

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

R5 FONTAINEBLEAU [L-H]

**C1 - PRIX RADIO EVASION (PRIX DE LA GROTTTE AUX CRISTAUX) -
1000m (a5f) - TURF - Class 4 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 18,000**

1. MAGIC SWORD - Honest hard-knocking handicapper who didn't go unnoticed when 6th in a handicap over 1100m at La Teste on 12 September. Headgear worn that day is dispensed with on this occasion

2. SNOOZE BUTTON - Won an 1100m Dieppe handicap in July and maintained his consistency/competitiveness under a penalty (current mark), finishing 4th in both subsequent starts, the latest over 1300m at Saint-Cloud on 6 September

3. BIG FREEZE - Hard-knocker who improved in first-time headgear to finish 2nd in an 1100m handicap at Deauville but failed to confirm that form/improvement when 10th at Chantilly on 3 September. Headgear removed

4. TWO TWO TWO - Consistent handicapper with sound references/form credentials at this level off a higher mark. Wasn't beaten far when 6th in an 1100m at Chantilly on 3 September - not taken lightly

5. RISKI CHOPE - Ultra-consistent filly with solid form references/credentials in handicaps at this level. Showed her form and well-being when 3rd in a 1000m Vichy handicap on 23 August - keep safe

6. CALIFORNIAGOLDRUSH - Well-traveled filly with sound references in France, Germany and Belgium where she finished 3rd over 950m in a PSF handicap at Mons on 10 September. Has more to do in this grade/company

7. INVIOLEABLE SPIRIT - Veteran handicapper who hasn't lost any zest for racing - proved he retains the means to fight for victory in a race of this nature by finishing 2nd in an 1100m handicap at Chantilly on 3 September. Candidate for success

8. GLICOURT - Well-performed veteran handicapper with 6 course victories to his name. Finished 3rd in an 1100m Chantilly handicap on 3 September, closely matched with INVIOLEABLE SPIRIT (7)

9. COOLMEEN ROYAL - Bounced back to form with a reassuring 2nd in a 1300m Saint-Cloud handicap on 6 September off his current mark. Ought to remain competitive

10. MEHANYDREAM - Penalised 2,5kg for winning a 1000m Vichy handicap last month and didn't go unnoticed when 6th in an 1100m Chantilly handicap off this mark on 3 September. Not taken lightly

11. PELUSIVE - Unreliable filly with sound references/form credentials in sprint handicaps at this level, though seldom wins (has only 1 victory from 26 starts). Finished 9th in a 1000m Vichy handicap on 23 August - outsider

12. BELLE D'AMOUR - Placed once in 17 starts and she hasn't made the frame this year either in 5 appearances, the latest (6th) in an 1100m handicap at Deauville on 13 August. Others preferred

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

13. SNEAKY - Battling long-time maiden (40 starts without a win) unlikely to trouble the judge on the evidence of her recent displays, the latest (8th) in an 800m claimer at Chantilly on 7 September

Summary: Track-specialist GLICOURT (8) knows this straight course like the back of his hand. He finished behind INVIOLEABLE SPIRIT (7) in a handicap over 1100m at Chantilly earlier this month but is good value to turn the tables on that rival, who hasn't won for almost two years. RISKI CHOPE (5) is enjoying a good spell and should remain competitive for the leading places. COOLMEEN ROYAL (9) has also performed well on this track and isn't underestimated either, judged on the strength and consistency of his recent form.

SELECTIONS

GLICOURT (8) - INVIOLEABLE SPIRIT (7) - RISKI CHOPE (5) - COOLMEEN ROYAL (9)

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

C2 - PRIX LEXUS TEAM COLIN (PRIX DES CHEVREUILS) - 2200m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Handicap - Flat - EUR € 21,000

- 1. FEE DU VIVIEN** - Inconsistent 11-start maiden but has sufficient means to make her presence felt - seldom far off the mark on a going day. Didn't go unnoticed when 7th in a 2500m ParisLongchamp handicap on 1 September
- 2. HOLLY PHELIE** - Improved in first-time headgear to finish an encouraging 4th on her handicap/PSF debut over 1900m at Chantilly on 3 September. Closely matched on that form with NICE RULER (8) so she should be factor here
- 3. ESTONIA MOON** - Finished 5th in 3 consecutive starts early this year but lost his way after a 6-month layoff - soundly beaten in 3 subsequent recent outings, the latest (9th) in a 2200m conditions race at Nantes on 10 September
- 4. RUE DES ORTEAUX** - Wasn't beaten far in her first 2 handicap appearances (both on PSF) but has gone off the boil recently and was soundly beaten (11th) in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 3 September after a 4-month absence
- 5. VIRGO MARIA** - Achieved her best references/performances (sole career victory) on PSF although sparked improvement to finish 3rd in a 2400m claimer on turf at La Roche-Posay on 8 September. Confirmation required
- 6. LA VUELTA** - Caught the eye when finishing 3rd on her handicap debut at Compiègne in March but has regressed since. Made no impression (17th) in a 2200m handicap at Clairefontaine on 16 August
- 7. FATU HIVA** - Consistent handicapper with sound references/form credentials, albeit without success (8-start maiden). Acquitted herself well when 5th in a 2200m handicap at Clairefontaine on 16 August - not taken lightly
- 8. NICE RULER** - An 8-start maiden with solid form references/credentials, including a recent 3rd in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 3 September. Open to further improvement stretching out to this distance for the first time
- 9. SI CAPO SI** - Placed once in 3 starts, all in the claiming category - finished 3rd over 1900m on PSF but failed to confirm that form/improvement when switched to turf, finishing 9th over 2400m at Saint-Cloud on 6 September
- 10. LEXOVIENNE** - Sparked improvement dropped in the weights/ratings to finish a reassuring 6th in a 2500m handicap at ParisLongchamp on 1 September - warrants respect off a reduced mark
- 11. SHALAA DANCER** - Last-start winner of a 2500m ParisLongchamp handicap (1 September). Should remain competitive under a 2,5kg penalty
- 12. TOTE BAG** - Runner-up in consecutive handicaps before a disappointing last start (8th) in a 1600m ParisLongchamp handicap on 29 August. This distance will be more to his liking so he could be worth another chance here
- 13. RUM TUM TUGGER** - Achieved his best references in the claiming category and finished downfield in each of 3 handicap starts this year, the latest (10th) over 2500m at ParisLongchamp on 1 September

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

14. GARDEN CHOP - A 16-start maiden whose best performances/references were achieved in claiming races. Unplaced (12th) in his only handicap appearance over 2000m at La Teste on 3 July

15. PROUD LUCY - Unplaced although not beaten far in 3 maiden races before finishing downfield (12th) on her handicap at Clairefontaine over 2200m on 16 August. Wears headgear for the first time

16. BULLANT - Not disgraced on his handicap debut, finishing 6th of 13 over 2500m at ParisLongchamp on 1 September. Dangerous to discount his chances

17. MARINELLA - Didn't go unnoticed when 4th on debut at Morlaix in May but hasn't built on that encouragement in her 5 subsequent starts, unplaced on each occasion - the latest (7th) over 2000m at Strasbourg on 8 September

18. ENORA SENORA - Finished an eye-catching 3rd in a 2000m Saint-Cloud handicap on 10 May but regressed in 3 subsequent outings, the latest (10th) in a 1900m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 3 September

Summary: NICE RULER (8) has improved with each handicap appearance and, on the evidence of his fast-finishing 3rd over 1900m on PSF last time, this extended trip could unlock sufficient progress for him to open his account. However, HOLLY PHELIE (2) is closely matched on that form (finished a neck behind the selection) so she will pose a threat. TOTE BAG (12) will fare better over this distance after a disappointing last start over an inadequate trip, so he isn't underestimated. SHALAA DANCER (11) is the only last-start winner in the race and he ought to remain competitive despite a resultant penalty.

SELECTIONS

NICE RULER (8) - HOLLY PHELIE (2) - TOTE BAG (12) - SHALAA DANCER (11)

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

C3 - PRIX TOYOTA TEAM COLIN (PRIX DU BOIS NOTRE-DAME) - 1400m (a7f) - TURF - Claiming - Flat - EUR € 24,000

- 1. MISS LACOUMA** - Supplemented for this race and is Ideally engaged/favourably treated under the conditions. Acquitted herself well in defeat when 3rd in a 1600m conditions race at Vichy on 23 August - will appreciate this shorter trip
- 2. JOHNNY JANE** - Unplaced/soundly beaten in both outings, the latest (8th) over 1000m at Dieppe on 1 June. Watch for now
- 3. BLUE HUNT** - Having endured a tough trip, she did well to finish 5th in a 1400m claimer at ParisLongchamp on 29 August.Keep safe
- 4. EAGLE GATE** - Changed hands following his last-start victory in a 1400m claimer at Compiègne on 17 September. Should be competitive for the leading places
- 5. EYWA** - Consistent filly with sound form references/credentials in the claiming category, including a last-start 5th in a 1600m claimer at Saint-Cloud on 6 September
- 6. FISFUL OF LOVE** - Experienced and consistent filly with sound references/form credentials at this level, albeit without a victory. Acquitted herself well (4th) in a 1600m handicap at Saint-Cloud on 13 September
- 7. KEY TO VICTORY** - Won a 1600m claimer at Clairefontaine-Deauville on 31 July but has regressed in 3 starts since - finished (9th)in a 1200m handicap at Chantilly on 7 September. Outsider

Summary: Much was expected of MISS LACOUMA (1) over 1600m at Vichy late last month but she didn't meet expectations, though she did acquit herself well (3rd) in defeat. She will appreciate reverting to this shorter distance and was supplemented for this race, so is good value to make amends at the primary expense of EAGLE GATE (4) who is favourably treated under the conditions in his first start for new connections. BLUE HUNT (3) and FISFUL OF LOVE (6) are contenders for the remaining podium berth.

SELECTIONS

MISS LACOUMA (1) - EAGLE GATE (4) - BLUE HUNT (3) - FISFUL OF LOVE (6)

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

C4 - PRIX LABEL EQUURES - 1400m (a7f) - TURF - Class 3 Race - Flat - EUR € 18,000

1. GAILLARD - Progressive gelding with solid form references/credentials in better races. Won consecutive handicaps before blotting his copybook when 9th in a 1400m Quinte+ handicap at ParisLongchamp on 5 September - keep safe

2. TOIJK - Hard-knocking versatile veteran handicapper with sound references at this venue, on turf and PSF, and in Quinte+ handicaps, including a last-start 7th in a 1500m PSF event at Deauville on 25 August. Will have a say

3. COLOMBIER - Placed 3rd at Group III as a three-year-old in the care of André Fabre. Made a winning French comeback over 1400m in a conditions race at Le Lion-d'Angers on 9 August - remains open to further improvement

4. LANAKEN - Enjoyed a very productive 2023 and has held his own in stronger races/fields this year. Didn't go unnoticed when 7th in a 1400m Class 1 conditions race on PSF at Deauville on 18 August. Not taken lightly

5. ICE CLIMBER - This four-year-old Dark Angel gelding is trained and owned by Jean-Vincent Toux, who has engaged Brandon Flament to ride this newcomer. Best watched for now

6. KILOECHO - Honest hard-knocking veteran with sound references in handicaps. Well-beaten 15th in a 1500m PSF Quinte+ event at Deauville on 25 August but could fare better at this level - dark horse

7. HALEINE - Lightly raced with undeniable means/ability. Absent since finishing 5th in a 1600m Quinte+ handicap on PSF at Chantilly on 21 November 2023 - best watched for now

Summary: COLOMBIER (3) made an impressive winning return on French soil at Le Lion d'Angers last month and his momentum is unlikely to be halted. He will, however, have to thwart the likely challenges of LANAKEN (4), who is steadily regaining his form, and TOIJK (2) who need only produce a similar display to that of his Quinte+ performance on 25 August to play a leading role. GAILLARD (1) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

COLOMBIER (3) - LANAKEN (4) - TOIJK (2) - GAILLARD (1)

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

C5 - PRIX DE L'IMPERATRICE EUGENIE - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Class 4 Race - Flat - EUR € 16,000

1. DELTA SPIRIT - Last-start winner of a conditions race over 2000m at Toulouse on 18 September under the same rider, who is unbeaten in 2 associations with this seven-year-old gelding. The horse to beat

2. PANJAMAN - Unplaced in 4 consecutive outings, the latest (8th) in a 1900m PSF handicap at Deauville on 22 August. Could do better at this level under Berit Weber, who hasn't finished worse than 2nd in her last 4 rides

3. KHANWEILER - Won a 2300m claimer at Pompadour last month and acquitted himself well when 4th in a 2200m conditions race at Lyon-Parilly on 11 September. Not taken lightly racing off an unchanged mark

4. COW BOY - Won a 2150m Cagnes handicap in January but has struggled since - finished unplaced in 6 subsequent starts, the latest (8th) over 1800m in a conditions race at Saint-Malo on 22 August

5. CARTER AND GO - Regained momentum recently, finishing 3rd in consecutive starts - the latest in a 2400m Salon-de-Provence claimer on 9 September. Keep safe

6. LHOMMAIZE - Unplaced/soundly beaten in 3 comeback appearances after a 4-month absence, the latest (11th) over 2500m in a handicap at Deauville on 1 August. Others preferred

7. ZARICA - Consistent veteran mare with solid form references/credentials, including a last-start 3rd in a 2100m claimer at ParisLongchamp on 5 September. Will be a factor

Summary: Successful at Toulouse last week, Loeiza Hayères Fouchard and the in-form DELTA SPIRIT (1) are good value to add to their tally. Veteran mare ZARICA (7) will pose a threat if confirming the form/improvement of her last start. She leads the opposition ahead of CARTER AND GO (5), whose back-to-back 3rd-place finishes give her a solid shout here, and PANJAMAN (2) with skillful Berit Weber in the irons.

SELECTIONS

DELTA SPIRIT (1) - ZARICA (7) - CARTER AND GO (5) - PANJAMAN (2)

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

C6 - PRIX TECHSTAR FONTAINEBLEAU BY AUTOSPHERE (PRIX DE LA MARE AUX EVEES) - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Class 3 Claiming - Flat - EUR € 19,000

1. DAPANGO - Won a German Group II as a three-year-old and got his career back on track with a last-start victory at Dieppe in an 1800m claimer on 27 August in his first start on French soil. The horse to beat

2. TOLLEFAST - Has made 2 pleasing comeback appearances this year after an 8-month absence. Didn't go unnoticed when 5th in an 1800m claimer at Dieppe on 27 August behind DAPANGO (1) - will be a factor

3. NAVARE - Bounced back to form with a reassuring 3rd over 1600m at Baden-Baden on 1 September. Not taken lightly in her start on French soil

4. MANDURO LOVE - Unplaced/soundly beaten in both appearances, the latest (8th) in a 1400m claiming race at ParisLongchamp on 29 August. Hard to recommend

5. TREVANION - Has improved in 2 starts on French soil, having shown little in either outing on PSF in England. Won a 1600m Class 4 conditions race at Pompadour on 1 September - more progress is needed to be competitive here

6. NOLITO - Lost his way/form in the handicaps this year and has dropped in the ratings as a result. Didn't go unnoticed when 6th in a 100m claimer at ParisLongchamp on 29 August

7. LOUBEISIEN - Runner-up in a 1400m claimer at La Teste on 22 July but finished unplaced in both subsequent outings - the latest (7th) over 1600m at Baden-Baden on 24 August. Capable of better

8. MARKSWOMAN - Inconsistent filly with sound references/form credentials in the claiming category. Absent since finishing 10th in a 1400m claimer at Saint-Cloud on 16 March - best watched for now

9. SAANEN - Winner on this course over 2000m in April but has failed to confirm that form/improvement in 5 subsequent outings, finishing unplaced in each - the latest (7th) over 1500m on PSF at Deauville on 25 August - outsider

Summary: DAPANGO (1) got his career back on track with a morale-boosting claiming race victory in his first appearance on French soil and he ought to continue his momentum. TOLLEFAST (2) finished behind the selection at Dieppe last time and he renews rivalry with legitimate ambitions podium aspirations. LOUBEISIEN (7) and NAVARE (3) are inconsistent but will be competitive for a spot on the podium.

SELECTIONS

DAPANGO (1) - TOLLEFAST (2) - LOUBEISIEN (7) - NAVARE (3)

SUNDAY, 22/09/24

C7 - PRIX PHILIPPE LORAIN (CHMPT PARIS TURF DES APPRENTIS & JEUNES JOCKEYS) - 2600m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Class 3 Race - Flat - EUR € 20,000

1. ALGOT - Consistent lightly raced colt with references over this distance in handicap races - seldom finishes far off the mark. Didn't go unnoticed when 54th on a 2400m claimer at La Roche-Posay on 8 September

2. NASDAQ - Returned from a 3-month absence to finish an encouraging 4th in a 2400m claimer at Saint-Cloud earlier this month (6 September). Open to improvement

3. HEAREN - Won a 200m Clairefontaine handicap in July and acquitted herself well under a 3,5kg penalty to finish 6th in a 2400m handicap at the venue on 12 August. Not taken lightly

4. ARTUS THE BRAVE - Debut winner over 2600m at Morlaix in May but has failed to build on that promise in his 5 subsequent starts, finishing unplaced in each - the latest (5th) over 2200m at Nantes on 10 September. Can do better at this level

5. FREEZE - Winner over 2100m at Vittel early last month and proved his competitiveness under a 2,5kg penalty (current mark) by finishing 2nd over 2200m at that venue on 24 August. The longer distance should be to his liking

6. KEEP GOING - Has made marked improvement in 2 comeback appearances this year, both with headgear fitted - the latest (2nd) over 2400m at Beaupréau on 24 August. Open to further progress

7. AODHA - Consistent stayer, albeit at a lower level. Seldom finishes far off the mark so she can get a look in if bouncing back from a disappointing 7th over 2100m at Le Touquet on 1 July

8. FLORAISON - Unplaced in all 4 appearances although 5th in 2 starts - twice 10th, including her latest on handicap debut at Strasbourg over 2300m on 8 September. Others preferred

Summary: FREEZE (5) wasn't winning out of turn when scoring easily at Vittel early last month before proving his competitiveness off this mark (under a resultant penalty) by subsequently running well to finish 2nd at Clairefontaine. He remains open to improvement over this extended trip so gets the nod ahead of KEEP GOING (6) who has acquitted himself well enough in both comeback runs to make life difficult for the selection. HEAREN (3) and ARTUS THE BRAVE (4) have both the form and experience to get involved.

SELECTIONS

FREEZE (5) - KEEP GOING (6) - HEAREN (3) - ARTUS THE BRAVE (4)