R1 ANGERS [R-H]

C1 - GRAND NATIONAL DU TROT - 3100m (a1 15/16m) - National - Group 3 - Harness - EUR € 90.000

- **1. HARRY CARISAIE** Failed to impress on his lone appearance at this level but has turned a corner this season and the front row start will only work to his advantage
- **2. IALTO D'HERTALS -** Hardy element that showed his form at Cabourg last month. Lebourgeois in charge this time and from the front row looks dangerous
- **3. GINKGO THELOIS -** Has not won since June but is consistently in the thick of things. Breaks in front and looks competitively well in
- **4. GAZOLINE DU SEUX -** Not always the most reliable but has merit. Is well-engaged and, with Eric Raffin in the sulky, should not disappoint
- **5. EVEIL DU LUPIN -** Never far from losing his action but can trot. Showed his form last time out and, with application, can get a look in
- HIDALGO DES NOES Useful sort with references in this category but races shod for the occasion and chances limited
- 7. DERBY DU DOLLAR Modest individual with no place in this line-up and can be written off
- **8. HORACE DU GOUTIER -** Remarkably tough type with a fine record in the GNT series. Is new to the venue, but is at the top of his game and will still take all the beating
- **9. GOELAND D'HAUFOR** Tricky but talented trotter making his first appearance since June and, with shoes on, will have little to offer
- **10. GIGOLO LOVER -** Superb Gr.2 winner in the other code late last month. Is proven under harness and, from the first line, looks to have a lot to offer
- **11. FINE COLLINE -** Quality mare that has won at this level, but makes just 2nd start back and, with shoes on, will generate very little interest
- **12. FIGARO DE LARRE -** Excellent servant in the other branch of the business. Shod for the occasion and poses no danger
- **13. GANAY DE BANVILLE -** Good class of trotter making his first start since December 2021, but JMB in the sulky, and will be worth monitoring
- **14. DIMO D'OCCAGNES -** Fine trotter but has considerably better credentials under the saddle and can be ruled out
- **15. HIRONDELLE DU RIB -** Seen more often than not in the other code but left a good impression here during the spring and, even though on the 3rd row, should not be overlooked
- **16. FIRE CRACKER -** Previously a good sort but has done nothing of note this term and can be passed over

Summary: Winner of 4 GNT races this season, HORACE DU GOUTIER (8) was only bested by championship leader, Gaspar D'Angis, at Saint-Malo and, in the latter's absence, the race is his for the asking. Closest threat has to be the progressive IALTO D'HERTALS (2) who is shod as he was when winning at Cabourg last month, and the front-line start will do his prospects no disservice. HARRY CARISAIE (1) is similarly well-positioned, has been a veritable metronome all season, and will also have his chances. GIGOLO LOVER (10) is arguably better in the other code but has solid harness credentials and will justifiably generate interest.

SELECTIONS

HORACE DU GOUTIER (8) - IALTO D'HERTALS (2) - HARRY CARISAIE (1) - GIGOLO LOVER (10)

C2 - PRIX JACQUES DY - 3100m (a1 15/16m) - Amateurs-National - Class F - Harness - EUR € 8.000

- 1. FLAMENCO PHEDO Out of the picture in his last 12 starts and chances slim at best
- **2. FUEGO MAZA -** Not the easiest of horses to handle but has solid amateur references, is clearly in fine shape, and although not an obvious choice, should not be entirely disregarded either
- **3. FOX DU RIB -** Fine servant in the amateur division. Pleased at a superior level last weekend, starts in front, and backs up with a decent chance of finishing closer this time
- **4. GAELINE SERVINOISE -** Honest mare with a front-line start. Reassured at Tours 10 days ago but faces a much stiffer test this time around
- **5. GODZILLA VICI -** Takes a dip in class following some modest efforts this term and is unlikely to shake things up
- **6. FIZZ SAINT GERMAIN -** Faithful for the most part when applied. Imposed with ease at Saint-Malo last time and, even though 25m worse off, must still be respected
- **7. HELECHO -** Barring a brace of recent sanctions, has been a model of consistency this season. Has previously won here and, on good behaviour, can play a leading role
- **8. FUSEE DE BAUNE -** Unremarkable trotter that was thrashed in her last two and can expect to find this a tough task
- **9. GOWEN CHALEONNAIS -** Good campaigner at this level and presently in decent shape. Hard to knock when barefoot, pleased on his only appearance at Angers, and must not be ruled out
- **10. HELICIANE D'ERABLE -** Tough mare that requires no introduction in this category. Redeemed herself in Paris last time and looks set to maintain her 'leading' status
- **11. GALAK DE LA CAVEE** Already twice a winner this summer. Made up for his Châteaubriant blip with a solid effort at Laval and, unshod all four this time, will have his chances
- **12. GINGER DE BRASSE -** Quality element that consistently gives her best. Has never disappointed at Angers and, in current condition, will be no soft touch
- **13. FRUCTUEUX -** Has shown a return to form over recent weeks. Got back to winning ways earlier this month and will have his supporters
- **14. EASY TOUCH -** Got back in the game at Beaupréau, but takes on some serious horses this time and will have nothing to give
- **15. FELINA DE JOYERE** Has done nothing noteworthy since the spring and has no realistic chance
- **16. GOMERA -** No slouch on a good day and latterly reassured in a tough event at Pornichet. Incurs a 50m penalty this time though and represents no more than a minor place prospect

Summary: Current leader of the Grand National des Amateurs championship, HELICIANE D'ERABLE (10) was by no means disgraced at Enghien and should be able to win this, provided his driver can keep her trotting. GINGER DE BRASSE (12) drops back in class after some fine performances in the professional ranks, and looks capable of applying the pressure, as does HELECHO (7) who is a tough nut to crack when focused. With just one blip on his formcard in his last 5 outings, GALAK DE LA CAVEE (11) caught the eye at Laval earlier in the month and, racing barefoot for the occasion, should prove a decent proposition.

SELECTIONS

HELICIANE D'ERABLE (10) - GINGER DE BRASSE (12) - HELECHO (7) - GALAK DE LA CAVEE (11)

C3 - PRIX DE MERAL - 2425m (a1 1/2m) - National - Class D - Harness - EUR € 23.000

- **1. KINDIA DU CHENE -** Not once out of the frame in 4 starts. Tackles the boys here but impressed last time out and can again make the frame
- **2. KHEOPS SAINT CLAIR -** Gives a respectable account of himself for the most part but, in this company, will have his work cut out
- **3. KATARINA D'AMOUR -** Mixes the good with the less good but was not disgraced at Enghien last month. Faces a stiffer test this time though and others preferred
- **4. KAPORAL KADESH** Moderate type with better credentials at a lower level and chances appear slim
- **5. KENTUCKY SAM -** Unexceptional colt returning to the harness code after flopping under the saddle and is unlikely to spring any surprises
- **6. KALISKA DE FORGAN -** Still a maiden but nonetheless always gives her best. Was unable to repeat her Langon effort and others considerably easier to back
- 7. KILL JOY LADY Good future prospect but has not been seen out since January and will need the run
- **8. KING OF DAY -** Has a temperament but can trot when focused. Shoes back on following his Cabourg disappointment and should not be ruled out
- **9. KHEOPS CASTELETS -** Twice a winner during the spring but less effective at Cabourg last time. Benefits from a breather though and, with shoes back on, can start to make amends
- **10. KEPI DEL -** Often comes close but has yet to get off the mark. Will be fresh for his Angers debut and should again acquit himself competitively
- **11. KADEAU DE L'AVRE -** Can prove a handful but is undeniably capable. Is reunited with Lebourgeois here and expected to enjoy something of a change in fortune
- **12. KIPHYLE DESBOIS -** Useful filly that pleased last time going right-handed. Latest result somewhat unflattering and must be taken seriously
- **13. KAISER** Quality individual that showed his class on comeback late last month. Wiels reins this time but still looks the one to beat
- **14. KADRO D'ARIANE -** Useful colt with a fine entry here. Pleased on his only start at the venue and will have his chances if he replicates his latest performance

Summary: Excellent since his successful May debut, KAISER (13) won like a good thing on his re-entry at Cabourg and has a realistic chance of doubling his money. Antoine Wiels will still be keeping an eye on the more experienced KADRO D'ARIANE (14) though who drops back in category following a decent effort at Pornichet. Good class of filly that climbed the class ladder in smart order at Cabourg recently, KINDIA DU CHENE (1) takes on the colts this time, but should nevertheless hold her own. KIPHYLE DESBOIS (12) has shown herself to be a versatile trotter and the drop in trip will only work to her advantage.

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KAISER (13) - KADRO D'ARIANE (14) - KINDIA DU CHENE (1) - KIPHYLE DESBOIS (12)

C4 - PRIX DE SAVIGNY SUR BRAYE - 3125m (a1 15/16m) - National - Class E - Harness - EUR € 20.000

- **1. JAZZ PASSION -** Returns to the code after a couple of solid efforts under the saddle. Shod for the occasion and has other priorities
- **2. JIZOU D'ETANG -** Sanctioned almost as often as not but has significant merit. Unraced since March but could still get a look in
- **3. JANE HUDSON -** Has previously won under harness but superior in the other discipline and not an obvious choice
- **4. JILBOUR DEFONTAINE -** Never far from losing his action but has bags of ability. Front shoes off this time and redemption should be on the cards
- **5. JAMINISTAR -** Regularly object of the stewards' scrutiny but has found form again. Unlikely to open her seasonal account but can still play an important role
- **6. JOKO DE LOU -** Has turned a corner recently since returning to racing barefoot. Is enjoying an excellent run of form and can score his second of the season

7. JONAS DU VIVIER -

- **8. JUDIYAMA -** Won twice at a lower level earlier in the year . Not quite as sharp since being stepped up in category but reassured last time and will have his supporters
- 9. JACK DU CEBE Useful sort but regularly an upstart. Yoann Lebourgeois takes over this time though and must not be underestimated
- 10. JOKER JOLI Has never shown any particular love for the harness code and can be ruled out
- **11. JASPER DU BELLAY -** Seldom gets his nose in front but is consistently in the thick of things. Has a fine entry here and, with Rochard maintaining faith, should be able to put the pressure on JOKO DE LOU (6)

Summary: After taking some time to come to hand this season, JOKO DE LOU (6) has since found form and has stepped smartly up in class. He has raced clockwise just twice, but is confirmed, and once more looks a serious candidate for success. Anthony Dollion can nevertheless expect to feel the heat from JASPER DU BELLAY (11) who showed at Saint-Malo that he is close to his race. Seldom disappointing when applied, JILBOUR DEFONTAINE (4) could not get into his stride at Vichy, but goes first-time unshod in front and can more than make amends. JACK DU CEBE (9) blows like the wind but is not devoid of ability and, on better behaviour, can get in on the action.

SELECTIONS

JOKO DE LOU (6) - JASPER DU BELLAY (11) - JILBOUR DEFONTAINE (4) - JACK DU CEBE (9)

C5 - PRIX DE LA ROCHE POSAY - 3125m (a1 15/16m) - Class F - Harness - EUR € 24.000

- **1. HIGHLANDER -** Can prove a handful but has turned a corner lately. Gets an experienced driver for the occasion, starts in front and, on good behaviour, can play a leading role
- 2. HARMONIE DE CIGNE Undeniably capable but sanctioned in last 4 and must get her house in order
- **3. HUITRE D'OR -** Somewhat disappointing this season but is confirmed here. Gets a Yoann Lebourgeois-drive this time and can start to get back in the game
- **4. HARMONIA BELLA -** Erratic but is capable of springing the occasional surprise. Is better than her recent performance would imply and deserves to be respected
- **5. HANDSOME BOY -** Monté horse making a soft re-introduction after a long layoff and will have nothing to offer
- **6. HAVANA BELLA -** Currently in form and appreciates these extended trips. Takes on some better beasts this time though and no more than a minor place chance
- **7. HELIOS DJEMA -** Has been enjoying a fruitful run of form since his March return. Benefits from a front-row start and looks thoroughly capable of setting the cat among the pigeons
- **8. FREDY DE LA NOE -** Useful on a good day but has placed just once in last 11 and, from the 2nd line, will struggle to leave his mark
- **9. FAKIR ROCHELAIS -** Useful sort in the other code. Here for a change of scenery and poses no danger
- **10. FABULEUX -** Handy sort when barefoot and focused, but shoes back on this time and not an obvious choice
- **11. HERA DU DONJON -** Honest mare that seldom lets the side down when applied. Scored her 6th of the season at Ecommoy and, barefoot this time, will be no easy touch
- **12. GUERRIER LUDOIS -** Not the most reliable but has more talent than most here. Solid last time at the venue and the return of Rochard will only enhance his prospects
- **13. FLASH DE FROMENTEL -** Significantly better in the amateur category under harness and, shod this time, can be passed over
- **14. HIDALGO DE VARENNE -** Tricky character but has bags of ability. Missed out by little on the hat-trick at Tours, has been entrusted to Eric Raffin, and is expected to continue his fine autumn run
- **15. GALION VOLSIN -** Respectable trotter with references at this level, but unseen since June and will need the run

Summary: Back at the top of his game following a lengthy lean spell, HIDALGO DE VARENNE (14) races shod this time around but gets a champion driver for the day and looks the pick of the field. GUERRIER LUDOIS (12) is significantly better than his formcard would suggest, gave a good account last time here and, with pads on and Rochard back in the sulky, can give the favourite a run for his money. On an excellent run of form all season, HELIOS DJEMA (7) finds himself with a 25m head-start and looks a major player. HIGHLANDER (1) is similarly well-positioned, clearly in shape, and the presence of Matthieu Abrivard will only increase his appeal.

SELECTIONS

HIDALGO DE VARENNE (14) - GUERRIER LUDOIS (12) - HELIOS DJEMA (7) - HIGHLANDER (1)

C6 - PRIX DE LAVAL - 3125m (a1 15/16m) - European - Class E - Mounted - EUR € 30.000

- **1. HIER ENCORE -** Temperamental he may be but has won two of last three. Hind shoes off again and, if behaved, can complement his recent Sables-d'Olonne victory
- 2. GODEFROY DU LOISIR No slouch on a good day but disappointing since the spring and must reaffirm
- **3. HISTORIEN GALBE -** Faithful campaigner for the most part. Steps up in category, has modified shoeing, but is still worth keeping an eye on
- **4. HAMISH -** Springs the occasional pleasant surprise but trounced in last three and appears to have no realistic chance
- **5. GITAN DU LUPIN -** Never the easiest of horses to trust but impressed recently first time under the saddle and, from the front row, must be afforded respect
- **6. FULGURIS SEGAH -** Consistently gives everything he has and has references in this class. Won at Argentan for Raffin and is not incapable of repeating
- 7. FOLIE MIX Has looked decidedly ordinary for most of the year and, in present form, will have few takers
- **8. FARCEUR DE MAI -** Rarely far off the mark when he can stay in stride. Left a very good impression, unshod behind, in better company at La Capelle and backs up a week later with a decent chance of imposing
- **9. ELIXIR -** Has ample ability but regularly goes through a rough patch. Reassured at Laval though and, barefoot this time, can repeat
- **10. ERMES DE CORDAY -** Mixes the good with the less good but can trot when focused. Unlikely to shake things up but can get a look in

Summary: Although a tricky type at the best of times, FARCEUR DE MAI (8) is nonetheless clearly in form and has references at a superior level. There is, however, little to separate him from the delicate but useful HIER ENCORE (1) who breaks with a 25m advantage. Apart from the odd sanction, FULGURIS SEGAH (6) is a tough individual when applied and won for Raffin at Argentan. GITAN DU LUPIN (5) made a fine monté debut at Pornichet three weeks ago; she will have come on for the experience and can again figure prominently.

SELECTIONS

FARCEUR DE MAI (8) - HIER ENCORE (1) - FULGURIS SEGAH (6) - GITAN DU LUPIN (5)

C7 - PRIX DE MESLAY DU MAINE - 3125m (a1 15/16m) - National - Class E - Harness - EUR € 23.000

- 1. INDICE DE BRUYERE Unexceptional trotter with no references in this category. Starts alone in front but will still have too much to do
- 2. INCISIF VAUCEEN Non-Runner
- **3. INITIALE LILA -** Has done little of note under harness since March but showed her form in the other code at Argentan and, if form transitions, Lebourgeois can get him back on track
- **4. IDEAL DE SASSY -** Honest trotter that was rewarded for his efforts at Le Mont-Saint-Michel. Unlikely to double his money but can still acquit himself competitively
- **5. IMPERIAL BEJI -** Quality element that seldom disappoints when unshod. Won with ease last time, is a known quality for Raffin, and can double up
- **6. IVORINO D'ECHAL -** Can trot but never easy to trust. Unraced since June and others easier to support
- **7. IMPERATRICE HEDEN -** Showed potential last year but has failed to live up to expectations this season and can be ruled out
- **8. ILEO PIERJI -** Won under harness at Pornichet three weeks ago before going close in the other code and, with application, should not be far off the mark
- **9. IRENO DES PLAINES -** Went into his spring spell on a high note but lacklustre since his return to competition and not an obvious choice
- **10. ILMAT DES KECHES -** A model of consistency all year. Recently confirmed his clockwise bona fides and should not disappoint
- **11. ICI C'EST CHENU -** Superb last season but not as sharp this term. Shoes off this time but others still preferred
- **12. INDIAN FIGHTER -** Excellent servant at this level when barefoot. Thrives at Angers and, with Matthieu Abrivard reining, can challenge for the win
- **13. IDOLE D'OURVILLE -** Capricious mare that has placed just once this season. Benefits from a good entry though and can get a look in if Lagadeuc keeps her trotting

Summary: A number in contention for this competitive contest, with the nod going to recent, facile Saint-Malo winner, IMPERIAL BEJI (5) who has previously won for Eric Raffin. INDIAN FIGHTER (12), however, is as consistent as they come, is unbeaten when barefoot at Angers, and can be expected to put up considerable resistance. ILMAT DES KECHES (10) is similarly dependable, has decent right-handed credentials, and returns to a shoeing formula which has previously worked for him. INCISIF VAUCEEN (2) finished unplaced in his last two, but appreciates Angers, and it is only a matter of time before he gets back down to business.

SELECTIONS

IMPERIAL BEJI (5) - INDIAN FIGHTER (12) - ILMAT DES KECHES (10) - INITIALE LILA (3)

C8 - PRIX D'ECOMMOY - 3125m (a1 15/16m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 30.000

- **1. HAMONET DE CHOISEL -** Has been on an excellent run of form over recent months. Is untried here but champion driver at the helm and should not disappoint
- **2. HEXODE DE FELLIERE -** Quality filly with an enviable strike-rate and, with the cobwebs blown away, races shod to preference this time and looks a player
- **3. HERMES LUDOIS -** In the frame in 3 of last 4. Has never disappointed at Angers and, barefoot this time, will garner support
- **4. GLYCINA BELLA -** Finished close in both starts since the spring spell but the step up in category may be a step too far
- **5. GUECHA GIRL** Is confirmed at this level but has been off the boil over recent months and best left untouched
- **6. HOCHE -** Regularly on the cusp of losing his action but was simply dynamic last time out and, with stride in check, can confirm
- **7. GALIA SOTHO -** Tricky mare but is clearly back at her best. Takes on some better horses this time but in current form is hard to ignore
- 8. GRILLE PAIN Has looked very ordinary since imposing at Royan and will first need to reaffirm
- **9. GAMIN BAZOQUAIN -** Dependable for the most part and showed her capacity at Cabourg last time barefoot. Is reunited with Lebourgeois and will be no pushover

Summary: Even though regularly on the naughty-list, HOCHE (6) most recently imposed impressively at Cherbourg and, with form maintained, will take some beating. That said, HAMONET DE CHOISEL (1) has been in cracking form since June and, with Raffin in the sulky, should not be too inconvenienced by the step up in category. Solid in his last two when barefoot, notably at Cabourg, GAMIN BAZOQUAIN (9) looks competitive once more. Winner last time here, HEXODE DE FELLIERE (2) has two races under her belt since the break and, if fully fit, should not be far off the mark.

SELECTIONS

HOCHE (6) - HAMONET DE CHOISEL (1) - GAMIN BAZOQUAIN (9) - HEXODE DE FELLIERE (2)