

FRIDAY, 05/04/24

R4 SAINT-CLOUD [L-H]

**C1 - PRIX TOURBILLON - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 1 Race - Flat -
EUR € 35,000**

1. SAINT AQUILIN - Built on the encouragement of his comeback 4th at Cagnes to win over 2100m on heavy ground at Toulouse on 4 March. Will be a factor

2. GRECIAN STORM - Progressive Churchill colt whose promising debut 3rd was confirmed with consecutive victories, the latest at Angers on 30 September over 2000m. Trainer won the only race he took part in at Saint-Cloud this year

3. BOLIDE PORTO - Consistent performer with references on the turf and PSF, including a pleasing (5th) seasonal reappearance at Chantilly on PSF over 1800m on 9 February

4. ALFRED - Performed consistently on turf and PSF in England last year and finished an encouraging 2nd on his seasonal reappearance over 2000m on PSF at Lingfield on 26 January. Respected in his first start on French soil

Summary: Group I Prix du Jockey Club entry GRECIAN STORM (2) is a progressive colt who revealed serious means in three starts last year as a two-year-old, winning consecutive outings after a promising debut 3rd, so it could pay to follow his progress on his comeback. Last-start winner SAINT AQUILIN (1) showed his efficiency on heavy ground at Toulouse and is likely to lead the opposition, ahead of BOLIDE PORTO (3) who has the form and experience to make his presence felt.

SELECTIONS

GRECIAN STORM (2) - SAINT AQUILIN (1) - BOLIDE PORTO (3) - ALFRED (4)

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C2 - PRIX JEAN MASSARD (CHMPT PARIS TURF DES APP. & J. JOCK.) - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 4 Race - Flat - EUR € 16,000

1. KING OF MEADOWS - Inconsistent but is versatile and ran a better race than his finishing position (8th) in a 2000m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivauz on 14 March suggests. Has a role to play

2. REVENTADOR - Made no impression (12th) on his reappearance in a Quinte+ handicap on this course over 2400m on heavy ground on 16 March. Ought to fare better given this significant drop in class

3. BOLT OF THUNDER - Has won on this track but has achieved his better recent references on the all-weather surface. Finished 9th in a 3000m handicap here on very heavy ground on 12 March

4. AGOUREIL - Unreliable and, even at this level, is probably more effective on the PSF. Finished 10th in a 2000m handicap at Lyon-Parilly on 17 March

5. NAISHAN - Was in good form prior to his latest failure (11th) in a 2400m handicap on very heavy ground at this venue on 16 March. Finished 2nd at this level in his previous outing so remains capable of setting the record straight

Summary: NAISHAN (5) fluffed his lines when stretched out to 2400m on heavy ground in a handicap on this course last time but is, on the evidence of his previous outing (2nd in a 2200m claimer) at this level, good value to make amends reverting to this category. REVENTADOR (2), the highest-rated runner in the race, fits a similar profile having also blotted his copybook in a race at a higher level last time, and is capable of fighting for victory. KING OF MEADOWS (1) and BOLT OF THUNDER (3) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

NAISHAN (5) - REVENTADOR (2) - KING OF MEADOWS (1) - BOLT OF THUNDER (3)

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**C3 - PRIX BANASSA - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 3 Race - Flat - EUR
€ 23,000**

- 1. KIMINA** - Caught the eye when runner-up on this course on 21 March in a 2100m Quinte+ handicap on heavy ground. Keep safe
- 2. TIMETOSHINE** - Progressive last-start winner over 1900m on PSF at Deauville when last seen on 6 December. Open to further improvement back on turf for her reappearance
- 3. INDIAN GOLD** - Returned to winning ways when reverting to the turf on her reappearance (16 March) at Bordeaux on very heavy ground over 1900m. Should continue that momentum
- 4. JOLI CORBEAU** - Improving individual who won back-to-back outings last year, in Germany on turf over 2000m and on PSF at Lyon-Parilly over 1800m, before finishing 8th in a 1900m Quinte+ on PSF at Chantilly on 26 October. Beware
- 5. LEANDRA** - Consistent filly with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 5th on this course in a 2100m handicap on very ground on her reappearance (12 March). Ought to improve with the benefit of that outing
- 6. PINGO** - Out of sorts but seldom finishes far off the mark and has shown signs of improvement recently, dropping in the weights/ratings. Didn't go unnoticed when 6th in a 1800m Quinte+ handicap at Compiègne on 19 March
- 7. LORNE** - Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 9th in a 2400m Quinte+ handicap on very heavy ground at this venue on 16 March. Can do better at this level off of a slightly reduced mark
- 8. ADELIADÉ** - Bounced back to form in her first start for Nicolas Clément's stable, finishing 3rd in a 2100m handicap at this venue on very heavy ground on 12 March. Beat LEANDRA (5) that day and ought to confirm that form

Summary: INDIAN GOLD (3) made a winning reappearance on very heavy ground at Bordeaux-Le Bouscat last month and has here a good chance of following up. She will, however, have to thwart the likely challenge of ADELIADÉ (8), who showed promise under the tutelage of André Fabre last year and finished 3rd in her first start for Nicolas Clément recently. LEANDRA (5), confirmed on very heavy ground, and KIMINA (1), the lowest-rated runner in the race but finished 2nd in a recent Quinte+ on this course, also have the means to play a leading role.

SELECTIONS

INDIAN GOLD (3) - ADELIADÉ (8) - LEANDRA (5) - KIMINA (1)

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C4 - PRIX DE LESCAR - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 21,000

- 1. ADORABLE** - Finished a career-best 2nd in a 2500m claimer at Hyeres on 3 March. Can get into the picture if making more progress on handicap debut
- 2. HILLSBORO** - Unplaced in all 7 appearances but has competed in stronger races/fields. Reverts to the turf having finished 6th in a 2000m PSF conditions race at Marseille-Vivaux on 23 March
- 3. QUARTO GRADO** - Has regressed in her two starts after a pleasing (6th) debut over 1300m on PSF at Chantilly - finished 12th in an 1800m claimer at Compiegne on 19 March. Booking of Cristian Demuro on handicap debut is noteworthy
- 4. TEA LEAF** - Unplaced in consecutive outings on the PSF at Pornichet in December but not beaten far in either - was 7th over 1700m in the latest on 27 December.
- 5. NICASTRO** - A consistent 7-start maiden with sound references/form credentials in handicaps, including a last-start 3rd at Fontainebleau in an 1800m handicap on 15 March. Can open his account
- 6. AFRIQUE ADIEU** - Finished a disappointing 8th in a 2400m claimer at Compiegne on 19 March but did achieve his best finish on heavy ground in his previous outing (3rd) at Mchecoul over 2350m
- 7. BELHAD JELOIS** - Confirmed the promise of her debut 6th with a reassuring 4th on heavy ground over 2000m at Strasbourg on 22 March. Dark horse
- 8. PADDY WHITE HEART** - Improved to finish a career-best 3rd in a 2100m PSF claimer at Chantilly on 5 March. Confirmation required
- 9. LORD MIESQUE** - Has finished 4th in three consecutive recent appearances, twice in claimers (turf and PSF) and in a handicap at Lyon-Parilly over 2200m on 17 March. Outsider
- 10. ASKAYA** - Unplaced in each of her five outings but didn't go unnoticed on her reappearance (6th) over 1600m on this course on 16 March. Improvement needed
- 11. BAZIL** - Has made no impression in each of her four appearances, the latest (7th) over 1800m in a conditions race at Fontainebleau on 25 March. Others preferred

Summary: A wide-open handicap in which it could pay to side with NICASTRO (5) who has regained momentum with 2 pleasing comeback efforts, including an encouraging last-start 3rd that proved his competitiveness in this category off his current mark. However, both HILLSBORO (2) and TEA LEAF (4) are likely to pose a threat. The former has references at a higher level, while the latter will benefit from Marie Vélon's 1,5kg allowance. ADORABLE (1), who finished a career-best 2nd last time, and inconsistent AFRIQUE ADIEU (6), with Maxime Guyon engaged, are also competitive for the places. QUARTO GRADO (3) is unexposed so is another who deserves a mention.

SELECTIONS

NICASTRO (5) - HILLSBORO (2) - TEA LEAF (4) - ADORABLE (1)

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C5 - PRIX DE PAU - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 25,000

- 1. LIKING** - Second in a Claimer at this track over 1400m on the 12 of March. Claimed after his good second and can get the new owners off to a winning start
- 2. MERI LILOU** - A winner in a Conditions race at Le Croise-Laroche over 1800m on the 22 of March. The first attempt in a Handicap and should make a bold bid
- 3. DEMPY** - Was 5th in a Conditions race at Le Mans over 1950m on the 11 of March. It's the second run back from a break and is seldom far off them.
- 4. MEHLANGO** - Third in a Handicap at this track over 1600m on the 7 of March. A decent third in a Handicap and similar can be expected
- 5. WAR OF THE ROSES** - Fourth in a Handicap at Fontainebleau over 1800m on the 15 of March. A consistent sort and he can play a minor role
- 6. WHILAND** - Was 5th in a Handicap at Lyon-Parilly over 2200m on the 17 of March. After winning a Conditions race came fifth and at best can earn
- 7. CHANAZ** - A winner in a Claimer at Compiegne over 1800m on the 19 of March. Back in the Handicaps and has the potential to be involved
- 8. BE A LORD** - Second in a Handicap at Fontainebleau over 1800m on the 15 of March. A runner-up in three of the last four attempts.
- 9. IRTYCH** - Fourth on a Handicap at this track over 2100m on the 12 of March. The last three in Handicaps resulted in a fourth place and a similar run can be expected
- 10. DJOE** - Unplaced in a Conditions race at this track over 2400m on the 26 of March. Three unplaced attempts at this track
- 11. IRINKA** - Finished 5th in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1800m on the 25 of March. Yet to place and others are preferred

Summary: MERI LILOU (2) tries a handicap for the first time but won well last time out and could follow up. LIKING (1) ran well at this course in a Claimer last time out and could have more to offer. DEMPY (3) will be fitter after that last run and could be ready to contest the finish this time around. MEHLANGO (4) is threatening to win a handicap and is not out of it.

SELECTIONS

MERI LILOU (2) - LIKING (1) - DEMPY (3) - MEHLANGO (4)

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**C6 - PRIX MY LOVE - 1400m (a7f) - TURF - Class 3 Race - Flat - EUR €
19,000**

1. STRAKO - Finished 6th in a Handicap at Chantilly over 1600m on the 5 of March. A three-time winner from thirteen starts. Can contest the finish

2. PUERTO MADERO - Third in a Handicap at Fontainebleau over 1600m on the 2 of March. Is seldom far off them and can fight for a podium spot

3. FAMOSO - Was 6th in a Conditions race at Bordeaux-Le-Bouscat over 1900m on the 16 of March. Performed well in 2023 and this will be the second run back. Can go close

4. ISEULT - A winner in a Handicap at this track over 1300m on the 24 of November. Probably will need the run but can't be ruled out.

5. JACK O'BOY - Was 9th in a Conditions race at Chantilly over 1600m on the 30 of December. Performs well at this track and should not be ignored

6. POLITE - Finished 8th in a Conditions race at Deauville over 1400m on the 6 of January. Probably needed the last start and can improve significantly

7. ALEXEJ - Second in a Handicap at Chantilly over 1600m on the 7 of March 2023. Consistent sort and can play a minor role

8. TRUE ROMANCE - Was 8th in a Handicap at Cagnes-sur-Mer over 1300m on the 25 of February. Disappointing last effort and will have to improve on that

9. KERNO QUATZ - Fourth in a Claimer at this track over 1400m on the 16 of March. Deserves to be respected and can be involved in the finish

10. AVRILOMANOIR - Was 7th in a Handicap at Fontainebleau over 1200m on the 25 of March. Third run back and will be fitter this time

11. LUNALA - Was 5th in a Claimer at Deauville over 1300m on the 29 of December. Might need the run back

Summary: FAMOSO (3) will strip fitter from the last run and it will not be a surprise if he were to win a race like this. KERNO QUATZ (9) was not disgraced when fourth in a claimer last time out and could do even better this time. STRAKO (1) knows how to win and should contest the finish. PUERTO MADERO (2) is never too far away and was third in a handicap last time out so deserves some respect.

SELECTIONS

FAMOSO (3) - KERNO QUATZ (9) - STRAKO (1) - PUERTO MADERO (2)

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**C7 - PRIX CARVIN - 1400m (a7f) - TURF - Maiden Race - Flat - EUR €
18,000**

- 1. CELTIC ARYAAN** - Has not shown much of late and was 7th last time out in a Conditions race at Saint-Brieuc over 1700m on 1 October. Others are much preferred
- 2. ARFAN** - Did not show much on debut on the PSF but did improve last time out when third in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1600m on 15 March. Big chance in this line-up
- 3. DRUIDE** - Unreliable but did run well when runner-up last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1600m on 15 March. Be right there at the finish once again
- 4. BENNY BEN** - Well beaten in both starts including when 12th last time out in a Conditions race at Chantilly over 1400m on 24 February. Can improve trying the turf
- 5. ZENIGATA** - Disappointing form of late and was 9th in a claimer last time out at Le Croisé-Laroche over 1100m on 22 March. Others are preferred
- 6. VERDANSK** - Yet to win and was third last time out in a Conditions race at Wolverhampton over 1440m on 30 December. Can finish in the money once again
- 7. COCKTAIL PRINCE** - Has some fair form and was 5th last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 2000m on 25 March. Can make the frame
- 8. SON GUAL** - Unreliable and was 6th last time out at München-Riem over 1600m on 5 November. Needs to improve after returning from a break
- 9. CALIFORNIAGOLDRUSH** - Showed some improvement when fourth in a Conditions race at Mons over 1500m on 25 March. More needed to beat these rivals
- 10. INTEMPORELLE** - Disappointing last run when 6th in a Conditions race at Compiègne over 1800m on 10 March. More is needed to win this race
- 11. ZANONA** - Has some fair form and was fourth last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 1600m on 15 March. Not out of
- 12. LUDDEN LASS** - Very consistent and was third last time out in a Conditions race at Nimes over 1900m on 24 March. Can contest the finish again
- 13. RAMREE** - Modest form and was 6th last time out in a Conditions race at Vichy over 2400m on 20 July. Likely to need this run returning from a break

Summary: The top three selections had not much distance between them when meeting last time out. ARFAN (2) made the most improvement when third that day so could have the measure of his rival DRUIDE (3) who was ahead of him. DRUIDE (3) is unreliable but should fight out the finish again. ZANONA (11) is consistent and has scope for improvement so deserves respect. LUDDEN LASS (12) is consistent and should not be too far away at the finish.

SELECTIONS

ARFAN (2) - DRUIDE (3) - ZANONA (11) - LUDDEN LASS (12)

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C8 - PRIX DU CHATEAU PELICAN - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 22,000

- 1. ASPEN** - Returned to form when winning a handicap at Toulouse over this distance on the 20 March. Carries a 2kg penalty but is not out of it
- 2. YAVAIKA** - Yet to win and was 5th last time out in a handicap at Fontainebleau over 2000m on 6 March. Capable of making the frame
- 3. DAY OFF** - On a long losing run and was 7th last time out in a handicap at Compiègne over this distance on 10 March. Might play a minor role
- 4. KARIOITAHU** - Unreliable but was runner-up last time out in a Conditions race at Fontainebleau over 2200m on 15 March. Place chance
- 5. SPATIAL MERIT** - Disappointing last run when 9th in a handicap at this course over 2000m on 24 November. Could need this run returning from a break
- 6. BOB LA BIDOUILLE** - A bit unreliable but was runner-up last time out in a handicap at Fontainebleau over 2600m on 25 March. Deserves respect in this line-up
- 7. PAVLOVA DU BERLAIS** - Has really struggled this year including in a Conditions hurdle race last time out at Compiègne on 5 March. Unlikely to win
- 8. PHILOSOPHY** - Unreliable but was not disgraced when 5th last time out in a handicap at Senonnes-Pouancé over 2100m. Could play a minor role
- 9. HAPPY CHRISNAT** - Unreliable but did run well when third in a handicap at Le Lion-d'Angers over this distance on 31 March. Place chance
- 10. MAZOURKA** - Mostly modest form of late and was 7th last time out in a handicap over a similar distance at this course on 21 March. More is needed to win this race
- 11. THAT'S MY POWER** - Struggling of late and was 11th in a handicap last time out at Fontainebleau over 2000m on 6 March. Needs major improvement to win
- 12. MORNING FIVE** - On a very long losing run and was 8th in a handicap last time out at Senonnes-Pouancé over 2100m on 23 March. Capable of better but others are preferred
- 13. SHANGHAI SPIRIT** - Showed improvement when third last time out in a handicap at Fontainebleau over 2600m on 25 March. Clearly not out of it
- 14. MAVALA** - Won two handicaps late last year but has only been modest of late and was 9th last time out in a handicap at Fontainebleau over 2600m on 25 March. More is needed to win
- 15. GOLD PALACE** - On a long losing run but did well to run third last time out in a handicap at Compiègne over this distance on 10 March. Go close
- 16. SAVILE ROW** - His last win was at this course but was 12th last time out at Toulouse over this distance on 2 March. Best watched for now
- 17. TARCENAY** - Bounced back to form when winning a handicap last time out at Compiègne over 2800m on 29 March. Carries a penalty but is not out of it

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Summary: A tough handicap to chew on. GOLD PALACE (15) returned to form with a good run last time and could be ready to break a long losing streak. BOB LA BIDOUILLE (6) is a bit unreliable but did run well last time out and can go one better. SHANGHAI SPIRIT (13) showed improvement last time out and deserves respect for that run. ASPEN (1) carries a penalty for his latest win but could possibly follow up.

SELECTIONS

GOLD PALACE (15) - BOB LA BIDOUILLE (6) - SHANGHAI SPIRIT (13) - ASPEN (1)

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C9 - PRIX DE LA VILLA EUGENIE - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 20,000

- 1. FRENCH DIVA** - Seldom far off the mark but will need to improve to be competitive here after finishing 6th over 3000m on this course last time (26 March)
- 2. ARMORIGENE** - Hard-knocking handicapper who proved he remains consistent under a 2,5kg penalty by finishing 5th in a 2800m handicap at Compiègne on heavy ground on 29 March
- 3. WELL DE VINDECY** - Consistent veteran mare with sound references, including a last-start 6th in 2800m handicap at Compiègne on heavy ground on 29 March
- 4. BRAZING** - Returned to form with a reassuring 2nd in a 2400m PSF handicap at Lyon-La Soie on 15 March. Confirmation expected
- 5. ANONYME** - Showed signs of improvement when finishing 5th in a 3000m handicap at Fontainebleau on 15 March. Place chance
- 6. DREAM WORD** - Out of sorts and unlikely to trouble the judge after a disappointing 9th over 2400m at Toulouse on 20 March
- 7. AMIATA** - Has regained momentum and confirmed as much by finishing 2nd in a 2600m handicap at Fontainebleau on 25 March. One to beat
- 8. CHARLES LEGEND** - Consistent veteran handicapper with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 6th in 2600m handicap at Fontainebleau on 25 March
- 9. TENDER WINNER** - Confirmed the improvement of his previous outing (2nd) with an encouraging 3rd in a 2800m handicap at Compiègne on heavy ground on 29 March
- 10. MA BEREZINA** - Showed signs of improvement when finishing 5th in an 1800m handicap at Le Croise-Laroche on 22 March. Outsider
- 11. TREIZE CHOPE** - Out of sorts and unlikely to trouble the judge here after finishing a disappointing 8th over 3200m at Agen on 25 March
- 12. WALDENON** - Inconsistent but capable veteran handicapper. Needs to reaffirm after a disappointing 15th in a 2700m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 16 February
- 13. DARENIX** - Seldom far off the mark but will need to improve to be competitive here after finishing 7th over 2000m at Compiègne on 29 March
- 14. ABORIGENE** - Has finished 5th in consecutive handicaps on heavy ground recently, the latest over 2000m at Compiègne on 29 March. Will be a factor
- 15. RED SUGAR** - Consistent mare with sound references in handicaps, including a last-start 5th in 2600m handicap at Fontainebleau on 25 March
- 16. VINGTCEURS** - Showed signs of improvement when finishing 3rd in a 2400m handicap at Le Lion-d'Angers on 31 March. Place chance

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Summary: AMIATA (7) confirmed the improvement of her previous outing (4th) with an encouraging 2nd last time and should soon return to success. ABORIGENE (14) has maintained his form/consistency recently in handicaps on heavy ground and is again expected to acquit himself competitively. CHARLES LEGEND (8), with Maxime Guyon a notable jockey engagement, TENDER WINNER (9), who is in good form and physical condition, and WELL DE VINDECY (3) are all candidates for a spot on the podium. BRAZING (4) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

AMIATA (7) - ABORIGENE (14) - CHARLES LEGEND (8) - TENDER WINNER (9)