

TEAM HHH
International Racing Tip Sheet
April 27th, 2025
#3 Sha Tin, Tokyo, Krefeld and Longchamp

This weekend is FWD Hong Kong Champions weekend, a date recently cemented in European and Japanese calendars and also now with some rare Australian participation. It is a great card to play. I like to follow the jockey and some of the best jockeys are here, including João “Magic Man” Moreira fresh off Classic wins in Japan and booked for Luxor Cafe at Churchill Downs next weekend.

France will host their first Gr1 of their season at Longchamp and hopefully we can find a few winners for you there also. Next week we will cover the English Classics, the 2,000 Guineas and the 1,000 Guineas from Newmarket. I will have a bunch of races covered from those two days, a full English, before y’all get drunk on them mint juleps.

Sha Tin

The 3 yr Super Express will be favoured in **R3** which goes at **01:45 am EST**. He gets James McDonald, but he is up 8 lbs for his maiden win and most of the field here are 4, 5 and 6 yr olds. This is where declared weight of the horse can be important. Super Express has weighed in at 1099 lbs. (If you are betting on Boxing you’d be watching the weigh in. It is mind blowing that this crucial line of data has such little traction outside Asian jurisdictions.) Had Super Express drawn a cosy barrier, I may have considered playing him at 6/4 or 7/4. The horse is a big enough 3 yr old and gets the world’s best jockey. However, I am compelled to find something to edge it. Most Hong Kong punters thinking this way will gravitate toward the Moreira or Purton horses. I searched beyond both of those looking for a price and almost landed on Forerunner, but the 6 year gelding doesn’t win much and will need help from the 10 gate. Ultimately and after sifting through the race pattern I eventually landed Moreira’s mount, the 4 yr NZ bred, **5. (9) Monarch County**. It wasn’t hard to find. A winner last time over the distance with something to spare. He probably goes off 2nd Fav, though he is currently 7.5 on the Hong Kong boards.

A **Pro Tip** for those playing Sha Tin. There is a race day market for the both Trainers and Jockeys. Check the HKJC bet site. Some smart money accumulates in those markets as the day goes on. Pay attention to it.

R4 02:15 am EST offers probably the most confident selection of the day. **6. (1) Invincible Shield** is up in class but judging by his facile win with Ryan Moore up on Hong Kong Derby Day, there is way more to come. A regal Australia sprint pedigree on top and an exceptional Mile pedigree below in Pierro. And with Zac Purton riding the plucky last time winner, Divano, the price should be fair. It is currently 3.3, which is about a 9/4 shot.

R6 03:25 am EST should see a quick fire Zac Purton double, fresh off what most believe will a famous win aboard Ka Ying Rising in the Hong Kong Champions Sprint. **4. (2) Masterofmyuniverse** has had terrible luck in his most recent outings. Zac Purton is a locksmith jockey that can open doors. And because the horse has only won 1 of his last 4, his price should be fair, even with the Hong Kong Champion Jockey. 3.2 is currently Masterofmyuniverse's price. Anything above 2/1 is good value here.

The second of the **Gr1s**, the FWD Champion's Mile goes as **R7 at 04:00 EST** and offers a chance to grab some value.

I was impressed with My Wish flashing run in the Hong Kong Derby and with an inside draw, that would have been the easy way out play at 8/1 Each Way, but for anyone following this year's Hong Kong Derby, the conventional wisdom was that this year's Derby crop was below par. So I am passing on the recency bias of My Wish's impressive run to place in the Hong Kong Derby and looking deeper into the form lines.

It is great to see some top Australians racing in Hong Kong, with 2nd Fav Mr Brightside lining to burst Voyage Bubble. But I am of the opinion that Mr Brightside is a flat track bully and I am against Voyage Bubble because I believe the value (and winner) is elsewhere. That value comes with **13 (6) Sunlight Power**. It seems to me the horse has been laid out for this. And by that I mean the horse was not fully primed for the Gr2 Chairman's Trophy last time out. I though his acceleration over the last 50 Meters when he was shown daylight (the race within the race had been run and won on the inside rail well away from Sunlight Power) was sneaky impressive. I believe connections are comfortable the horse can run comparable times to those heading the market, which he has. The difference here to last time is the employment of Christophe Soumillon, and not just because he is world renowned rider, but Soumillon's no nonsense approach really suits Sunlight Power. The horse needs to be led like a Tango dancer. They are made for each other. Sunlight Power has speed to burn on top being by Capitalist, the 2016 Golden Slipper Winner (Australia's 6 furlong 2 yr Stallion making race) and depth below being by a Dubawi mare, but there is another serious aspect to the pedigree lurking further below and that is the great Monsun (GER). So when it's time to lay your guts on the stamina line - as Monsun always did - Sunlight Power will be right there and won't be stopping. The draw in (6) is perfect. Soumi can save gas and then when it is time to go expect the Belgian to engineer Sunlight Power's head around whatever corner in typical Soumi fashion and get Sunshine Power into 5th gear quicker than any other rider can. **The horse is currently 33/1 on most UK books and 39.0 on the Hong Kong boards.** This is tremendous ahead of the curve value.

R8 The FWD Gr1 QEII Cup promises to be a proper smash up down the Sha Tin, with the Winner of the King George **1. (9) Goliath** (Christophe Soumillon) going head to head with a Japanese Derby winner **3. (10) Tastiera** (Damian Lane) and Japanese Triple Tiara Winner, 11. (11) Liberty Island (Yuga Kawada). I really like all

three horses and their jockeys. I cannot spilt them and cannot see anything else getting close to them. It follows I be playing all three in a boxed Trifecta.

R10 **14. (5) Harold Win** 6.0 or 5/1 with Andrea Atzeni aboard is my final play.

SHA TIN PLAYS

R3. **5. Monarch County** 7/1

R4. **6. Invincible Shield** 9/4

R6 **4. Masterofmyuniverse** 9/4

R7 **13. Sunlight Power** 33/1

R8 Box Trifecta

1. **Goliath**
3. **Tastiera**
11. **Liberty Island**

R10 **14. Harold Win** 5/1

Tokyo

Meanwhile Christophe Lemaire has his last ride in a competitive Gr2 affair **R11 02:45 am** at Tokyo before flying to Kentucky to ride Admire Daytona next Saturday's Kentucky Derby. There has been a little rain in Tokyo and Lemaire's mount, **12. (12) Valkyrie Birth**, being by Epiphaneia should the run well with the string out of the ground. I am guessing the horse will be the Fav. I have no prices to quote here.

Krefeld

Krefled in Germany has a Gr3 contest which goes as **R4 at 06:50 am EST** that has attracted UK trainer Archie Watson who has booked Hollie Doyle to ride Eternal Elixir. That horse is an 11/10 shot in early German markets, but I will be taking them on with **7. (3) Next Mine**, currently 3.4 or close to 5/2 with Thor Hammer Hansen riding for Waldemar Hickst. This horse blew the field away at Munich late last year and could be a serious runner if building on that performance. Next Mine is by French stallion Dabirsim, grand son of Sunday Silence (USA), which is a running theme in these pages.

Longchamp

Finally on to Longchamp for the **Gr1 Prix Ganay**.

Earlier in the card the Prix de Barbeville **R2 at 08:33 EST** a Gr3 over 15 furlongs should be an academic accession to black type for the Aga Khan's **4. (6) Candelari** who is currently the **11/10 Fav**. The horse brushed Double Major who was prepping the for Dubai Gold Cup last month.

Another Gr3 follows in **R4 09:50 am EST** with last year's Arc Runner Up Aventure making a return over 10 furlongs in the Prix Allez France. **6. (5) Mme Jourdain** at 9/1 for Andre Fabre is my bet to catch them out.

And on to the **Gr 1 Prix Ganay**. I have already tipped up Wathnam's Map of Stars on these pages a few weeks ago, winning at 4/6. It was an impressive victory too. It is hard to get off a winner, but I believe **2. (6) Al Riffa** to be the better horse. The Japanese part of the ownership group have recently parted ways and those that remain may be plotting easier to win Gr1s in Europe and beyond than the Arc. Dylan Browne McMonagle replaces Yutake Take. The horse is currently great value at 5/1 behind Map of Stars 7/4 and Sosie at 3/1.

TOKYO PLAYS

R11 12. Valkyrie Birth SP

KREFELD PLAYS

R4 7. Next Mine 5/2

LONGCHAMP PLAYS

R2 4. Candelari 11/10

R4 6. Mme Jourdain 9/1

R5. 2. Al Riffa 5/1