

SUNDAY, 01/09/24

R1 Longchamp [R-H]

**C1 - PRIX D'ARENBERG - 1000m (a5f) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR €
80,000**

1. TREASURE ISLE - Inconsistent but capable colt. Finished a reassuring 4th in a 1250m Curragh Group III on 21 July before winning a 1000m Listed race at that venue on 17 August. Supplemented

2. AESTERIUS - Speedy sort with solid form references/credentials, including a 5th in the Group II Norfolk Stakes and last-start 2nd in the Group III Molecomb Stakes over 1000m at Goodwood on 31 July. Will play a leading role

3. KAADI - Runner-up to ENGLEMERE (6) in a 1000m Listed race at Newbury on 16 August. Has a legitimate money chance

4. LA SAMANA - Consistent filly with sound references/form credentials, including 2 wins in as many starts over 1000m. Improved in first-time headgear (retained here) to win a 1000m Listed race at Deauville on 3 August

5. MISS LAMAI - Finished 2nd in a 1000m Listed race at York and 4th in the Group II Queen Mary Stakes over 1000m at Royal Ascot. Latest (6th) in a 1200m Group II at York on 22 August

6. ENGLEMERE - Has only once finished worse than 2nd in 6 starts, finishing 2nd twice and winning 3 times - including her last start in a 1000m Listed race at Newbury on 16 August

Summary: Speedy AESTERIUS (2) sets a good standard on the strength and consistency of his form in 1000m Group races and looks good value to reconnect with success in this Group III opening event. Top-rated TREASURE ISLE (1) was supplemented for this after winning a Listed race last time so also features high on the shortlist. LA SAMANA (4), a 1000m specialist, and last-start Listed winner ENGLEMERE (6) are legitimate contenders for a podium berth. Good race!

SELECTIONS

AESTERIUS (2) - TREASURE ISLE (1) - LA SAMANA (4) - ENGLEMERE (6)

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C2 - DARLEY PRIX JOUBERT - 2800m (a2m) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat - EUR € 55,000

- 1. LUNA ROCK** - Consistent performer in conditions races up to 2400m. Finished 6th in a 2000m Listed race at Vichy on 18 July but could fare better over this extended trip
- 2. GOLDEN BELLE** - Unbeaten and unexposed filly. Confirmed the promise of her debut win at Saint-Cloud by following up at Dieppe on 23 July - both races over 2400m
- 3. EARENDEL** - Finished 5th of 7 runners in a 2000m Listed race at ParisLongchamp on 9 June and improved stepping up to 2400m to finish 2nd at Dieppe on 23 July. Remains open to further improvement
- 4. PANTHERA** - Improved stepped up to 2400m to open her account in her first start on French soil at Clairefontaine on 2 August. Has more to do at this level but could make further progress over this extended distance
- 5. MOTHER NATURE** - Well-bred, maturing Justify filly closely related to champions Minding and Tuesday. Runner-up in a Cork Group III over 2400m on 16 August and should have more to offer stretching out to this distance
- 6. LILY HART** - Game frontrunner with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 3rd in a 2400m Group III at Cork on 16 August. Keep safe
- 7. LE COMBAT CONTINUE** - Consistent performer with solid form references/credentials. Has finished on the podium in all 6 outings this year, winning twice and finishing 2nd three times - including in her last start, a 2500m Group III at Deauville (11 August)
- 8. LADY DORIS** - Wasn't beaten far when finishing 5th of 8 in a 2800m Listed race at Leopardstown on 22 August. Dark horse
- 9. FAIRY GLEN** - Progressive filly. Stayed on to finish 3rd in a 2400m Listed race at Newmarket on 3 August and could have more to give over the extra 400m
- 10. MAY IT BE** - Didn't go unnoticed when staying on to finish 5th of 9 runners in a 2400m Listed race at Vichy on 15 July. Not taken lightly
- 11. COMIC BOOK** - Consistent filly with sound form references, including a last start 4th in a 2500m Group III at Deauville on 11 August

Summary: Maturing, well-bred MOTHER NATURE (5) has the profile to thrive over these staying/marathon distances. She finished ahead of stable companion LILY HART (6) in a 2400m Group III at Cork last time out and should confirm her superiority over this extended trip, which is likely to unlock further improvement from the daughter of Justify. Progressive FAIRY GLEN (9), judged on the strength and consistency of her form, is another candidate for success. She confirmed her competitiveness at this level by finishing 3rd in a 2400m Listed race at Newmarket last month. LE COMBAT CONTINUE (7) is another improving sort that shouldn't be underestimated.

SELECTIONS

MOTHER NATURE (5) - LILY HART (6) - FAIRY GLEN (9) - LE COMBAT CONTINUE (7)

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C3 - PRIX DE LA REINE MARGUERITE - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Class 2 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 53,000

- 1. KLIFF BERE** - Won a 2300m Quinté+ at Angers on a sticky track in May and confirmed his competitiveness under a resultant 4kg penalty by finishing 3rd over 2400m in a Class 2 conditions race at Saint-Cloud on 21 June. Hasn't been seen since
- 2. CASSIUS** - Showed promise last year but has disappointed in 2024 - dropped in the weights/ratings as a result (5kg). Soundly beaten in back-to-back Quinté+ races recently, the latest (15th) on PSF over 1900m at Deauville on 28 July
- 3. DIRE LA VERITE** - Promising as a three-year-old but has failed to confirm/fulfill his potential in 2024. Runner-up in a 2000m Class 3 conditions race at Aix-les-Bains on 14 July and has been dropped 2kg for his handicap/Quinté+ debut
- 4. GET SET** - Won a 2000m Quinté+ at La Teste in July but finished unplaced (10th) under a resultant 3kg penalty in a 2000m Quinté at Deauville on 10 August. Could fare better with Maxime Guyon in the irons now
- 5. MOONWALK STEP** - Well-performed veteran with sound references at this level although was well-beaten (7th) when returning from a 4-month absence over 2300m at Pompadour on 18 August. Others preferred
- 6. SANTURIN** - Has finished a respectable 7th in consecutive outings at this level - the latest over 2500m at Deauville on 1 August. More of a place chance than a winning one off his current mark
- 7. MYKISS** - Won a course-and-distance Quinté+ with great authority on 13 June and has remained consistent/competitive in 3 subsequent outings under a resultant 3kg penalty. Showed his form by finishing over 2400m at Vittel on 12 August
- 8. CIRCEO** - A model of consistency with sound references/form credentials, which includes 2 appearances at this level. Will be equipped with headgear for the first time after finishing 6th in a 2500m Quinté at Deauville on 1 August - beware
- 9. ROBINIE** - Has finished 4th in consecutive outings at this level - the latest over 2500m at Deauville on 1 August - confirming her competitiveness in this grade off her current mark. Not taken lightly
- 10. PROLETARIUS** - Unplaced in consecutive outings (8th in both) on French soil before sparking improvement to finish 4th over 2400m at Clairefontaine on 16 August. Dangerous to discount off this mark in his first handicap on French soil
- 11. PENTAOUR** - Won a 2200m conditions race at Dieppe on 29 May and followed up with another victory under a 1kg penalty over 2400m on this course in mid-June. Hasn't been seen since and carries a further 2,5kg penalty on his reappearance
- 12. I'M A BELIEVER** - Rediscovered his form and consistency dropped in the ratings to his current mark - confirmed as much by finishing 2nd in a Compiègne claimer in July and 4th in a 2000m Quinté+ at Deauville on 10 August. Candidate for success
- 13. UTAMARO** - Consistent performer with proven references in this category, albeit over further (staying/marathon distances) and on softer ground than he'll encounter here. Didn't go unnoticed when 6th in a 2800m Quinté+ at Vichy on 18 July

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14. COMBERMERE - Honest veteran who has appreciated racing beyond 2000m recently, winning back-to-back starts over 2400m and 2500m - the latest over that longer trip at Deauville in a handicap on 1 August. Carries a 3kg penalty for that victory

15. MATAURI GOLD - Well-beaten 13th in a 2400m Quinté+ at Compiègne before finishing unplaced (7th) again in a 2200m Quinté+ for females at Dieppe on 23 July. For another day

16. STORM CITY - Consistent, lightly raced hard-knocker with sound references/form credentials - including a 4th in the Handicap de la Fête Nationale, a Quinté over 1800m at Chantilly on 14 July. Dangerous under bottom weight

Summary: MYKISS (7) won a course-and-distance Quinté+ on 13 June in good style and, even off his current mark (2,5kg higher), looks good value to make a winning return to the handicaps with Mickaël Barzalona a notable jockey engagement. I'M A BELIEVER (12) has regained his form and momentum recently, and he could fight for victory on the evidence of his last-start 4th in a 2000m Quinté+ at Deauville. Both ROBINIE (9), who has proven her competitiveness at this level off her current mark, and versatile STORM CITY (16), especially if judged on his 4th in a Quinté+ over 1800m at Chantilly in July, also have the means to play leading roles. Consistent CIRCEO (8), the enigmatic GET SET (4), and CASSIUS (2), who has dropped to a dangerous mark in the ratings, are others to consider.

SELECTIONS

MYKISS (7) - I'M A BELIEVER (12) - ROBINIE (9) - STORM CITY (16)

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C4 - PRIX DE LIANCOURT - 2100m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat - EUR € 55,000

1. SELEMIAH - Progressive last-start winner. Finished 3rd in consecutive outings over 2400m and 2nd over 2200m before opening her account with a wide-margin victory over 2000m at Deauville on 13 August - more to come

2. SOME SKYE - Consistent filly (7-start) with sound references/form credentials, albeit without success. Finished 4th in an Arqana Series (Class 1 sales race) over 2000m at Deauville on 15 August - not taken lightly

3. ROCK'N SWING - Unplaced in both attempts at Group I level but got her career back on track with an improved/encouraging 3rd in a 2000m Group III event at Deauville on 28 July. Candidate for success

4. GRAND STARS - Rapidly improving filly. Finished 4th on debut over 2100m at Chantilly in April but has made considerable progress after a 3-month break to win both subsequent outings, the latest over 2000m at La Teste on 6 August

5. SHIFFRIN - Promising filly as a two-year-old but has lost her way this term, finishing unplaced in all 3 appearances - the latest (9th) in a 2000m Listed race at Deauville on 11 August

6. HIGHER LEAVES - Wasn't beaten far when finishing 8th of 12 runners in Group II Ribblesdale Stakes over 2400m at Ascot on 20 June. Dark horse

7. BUBBLE GUM - Has blotted her copybook in consecutive outings at the highest level although didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th of 14 in the Group I Prix de Diane over this distance at Chantilly on 16 June. Keep safe

8. HAPPY SAXON - Improving, unexposed filly with untapped potential. Made a winning seasonal reappearance over 2000m in May at Chantilly and confirmed her undeniable promise by finishing 2nd on this course in a 2000m Listed race on 9 June

9. WITH STARS - Consistent performer in conditions races up to 1800m but hasn't looked as effective in either outing, including her latest (4th at Deauville on 6 August), over 2000m. Improvement needed going 2100m now

Summary: ROCK'N SWING (3) was unsuccessful in back-to-back starts in Group I races but showed she retains considerable ability by finishing 3rd in a Group III event last time. She will be hard to beat with a repeat of that performance in this Listed contest. Improving SELEMIAH (1) and class-dropper BUBBLE GUM (7) seem best equipped to challenge the selection for race honours, with HAPPY SAXON (8) and SOME SKYE (2) others with podium aspirations.

SELECTIONS

ROCK'N SWING (3) - SELEMIAH (1) - BUBBLE GUM (7) - HAPPY SAXON (8)

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C5 - PRIX DE LA COCHERE - FONDS EUROPEEN DE L'ELEVAGE - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Listed Race - Flat - EUR € 52,000

- 1. ATAKAMA** - Her only win was last year but she was not disgraced when fourth last time out in a handicap at Deauville over 1600m on 4 August. Could earn some more money
- 2. SIRONA** - Has not been at her best of late and was 6th last time out in a GR.3. at Ascot over 1600m on 27 July. Capable of better and has a winning chance
- 3. MOUNTAIN SONG** - Very consistent and was third in a Listed race at Berlin last time out over 1800m on 11 August. Can contest the finish again
- 4. ZVAROSHKA** - Very consistent of late and was runner-up for the fourth time in a row last time out in a handicap at Deauville over this distance on 4 August. Be right there at the finish once again
- 5. BEAUTIFUL ASPEN** - Continues to improve and was a winner last time out in a handicap at Deauville over 1900m on 28 July. Could be the surprise package of the race
- 6. SECRETIVE** - Unreliable this year but was runner-up last time out in a Listed race at Deauville over this distance on 7 July. Has a place chance
- 7. LOVE RUSH** - Did not show her best when 9th last time out in a Listed race at La Teste-de-Buch over this distance on 21 July. Capable of better and can bounce back to score
- 8. STOP THE CAVALRY** - A winner of two of her four starts but was 7th last time out in a GR.2. at Goodwood over 1400m on 31 July. Deserves some respect in this line-up

Summary: LOVE RUSH (7) failed to fire last time in a Listed race which probably came too soon for her - just 7 days after finishing 3rd in a Group III event at Chantilly. On the evidence of her previous start and the strength of that form, she should make amends and bounce back to winning ways. SIRONA (2) has the undeniable means to fight for victory but continues to blow hot and cold. She can't be taken lightly. Consistent MOUNTAIN SONG (3), hard-to-win-with ZVAROSHKA (4), who has finished 2nd in 4 consecutive outings, and the enigmatic SECRETIVE (6) are competitive for the minor places.

SELECTIONS

LOVE RUSH (7) - SIRONA (2) - MOUNTAIN SONG (3) - ZVAROSHKA (4)

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C6 - PRIX GERALD DE GEOFFRE (PRIX DE LUTECE) - 3000m (a2m) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR € 80,000

- 1. SHAMARKAND** - Hot form, won at Vichy over 2400m last time in Listed class and is confidently selected to follow up despite the rise in trip. Leading chance
- 2. KALET** - Won on debut, holding form since and finished 2nd over 3000m at Deauville in a Listed field on the 3rd of August. A must for everything
- 3. CHARTWELL** - Others should be way too strong in this field for the win but can certainly run a fair race. Outside place chance
- 4. COLUMBUS** - Boasts a recent win at Deauville over 3000m in a Listed Race and should go very close here. Strong each way chance
- 5. HAMAVI** - Showed them a clean pair of heels when winning in Listed class at Clairefontaine over 2400m on the 27th of July. Big chance

Summary: SHAMARKAND (1) for the Aga Khan is clearly a quality horse in the making. He has won his last two impressively and the most recent being at Listed level. Strong first pick on his first attempt over this trip. HAMAVI (5) has already notched up two Listed victories in only five starts. His last win came at Clairefontaine, and he is, also, clearly progressive and special. COLUMBUS (4) boasts good juvenile form and looks set for bigger and better things in the future. He is a huge runner. KALET (2) can never be dismissed from any bets.

SELECTIONS

SHAMARKAND (1) - HAMAVI (5) - COLUMBUS (4) - KALET (2)

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C7 - PRIX DE MADRID - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 27,000

- 1. FLATTEN THE CURVE** - Finished 7th over 3200m in a Handicap at Deauville on the 20th of August and can be expected to get much, much closer now. Chance
- 2. CHEEK TO CHEEK** - Ignore last run when downfield in 12th at Deauville over 2500m in a Handicap. Strong chance on earlier form
- 3. RODAINAH** - Placed 2nd over 2400m at Parislongchamp three runs back and a repeat of that effort puts her in with a bright chance
- 4. DREAMS** - Ridden by Antonio Orani, finished 6th over 3200m in a Handicap at Deauville on the 20th of August and should be competitive. Place chance
- 5. HOLLYWOOD AFRICANS** - Should be right there at the finish. Placed 4th at Deauville over 2500m on the 10th of August. Good chance and a must for all bets
- 6. SAPRISTI** - Boasts a recent victory at Clairefontaine over 2400m in a Handicap and would be no shock if following up. Good each way claims
- 7. QUALIAND** - Ran well when finishing 3rd over 2500m at Deauville last time out and can get much closer now. Firm first choice
- 8. SIGRUNE** - Hard to fancy on current form when finishing 9th and 10th respectively. Happy to pass by for all bets. Unlikely
- 9. SWISS MONEY** - Ignore last run, finished 3rd at Newmarket England before that over 2800m. Hard to assess but could be the value for the minor positions
- 10. YES ZARA** - Placed an attractive 3rd over 2400m at Vittel on the 12th of August and has an undeniable place chance again. First four chance
- 11. SITUMELEDEMANDAIS** - Was 3rd three runs back but form thereafter has been on the decline which makes him tough to fancy. Happy to ignore
- 12. GOLDYWAY DE SAON** - Will need to serve up plenty more than latest 8th placing at Parislongchamp. would be a shock winner. No
- 13. SOULOU MALPIC** - Won his last start over 2400m which was at Lion D'Angers on the 9th of August but against slightly weaker. Prefer others for the win. Pass by
- 14. SAAM** - Won at Chateaubriant over 2650m in mid August but against slightly weaker. Prefer others today and can be ignored from all bets

Summary: QUALIAND (7) has won once before and is in mustard form currently. He rates the one they all have to fear the most. FLATTEN THE CURVE (1) can be expected to do way better than he has been in his last few starts and rates a bright chance. RODAINAH (3) ran a huge race three starts back and based on that, can feature at the finish. His last run when 10th at Dieppe was too bad to be true. CHEEK TO CHEEK (2) has a first four chance.

SELECTIONS

QUALIAND (7) - FLATTEN THE CURVE (1) - RODAINAH (3) - CHEEK TO CHEEK (2)

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C8 - PRIX DU LAC - 2500m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 21,000

- 1. MADGIC'M** - Lightly raced and might have plenty more to come. Placed 2nd over 2500m at Saint-Malo in early August. Fair each way claims
- 2. AMARENA DODVILLE** - Showing that she could be a fair filly in the making. Placed 4th over 2200m in a Handicap at Clairefontaine on the 16th of August. One to take seriously
- 3. TENYEARSATER** - Was a winner of a weak claiming race last time at Vichy and will find this a touch tougher. Small win chance but a big place one. Chance
- 4. BEST OFFER** - Will need to progress on latest 7th finish at Deauville over 1900m in Handicap class for the win here. Could lurk into the back end of the quartet
- 5. FEE DU VIVIEN** - Is a tad erratic and therefore difficult to predict how she will perform. Ignore last run, chance on penultimate when 2nd at Vittel
- 6. LEGEND RACE** - Was a winner three races back over 2400m at Lyon Parilly but efforts thereafter need improving on. Pass by
- 7. PASSAGE MESLAY** - In mustard form, ran a cracker last time when 2nd over 2100m in a Handicap and could easily go one more today. Bright chance
- 8. BIRDSONG** - Her victory is near, finished 3rd last time over 2200m at Clairefontaine in a Handicap on the 31st of July. She could be tough to get past today. Win
- 9. LORD MIESQUE** - Finished 7th over 2400m in a Handicap at Vichy and will need to do way more than that for the win. Unlikely
- 10. ROYAL SOPRANO** - Excellent effort when 2nd over 2200m at Clairefontaine in a competitive Handicap and can go one more. Great chance
- 11. LEXOVIENNE** - Is hard to fancy on current form and as a result would be a shock winner. Prefer others. Pass by. No
- 12. SAUVIAC** - Taking a long time for the win, finished 3rd over 3000m last time and is an outsider with a small place chance
- 13. CARNIVAL QUEEN** - Fresh off a solid win at Dieppe over 2200m and it would come as no surprise if she were to follow up. Respect and include
- 14. LADYSHOW** - Long time, professional maiden and has a lot to find for the winner's prize. Prefer others and happy to ignore

Summary: BIRDSONG (8) has placed four times from five starts and looks cherry ripe for the win. Her last run was at Clairefontaine in a solid Handicap. Warm first choice. ROYAL SOPRANO (10) showed last time when an encouraging 2nd at Clairefontaine over 2200m, that the victory is near. Big runner. CARNIVAL QUEEN (13) is a filly that will be coming into the race with winning confidence. She can follow up. PASSAGE MESLAY (7) is holding form and can fight out the finish. Strong chance and a must for all bets.

SELECTIONS

BIRDSONG (8) - ROYAL SOPRANO (10) - CARNIVAL QUEEN (13) - PASSAGE MESLAY

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C9 - PRIX DE PONTHEIU - 2500m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 19,000

1. RUM TUM TUGGER - Is a tad erratic and difficult to predict but on very best form, can run a place. Finished 7th over 2200m at Dieppe last time out. Could be the value for the places

2. SOLTANA BELIEVE - Boasts attractive overall efforts and should get it all right soon. Finished 3rd over 2400m at Vichy in a claiming race and can be expected to be very competitive. Good chance

3. CARDINALE - Boasts consistent maiden form and has a bright winning chance. Placed 3rd over 2400m at Vittel in a Handicap on the 25th of July. Big danger. Include in all bets

4. APOPTHEGME - Much better effort when 3rd at Vittel on the 18th of August over 2400m and with confirmation and progression on that, can go close. Good chance

5. PRINCE SHALAA - Placed 4th over 1600m at Pompadour and has fair overall place form to recommend. Was a winner five starts back and can place here

6. L'AGORA GAME - Was a winner on the 12th of August at Brehal over 2300m and it would come as no shock at all if she were to follow up. Good each way claims

7. MY FROG - Lightly raced, starting to improve but against much weaker. Can build on recent 4th over 3100m at St-Jean De Mont, but will need to for the win

8. BULLANT - Finished 5th over 2200m at Dieppe in August, is lightly raced and might still be able to progress. Can run into the first four

9. CORALBA - Ignore last run, was 4th before that over 1800m in a Handicap at Clairefontaine but far prefer others and would be a surprise winner. No

10. BIMBO - Last run was a huge disappointment and brings not much confidence into the race. Pass by

11. SHALAA DANCER - Looks ready for the victory, finished 4th over 2400m at Vichy in a Handicap on the 19th of August and is the firm first suggestion. Win

12. BAHIA WARANA - Showed some spark last time when finishing 5th over 2400m at Vittel but much more needed for the win. Is an outsider and can be passed by

13. LINFOLD LADY - She seems to be battling to get into form and finished way back in 13th last time over 1900m in a Handicap. Hard to make a case for. Pass by

Summary: SHALAA DANCER (11) gets the services of a top rider and looks ready to get it all right this time. Last effort was good at Vichy when 4th over 2400m in a Handicap. CARDINALE (3) is making us wait for the maiden win, but it should come soon. He is running well and currently never far off the winners. Big chance. SOLTANA BELIEVE (2) has a strong place chance and must be factored into all bets. Can win. L'AGORA GAME (6) won last time over 2300m at Brehal and can do so again.

SELECTIONS

SHALAA DANCER (11) - CARDINALE (3) - SOLTANA BELIEVE (2) - L'AGORA GAME (6)