



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 1 2200m

1	TOO FUNKY	81.00	Only had the one Victorian start when he hugged the pegs in order to qualify. Had a very poor strike rate in the west and this appears well beyond him
2	TEXAS TERROR	15.00	Ran a solid race last time in heat after scoring two good wins coming from the back. Would need to cross the inside runner, then likely take a trail, to be a winning chance but as that appears a likely scenario he must be given a rough hope
3	SHAKE EM BUSTER	151.00	Quite tough but has only won 1 from 31. Beaten a long way in heat and not good enough to match the better ones here
4	MISTER ONETWO	2.00	Very smart horse in the making having won 3 from 4, his only defeat coming at the hands of Ourcrowninn after working. Has the speed to contest the early lead and will almost certainly get that position. The horse to beat given his barrier draw advantage over the other principle chances
5	JERRY MARSHALL	21.00	Has a good winning strike rate, compiled in slightly weaker grade than this. His last two wins have come when leading and appears to be a better horse from that position. As he is highly unlikely to get the lead here, can only be rated a place chance
6	OURCROWNINN	7.00	Has gone up to a completely new level this preparation, winning 5 from 6 and running second to Mister Onetwo at the other start. Will go forward but unlikely to get the lead, which looks the difference between he and the favourite based on their two recent meetings. Cannot be denied a winning chance on recent form
7	BOUT TIME	8.50	Shows a great deal of promise while yet to draw a good gate. The weakest run of his career came when going forward at the start, so likely to be taken back in the early stages here. The draw makes it hard but if there is enough speed on he is a serious winning chance
8	KURAHAUPO QUIN	26.00	Keeps finding one better, being runner up at his last three. Had every chance in the heat behind Ourcrowninn after receiving the perfect trail. Likely to be shuffled back on the pegs here and as such is only a rough place chance
9	LORD COBURN	41.00	All the way winner at Horsham first up but came up short against this grade at his next start, again after leading and receiving a soft run in front. Gets a nice trailing draw but certainly appears well short of a couple of the smart types here
10	KEAYANG JOY	28.00	Career best effort last start when splitting Mister Onetwo and Bout Time, albeit after receiving the perfect trail. The draw is entirely different here and unlikely to feature from back in the field
11	scratched		
12	CLASSIC FALCON	61.00	Placed out of the draw which ruins his chances against this good grade. Had a nice trail into the race last time and although finishing off fairly, was not able to go with the better ones. Hard to fancy from back here

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 2 1710m

1	AMAJORJO	19.00	Still a maiden but has raced consistently throughout. Lacks genuine gate speed and there is some concern she will get shuffled back along the pegs. Even if she does land a forward spot, probably lacks the class to win and place may be best
2	ELJULIO	51.00	Struggled first up as a 3YO when receiving a nice trail into the race and not finishing off. Could be placed if able to cross the inside runner at the start, which is possible, but not a winning prospect
3	CLASSIC BLISS	5.80	Showed good gate speed in her heat and was strong to the line in winning. Will attempt to lead again and likely to cross the inside pair. Has got better with every run this preparation and a solid chance of going all the way again against the boys
4	BLAZEAWAY MACRAY	12.00	Only won one race but has raced against some of the best fillies throughout her career. Had her chance in the heat when unable to run down Classic Bliss. Will be looking for a cosy trail and although it is hard to see her winning this harder race, has good place claims
5	TURN THE BEAST	2.50	Has been unable to break through in three starts as a 3YO, but has produced good runner up efforts last two. Will press forward here and likely to receive a nice one out one back trail. Can turn the tables on We Never Say Die from that position. The horse to beat
6	ITHAPPENSTBEAMETRO	67.00	Has some ability but is completely devoid of early speed and will get back to near the tail again here. Giving away such a big start against these is too much to overcome
7	WE NEVER SAY DIE	5.50	Form is terribly inconsistent but has more ability than most here at his best. Returned to form after a couple of ordinary efforts when leading all the way to beat Turn The Beast at Maryborough. The draw makes it hard as he is a go forward horse and may have to work hard in the early stages to get outside the leader. Can certainly win but is hard to trust
8	CLASSIC GRIN	81.00	Has some speed but lacks strength at this stage of his career. Not competitive with them last time after the perfect trail, struggling when the pressure went on. Not here
9	scratched		
10	WET PAINT	201.00	Yet to do anything in four runs to date that would indicate she is capable of finishing with these. Just making up the numbers
11	DOLLAR JET	26.00	Did a good deal of work first up when, although well beaten by the first two, battled it out ok. Again, hard to see him winning but may be placed at odds with natural improvement
12	HEY DONNA	34.00	Resumed as a favourite after an inconsistent opening campaign and did some work but was still a little disappointing. Likely to benefit from that outing but from this draw will have to be working again at some point and it is hard to see her in the winners stall

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 3 1710m

1	YOU LAZY BOY	251.00	Not won for over a year and has really struggled in recent times. This is too hard for him
2	OUR MICK ISON	26.00	Finding it very hard to win, indicated by the fact he has not won in over a year. Tends to lack the turn of foot to find the winners stall, but form is consistent. The classy types at the bottom have too much speed for him but a strong place prospect from this alley
3	TIANA BROMAC	67.00	Speedy mare who will have little trouble crossing these at the start. Goes best when bowling along in front but is disadvantaged by the presence of the free running Heezabit Rusty, who she handed up to last start when finished poorly. Probably not her race
4	KING OF BLING	126.00	Bobs up on occasions as a blowout horse but general form is inferior to these. Races best on the pegs and will likely look for a spot there but impossible to back against this quality line up
5	LONGTAN LUKE	51.00	Always the type that is taken back in his races but is quite strong at the finish. Comes off an impressive SA win but takes a step up in grade here. Hard to see him beating these
6	HEEZABIT RUSTY	31.00	Very strong horse who was simply awesome in winning three starts back, but that may have taken the steam out of him as his two runs since have been poor. Will press on early as always to look for the lead here, and would be a likely placegetter if he returns to form
7	RONALD GEORGE	41.00	Tends to race well at the spacious Ballarat circuit but seems to have reached his mark. Been hitting the line fairly of late without troubling some nice horses. Again meets some quality here and only a rough place hope
8	EVIL TRICKSTER	101.00	Front of the field horse who has been racing fairly in easier grade. The back row takes away any chance of him figuring in the money
9	MUCKINBAR LADY	8.50	Has had two runs for the Kerry Manning stable and has looked a city winner in the making. Produced dominant displays on both occasions, sprinting hard at the finish. Meets a quality horse now but looks capable of giving him something to think about
10	FOREST BABE	13.00	Quality mare with a lovely turn of foot when circumstances allow her to produce it. Recent racing has been in quality mares grade in town where she has been most competitive. Likely speed early here will help her and she is a knockout chance with a trail up
11	ABETTORPUNT	1.50	Outstanding 4YO who raced against the best last term and acquitted himself very well. Resumed with a brilliant win in blistering time. His typical chasing race pattern thrives on the speed expected here and clearly the horse to beat

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 4 2710m

1	SUN OF IRIS	16.00	Had very good NSW form before his heat run where he was well beaten from a back row draw. Draw much more favourable here and has the speed to be in the thick of the action throughout. Definetely a knockout chance
2	THE FIERY GINGA	4.40	Came with good New Zealand form but struggled at this distance in heat after leading. Will again charge to the lead and must be rated a big chance, but after a weak finish last week may be one to bet against at short odds
3	RETAINED	201.00	Desperately needs the pegs and got that last week, gaining the perfect trail when not far away. Won't get that luxury here and is outclassed
4	VULCAN	2.50	Outstanding run in heat when did a power of work early before having to go back to last, then remarkably still making ground late. That indicated he has brought his best New Zealand form with him and will find the breeze easily here. The horse to beat if he has not been flattened by that run
5	LORD OF THE GYM	151.00	Struggles to win these days. Well beaten last week coming off some moderate form for this class of race. Not a winning hope tonight
6	MY MON STAR	26.00	Has serious ability but only puts it all together rarely, as he did two starts back when a super impressive winner over Miss Warbucks while overcoming difficulties. Was fairly ordinary last week after receiving a peg trip. Hard to be confident about him, but his absolute best would give him a knockout hope
7	BACKAS COBBER	13.00	Scored two good wins in a row before an excellent run in last weeks heat when working hard in the last lap and being very strong to the line in a very fast last half. Again has the disadvantage of the wide draw and will be working again but has some hope
8	ALEPPO SUNRISE	19.00	Driven a bit against his pattern last week when working early and resented it by dropping out badly. Will gain a very cosy sit three back on the inside here and is capable of finishing powerfully if the luck comes late, although his form may be tapering off and probably only a very rough winning hope
9	CILLAS EARL	34.00	Has high speed but tends to struggle at his level. Was not far away in the Grand Prix before well beaten in heat last week. Has a nice trailing draw but probably only a place hope
10	IM DEJAZZMAN	9.50	Had a nice trail into the race last week and although struggled to sprint with the first pair he finished his race off soundly, finishing next to The Fiery Ginga. Will be looking for a similar trail here and has a hope if he gets one
11	AFRITI	501.00	Not won for nearly two years and never been up to this level. Horrible barrier draw, no chance

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 5 2710m

1	ARMED GUARD	51.00	Consistent but now over a year since he has won. Will get a lovely run here which he needs, but well beaten last week and only a rough place hope
2	SAVE A SIXPENCE	5.00	Racing well with a good 2nd place after working, then a bold all-the-way win last week. Will look for the lead again here and although this may be slightly stronger, is still an excellent chance
3	SPRINGBANK RICHARD	2.25	Simply outstanding last week when he sat outside The Fiery Ginga and beat that horse with ease. Superior stayer who will be in the thick of the action again from this draw and is certainly the horse to beat on that run
4	STYLISH MONARCH	8.50	Looked to be struggling before the turn last week but kept coming late to not be beaten far by Save A Sixpence. Probably the quickest beginner off the front line here but questionable whether he can get accross. Must be conceded some chance in the hope he can find the lead
5	KEYS TO THE UTE	501.00	A horse who clearly does his best racing on the pegs and was beaten a long way last week in his first try at this level. Making up the numbers
6	scratched		
7	BARNEYS INVASION	401.00	Doesn't win out of turn and never been up to this level. Will settle back from his wide draw and won't be competitive
8	SUNDONS GIFT	5.50	Not the same horse we have known from previous seasons but still racing in competitive fashion. Shuffled back on the pegs last week when had no luck and hit the line hard. His prior form, when doing some work in the run, was consistent without being able to break through. Will likely ease at the start and work around at some point and while he has a chance, will likely be one to risk from this draw
9	EARL OF MOT	41.00	Ultra tough campaigner who has been just battling this time in. Worked last week outside the best horse in the series, then faded late. Hard to see him winning here
10	MISTER CASTLETON	81.00	Has a turn of foot but these appear too strong. Got the perfect trail last week but there were many better runs around him. Not up to these

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.

Race 6 2710 stand



1	PRINCE BENJI	21.00	A good stand start beginner who will be looking to punch through at the start. There is good speed from the tapes outside of him so will need to be on his game. Has a rough chance if he is able to land close as he is quite tough on his night
2	OUR CHAIN OF COMMAND	12.00	Reigning champ but a while since we saw the best of him. Improved last time when making ground inside horses late without much luck. Hard to declare he is back yet but better than all bar the favourite at his best and must be rated a chance with his very good stand start record
3	AMADMANCOMESUNDONE	51.00	Can be very inconsistent and typically does his best racing when he can find the pegs. Is a good stand start beginner but this a very fast stand start front line and unlikely he can get over to the inside without easing back. As a result, success is highly unlikely
4	PEMBROOK HENRY	32.00	Last two runs have been an improvement on prior poor form. Tracked Sushi Sushi home last week when filling the minor prize. Tends to lack tactical speed these days and that makes him a minor place hope only
5	POCKET BOY	34.00	Very fast away from the stand but has been found out at this level of late. Will be trying to get across early but there is no reason to think he can improve enough to win this
6	JOHNORAMA	51.00	Form this season has dipped from what we have seen in the past. Ran a better race in claiming grade last start behind an in form horse, but this is stronger and likely to be working hard at some point. Hard to see him featuring at this stage
7	scratched		
8	COMPOSED	19.00	Nice horse who has taken to stand start racing well this time in. Just beaten by Jaccka Clive in the Cobram Cup after leading then never in it against better class last time. Will need some breaks from the back row, but has some hope if they come
9	AUCKLAND REACTOR	1.80	Star New Zealander who has been all over the world. Has always been a query from a stand but was a brilliant winner last time under those conditions. Indicated he had travelled ok with a trial win here recently. Hard to back at very short odds until we see him produce here but on the score of class should simply beat these easily
10	MICKEY MAC	41.00	Racing consistently from stands but struggling to win. Led them up at Ouyen after a fast start when easily beaten by the winner. Goes far better from the front of the field so the back row draw here takes away his chance of figuring in the placings
11	STIRLING CHARMER	30.00	Seems to be a horse who rarely has things go his way, and as such rarely wins. Dropped a little in grade last time when running second coming from back in the field. Unlikely he can beat these but could be placed with his strength
12	LETS SLASH AN BURN	11.00	Had been racing below his best before a very impressive win in the Hamilton Cup when working hard all the way and outstaying them. That was far superior to his prior runs, so if he reproduces that he has a genuine chance if the fav has an off night
13	SMUDGE BROMAC	61.00	Is regularly driven for luck and that is likely to be the case from this back row draw again. Has a big field to get through and very hard to think he can be winning with a lot against him here

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 7 2710m

1	I DIDNT DO IT	5.80	Drawn to use his terrific gate speed and lead them up. Looked a likely winner last week when making an error under pressure in the home straight. Brilliantly won the Grand Prix from off the speed before that. Will get some pressure here but loves to lead and is a real threat
2	BILLY THE BRAT	61.00	Has had an outstanding season at the level below this. Ran a respectable race last week when holding his ground late. Will receive a nice trail here but not up to beating these
3	SOVEREIGNTY	5.00	Not far behind I Can Doosit in New Zealand and ran an excellent race last week from a back row draw where he was forced to work very hard through the quickest quarter of the race. Drawn to get a perfect trail here and is a serious chance to knock off the favourite
4	GLUTEUS MAXIMUS	251.00	Failed to measure up last week when was afforded a trail late but couldn't stick with the horse in front of her. This is beyond her
5	WINDINYASOUP	71.00	Like Billy The Brat, has had a very good season a level down from this. Will run another respectable race but will just find the good ones beyond him
6	I CAN DOOSIT	2.00	Racing as well as ever, coming off three wins against New Zealand's best trotters and then looking most impressive last week when leading and bolting in in brilliant closing fractions. Faces a tough heat here and will likely end up outside the leader so will definately be tested, but remains the horse they have to beat
7	GO AHEAD MAKEMYDAY	101.00	Has stepped up against the best last two runs and has received the perfect trip behind the leader on both occassions. Not able to match it last week, so from this draw looks likely to finish well back
8	CRESCENT GLORY	14.00	Has had little luck of late but new driver finally got him a nice trip last time and sprinted home well to just miss. Drawn ideally here to trail the leader, and with the last crack at them has a knockout chance
9	MOTU YOUNG JACOB	401.00	Still yet to win in Australia and ran very poorly last week after a soft trip. Not good enough
10	TEN COMMANDERS	126.00	Sometimes talented but inconsistent trotter who ran better than the form guide reads last week, being wide last in fast closing splits. The draw means he will give the good ones a start and can't win this
11	HEI GIFT	81.00	Has always been an extremely talented trotter but had a lot of problems. Only had two runs back from a twenty month spell and not ready to beat the best yet, but he may improve a little on last run

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.

Race 8 2710m



1	PEMBROOK BENNY	14.00	Very smart NZer who is drawn to be the late sniper here. Finished third behind Smoken Up back in November and has raced very well since around some quality FFA horses. Like The Gold Ace, if the two favourites go too hard he is a blowout hope from the draw
2	HEZA TRICK	26.00	Has had a terrific season making it right through to the top level. Had his first taste in the SA Cup when third behind Smoken Up, hitting the line hard off a cosy trail. May not be quite ready to win against these but is a place prospect
3	MELPARK MAJOR	15.00	Going well but generally finding it hard to win. Had the Horsham Cup shot to pieces before inexplicably galloping in the home straight. Will be driven to use his gate speed here and if he can cross Pembroke Benny he is not without a chance, although has struggled to beat the big guns in recent times
4	HIGHVIEW TOMMY	51.00	Another NZer whose best recommendation was his placing in the New Zealand Cup where he came home very strongly. Form in New Zealand had tapered off slightly before racing poorly, albeit after working, at Shepparton last week. Only a place chance on that
5	OUR MALABAR	251.00	Has been very dissapointing at his last two. Although he met with trouble at Horsham, he was struggling at the time. Will not be able to get across here and has no winning chance, but may push forward and make it harder for Sushi Sushi
6	HESA BUZZIN	101.00	Pure sit-sprint pacer who always needs luck. The draw means he will be back close to last and will likely go to the pegs for some luck. Not good enough to win, but with the expected hot speed will get past a few late and is a blowout place hope at big odds
7	SUSHI SUSHI	4.20	Has proved unbeatable against his own age and class and now steps up against the big boys. Has options at the start, will likely elect to go forward in an attempt to get the lead before Smoken Up, but may be forced to work a bit to get there. Acid test here but has been simply brilliant in the last year and must be given a great chance
8	AMADMANCOMESUNDONE	501.00	[emerg] Form is only fair in weaker grade than this and should he get a run would just be making up the numbers
9	VILLAGEM	61.00	Has raced better at his last two runs but has still had his chance and this is harder again. His old form would be highly competitive but has not raced to a level capable of winning this for a long time. Wait until he shows more
10	SMOKEN UP	2.50	The Australian champion who has taken all before him winning several Grand Circuit races already this season. Known for his front running ability but has to come from the second row draw here. Will be driven for toughness which is his forte and his will to win makes him the top pick
11	DECORATED JASPER	67.00	Top quality local who is always competitive, but has a couple of things against him here. Goes far better at the front of the field and although he won the Bendigo Cup last time, is at his absolute best over shorter trips. Not a winning chance from this draw
12	CAPTAIN JOY	151.00	Not really known for his ability to go to the line, and as a result rarely wins these days. His sectionals have not been bad of late, but there are some tougher horses which will find him out at the finish
13	THE GOLD ACE	8.50	New Zealand's top 4YO who, like Sushi Sushi here, has generally been dominant against his own age. Winning streak of 6 was broken last start but he was first up from a break and did some work. The favourites may go at each other here and if they do, don't underestimate this bloke. Can win

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.

Race 9 2200 stand



1	GAZOLINE	7.50	Good stand start horse who races best from the front and should hold that position here. Lacks a quick change up quarter but keeps rolling along and will prove difficult for most of these to run down. The principle danger
2	ALABAMADON	81.00	Getting on in years now and has lost the turn of foot he once possessed. Has been receiving perfect trips on the pegs of late but failing to finish his races off. Not one to be backing at this stage of his career
3	BRIEF GLANCE	1.95	Has been a little inconsistent in career thus far, but two recent wins at Melton were highly impressive, looking very strong on the line. Since went to harder grade and ran well without much luck. Better than these on the score of ability and if he does everything right should be winning
4	AVID	34.00	Started the season in good fashion but form has gone downhill quite a bit of late. Gets a front row draw this time which has been uncommon of late but could only rate a rough place hope in current form
5	SNAPPY POP	501.00	Not won for nearly two years and not competitive for a long time. Not likely to change that here
6	SMILE NO MORE	101.00	Has raced very poorly since an all the way win back in September. Impossible to fancy his chances on recent runs and wait to see something better from him before backing him
7	CLASSIC ATTITUDE	18.00	10m -- Has improved dramatically in recent times, winning two of last three at this track impressively. Has found the front on both occasions which suits her racing style. Harder from the handicap and although she can't be dismissed entirely, might be one to risk
8	BUNTYS BASS	12.00	20m -- Most of his form is in stronger grade than this. Was a certainty beaten at this track last start when broke on several occasions. If he does everything right he is more than capable of being in the finish, despite the handicap
9	BUTTON BRIGADE	41.00	20m -- Very one paced type who was the beneficiary of some poor manners by others in winning last time. Very safe but often lacks the dash to win. From the handicap can't be considered a winning chance
10	COMMAND THE WIND	51.00	20m -- Not racing as well this season and is a superior horse when he can work to the lead, which was the method of winning his only race this season. Hard to see him winning off the handicap mark
11	JILLIBY FLIPPA	13.00	20m -- Can be a bit risky and tends to race better on bigger tracks, so Ballarat should suit even though he has only been here once. The handicap is a concern over the shorter trip, but his very best would give this a shake, although his last three runs have been a little short of that. Some hope
12	LOOKS A MORAL	28.00	20m -- [emerg] Terribly inconsistent type who came off some poor form with a terrific win over the well performed Prettylilangeleyes during the week. If that form was reproduced he would have to be conceded a winning chance, but is very hard to follow and rarely puts two together. The handicap also makes it very hard
13	KEYSTONE BLUES	81.00	30m -- Very honest but certainly lacks any sort of speed. Is used to coming off back marks but generally over longer trips and recent runs just fair. This does not appear his race

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.



Ballarat, Saturday 28th January, 2012.



Race 10 2200m

1	HEATHBERN DIAMOND	11.00	Sit-sprinter who comes off fairly average recent form, but this time gets the draw he needs. His most recent win came in a strong claimer when trailing the leader and that will be the scenario here. Needs to improve to win, but can from the draw and has some chance
2	JAMES RYAN	101.00	Had two runs back from a break and has been beaten a long way on both occasions. Will be outsped early and can't be supported until he shows something again
3	MY SALVATION	2.80	Form in claimers is outstanding since coming to Victoria. Ran terrific time at Cranbourne when he led and gradually ramped up the speed. Will lead again here, the only concern being the presence of Alberado who tends to race very fiercely and pour the speed on. If he is not pressured too much is the horse to beat
4	DARTMOOR	34.00	Racing just fairly without having the best of luck for a while now. Best when he can lead but that will not be the case here. Could end up with a nice sit and is a place hope
5	MASTER WILLIAM	61.00	Was racing ok before leading in a claimer during the week and running terribly. This stable is known for turning them around quickly but very hard to support after that effort
6	FIRE IT UP	4.80	Sit-sprinter and always needs some luck, but is better than most of these on the score of ability. Got the right trip when winning in harder grade two starts back before racing indifferently in Sydney. Will go back, but the possibility of a hot speed would bring him right into the race. A genuine chance
7	ALBERADO	51.00	Free running type who only knows one way to race, which is to go forward and keep rolling. Likely to have to race from the position outside the leader which would end his winning chance, but if he puts enough pressure on may get the front. Probably can't win but is a key runner in race tactics
8	STAR CITY ROLLER	13.00	High speed type who has not won in a while but continues to be around the mark. Will likely be three back on the inside here and will require luck. With his turn of foot has a rough chance if the splits appear in the straight
9	IM MARK ANTONY	5.00	Former classy horse who had his first run for nearly a year when a close up fourth at Melton. Had a perfect sit that day and they ran their last half in a blistering 55.4, so the run was good. Follows out a slow beginner so will be back in the field, but has a chance in this grade if he continues to improve

All races are priced to 100%, plus any emergency.