

BMW HONG KONG DERBY

SUNDAY, MARCH 19 | SHA TIN



#1 KEEFY (AUS) (PP #5)
(All Too Hard {Aus}--Urban Rocker {Aus}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus}) (A\$105,000 Ylg '20 INGFEb) O-Chong Min Onn; B-Raffles Dancers (NZ) Pty Ltd (NSW); T-Frankie Lor; J-Derek Leung. Current Rating: 99

A two-time winner from eight starts in Australia, Keefy kicked off his Hong Kong career on a fairly lofty rating of 75 and took that to triple digits with a romping victory in the C1 Chevalier Cup H. over 1600m in November. A meritorious third under top weight in Class 2 next time, he has not factored in the first two legs of the Classic series and is unlikely to here either.



#2 BEAUTY ETERNAL (AUS) (PP #7)
(Starspangledbanner {Aus}--Ithacan Queen {NZ}, by Savabeel {Aus}) (A\$90,000 Ylg '20 INGFEb) O-Patrick Kwok Ho Chuen; B-P Raftopoulos (Vic); T-John Size; J-Zac Purton. Current Rating: 94

Everyone's idea of the Derby favourite, having won four of his five trips to the post, including an on-the-bridle, two-length victory going a mile Feb. 26. Carrying the same silks as Horse of the Year Beauty Generation (NZ), third in this in 2017, Beauty Eternal will look to become the rare horse to win the Derby without having started in either the Classic Mile or Classic Cup.



#3 SUPER SUNNY SING (AUS) (PP #9)
(Nicconi {Aus}--Red Centre {Aus}, by Rubiton {Aus}) (A\$48,000 Ylg '20 INGFEb) O-Janice Wong Oi Ying; B-Miss J Henderson, Etak T'breeds (NSW); T-Chris So; J-Vincent Ho. Current Rating: 94

Super Sunny Sing defeated Classic Mile winner Voyage Bubble (*see below*) over 1400 metres on International Races day Dec. 11 and added two more victories in Class 3 competition before turning in a scintillating late turn of foot to defeat Sword Point (*see below*) when last seen in the Classic Cup. Vincent Ho swept the series in 2020 with Golden Sixty (Medaglia d'Oro)



#4 VOYAGE BUBBLE (AUS) (PP #14)
(Deep Field {Aus}--Raheights, by Rahy) (A\$380,000 Ylg '20 INGFEb) O-Sunshine and Moonlight Syndicate; B-Torryburn Stud (NSW); T-Ricky Yiu; J-Alexis Badel. Current Rating: 93.

Was allowed a soft time of things in the Classic Mile and made all the running beneath Jamie Kah for a 1 1/4-length defeat of Tuchel (*see below*). The pace proved far more demanding in the Classic Cup, and it took its toll late, as he finished four lengths adrift of Super Sunny Sing. Hard to see the 2000 metres as a plus. One of two Torryburn Stud-breds in the race.



#5 SWORD POINT (AUS) (PP #6)
(American Pharoah--Jazz Song {Aus}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus}) (A\$750,000 Ylg '20 MMGCYS) O-Li Chi Pong; B-Morning Rise Stud (Vic); T-Hugh Bowman; J-Frankie Lor. Current Rating: 89

Expensive Easter Yearling was a two-time winner in New South Wales for Chris Waller and owns a single Class 3 score from five local starts. Was inconvenienced by the lack of pace in the Classic Mile and was given a positive Hugh Bowman ride in the Classic Cup before staying on for second. Drawn well, trip suits, Bowman sticks around and could outrun his odds.



#6 TUCHEL (NZ) (PP #1)
(Redwood {GB}--Trista Rossa {Aus}, by Testa Rossa {Aus}) (NZ\$130,000 Ylg '20 NZBJAN) O-Philip Chan Kwok Chung; B-G Harvey; T-John Size; J-Ryan Moore. Current Rating: 88

Low-odds winner in Class 3 and Class 2 over 1400m, boxed on gamely when second in the Classic Mile and was beaten under 4L in the Classic Cup. Three-time Derby-winning trainer John Size reaches out for Ryan Moore and the two teamed to win this in 2018 with Ping Hai Star (NZ). Should sit a cushy trip from the rail draw, but that final 200 metres looks a bit iffy.



#7 BEAUTYVERSE (NZ) (PP #11)
(Tarzino {NZ}--The Love Of Money {Aus}, by Casino Prince {Aus}) (NZ\$75,000 Ylg '20 NZBJAN) O-Melody Kwok Sze Wai & Junbon Chan Chun Bong; B-G Harvey; T-Tony Cruz; J-James McDonald. Current Rating: 87

The second of the 'Beauty' horses and second bred by Gerry Harvey, Beautyverse does have a front-running victory over Keefy on his resume, but has struggled since, finishing a no-factor eighth in the Classic Mile and last of 14 after enduring a torrid trip in the Classic Cup. James McDonald is in for the ride, but the positives end right about there.



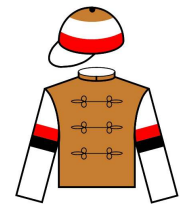
#8 GALAXY WITNESS (AUS) (PP #3)
(Star Witness {Aus}--Black Tulip {Aus}, by Lonhro {Aus}) (A\$160,000 Ylg '20 MMGCYS) O-Winnie Law Wing Yin; B-Bird Rock Thoroughbreds (Vic); T-Caspar Fownes; J-Damian Lane. Current Rating:86

Galaxy Witness looked like any kind last season, going four-for-five, but he really hasn't built on those efforts this term. That said, he ran with merit when fifth behind the dawdle in the Classic Mile and clocked the third-fastest final 400m to be third in the Classic Cup. Damian Lane continues his world tour here on a horse not without a puncher's chance.



#9 SWEET ENCOUNTER (NZ) (PP #2)
(Toronado {Ire}--Haumea {Aus}, by Encosta de Lago {Aus}) (NZ\$80,000 Ylg '20 NZBJAN; NZ\$110,000 2yo '20 NZBTRR) O-Vicky Tang; B-Hong Kong Breeders Club Ltd; T-John Size; J-Luke Currie. Current Rating: 86

Looked a real Classics contender early in the season, with a pair of wins at odds-on in C3 and can be forgiven a second-place effort with a big weight in his next start. But his runs in the Classic Mile (eighth) and an on-pace 11th in the Classic Cup fall well short of what will be needed here. John Size puts the blinkers on for the first time.



#10 ATULLIBIGEAL (AUS) (PP #12)
(Street Boss--Kellys Ocean Jewel {GB}, by Dansili {GB}) (A\$40,000 Wlg '19 IGLJUN; NZ\$80,000 RNA Ylg '20 NZBJAN) O-Zeng Shuida; B-R Harding (Vic); T-David Hall; J-Luke Ferraris. Current Rating: 85

Winner in listed company in New Zealand, Atullibigeal carried 133 pounds to a 1 1/4-length success in a 1600-metre Class 3 Feb. 19 to earn a rating high enough to make this field. David Hall gave his charge an unorthodox Derby prep over 1400m and pronounced himself satisfied with a fifth-place effort. Still feels like one of the outsiders from a bad draw to boot.



#11 FLAGSHIP WARRIOR (AUS) (PP #13)
(Foxwedge {Aus}--Inishmore {Aus}, by More Than Ready) (A\$45,000 RNA Ylg '20 MGMMAR) O-Kwok Chan Yiu; B-Mill Park Stud Pty Ltd, Robert & Helen Dinham (SA); T-David Hayes; J-Karis Teetan. Current Rating: 84

Won a listed event at Morphettville last April and stayed this trip well enough to be second in the G3 Chairman's S. before finishing well-beaten in the G1 South Australian Derby (2500m). Won his local debut and his Classic Cup effort was sound enough. Races with a hood for the first time and has a poor barrier, but won't be surprised if he's running on.



#12 ENCOUNTERED (IRE) (PP #8)
(Churchill {Ire}--Enrol {GB}, by Pivotal {GB}) (160,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT). O-Vincent Wong Yin Shun; B-Rabbah Bloodstock Limited; T-Manfred Man; J-Slivestre de Sousa. Current Rating: 83

Winner of a Doncaster novice for Marco Botti in 2021, Encountered has done his best work at the city circuit at Happy Valley, where he has won two from four. He was forwardly placed in the Classic Cup last time and ran into a bit of traffic, but he never looked like a serious threat finishing 8 1/2 lengths behind Super Sunny Sing. Looks overmatched.



#13 STRAIGHT ARRON (AUS) (PP #10)
(Fastnet Rock {Aus}--Imperial Lass {NZ}, by Tavistock {NZ}) (A\$270,000 Ylg '20 INGEAS) O-Karen Lo Ki Yan; B-Torryburn Stud (NSW); T-Casper Fownes; J-Blake Shinn. Current Rating: 81

Another former Chris Waller inmate, Straight Arron won last year's G3 Carbine Club S., but made no impact in his first three local starts, all since the first of the year. He needed a bit of a miracle to make the Derby field at all and delivered with a Class 3 tally over 1800 metres Feb. 26. He'll go back from a high gate and will be saved for a finish, likely behind midfield.



#14 BON'S A PEARLA (AUS) (PP #4)
(f, Bon Hoffa {Aus}--Treasure Island {Aus}, by Duporth {Aus}) O-Leung Lun Ping; B-Ken King Thoroughbreds (Vic); T-David Hayes; J-Lyle Hewitson. Current Rating: 80

It's been 20 years since David Hayes sent out the filly Elegant Fashion (Aus) to win the Derby and tries again here with the lowest-rated galloper in the Derby field. She gets the blinkers on, figures to sit a decent trip from gate four and wasn't totally embarrassed in the first two legs. Still, hard to endorse.

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