

RACE BY RACE PREVIEWS: VAAL CLASSIC@2026.04.02

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 1, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R120.000, 12:15GMT+2

Race Summary: SOSORU showed improvement in his second start when only finding one better on the day. He should prove hard to beat. SCORPIO has struggled in two starts since running well at this track. Perhaps he can bounce back into place. ISAAC STEPHAN was well beaten last time out but has scope for improvement. So too, for that matter does ARTIFACT so look for improved runs from them. ENDEARING PEACE, GIMME SOME LUCK and LIFE'S TREASURES are all making their debuts so keep an eye on their betting.

Selections:

#5 Sosoru, #13 Life's Treasures, #9 Gimme Some Luck, #11 Steel Spring

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 2, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R105.000, 12:50GMT+2

Race Summary: WINGS OF KILDRA has shown improvement of late and is knocking at the door for a victory. She may well go one place better this time around. MASTER'S LADY has been good of late without winning and should fight out the finish. DUCHESS DI seemed to need her last run and could strip fitter this time and is not out of it. HURRICANE POWER, EMPRESS WU and BELLA BOOP BOOP probably need improvement to win but they do have place chances. HOC EST VITA is capable of further improvement and could make the frame.

Selections:

#2 Wings Of Kildra, #3 Master's Lady, #1 Duchess Di, #11 Hoc Est Vita

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 3, Gallops, 1200m, Turf, R120.000, 13:25GMT+2

Race Summary: SHERLOCK HOLMES has run well in both starts and should be ready to open his winning account. LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN is capable of improvement and could earn some minor money. ARIZONA MAGIC is improving and should fight out the finish yet again. ONCEINABLUEMOON has some fair recent form and holds a place chance. PURPLE RAIN found betting support on debut so look for a much improved run from her and she could be a threat.

Selections:

#9 Sherlock Holmes, #3 Arizona Magic, #5 Onceinablue moon, #6 Purple Rain

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 4, Gallops, 1450m, Turf, R105.000, 14:00GMT+2

Race Summary: MOANA only found one better on the day on debut and does look the one they all have to beat. WITHOUT REMORSE showed vast improvement last time out and is likely to be a threat yet again. THE REASON is consistent and would not be a surprise winner. SAVARA'S PRINCESS and SWEETSUMMERLOVE both hold place chances in this line-up but do need to improve to win. DEVIIOUS LOOKS is an Erupt filly who makes her debut for a trainer who knows what is needed to win on debut. FLORAL FURY and HEAVENLY LACE have only had one run each and are capable of improvement.

Selections:

#9 Moana, #1 Without Remorse, #2 The Reason, #3 Savara's Princess

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 5, Gallops, 1450m, Turf, R110.000, 14:35GMT+2

Race Summary: GOLDEN OPERATOR is improving and the addition of blinkers could spark a winning performance. NEVER NEVER LAND was a disappointment last time out but could do better this track and distance. JABARI THIMBA and BLUSHING BLOOM may need to improve to beat these rivals but can earn some money. AQUARIUS has shown promise and should be right there at the finish. OKLAHOMA SMOKESHOW continues to improve and would not be a surprise winner.

Selections:

#1 Golden Operator, #6 Oklahoma Smokeshow, #5 Aquarius, #2 Never Never Land

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 6, Gallops, 1450m, Turf, R135.000, 15:10GMT+2

Race Summary: A very open looking handicap. MISS HANNIGAN is very consistent and deserves her winning turn but she does give weight away to most of her rivals. CEUTA is unreliable but can earn some money. DESTINY OF FIRE is better than what she has been showing and could be the surprise package of the race. SALENIO PENINSULA is not reliable but is also not out of it. SEASON'S GREETINGS is improving and can win again. VAMANOS and MISS NOVAX are both in good shape and are capable of scoring so should be included in all perms.

Selections:

#1 Miss Hannigan, #7 Vamanos, #6 Season's Greetings, #2 Ceuta

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 7, Gallops, 1450m, Turf, R105.000, 15:45GMT+2

Race Summary: WINDS OF GRACE has a string of three runner-up performances in a row and can go one better this course and distance. PLAY WITH FIRE is not reliable but can earn some money. OPERA FAN is better than she showed on the Polytrack last time out and could earn some money. KENSAL GREEN lacked a strong finish last time out but can be competitive once again. TRIP OF FAITH won in just her second start and could be well ahead of her merit rating so must be respected. FAR REACHING, SHEETS AND GOGGLES and KYLIE'S ANGER are unreliable types but can make the frame on a good day.

Selections:

#6 Winds Of Grace, #5 Trip Of Faith, #4 Kensal Green, #1 Play With Fire

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 8, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R130.000, 16:20GMT+2

Race Summary: A competitive race. RONDEBOSCH is best weighted for this race but that is courtesy of his apprentice allowance. He has ability but has not really shown of late. Stable companion BANFF returns from a lengthy break but could win if fit enough. LEAD THE CHARGE is usually not too far behind the winner and could play a minor role. ALPINE JET remains in good form and should make a bold bid at beating these rivals. CAROLINE ISLAND is consistent and not out of it. KAALVOET is in good form and is also not out of it.

Selections:

#6 Rondebosch, #4 Alpine Jet, #7 Caroline Island, #5 Kaalvoet

Vaal Classic, 02.04.2026, Race 9, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R90.000, 16:55GMT+2

Race Summary: ORIENTAL BOUQUET is probably at her very best over this distance and could win a very open handicap. MRS STORMIATRIX has improved of late but gives weight to most of her rivals. INAFIX is unreliable but is capable of another win. TIGER STORM shows pace and could get involved with the finish. TIME IS PRECIOUS only took 2 starts to get out of the maiden ranks and could be better than his merit rating. NKANDLA GOLD showed improvement last time out and can make the frame. TIME FOR CHARITY is clearly better than her last run and is another to consider.

Selections:

#13 Oriental Bouquet, #5 Time Is Precious, #2 Inafix, #3 Tiger Storm

Best Win: #5 SOSORU

Best Value Bet:

Best Longshot: #13 ORIENTAL BOUQUET