

SOUTH AFRICA

VAAL CLASSIC



RACE 1	5:40 PM	(R\$150,000)	Vaal Classic -- 2000m					
1	224041	Aristotle	61	[1]	C Habib	10.4%	A G Laird	10.2%
2	606026	Hotarubi	60.5	[5]	R Munger	15.2%	C I Jonker	3.0%
3	433465	Kudzu	57	[4]	C Zackey	17.0%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%
4	553576	Chestnut Bomber	56.5	[2]	M Yeni	11.3%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%
5	778978	Mister Speaker	55	[6]	D Schwarz	6.4%	J S Roux	0.0%
6	614365	Bakwena	54	[3]	K De Melo	17.1%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	2000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 2000M
1 Aristotle	6 Bakwena 44%	3 Kudzu 44%	5 Mister Speaker 2:03.11
6 Bakwena	3 Kudzu 33%	5 Mister Speaker 25%	2 Hotarubi 2:03.71
3 Kudzu	2 Hotarubi 22%	2 Hotarubi 17%	3 Kudzu 2:04.44
4 Chestnut Bomber	4 Chestnut Bomber 11%	4 Chestnut Bomber 11%	4 Chestnut Bomber 2:05.26

Race Preview: Aristotle stayed on gamely from a handy position to win an 1800m Listed race last time. He is 6kg worse off with Bakwena but is more likely to appreciate this extended trip than that rival. The latter is the best-weighted runner in the race and the removal of the blinkers should help her see out the extra 400m. Consistent Kudzu and rating-dropper Chestnut Bomber complete the shortlist.

RACE 2	6:15 PM	(R\$105,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m					
1	5434	Slender Silhouette	60	[5]	K De Melo	17.1%	S G Tarry	13.0%
2	9430	Mystical Butterfly	60	[6]	C Habib	10.4%	C Binda	10.5%
3	252245	Master's Lady	60	[8]	B Marx-Jacobson (4)	2.7%	R R Magner	9.4%
4	536	Elegant Edge	60	[4]	K Matsunyane	8.8%	C Binda	10.5%
5	2	El Zani	60	[2]	G Lerena	21.7%	A P Peter	16.8%
6	6	Foxy After Dark	60	[1]	R Munger	15.2%	R R Magner	9.4%
7	58	Nicolson Landing	60	[3]	J R Syster	10.2%	S T Pettigrew	9.4%
8		Star Blaze	60	[7]	P Mxoli	11.9%	S T Pettigrew	9.4%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
1 Slender Silhouette	3 Master's Lady 67%	5 El Zani 67%	1 Slender Silhouette 0:57.65
5 El Zani	5 El Zani 67%	3 Master's Lady 44%	3 Master's Lady 0:57.79
3 Master's Lady		2 Mystical Butterfly 11%	2 Mystical Butterfly 0:58.01
4 Elegant Edge		4 Elegant Edge 11%	2 Mystical Butterfly 0:58.27
			5 El Zani 0:58.53

Race Preview: Slender Silhouette has been sparingly raced as a 3yo but she won't need to improve much after a 14-week absence to make a winning reappearance. El Zani will likely fight out the finish with natural improvement expected after a promising debut 2nd over track and trip. Master's Lady wouldn't be winning out of turn and her rider's 4kg allowance will aid her cause. Elegant Edge had excuses for disappointing recent performances, and could make the presence felt if bouncing back to earlier form.

RACE 3	6:50 PM	(R\$120,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m					
1	637	Kambati	60	[7]	M Mbuto (2.5)	10.2%	C J Lensley	9.8%
2	873	Jawbreaker	60	[2]	T Mayhew	3.3%	C Spies	7.5%
3	00796	Olympic Admiral	60	[5]	K J Lihaba	7.5%	C I Jonker	3.0%
4	4	King Redoute	60	[1]	K De Melo	17.1%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%
5	808385	Mrs Stormatrix	57.5	[6]	C Habib	10.4%	A P Peter	16.8%
6	943325	Power Of Tiger	57.5	[4]	P Mxoli	11.9%	P F Matchett	6.9%
7	679247	Bella Boop Boop	57.5	[3]	M K Katjedi	5.5%	C J Lensley	9.8%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
4 King Redoute	7 Bella Boop Boop 7%	1 Kambati 33%	6 Power Of Tiger 0:58.01
6 Power Of Tiger		6 Power Of Tiger 20%	4 King Redoute 0:58.33
1 Kambati			1 Kambati 0:58.41
5 Mrs Stormatrix			5 Mrs Stormatrix 1:01.27
			3 Olympic Admiral 1:02.40

Race Preview: King Redoute was fancied on debut but showed signs of inexperience. He would have benefitted from that outing so should improve to play a leading role. Kambati and Power Of Tiger have the means to pose a threat, especially with improvement expected of them in first-time blinkers. Mrs Stormatrix appeal most of the remainder.

RACE 4	7:25 PM	(R\$130,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m					
1	325141	Umzingeli Wenyathi	60	[1]	K Matsunyane	8.8%	C Binda	10.5%
2	130428	African Pride	59.5	[4]	R Munger	15.2%	C Spies	7.5%
3	222116	Trajanus	59.5	[6]	C Zackey	17.0%	S G Tarry	13.0%
4	250158	Chapbook	59	[7]	G Lerena	21.7%	C Binda	10.5%
5	12168	Alpine Jet	57	[2]	K De Melo	17.1%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%
6	055546	Kaalvoet	56.5	[5]	C Habib	10.4%	C Binda	10.5%
7	4313	Aquarius	54.5	[3]	L Nhlapo	6.2%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
3 Trajanus	2 African Pride 50%	4 Chapbook 100%	2 African Pride 0:55.78
1 Umzingeli Wenyathi	7 Aquarius 33%	3 Trajanus 67%	4 Chapbook 0:56.48
4 Chapbook		5 Alpine Jet 50%	3 Trajanus 0:56.53
2 African Pride		2 African Pride 39%	6 Kaalvoet 0:57.44
		6 Kaalvoet 25%	1 Umzingeli Wenyathi 0:57.50

Race Preview: Umzingeli Wenyathi won on the Polytrack in KZN recently and is engaged to run there before this, so his participation has to be monitored. Chapbook won a similar contest over this trip with blinkers fitted last month so it wouldn't come as a surprise were he to play another leading role under similar conditions. African Pride and Trajanus are held on that form but better off at the weights, therefore they should have a say in the outcome.

RACE 5	8:00 PM	(R\$125,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m					
1	21342	Caroline Island	60	[9]	C Habib	10.4%	A P Peter	16.8%
2	295600	Rock Of Bismantova	59	[1]	R Munger	15.2%	C Spies	7.5%
3	995295	Abound	57	[2]	C Murray	14.3%	J Crawford	11.7%
4	57912	Saketini	56.5	[4]	J Gates	4.8%	F P Habib	11.5%
5	613623	His Lordship	56.5	[5]	M V'rensburg	11.9%	D N Stenger	12.1%
6	9221	Stoneywood	56	[6]	C Zackey	17.0%	M N Houdalakis	13.1%
7	61577	Fifty Ways	55.5	[7]	B Marx-Jacobson (4)	2.7%	S T Pettigrew	9.4%
8	21	Pivotal Role	55.5	[8]	K De Melo	17.1%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%
9	377656	Kia Kaha	54.5	[3]	T Mayhew	3.3%	M G Azzie	5.1%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
1 Caroline Island	8 Pivotal Role 83%	8 Pivotal Role 83%	1 Caroline Island 0:55.56
6 Stoneywood	1 Caroline Island 67%	6 Stoneywood 67%	9 Kia Kaha 0:55.67
8 Pivotal Role	4 Saketini 50%	4 Saketini 56%	3 Abound 0:56.74
9 Kia Kaha	5 His Lordship 50%	7 Fifty Ways 50%	5 His Lordship 0:56.81
		5 His Lordship 40%	4 Saketini 0:56.91

Race Preview: Caroline Island finished 2nd over track and trip at a higher level last time, albeit against same-sex opposition, and a repeat of that effort off a slightly higher mark could suffice in this grade. Well-bred Stoneywood is progressive and likely to remain competitive on his post-maiden debut, even over a shorter trip. Returning Pivotal Role impressed when winning a course-and-distance maiden and is open to any amount of improvement after a subsequent absence. Hard-knockers Kia Kaha also have the means to stake a claim.

RACE 6	8:35 PM	(R\$135,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1200m					
1	621507	Calantha	60	[4]	J R Syster	10.2%	M/m De Kock	16.6%
2	11504	Perfect Miracle	58	[6]	G Lerena	21.7%	A P Peter	16.8%
3	110	Stormy Day (arg)	57	[2]	K De Melo	17.1%	J J Van Vuuren	15.2%
4	212214	Tuscan Romance	56.5	[1]	K Matsunyane	8.8%	J Crawford	11.7%
5	674112	There She Goes	54	[7]	M Michel (1.5)	8.4%	W/w Marwing	8.7%
6	585796	Valleva	54	[5]	M Yeni	11.3%	F Bronkhorst	7.2%
7	413123	Maverick Queen	53	[3]	M K Katjedi	5.5%	S G Tarry	13.0%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1200M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1200M
4 Tuscan Romance	4 Tuscan Romance 100%	3 Stormy Day (arg) 100%	7 Maverick Queen 1:08.63
3 Stormy Day (arg)	7 Maverick Queen 50%	1 Calantha 67%	1 Calantha 1:08.64
5 There She Goes	4 Tuscan Romance 60%	2 Perfect Miracle 50%	2 Perfect Miracle 1:08.77
2 Perfect Miracle	6 Valleva 33%	7 Maverick Queen 47%	5 There She Goes 1:08.84
			6 Valleva 1:09.09

Race Preview: Highly rated Stormy Day blotted her copybook on a rain-affected track in a 1400m Grade 3 when last seen but she could be worth another chance reverting to a sprint trip after a subsequent break. Perfect Miracle bounced back to form with a good 4th in a 1200m Listed race last time and a repeat of that performance off a reduced mark should put her right in the mix. However, a chance is taken on older rival Tuscan Romance who gets weight from those 3yo rivals. The latter has thrived on the Highveld and is unbeaten over track and trip. There She Goes is in good heart so isn't taken lightly either.

SOUTH AFRICA

VAAL CLASSIC



RACE 7	9:10 PM	(R\$105,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1200m			
1	642125	Blushing Bloom	60	[10]	K De Melo	17.1%
2	1546	Miss Novax	60	[4]	C Zackey	17.0%
3	314673	Season's Greetings	60	[2]	G Lerena	21.7%
4	022123	Plumbago Park	58	[3]	J R Syster	10.2%
5	432165	Quiet Winter	57.5	[8]	R Munger	15.2%
6	221805	Tana Maree	57.5	[1]	M K Katjedi	5.5%
7	41	Lovable	57	[7]	C Habib	10.4%
8	060321	Fiery Frolic	56	[6]	C Maujean	6.0%
9	462684	Angel's Oasis	53.5	[9]	K Matsunyane	8.8%
10	447321	Lilac Snow	52	[5]	J Botes (2.5)	4.8%
					W C Marwing	9.0%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1200M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1200M
7 Lovable	1 Blushing Bloom 100%	1 Blushing Bloom 58%	3 Season's Greetings 1:08.57
4 Plumbago Park	10 Lilac Snow 67%	2 Miss Novax 50%	9 Angel's Oasis 1:09.11
3 Season's Greetings	6 Tana Maree 50%	8 Fiery Frolic 50%	5 Quiet Winter 1:09.19
2 Miss Novax	4 Plumbago Park 50%	6 Tana Maree 33%	6 Tana Maree 1:09.91
	2 Miss Novax 33%	4 Plumbago Park 33%	8 Fiery Frolic 1:10.08

Race Preview: Season's Greetings ran well to finish 3rd in a Listed race over this trip last time and a 3-point rise for the effort isn't likely to prevent another forward showing. She is held on earlier 1000m form by **Plumbago Park** who should also remain competitive on current form. Class-dropper **Miss Novax** will appreciate reverting to 1200m off a lower mark, so she should make her presence felt too in her peak outing. However, it could pay to follow the progress of unexposed **Lovable** who is open to any amount of improvement off a lenient opening mark.

RACE 8	9:45 PM	(R\$110,000)	Vaal Classic -- 2400m			
1	147345	Arlington Action	60.5	[5]	P Mxoli	11.9%
2	051	Culturati	60	[8]	M K Katjedi	5.5%
3	512487	Santiago's Pride	60	[12]	K J Lihaba	7.5%
4	771155	Chabal	60	[3]	G Lerena	21.7%
5	866311	Copper Cliff	60	[4]	C Zackey	17.0%
6	447355	Romeo's Magic	60	[1]	R Danielson	10.6%
7	322911	Cartagena	59	[7]	J R Syster	10.2%
8	219458	Bellerophon	58	[10]	M Mbuto (2.5)	10.2%
9	616202	Copper Plate	58	[2]	C Murray	14.3%
10	534413	Euphrates	56	[11]	C Habib	10.4%
11	059696	Nuclear Force	54	[9]	M Michel (1.5)	8.4%
12	238477	Majalun	54	[6]	T Mayhew	3.3%
					M G Azzie	5.1%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	2400M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 2400M
7 Cartagena	4 Chabal 67%	7 Cartagena 62%	1 Arlington Action 2:27.65
1 Arlington Action	10 Euphrates 67%	10 Euphrates 56%	6 Romeo's Magic 2:29.24
10 Euphrates	2 Culturati 50%	9 Copper Plate 33%	11 Nuclear Force 2:29.95
4 Chabal	5 Copper Cliff 50%	4 Chabal 25%	7 Cartagena 2:30.04
	9 Copper Plate 33%	1 Arlington Action 24%	12 Majalun 2:30.24

Race Preview: Hat-trick-seeking **Cartagena** won a similar course and distance event last time. She renews rivalry with **Arlington Action** and **Chabal** and is weighted to confirm her superiority. **Euphrates** have earning potential too over this distance.

RACE 9	10:20 PM	(R\$100,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1800m			
1	219165	Storm Ahead	62	[1]	M Yeni	11.3%
2	323165	Redlightgreenlight	61.5	[11]	G Lerena	21.7%
3	446556	Unsolved Riddle	61.5	[4]	J Botes (2.5)	4.8%
4	383221	Naretoi	60.5	[3]	M V'rensburg	11.9%
5	563126	Force Publique	60	[2]	K De Melo	17.1%
6	2413	Jaffa	60	[5]	C Habib	10.4%
7	257240	Peace Treaty	58.5	[6]	C Zackey	17.0%
8	41974	Step Into It	58	[9]	M Michel (1.5)	8.4%
9	077537	Red Sparrow	53.5	[8]	J Gates	4.8%
10	480704	Blurred Vision	52.5	[10]	R Munger	15.2%
11	694664	Circle Of Grace	52	[7]	L Nhlapo	6.2%
12	706778	Gold De Grace	52	[12]	M K Katjedi	5.5%
					C I Jonker	3.0%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1800M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1800M
6 Jaffa	4 Naretoi 83%	4 Naretoi 67%	11 Circle Of Grace 1:47.58
5 Force Publique	5 Force Publique 83%	1 Storm Ahead 48%	4 Naretoi 1:48.97
8 Step Into It	2 Redlightgreenlight 33%	7 Peace Treaty 40%	7 Peace Treaty 1:48.97
2 Redlightgreenlight	3 Unsolved Riddle 27%	11 Circle Of Grace 12%	10 Blurred Vision 1:49.98
	7 Peace Treaty 14%	9 Red Sparrow 5%	3 Unsolved Riddle 1:51.36

Race Preview: **Jaffa** was heavily supported but too far out of his ground when a fast-finishing 3rd over 1700m last time. On that evidence, this extended trip should unlock the improvement needed to resume winning ways. Lightly raced **Force Publique** could also have more to offer over this distance. Class-dropper **Step Into It** is dangerous to discount in his peak outing off a reduced mark.

RACE 10	10:55 PM	(R\$80,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1450m			
1	862310	Hubertus Hunt	61.5	[9]	C Zackey	17.0%
2	169841	Northern Kitten	61	[2]	J Gates	4.8%
3	950753	Pearl In Her Crown	61	[5]	M Yeni	11.3%
4	044660	Last Ginger	60	[12]	M Michel (1.5)	8.4%
5	543261	Golden Aspen	59	[11]	M V'rensburg	11.9%
6	380083	Concordia	58	[3]	R Danielson	10.6%
7	344398	Princess Lola	57.5	[10]	R Munger	15.2%
8	707055	Spirited Girl	57.5	[1]	C Maujean	6.0%
9	244014	Can't Catch Me	56.5	[6]	G Lerena	21.7%
10	156060	Ghostbuster	55.5	[7]	J Botes (2.5)	4.8%
11	700489	Together Again	55.5	[8]	M K Katjedi	5.5%
12	606667	Kylie's Angel	53	[4]	M Mbuto (2.5)	10.2%
					C J Lensley	9.8%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1450M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1450M
2 Northern Kitten	2 Northern Kitten 38%	11 Together Again 50%	5 Golden Aspen 1:25.48
9 Can't Catch Me	1 Hubertus Hunt 33%	4 Last Ginger 33%	9 Can't Catch Me 1:26.70
5 Golden Aspen	10 Ghostbuster 33%	5 Golden Aspen 30%	8 Spirited Girl 1:26.82
8 Spirited Girl	5 Golden Aspen 24%	9 Can't Catch Me 25%	2 Northern Kitten 1:27.01
	7 Princess Lola 20%	2 Northern Kitten 21%	3 Pearl In Her Crown 1:27.12

Race Preview: **Northern Kitten** won at a higher level last time so should remain competitive in this grade under a 5-point penalty. Last-start winner **Golden Aspen** and in-form **Can't Catch Me** are closely matched on recent form and both have the means to play leading roles too. **Spirited Girl** will likely make the presence felt too, if building on improved recent efforts.