

THE TRIAL FILES

6/1/2024 **GEELONG**

Race 2 – 12:45PM REX GORELL GEELONG DIAMOND 2YO HCP (1100m)

Field of 9 to contest this with all runners on debut. There looks to be two standouts to us, the first of those being #4 STAY FOCUSED. He is a \$250k colt from the Stokes yard that has impressed in two trials to date. The first of those was on 5/12 on the synthetic at Pakenham. He was slowly away but improved outside runners to record a nice win on that occasion. In his 2nd trial on 11/12 on a soft track at Canterbury he jumped straight to the lead and recorded a very soft victory. He has a lovely action and looks a beautiful big, strong horse.

The other is #6 TRUNK. This colt is a \$1.3m yearling purchase that is a full brother to Group 1 performer Splintex in the care of the Waterhouse/Bott team. The two trials in Sydney have been very good. The first of these was on 28/11 at Randwick where he chased of the very smart Straight Charge. Got a little tired on the line but gapped 3rd. His 2nd trial was very impressive where he was asked to really extend, and he matched motors with Straight Charge again and put a big gap on 3rd. We like that he has been asked to really quicken and the horse he has been trialling with was a dominant debut winner in Sydney.

They look the clear two selections here but siding with TRUNK as we have seen he can respond and quicken when asked, whereas we are hoping STAY FOCUSED does, despite the fact he does look a lovely animal.

SELECTION:

#6 TRUNK win.

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6/1/2024 **GEELONG**

Race 5 – 2:30PM SCAADA GROUP 3YO HCP (1100m)

Speed looks to come from GITALONG from out wide with TRAPEZE WARRIOR holding a position from the inside. SPICY MARGS should press forward as well with CARBONADOS looking to hold a handy spot.

The starting point is #7 CARBONADOS. He is an import who won his only start in NZ by 4.8L and looked impressive in doing so. He has had two jump outs leading into this, the first a nice quiet hit out at Flemington on 15/12. He jumped cleanly and travelled beautifully to win on that occasion. The 2nd jump out was quite similar again at Flemington on 22/12. Jumped well, led, and extended untested to win. He no doubt has ability and can win this.

#6 TRAPEZE WARRIOR trialled outstandingly prior to his debut win at Cranbourne on 15/12. He justified the short quote to win on that occasion where he jumped well and sat outside the leader. It is never easy to sit outside the lead first up, but there is extra merit to its performance given it was on debut and at 1200m. He levelled up turning for home and took over at the 150m, winning by 2.5L with a further 4.5L back to 3rd. This is no doubt a harder race, but we really liked what we had seen from this horse prior to the debut win and that only adds to our confidence that this is a very nice horse. Drawn 1 and should get every opportunity to win again here.

SELECTION:

#6 TRAPEZE WARRIOR win.

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6/1/2024 **GEELONG**

Race 9 – 5:00PM SEN GEELONG BLACK PEARL STAKES LISTED (1200m)

Looks to be decent speed engaged with LITTLE MISS GUTSAA pressing forward from the outside barrier with VALLENCOURT, IT'S KIND OF MAGIC AND STARLITE VALLEY all likely to be vying for the early lead.

Liked the first up run of #2 VA VIA off the back of some nice trials. She got back in the field on that occasion over 1100m at Randwick and was strong through the line her last 100m. We have seen some of her best form in Victoria and she maps to get a great run from barrier 7 with Victoria's best jockey D Lane in the saddle. #3 WAVERIDER BUOY is a talented but frustrating mare. She has only won the 3 from 16 but is always running home. She had a nice quiet trial prior to an okay first up run on 23/12 at Randwick. Drawn 6 she is likely to settle closer in running today and can win on her best form.

We have liked the two trials from #14 ETERNAL FLAME. She is a lightly raced mare with a lot of upside and based on her two trials this time in she is going well. She has been ridden quietly in those two efforts but really found the line and moved particularly well. Drawn 2 Mick Dee might be able to settle in the first half of the field and if he can she is a big winning chance.

Another lightly raced mare that has really caught our eye with her two trials this time in is #6 MARBLE ARCH. She showed speed in her first jump out at Bendigo and went to the line under no riding for a soft win. The trial that really caught our eye was her most recent effort at Flemington on 22/12. She turned 3-4L off the leader and once she balanced up, she attacked the line savagely under riding to win and moved very impressively. At an each way price she looks another good chance here based off her work.

SELECTION:

#6 MARBLE ARCH & #14 ETERNAL FLAME both 1 win x 3 place in an open race.

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6/1/2024 RANDWICK

Race 7 - 4:00PM EGROUP PROTECTIVE SERVICES HANDICAP (1400 METRES)

Speed from COOL JAKEY kicking up but think FELIX MAJESTIC will cross and take over for Molly Bourke.

Surprised #4 HELLSING isn't favourite here. James McDonald booked on this lightly raced international with a lot of upside. Loved the Warwick Farm trial and this looks a suitable starting point. No surprise to see a bit of pressure up front and that might not suit the favourite COOL JAKEY. No shock to see this 4YO compete in much stronger races and he can win this along the way.

Suggested Bet:

#4 HELLSING (Win)

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6/1/2024 RANDWICK

Race 8 – 4:10PM TAB BM88 (1200m)

If #18 TIME TO BOOGIE is going to win this, he is going to have to do it the hard way. He has drawn barrier 15 here and will be looking to cross and find the front, as is his pattern of racing. There looks to be other speed engaged in this however, so if he is going to cross, he won't be going slowly. His first up win was super, sitting outside the leader before powering away for a comfortable win. No doubt he is the deserving favourite but with the map concerns we are happy to let him go here with the understanding that he is still a major winning chance in this event.

Loved the first up win of #13 LEGIO TEN. We have been following this horse since early in its career and always thought it possessed a high level of talent. He got back in the field first up but ran on strongly to win. The horse he beat there, Dollar Magic, is the same horse that TIME TO BOOGIE defeated first up so we can tie in their form. LEGIO TEN had a trial between runs on 29/12 at Rosehill and we liked the way he moved there. There is a bit to like about him here 2nd up. He is up to 1200m with a tick over trial in between, drawn well in barrier 7 and carries the 55.5kg. Like him.

Outside of these two it looks a very open race, and nothing stand outs as the main danger.

SELECTION:

#13 LEGIO TEN win.

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