

ÅBY STORA PRIS SATURDAY AUGUST 8 - ÅBY RACETRACK

1. BLE DU GERS



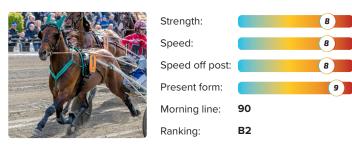
Forget the last race where he never got a real chance over the wrong distance. Likes these three laps. Contender.

Gender:	Gelding
Age:	9
Trainer:	Frode Hamre
Driver:	Per Oleg Midtfjeld
Life:	75 23-13-7
Record pace:	1.10,0
Prize money:	10 192 064 SEK
Winning %:	31%
Greatest victory:	Prix Maurice de Folleville 2018, Vincennes

Has been matched against the French elite during several seasons and is a successful nine year old who has earned more than ten million SEK. He won directly in the seasonal debut on Charlottenlund and has run five races for Frode Hamre after that. He has shown good skills all the time and scored an impressive win in Oslo Grand Prix in 1.10,0/2100 meter. Could train his speed in the last Hugo Åbergs over the short distance which could be the perfect preparation. Is driven by Per Oleg Midfeldt again just like when he won in Oslo. Warning.



3. HANDSOME BRAD

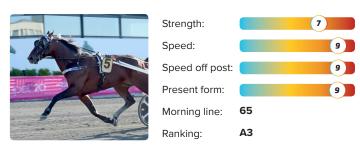


Has come back really well after injury and stands this long distance. Contender.

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	7
Trainer:	Ulf Stenströmer
Driver:	Carl Johan Jepson
Life:	54 14-13-8
Record pace:	1.10,5
Prize money:	5 308 046 SEK
Winning %:	26%
Greatest victory:	Copenhagen Cup 2019, Charlottenlund

Was successful as a young horse but did not win any bigger races. As an older horse he's made it to the elite though. Last year he won Copenhagen Cup but also the second spot in Olympiatravet was impressive. He competed in this Åby Stora Pris last year too, but was poorly drawn then. He is on the way up after injury and scored a splendid victory in Jämtlands Stora Pris in June. Won a stayer race in the general rehearsal and he stands this distance. Carl Johan Jepson is the ordinary driver.

2. COKSTILE



All-round top horse with nice conditions. Has one run under his belt now for the new trainer. Early pick.

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	7
Trainer:	Wilhelm Paal
Driver:	Wilhelm Paal
Life:	50 20-11-7
Record pace:	1.09,4
Prize money:	7 888 230 SEK
Winning %:	40%
Greatest victory:	Norwegian Derby 2017, Bjerke

International top horse who has been competing in Europe during a couple of seasons now. He has got a new trainer several times and has hardly shown any weaknesses. Despite facing the best opponents he's been very consistent and good. He is better than ever this season as a seven year old. Was second in Elitloppet and came in second again in the last Hugo Åbergs. Got one run under his belt now for new trainer Wilhelm Paal which could be an advantage for this start. Is a quick starter and has got a really nice task here. Should always be considered early.

4. PACIFIC FACE



New in this elite company but the long distance is a big advantage. Will try to earn some money here.

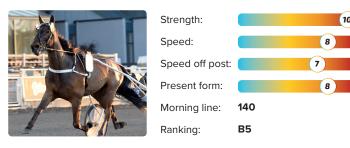
Gender:	Gelding
Age:	8
Trainer:	Giuseppe Lubrano
Driver:	Giuseppe Lubrano
Life:	69 16-13-10
Record pace:	1.12,4
Prize money:	1 772 100 SEK
Winning %:	23%
Greatest victory:	Axevalla Maraton 2020, Axevalla

Races on his home track and the eight year old faces his toughest task ever here. He has needed a lot of time to develop and as a young horse he didn't trot perfectly. Became stronger and tougher for every season and this year he has shown new great skills. Was fourth in Harper Hanovers on Solvalla and showed that he can match very tough horses over the long distance. Is driven with a bike now and will run without shoes. Comes from a nice victory and is well prepared. He is just an underdog this time though.



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5. VELVET GIO

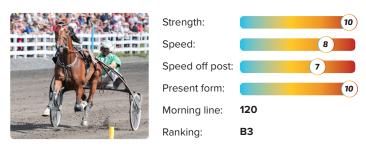


Has very good strength and can do it tough. Jorma Kontio this time. Outsider.

Gender:	Gelding
Age:	6
Trainer:	Magnus Dahlén
Driver:	Jorma Kontio
Life:	45 10-14-6
Record pace:	1.10,5
Prize money:	3 364 300 SEK
Winning %:	22%
Greatest victory:	C.L.Mullers Memorial 2019, Jägersro

Was not very successful as a young horse but won an elimination heat to Kungapokalen as a four year old and earned some money in the final too. As an older horse he has improved a lot. In 2019 he won a V75 race plus a V75 final in the Silver Division. In the autumn he won two nice Golden Division races on Jägersro and Müller Memorial is still his biggest victory. He has been matched against tough opponents this season. He was second in Jämtlands Stora Pris but is still chasing the first win of the year. This long distance is an advantage. Typical outsider here.

7. DON WILLIAMS



Has been outstanding in stayer races in Finland lately. Baptism of fire against the international elite here.

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	7
Trainer:	Markku Nieminen
Driver:	Mika Forss
Life:	50 13-2-3
Record pace:	1.12,8
Prize money:	1723 289 SEK
Winning %:	26%
Greatest victory:	Prix Ophelia 2019, Vincennes

Raced for a small trainer in France but won a 20,000 euro race on Vincennes and scored three wins in a row last year. He was not always fit though and galloped a lot. Was bought on the Prix d'Amerique auction last winter to Markku Nieminen and he has been improved there. Has been treated for muscle problems and become better and better. Is still undefeated in Finland after five starts. This staver distance is his favorite one and he has really impressed lately. Very interesting now in his debut against the stayer elite. Outsider.



6. WHO'S WHO



Strength:		9
Speed:		9
Speed off post:		7
Present form:		9
Morning line:	40	
Ranking:	A1	

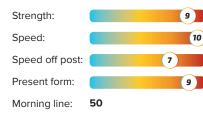
Won after a splendid finish in the last run and seems back in great shape again. Is really tough.

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	6
Trainer:	Pasi Aikio
Driver:	Örjan Kihlström
Life:	29 16-2-1
Record pace:	1.11,1
Prize money:	7 229 759 SEK
Winning %:	55%
Greatest victory:	Swedish Derby 2018, Jägersro

Won three out of five races as a three year old but as a four year old he made it to the top of his year. Improved a lot that season and won the Derby as a big favorite. Developed even more as a five year old and the victory in Jubileumspokalen was the fourth win in five attempts in Sweden that season. His goal after that was the French winter meeting but there he failed. Is back in Sweden again and with one run under his belt he showed great skills to win the last race. Could be on the way to a splendid autumn. Good chance here.

8. MONI VIKING





A2

Splendid victory in Harpers this spring and races on his favorite distance again here. Early choice despite this poor number.

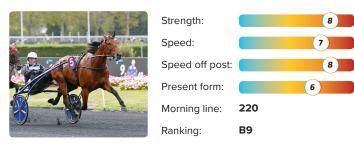
Ranking:

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	7
Trainer:	Björn Goop
Driver:	Björn Goop
Life:	42 12-7-4
Record pace:	1.09,4
Prize money:	3 894 440 SEK
Winning %:	29%
Greatest victory:	Harper Hanover race 2020, Solvalla

Raced in Norway as a younger horse and showed good skills directly. Has got better for every season and in 2016 he already competed on Vincennes in Paris. This winter season he has improved even more though. He has become tougher and found new levels for trainer Björn Goop in 2020. Won in impressive style on Åby over 3200 meter in April and scored a splendid victory in Harper Hanovers in 1.11,9/3180 meter after finishing 10/1000. Back on his favorite distance again here and he should be considered very early together with Björn Goop.



9. MINDYOURVALUE W.F.

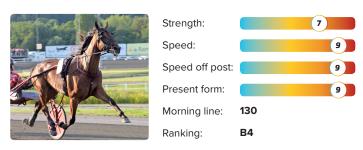


Has not been at his best lately and the form is a question mark. He likes the long distance.

Gender:	Gelding
Age:	7
Trainer:	Robert Bergh
Driver:	Robert Bergh
Life:	69 14-14-12
Record pace:	1.10,3
Prize money:	6 772 227 SEK
Winning %:	20%
Greatest victory:	Prix de la Mayenne 2018, Vincennes

Competed already as a two year old but scored his first win in the eighth start as a three year old. Did not win a new race until start 31 but he improved a lot in the winter of 2017 when he went to race in France. Scored five wins in a row on Vincennes and showed that he was going to be part of the elite. Has been most successful in France but won his comeback in Sweden in May. He has not lived up to the expectations after that though and can do better than shown. The form is a question mark just now but Robert Bergh should never be overlooked in the bigger races.

11. CYBER LANE



Comes from a well deserved win after a nice defensive run and showed good speed. Needs lot of luck here. Could cause a surprise.

Gender:	Gelding
Age:	7
Trainer:	Johan Untersteiner
Driver:	Johan Untersteiner
Life:	44 24-7-4
Record pace:	1.09,7
Prize money:	11 057 485 SEK
Winning %:	55%
Greatest victory:	Swedish Derby 2017, Jägersro

Started his career with nine wins in a row. During 2017 and 2018 he scored eight straight victories again. Among others he won the big races Derby, Breeders' Crown and Copenhagen Cup and earned a lot of money. Has not been as successful as an older horse but he has been matched against the top all the time. He has won more than half of his races and earned more than eleven million SEK and is certainly one of the better horses in Sweden. As a four year old he won the Derby and there he showed that he stands the long distance. This is his first race over three laps though. Is in good shape but this number is tricky.

10. MAKETHEMARK



Strength:		8
Speed:		9
Speed off post:		8
Present form:		8
Morning line:	150	
Ranking:	В6	

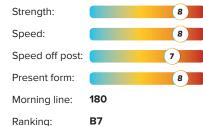
Can finish well but has not been as good as last season. Will get a defensive journey here. Outsider.

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	7
Trainer:	Petri Salmela
Driver:	Ulf Ohlsson
Life:	62 23-13-8
Record pace:	1.09,3
Prize money:	9 214 145 SEK
Winning %:	37%
Greatest victory:	Jubileumspokalen 2018, Solvalla

Petri Salmela's fighter made it to the elite last year when he was third in Elitloppet and earned 3.7 million SEK during the season. He won the seasonal debut this year but has not been as good after that. Was improved in Elitloppet and after a second spot in Norrbottens Stora Pris and a third in Mikkeli in the last run he was invited to today's race. He was second to Propulsion in last year's edition of Åby Stora Pris and since the latter one is missing this time he should be followed here. He has very good speed with the right defensive journey and is an underdog now.

12. VERY KRONOS





Showed in Jämtlands Stora Pris that he can match the elite. Bad number and tough task today.

Gender:	Stallion
Age:	6
Trainer:	Svante Båth
Driver:	Erik Adielsson
Life:	32 16-1-1
Record pace:	1.11,6
Prize money:	1 914 059 SEK
Winning %:	50%
Greatest victory:	Fyraåringstest 2018, Eskilstuna

Has always had a good reputation but in the bigger races he has galloped a lot. Won a Kriteriet elimination heat but galloped in the final and also in the bigger races as a four year old he made a lot of mistakes. Has won more than half of his races and when he avoids an error and is at his best, he is good enough to face the elite. Has scored many nice V75 wins but he has also been successful in France. Was third in Jämtlands Stora Pris in June in his debut against the elite. There he showed that he can match the best horses, but this number is really bad. Could cause an upset.

RACETRACK INFO



ÅBY (Å)

Track length: 1000 m Home stretch: 187 m Home stretch width: 22,3 m Back stretch width: 22,3 m Open stretch: Yes, double

STARTLIST

NR	HORSE	TRAINER	DRIVER	MLO
1.	BLE DU GERS	FRODE HAMRE	PER OLEG MIDTFJELD	80 7/1
2.	COKSTILE	WILHELM PAAL	WILHELM PAAL	65 11/2
3.	HANDSOME BRAD	ULF STENSTRÖMER	CARL JOHAN JEPSON	90 8/1
4.	PACIFIC FACE	GIUSEPPE LUBRANO	GIUSEPPE LUBRANO	200 19/1
5.	VELVET GIO	MAGNUS DAHLÉN	JORMA KONTIO	140 13/1
6.	WHO'S WHO	Pasi aikio	ÖRJAN KIHLSTRÖM	40 3/1
7.	DON WILLIAMS	MARKKU NIEMINEN	MIKA FORSS	120 11/1
8.	MONI VIKING	BJÖRN GOOP	BJORN GOOP	50 4/1
9.	MINDYOURVALUE W.F.	ROBERT BERGH	ROBERT BERGH	220 21/1
10.	MAKETHEMARK	PETRI SALMELA	ULF OHLSSON	150 14/1
11.	CYBER LANE	JOHAN UNTERSTEINER	JOHAN UNTERSTEINER	130 12/1
12.	VERY KRONOS	SVANTE BÅTH	ERIK ADIELSSON	180 17/1

RANKING: A: 6-8-2 B: 1-3-7-11-5-10-12-4-9

