

Speed Map - 12 January 2019

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 1:00 PM
 Race 1 | Class 5 | TURF - A Course | 1200m
 Likely Positions After Settling

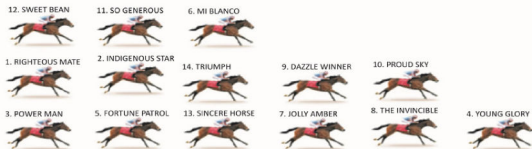
PACE: GOOD TO SLOW



RICHICITY FORTUNE isn't as quick as he was in his younger days but he'll still probably have sufficient pace to head these off. OTOUTO comes back from 1600m but the exercise of going a mile may have toughened up --- he can be in the vicinity without actually taking control. DIAMOND LEGEND can push through along the rail from barrier 2 and occupy a prominent spot, with JOYFUL FOREVER likely to be there as well. PEACE ON EARTH is the one most likely to be caught wide, while class dropper RUN MOOCHI will probably go back.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 1:30 PM
 Race 2 | Class 5 | TURF - A Course | 1800m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: SLOW



There isn't one horse among the 14 candidates that you could label a guaranteed leader. YOUNG GLORY did push forward and eventually led a race over this course and distance in November and it may be his best option again from the outside barrier. THE INVINCIBLE should begin well from an inside barrier and he's the alternative leader. PROUD SKY normally races a bit further back than illustrated but the likely slow tempo here will allow him to lay up closer. JOLLY AMBER and DAZZLE WINNER figure to be next. There are a lot of horses with no early pace at all.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 2:00 PM
 Race 3 | Class 4 | TURF - A Course | 1200m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD TO SLOW



SUPER MODEL and SUPER EIGHTEEN look to be the main candidates for front-running honours. We've leaned slightly towards SUPER EIGHTEEN because he is a course-and-distance winner when leading, but it's almost a 50-50 call. MIDNIGHT RATTLER will be compelled to push forward from his wide barrier to race prominently. Newcomer ALPHABET INVENTION has trialled nicely enough and he wears blinkers to keep him focused for his debut. A second newcomer, SLENDOR AND GOLD, could secure a midfield transit while the third of the newbies, COBY OPPA, is not completely reliable at the jump.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 2:30 PM
 Race 4 | Class 4 | TURF - A Course | 1200m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD



BINGO brings a sense of certainty to race mapping whenever he's engaged because he invariably sails straight to the front. BULLISH BROTHER has been pushing forward in each of his three starts to date and is likely to do so again, in keeping with the stable profile. Newcomer SOLAR WAI WAI has good natural speed and is bred to be quick --- a son of Group 1 sprinter Snitzel. SPEEDY DRAGON settled on pace in his last-start win. The second newcomer, BREAK RECORD should settle forward of midfield while the third of them, GOLDEN MISSION, is more likely to get back from a wider barrier.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 3:00 PM
 Race 5 | Class 4 | TURF - A Course | 1400m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD TO SLOW



QUADRUPLE DOUBLE led in the Griffin Trophy last start on December 23 and it looks the way to go again from an outside barrier. HINYUEN SWIFTFNESS and BLIZZARD AWAY each has useful early speed and can lay up close, while being happy to defer to QUADRUPLE DOUBLE. CHAIRMAN LO went well on debut and moving up from 1200m to 1400m will allow him to be one position closer. The most awkwardly drawn of the main chances is COMPASSION STAR --- back and wide looks the likely outcome for him.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 3:35 PM
 Race 6 | Class 4 | AWT - AWT Course | 1650m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD



Veteran GRAND HARBOUR is almost a guaranteed leader here. He begins well and takes a strong hold, pushing forward relentlessly. ART OF RAW will be happy to take an early rail position and then defer to GRAND HARBOUR as that gelding works his way across from a wider barrier. SUPERIOR BOY will need to be ridden with positive intention, going forward and securing a good position. SUNSHINE UNIVERSE can also take a prominent spot, though it seems the stable prefers not to allow him to lead. These early allocations of position will make it hard for widely-drawn HOLY UNICORN, especially as he's dropping back in distance.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 4:05 PM
 Race 7 | Class 3 | TURF - A Course | 1800m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD TO SLOW



TRAVEL FIRST will bounce straight to the lead and then be steadied. He may remain in front but his rider will be just as happy to take a trail if something else wants to run them along. The alternative leader could be PING HAI TREASURE, who raced up close at 1400m on his HK debut and now goes straight to 1800m second-up. GREEN DISPATCH looks a lock for the position following the leader and may even get the opportunity to drop down onto the rail. NEW ELEGANCE can be gifted the run of the race and RULE THREE should be in close proximity too, while needing a touch of luck to secure some cover.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 4:35 PM
 Race 8 | Class 3 | TURF - A Course | 1400m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD TO SLOW



Another obvious leader here in HAPPY FORCE, who has led at each of his last two starts over this course and distance --- from wide barriers on both occasions. The make-up of the on-pace division isn't quite as clear cut --- perhaps RACING FIGHTER can be ridden positively to secure a forward spot, with CIRCUIT HASSLER working his way forward too. DARING FIT and ENCOURAGING seem likely to be next. It looks rather unattractive, in theory, for SIR REDALOT but champion jockey Joao Moreira often defies logic and finds a way to secure cover. The second half of the field may spread out further than our illustration implies.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 5:10 PM
 Race 9 | Class 2 | AWT - AWT Course | 1650m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD



BIG TIME BABY has been racing up close in 1200m races on the AWT and that level of early speed should be sufficient for him to take control here. CALCULATION will push forward from his wider barrier and he seems to be thriving in his new environment at Conghua. JOLLY GENE is another possibility to lead this race but his level of early speed is better suited to middle distances. GLORIOUS ARTIST is the other horse likely to be in the up-front division, though without forcing the tempo. The horses most likely to be caught in the 3-wide line are RAGING BLITZKRIEG, ELUSIVE STATE and TURIN REDSTAR.

Sha Tin | 12/01/2019 | 5:45 PM
 Race 10 | Class 3 | TURF - A Course | 1200m
 Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD TO FAST



There are pace options everywhere here. HANDSOME BO BO has drawn best of them in barrier 2 and he'll make an attempt to hold his rivals out. SPARKLING DRAGON is a quick horse who will be bounced into action by Silvestre de Sousa, while the very in-form VICTORY MACHINE will press forward as usual. Newcomer GUVNOR, a New Zealand PP, has good early speed too but is slightly unreliable when the gates open. FLYING MURTY and DOUBLE VALENTINE can drop in immediately behind them. Whichever horse ends up leading, the tempo seems assured.