

THE TRIAL FILES

17/04/2024 BALAKLAVA

Race 4 – 2:30PM TREVOR AMPSON BALAKLAVA MAIDEN (1300 METRES)

We were with #5 I TELL YA WHAT last time on the back of a great trial and first up run and the race didn't pan out to his liking at all. The track at Gawler on 10/4 was a savage leader/fence bias and he got well back and wide from the outside gate, and it was a total forgive. He still hit the line strongly and the step up to 1300m here on the back up, drawn barrier 5 with the winkers applied and Todd Pannell back aboard are all big positives for him in this event. He can settle much closer to the speed and looks to map for a great run in transit. This horse is bursting to win a race and he gets a very good opportunity to do so here.

The dangers look to be #11 TRUMPTY DUMPTY on debut for the Richard & Chanelle Jolly camp who trialled nicely on 5/4 where he hit the line strongly. May get a long way back from the wide draw here and think he looks short enough in this. #4 HOT OFF is the fit horse who drops back in trip from 1500m and has the blinkers applied and will no doubt be in the finish. Of the others, #2 HIGH ON SUGAR was good in an easier race last start and can improve second up and #1 MORRIS MINOR was good through the line first up and will appreciate the step up in trip 2nd up.

SELECTION:

#5 I TELL YA WHAT (1 x win, 3 x place) is ready to win and looks a nice price at around the \$6 mark.

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17/04/2024 CAULFIELD

Race 1 – 12:30PM SPORTSBET FAST FORM 2YO HANDICAP (1000 METRES)

Rail in the true here on a good 4 surface, every horse should get their chance but no disadvantage to be on speed.

We loved the recent trials of #11 RICH DOTTIE from the Begg stable. Closed nicely under light riding on 25/3 at Cranbourne and followed that up with an impressive trial win on 8/4 where she extended away from her rivals in great style. She looks a particularly stylish mover and from barrier 1 she should have the speed to lead and dictate the race.

#3 HALLOWIN trialled very nicely at Flemington on 5/4. He is a son of Exceedance out of former top line mare Hallowell Belle so dare say there are some decent hopes for him. Liked the last 100m of his jump out but think he has a tough task to win this 1000m event around this circuit from barrier 11. Had he draw a gate he would be much shorter in the market and a big winning hope.

Of those that have raced, #4 SOUK was 2nd on debut in a 3-horse field and has trialled okay leading into this. Drawn for the right run in barrier 3. #6 GRINZINGER LOVE comes through a strong form race at Morphettville on 23/3, with the 2nd horse across the line there taking out a Listed race over the weekend. Prior to that she was 3rd to Bold Bastille/Drifting which is strong form for this. Barrier 8 looks sticky and not sure she will be able to cross or get cover.

SELECTION:

#11 RICH DOTTIE (win) has trialled up super for this and looks a strong chance.

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Race 2 – 1:05PM MRC FOUNDATION WIN A MAZDA CX-3 PLATE (1200 METRES)

#6 HERE THE CROWD has come up favourite here on the back of a debut 2nd behind the impressive Icarus at Sandown. She didn't get clear running early in the straight and once she did, she sprinted well albeit being a touch green once she hit the front. She will have taken improvement from that effort, and she draws the inside barrier here and could easily lead and control things in this.

#7 LUNARSHOT looks a nice mover from the Maher camp. The two most recent trials have been pleasing and we like the way she moves. She pulled up lame at her only start so forgiving that and going off the recent pieces of work. From barrier 2 Zahra has options but she has shown enough gate speed at the trials to suggest she will be up on speed.

Didn't love the trials from the Waller trained #9 VALETUDO. She looked like she will get a lot of benefit from this, but the market seems to like her and can never fully cross off the Lane/Waller combination under those circumstances.

We were quite impressed with the trials this prep of #3 TI TREE LAD. Loved the way he closed when winning an 850m heat at Donal and he followed that up with another nice trial at Avoca on 8/4. He looks to have come back particularly well and the 1200m first up should suit him. He has drawn the outside gate here and suggest he may get back but there looks enough speed in this event to give him his chance to have the last crack at them. We like the way he has been moving and think he looks a nice bet at an each way price.

#5 OLIVIA'S SCANDAL trialled very well prior to missing the start and running 2nd at Swan Hill on 9/4. Don't like the quick back up 2nd up but do think the extra 200m in trip will suit and she is not hopeless.

SELECTION:

#3 TI TREE LAD (1 x win, 3 x place) has been trialling very nicely and looks value at the current price.



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