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27/6/2025 BALLARAT SYNTHETIC

RACE 3 – 1:10PM MANHARI MAIDEN PLATE (1000M)

Speed looks to come from the two fancied runners here in #1 AQUEDUCT and #9 NEW CHARACTER. #1 AQUEDUCT returns for his second preparation and the two trials leading in were good. He showed speed in both trials, and he moved well enough and was good through the line. The form from the first preparation is okay but looks good enough to be competitive in this.

The most recent two trials from #9 NEW CHARACTER suggest she is going well enough to win here on debut. Again, he showed speed on both occasions and his work through the line at his latest Seymour trial was good. 2-year-old colt taking on the older horses which is okay at this time of year. He has had four trials total in readiness for his debut so should be ready to win.

#2 BETTER SHAPE UP improved significantly when stepping on to the synthetic for the first time at his most recent outing. He settled just behind the leaders and got the dream run turning for home and fought hard late to only go down narrowly. Not sure where he gets to in the run in this from barrier 8.

We black booked #7 HI TIAGO following a nice trial win back in December last year and liked this return to the trials on this surface on 12/6. He settled behind the leaders but showed enough early speed to suggest he will take up a forward position on debut. The leader skipped 6L clear straightening, but we liked the way he chased through the line, putting a gap on 3rd and getting close to the winner late. Think he has his share of ability and although he is still learning his craft and will be a better horse in time, the \$8 look a nice each way price about him in this.

SELECTIONS:

#7 HI TIAGO (each way).



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