

**PALMERBET**  
TAKES ACTION

**James Thomas – Palmerbet**

**STRADBROKE HCP – MR QUICKIE – Race 8 No.1 (Eagle Farm)**

Comes into this race in excellent form and he looks a great each-way bet at double figure odds. He has drawn barrier one and gets the services of James McDonald for the first time.

**BEST – PORT LOUIS – Race 7 No.5 (Eagle Farm)**

Has yet to run a bad race in four starts and he looks set to peak here. His sire went okay over the 1600m and he gives the impression the step up trip will really suit him.

**VALUE – SWEET THOMAS – Race 4 No.7 (Eagle Farm)**

Doing his best work late last start and he will really enjoy stretching out over 3200m. The small field will ensure he won't be too far off them coming around the bend and he can finish over the top of them.

**LAY – AYRTON – Race 3 No.2 (Eagle Farm)**

No knock on the horse but he looks awfully short at tomato sauce odds. Seemed to have every chance in the Fred Best Classic and you can leave me out of the \$1.80.

**BACKED – ZING – Race 5 No.4 (Randwick)**

Two solid hit outs this prep and punters think she is primed here third-up over 1600m. We opened at \$4.40 and the punters were quick to snap it up. Looks hard to beat.

**bookmaker.com.au**  
AUSTRALIAN BOOKMAKERS ASSOCIATION

**Joshua Bell – bookmaker.com.au**

**STRADBROKE HCP – IGNORE FOX – Race 8 No.13 (Eagle Farm)**

He showed his quality when he won the Star Kingdom Stakes first-up and he was only narrowly denied at big odds in the Kingsford-Smith Cup. Is the horse weighted to win the Stradbroke Handicap.

**BEST – CONVENTINA BAY – Race 9 No.7 (Eagle Farm)**

She has stamped herself as one of the best mares in New Zealand, with three wins from her past five starts, and her barrier trial victory at the Sunshine Coast was nothing short of outstanding.

**VALUE – RANCH HAND – Race 7 No.7 (Eagle Farm)**

Chris Waller has an excellent record in this race and Ranch Hand has been the forgotten horse. He was unlucky not to win the Ken Russell Memorial Classic and was caught wide in the BRC Sires' Produce.

**LAY – GARIBALDI – Race 6 No.9 (Eagle Farm)**

Garibaldi has been beaten as favourite in his past two starts and I am happy to take him on once again. There are a number of talented gallopers in this field and there is plenty of value to be found.

**BACKED – KNIGHT'S ORDER – Race 4 No.4 (Eagle Farm)**

Has been backed into favouritism in the Brisbane Cup following his last start win in the Winter Cup. He has already been \$4 into \$3.20 and it would not surprise to see him start even shorter than his current quote.

**TAB.COM.AU**

**Glenn Munsie – TAB.com.au**

**STRADBROKE HCP – NICCANOVA – Race 8 No.8 (Eagle Farm)**

Thought he was exposed too early in the Kingsford-Smith Cup, so I'm willing to forgive and back up here. Hoping for a passage where he can pounce late as he did in this race last year.

**BEST – BRUTALITY – Race 6 No.11 (Randwick)**

Superior wet tracker that was unsuited back in distance last start here behind Lina's Hero. Back to 1600m where his record is excellent and he should be too good for them.

**VALUE – SAVINGE – Race 5 No.2 (Randwick)**

Great record at this trip and could be survival of the fittest here with a number of on pacers stretching out to 1600m. Solid Saturday form up against a lot of recent midweek runners.

**LAY – ICE IN VANCOUVER – Race 3 No.11 (Randwick)**

Didn't want to be with him in the Highway last week so must oppose again now stepping into a Benchmark 78 with hot speed all around it. Huge test for a \$3 pop.

**BACKED – GRAVINA – Race 4 No.7 (Randwick)**

Bolted in here last start and rises in grade but drops 1kg. Went up \$2.80 but soon into \$2.30 with the scratching of Blondeau. Firmed each day since \$2.15 then odds on Thursday night as a \$1.95 chance.

**bet365**

**Matthew Steed – Bet365**

**STRADBROKE HCP – I AM SUPERMAN – Race 8 No.9 (Eagle Farm)**

Comes here fresh with seven weeks between runs after failing in the All Aged Stakes. Kept up to the mark with an easy trial win in Sydney and should get a great run from the gate.

**BEST – KIRWAN'S LANE – Race 6 No.7 (Randwick)**

Strong win last start when getting the better of a warm favourite and daylight back to third. Should get a soft run just off the pace and may get first run over his main danger here.

**VALUE – SHARLIE – Race 2 No.13 (Randwick)**

Comes here after a dominant win albeit at Wodonga last start. Drawn to get a good run just off the speed and think she can give a big sight at juicy odds here. Happy to be with her at the price on offer.

**LAY – BLONDEAU – Race 9 No.10 (Randwick)**

Looks to have come back well this time in however his three wins have all came either first or second run back. Might be better suited over a fast run 1200 than 1400m. Can win but willing to risk him.

**BACKED – OCEAN MISS – Race 6 No.10 (Sandown)**

Ocean Miss looks close to a win and with the booking of Jamie Kah, the punters have reacted. She's been \$3.80 into \$3.50 with us since the markets opened on Wednesday.

**sportsbet**  
.com.au

**Tim Hickman – Sportsbet**

**STRADBROKE HCP – MR QUICKIE – Race 8 No.1 (Eagle Farm)**

Brings back memories of the great Linton which won this race in 2013. Will get back off a strong tempo and should be storming home along the inside.

**BEST – CANASTA – Race 9 No.5 (Randwick)**

Given no peace first-up and just caught late. Should only have improved from that run and can make amends. Flies second-up and will be tough to catch.

**VALUE – BASARWA – Race 7 No.4 (Sandown)**

Ex-Kiwi having his first start in Australia. Has some solid form and looks to have been underestimated by the market. The booking of Damian Lane looks a strong push.

**LAY – ICE IN VANCOUVER – Race 3 No.11 (Randwick)**

He has looked impressive in the country but taking on sprinters of this class in town is a vastly different proposition. Happy to risk at the short odds on offer.

**BACKED – GRAVINA – Race 4 No.7 (Randwick)**

Absolutely bolted in last time out at this track and punters are expecting him to go back-to-back. Has been \$2.40 into \$2 since the markets opened.

**POINTS BET**

**James Early – Pointsbet**

**STRADBROKE HCP – THE HARROVIAN – Race 8 No.12 (Eagle Farm)**

Returned in good order running on strongly in the Group 1 Doomben 10,000. Drops in weight and has been set for this - looks very hard to beat.

**BEST – CONVERGE – Race 7 No.2 (Eagle Farm)**

Savaged the line from the tail of the field last start and is drawn to sit closer here. He will appreciate the step up in distance looks the best bet on the card.

**VALUE – AWAY GAME – Race 6 No.6 (Eagle Farm)**

Away Game is a top class mare that has trialled well for her return here. Will push forward to lead or sit outside and be very hard to run down at good odds.

**LAY – GARIBALDI – Race 6 No.9 (Eagle Farm)**

Has been well backed in early markets but draws to be back and buried on the fence. Will need plenty of luck getting clear running in the straight - happy to oppose at the short odds on offer

**BACKED – BLONDEAU – Race 9 No.10 (Randwick)**

Blondeau has been smashed to win the last at Randwick. Flashed home late last start and the extra 200m should suit. Has been \$4.40 into \$3 with us since the markets opened on Wednesday.

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# BlueBet

Bill Richmond – BlueBet

## STRADBROKE HCP – IMAGING – Race 8 No.4 (Eagle Farm)

Classy gelding that looks well suited in a high pressure 1400m race. Would have been targeted at this race so appeals with the freshen and drawn well to find the lanes late in the day.

### BEST – ZING – Race 5 No.4 (Randwick)

Brave in defeat last week in a stronger race. Ready now third-up and ideally suited on the seven day back up against her own sex. Plenty of ticks.

### VALUE – EMBRACER – Race 7 No.4 (Randwick)

Worth something at the double figures if you can forgive the last start failure. Was in the wrong part of the track there but the SP was strong and has since trialled stylishly.

### LAY – ICE IN VANCOUVER – Race 3 No.11 (Randwick)

Brings country form to a Sydney metro for the first time in a set-up that doesn't look to suit. Staying at 1000m also looks a negative for mine - happy to oppose as favourite.

### BACKED – GRAVINA – Race 4 No.7 (Randwick)

Best backed across the country with us off an opening price on Wednesday of \$2.80, now into \$1.95. Punters are confident he can replicate the last start performance.

Ladbrokes.com.au

Tom Hackett – Ladbrokes

## STRADBROKE HCP – WILD PLANET – Race 8 No.7 (Eagle Farm)

Wild Planet was excellent when resuming in the Doomben 10,000 finishing within half a length of Eduardo. Tommy Berry will have a tricky gate to contend with but he's on the right horse.

### BEST – BRUTALITY – Race 6 No.11 (Randwick)

Has been very good in his last few without winning but should be nearing peak fitness now. Draws a good barrier and this looks the perfect race for him.

### VALUE – AWAY GAME – Race 6 No.6 (Eagle Farm)

She has been a consistent filly having placed in eight of her 12 starts. She got to within a head of Isotope first-up last prep when she beat home Apache Chase in the Gold Edition. Over the odds.

### LAY – AYRTON – Race 3 No.2 (Eagle Farm)

Had every chance last start and faded to finish second and I am of the opinion the horse is a genuine sprinter. The step up in distance here does not suit and taking anything less than even money is a big risk.

### BACKED – ZAAKI – Race 5 No.1 (Eagle Farm)

He absolutely dominated his opposition in the Group 1 Doomben Cup and the punters think he will just be too good for them in The Q22. He opened at \$1.55 and the punters continue to pile in.

neds

Clint Wallis – Neds

## STRADBROKE HCP – THE HARROVIAN – Race 8 No.12 (Eagle Farm)

He was terrific in the Doomben 10,000, running on hard to finish third behind Eduardo and just ahead of Vega One. Unbeaten at Eagle Farm and has a fantastic record at 1400m.

### BEST – GARIBALDI – Race 6 No.9 (Eagle Farm)

Put in a good run first-up in a slow run race at this track and trip then probably didn't quite see out the 1350m last start. The drop back to his preferred 1200m this week looks ideal.

### VALUE – FUNSTAR – Race 9 No.1 (Eagle Farm)

Over a year since her last win, but she's always racing against the cream of the crop. Was less than a length off Verry Elleegant back in the autumn which shows how good she is at her best.

### LAY – AYRTON – Race 3 No.2 (Eagle Farm)

Suffered his first defeat last time out where he couldn't run down Apache Chase. Was obviously on a Stradbroke path before that, and faces a new test here taking on 1600m for the first time.

### BACKED – KNIGHT'S ORDER – Race 4 No.4 (Eagle Farm)

Jumped on the bunny in the Winter Cup at Rosehill last week and was way too good for his rivals. Has been met with plenty of early support, firming from \$4 into \$3.30.



Jared Timms – Betstar

## STRADBROKE HCP – MR QUICKIE – Race 8 No.1 (Eagle Farm)

The class horse of this field and looms as a key winning chance at a lovely price. Freshened since his last start, has options from the rails draw and will be ridden by James McDonald.

### BEST – MR MOOJ – Race 2 No.14 (Sandown)

Has improved for two starts since resuming and is ready to win third-up. Steps out alongside many hurdlers that are being kept up to the mark and gets into this race well under the conditions.

### VALUE – AWAY GAME – Race 6 No.6 (Eagle Farm)

Hasn't been seen at the races since January, but doesn't know how to run a bad race, and relishes the conditions in Queensland. Boasts a class edge over most of these rivals and is over the odds.

### LAY – GARIBALDI – Race 6 No.9 (Eagle Farm)

Was a strong and consistent performer earlier this prep but hasn't been able to win since trainer Tony Gollan has raised the bar and this shapes as another tough assignment. Others have more appeal.

### BACKED – ZAAKI – Race 5 No.1 (Eagle Farm)

Has been nothing short of outstanding since arriving in Australia and enters this race off arguably the performance of the season in Group 1 company. Went up a short price and has continued to receive support.



Wayne Symons – Unibet

## STRADBROKE HCP – NICCANOVA – Race 8 No.8 (Eagle Farm)

Resumed with a good win in the Group 2 Victory Stakes over Vega One and was caught wide in the Kingsford-Smith Cup. Looks suited here down in the weights and is worth a speck at around \$17.

### BEST – GRAVINA – Race 4 No.7 (Randwick)

He looks very well-suited meeting a similar field to what he thrashed last time and maps to get the same run. I just can't see how he gets beaten.

### VALUE – BETTY BLOOMS – Race 5 No.9 (Randwick)

The stable is flying as is this mare winning two of her three starts this prep. Gets a great run just off the speed and looks a safe each-way bet around \$9.

### LAY – ICE IN VANCOUVER – Race 3 No.11 (Randwick)

I understand that he is a promising horse and the wraps are big but I can't see how he is favourite in a Saturday race with country form. No easy lead here and the track will be probably be a heavy (8).

### BACKED – KNIGHT'S ORDER – Race 4 No.4 (Eagle Farm)

Backs up after a strong winning performance in the Listed Winter Cup last week and the punters are all over him here. Has been backed into \$3.10 from a high of \$4.



David Mackay – TopSport

## STRADBROKE HCP – APACHE CHASE – Race 8 No.18 (Eagle Farm)

Pinched the Fred Best Classic from Ayrton last start in a strong performance. Carrying no weight again today so expect to be leading the charge as they turn into the straight again on Saturday.

### BEST – AYRTON – Race 3 No.2 (Eagle Farm)

Coming off a narrow second in the Fred Best Classic and expecting he will bounce back on Saturday. Talented horse and he should be winning this.

### VALUE – SIR KALAHAD – Race 8 No.18 (Eagle Farm)

Third-up today, nailed late when second two starts back setting the pace, and tailed off on a rain affected track last start which could prove to be a forgive run. Should be fitter and a bit of each-way value.

### LAY – MISTER SEA WOLF – Race 2 No.2 (Eagle Farm)

Surprised to see Mister Sea Wolf as favourite as a few in the field have been in winning form and we are confident we will see Delphi firm into the top pick come race day.

### BACKED – SEINERS EXPRESS – Race 7 No.13 (Sandown)

Punters snapped up the opening price of \$10 and we have laid every price point into \$6 this morning for the gelding. Won't it's only start on a heavy track so punters think he is suited to the expected conditions.

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