled out

17. AMPIA MEDE SM - Remarkably talented mare that truly blossomed last winter. Is barefoot for the occasion but has not been seen out since June and, while not a priority this time around, still merits respect

18. HOOKER BERRY - Has yet to win a race since landing the holy grail last January. Is barefoot after 2 return runs though and JMB is confident of a big run

Summary : One of only two 5 year-olds in the field, the Philippe Allaire-trained IZOARD VEDAQUAIS (10) appears to be back on track and, considering how well he won here last month, a second straight victory would be no surprise. He is not going to have it all his own way though given the presence of HOKKAIDO JIEL (7) who won his comeback run before being disqualified, and the classy GANAY DE BANVILLE (6) who is back in business after a long hiatus. Grand Prix de l'UET winner, IDEAL DU POMMEAU (4) landed the GNT Nantes stage straight after a spell and will have come on for the run.

#### SELECTIONS

#### IZOARD VEDAQUAIS (10) - HOKKAIDO JIEL (7) - GANAY DE BANVILLE (6) - IDEAL DU POMMEAU (4)

### C5 - SWC 4 ANS Q1 - PRIX GUY DELOISON - 2700m (a1 11/16m) -International - Group 2 - Harness - EUR € 120.000

**1. KOKINE JABA -** Delicate type that reassured at a much lower level here earlier this month. Shoes back on though and no threat

2. KARA POU RAFAL - Spanish-trained sort that looked very ordinary in both appearances at the venue and can be confidently ruled out

**3. RIKITA JP** - Competent Italian import that won twice over course and distance during the spring. Respectable in both return runs but still has more to find

4. KATINKA DU MOUCHEL - Clearly useful but has failed to live up to expectations recently and must show marked improvement

**5. KANAKA DE BUSSET -** Capable type that won over track and trip last month before trotting 4th in the Prix de Vaumas and should have the capacity to pick up a cheque here

**6. KALMIA PERRINE** - Has talent in spades but is not the easiest to handle. Encouraged last time out though and, if applied, will have every chance of trotting her way onto the podium

**7. ESPERIA CR** - Italian filly that has never finished closer than 4th in as many runs here. Defied expectations behind KIARA DE VANDEL (9) recently but is nevertheless unlikely to repeat

**8. ELOIDA -** Vincennes debutante that pleased last month when 3rd in the Italian Oaks but takes on some more talented horses this time and chances appear limited

**9. KIARA DE VANDEL -** No slouch on a good day and most recently beat a host of these in the Gr.3 Prix de Vaumas. A repeat appears unlikely but can still figure prominently

10. KAYA DREAM - Fine trotter but significantly better under the saddle and will not be given a hard race

**11. KATCHINA DE SIMM** - Faithful filly that has not won beyond Gr.3 level but has previously beaten the favourite, is clearly in fine shape and, if focused will be dangerous

**12. KYRIELLE** - Excellent during the spring but has not been quite as sharp since. Twice prepped well in the provinces but looks no more than a minor place prospect this time

**13. KABAKA DE GUEZ -** Mixes the good with the less good but has raced very well in 2 of last 3. Has already captured the favourite's scalp but may still have to settle for 2nd place

**14. EAST ASIA -** Quality transalpine raider with decent black-type references at home. Debuts at the venue, with front pads fitted and, the Alexandre Abrivard-factor cannot be ignored

**15. KANA DE BEYLEV -** Excellent campaigner with nothing to prove in this class. Romped home last time out and, with form maintained, is expected to confirm

**Summary :** Consistently performant at this level of competition, KANA DE BEYLEV (15) made up for her Critérium des 3 Ans sanction with a superior victory in the Gr.2 Prix Uranie three weeks ago. Boasting a very good record over 2700m here, she is going to take some beating. That being said, KABAKA DE GUEZ (13) beat her in the Gr.2 Prix Annick Dreux before trotting 2nd to her last time and will be no easy touch. KALMIA PERRINE (6) does not always show her true worth but reassured under these conditions recently and can again make the frame. KATCHINA DE SIMM (11) has yet to impose in this class but regularly comes close and her recent 3rd to Benjamin Rochard's horse will assure her more support.

### SELECTIONS

KANA DE BEYLEV (15) - KABAKA DE GUEZ (13) - KALMIA PERRINE (6) - KATCHINA DE SIMM (11)

### C6 - PRIX 20 MINUTES - 2100m (a1 5/16m) - European-Autostart - Group 3 - Harness - EUR € 80.000

**1. DEUS ZACK -** Fine colt that excels in these faster-run races. Not ideally-positioned on the inside but has freshness on his side and looks eminently capable of wrapping this up

**2. INSHOT JOSSELYN -** Barring one blip last May, has been enjoying a productive run of form. Impressed in both starts over track and trip but, in this company, will need to be at his best

**3. IDEAL DU ROCHER** - Dependable sort that has hardly set a foot wrong for some time. Goes over any trip, benefits from a good spot behind the car, and can give DEUS ZACK (1) something to think about

**4. INSTINCT D'AM** - Unremarkable sort that has made the frame just once in last 9 starts and is unlikely to shake things up

**5. GASOLIN -** Capable nordic invader that pleased behind CHARMY CHARLY AS (15) on Vincennes debut before flopping in better company. Takes a dip in category and, while not a priority, he has a decent spot in front and will be worth watching

**6. IALTO D'HERTALS -** Useful individual that has never disappointed over 2100m. Has solid credentials at this level and, competitively-shod, looks a player

**7. INTOUCHABLE** - Decent type with 2 races under his belt since the break. Has good references over 2100m here and, if fully fit, can make his presence felt

**8. IBIKI DE HOUELLE -** Handy dual-discipline type that latterly encouraged at the highest level. Has not been seen out for 2 months though and racing shod will do nothing to improve his chances

**9. IGREC DE CELLAND -** Justifiably well-regarded trotter with solid references in this class. Less effective at Laval but should logically bounce back and finish closer this time

10. DUNDEE AS - Moderate type with better form when unshod and is unlikely to garner much support

**11. CROWN WISE AS -** Yet another fine Scandinavian trotter in search of valuable French spoils. Won over track and trip at the first time of asking, drops back down the class ladder, and will be no pushover

**12. RIET HAZELAAR -** Competent mare with group form in Germany. Faces a stiffer test this time around but should still give an honest account

**13. INTELLO DE CHENU** - Not without merit and recently went close in a Class B. Shoes on this time though and others preferred

**14. CANTO DEI VENTI** - Good, consistent trotter when he can keep his action together. Is on a hat-trick of Vincennes victories, gets on well with Gelormini, but the draw will do him no favours

**15. CHARMY CHARLY AS** - Improving trotter returning to Vincennes on a hat-trick. Beat a number of these in the Prix de Montier-en-Der, including IGREC DE CELLAND (9) and, even though forced to start wide on the 2nd line, still looks competitive for a place on the podium

**Summary :** Winner of the Gr.1 Championnat Européen des 3 ans last season, and twice respectable in good company before the spell, DEUS ZACK (1) returns to Vincennes fresh and barefoot and looks a marginally better pick than the well-placed IDEAL DU ROCHER (3) who has been firing on all cylinders lately. 5th to him at Laval on recent re-entry, IGREC DE CELLAND (9) is forced to start wide but still has the capacity to finish in the mix, as does the progressive CHARMY CHARLY AS (15) despite being handed a tough draw.

#### SELECTIONS

DEUS ZACK (1) - IDEAL DU ROCHER (3) - IGREC DE CELLAND (9) - CHARMY CHARLY AS (15)

### C7 - SWC 4 ANS Q2 - PRIX PIERRE PLAZEN - 2700m (a1 11/16m) -International - Group 2 - Harness - EUR € 120.000

**1. BROTHERS IN ARMS -** Competent trotter at a lower level but in exalted company here and chances slim

**2. KOBAYASHI** - Improving colt that was not particularly lucky here earlier this month. Nivard in the sulky this time and should acquit himself competitively

**3. EBANO D'ARC -** Capable at home in his native Italy but has yet to impress since coming to France and can be ruled out

**4. KOMPOSTEL -** Can trot but seldom gets his nose in front. Has not looked threatening recently and is unlikely to spring a surprise

**5. KAPITANO DE SOURCE -** Faithful servant whose claim to fame is success in the valuable Arqana Yearling Cup. Can again figure prominently but, in this company, is unlikely to have her way

**6. KSAR -** Beat KRACK TIME ATOUT (10) to win his lone group event but has nevertheless been acquitting himself honestly and will have his supporters

**7. KRISTAL JOSSELYN -** Excellent servant that opened his Gr.2 account late last month. Fitted with 4 pads this time and, although unlikely to impose, can still make the frame

**8. KANADA -** Has failed to win a race for 14 months but consistently acquits himself well at group level. Showed improvement behind KRISTAL JOSSELYN (7) here last time and on this occasion looks a decent first-5 chance

**9. KING OPERA -** Still a handful from time to time but is hard to fault at present. Finished ahead of the favourite in the Critérium and, while not expected to repeat, can still finish close

**10. KRACK TIME ATOUT -** Occasionally loses his action but ability is not in doubt. Beat KOCTEL DU DAIN (11) easily when winning the Critérium but may be forced to play second fiddle this time

**11. KOCTEL DU DAIN -** Remarkably classy colt with a strike-rate to match. Has never failed to fire over 2700m and looks set to exact revenge on KRACK TIME ATOUT (10)

**Summary** : Another fine colt from the Allaire powerhouse, KOCTEL DU DAIN (11) was surprisingly beaten by KRACK TIME ATOUT (10) in the Gr.1 Critérium des 3 ans two months ago but she has had time to get her game together and has every chance of turning the tables. Second that day before confirming in the Gr.2 Prix Victor Régis late last month, KING OPERA (9) looks solidly in once again. He missed out to KRISTAL JOSSELYN (7) on that occasion but looks the better bet this time around.

### SELECTIONS

KOCTEL DU DAIN (11) - KRACK TIME ATOUT (10) - KING OPERA (9) - KRISTAL JOSSELYN (7)

### C8 - PRIX DE COSSE LE VIVIEN - 2100m (a1 5/16m) - European-Autostart - Class C - Harness - EUR € 68.000

1. OSCAR L.A. - Fine nordic import making his first start for new stable. Has the inside line, sports modified shoeing, and will be dangerous if fully-fit

2. FRAGONARD DELO - Not without ability but has been struggling with consistency. Failed to fire last time but has been reunited with Eric Raffin who, from the 2-spot, has every chance of getting him back on track

3. HAVE A DREAM - Group-class trotter with excellent references in this category. Expected to be fit by now and, unshod all 4, will be no pushover

**4. FELIX DU BOURG -** Honest trotter that regularly gives what he can. Reassured somewhat behind GIMY DU POMMEREUX (13) last month and, although well-positioned in front, still has more to find

5. FANATIC FLASH - Winner over track and trip 5 months ago. Has been acquitting himself well since and, reunited with Abrivard, will not go down without a fight

6. UNICO BROLINE - Serious Scandinavian type making his first appearance outside the nordics in superb condition. Is a class above most here and can get straight down to business

**7. GUIDE MOI FORGAN** - Versatile trotter that has been making very good progress lately. Left a good impression here 11 days ago and, even though stepping back up in category, still appears to have a lot to give

**8. FASHION TOUCH -** Enjoyed a productive spring before coming off the boil. Below-par since the break and must get her house in order

9. EASTON OF MY LIFE - Moderate sort that encouraged more than once recently but has no particular love for Vincennes and is unlikely to shake things up

10. KUYT F BOKO - Has merit but has not been firing on all cylinders for some time and will have few takers

**11. SAHARA JAEBURN -** Reliability not his thing but has nothing to prove in this class. Unseen for 2 months but comes here fresh and, with Lebourgeois reining, will be afforded every chance

12. HARIBO DU LOISIR - Capable on a good day but has not been seen out since May and will need the run

**13. GIMY DU POMMEREUX -** Classy trotter that twice impressed over longer here during the autumn before flopping earlier this month. Fitted with pads this time and, even from the 2nd line, will be worth monitoring

**14. BALSAMINE FONT -** Arguably better under the saddle but does have harness references at a superior level. Has not been seen out since August though and is expected to need the run

**15. TOTO BAROSSO** - Trotter of considerable means but reliability not his strong suit. Has references under these conditions and is plainly in shape but the draw will do him no favours

**16. EVITA PERON -** Springs the occasional surprise but has better chances in a lesser category and, with shoes on, cannot be considered a player

**Summary**: Highly-consistent and very hard to knock over these shorter trips, the Swedish UNICO BROLINE (6) starts in front here and looks thoroughly capable of imposing at Vincennes at the first time of asking. Opposition should logically take the form of the tough and in-form OSCAR L.A. (1) who is competitively-shod on his first appearance for the Souloy yard. FANATIC FLASH (5) has made solid progress since the summer, has won under similar conditions and, from the 5-spot looks a major player. HAVE A DREAM (3) is similarly well-placed behind the car and, with 2 races under his belt and racing barefoot for his first objective of the winter, is unlikely to let the side down.

#### SELECTIONS

#### UNICO BROLINE (6) - OSCAR L.A. (1) - FANATIC FLASH (5) - HAVE A DREAM (3)

### C9 - PRIX D'AIGUES MORTES - 2100m (a1 5/16m) - European-Autostart -Class D - Harness - EUR € 56.000

1. FELTENA DE LUBEL - In the frame in 2 of last 3 when similarly shod. Not ideally positioned on the inside but still looks capable of making her presence felt

2. A WONDER BI - Hardy mare that consistently gives everything she has. Returned to the winners' enclosure at Laval and is well-placed to give this a good go

**3. FRANCE D'OCCAGNES** - Not the most reliable but has a particular liking for the distance here. Set her personal best chrono here last time and, barefoot for her return from the spell, looks competitive for a place in the first 5

**4. GREC D'HAVAROCHE** - Versatile individual that tends to show more racing clockwise but thrives with Eric Raffin reining and, already a winner over 2100m on the main track, can make a big splash from the 4-spot

5. FINGER DES BORDES - Complicated trotter but is not without merit. Twice pleased at Laval recently, aims higher this time but races with just front shoes and, well-placed behind the car, will generate some interest

6. HURRICANE RIVER - Not as sharp as he was during the spring but appears to be getting back in shape. Encouraged at Machecoul and, with a leading driver reining this time, can get in on the action

7. GYBOR WELL - Not always the most focused of horses but has superb references over course and distance. Starts in front, showed his form on re-entry and, unshod behind, will have his chances

**8. FOGO PICO** - Not the easiest of horses to handle but has won over track and trip. Very unlucky here last time out and will not be available at 56/1 on this occasion

9. GAMIN NORMAND - Capable under harness but has better references in the other code these days and looks to have his work cut out

10. FOLLOW ME FLASH - Dependable trotter for the most part but has been off the boil for some time and can be confidently passed over

**11. GOLDORACK -** Impressed twice in 4 appearances under these conditions, latterly victorious 2 months ago, and while unlikely to repeat, should still acquit himself honourably

12. FORSICA DU ROCHER - Very disappointing for the past 13 months and has no realistic chance

**13. FILOU DE L'ELLE -** Very impressive over 2100m here during the autumn but below-par in next 2 and must take his game up a notch

14. GEOFFREY D'AM - Has ability but trounced in last 6 appearances over course-and-distance and can expect to remain friendless in the markets

**15. EROS ZOLA -** Quality Scandinavian import that is unbeaten in 2 starts on French soil, including over course and distance and, even though handed a tough draw, still looks the horse to beat.

**16. FIDELE MADRIK** - Erratic type that has done nothing but improve lately. Good second over track and trip earlier this month and, although a repeat looks improbable, he should still not be written off

**Summary :** After showing significant ability at hone in the nordics, EROS ZOLA (15) has excelled since coming to France and is, once again, going to take all the beating. JMB would still be wise to be wary of the better-placed and barefoot GREC D'HAVAROCHE (4) who has previously won under these conditions, and GYBOR WELL (7) who will have come on for his fine return performance at Amiens recently. The good, but capricious, FOGO PICO (8) was denied an opening here last month when clearly full of running and, in spite of a wide draw, still appears to have a lot to offer.

#### SELECTIONS

#### EROS ZOLA (15) - GREC D'HAVAROCHE (4) - GYBOR WELL (7) - FOGO PICO (8)