

SUNDAY, 18/08/24

R1 DEAUVILLE [R-H]

**C1 - SUMBE PRIX KERGORLAY - 3000m (a2m) - TURF - Gr2 Race - Flat -
EUR € 130,000**

1. ALESSIO - Has won twice and finished 2nd once in 3 starts over 3000m or more. Lost his unbeaten 2024 record (3 outings) when finishing a creditable 4th in the Group II Prix Maurice de Nieuil over 2800m at ParisLongchamp on 13 July

2. DOUBLE MAJOR - The best stayer in France and winner of the Group I Prix Royal-Oak last year. Showed his form and well-being by winning the Group II Prix Maurice de Nieuil over 2800m at ParisLongchamp on 13 July

3. GOYA SENORA - Won this race in 2022. Resumed winning ways with a course-and-distance victory in a Listed race on 28 July, so cannot be taken lightly

4. JOUR POLAIRE - Inconsistent on the flat and in steeplechase races with his best form/references achieved over hurdles. Only 6th in a 2400m Listed race at Vichy on 16 July

5. WALDADLER - Acquitted himself well (2nd) in a Group II contest won by ALESSIO (1) in Germany on 19 May. Place chance

Summary: Top-rated DOUBLE MAJOR (2) has the best form references of the 5 runners in this 3000m Group II opening event and is good value to follow up his last-start 2800m Group II success at ParisLongchamp. ALESSIO (1), who finished a close-up 4th that day, will pose a bigger threat on 1,5kg better terms. GOYA SENORA (3) quickened smartly to win a course-and-distance Listed race last time out and should remain competitive, even at this level. WALDADLER (5) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

DOUBLE MAJOR (2) - ALESSIO (1) - GOYA SENORA (3) - WALDADLER (5)

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C2 - SUMBE PRIX JEAN ROMANET - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Gr1 Race - Flat - EUR € 250,000

1. AMERICAN SONJA - Undefeated in 2 appearances on French soil, including one over 2000m at ParisLongchamp in the Group III Prix Allez France on 28 April. Showed her form and well-being with a good 2nd in a Curragh Group III on 21 July

2. MAXUX - Unplaced (7th of 8) in the Pretty Polly Stakes, a 2000m Curragh Group I on 29 June. Not incapable of getting into the picture here

3. MQSE DE SEVIGNE - Defending champion of this Group I prize and unbeaten this year in 3 starts, which include back-to-back Group I successes, the latest on this course over 1600m in the Prix Rothschild on 28 July. Hard to oppose

4. LEFT SEA - Last-start winner of the Listed Prix du Pays d'Auge over 1800m at Clairefontaine on 27 July. More needed here

5. BLUE ROSE CEN - High-class youngster, champion two-year-old and joint top-rated filly in Europe last year. Has looked a shadow of her former self in 3 starts this term, the latest (7th) over 1600m in the Prix Rothschild on 28 July at this venue

Summary: Champion MQSE DE SEVIGNE (3) has looked better than ever this year, winning all three 2024 appearances including back-to-back Group I races. Already a 4-time winner in this grade, she is hard to oppose and ought to add a fifth top-level victory to her resume. Joseph O'Brien-trained AMERICAN SONJA (1) is unbeaten in two starts on French soil (at Listed and Group III level) and, along with MAXUX (2) who will be ridden by Mickaël Barzalona, could give the selection most to fear. BLUE ROSE CEN (5) has been a shadow of her former self this term but has the class to bounce back and challenge for a podium berth.

SELECTIONS

MQSE DE SEVIGNE (3) - AMERICAN SONJA (1) - MAXUX (2) - BLUE ROSE CEN (5)

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C3 - SUMBE GRAND HANDICAP - 1900m (a1m1/4) - ALL WEATHER - Class 1 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 75,000

- 1. CAMBRONNE** - A model of consistency with sound references/form credentials (7 wins and 8 places in 22 starts), including an encouraging last-start 3rd over 2000m at Mont-de-Marsan on 1 August
- 2. GREY TORNADO** - Group III placed finisher (in 2023 Prix de Guiche 2023) and runner-up in consecutive recent outings, the latest at La Teste over 1600m on 21 July. Capable performer on PSF
- 3. CICCIO BOY** - A proven 4-time winner in the Quinté+ category, including a recent/last-start victory over 1800m at Chantilly on 14 July. Keep safe
- 4. AZKA** - Consistent, proven Quinte+ and handicap performer. Unplaced (10th) in 2400m Listed race at Vichy on 16 July but shouldn't be hastily condemned
- 5. WATCH HIM** - Consistent performer in the Quinté+ category, winning once and placing 5 times in 6 appearances at this level. Showed his form and well-being with an encouraging 4th over 2000m at Compiègne on 12 July
- 6. VENTS CONTRAIRES** - Quinté+ winner over 1600m at Chantilly on 2 May but has struggled (finished unplaced) in 3 subsequent outings under a penalty - the latest (9th) over 1800m in a turf handicap at Chantilly on 14 July
- 7. BEMER** - Quinte+ winner over 2000m at Lyon-Parilly on 24 June but struggled under a resultant 3,5kg penalty last time, finishing 12th in an 1800m Quinte+ event at Chantilly on 14 July. Watch for now
- 8. ANTE ALIOS** - Showed considerable early promise but has flattered to deceive since winning on his reappearance at Chantilly on PSF in March. Unplaced (9th) in 2400m Listed race at Vichy on 16 July but shouldn't be hastily condemned
- 9. DEVIL IN THE SKY** - Unplaced in all 3 handicap appearances - the latest (9th) over 2500m on turf at this venue on 1 August - but has dropped to a dangerous mark. Beware
- 10. UZEL** - Model of consistency with good PSF references/credentials and proven Quinte+ form, including a creditable 6th over course and distance on 28 July. Candidate for success
- 11. CENTRAL PARK WEST** - Has regained form/momentum recently but at a significantly lower level - finished 2nd in a claimer over course and distance on 8 August. Outsider
- 12. ABELARD F** - Consistent PSF performer with sound references, albeit at a lower level. Unplaced (9th) in a recent Quinte+ race over 1400m on this course last time out (30 July)
- 13. KLEORA** - Made the most encouraging return to form when 2nd in a course-and-distance Quinte+ handicap on 28 July. Will fight for victory with a repeat of that performance
- 14. LOOKING AT ME** - Quinte+ winner over 2150m at ParisLongchamp on 25 April and didn't go unnoticed on her reappearance when 8th in a 220m Quinte+ at Dieppe on 23 July. Dark horse
- 15. LOU MAN** - Rejuvenated veteran whose recent upturn in form/performance can be attributed to the refitting of headgear. Confirmed the improvement of his previous start (2nd) by winning a 2000m turf handicap here on 10 August

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16. NOSDARGENT - Capable hard-knocking veteran whose competitiveness at this level is beyond doubt. Won course-and-distance handicap last time out on 28 July and was penalised 2,5kg

Summary: KLEORA (13) is yet to win a handicap but won't be long in opening her account in this category on the evidence of her eye-catching 2nd in a similar course-and-distance event on 28 July, when running on powerfully after a slow start. She is taken to get the better of track-specialist UZEL (10) and top-weight CAMBRONNE (1) who ought to feature prominently on the strength and consistency of his recent form. ANTE ALIOS (8) has flattered to deceive after a promising start to his career but isn't underestimated on handicap debut off his opening mark. AZKA (4), after an unsuccessful attempt in a Listed race, and GRAY TORNADO (2), who finished 3rd in an 1800m Group III last year, are others to consider.

SELECTIONS

KLEORA (13) - UZEL (10) - CAMBRONNE (1) - ANTE ALIOS (8)

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**C4 - SUMBE PRIX MORNY - 1200m (a6f) - TURF - Gr1 Race - Flat - EUR €
350,000**

- 1. ARABIE** - Confirmed the promise of his 1000m debut 2nd with a subsequent hat-trick of 1200m wins, the latest on 14 July at Chantilly. Beware
- 2. WHISTLEJACKET** - Battle-hardened colt with good form and experience to count on. Finished 4th in the Group II Norfolk Stakes at Ascot, won the Group II July Stakes at Newmarket and was 2nd in recent Group I Phoenix Stakes on 10 August
- 3. ESTEPONA** - Unbeaten Mehmas colt whose 2 victories have come over this course and distance, the latest on 1 August. Dark horse
- 4. RASHABAR** - Improving last-start winner of the Group II Coventry Stakes over 1200m at Royal Ascot on 18 June. Dont dismiss
- 5. SHAREHOLDER** - Exciting, undefeated colt who followed up his debut win with a Group II Norfolk Stakes victory at Royal Ascot on 20 June. The one to beat
- 6. ARABIAN DUSK** - Progressive filly whose form reached new heights with a Group II victory at Ascot over 1200m on 12 July. Lurker
- 7. DAYLIGHT** - Imrepssive winner of the Group III Prix de Cabourg over this course and distance on 28 July. Warrants respect
- 8. POLYVEGA** - Debut winner over 1100m at Chantilly in June and confirmed that promise with a game-in-defeat 2nd behind re-opposing DAYLIGHT (7) over track and trip on 28 July
- 9. EPSON BLUE CEN** - Course-and-distance winner on debut last month and lost little in defeat when finishing 2nd over track and trip on 1 August. Has upset potential

Summary: Typically high-class renewal of the prestigious Group I Prix Morny. Highly regarded SHAREHOLDER (5) was a workmanlike winner of the Group II Norfolk Stakes at Royal Ascot, and the unbeaten colt been specifically aimed at this event, so is probably worth siding with. WHISTLEJACKET (2) finished 4th behind the selection at Ascot and has subsequently won at Group II level and finished 2nd in a Group I, so has to be taken seriously. DAYLIGHT (7), ARABIE (1), ARABIAN DUSK (6) and POLYVEGA (8) are other exciting prospects whose chances shouldn't be underestimated. Cracking contest!

SELECTIONS

SHAREHOLDER (5) - WHISTLEJACKET (2) - DAYLIGHT (7) - ARABIE (1)

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C5 - SUMBE PRIX ALEC HEAD (PRIX DE LA NONETTE) - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Gr2 Race - Flat - EUR € 130,000

1. BIRTHE - Won the Prix Group II Prix Saint-Alary over this distance at Longchamp in May before finishing unplaced (7th) in the 2000m Group I Prix de Diane when last seen on 16 June - not taken lightly

2. CANDALA - Gusty frontrunner who will be hard to peg back if allowed to dictate, especially after her enouarging 3rd in the Group II Prix de Malleret over 2400m last time out

3. ROSE JAIPUR - Progressive filly with sound references/form credentials, including a last-start 4th in a course-and-distance Group III on 28 July

4. SEA THE BOSS - Acquitted herself well (4th) in a 1400m Listed race at Leopardstown last year and has maintained a good level of form and consistency since. Dark horse

5. KITTY ROSE - Won an Irish Listed race last year and showed her form/well-being by finishing 2nd in a 1600m Listed race at Newmarket on 11 July

6. FRIENDLY SOUL - Last-start winner of the Group III Valiant Stakes at Ascot on 27 July - her third victory in 4 starts. One to beat

7. HALFDAY - Finished 2nd on debut and confirmed that promise with back-to-back subsequent victories before finishing 12th in the Group I Prix de Diane over 2100m on 16 June

Summary: British FRIENDLY SOUL (6) has run her best races from the front and confirmed as much with a start-to-finish Group III Ascot victory last time out and she will be hard to get by if allowed a soft lead in this Group II contest. CANDALA (2) is hard to assess with her best distance not exactly known but she has undeniable ability and possesses the turn of foot to fight for victory. BIRTHE (1) blotted her copybook in the Group I Prix de Diane when last seen but shouldn't be written be off, especially on the evidence of her Group II Prix Saint-Alary victory. ROSE JAIPUR (3) appeals most of the remainder.

SELECTIONS

FRIENDLY SOUL (6) - CANDALA (2) - BIRTHE (1) - ROSE JAIPUR (3)

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C6 - SUMBE PRIX D'HUDIMESNIL - 1400m (a7f) - ALL WEATHER - Class 1 Race - Flat - EUR € 38,000

1. SIAM PARAGON - A four-time winner on the Deauville PSF, with 2 wins and a 2nd in his last 3 PSF appearances. Hasnt been since finishing 9th on this course in an 1100m Listed race on 9 April

2. SOUS LA NEIGE - Finished a well-beaten 24th of 26 runner in a 1400m handicap at Ascot on 20 June but has never finished worse than 2nd in 3 PSF outings. Beware

3. MILLEBOSC - Lacks references on this surface but has revealed sufficient means. Finished 6th of 12 in a 1600m York handicap on 13 October - beat watched for now

4. DEEP HOPE - Consistent PSF performer who acquitted himself well (4th) in a course-and-distance Quinte+ event on 30 July. Not taken lightly

5. RAKAN - Proven PSF specialist in good form and physical condition - won a claimer over course and distance last month and finished 4th in a Quinte+ over this track and trip on 30 July. Dark horse

6. LANAKEN - Won a course-and-distance Quinte+ (1 August 2023) in his only appearance on this track and didnt go unnoticed either when 6th in a 1300m Quinte+ on turf at ParisLongchamp over 1300m on 6 June - keep safe

7. PEDRITO - Last-start winner of a course-and-distance Quinte+ handicap on 30 July. Has more to do under 3kg penalty

8. GAMESTOP - Has regained momentum recently and confirmed as much with a last-start ParisLongchamp victory over 1300m on 13 July. Equally adept on PSF

9. ETEL DU NINIAN - Course-and-distance winner of her last PSF appearance (on 4 November 2023). Versatile mare with sound form references, though needs to bounce back from her well-beaten 15th in 1400m Quinte+ at Saint-Cloud (30 June)

Summary: GAMESTOP (8) bounced back to form in no uncertain terms by winning a Class 2 event in his last start out and this step up in grade isn't likely to halt his momentum. LANAKEN (6) is much better than his recent form figures would suggest and retains the means to acquit himself competitively at this level. SIAM PARAGON (1) hasn't been seen since April but thrives on this track and shouldn't be discounted on his reappearance. DEEP HOPE (4) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

GAMESTOP (8) - LANAKEN (6) - SIAM PARAGON (1) - DEEP HOPE (4)

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C7 - SUMBE PRIX DE CAMPIGNY - 2500m (a1m1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 21,000

- 1. MUSIC IS HER NAME** - Versatile veteran mare with sound references at this level on both surfaces, including a last-start 3rd in a 2500m turf handicap at Aix-les-Bains on 27 June. Beware
- 2. RECOLETA** - Finished 5th in both PSF appearances and remains unexposed on this surface. Was a fast-finishing 4th in 2400m turf handicap at Clairefontaine on 9 August - keep safe
- 3. BONNIE HOPPS** - Inconsistent mare who has blown hot and cold at this level on both surfaces - unplaced (8th) in a 2100m turf handicap at Vittel on 25 July
- 4. SHAMSABAD** - Bounced back to form with a reassuring 3rd over 2400m on turf at Compiègne on 12 July. Makes a long-awaited return to the PSF and Mickaël Barzalona is notable riding engagement
- 5. ANALEON** - Veteran handicapper with proven PSF form/references over marathon distances. Unplaced (9th) over 2350m in a handicap at Strasbourg on 8 July
- 6. ROYAL MONARCH** - Inconsistent handicapper who won a 2400m turf handicap at Dieppe before finishing a well-beaten 12th under a 2kg penalty at Clairefontaine on 31 July. Wears blinkers for the first time
- 7. DAY OFF** - Consistent hard-knocker with sound references/form credentials, including an encouraging 4th over 2400m at Clairefontaine on 31 July. Not taken lightly
- 8. DELSHEER** - Veteran handicapper with proven PSF form/references, including an improved 6th over course and distance on 8 August. Dark horse
- 9. BELLE** - Unexposed on this surface although her only career victory was achieved on PSF at this venue in December. Reverts to the all-weather after finishing unplaced (9th) in 2400m at Clairefontaine on 9 August - one to watch
- 10. DARIYANGEL** - Consistent hard-knocker with proven PSF form references/credentials, including a last-start 4th on this course over 1900m. Candidate for success
- 11. KENOR** - Reliable, versatile hard-knocker rewarded for his consistency with a last-start handicap victory over 3000m at Dieppe on 5 August. Big runner
- 12. VISIONARY DREAMER** - More effective in the claiming category and unlikely to trouble the judge in a handicap on this surface, despite a recent 5th over 2400m on turf at Vittel on 2 August
- 13. CHECKPOINT CHARLIE** - Has regained form and consistency recently after dropping to a career-low mark. Didn't go unnoticed when 5th over 3000m in a Dieppe handicap on 5 August

Summary: SHAMSABAD (4) is no longer the force of old but retains the means to be competitive at this level and against opposition of this ilk, especially after an encouraging last start. KENOR (11) is at the top of his game, winning 2 of his last 3 outings, and a recent penalty isn't likely to halt his momentum. PSF specialist DARIYANGEL (10) reverts to this extended distance with legitimate ambitions, with RECOLETA (2) the attractive outsider in the lineup.

SELECTIONS

SHAMSABAD (4) - KENOR (11) - DARIYANGEL (10) - RECOLETA (2)

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C8 - SUMBE PRIX D'AUVILLARS - 2500m (a1m1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 23,000

- 1. BIG RAJ** - Has not been at best in his last two starts and was unplaced last time out in a Clairefontaine-Deauville over 1600m on 5 July. Capable of better and is not out of it
- 2. MANNE** - Has been good in claimers of late and was a runner-up last time out at this course over 1900m on 10 August. Has a place chance
- 3. VENTOSILLA** - Not disgraced last time out when runner-up in a Conditions race at Saint-Malo over 2500m on 15 July. Tries the PSF but has a winning chance
- 4. MASSIMO** - Did not show his best on the turf last time out in a handicap when unplaced at Saint-Cloud over 2400m on 16 March. Better on the PSF and could score if fit from a break
- 5. LOR BLANC** - Unreliable but did run well last time out when third in a handicap at Vichy over 2400m on 24 July. Just as good on this surface and has a place chance
- 6. KEEP AWAY** - Broke a long losing run when scoring in a handicap at Dieppe over 3000m on 29 July. Carries a 3kg penalty but could earn some money
- 7. YORK TOWN** - Disappointing of late and was 8th last time out in a handicap at Vichy over 2800m on 18 July. Needs to do more to beat these rivals
- 8. BARC** - Unreliable of late and was 6th last time out in a Conditions race at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 2200m on 27 July. Might play a minor role
- 9. GOLDEN RIVER** - Has lost her way of late and was well beaten last time out in a handicap at this course over 1900m on 4 August. Others are preferred
- 10. BADEN ROCKS** - In good form of late and was third last time out in a handicap at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 2900m on 11 July. Could earn some minor money
- 11. QUE VENDRA** - Not disgraced when fourth last time out in a Handicap at Saint-Malo over this distance on 24 July. Has won on this surface and is not out of it
- 12. ALGECIRAS** - Did not show her best when 9th last time out in a Conditions race at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 2200m on 27 July. Won her penultimate start and could surprise
- 13. BOB LA BIDOUILLE** - Returned to his best with a handicap win last time out at Senonnes-Pouancé over 2100m on 3 August. Carries a 2kg penalty but can follow up

Summary: Hard race to assess and a chance is taken on MASSIMO (4) who is a proven PSF performer whose competitiveness at this level isn't in question. VENTOSILLA (3) is a model of consistency and wouldn't be winning out of turn after a recent 2nd, so she could fight for victory. Last-start winner BOB LA BIDOUILLE (13) could also be considered a candidate for success, while BIG RAJ (1) could bounce back with the benefit of his rider's 1,5kg allowance. MANNE (2) and LOR BLANC (5) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

MASSIMO (4) - VENTOSILLA (3) - BOB LA BIDOUILLE (13) - BIG RAJ (1)

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C9 - SUMBE PRIX DE SAINT-SYMPHORIEN - 2500m (a1m1/2) - ALL WEATHER - Class 4 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 16,000

1. MALLEOLUS - Runner-up in a 2000m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivaux in March but soundly beaten in his 9 other appearances this year, the latest (11th) in a handicap over this distance on turf at Aix-les-Bains on 14 July

2. MYKAN - Last-start winner of a 2500m turf handicap at Saint-Malo on 24 July. Should remain competitive despite his 2kg penalty

3. DETESNOUVELLES - Unsited by the way the race developed when only 9th over 2200m in a turf handicap at Dieppe on 5 August. Capable of better

4. DREAM AGAIN - Inconsistent performer on turf although seldom far off the mark - didn't go unnoticed when 6th over 2900m at Clairefontaine on 11 July. Has achieved her best references on this surface so shouldn't be underestimated

5. FALWUKAIR LAUJAC - Inconsistent handicapper but is versatile and has references on both surfaces at this level, including a good 3rd over track and trip last month. Finished a well-beaten 11th in a course-and-distance handicap on 8 August

6. LOVEATFIRSTSIGHT - Unplaced in all 7 appearances this year, the latest (12th) in a handicap over this distance on turf at Saint-Malo on 24 July. Soundly beaten in both PSF outings last year

7. LE HOULME - Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 5th in a handicap over this distance on turf at Aix-les-Bains on 14 July. Lacks references on PSF

8. SCHERWOOD - Consistent handicapper, albeit on turf - seldom finishes far off the mark. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th in a 2100m turf handicap at Vittel on 25 July

9. TOPFINE - Unplaced in 3 comeback appearances this year, the latest (15th) over 2400m in a turf handicap at Clairefontaine on 31 July. Has dropped to a very competitive/attractive mark and looks good value to take advantage of that

10. ARAMIS D'AZUR - Returned to form with an encouraging 4th in a 2200m turf handicap at Dieppe on 5 August. Best kept safe

11. WALDENON - Hard-knocking veteran who continues to blow hot and cold but has undeniable means. Runner-up over 2250m at ParisLongchamp on 4 July - chance on that form

12. GO GO BLITZ - Inconsistent handicapper but is versatile and has references on both surfaces at this level, including a good 4th in a 2150m PSF handicap at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March. Dark horse

13. HEART BRAKER - Hadn't been since November 2022 until making his reappearance recently - finished unplaced (14th) over track and trip in a handicap on 8 August. Watch for now

Summary: TOPFINE (9) looked out of sorts at Clairefontaine last time but she is a different proposition on this surface and could set the record straight, especially with the benefit of a No 1 gate. DREAM AGAIN (4) was hampered in her last start and united by the way that race developed and she, too, has sufficient means to bounce back from that by playing a leading role here. ARAMIS D'AZUR (10), after an encouraging last start (4th), and last-start winner MYKAN (2) also have legitimate claims of finishing on the podium judged on their recent performances.

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SELECTIONS

TOPFINE (9) - DREAM AGAIN (4) - ARAMIS D'AZUR (10) - MYKAN (2)