

THE TRIAL FILES

A couple of good days followed by an average Thursday. We had to Randwick where there'll be 10 winners and there's definitely a hint of Spring in the air with the Group 2 Missile Stakes.

10/08/2024 RANDWICK

Race 6 – 2:25PM JAMES SQUIRE HANDICAP BM78 (1200 METRES)

This looks a nice kick off point for the NZ import #4 TULSI. She was G1 placed over this trip as a 2yo and boasts a 3rd in the NZ 1000 Guineas as a 3yo so she comes into this with a solid resume and there is no doubt that the Matt Dale camp have greater ambitions than this. We loved her trial at Warwick Farm on 26/7. She settled back in the field but worked through the line very stylishly under no riding and we thought she moved particularly well. She is a proven fresh performer and gets J Mac for her Australian debut. \$4.80 currently available.

Of the rest, #2 JUNQUEIRA was sound in similar grade last time out after a freshen up following a failure in Stakes company in Queensland. She draws to get a nice run in transit and gets in with 57kg after the claim for Waddick. #7 HI DUBAI should jump favourite off the back of her win in this grade over many of her rivals here and looks a good winning chance also.

SELECTION:

Very happy to side with **#4 TULSI** (win) on her Australian debut.

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Race 8 - 3:35PM DARLEY MISSILE STAKES (1200 METRES)

MUCH MUCH BETTER and THE FACE to lead and set a good tempo. SEMILLION has speed and SHEZANALISTER lobs perfectly behind the speed from barrier 2.

Think #3 SCHWARZ has more ability than his rivals. He draws awkwardly but there should be enough speed in this race for McDonald to find a position. Never easy for a horse to be wide first-up so we are putting faith in the gun hoop from 11. SCHWARZ may be priced a little off hype still over what he's produced but we're a believer in the hype. He's shown snippets of brilliant form with a few plain runs mixed in but think he's had excuses in many of those plain ones. Convinced he's a better horse on top of the ground and the fact he's been scratched a few times on wet tracks says as much. Putting his plain performance last time down to a very tired, Eagle Farm track that was shifty and well in the Soft range. Tipping he has spelled up there, coming off some warmer weather and this is his time to shine. Residual fitness in hand and a very winnable Group 2 event.

Wanted to see a little bit more from #9 ARCTIC GLAMOUR in her recent trial but she is the danger. A class horse on her day and a stable that performs well fresh.

SELECTION:

#3 SCHWARZ (WIN)

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10/8/2024 MOONEE VALLEY

Race 5 – 2:40PM DOMINANT ACTIZONE HANDICAP BM100 (1000 METRES)

Racing is back at The Valley after a little time off so be sure to monitor the track pattern through the first 4 races. The rail is in the True and we cop a Soft 6.

We thought #1 ACROMANTULA represented value in this. Draws barrier 1 and he is a seriously speedy horse so should be able to find the front in this and dictate. He led the G1 Moir at his last start at this track so we can't see anything in this having too much speed for him. He must carry 60kg here, but he is a quality galloper and has earned it so no major concern. He has had two trials in Perth in readiness for this and we have liked them both. In both instances he jumped straight to the front and held a strong gallop through the line to win well. He won his most recent trial by 5L and there were some quality horses in behind him trying to bridge the gap but the further they went the further he went in front. The \$4.40 is particularly appealing and we want to be with him.

#2 MORNINGTON GLORY comes into this as favourite on the back of a disappointing 1st up run where we gave him a good chance. Getting back to dryer conditions here helps and J Kah should get a lovely cart into this on the back/outside of Acromantula. If he runs up to his trials and you are willing to forgive the 1st up run, then he is a major hope.

#3 TAUNTING and #4 KEEP READING come across from SA. We thought TAUNTING didn't trial as well this time in as he normally does so willing to let him go around without us. KEEP READING has come back well this prep but we think he would need a PB to win here.

#5 SCUDERIA is an interesting runner. Has a great valley record and strung a few together over this track and trip last time in but this is a significant class rise.

He is lightly raced however, and the recent trial was very nice. The draw makes it tricky here. Lastly, #7 MOONHAVEN was a good winner down the Flemington straight last time out but goes wet to dry and rises significantly in grade. The claim for Houston means he gets in with just the 50kg which offsets the class rise but may still find this a bit hot.

SELECTION:

We are with #1 ACROMANTULA (win). Class horse, good trials, good price.



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