

SUNDAY, 08/09/24

C1 - PRIX LA ROCHETTE - 1400m (a7f) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR € 80,000

1. HOUQUETOT - Smart Wootton Bassett colt, winner of consecutive 1400m races at Compiègne. Lost little in defeat when 2nd (beaten for the first time) in the 1400m Group III Prix François Boutin at Deauville on 11 August - could atone

2. LIBYAN PHAROAH - Improving last-start winner who, having finished 2nd in consecutive outings, deservedly opened his account at Deauville over 1400m on 6 August. Further progress required

3. HEYBETLI - Exciting, progressive colt. Has confirmed the promise of his encouraging debut 2nd behind HOUQUETOT (1) by winning both subsequent outings, the latest a lucrative 1300m sales race at Deauville on 15 August

4. REVOLUTIONNAIRE - Runner-up to HEYBETLI (3) in a lucrative 1300m Arqana Series sales race at Deauville on 15 August. Will have a role to play

5. TIEGO THE FIRST - Debut winner at Saint-Cloud over 1200m in May and justified favouritism in a 1400m Listed race at Deauville on 7 July. Not taken lightly

6. MIDNIGHT STRIKE - Finished unplaced (15th of 22) in Group II Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot on 18 June though wasn't beaten a long way. Had previously run 3rd in a Curragh Group III (Marble Hill Stakes) over 1200m on 25 May - respect

7. SILIUS - Winner of his second start at Chantilly over 1400m and acquitted himself well when 4th in a Listed race over 1600m at Deauville on 17 August. More needed at this level

8. SIR TOMMY CEN - Confirmed the promise of his winning debut at Dieppe over 1400m by maintaining his unbeaten status with a 1500m last-start success at Deauville on 13 August. Faces his acid test

Summary: HOUQUETOT (1) suffered defeat for the first time when 2nd to an Irish visitor in a 1400m Group III last time and has the means to atone. However, he will need to thwart the likely challenges of MIDNIGHT STRIKE (6), another raiding from Ireland, HEYBETLI (3), a last-start winner who finished 2nd to the selection on debut, and REVOLUTIONNAIRE (4), runner-up to HEYBETLI (3) last time. The remainder are promising competitive for the places. Good race!

SELECTIONS

HOUQUETOT (1) - MIDNIGHT STRIKE (6) - HEYBETLI (3) - REVOLUTIONNAIRE (4)

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C2 - PRIX DU PRINCE D'ORANGE - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR € 80,000

1. MEYDAAN - Consistent and maturing stayer with sound references/form credentials (albeit over further), including a win in a 2200m Listed race. Has finished 4th in consecutive recent starts, the latest a 2400m Group III on 1 August

2. SUPERCOOLED - In 7 starts, he has only once missed the podium (6th in Group I Poule d'Essai des Poulains). Has subsequently regained momentum, finishing 2nd in a Listed race and 3rd in Group III Prix Daphnis at Deauville on 4 August (both races over 1600m)

3. OMBUDSMAN - Godolphin's exciting Night Of Thunder colt unbeaten in 3 starts, the latest on French soil in a Listed race over 2000m at Deauville on 11 August. Could improve sufficiently to preserve his 100% record

4. FAST TRACKER - Winner of 3 consecutive starts including a 2000m Listed race at Chantilly before finishing 13th of 14 runners in the Group I Prix du Jockey Club over 2100m at Chantilly on 2 June. Shouldn't be hastily condemned

5. FIRST LOOK - Smart juvenile last year and a high-class performer as a three-year-old this term. Runner-up in the Group I Prix du Jockey Club (2 June) before finishing 4th in 2000m Group III Hampton Court Stakes at Ascot (20 June)

6. MAP OF STARS - Winner on debut over 1800m on this course in his sole two-year-old start and made an eye-catching/winning comeback in a 2000m Listed race at Compiègne on 22 July, maintaining his unbeaten status. Likely improver

7. START OF DAY - Progressive filly on a steep upward trajectory - has confirmed the promise of her encouraging debut (4th) by winning all 3 subsequent starts, the latest a 2000m Listed race at Vichy on 18 July - gets a 1,5kg sex allowance

Summary: Undefeated OMBUDSMAN (3) has answered every question asked of him by improving with each start/step up in class. He made a winning start on French soil in a Listed race over this distance last month and seems more than capable of proving himself at Group III level with further progress likely. FIRST LOOK (5) sets a good standard, though, having finished 2nd in the Group I Prix du Jockey Club, and will fight for victory on his return to France after a creditable 4th at Ascot when last seen. Unbeaten MAP OF STARS (6) is unexposed so isn't underestimated either. Consistent MEYDAAN (1) completes the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

OMBUDSMAN (3) - FIRST LOOK (5) - MAP OF STARS (6) - MEYDAAN (1)

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C3 - LA COUPE DE MAISONS-LAFFITTE - 2000m (a1m1/4) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR € 80,000

1. HAYA ZARK - Classy, lightly raced entire with references at the highest level. Won Group III Prix Exbury on his reappearance in March and the Group I Prix Ganay in April before finishing 3rd in the Group I Prix d'Ispahan on this course over 1850m on 26 May - sets the standard

2. WOODCHUCK - Consistent performer boasting sound references/form credentials at this level, including a last-start 2nd in the Group III Prix Gontaut-Biron over 2000m at Deauville on 11 August

3. DOLAYLI - Unplaced (7th) at Group I level in the 1600m Queen Anne Stakes at Ascot on 18 June but has sufficient means to bounce back and fight for victory. Closely matched with HAYA ZARK (1) on the form of their Group I clash in the 1850m Prix d'Ispahan (26 May) on this course

4. AL MUBHIR - Ultra-consistent hard-knocker whose competitiveness at this level is assured. Won a 2000m Sandown Listed race in July and finished a creditable 4th in 2000m Group III Rose Of Lancaster Stakes at Haydock (10 August)

5. CERTAIN LAD - High-class veteran with solid form references/credentials, which include finishing 2nd in back-to-back recent starts - in a 2000m Group III at Haydock last month and in the 2000m Winterhill Stakes at Windsor (24 August)

6. FLIGHT LEADER - Talented, sparingly raced colt who has regained momentum (confidence) by winning 2 of 3 outings this year, including his latest in a Class 1 PSF conditions race over 1900m at Deauville on 1 August. Not taken lightly

7. ELUSIVE PRINCESS - Lightly raced filly with considerable means/ability and whose competitiveness at this level is beyond doubt. Has finished 3rd in both comeback outings this year, the latest in a 2000m Group III at Deauville on 11 August

Summary: HAYA ZARK (1) boasts by far and away the best references in this Group III contest and, even under top-weight 60kg on his return from a break, looks hard to oppose given the ease in grade. CERTAIN LAD (5), an eye-catching winner of a Compiègne Listed race on his last foray to France, and DOLAYLI (3), who is closely matched with the selection on their Group I Prix d'Ispahan clash, lead the opposition ahead of lightly raced FLIGHT LEADER (6) and consistent AL MUBHIR (4).

SELECTIONS

HAYA ZARK (1) - CERTAIN LAD (5) - DOLAYLI (3) - FLIGHT LEADER (6)

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C4 - PRIX RFM - SUPER HANDICAP DE LA RENTREE - 1850m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Class 1 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 100,000

- 1. ANTHORUS** - Good winner of a quality/well-composed Class 2 over 1600m at Lyon-Parilly in June. Subsequently contested a 1600m Vichy Listed race in which he finished 5th on 19 July. Carries top-weight 60kg, so just watch for now
- 2. MORPHEWAN** - Progressive colt enjoying a fruitful 2024 - eight podium finishes in handicaps, most in the Quinté+ category, including 3 victories. Last-start winner of a 2000m Quinte+ at Deauville on 10 August (penalized 4kg)
- 3. BEVAN** - Winner of the coveted Grand Handicap de Lamorlaye at Chantilly in June. Proved his competitiveness under a 3,5kg penalty (current mark) by finishing 4th in an 1800m Listed race at Clairefontaine on 27 July - respect
- 4. CICCIO BOY** - Won a Quinté+ for the 4th time on 14 July at Chantilly over 1800m but struggled under a resultant penalty in his last start, finishing 13th over 1900m on PSF at Deauville on 18 August
- 5. MONTY** - Consistent performer in conditions races this year and returns to handicaps, almost 4 years after his Quinté+ victory at Deauville, at competitive mark. Runner-up in a 1950m Châteaubriant conditions race on 16 August
- 6. AZKA** - Caught the eye with a reassuring 3rd in a 1900m Quinte+ handicap on PSF at Deauville on 18 August. Will be a factor if confirming that form/improvement
- 7. HARRY WAY** - Placed at Group level as a three-year-old, notably on this track (2nd in the Prix Noailles and Prix Hocquart). Put an indifferent spring campaign behind him with a last-start victory in a 1600m conditions race at La Teste (in first-time headgear) on 13 August. Should play a leading role with the equipment retained
- 8. LEV** - Won an 1800m Quinté+ at La Teste on 27 June 27 and was far from disgraced when finishing 8th in the Grand Handicap of Deauville (1600m Quinte+ on 4 August) on 4 August. Will make his presence felt
- 9. KLEORA** - Last-start winner of 1900m Quinté+ on PSF at Deauville on 18 August. Penalized 3kg for that success and isnt as effective on turf
- 10. FUTURE FATE** - Caught the eye when 4th on his handicap/Quinte+ debut at Dieppe over 1800m in July. Proved his versatility and confirmed that form/improvement by winning a 1900m Quinte+ on PSF at Deauville on 17 August and he should remain competitive despite earning a 4kg penalty
- 11. TUMBLER** - Has demonstrated commendable consistency in Quinté+ races, finishing 2nd over 1500m on PSF at Deauville on 25 August and 5th over 1600m on turf at Chantilly on 3 September. Attractive outsider
- 12. DEVIL IN THE SKY** - Unplaced in 4 handicap appearances, 3 of them in this category - the latest (6th) in a 1900m Quinte+ contest on PSF over 1900m at Deauville on 18 August
- 13. INCRACKABLE** - Runner-up in a Class 3 conditions race over 1800m on 24 August at Clairefontaine - was favourably engaged under the conditions. Makes her handicap debut - best watched for now
- 14. HAMLET'S NIGHT** - Runner-up in consecutive Quinte+ handicaps, over this course and distance on 4 July and on PSF over 1900m at Deauville on 11 August. Not taken lightly

Summary: HARRY WAY (7) acquitted himself well at Group III level last year before enduring a lean spell in the spring. However, he returned to winning ways last time in first-time blinkers and looks good value to follow up with the headgear retained. FUTURE FATE (10), himself a last-start winner, should remain competitive for victory despite the resultant penalty. LEV (8), in-form MORPHEWAN (2) and AZKA (6), whose last-start 3rd at this level was encouraging, are also contender for the podium. BEVAN (3), KLEORA (9), and MONTY (5) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

HARRY WAY (7) - FUTURE FATE (10) - LEV (8) - MORPHEWAN (2)

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C5 - PRIX DU MOULIN DE LONGCHAMP - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Gr1 Race - Flat - EUR € 450,000

1. CHARYN - Consistent Group I performer who has taken his game/form to new heights, winning the Group I Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot before following up in the Group I Prix Jacques Le Marois at Deauville on 11 August

2. TRIBALIST - Specialist miler with multiple Group II and Group III victories - also 3rd in the 2022 Group I Poule d'Essai des Poulains. Finetuned his prep in the Group III Prix de Ris-Orangis (9th) over 1200m at Deauville on 7 July

3. CAMELITO - Has looked better than ever recently, winning a 1600m Listed race on this course before his career-best effort in winning a 1600m Group III at Chantilly on 14 July. Needs to raise his game again pitched into a Group I

4. KELINA - Talented, lightly raced filly and winner of last year's Group I Prix de la Forêt. Has regained momentum with 2 comeback outings this year, the latest (6th) in the 2000m Group I Prix Rothschild at Deauville on 28 July

5. RAMADAN - Proven miler whose only defeat in 5 starts over this distance came in the Group I Poule d'Essai des Poulains (finished 5th). Showed his form and well-being by winning the 1600m Prix Daphnis at Deauville on 4 August

6. NOTABLE SPEECH - Leading three-year-old colt with 5 wins from 6 starts - suffered his only defeat in the Group I St James' Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot. Set the record straight in the Group I Sussex Stakes at Goodwood on 31 July, beating older rivals

7. HENRY LONGFELLOW - An exciting prospect as a two-year-old and a high-class performer at three this year, albeit without success. Finished (2nd) ahead of NOTABLE SPEECH (6) at Royal Ascot in Group I St James' Palace Stakes but only 4th behind that rival in Group I Sussex Stakes at Goodwood on 31 July

Summary: CHARYN (1) completed a rare Queen Anne-Jacques Le Marois Group I double recently and, given the strength of that form, looks capable of completing the hat-trick. Younger rivals and fellow British raiders NOTABLE SPEECH (6), multiple Group I winner who beat older rivals when taking out the Group I Sussex Stakes last time, and HENRY LONGFELLOW (7), who was 2nd in the St James Palace Stakes, have the means to make life difficult for the selection, which can also be said of both RAMADAN (5) and TRIBALIST (2). A smashing renewal!

SELECTIONS

CHARYN (1) - NOTABLE SPEECH (6) - HENRY LONGFELLOW (7) - RAMADAN (5)

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**C6 - PRIX GLADIATEUR - 3100m (a2m) - TURF - Gr3 Race - Flat - EUR €
80,000**

1. SEVENNA'S KNIGHT - Progressive stayer with top-level form references/credentials to his name including victories in the Group III Prix de Barbeville over 3000m (28 April) and course-and-distance Group II Prix Vicomtesse Vigier on 26 May

2. GOYA SENORA - Honest, hard-knocking veteran stayer in rude health. Has confirmed as much by winning a 3000m Listed race at Deauville (28 July) and finishing a good 2nd to Double Major in a 3000m Group II at Deauville on 18 August

3. SUNFAST - Hard-knocking stayer who finished 4th in a 3000m Group III won by SEVENNA'S KNIGHT (1) at this venue on 28 April. For lovers of outsiders

4. VERT LIBERTE - Consistent performer with no stamina doubts whatsoever. Has regained momentum with 3 comeback races, the latest of which he won over 2400m at Saint-Cloud on 21 June

5. HARBOUR WIND - Runner-up to Double Major in Group II Prix Chaudenay on this course and made a winning reappearance in a Listed race at Limerick on 22 June. Has more to offer

6. PRESAGE NOCTURNE - Progressive colt rewarded for consistency (having finished 2nd in 4 consecutive outings) with a last-start win in a 2500m Quinte+ handicap at Deauville on 1 August. Dark horse

7. PONTY - Versatile performer with sound references on both surfaces up to 2400m - the same distance over which he finished 4th in a Listed race at Vichy on 16 July. Unknown quantity over this trip

8. ZILCOVER - Consistent handicapper since reverting to the flat but at a considerably lower level. Unplaced (8th) in 2400m handicap at Vittel on 12 August - looks up against

9. SHAKTI - A lightly raced, talented filly with sound references/form credentials up to 2500m. Finished 3rd in a Group III contest on this course over 2400m on 5 May. Could improve stretching out to this distance

10. RIVER OF STARS - Sparingly raced, high-class mare whose stamina and competitiveness at this level is beyond doubt. Has only once twice finished worse than 3rd in 13 starts - finished a good 3rd in 2800m Group II Lillie Langtry Stakes at Goodwood on 3 August

Summary: HARBOR WIND (5) found only Double Major too good when 2nd on this course in September last year but could go one better on his return to France, especially on the evidence of his authoritative comeback win in a Listed race at Limerick. He will be tested by top-weight SEVENNA'S KNIGHT (1) and British mare RIVER OF STARS (10) who have the form and experience to also fight for victory. GOYA SENORA (2) and SHAKTI (9) appeal most of the remainder.

SELECTIONS

HARBOUR WIND (5) - SEVENNA'S KNIGHT (1) - RIVER OF STARS (10) - GOYA SENORA (2)

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C7 - PRIX DE BOLIVAR - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 22,000

- 1. THREE DREAMS** - Consistent handicapper with solid form references/credentials on both surfaces and whose competitiveness off this mark is beyond doubt - ha confirmed as much by finishing 3rd in a 1400m turf handicap at Vichy and 4th in a 1500m PSF handicap at Deauville (11 August) in her last 2 starts
- 2. MI C'INFILO** - Well-performed veteran who has gone off the boil - finished 8th in 3 consecutive outings, the latest a claimer over 2200m at Dieppe on 13 May
- 3. SECRET FEELING** - Capable but inconsistent performer. Won a 1400m handicap at Vichy in July and bounced back from a disappointing previous outing by finishing 4th in a 1600m handicap at that venue on 23 August
- 4. BUTTE ROUGE** - Consistent for the most part but fluffed her lines when a well-beaten 10th in 1800m handicap at Saint-Malo on 22 August. Capable of better
- 5. BALAKOVNA** - Opened her account by winning a 1600m handicap at Clairefontaine on 31 July and didn't go unnoticed (5th) at that venue in an 1800m handicap on 12 August. Dark horse
- 6. GALIK** - Out of sorts and unlikely to make any impression on the evidence of recent displays, the latest (9th) in 1800m handicap at Saint-Malo on 22 August
- 7. MONTGAUDRY** - A battling 12-start maiden who continues to blow hot and cold. Soundly beaten (14th) in 2000m Compiegne handicap on 9 July
- 8. ORANGE VIF** - Winner of a 1600m Compiegne handicap in July and has finished close-up in each of his 3 subsequent starts, the latest (2nd) over 1600m at Deauville on 17 August. The horse to beat
- 9. HEART SHINING** - Capable but inconsistent performer. Won a course-and-distance handicap on 20 June but struggled (13th) in his last start under a 2,5kg penalty at Vichy in a handicap over 1600m on 7 August
- 10. TIME TO PARLEY** - Won a 1600m Nantes handicap in June and has remained competitive/consistent under a resultant penalty, finishing 3rd twice and 4th in her last start over 1600m at Deauville on 17 August. Winning chance
- 11. MY FLINDERS** - Consistent veteran handicapper with sound references/form credentials - closely matched with ORANGE VIF (8) and TIME TO PARLEY (10) on the form of their Deauville meeting over 1600m on 17 August in which she finished 3rd
- 12. BLACK LIVES MATTER** - Made no impression in the benchmark, a handicap over 1600m at Deauville on 17 August - finished 15th. Shouldn't be hastily condemned
- 13. ESSAI TRANSFORME** - Runner-up in consecutive considerations races recently, over 1400m at Dieppe on 5 August and over 1300m at Argentan on 26 August. Back in a handicap now
- 14. AUTUMN TWILIGHT** - Hard-knocking handicapper with sound references/form credentials on both surfaces off a higher rating. Out of sorts but has dropped to a dangerous mark - finished 6th in 1400m Compiegne handicap on 28 August

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15. GALALITHE - Won 1600m handicap at La Teste-de-Buch on 22 July and has proven her competitiveness under 3kg penalty (current mark) in subsequent starts - the latest (5th) in a 2100m conditions race at Argentan on 26 August

16. DOUBLE EFFECT - A 15-start maiden with sound references, albeit without success. Didn't go unnoticed when 7th in benchmark race/handicap over 1600m at Deauville on 17 August - keep safe

17. UNAMUNO - Sparked improvement with this headgear fitted when finishing 4th on a 1400m handicap at La Teste-de-Buch on 13 August

18. JORDAN BAKER - Consistent hard-knocking handicapper with sound references/form credentials on both surfaces, including a creditable last-start 6th over 1500m on PSF at Deauville on 25 August

Summary: ORANGE VIF (8) beat several re-opposing rivals when 2nd over 1600m in a similar contest/handicap at Deauville last month, so is a solid base. He runs well for this rider and could be worth siding with. TIME TO PARLEY (10) and MY FLINDERS (11) are knocking at the door and wouldn't be winning out of turn. Both will make life difficult for the selection, which can also be said of THREE DREAMS (1) whose form and physical condition are assured. DOUBLE EFFECT (16) and BLACK LIVES MATTER (12) complete the shortlist.

SELECTIONS

ORANGE VIF (8) - TIME TO PARLEY (10) - THREE DREAMS (1) - MY FLINDERS (11)

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C8 - PRIX DE LA PLACE D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Class 3 Race - Flat - EUR € 23,000

1. HUNGRY HEART - Progressive three-year-old gelding who has found his way in the handicaps, winning on handicap debut and finishing 2nd in a Quinte+ handicap over 1500m on PSF at Deauville on 13 August. Winning chance

2. QUASAR - Soundly beaten (11th) on handicap debut in a 2400m Quinte+ at Clairefontaine on 12 August. Ha references at this level so could fare better here

3. MARSILIUS - Improving last-start winner who opened his account over 1600m in a claimer at Clairefontaine on 2 August. Will benefit from Marie Vélon's 1,5kg allowance

4. CONCERTATION - A 10-start maiden who has been hard to win with, having finished 2nd on 5 occasions including in her latest over 1800m at Dieppe in a Quinte+ handicap on 29 July. Deserves to open her account

5. CONTENTIOUS SOUL - Has finished 6th in consecutive recent starts - on turf in a 2000m conditions race at Le Lion-d'Angers and in a PSF handicap over 1900m at Deauville on 30 July - but performed better than those results may suggest

6. LORD SINCLAIR - Runner-up on debut over course and distance on 31 August last year and has caught the eye in both outings this term, the latest (4th) over 2000m at Deauville on 13 August. Keep safe

7. AQUILA VOLANTE - Soundly beaten in back-to-back Quinte+ handicaps recently, the latest (14th) on PSF over 1500m at Deauville on 13 August

8. LALA LIGHT - Debut winner at Clairefontaine on 21 August 2023 and has performed consistently at this level since. Didnt go unnoticed when 4th on this course over 1800m on 13 June

9. SAILAWAYWITHME - Consistent filly with sound references/form credentials, albeit without a victory (6 starts). Acquitted herself when 5th over 1800m at Clairefontaine on 11 July

10. MODERN LIGHT - Finished 3rd on debut at Chantilly over 2100m in April but hasn't confirmed/built on that promise in 4 starts since, finishing unplaced in 3 of them - the latest (6th) over 2200m at Dieppe on 21 August

11. OVATION - Hasn't been seen since finishing an improved/encouraging 4th over 1600m at Chantilly on 26 April. Not taken lightly on her reappearance with headgear fitted

Summary: HUNGRY HEART (1) appeals most in a wide-open handicap. He showed his form/well-being and versatility by finishing 2nd in a Quinte+ handicap on PSF last time and will benefit from his rider's 3,5kg allowance. CONCERTATION (4) remains maiden but will open her account sooner rather than later. She wouldn't be winning out of turn and should play a leading role. LORD SINCLAIR (6), who caught the eye on his return at Deauville, and last-start winner MARSILIUS (3) are others with legitimate ambitions.

SELECTIONS

HUNGRY HEART (1) - CONCERTATION (4) - LORD SINCLAIR (6) - MARSILIUS (3)

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C9 - PRIX DE MIROMESNIL - 1600m (a1m) - TURF - Class 3 Divided Handicap - Flat - EUR € 20,000

1. **RUBIS GOLD** - Unreliable and did not show his best when 13th last time out in a handicap at Deauville over this distance on 17 August. Capable of better and is not out of it
2. **CREAM ICE** - Not disgraced when third last time out in a Conditions race at Deauville over 1500m on 25 August. Capable of earning some money
3. **DAYSANIYA** - Yet to win a race and was 6th last time out in a handicap at Saint-Malo over 1800m on 8 August. Needs to do a bit more to beat these rivals
4. **FASTER** - Showed good improvement when third last time out in a handicap at Compiègne over 1400m on 28 August. Has a winning chance
5. **GAME ON** - Has been struggling for some time now and was well beaten last time out in a handicap at Deauville over 1300m on 20 August. Others are much preferred
6. **ZELZALITA** - On a very long losing run but was fourth last time out in a Conditions race at Deauville over 1500m on 25 August. Could play a minor role
7. **MOLINO** - Won three times last year but has struggled this year and was well beaten last time out in handicap at Deauville over 1500m on 25 August. Could be the surprise package of the race back on the grass
8. **TAYBET** - Only modest form of late and was 7th last time out in a handicap at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 1800m on 24 August. Needs to do more to win this race
9. **LOVE AFFAIR** - On a long losing run but is in good form and was third last time out in a handicap at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 1800m on 24 August. Can contest the finish again
10. **BALAGAN** - Has lost her way of late and was 8th last time out in a handicap at Vichy over 2000m on 31 July. Others are preferred
11. **OPERA** - Unreliable and was 5th last time out in a handicap at Vichy over this distance on 23 August. Yet to win but could earn some minor money
12. **PALANZANO** - Yet to win a race and was 5th last time out at Ostende over 1600m on 19 August. Needs major improvement to win
13. **SABLE DU PYLA** - Has not shown much so far and was 7th last time out in a handicap at Compiègne over 1400m on 28 August. Needs to find a few lengths to win
14. **ZOUBAREVA** - Yet to win a race and was well beaten last time out in a handicap at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 1800m on 24 August. In good form before that and has a place chance
15. **MEARAS STYLE** - Very disappointing last run when well beaten in a handicap at Clairefontaine-Deauville over 1800m on 24 August. Very consistent before that and is not out of it
16. **TRIESTE** - More than a year since only win and was 6th last time out in a handicap at Vichy over this distance on 23 August. Needs to do a bit more to win
17. **ALPENGEIST** - Holding his form well and was third last time out in a handicap at Deauville over this distance on 17 August. Should fight out the finish

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18. MOASA - More than a year since last win but was not disgraced when 5th last time out at Ostende over 1800m on 19 August. This is a stronger race

Summary: ALPENGEIST (17) has remained consistent since winning at Compiagne 4 starts back and is good value to recapture the winning thread in this concluding contest. LOVE AFFAIR (9) and FASTER (4) should pose a threat on the evidence of their encouraging last starts. RUBIS GOLD (1) and MEARAS STYLE (15) should not be hastily condemned either. TAYBET (8) is an attractive outsider.

SELECTIONS

ALPENGEIST (17) - LOVE AFFAIR (9) - FASTER (4) - RUBIS GOLD (1)