

# THE TRIAL FILES

7/9/2024 MOONEE VALLEY

## Race 7 – 3:35PM MCKENZIE STAKES 3YO COLTS & GELDINGS LISTED (1200 METRES)

This looks a very good edition of this race, and we think it could be a strong form race moving forward to some of the major spring 3yo races. By this stage of the day we will know how the track is playing, but we should be on a Good 4 and predicting the track plays typical Valley – on speed advantage with tempo the most important factor.

There may not be a horse in Melbourne that has trialled as well as #2 EPIMELES leading into this. He has had just the one hit out, but it was seriously impressive work. He jumped well, sat wide and cruised up outside Growing Empire before running past him on the bridle. We saw that horse did 1<sup>st</sup> up and he trialled well, just not quite as well as Epimeles. Some queries here – J Allen/barrier 1, 1<sup>st</sup> up 1200 with his wins in his career to date coming at 1300/1400, but he impressed us enough in his trial to be with him in a hot race. Don't mind the 1200 for him given he has only had the one trial, so he should be fresh enough. Likely sits in the box seat from gate 1, but if the sea's part he is going to be very hard to beat.

#3 PUBLIC ATTENTION impressed on debut and is on a Caulfield Guineas path and he trialled well for this. Was asked for an effort and responded and was a soft winner late. Draws to get a soft run behind the speed from barrier 2 and looks the clear danger. #7 ANGEL CAPITAL trialled well behind Growing Empire on 19/8. His debut win was electric before he went to Brisbane and was okay in the winter carnival in 2 runs there. Liked the way he moved in the trial, and he will be coming late.

### SELECTION:

#2 EPIMELES (WIN).

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## Race 9 – 4:50PM MOIR STAKES GROUP 1 (1000 METRES)

Cracking edition of the Moir this year with it brought forward on the calendar to allow it to be used as a prep run/audition for the Everest. As you would expect in a 1000m G1, the speed will be hot. ESTRIELLA could lead depending on the tactics on LADY OF CAMELOT. She has speed to burn and is from the Waterhouse/Bott yard and gets in with 50.5kg here so may lead at all costs, however won the Slipper when taking a sit.

We are expecting big things this preparation from #6 ESTRIELLA if her trials this preparation are any guide. Her most recent trial at Cranbourne on 26/8 signalled she is back this preparation a much more developed horse and she went about as good as you can go on that occasion. Led, kicked on the corner and cruised to the line for a 5L win under no pressure. From 8 Shinn will press forward and think the map is in her favour. If she leads it will likely be because Lloyd takes a sit on Lady of Camelot, and if Lloyd decides to lead, Shinn should be able to tuck in behind her. There is some stable confidence around this mare, and we are keen to be with her in a great edition of this race.

#8 LADY OF CAMELOT returns after winning last season's Golden Slipper. It has been a while since we have seen a Slipper winner come back at 3 and go on with it, but her trials this preparation have been very good which suggests she may break that pattern. As mentioned, the map is interesting with her, but she draws 2, gets in with 50.5kg and has trialled very well leading in.

#1 I WISH I WIN is the best sprinter in the country and starts this prep differently to his last. Last Spring the camp went to the Memsie first up at 1400 en route to the Everest, however elect to kick off at 1000 this time and take a more traditional approach. He jumped out very well up the hill at Pakenham and his 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Lightning Stakes at his only other 1000m run was great. Different set up here, around the Valley and with a much faster tempo predicted, but he is too good to exclude.

### SELECTION:

**#6 ESTRIELLA (WIN).**

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## Race 10 – 5:25PM LADBROKES RACING CLUB BM84 (1200 METRES)

Open race to close out the card with a field of 13 engaged.

We have loved the two trials from #6 VERDAD this prep. He stretched out to a Derby trip as a 3yo, but we never had him pegged as a staying type. They are only 3 once, so it made sense to have a go however he profiles more as a 1200-1600m horse to us. His win on debut at Bendigo over 1300 was brilliant, and his trials this time are those of a horse that can win this over 1200 fresh. He was given a quiet time in his first trial but looked full of running before being allowed to finish off in his 2nd trial on 26/8. He looked to move particularly well there, and we think he has come back in great order. Draws 1 here but he is a horse with natural gate speed so should put himself right up on speed. Think he will be very hard to beat in an open race.

Outside of him there are several chances, but most of them seem to have found their level and he looks the one on the way up.

### SELECTION:

**#6 VERDAD (WIN).**

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# THE TRIAL FILES

7/9/2024 RANDWICK

## Race 7 – 3:20PM CONCORDE STAKES GROUP 3 (1000 METRES)

Alongside the Moir, this is the other cracking sprint race around the country Saturday. Again, we will know how the track is playing at Randwick by this race, and the forecast is for fast and dry conditions as was the case last week in Sydney.

#1 GIGA KICK returns first up off a year break following his injury leading into last year's Spring preparation. He had a jump out in Melbourne, followed by two trials in Sydney and his latest trials have been very, very good. Love the way he closed in the last 100m of his most recent trial on 30/8. He was asked to quicken by J Mac and he responded instantly and ran past Linebacker who was under pressure. He looks to have come back in super order, but he has had one run in 18 months, may want further than 1000 and may also want a bit of give in the track. Absolutely no surprise to see him win and be right back at the top of Everest markets, but there are enough queries to just watch here.

Love the trials of #3 AFT CABIN this prep as a gelding. He is a horse that has always promised to put it all together and be a star sprinter, and maybe the gelding will do the trick. Love the way he travelled and let down in his trials and no surprise to see him win, but he is hard to trust. Want to see it first.

The stalwarts of the sprinting ranks #2 PRIVATE EYE and #4 BELLA NIPOTINA have both trialled well for their resumption. Private Eye's fresh record since the blinkers went on is fantastic, including a 0.2L 2<sup>nd</sup> to Imperatriz in the Lightning last prep. He should get a great run behind the speed and looks a massive chance. Bella Nipotina went to the paddock after a career peak run. She is such an honest mare and from gate 1 will no doubt be in the finish.

Great race and will be an important one to watch with an eye to future spring sprinting targets.

### SELECTION:

No official selection yet, very interesting race with a few queries on key runners. Monitor twitter for updates close to race time.

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