



WEDNESDAY, 03/04/24

R3 SALON-DE-PROVENCE [R-H]

**C6 - PRIX D'ARLES - 1800m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Maiden Race - Flat - EUR €
21,000**

- 1. UPSIDE DOWN** - Made an encouraging introduction last year, when finishing 5th over 1600m at Bordeaux on 17 September. Open to any amount of improvement on his reappearance
- 2. BRUANT** - Improved with the experience of a pleasing (5th) introduction to finish 2nd over 1600m on heavy ground at Toulouse on 4 March. Further progress expected
- 3. MAITRE DU JEU** - Consistent colt with sound references/form credentials to play a leading role in a race of this nature. Didn't go unnoticed when finishing 3rd over 1500m on PSF at Marseille-Vivaux on 14 March
- 4. HOUSTON STREET** - Finished 3rd on debut over 1800m on PSF at Lyon-La Soie in October. Confirmed that promise by finishing 3rd over 2000m on the PSF at Marseille-Vivaux on 14 March
- 5. NADYROSE** - Wasn't disgraced when finishing 6th on debut over 2000m on the turf at Marseille-Borély on 20 March. Will have benefited from that experience
- 6. FEET OF FEAR** - Highly regarded filly with a Group I Prix de Diane entry. Confirmed her reputation by finishing 2nd on debut over 1500m at Tarbes on 23 September - would have improved appreciably over the winter, one to follow
- 7. SISTERLAND** - Acquitted herself well on debut, despite stumbling badly (her rider narrowly avoided falling), to finish 5th over 2000m at Marseille-Borély on 20 March. Ought to be a lot better than that bare form suggests

Summary: FEET OF FEAR (6) made a good impression when finishing 2nd on debut last year to a filly who placed in a Listed race. It could pay to follow her progress, with improvement expected on her reappearance, although she will be tested by SISTERLAND (7) who was unlucky not to have achieved a better result on her introduction (5th) at Marseille-Borély. BRUANT (2) caught the eye when finishing an improved 2nd last time and also seems capable of building on that progress to play another leading role. The shortlist is completed by MAITRE DU JEU (3) who has the form and experience to make his presence felt too.

SELECTIONS

FEET OF FEAR (6) - SISTERLAND (7) - BRUANT (2) - MAITRE DU JEU (3)



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C7 - PRIX CHRISTIAN FORNAROLI - 1800m (a1m1/8) - TURF - Class 3 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 20,000

- 1. MAMAMOUCHI** - Consistent last year but has struggled (unplaced) in all 4 starts this term - dropped in the weights/ratings as a result, so will resurface sooner rather than later - 8th in 1800m PSF handicap at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March
- 2. JOH SPIRIT** - Won a 1600m handicap on heavy ground at Lyon-Parilly in November but has struggled (finished unplaced) in four subsequent outings. Dropped 1kg after finishing 7th in a 2000m handicap at Lyon-Parilly (17 March)
- 3. RIO D'OCTOBRE** - Capable but unreliable handicapper who went off the boil late last year. Absent since finishing 10th in a 2000m handicap on heavy ground at Marseille-Borely on 12 November
- 4. LEPARD** - Caught the eye when improving with first-time blinkers to finish 2nd in a 1600m handicap on heavy ground at Fontainebleau on 2 March. Winning chance
- 5. POP LIFE** - Last-start winner of a 2000m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivzux on 14 March. Has more to do now under her 3kg penalty
- 6. BLANC BLEU** - Consistent handicapper with sound form references off his current mark, including a good 5th in a Quinte+ over 2000m on heavy ground (February) as well as a last-start 2nd in a 1500m PSF handicap on 14 March
- 7. ETERNEL** - Hard-knocking handicapper with sufficient means to stake a claim in a race of this nature, after a last-start 5th on a 1500m handicap on very heavy ground at Cagnes on 26 February. Place chance
- 8. DAMASK BLADE** - Consistent, lightly raced veteran handicapper with proven references/competitiveness off his current mark on both surfaces. Held his own (5th) in an 1800m PSF handicap at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March
- 9. PRINCESS ZIZOU** - Debut winner over 2000m on PSF at Marseille-Vivaux in December 2022 but has lost her way since. Hasn't been seen since finishing 7th in a 2000m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivaux on 4 January - dropped 1kg
- 10. LEPTI PRINSADI** - Out of sorts but has dropped to a dangerous lowly mark and confirmed as much with a reassuring 3rd in a 2500m conditions race at Hyères on 16 March. Keep safe
- 11. KENZAL** - Went off the boil in the second half of 2023 but has dropped in the weights/ratings and didn't go unnoticed in 3 handicaps earlier this year. Has to reaffirm after a disappointing 9th (2000m PSF) on 27 February
- 12. THREE DREAMS** - Consistent and versatile handicapper with sound references on both surfaces. Shown form and well-being on PSF recently, finished 3rd over 1800m at Lyon-La Soie on 24 March. Should have a role to play on turf



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Summary: LEPARD (4) made encouragement improvement with first-time headgear fitted to finish 2nd in a 1600m handicap at this level on heavy ground last month, so need only produce a similar performance (with blinkers unsurprisingly retained) to reconnect with success. THREE DREAMS (12) lines up in good form and physical condition with the benefit of starting from stall No 1, and is likely to pose/emerge as the biggest threat. DAMASK BLADE (8) has maintained a consistent/competitive level on PSF lately and ought to acquit himself well once more reverting to the turf. LEPTI PRINSADI (10) completes the shortlist and could have a role to play if confirming the improvement of his latest outing.

SELECTIONS

LEPARD (4) - THREE DREAMS (12) - DAMASK BLADE (8) - LEPTI PRINSADI (10)



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C8 - PRIX DE MIRAMAS - 2400m (a1m1/2) - TURF - Class 3 Handicap - Flat - EUR € 20,000

- 1. LAOS** - Boasts a victory and a 2nd from three course-and-distance appearances. Didn't go unnoticed when 5th in a 2600m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivoux on 14 March - keep safe
- 2. LA SAUZEE** - Completed a hat-trick of PSF handicap victories in January and proved her competitiveness off her current mark (4kg penalty) by finishing 3rd in a 2000m PSF claimer at Cagnes on 19 February. Will be a factor
- 3. A BETTER WORLD** - Improved with the benefit of a comeback run under his belt to win a 2400m handicap on heavy ground at Toulouse on 11 March. Ought to remain competitive under a 2,5kg penalty
- 4. DIANE'S STAR** - Unexposed over this distance, having only raced up to 2150m (in a Chantilly Quinte+ on PSF). Showed form and well-being recently by finishing 6th in consecutive PSF handicaps, latest at Marseille-Vivoux (14 March)
- 5. BAILEYS ECLAIR** - Consistent for the most part and caught the eye when bouncing back from a Quinte+ failure (10th) to finish 2nd in a 2600m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivoux on 14 March. Dark horse
- 6. ISLA DEL SOL** - Bounced back to form after a Quinte+ failure (12th) over 2150m at Cagnes in January with a reassuring 3rd in a 2100m PSF handicap at Chantilly on 1 March. Needs to confirm that form/improvement to have a say
- 7. JOEY UP** - Resurgent veteran who finished a reassuring 2nd in a 2500m conditions race at Hyères on 16 March. Back in a handicap with a legitimate winning chance
- 8. KAYRAT** - Won a 3200m PSF handicap in January and proved his competitiveness under a 2kg penalty by winning a 2600m PSF handicap at Marseille-Vivoux on 14 March. Has to defy another 3kg penalty to be competitive
- 9. AIXELLENCE** - Consistent for the most part and seldom finishes far off the mark. Needs to improve off a 1kg reduced mark to have a say, having only finished 7th over 2150m in a handicap on heavy ground at Cagnes on 29 January
- 10. MOZART DES BRIERES** - Has regained momentum recently back on the flat, finishing 3rd in consecutive conditions races - the latest over 3000m at Saint-Cloud on 12 March. Outsider on his return to the handicaps off this mark
- 11. DOWN TOWN** - Won a 2400m handicap at Bordeaux in October but struggled (10th) under a resultant penalty in her only subsequent outing over 2400m at Toulouse on 11 November. Best watched for now

Summary: JOEY UP (7) returned to form with a reassuring 2nd over 2500m at Hyères and is making an ambitious return to the handicaps. He could be worth siding with here on the evidence of that recent improvement and is given the nod ahead of LA SAUZEE (2), who has been completely transformed this year on the PSF and seems capable of replicating that form reverting to turf. LAOS (1) has been inconsistent for some time now but has references at a higher level and returns to a track he enjoys off a reduced mark, so also has a role to play. DIANE'S STAR (4) will be competitive for a place on the podium.



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SELECTIONS

JOEY UP (7) - LA SAUZEE (2) - LAOS (1) - DIANE'S STAR (4)