

THE TRIAL FILES

11/3/2024 MORPHETTVILLE

Race 5 – 2:50PM MORPHETTVILLE GUINEAS (1600M)

Speed from TIME TO CHAT from the inside gate with ARAMOSO and AIR ASSAULT likely to press forward. Speed looks genuine enough.

AIR ASSAULT is the class in the race. He won the Hill Smith Stakes over 1800m at this track in the spring and followed it up with a placing in the Vase at Moonee Valley on Cox Plate day before finishing down the track in the VRC Derby. He returned in great order 1st up in the City of Marion Stakes over 1200m. Sat handy there and stuck on well to finish 4th. Get Jason Holder back on board today and the step up to the mile is in his favour. Should slide across from barrier 9 and be in front of his main dangers here.

The first of those dangers is EASY DUN. He was an electric winner on debut at Bendigo over 1400m. He sat last on that occasion and rounded them up in an instant, running away a 2.3L winner with ease. He looks a seriously talented horse and can clearly win. He will likely be back last again, and he has much better horses to get past here and think he looks a touch short.

The one we want to be with is A SAMURAI MIND. He trialed very well prior to his debut win over 1200m at Murray Bridge. With 200m to go he looked no chance to win, but his acceleration to find the line and win there was very impressive. He has had a trial between runs since at Gawler on 29/2 and loved the way he went there. He looks a very progressive animal and think the mile will be right up his alley. He is currently \$6 in most places and looks the value in the race. Given the other two mentioned are both very nice horses with good winning hopes, would just be having a small bet here but must play at the price.

SELECTION:

#4 A SAMURAI MIND (small win).

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Race 8 – 4:55PM MANIHI CLASSIC (1100M)

Speed looks to come from AITCH TWO OH from the inside with CELSIUS STAR, WALK LIKE AN ANGEL and STRUCK BY likely to want a piece of the action. GREY RIVER drawn the outside will want to find a place on speed also.

We were very impressed by the trial of GREY RIVER at Gawler on 29/2. She jumped cleanly to lead and extended nicely under no riding until the 100 when asked for an effort by Todd Pannell and when he asked her, she found a couple of lengths smartly. First up last preparation she won the Wylie Handicap over this track and trip by 3 lengths and based off her trial this time in, she has improved again. The outside gate is a concern given there is a bit of speed engaged here, but that is built into her current price. Think she deserves to be favourite here.

AUSTMARR is the current favourite and comes into this off a win at BM64 level at Sandown. No doubt she is a talented and progressive filly, but she looks far too short in a race that she won't be able to control on speed as she did last time against a much stronger field. CELSIUS STAR has improved out of sight this preparation and comes into this in career best form. Maps for the right run from barrier 4 and he will run a good race.

AITCH TWO OH returned with a good win in the Durbridge Stakes at this track and trip on 27/1. She should boot through from the inside barrier and she should look the winner at some stage. Looks a touch of value also.

SELECTION:

#5 GREY RIVER (win).



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