

THE TRIAL FILES

30/12/2023 RANDWICK

Race 1 - 12:30PM PRECISE AIR HANDICAP (1200 METRES)

#1 PARKOUR drifted back from a wide barrier on debut, settling near last three deep. His late sectionals there were fantastic, clocking the fastest final 600, 400 and 200m of the meeting. He's now made his way back to Sydney after trialling here prior but he has to do it this direction now, again from a wide barrier. Kah sticks with him and that might be a decent lead and his debut suggests the 1200m should suit. He's the horse to beat.

COMMANDING ARTIST trialled pleasingly enough at Rosehill, running second.

The blackbooker off the trials is #4 DARK ARTS. He showed nice speed to settle on pace in his latest Rosehill trial before kicking strongly to score. The second horse from that trial was a little disappointing on debut but think he's better than that.

SELECTION:

Backing #4 **DARK ARTS**, level staking with #1 **PARKOUR** – both WIN

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Race 8 - 4:40PM SCHWEPPE'S HANDICAP (1100 METRES)

Speed from BUBBA'S BAY from 9 with EITHER OAR likely to follow him across. RUPERTAAR has speed and will be handy from barrier 5 first-up. DOLLAR MAGIC gets a nice run in behind the speed also.

#3 RUPERTAAR has stacks of speed and talent but we haven't seen it for some time now. She hasn't won since May 2022 and has been off the scene for a while now. In fact, she's only had one run since Feb where she failed at this track and distance when clearly not right. Loved her trial leading in and if she can put it together, she can win this.

Also loved the trials of #5 EITHER OAR. They've also accepted in the Listed Canterbury Sprint where they've also drawn awkwardly over the 1200m. The fact they've entered there however, suggests she's clearly going well. Her two winning trials suggest she's ready to perform at her best first up and if she'd here, getting a decent run in transit from an awkward barrier, she commands respect.

Laying #2 DOLLAR MAGIC again. Non winning mare, but she continues to race well. She had all favours last time and couldn't beat home Time To Boogie, getting beaten by a decent margin. They went very slowly there and the backmarkers simply couldn't get into the race. She does draw to get every possible chance again but she's been up for some time and think there are a couple engaged with a little more upside and ability when at their best.

SELECTION:

Small win bets #3 **RUPERTAAR** and #5 **EITHER OAR**. Laying #2 **DOLLAR MAGIC**

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Race 3 – 2:07PM AIG SECURITY HANDICAP (1200m)

Track is rated a Good 4 with the rail out 13m from the 1200m to the winning post. Mild and cool conditions and no rain forecast so expect conditions to stay the same throughout the meeting.

Interesting race here. A field of 7 engaged and none of them have had more than 22 starts and plenty with upside to improve past this grade. The favourite #5 WAKANJEJA is clearly on of those. She has progressed from 0-62 grade 1st up, winning 3 in a row prior to a sound effort on a Heavy track in Listed company last time. Deserves to be favourite. #2 PRESS DOWN was racing well prior to finally breaking through for a win last start over 1200m at Gawler in this grade. Draws perfectly to get a great run again and can win again here.

#1 JACKS ON ICE is the one we are keen to be with here, however. We liked him 1st up off a hot trial and the only thing that beat him there was fitness. They went hard up front and he had to do all the chasing, hit the front at the 200 and PRESS DOWN was able to run over him late. Completely different set up here, he should be able to control the pace in the small field, meets PRESS DOWN 2kg better for the defeat last time and has a great 2nd up record (3:1-2-0). Happy to be on his side in a competitive race.

SELECTION:

#1 JACKS ON ICE win.

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Race 4 – 2:42PM THOMAS FARMS 3YO MAIDEN (1050m)

Another interesting race here with a lot of debutantes engaged. Speed map is always tricky in these events. From those we have seen at the races SIOUX WARRIOR, ZANTHRON and IDRACOWRA have all showed speed and should be pressing forward. Of the unraced, ASTRODEAN has jumped cleanly in its jump outs and can take up a forward position and the same can be said for BLANC VISAGE and NOISE BY NATURE.

Starting with the raced brigade, #2 NEVER SURRENDER is lining up for its 6th attempt to break its maiden, with all 3 runs this time in resulting in 2nd placings. The most recent 2 efforts have been its best and it must be a winning chance off those alone. The map is a little sticky from 11 and think there is a bit more depth to this race than the previous races it has contested. #6 REEL WHISKEY presents here 1st up in its 2nd prep. It was competitive in its first prep which culminated in a 3L 4th in the Magic Millions race at Murray Bridge in July. Drawn 1 here and any natural improvement brings it right in to this. There has been a good early market push which is a good sign from this stable. #7 SIOUX WARRIOR and #8 ZANTRHON have both had one run this time and following promising initial campaigns but thought both of their runs this prep were a little plain.

The first of the debutantes of note is #1 ASTRODEAN. Loved his work in his first prep and have been waiting to see him again. He jumped well in his jump out this time in and moved well again. We think he has a lot of ability, but I want to see him again after only one 600m jump out in preparation for this. #3 NOISE BY NATURE certainly caught our eye in his 2nd trial at Balaklava on 7/12. Jumped well, moved well, and improved under little riding to win his trial impressively. Can win. #10 BLANC VISAGE won its most recent jump out by a big space and looks to have ability. #13 PRESS EXPRESS is a full sister to PRESS DOWN who is a lovely horse, and this filly looks to have inherited some of that ability.

The one we want to have a bit on here though is #12 ESTICON. Of the debutantes she has impressed us the most with the way she moves and the quality she looks to possess. Draws well in 7 to get a run in just behind the speed and we were particularly taken by the style of horse that she is.

SELECTION:

#12 **ESTICON** small 1 x 3 bet.

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Race 9 – 6:00PM ADELAIDE GALVANISING INDUSTRIES BM64 (1200m)

We were with #2 MIGHTY SAPPHIRE when he was victorious at his first run for the Bain & Taylor stable at Morphetville on 15/12. He got back to midfield on that occasion and picked his way through the field swiftly to record an impressive win. He finds a very winnable affair here with a similar set up here in a race that looks to have speed on paper which will suit him.

The main danger looks to be #7 NOBLE MAGNATE. He was very well backed last start and turned in a much-improved performance in what we think will be a strong form race. Draws 3 for the in-form Callan Murray and the race looks to set up well for him also. Happy to risk the Price & Kent horse #9 HUMMING. Lightly raced and well bred, the trial at Cranbourne prior to the 1st up run was quiet but good but thought the 1st up run was plain. She may improve back on top of the ground here, but she needs to in order to be winning this.

SELECTION:

#2 MIGHTY SAPPHIRE win.



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