

# THE TRIAL FILES

05/10/2024 FLEMINGTON

## Race 2 – 12:55PM DARLEY MARIBYRNONG TRIAL STAKES 2YO LISTED (1000 METRES)

As is the case with the Breeders and Gimcrack in Sydney, we see the first of the 2-year-olds step out in Melbourne here. This race doesn't appear to be of the same quality as the two Sydney races, but there is still plenty to assess.

#1 GAMBLER and #4 TREMONTI come through the same Randwick trial on 23/9. Both horses showed gate speed with Gambler crossing to the lead comfortably and skipping clear before tiring late. Tremonti went back to the inside and took a while to pick up and was asked for an effort, but we liked the way he knuckled down inside the last 50 and his work through the line was good. He crossed the line half a length behind Tuscany who lines up in the Breeders and we like him as a horse.

#2 RUMBLE TOWN has had 2 Flem jump outs and moved nicely in both. He looks a big striding horse and may want further in time but has talent.

#3 SHINING SMILE and #7 PRICE TAG come through the same Flemington heat on 26/9. Can't fault how Shining Smile went and like the way she found the line but leaning Price Tag from that jump out. She is by Zoustar out of former top sprinter Humma Humma and we love the way she carries herself. Nice moving animal who had much more to give and looks to possess a touch of quality.

#9 SISSTAINABLE trialled well at Flem on the same day as Price Tag/Shining Smile. She only looks a small filly but has a nice action. Got a little lost when she hit the front but love the way she picked up and went with a horse that looked like it was about to go straight past her inside the last 100 and put a space on 3<sup>rd</sup>. She was a \$450k purchase by I Am Invincible out of Sisstar (stakes winner and full sister to Sunlight).

### SELECTION:

Want to have something on #4 **TREMONTI** (each way) at \$8.50. Gai brings him to Melbourne despite the 2yo races in Sydney which is a lead. Should find the rail drawn 1 which often helps in these early 2yo races and should give a sight at a good each way price.

Main dangers clearly #7 PRICE TAG and #9 SISSTAINABLE.

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# THE TRIAL FILES

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## Race 6 - 3:15PM Winning Edge Presentations Paris Lane Stakes (1400 METRES)

The Listed Paris Lane Stakes. Won last year by Tamerlane. Map looks a little uncertain but a genuine tempo expected. JIGSAW kicks up from an inside barrier, with NOT AN OPTION not far away. Then we have COIN TOSS who can press forward from wide and FLASH FLOOD also. PLENTY OPF AMMO camps in behind them with ARRAN BAY.

#1 ROYAL CHAMPION is a bet at \$5. We see these horses come here and be competitive and he's here in the right care, of Anthony and Sam Freedman. Might want further but his recent trial at Caulfield was absolutely brilliant showing speed and more importantly, intent. Zahra rides and this gelding will be very hard to hold out. Holds a nomination for a Cox Plate and a scary horse.

#7 VON HAUKE is the other key horse of interest. He went as well as he could've last start in reality. Beaten a margin of 5.5 lengths but he has run 33.68 home for the final 600m, the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest of the race and day. His final 600m was a whopping 12.6 lengths faster than class benchmark. For a horse who will be better over 1400m and beyond, this was an outstanding run first-up. He ran a career peak figure second up last campaign at this track and distance, beating Amenable. Winning chance.

#5 ARRAN BAY in the mix and next in line. 4 from 5 second up and a good return run at this track and trip facing a Heavy track for the first time. Wary of him. #13 PLENTY OF AMMO has won her last 4. Toughest test to date, particularly first-up and she will need to improve another couple of lengths to win but she's trialled pleasingly and has upside. #8 MAKRAM won at this track and distance impressively in February at a huge price (over \$300 at Betfair). He is a talented horse on his day and that win was brilliant. Plain last time on the heavy but back on to a firmer surface he can run well.

### SELECTION:

#1 ROYAL CHAMPION (WIN) & #7 VON HAUKE (WIN)

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# THE TRIAL FILES

05/10/2024 RANDWICK

## Race 2 - 12:40PM ARROWFIELD BREEDERS' PLATE (1000 METRES)

The 2YO Factory that is Waterhouse/Bott rolls on as they produce 5 of the 10 runners in this years' Breeders Plate. They won the race last year with Espionage and they hold a strong hand with the three favourites. Let's go through those three in racebook order.

#4 KING KIRK took out Trial 3 at the official 2YO trial set at Kensington. The first runner by Ole Kirk and the first winner. The \$300,000 Magic Millions purchase settled behind the speed, worked off heels and took a gap which you like to see. Showed good acceleration for Rachel King, changing legs and getting over the top of #3 HIDDEN MOTIVE. Liked the trial win by KING KIRK and he has a chance today with King sticking.

#5 NORTH ENGLAND won Trial 7 on the same day. He looked the most professional, front running trialler, leading this heat and running time out in front. He was urged along but picked up strongly, putting a gap on the field. He found another gear and won by a nice margin. NORTH ENGLAND was a \$280,000 Inglis Classic purchase by champion 2YO Farnan.

#10 TUSCANY is a \$1.55M Zoustar Colt. He stalked the speed in his trial and extended nicely under a vigorous McDonald ride. He moved well and showed a good turn of foot, running the fastest time of the morning for the boys. TUSCANY is the brother to a horse we know and love in Schwarz. Major player.

The Waterhouse/Bott camp also have #9 TEMPESTOUS and #1 CROWN THE KING. #9 TEMPESTOUS ran second to #7 RAGING FORCE in their heat (7) on the morning at Kensington. #9 TEMPESTOUS led that and looked profession. He was collared late by RAGING FORCE along the inside. #8 RIPLEY comes through the same heat, running third. Liked the way he found the line out wide.

Leaning to #5 NORTH ENGLAND. He can find the fence from barrier 2 and either hold out the lead, or camp behind the lead and be produced at the right time.

### SELECTION:

**#5 NORTH ENGLAND (WIN)**

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# THE TRIAL FILES

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## Race 3 - 1:15PM KEENELAND GIMCRACK STAKES (1000 METRES)

Capacity field for this years' Gimcrack Stakes. Won last year by Manaal who was very impressive. Where do we start here!

Three fillies through Trial 2 of the official 2YO Trials at Kensington on September 23. This trial was won by #8 MEMO, with #2 AUTUMN BLONDE in second and #1 ALABAMA CHARM in fourth. Loved what #8 MEMO did there, charging down the outside and moving smartly. She was eased down late by McEvoy who sticks today. MEMO was a \$350,000 Magic Millions purchase by Capitalist, a horse the Snowden stable knew very well. Drawn very wide here which is the query but she does look talented.

The trifecta form Trial 6 on the morning all line up. That being O' OLE, BEL MERCI and BELLAZAINIE in that order. #9 O' OLE jumped very well, led and held on to win nicely. Both chasers were under riding with #3 BEL MERCI finishing off the heat impressively. From Barrier 4, #3 BEL MERCI is the one we're siding with from this heat.

Really liked the way #6 ICARIAN DREAM took out the last trial, heat 8 of the morning. She beat #12 SCRUMPTIOUS there who was okay herself. #6 ICARIAN DREAM was bought by Ciaran Maher as a weanling for \$310,000 before being bought back at the Magic Millions sale by Maher for \$300,000.

The other key trial was Trial 4 with 6 of the 8 runners in that heat running in this. #13 STRADA VARENNA won that heat and looked good doing so. Wide draw today but McDonald sticks. Has to be a contender.

Very even and somewhat tricky race. Key chances draw awkwardly. #3 BEL MERCI is the horse that draws to get favours. Think #8 MEMO is the one to focus on however, but McEvoy riding from the carpark is a concern.



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# THE TRIAL FILES

5/10/2024 RANDWICK

## Race 10 – 5:25PM TAB HANDICAP BM 94 (1200 METRES)

Last race of the day and hoping we can come home with a bang. We will know any potential track pattern by this stage of the day. You won't find many BM94's as good as this.

Speed from ELSON BOY and BUBBA'S BAY means that OSTRAKA from the inside draw and MORAVIA look to get the gun runs just behind them. BRIASA from 15 and CORNICHE from 8 look to find a midfield trail, likely 3 wide with cover.

Love the trial of #1 CORNICHE this time in coming off a Gelding operation. He is a class horse who had a good 3yo campaign which included a win in the Sunshine Coast Guineas and close up finishes behind Schwarz/Joliestar/Brave Mead, which reads well for this. We liked the way he lowered and chased in his trial chasing Think About It and we think the gelding has done this horse the world of good. From 8 we are hoping he doesn't get too far back and at \$12 he looks a good each way bet.

#4 OSTRAKA was a class above first up when he got back and rounded the field up and ran away to win in good style. He is a horse on the up and from the inside draw here he looks to settle much closer and get every chance to win again. Promising horse. #5 MORAVIA won well last time out also dropping back from group level. He copped a 10/10 ride from JMac and there is every chance he gets the 1/1 again here. Always been a promising horse and he will be a major player.

#21 BRIASA is undefeated in 4 career starts and returned with an easy win in BM78 level. Draws wide here and may be posted without cover but gets in with 52.5kg for Zac Lloyd and he looks a horse with a stack of upside. Can win. #8 RHYTHM OF LOVE looks the other winning hope but will be a fair way back.

### SELECTION:

#1 CORNICHE (each way)

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