



香港賽馬會  
The Hong Kong Jockey Club



#1 SKY DARCI (NZ) (PP #2)  
(*Darci Brahma {NZ}--Strictly Maternal {NZ}, by O'Reilly {NZ}*) (NZ\$160,000 Ylg '18 NZBJAN) O-Jessica Kwan Mun Hang; B-M W Freeman & D G Price; T-Caspar Fownes; J-Joao Moreira. Current Rating: 103

Has come up 32 points in the ratings this season, having capped a three-race streak with a win in Class 1 over a mile in November. Second in open Group 3 company next time out, he finished about midfield in the Hong Kong Classic Mile and Hong Kong Cup (1800m) in his last two. Half to MGSW/G1SP stayer Chocante (NZ) (Shocking {Aus}) has questions to answer.



#3 HEALTHY HAPPY (AUS) (PP #3)  
(*Zoustar {Aus}--Lady Lakshmi {Aus}, by Lonhro {Aus}*) (A\$375,000 Ylg '18 MMGCYS) O-Sin Tung Hing, Sin Yuk Lok & Sin Yuk San; B-Lachlan River Bloodstock (Vic); T-Frankie Lor; J-Alexis Badel. Current Rating: 101

Healthy Happy saluted in two of his first three local appearances over sprint trips and, though only seventh in the Classic Mile, was never on the track three and four deep and did very well to be beaten just four lengths. Controlled the soft pace in the Classic Cup under a well-rated ride from Alexis Badel, but may be hard pressed to repeat the feat.



#5 TOURBILLON DIAMOND (AUS) (PP #11)  
(*Olympic Glory {Ire}--Modave {NZ}, by Montjeu {Ire}*) (A\$7,000 Ylg '18 MMJUN) O-Shum Mak Ling, Jimmy Tang, Bennie Lau Yuk Lung & William Shum Wai Lam; B-Arrowfield Group Pty Ltd, Jungle Pocket Pty Ltd (NSW); T-Danny Shum; J-Vincent Ho. Current Rating: 98

The former Eric the Eel landed the 1600m Class 2 finale on HKIR day, then was exceptionally unlucky in the Classic Mile, finishing third after being locked away for a good 150 metres. An honest fifth in the Classic Cup, he will need a few things to go his way, especially from the draw, but he is right in the mix.

#2 EXCELLENT PROPOSAL (AUS) (PP #8)  
(*Exceed and Excel {Aus}--Procrastination {GB}, by Pivotal {GB}*) (A\$200,000 Ylg '18 MMGCYS) O-Kenneth Chung Kin Shu; B-Holloway Equine Pty Ltd (Vic); T-John Size; J-Blake Shinn. Current Rating: 101



Friendless-in-the-market (\$23) winner of the Classic Mile off one sub-par effort first-up, got home well in the Classic Cup to be a close fourth when perhaps most inconvenienced of any of the Derby runners by the lack of tempo. Gold Coast sales grad is in the capable hands of the legendary John Size, who has sent out three of the last nine Derby winners. The selection.

#4 SHADOW HERO (AUS) (PP #7)  
(*Pierro {Aus}--Sookie {Aus}, by Casino Prince {Aus}*) (A\$260,000 Ylg '18 INGFE) O-Edmond Lee Man Bun; B-Lightning TBs, Mrs D Kolivos (NSW); T-David Hayes; J-Zac Purton. Current Rating: 100.



By the sire of 2019 Derby hero Furore (NZ), Shadow Hero is one of two in the race for 2003 Derby-winning trainer David Hayes. Winless in four Hong Kong starts, he raced unusually close to the speed when fifth in the Classic Mile, but made a run from off the pace to be a neck third in the Classic Cup. Capable on his best, but needs to finish off better than he has.

#6 LUCKY EXPRESS (AUS) (PP #9)  
(*Toronado {Ire}--Il Diamante {Aus}, by Testa Rossa {Aus}*) (A\$145,000 Ylg '18 INGMAR) O-Larry Yung Chi Kin; B-C Jackson (Vic); T-John Size; J-Antoine Hamelin. Current Rating: 97



A winner in Class 2 from 10 Hong Kong starts, Lucky Express ran Sky Darci to a neck in the Class 1 Chevalier Cup H. back in November and was a cracking second in the Classic Mile as an \$8.50 chance. Eighth, at the mercy of the pace and hampered some in the Classic Cup, one wonders if this 2000-metre trip is biting off a bit more than he can chew.



#7 RUSSIAN EMPEROR (IRE) (PP #5)  
*(c, Galileo {Ire}--Atlantic Jewel {Aus}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus})* O-Mike Cheung Shun Ching; B-Coolmore, Lauri Macri & Partners; T-Douglas Whyte; J-Karis Teetan.  
 Current Rating: 97

Last year's G3 Hampton Court S. victor, Russian Emperor showed very little in his first two runs at Sha Tin, finishing 10th in a C2 over 1400m and a well-beaten ninth in the Classic Mile. Trainer Douglas Whyte added blinkers for the Classic Cup and the colt traveled much better and hit the line hard to be second at big odds. Which Russian Emperor shows up here?



#8 PANFIELD (CHI) (PP #12)  
*(c, Lookin At Lucky--Esterina {Arg}, by Orpen)*  
 O-Yue Yun Hing; B-Agricola Taomina Ltda; T-Tony Millard; J-Chad Schofield.  
 Current Rating: 90

The most accomplished of this group pre-import, with a trio of Group 1 wins at home, the imposing Panfield has progressed nicely, with a fourth in C2 going 1800 metres two back before a victory over the Derby course and distance last time out. Wants every bit of this trip, but several of his rivals have a much more effective turn of foot over the final stages.



#9 CONGRATULATION 🍀 (PP #14)  
*(American Pharoah--Up {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire})* (\$750,000 Ylg '18 KESEEP)  
 O-Leung Lun Ping; B-Ran Jan Racing Inc (KY); T-Douglas Whyte; J-Tony Piccone.  
 Current Rating: 89

'TDN Rising Star' Congratulation (ex Monarch of Egypt) somewhat controversially gets the nod for a spot in the field off a single fifth-place effort over seven furlongs that was respectable, but not earth-shattering. On the plus side, he should see out this trip on pedigree, however, he'd be doing well to crack the first half of this field from an awful gate.



#10 SILVER EXPRESS (AUS) (PP #1)  
*(Canford Cliffs {Ire}--Rechichi {Aus}, by Elvstroem {Aus})*  
 O-Larry Yung Chi Kin; B-K Heffernan (Vic); T-John Size; J-Matthew Chadwick.  
 Current Rating: 89

Silver Express was given a final opportunity to lift his middling 79 rating into Derby range in a 1400-metre Class 3 Feb. 28. Forced to carry 133 pounds, he treated his rivals to a 2 1/4-length beating from the front. Seems an unlikely winner, but trainer succeeded in stepping up Ping Hai Star (NZ) from 1400m to win the Derby in his next start back in 2018.



#11 DELIGHTFUL LAOS (IRE) (PP #10)  
*(Baltic King {GB}--Pepys Tillergirl {Ire}, by Tillerman {GB})* (€50,000 2yo '19 TATMAY) O-Cheung Keung Fai; B-George S O'Malley; T-Tony Cruz; J-Derek Leung.  
 Current Rating: 88

Carrying the same colours as the outstanding 2014 Derby winner Designs On Rome (Ire) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), Delightful Laos has tasted victory on three occasions in 11 local starts, all of which have come over the city circuit at Happy Valley. Always far back in the Classic Cup, he looks well held on class against these rivals.



#12 CONQUEROR (AUS) (PP #13)  
*(Fastnet Rock {Aus}--Diademe {NZ}, by Savabeel {Aus})* (NZ\$1,000,000 Ylg '18 NZBJAN) O-Charles Chan Sing Chuk; B-China Horse Club Racing Pty Ltd (NSW); T-David Hayes; J-Keith Yeung.  
 Current Rating: 86

Multiple group-placed in Australia for David Hayes and therefore imported on a mark of 85, Conqueror struggled home last but one after sitting up on that soft pace in the Classic Cup. Hayes removed the blinkers and added cheekpieces for a C2 over 1800m Mar. 7 and the result was an improved fourth. Tabbng this million-dollar baby for later.



#13 MAXIMUS (GER) (PP #4)  
*(c, Ivawood {Ire}--Coco Demure {Ire}, by Titus Livius {Fr})* (€32,000 RNA Ylg '18 ARQAUG; €710,000 HRA '19 ARQARC)  
 O-Tony Yue Kwok Leung; B-Scuderia Waldeck SNC; T-Tony Millard; J-Matthew Poon. Current Rating: 85

A listed winner at two in France when racing as Chares, Maximus faded tamely to be 10th in the Classic Mile and, after being withdrawn from the Classic Cup, finished one spot ahead of Conqueror in the aforementioned Class 2 a fortnight ago. Could be part of what is typically a modest pace in the Derby, but would be surprised if he's around at the finish.



#14 PACKING WALTHAM (FR) (PP #6)  
*(Wootton Bassett {GB}--Baki {Fr}, by Turtle Bowl {Ire})*  
 (€110,000 Ylg '18 ARQAUG; €110,000 RNA 2yo '19 ARQMAY)  
 O-Edmond Lee Man Bun; B-Francois Rohaut; T-Tony Cruz; J-Neil Callan.  
 Current Rating: 85

Though he sneaks into the Derby as its joint lowest-rated galloper, here is your each-way play for the race. Winless locally, he was done no favours by the shape of the Classic Cup, but rattled home strongly to be sixth, beaten a little more than a length. Surprise package.