

SUNDAY, 05/05/24

C1 - PRIX DE CROISSY - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 2 Race - Flat - EUR € 28,000

1. DUMONTEILDESAIGLES - The only maiden in the lineup and is unlikely to pose a threat in this race on the evidence of his 3 outings, the latest (7th) over 1700m at La Roche-Posay on 1 May. Can be ruled out

2. COLUMBUS - Made a winning debut on the PSF at Deauville over 1900m in November last year and didn't go unnoticed when 3rd on his seasonal reappearance over 2000m on the turf at Chantilly on 30 March. Not taken lightly

3. LOOK DE VEGA - Impressive wide-margin winner on debut over 1800m on heavy ground at Fontainebleau on 25 November. Is highly regarded by connections and has Classic entries to his name

4. BELIEVER - Runner-up on debut over 1800m on heavy ground at Fontainebleau on 25 November. Confirmed that promise with a winning reappearance over 2150m at Cagnes on 20 January

5. HAMAVI - Dubawi gelding who showed a willing and professional attitude when winning on debut over course and distance on 18 April. Open to any amount of improvement

Summary: LOOK DE VEGA (3) could hardly have been more impressive when running out a wide-margin winner on debut last year. BELIEVER (4), who finished 2nd on that occasion, franked the form of that race by winning on his reappearance and his superior fitness should stand him in good stead. A bigger threat, however, could come from fellow first-start scorer HAMAVI (5) whose winning debut on this course is an advantage. COLUMBUS (2) isn't without a chance either after an encouraging comeback performance at Chantilly which would have benefitted him no end.

SELECTIONS

LOOK DE VEGA (3) - HAMAVI (5) - BELIEVER (4) - COLUMBUS (2)

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**C2 - PRIX GOLD RIVER - FONDS EUROPEEN DE L'ELEVAGE - 2800m
(a2m) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat - EUR € 48,000**

1. DSCHINGIS STAR - Finished 4th in a Listed race over track and trip last year having filled the runners-berth up in a Group III at Deauville before that. Didn't go unnoticed on her return when 7th over 2100m on heavy ground at Saint-Cloud on 12 April

2. SALTWELL - Performed consistently last year before blotting her copybook by finishing 10th in the Group III Prix Belle de Nuit over 2800m at Saint-Cloud on 22 October. Not taken lightly on her reappearance

3. MELO MELO - High-class mare with references at the highest level, including a 2nd in the 2023 Group I Prix Vermeille. Absent since her 8th in the Group I Prix de Royallieu over track and trip on 30 September but looks well placed to win on her return

4. ANGEL GUIDANCE - Revealed promise in maiden races last year, winning in just her second start (over 2400m at Vichy) but has shown her limitations at this level - unplaced in 3 subsequent outings, the latest (9th of 9) a 3000m Listed at Saint-Cloud (1 April)

Summary: Last season's Group I Prix Vermeille runner-up MELO MELO (3) makes her belated reappearance after an absence of more than 7 months but is head and shoulders clear of these rivals on official ratings, so is good value to make a winning comeback in this Listed event. Both SALTWELL (2), who has already proven her efficiency/competitiveness on soft ground, and DCHINGIS STAR (1), who got the better of that rival in a Deauville meeting last year, are those most likely to pick up the pieces should the selection fluff her lines.

SELECTIONS

MELO MELO (3) - SALTWELL (2) - DSCHINGIS STAR (1) - ANGEL GUIDANCE (4)

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**C3 - PRIX DE LA SEINE - 2200m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat -
EUR € 55,000**

1. SIYANDRA - Finished 2nd in both starts at Chantilly last year and showed encouraging improvement to win on her reappearance over 2400m at Saint-Cloud on 19 April. Has scope for further progress

2. SOME SKYE - Runner-up in both starts last year and finished 2nd again on her reappearance over 2000m at this venue on 18 April. Warrants respect, even as a maiden

3. ALAKAI - Improved with each of her 3 outings last year, which culminated in an 1800m Chantilly success in October. Caught the eye when finishing 3rd over 2100m on heavy ground at Saint-Cloud on her reappearance last month (12 April)

4. KEEN APPROACH - Consistently filly with sound references/form credentials, which include finishing 3rd over 2000m in a Listed race at Saint-Cloud and a recent Group III 4th over 2100m at that venue on 19 April. Not taken lightly

5. GALA REAL - Progressive last-start winner who impressed on her reappearance when scoring over 2100m on heavy ground at Saint-Cloud on 12 April. Looks an exciting prospect

6. AVENTURE - Debut winner over 1600m at Chantilly last year and confirmed that promise by finishing 2nd in the 1600m Group III Prix des Reservoirs at Deauville on 18 October. Has Classic entries so has to be taken seriously on her reappearance

Summary: GALA REAL (5) was an authoritative winner on heavy ground at Saint-Cloud on her reappearance, so it could pay to follow her progress. Any rain or a rain-affected track wouldn't hold any fears for her either. AVENTURE (6), who followed up her debut win with a creditable 2nd in the Group III Prix des Reservoirs, is an exciting prospect and isn't incapable of fighting for victory with improvement expected on her reappearance. SOME SKYE (2), having finished 2nd in all 3 starts, is a maiden but could make her presence felt, along with last-start winner SIYANDRA (1).

SELECTIONS

GALA REAL (5) - AVENTURE (6) - SOME SKYE (2) - SIYANDRA (1)

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C4 - PRIX DU PASSAGE SAINTE-ANNE - 2100m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 30,000

- 1. ZELINA** - Versatile filly with references on turf and PSF but she continues to blow hot and cold. Ran a better race than her finishing position (9th) suggests in a 1900m PSF handicap at Deauville on 9 April - place chance
- 2. ALISTO KING** - Made a very encouraging reappearance (3rd) over 2000m at Fontainebleau on 13 April. Makes his Quinte+ debut with a lively outside chance
- 3. HERMANO** - Consistent stayer with sound references/form credentials over marathon distances, including a last-start 4th over 3100m at Nantes on 6 April. His wide No 14 stall is a disadvantage
- 4. AL ALAALI** - Opened his account in an 1800m handicap at Compiègne in March and proved his competitiveness off this mark (under a 2,5kg penalty) by finishing 5th in a 1900m PSF handicap at Deauville on 9 April. Dark horse
- 5. SAKARI** - Won a 2100m PSF handicap at Pornichet on 14 November but has struggled since and a soft track will not serve his interests either. Could only finish 8th in a 2100m handicap at Senonnes on 14 April
- 6. COGNAC** - Revealed promise as a two-year-old but has since flattered to deceive. Was gelded last summer but hasn't shown signs of improvement recently - finished 10th in a 1600m handicap at this venue on 14 April
- 7. KAPETANIOS** - Consistent for the most part and won a Lyon-La Soie PSF handicap on 24 March before finishing a creditable 6th under a 2kg penalty (current mark) in a 2000m turf handicap at Nancy on 4 April. Outsider
- 8. GOLDYWAY DE SAON** - Consistent handicapper who would've needed his comeback run in a 2400m Quinte+ at Chantilly on 4 April and is likely to do better here than he did that day (14th). Keep safe
- 9. MELBORA** - Performed at a good level last season as a three-year-old but has been relatively disappointing since resuming. Dropped in the weights/ratings as a result and is dangerous off this mark, despite finishing 14th on this course in a 1600m handicap on 14 April
- 10. PANGAEA** - Has performed consistently/competitively in all 5 outings (conditions races) this year - confirmed as much with an encouraging 2nd over 2400m at Nantes on 18 April. Not taken lightly
- 11. DARK ZEL** - Has regained freshness since her PSF handicap failure (11th) over 2100m at Chantilly on 1 March. Less effective on turf
- 12. ALVALDI** - Made a winning reappearance at Morlaix in March but failed to confirm that form/improvement when only 9th on her handicap debut over 2100m at Senonnes on 14 April. Shouldn't be hastily condemned
- 13. STYLE D'EMIRS** - Consistent performer in conditions races on both surfaces and was the subject of a few whispers ahead of his handicap debut at Chantilly on 8 March, though could only finish 11th over 1600m on the PSF. Capable of better
- 14. AMERICANO** - Inconsistent but is a versatile colt with references at this level on both surfaces. Best watched for now, though, after finishing a modest 7th in a 1600m conditions race at Lyon-Parilly on 17 April

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15. SAANEN - Opened her account with a last-start victory over 2000m in a conditions race at Fontainebleau on 13 April. Ought to remain competitive under a 1kg penalty

16. LODOVICO - Recently joined Yoann Bonnefoy's stable but this race will probably be used as a gauge for his new trainer. Best watched for now after finishing 9th in a 2150m conditions race on PSF at Lyon-La Soie on 15 March

Summary: MELBORA (9) performed well and kept good company as a three-year-old, so is probably a lot better than her recent form suggests. With references on this track and over this distance which isn't likely to hold any fears, it could pay to side with her at generous odds. GOLDYWAY DE SAON (8), after a much-needed comeback outing, is capable of improving to fight for victory under Stéphane Pasquier, Both SAANEN (15), a winner last time out, and ALVALDI (12), whose handicap debut is best forgotten, are also capable of making their presence felt. STYLE D'EMIRS (13) and PANGAEA (10) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

MELBORA (9) - GOLDYWAY DE SAON (8) - SAANEN (15) - ALVALDI (12)

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**C5 - PRIX DE SEVRES - 1850m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Maiden Race - Flat - EUR
€ 27,000**

1. BASSETT BELLE - Didn't have the race run to suit but stayed on encouragingly to finish an improved 4th on her reappearance at this venue over 1600m on 18 April. On that evidence, the step up to this distance should serve her interests

2. ALMALY - Very unlucky during her first steps at Chantilly (5th), she looks formidable. First chance.

3. MY DESERT QUEEN - Soundly beaten (10th) on debut at Leicester last year but has improved in two starts on French soil - finished 6th over 1800m at Fontainebleau on 13 April. More needed

4. ALYAQUT - Caught the eye on debut when staying on well to finish 5th over 1600m at Saint-Cloud on 19 April. Not one to be underestimated

5. MONBE - Confirmed the promise of her debut 5th by improving to finish 3rd over 1600m at Saint-Cloud on 1 April. Will have more to offer

6. WITH STARS - Revealed considerable promise by finishing 3rd on debut last year and would've come on appreciably with the benefit of a much-needed comeback outing (7th) at Chantilly over 2000m on 30 March. Keep safe

7. SPERA - Improving with every outing and confirmed as much by finishing 2nd over 2000m at Le Lion-d'Angers on 7 April. Dark horse

8. COSMIC FRONT - Clément Lecoeuvre rides this Siyouni debutante trained by Henri-François Devin. Should not be underestimated

Summary: ALMALY (2) didn't go unnoticed on debut at Chantilly as she would probably have achieved a better finishing position had she found clear running room in the latter stages. She is obviously better than that 5th suggests and is likely to have improved with the benefit of that experience, so she could be worth siding with here ahead of BASSETT BELLE (1), who stayed on well to finish an improved 4th over a shorter distance on her reappearance and should appreciate the step up to this trip. WITH STARS (6), with full blinkers fitted for the first time, and ALYAQUT (4), who caught the eye with an encouraging debut 5th, complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

ALMALY (2) - BASSETT BELLE (1) - WITH STARS (6) - ALYAQUT (4)

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**C6 - PRIX D'HEDOUVILLE - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR
€ 80,000**

1. GOLIATH - Runner-up to GALASHIELS (4) in the Listed Prix Lord Seymour over this course and distance on his reappearance last month (14 April). Will pose a threat

2. REX OF THUNDER - Not disgraced in either outing on French soil last year, finishing 5th on both occasions - in a 2000m Group III at Deauville in August and over 2000m in a Listed race at Nancy on 17 September. Outsider

3. TRABUCO - Has looked better than ever recently by reeling off a hat-trick of Quinté+ successes, including consecutive 2000m wins at Saint-Cloud recently on heavy ground. Penalised 5kg for winning his latest on 1 April - dark horse

4. GALASHIELS - Course-and-distance winner of the Listed Prix Lord Seymour over course and distance on 14 April, when beating re-opposing rival GOLIATH (1). A progressive sort who is the one to beat

5. RASHFORD - Consistent performer who finished out of the first four for the first time in his career (10 starts) when only 5th over course and distance in the Listed Prix Lord Seymour on 14 April. Place chance

6. SHAKTI - Has revealed considerable ability by winning three of four starts, including her latest on heavy ground at Chantilly on her reappearance over 2400m on 30 March. Not taken lightly

Summary: GALASHIELS (4) was a good winner of the Listed Prix Lord Seymour over this course and distance last time, beating GOLIATH (1) by 2 lengths, and is good value to confirm his superiority in this Group III event. SHAKTI (6) has won three of four outings, including on her reappearance last time, and has already proven herself on rain-softened ground so ought to be competitive for the leading positions. TRABUCO (3) steps up in class after a hat-trick of Quinté victories but shouldn't be underestimated either.

SELECTIONS

GALASHIELS (4) - GOLIATH (1) - SHAKTI (6) - TRABUCO (3)

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C7 - SUPER HANDICAP DU PRINTEMPS - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 1 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 100,000

- 1. RUSSIPANT FAL** - A model of consistency who returned to winning ways in his second comeback appearance at Lyon-La Soie on the PSF over 1800m on 6 April. Ought to remain competitive under a 1kg penalty
- 2. ROCK BLANC** - Won back-to-back outings over 1900m on the PSF at Chantilly late last year, the latest on 22 December. Confirmed on turf and at this venue, so warrants respect on his return
- 3. PARTENIT** - Consistent veteran handicapper whose competitiveness at this level he has already proven on several occasions. Showed his form and well-being by finishing 2nd over 2000m at La Test on 23 March
- 4. AZKA** - Consistent performer with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 5th in an 1850m Listed race on his reappearance at this venue on 14 April. Winning chance
- 5. CASSIUS** - Returned to form with an encouraging 3rd on his reappearance over 1900m on PSF at Chantilly on 18 March. Keep safe
- 6. SPLENDINO** - Consistent, lightly raced colt with sound references, which include a creditable 4th and a Quinte+ victory in his 2 handicap appearances. Didn't go unnoticed when 5th in a 2150m Listed race at Cagnes on 25 February
- 7. BROUILLARD** - Honest veteran who showed he retains the zest for racing by winning a conditions race over 1800m at Chantilly on his reappearance last month (4 April). Has more to do here
- 8. SACRED SPIRIT** - A model of consistency last year and returned in similar form by finishing 2nd on his reappearance over 2400m on heavy ground at Chantilly on 30 March. Not taken lightly
- 9. MAGELLAN** - Versatile performer with sound references/form credentials on both surfaces, including a Quinte+ victory on turf two starts back and a subsequent 2nd in a 1900m Quinte+ on PSF at Deauville on 9 April. High on the shortlist
- 10. EVERILLO** - Unreliable but is capable performer with sound references in the handicaps, including a 2400m Quinte+ victory on this course. Didn't go unnoticed when 6th on his reappearance at Senonnes over 2100m on 14 April
- 11. VERITABLE** - Consistent performer in conditions and claiming races. Confirmed as much by winning a 2000m conditions event on heavy ground at Toulouse on 4 March

Summary: Competitive Class 1 handicap in which a speculative vote is given to AZKA (4), who particularly enjoys ParisLongchamp and reverts to the handicaps after two creditable performances in Listed races. MAGELLAN (9), whose competitiveness at this level is undeniable, represents a formidable jockey-trainer combination and is likely to fight for victory, as is PARTENIT (3) judging by the strength and the consistency of his recent form. Last-start winner RUSSIPANT FAL (1) ought to remain competitive under top weight, while the chances of SACRED SPIRIT (8) shouldn't be underestimated either.

SELECTIONS

AZKA (4) - MAGELLAN (9) - PARTENIT (3) - RUSSIPANT FAL (1)

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C8 - PRIX DE LA BRETONNIERE - 2200m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Maiden Race - Flat - EUR € 27,000

- 1. ZERAF A** - Revealed considerable promise on debut, finishing 3rd on this course over 2100m on 7 April - notably, ahead of VILLA CASTELLO (2) and STRASSIA (5). Keep safe
- 2. VILLA CASTELLO** - Was the subject of 'track talk' ahead of her debut but only finished 6th on that occasion over 2100m at this venue on 7 April. Ought to do better with that run under the belt
- 3. LILLY LUX** - Runner-up on debut over 1900m on PSF at Chantilly and confirmed that promise by finishing 4th over 2000m on the turf at that venue on 30 March. Dark horse
- 4. TRAV'LIN LIGHT** - Finished an encouraging 4th on debut over 2100m on heavy ground at this venue on 7 April. Should have more to offer
- 5. STRASSIA** - Stayed on encouragingly to finish 5th on debut over 2100m at this venue on 7 April - behind ZERAF A (1) and VILLA CASTELLO (2). Not taken lightly
- 6. AQUA AUGUSTA** - Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 3rd on debut over 1900m on PSF at Deauville on 5 November. One to keep an eye on
- 7. LATTAQUE** - Finished 8th of 12 on debut at Chantilly over 1600m on 28 March. Would have gained plenty from that experience
- 8. SOLITE** - Regally bred filly who caught the eye when finishing an unlucky 3rd on debut at Chantilly in September last year over 1600m. Open to significant improvement on her reappearance

Summary: Well-bred Dubawi filly SOLITE (8), who is out of champion Plumania, makes her eagerly anticipated reappearance having caught the eye on debut last year and, with improvement expected on her return, it should pay to follow her progress. VILLA CASTELLO (2) didn't perform as was probably expected in her introduction but she would only have benefitted from that experience, so can pose a threat. She did, however, finish behind ZERAF A (1) that day, which makes the dangerous to discount. STRASSIA (5) is closely matched on that form so could get into the picture too.

SELECTIONS

SOLITE (8) - VILLA CASTELLO (2) - ZERAF A (1) - STRASSIA (5)

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C9 - PRIX DU PASSAGE DES PRINCES - 2100m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 21,000

- 1. MISS WHITE SOCKS** - Fair form is shown so far and was 5th last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 2000m on 13 April. First time in a handicap and can go close to winning
- 2. NO BARRIER** - Yet to win a race and has struggled in handicaps but was third last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1800m on 2 April. Can contest the finish again
- 3. GUITRY** - On a long losing run and was tenth last time out in a handicap at this track over 2150m on 25 April. Capable of contesting the finish
- 4. RECOLETA** - Disappointing last run when well beaten in a handicap at Compiègne over 2400m on 10 March. Only win was at this course and could earn some money
- 5. LIGHT UP THE MOON** - Disappointing last run when well beaten in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 2000m on 13 April. Others are preferred on handicap debut
- 6. PRINCESS KARA** - Disappointing first run in a handicap when 9th at Le Mans over 2300m on 24 October. Capable of improvement but is likely to need this run returning from a break
- 7. KINDY BERE** - Proved in need of her only run of this year when tenth in a handicap at Saint-Cloud over 2400m on 12 April. Should be fitter this time and has a place chance
- 8. PETIT CHOSE** - Showed some improvement when fourth last time out in a handicap at Saint-Cloud over 2400m on 12 April. Can do even better this time so deserves respect
- 9. BELLE** - Disappointing form of late and was 5th last time out in a handicap at Saint-Cloud over 2400m on 12 April. Could play a minor role
- 10. DANSEUSE CELEBRE** - Battling to get a second win but was fourth last time out in a handicap at Deauville over 2400m on 1900m on 9 April. Should contest the finish again
- 11. VENICE WAY** - Yet to win a race and was 12th last time out in a handicap at this course over 2800m on 28 April. More is needed to win this race
- 12. CELTIC JABAAR** - Showed some improvement in his final start of last year when fourth in a Conditions race at Saint-Jean-de-Monts over 3100m on 20 August. Likely to need this run

Summary: NO BARRIER (2) and MISS WHITE SOCKS (1) are consistent performers who seem well on their way to making a mark in the handicaps and could find themselves fighting for victory. GUITRY (3), whose latest outing in a competitive fillies' handicap is better than it reads, and PETIT CHOSE (8), who represents the formidable Jérôme Reynier outfit, are also candidates for success.

SELECTIONS

NO BARRIER (2) - MISS WHITE SOCKS (1) - GUITRY (3) - PETIT CHOSE (8)

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C10 - PRIX DE LA GRANGE AUX BELLES - 1800m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Class 3 Race - Flat - EUR € 20,000

1. SOKNA - Won a handicap over this distance at Fontainebleau in her penultimate start and proved her competitiveness off this mark (under a 2,5kg penalty) by finishing a creditable 5th in a 1600m handicap at Lyon-Parilly on 20 April

2. GRAND ANGEL - Improving filly who finished 2nd on this course over 1850m on her handicap debut on 14 April. Not taken lightly

3. COUPE D'EUROPE - Has improved to finish on the podium in both outings this year in stronger races/fields - finished 2nd over 2150m at Cagnes in January and an encouraging 3rd over 2000m at Marseille-Borely on 20 March. Winning chance

4. ES XARCU - Consistent filly with sound references/form credentials, which include finishing 3rd and 4th twice each. Didn't go unnoticed when 4th in her first start on turf over 2100m at Toulouse on 8 April - rider's 1,5kg allowance will help

5. RUBY IN THE ROCKS - Experienced filly with references at this level and in both handicaps and claimers. Finished 4th in a handicap over 1850m at this venue on 14 April behind GRAND ANGEL (2) - dangerous to discount with her rider's 1,5kg allowance

Summary: COUPE D'EUROPE (3) and ES XARCU (4) are, as the joint top-rated runners in the race, ideally engaged under the conditions so should find themselves fighting for victory. Improving GRAND ANGEL (2), who was only narrowly beaten on her handicap debut on this track recently, and consistent RUBY IN THE ROCKS (5), with the benefit of her rider's 1,5kg allowance, are also capable of posing a threat.

SELECTIONS

COUPE D'EUROPE (3) - ES XARCU (4) - GRAND ANGEL (2) - RUBY IN THE ROCKS (5)