

THURSDAY, 26/12/24

R2 ARGENTAN [R-H]

C1 - PRIX MICHEL FOUCAULT - 2800m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Drivers Race - Harness - EUR € 6,000

- 1. HARMONIE PICARDE** - A runner-up in the amateurs at Amiens over 2900m on 9 December. In five outings together this pair has made the frame on each occasion
- 2. IN THE AIR** - Finished 7th in a class E at Saint-Brieuc over 3150m on 6 December. Capable of making the frame and will have supporters
- 3. HAMILTON D'ALB** - Disqualified in a Mounted class E at Le Croise-Laroche over 2825m on 16 December. Well placed behind the car and is probably better in this discipline.
- 4. GALTON SAINT BAR** - Finished 8th in a Mounted class F at Meslay-du-Maine over 2875m on 19 December. Needs to find a few lengths to be competitive
- 5. HATALANTE DE FLO** - Fourth in a class F at Laval over 2850m on 8 December. Remains barefoot. A consistent sort who should be involved in the finish again
- 6. GO GARFIELD** - A runner-up in a class G at Vincennes over 2100m on 12 December. Finished off the latest well and deserves to be respected
- 7. HONEY SWEET GIRL** - Disqualified in a Mounted class F at Meslay-du-Maine over 2875m on 19 December. This is the third run back and can improve
- 8. HAVE A LOVE** - Well beaten 9th in a class G at Rouen-Mauquenchy over 2850m on 28 November. Remains barefoot. Poor form and others are preferred
- 9. FIZZ SAINT GERMAIN** - Unplaced in a class G at Vincennes over 2100m on 12 December. Others are preferred in this line up
- 10. IN LOVE DE CHARDET** - Finished 6th in a class F at Cabourg over 2750m on 17 December. Michel Poirier only previous effort resulted in making the frame
- 11. IDEAL DU BOUILLON** - Finished 8th in a class F at Angers over 3125m on 9 December. Pops up in a place now and then
- 12. IDEAL FOUR** - Unplaced in a class F at Cabourg over 2725m on 19 December. Reverts to barefoot. Others are preferred in this line-up
- 13. ISUTAH** - Well beaten 8th in a Mounted class H at Nuillé-sur-Vicoin over 13 October. Might need the run-back
- 14. FOSTINE DE CRENNES** - A winner in a class G Vire over 2825m on 1 December. Has confidence and is not out of it
- 15. INARA DU VIVIER** - Finished 10th in a class F at Sablé-sur-Sarthe over 2825m on 26 May. Needs to find a few lengths
- 16. FIDZI DREAM** - Finished 7th in a Mounted class F at Meslay-du-Maine over 2875m on 19 December. Reverts to barefoot and is back to a Harness race

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Summary: HATALANTE DE FLO (5) is very consistent and is capable of winning this opening event. HARMONIE PICARDE (1) has done pretty well with this driver and can be involved with the finish yet again. GO GARFIELD (6) finished the race off strongly at Vincennes earlier this month and has a winning chance. HAMILTON D'ALB (3) is well placed at the start and is not out of it.

SELECTIONS

**HATALANTE DE FLO (5) - HARMONIE PICARDE (1) - GO GARFIELD (6) - HAMILTON
D'ALB (3)**

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**C2 - PRIX DE LA MAYENNE - 2875m (a2m) - Class F Race - Harness - EUR
€ 18,000**

- 1. KONSTANZ BODENSEE** - Well beaten 9th in a class F at Nantes over 3000m on 16 December. Others are preferred in this line-up
- 2. KASTERA** - Disqualified in a class F at Durtal over 2825m on 13 October. Must be wise and might need the run-back so others are preferred
- 3. KALIE DE L'ORMERIE** - Disqualified in a Mounted class F at Laval over 2850m on 17 May. Might need the run-back
- 4. KILLEM** - Has some fair form and was fifth in a class F at Vire over 2800m on 1 December. Can play a minor role at best
- 5. KALHETA DU FETZ** - Fourth in a class F at Cordemais over 2825m on 15 December. Consistent sort who can make the frame. Needs to find a few lengths to win
- 6. KOSTA BRAVA** - Fourth in a class F at Cordemais over 2825m on 15 December. Remains tackled and has been competitive in the last three efforts in this configuration
- 7. KILOUNA** - Well beaten 10th in a class F at Le Mans over 2950m on 16 December. Reverts to barefoot. Others are preferred in this line-up
- 8. KEY LARGO WIND** - Finished 6th in a Mounted class F at Graignes over 2700m on 13 December. Reverts to barefoot and did win in this configuration in her penultimate start
- 9. KHALEESI DE GELBE** - Finished 7th in a class F at Cordemais over 2825m on 15 December. Reverts to barefoot and this could suit. Not out of it
- 10. KANTIQUE DELO** - Disqualified in the last three, the latest in a Mounted class E at Vincennes over 2700m on 15 December. Yet to show in this discipline
- 11. KINA DU GOUTIER** - Well beaten 10th in a Claimer at Vincennes over 2700m on 13 December. Unreliable and is best watched for now
- 12. KELISSA D'AVE** - Finished 7th in a class F at Le Croise-Laroche over 2700m on 16 December. Reverts to barefoot. This is the third run back and can show improvement
- 13. KUEEN DE MONGUERET** - Fifth in a class F at Laval over 2050m on 8 December. Remains barefoot. Benjamin Rochard will give every assistance from the sulky and will have supporters
- 14. KALINKA ERA** - Disqualified in a Mounted class E at Vincennes over 2200m on 29 November. Back to a Harness race and is best watched for now
- 15. KOSCA DES CAILLONS** - Disqualified in her last two starts, the latest in a class F at Nantes over 3000m on 8 December. When wise is seldom far off them and is capable of bouncing back
- 16. KIARA D'ECOTAY** - Fifth in a Mounted class F at Reims over 2550m on 15 September. Remains barefoot. Might need the run but can play a minor role
- 17. KENZA SPORT** - Disqualified in her last three starts, the latest in a class E at Angers over 3125m on 20 October. Has a winning chance when wise
- 18. KERATINE GLAM** - Fourth in a class F at Nantes over 3000m on 8 December. Holding form well and can contest the finish again

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Summary: KENZA SPORT (17) is very hard to trust and was disqualified in her last three starts but she can win a race like this if smart this time. KERATINE GLAM (18) is holding form and should fight out the finish again. KUEEN DE MONGUERET (13) is unreliable but can get into the mix of things. KOSCA DES CAILLONS (15) is another that is hard to trust but can score when in the right mood.

SELECTIONS

**KENZA SPORT (17) - KERATINE GLAM (18) - KUEEN DE MONGUERET (13) - KOSCA
DES CAILLONS (15)**

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C3 - PRIX DE LA SARTHE - 2875m (a2m) - Class F Race - Harness - EUR € 18,000

- 1. KENDJI DE BEAULIEU** - Disqualified in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Major disqualification issues and others are preferred
- 2. KESACO FORGETIERE** - Well beaten 8th in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Remains barefoot. Unplaced this year and is best watched for now
- 3. KIRSCH VRIE** - Disqualified in a class F at Marseille-Vivauz over 2650m on 12 December. Remains barefoot. Must be wise to be involved
- 4. KIROLAK DU BOCAGE** - Finished 7th in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Others are preferred in this line-up
- 5. KARNAC DU VIVIER** - Finished 7th in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Third run back and can play a minor role
- 6. KHAN** - Disqualified in a Claimer at Bordeaux-Le Bouscat over 2550m on 9 December. Remains barefoot. Has disqualification issues and if wise can play a minor role
- 7. KETCHUP** - Disqualified in a Mounted class F at Cabourg over 2750m on 7 December. When wise is seldom far off them but is hard to trust
- 8. KROC DES CARREAUX** - Fourth in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Improved latest effort and must confirm that
- 9. KHAO LAK** - Fourth in a class F at Nantes over 3000m on 8 December. Seldom far off them and can earn minor money
- 10. KASIMIR JELOCA** - Well beaten 7th in a class F at Saint-Brieuc over 3150m on 6 December. Needs to find a few lengths
- 11. KANDAR JIEL** - Disqualified in a class E at Graignes over 2725m on 13 December. Third run back from a long break and could be fitter this time. Big chance
- 12. KANSAS BONBON** - Fifth in a class E at Graignes over 2725m on 13 December. Seldom far off them and is not out of it
- 13. KOLMI DES EPINES** - A runner-up in the last two, the latest in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Is capable of going one better
- 14. KEMER SI** - A winner in a class F at this track over 2875m on 15 December. Capable of contesting the finish again
- 15. KACTUS DE BEAUM** - Finished 8th in a class E at Rouen-Mauquenchy over 2850m on 3 December. It is shooed and does seem better in this configuration. Can upset
- 16. KASCH MILL** - Disqualified in a class E at Enghien over 2875m on 28 September. Ignore the latest effort and can play a minor role
- 17. KRUG LOVER** - A winner of his last two starts, the latest in a class F at Le-Mans over 2850m on 16 December. Shod this time but is capable of making the frame again
- 18. KIKOU D'ALEXIANE** - Fifth in a class E at Rouen-Mauquenchy over 2850m on 3 December. Holding form well in the last two efforts and can be competitive again

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Summary: KANDAR JIEL (11) was the likely winner when faulting last time out at Graignes. He can make amends if wise this time. KIKOU D'ALEXIANE (18) has held form of late and can be a lively danger. KOLMI DES EPINES (13) is knocking very loudly at the door and would not be a surprise winner. KEMER SI (14) was victorious at this track earlier this month and is another possible winner.

SELECTIONS

KANDAR JIEL (11) - KIKOU D'ALEXIANE (18) - KOLMI DES EPINES (13) - KEMER SI (14)

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C4 - PRIX DE LA MANCHE - 2800m (a2m) - Class E Race - Harness - EUR € 21,000

- 1. LIEGO** - A runner-up in a class E at Le-Mans over 2200m on 16 December. Well placed behind the car and is capable of contesting the finish again
- 2. LOOPING MIL** - Disqualified in a class E at Cabourg over 2750m on 9 November. Has disqualification issues and is best watched for now
- 3. LIGHTNING JIEL** - Disqualified in a class E at Vincennes over 2200m on 10 December. If wise can be involved in the finish
- 4. LIBERTY DELO** - Disqualified in a class E at Cabourg over 2750m on 17 December. Must be wise to have a chance
- 5. LATINO LA MAZURE** - Unplaced in a class E at Vincennes over 2200m on 10 December. This is the third run back from a break and can get closer
- 6. LOHENGRIN** - Third in a class E at Graignes over 2725m on 12 November. Holding form and is not out of it
- 7. LADY FLO DE MAX** - Finished 7th in a class E at Cabourg over 2750m on 17 December. Probably needed the latest and can play a minor role
- 8. LORENZO DE BUCY** - Finished 8th in a class E at Rouen-Mauquenchy over 2850m on 10 November. Comfortable on the right hand and can make the frame
- 9. L'APOLOGIE** - Finished 8th in a class E at Cabourg over 2750m on 17 December. Needs to find a few lengths to be competitive
- 10. LOUMANA ROSE** - A 3-year-old filly by Diable de Vauvert out of Asganina who makes her debut. Qualified in a good time and is expected to be competitive
- 11. LADY DE BANNES** - Unplaced in a class E at Le-Mans over 2200m on 16 December. Unreliable but does pop up in a place every now and then
- 12. LEANE DU PARC** - Fourth in a class F at Caen over 2450m on 9 November. Seldom far off them and can play a minor role at best
- 13. LUPIN DE MONTCEAU** - Disqualified in the last five, the latest in a class F at Vire over 2800m on 1 December. Must be wise
- 14. LUEUR MAJYC** - Disqualified in a class F at Meslay-du-Maine over 2875m on 19 December. Must be wise to be involved
- 15. L'ACCLAMATION** - A runner-up in a class G at Reims over 2500m on 7 December. Improving sort who can go one better
- 16. LICORNE DE LA JOIE** - Disqualified in the last four, the latest in a Mounted class E at Cabourg over 2750m on 7 December. Must be wise

Summary: A weak race and anything is possible. L'ACCLAMATION (15) showed improvement and can go one better on the performance at Reims earlier this month. LIGHTNING JIEL (3) is not easy to trust but does have a winning chance. LIEGO (1) is well placed behind the car and should be competitive. LORENZO DE BUCY (8) should improve going right-handed again.

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SELECTIONS

L'ACCLAMATION (15) - LIGHTNING JIEL (3) - LIEGO (1) - LORENZO DE BUCY (8)

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C5 - PRIX DE L'EURE - 2150m (a1m1/4) - Class F Race - Harness - EUR € 21,000

- 1. JINGALO BABEL** - Lightly raced ultra-consistent performer at the top of his game and whose form references/credentials, include a 2450m Castillonnès victory in September and a creditable last-start 4th over 3275m at Saumur on 20 October
- 2. JACOBSON** - Versatile but delicate trotter with undeniable means - boasts sound references/form credentials in both trotting disciplines, including an improved/encouraging last-start 4th in a 3000m Nantes harness race on 16 December
- 3. JASPE** - Joined current yard/trainer after finishing 2nd in a 2850m Vincennes claimer in November and finished 4th over 2400m at Amiens for new connections on 1 December. Long-time maiden (44 starts) with place prospects
- 4. JALISKA DE LA NADE** - Experienced but unreliable mare and currently out of sorts - finished 2nd over 3100m at Chinon in mid-August but unplaced in 3 subsequent starts, the latest (8th) over 2800m at Rambouillet on 6 October. Others preferred
- 5. JIMMY DU CLOS** - Acquitted himself well in both visits to this course (2nd and 5th), albeit over further. Absent since finishing 11th at Durtal on 14 July but remains open to improvement on his reappearance so must be respected - keep safe
- 6. JAKIRA** - A long-time 48-start maiden with the form and experience to acquit herself competitively. Showed her form and well-being by finishing 4th over 2725m at Grenade-sur-Garonne on 8 December
- 7. JUMPER DE LA NADE** - Experienced hard-knocker who seldom finishes far off the mark and whose references/form credentials include a recent 7th (didn't go unnoticed) at Lyon-Parilly over 2600m on 1 December. Will appeal to lovers of outsiders
- 8. JULIUS D'ALCI** - Inconsistent but retains sufficient means, especially under these conditions/in this configuration. Shouldn't be hastily condemned for finishing 10th over 2700m at Le Croisé-Laroche on 16 December - attractive outsider
- 9. JAMAICA DES ILES** - Honest hard-knocker with sound references/form credentials - seldom far off the mark, though most effective racing unshod. Disqualified in a 2600m harness race at Meslay on 19 December but remains capable of better
- 10. JAVA DE LANGERON** - Complicated but not devoid of ability (has references at a higher level in this shoeing configuration). Shouldn't be hastily condemned for her recent disqualification (shod) at Nantes on 16 December, unshod on this occasion
- 11. JACK SPARROW GEPE** - Relatively consistent trotter who seldom finishes far off the mark but rarely wins (1 victory from 49 starts). Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 7th (unshod) over 2750m at Cabourg on 17 December - races shod here, outsider
- 12. JUDY TURGOT** - Unplaced in 6 consecutive starts before her latest failure (disqualification) at Mauquenchy in a 2850m harness event on 17 November. Others preferred
- 13. JORLANDO** - Consistent hard-knocker with sound references/form credentials on a right-hand track with Maxence Duveau at the helm. Has finished 4th twice and 3rd thrice, the latest at Meslay (2600m) on 19 December, in his last 5 starts

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14. JAMINA DES CHASSES - Unreliable but undeniably capable trotter, especially in this configuration - won at Caen in September with this shoe-fitting. Finished 9th (shod) at Cabourg on 23 December but shouldn't be underestimated

15. JEU DECISIF - Experienced trotter with undeniable means/sound references but most effective without his irons (unshod). Disqualified in a 2600m harness race at Meslay on 19 December - best watched for now

16. JERICHO D'ORGERES - Inconsistent performer with undeniable means, especially under these conditions/in this configuration - boasts references at a higher level. Unplaced (11th) over 2700m at Vincennes on 22 December but will find this easier

Summary: JACOBSON (2) bounced back to form with a reassuring 4th last month and will likely make the most of his ideal starting position by playing a promising role throughout. JIMMY DU CLOS (5) is returning from a rest but has shown enough in both visits to this course to make life difficult for the selection. JINGALO BABEL (1), and JORLANDO (13) are others with legitimate podium ambitions. JULIUS D'ALCI (8) appeals most of the remainder.

SELECTIONS

JACOBSON (2) - JIMMY DU CLOS (5) - JINGALO BABEL (1) - JORLANDO (13)

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C6 - PRIX DU CALVADOS - 2875m (a2m) - Class F Race - Mounted - EUR € 21,000

1. IP OP DE LA ROQUE - Unplaced (soundly beaten) in 3 recent comeback appearances after a 6-month absence, albeit in harness races - the latest (8th) at Mons over 2300m on 5 December. Others preferred

2. IRLANDO D'OR - Delicate but versatile trotter (rarely far from a fault, though usually acquits himself well when remaining wise). Shouldn't be hastily condemned for finishing 10th in a 2750m Cabourg harness race on 17 December - beware

3. I AM MAJYC - Won a 2800m mounted race at Vire under Amélie Poulain last month but was disqualified in both subsequent outings, the latest under the saddle at Mesly over 2875m on 19 December. Question of wisdom

4. IRIS RENARDIER - Complicated but versatile veteran mare with sound references under the saddle, which include a reassuring last-start 4th on this course in a 2875m amateur race on 15 December. More needed

5. IRAFARA - Disqualified 4 times and finished unplaced 3 times in her 7 appearances after back-to-back victories under the saddle. Didn't go unnoticed (6th) in a 2725m harness race at Cabourg on 19 December - attractive outsider

6. IDO MENDY - Won a 2750m mounted race at Cabourg in July but struggled since - disqualified 5 times in 8 subsequent starts and finished unplaced in his other 3 outings, the latest (9th) in a 2850m Mauquenchy harness on 3 December

7. INTIME COTERIE - Veteran hard-knocker with sound references under the saddle in this shoeing configuration. Didn't go unnoticed when 6th (shod) in a course-and-distance amateur race on 15 December - respected with front shoes removed

8. INTREPID NEMO - Experienced hard-knocker with references under these conditions/with this configuration in mounted races at a higher level. Unplaced (9th) over 3000m at Nantes on 3 December but retains the means to fare better here

9. IVANHOE DU CLOS - A winner of his last 3 appearances under the saddle, 2 in this shoeing configuration (the latest on 19 November). Disqualified in a harness race over 2700m at Le Croisé-Laroche on 2 December in preparing for this engagement

10. HORACIO DU MONT - Rarely seen in this code but has performed well under the saddle. Switches to the mounted category now after 4 consecutive unplaced harness appearances - the latest (soundly beaten) at Les Andelys on 15 September

11. HINSERT MAHCATH - Enigmatic trotter disqualified in 6 of his last 7 starts, including back-to-back (both) comeback appearances - the latest (6 December) in a 3150m harness race at Saint-Brieuc. Confirmed under the saddle, question of wisdom

12. IKEM DU GERS - Versatile trotter with the form and experience under the saddle to acquit himself competitively. Shouldn't be hastily condemned for finishing 10th in a harness race over 2700m at Le Croisé-Laroche on 2 December - danger

13. ILVICA DE HOUELLE - Complicated veteran mare disqualified in 5 of her last 8 appearances, including back-to-back recent starts - the latest over 2700m at Vincennes on 12 December. Question of wisdom

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14. IDEAL D'URZY - Experienced trotter (in the harness category) who made a winning start under the saddle over 2700m at Laval in November. Showed his form and well-being by finishing 3rd (barefoot) in a 2650m harness race at Bordeaux on 17 December and returns to this mounted code with legitimate winning ambitions

15. IVRE DE TOI - Seldom far from a fault but usually acquits herself competitively when applied/remaining wise (boasts the form and experience to play a leading role). Shouldn't be hastily condemned for her failure in a course-and-distance event on 15 December

16. HOLD UP CRAZY - Consistent and versatile veteran trotter maintaining remarkable consistency alternating between the 2 codes. Showed his form and well-being with a creditable 5th in a 2875m mounted race at Meslay on 19 December

Summary: Judged on the evidence of his winning mounted debut, IDEAL D'URZY (14) has a bright future in this code and it could pay to follow his progress back under the saddle. IVRE DE TOI (15), for whom this will remain a question of wisdom, can threaten the selection if avoiding disqualification, while IVANHOE DU CLOS (9) is another with the means to acquit himself competitively on his return to the mounted category. Beyond those principle contenders, HINSERT MAHCATH (11) and IKEM DU GERS (12) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

IDEAL D'URZY (14) - IVRE DE TOI (15) - IVANHOE DU CLOS (9) - HINSERT MAHCATH (11)

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C7 - PRIX DE LA SEINE MARITIME - 2875m (a2m) - Class F Race - Harness - EUR € 21,000

- 1. ICI HAUFOR** - Unreliable trotter and unlikely to trouble the judge on the evidence of his last start (10th) in a 2850m claimer at Vincennes on 10 December. Others preferred
- 2. INVISIBLE D'ISI** - Regained form/momentum recently - confirmed the improvement of his Cordemais 4th by finishing 6th over 2550m at Beaumont-de-Lomagne on 20 December. Dark horse
- 3. IRELAND TEAM** - Complicated but not devoid of ability - seldom far from a fault but usually acquits himself competitively when applied/remaining wise. Didn't go unnoticed (7th) in a 2700m Le Croisé-Laroche harness race on 16 December
- 4. IDYLLE MIKA** - Disqualified (plated) over 2750m at Cabourg on 7 December but is confirmed under these conditions/with this shoeing configuration. Respected with her shoes removed for this commitment
- 5. INTERACTION** - Rarely seen in this barefoot configuration but showed her form and well-being with an improved/reassuring 2nd (unshod) in a 2750m harness event at Cabourg on 7 December. Candidate for success
- 6. IPANO STAR** - Soundly beaten in 3 recent comeback appearances after a lengthy 14-month absence (finished 15th over 3000m at Châteaubriant in December) but has sound references under these conditions/in this barefoot configuration
- 7. IRISH MABON** - Inconsistent trotter with undeniable means/sound references but out of sorts at present - finished 8th (unshod) over 3200m at Blain on 22 September. A watching brief is advised on his reappearance
- 8. ISIS DU CORTA** - Regaining momentum and confirmed as much by building on the form/improvement of her Le Croisé-Laroche 5th by finishing 4th in a 3000m amateur race at Nantes on 17 November. Attractive outsider
- 9. IDEO DE REP** - Unreliable but not devoid of ability - seldom far off the mark on a going day. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th in a 2850m amateur race on 17 November
- 10. ILLICO DE VAU** - Inconsistent but versatile trotter with sufficient means/sound form references. Shouldn't be hastily condemned for finishing 12th in a 3150m harness event at Saint-Brieuc on 6 December
- 11. IROCKO STRYCK** - Experienced hard-knocker with sound references at a higher level but most effective without his irons (unshod). Absent since finishing 6th over 2100m at Vincennes on 22 March - for another day
- 12. ISA DES LANDES** - Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 6th over 3150m at Saint-Brieuc on 6 December on his return from a 3-month absence. Keep safe
- 13. INDY DE SALSA** - Lightly raced trotter with sound references/form credentials at this level, though most effective racing without irons (unshod). Well-beaten 14th (shod) over 2875m at Meslay on 19 December after a 5-month absence
- 14. ICONE PLANCHETTE** - Honest veteran mare whose best references/performance were achieved without her irons. Unplaced (8th) over 2700m at Vincennes on 12 December - best watched for now

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15. ILLICO PRESTO FAC - Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 9th (shod) on this course over 2150m when resuming after a 3-month break on 15 December. Confirmed under the conditions/in this configuration with references at a higher level - horse to beat

16. IDOLE JALLERIE - Delicate veteran mare, seldom far from a fault although usually acquits himself competitively when remaining wise (avoiding disqualification). Shouldn't be hastily condemned for failure at Meslay on 19 December - beware

17. IMAGE D'HERFRAIE - Inconsistent performer with sufficient means but is currently out of sorts - finished 10th (shod) over 2725m at Graignes on 23 November. For another day

18. ILIO MANNETOT - Well-performed trotter with the undeniable means (form and experience) to play a leading role. Proved his form and well-being by finishing 5th in a 1700m Quinte+ harness race at Vincennes on 14 December - on the shortlist

Summary: Carefully prepared for this commitment, ILLICO PRESTO FAC (15) is hard to oppose, especially under the conditions he will find to his liking. Rejuvenated INTERACTION (5) and hard-knocker ILIO MANNETOT (18) are best equipped to challenge the selection. They lead the opposition ahead of proven right-hander ISA DES LANDES (12) and ILLICO DE VAU (10), who is an attractive outsider.

SELECTIONS

ILLICO PRESTO FAC (15) - INTERACTION (5) - ILIO MANNETOT (18) - ISA DES LANDES (12)

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C8 - PRIX DE L'ORNE - 2875m (a2m) - Class E Race - Harness - EUR € 30,000

- 1. FLIGHT COMMODORE** - Inconsistent performer who continues to blow hot and cold but didn't go unnoticed (3rd) in a 2700m amateur race at Le Croisé-Laroche on 16 December. Dark horse
- 2. GALAXIE DU PARC** - Experienced veteran mare of 113 appearances (with 5 wins). Confirmed under these conditions/in this shoeing configuration but must improve to have a say here - finished 9th over 3000m at Châteaubriant on 11 November
- 3. HUNMEC SOMOLLI** - Honest hard-knocker whose best recent references/performances were achieved at a lower level, which include a 2nd at Mauqueunchy and last-start 5th at Laval over 2850m in amateur races. For lovers of outsiders
- 4. HAVA DE BEAUREGARD** - Ultra-consistent veteran mare with sound references/form credentials with this barefoot shoeing configuration, including a last-start 2nd over 3150m at Saint-Brieuc on 6 December. Not taken lightly
- 5. GAVOTTE DU PRATEL** - Veteran mare with sound references and undeniable means (form and experience) under the conditions/in this shoeing configuration but currently out of sorts. Unplaced (9th) over 2950m at Le Mans on 16 December
- 6. HELSINKI GIRL** - Inconsistent but retains sufficient means, especially under these conditions/in this configuration. Shouldn't be hastily condemned for finishing 8th over 2550m at Bordeaux on 24 November - dark horse
- 7. HARTFORD** - Experienced hard-knocker with sound references under these conditions/in this shoeing configuration, though out of sorts at present. Finished 10th (shod) on this course over 2150m on 15 December - best watched for now
- 8. HIP HOP DE CHENU** - Honest hard-knocker whose physical condition and encouraging recent form will stand him in good stead here. Finished 3rd in consecutive recent starts, the latest over 2050m at Lyon-La Soie on 11 December - keep safe
- 9. HARRY DE MIENNAIS** - Game frontrunner who wouldn't be winning out of turn after finishing 2nd in consecutive recent appearances, the latest over 2550m at Beaumont on 20 December. Will be hard to peg back if allowed an uncontested lead
- 10. HELIA DE BAFFAIS** - Consistent, in good form and physical condition, ideally engaged at the first level and is confirmed under these conditions/in this unshod shoeing configuration. Worth another chance despite finishing 9th at Vire over 2800m on 20 November
- 11. HISTORY MAJYC** - Veteran hard-knocker with sound references at a higher level, including a last-start 6th over 2850m in a Quinte+ at Vincennes on 13 December, but is most effective without her irons (unshod) so best watched for now
- 12. GITANE DU RIB** - Versatile trotter with undeniable means (form and experience) but is currently out of sorts - disqualified under the saddle in a 2700m mounted race at Graignes on 23 November. For another day
- 13. HETRE D'OURVILLE** - Regaining momentum after a 5-month absence and confirmed as much with an improved/encouraging 2nd at Saint-Brieuc over 2500m on 3 November. Will play a leading role if repeating that performance

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14. HAPPY FACE - Consistent hard-knocker with sound form references under these conditions/in this unshod configuration at a higher level, including a last-start 5th over 2100m at Vincennes on 2 December. Candidate for success

15. HADRIEN - Well-performed trotter (13 wins from 48 starts) with sound references at a higher level, including a last-start 3rd (unshod) at Pornichet over 2725m on 21 September. Races shod on his reappearance so is best watched for now

16. HAILEY D'OURVILLE - Consistent hard-knocker with solid form references under these conditions and with this unshod configuration at a higher level, including a last-start 6th over 2750m at Cabourg on 17 December. Keep safe

17. GAMIN DES ISLES - Experienced hard-knocker with sound references at a higher level although most effective racing without irons (unshod). Finished 13th (shod) over 2950m at Le Mans on 16 December - others preferred

18. HOLD UP DES VENTES - Well-performed trotter but no longer the force of old - unplaced in all 5 appearances this year, the latest (13th) in a 2750m harness event at Cabourg on 17 December.

Summary: HARRY DE MIENNAIS (9) is a proven frontrunner and will be hard to beat if allowed an uncontested lead. Class-dropper HAPPY FACE (14) and HETRE D'OURVILLE (13), who spearheads Virginie Moquet's charge, are other legitimate candidates for success, with HELIA DE BAFFAIS (10) best of the rest. In-form HIP HOP DE CHENU (8) has place prospects too.

SELECTIONS

HARRY DE MIENNAIS (9) - HAPPY FACE (14) - HETRE D'OURVILLE (13) - HELIA DE BAFFAIS (10)