RACE BY RACE PREVIEWS: VAAL CLASSIC@2025.03.06

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 1, Gallops, 1700m, Turf, R95.000, 12:25GMT+2

Race Summary: UP THE ANTE has progressed since relocating to the Highveld and needn't improve much over this trip to play a leading role. LACEWING and DEVILISHLYGORGEOUS are closely matched with the selection - both have the form and experience to feature prominently, which can also be said of INTRO. Unexposed fillies BATTLE OF BRITAIN, JINGER JAM and LAVA LAMP have scope for improvement so cannot be ruled out either.

Selections:

#1 Up The Ante, #2 Lacewing, #4 Devilishlygorgeous, #9 Lava Lamp

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 2, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R130.000, 13:00GMT+2

Race Summary: With the experience of an introductory outing under their belt, the 3 raced runners in the line-up ought to be competitive. MISTER WILSON appeals most and could shed his maiden tag if building on the promise of his debut 4th. NYAKA NYAKA and SECRET WARRIOR will know more about it so could make life difficult for the selection. Watch the betting on the unraced runners, especially well-bred SIMBINE.

Selections:

#3 Mister Wilson, #4 Nyaka Nyaka, #5 Secret Warrior, #6 Simbine

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 3, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R120.000, 13:35GMT+2

Race Summary: DONDOYAKI and RED CARAMEL made satisfactory introductions and would've benefitted from the run. However, a newcomer needn't be special to land the spoils. VAMANOS, WINGS OF ICE and RED AMBER are attractively bred and market support would speak volumes for their chances on debut.

Selections:

#8 Vamanos, #6 Red Amber, #9 Wings Of Ice, #3 Dondoyaki

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 4, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R120.000, 14:10GMT+2

Race Summary: Improving IT'S PERSONAL stayed on encouragingly to finish a close-up third in his first appearance as a gelding and he could prove hard to beat with further progress on the cards. Both OLD FASHIONED and returning INSPECTOR JAMES may improve in headgear to make their presence felt. RINGHO and TURF GURU complete the shortlist.

Selections:

#2 It's Personal, #3 Old Fashioned, #1 Inspector James, #6 Ringho

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 5, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R105.000, 14:45GMT+2

Race Summary: Improving GREEN EXTREME finished ahead of ACT ON SNOW, BILINGUAL and MISTY METAL when second over track and trip last time. She needn't improve much (if at all) to go one better and break her duck. Well-bred newcomer HEAVYLIESTHECROWN is of particular interest and must be monitored in the betting.

Selections:

#1 Green Extreme, #9 Heavyliesthecrown, #5 Bilingual, #10 Misty Metal

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 6, Gallops, 1200m, Turf, R120.000, 15:20GMT+2

Race Summary: SALENIO PENINSULA faded out of contention in a 3yo Grade 2 over 1600m but a return to this shorter trip should yield a more competitive showing. Versatile FROZEN FANTASY was a fast-finishing second last time over 1200m and a similar performance could suffice against this opposition. FULLY COMMITTED and stablemate PREDATRICE are open to any amount of improvement after winning introductions so must be respected. HONG KONG and SAIGON SUZIE also have the ability to get involved.

Selections:

#3 Frozen Fantasy, #5 Fully Committed, #1 Salenio Peninsula, #7 Hong Kong

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 7, Gallops, 1000m, Turf, R120.000, 15:55GMT+2

Race Summary: Speedy SEA WOLF was outrun late when finishing fourth over 1160m last time but on that evidence, this shorter trip should be right up his alley. Course-and-distance specialists KINSHIN SHA and THE NAVY LARK are competitive at this level with both the form and experience to have a say in the outcome. QHAWE LAMI didn't go unnoticed on his Highveld return last time and should get into the picture if building on that performance. KING OF KILDARE and COVERT OPERATOR return from respective absences but aren't incapable of making their presence felt.

Selections:

#5 Sea Wolf, #6 Kinshin Sha, #1 Qhawe Lami, #10 The Navy Lark

Vaal Classic, 06.03.2025, Race 8, Gallops, 1600m, Turf, R90.000, 16:30GMT+2

Race Summary: St John Gray has 2 strings to his bow, though the participation of SPY STORY (engaged to run a week earlier) isn't guaranteed. He shed his maiden tag at start 19 but could be better than rated so is given the nod ahead of stablemate GAMER whose form and favourable gate make him a genuine contender for honours. Hard-knockers SILENT TRIGGER, BREATH OF MAGIC and PRETTY ANALIA are others with legitimate Eachway chances.

Selections:

#1 Spy Story, #3 Gamer, #4 Silent Trigger, #8 Breath Of Magic