

# HK WINNING FACTOR

## HAPPY VALLEY – January 15, 2025

**Rail position: B (good)**

**Market Guide:** : ^ Expect to run longer odds. v Expect to run shorter odds. Suggested bets based on current or expected odds in Hong Kong, which can change dramatically at race time. Rated odds listed up to 30-1.

**Maps:** note race maps in HK racing very fluid. There is no requirement to notify officials of any change of tactics.

### Race 1 – Class 5 1800m

	Rating		Current	Draw		Tempo = < AVE
1	<b>33.1</b>	CONFRINGO	17	12	YOU'REMYEVERYTHING	>>>>>>
2	<b>33.1</b>	SMASHING EXPRESS	5.0 ^	11	ON THE LASH	>>>>>>>>?
3	<b>13.6</b>	YOU'REMYEVERYTHING	14	10	WINNING SEVEN	>>>>>>>>
4	<b>10.8</b>	FURY AND GOLD	8.0	9	KASA PAPA	>>>>>>
5	<b>5.6</b>	GO GO GO	6.9 V	8	NICE BIRDIE	>>>>>>>>
6	<b>10.8</b>	KASA PAPA	5.7	7	RED MAVERICK	>>>>>>>>>>>>
7	<b>10.8</b>	ON THE LASH	11	6	RUNNING AHEAD	>>>>
8	<b>6.9</b>	GOLD TACK	13	5	FURY AND GOLD	>>>>
9	<b>33.1</b>	RUNNING AHEAD	9.8 ^	4	CONFRINGO	>>>>>>>>
10	<b>8.7</b>	NICE BIRDIE	24	3	GO GO GO	>>>>>>>>>>>>
11	<b>21.2</b>	WINNING SEVEN	16	2	SMASHING EXPRESS	>>>>
12	<b>13.6</b>	RED MAVERICK	13 V	1	GOLD TACK	>>>>>>

**The race:** Average tempo at best, likely slower. Not a lot of speed in this, with Go Go Go (ECW Wong) and Red Maverick the most likely leaders. Red Maverick is backing up from 1650m 1/week when rider made a decision to go back from wide draw but has been more positive at times recently, is better-drawn here over extra distance & switch to YL Chung – expect him to be more positive if he breaks ok. Confringo, Nice Birdie and On The Lash all potentially handy, especially On The Lash if he happens to begin well but his starts have been untidy? This has a real look of a race where the midrace moves will come at the 800m, and Purton (Kasa Papa) maps to be in the right sort of position.

**The market:** Smashing Express has Size/Bowman and gate 1 and that's about it for his positives. On his very best form would be hard to make him favourite here but his l/s was a bit plain, working home steadily without going around a horse Sha Tin 1800m in a race where others ran on better. That said, won't surprise who starts favourite. The way this sets up, more likely favourites might be the horses going forward early, Go Go Go and Red Maverick, who has had good support lately down in the weights but races haven't worked out and he maps better here.

**Recommendations:** Don't mind taking a position against Kasa Papa, a 29-start HK maiden, and Smashing Express, a horse without much tactical talent, in a race shape that looks to be against both. GOLD TACK only a recent drop to C5 who should have finished a lot closer 2 runs ago when big traffic problems home straight Sha Tin then ran 1/week in the Pegasus General race that was walking speed for more than the first half, so making ground from back impossible. That was from gate 11, can map closer from gate 1 here. Taking 17.0 with bookies. 2 units. GO GO GO is 6.0 with bookies, racing consistently and run to suit. 1 unit. NICE BIRDIE failed Sha Tin l/s where his runs are all terrible but prior run HV ok and capable of going forward here at a big price. 2 units and 27.0 at bookies looks good.

### Race 2 – Class 4 1800m

	Rating		Current	Draw		Tempo = AVE
1	<b>5.0</b>	CHARITY GAIN	5.0 V	12	ARTHUR'S KINGDOM	>>>>>>>>>>>>?
2	<b>9.8</b>	CAN'T GO WONG	11	11	CHARITY GAIN	>>>>>>
3		HAPPY UNIVERSE	29 ^	10	DRAGON DELIGHT	>>>>>>>>>
4	<b>15.3</b>	HIGHLAND RAHY	6.7 ^	9	HIGHLAND RAHY	>>>>>>>>>>>>
5		INTREPID WINNER	30	8	HAPPY UNIVERSE	>>>>>>>
6	<b>19.1</b>	JUBILATION	24 V	7	HAPPY HERO	>>>>>>
7	<b>7.8</b>	DRAGON STAR	9.0	6	INTREPID WINNER	>>>>>>
8	<b>12.2</b>	GOOD GOOD	12	5	JUBILATION	>>>>>>
9	<b>4.0</b>	ME TIME	3.1	4	CAN'T GO WONG	>>>>>>
10	<b>29.8</b>	HAPPY HERO	31	3	ME TIME	>>>>>>>>
11		ARTHUR'S KINGDOM	30 ^	2	GOOD GOOD	>>>>>>>>
12	<b>29.8</b>	DRAGON DELIGHT	11 ^	1	DRAGON STAR	>>>>>>>>>>>>

**The race:** Average tempo, some potential for faster. Three possible leaders here, Dragon Star, Highland Rahy and Arthur's Kingdom, though Dragon Star has been happy enough to sit behind and he has the ideal opportunity to do that here if he lets the outside draw horses go. Dragon Delight (ECW Wong) follows Highland Rahy and Arthur's Kingdom across and Good Good, Me Time follow the speed inside. The pattern with Arthur's Kingdom when he has led and run well for Teetan has been just an average first half then pick up the speed midrace. HT Mo aboard tonight so what kind of shape he would give the race is another question, especially if he gets opposition from Highland Rahy as he attempts to get around to the front?

**The market:** Think he's going to be under the odds but fully expect Me Time to keep favouritism here. Won with Purton 2 runs ago C5 then Badel replaced Purton l/s wide gate this c/d and class when solid just behind the placings. Now Purton gets back on, draws better and horse to beat. Market seems to get most pretty right here.

**Recommendations:** Plenty of respect for Me Time but no fat on price. DRAGON STAR rarely runs poorly, he's 10.0 with bookies and that's worth a small play in a race that sets up well enough for him. 1 unit. CAN'T GO WONG is 14.0 with bookies. 1 unit.

Race 3 – Class 4 1650m

	Rating		Current	Draw		Tempo => AVE
1		EXCEL WONGCHOY	20 ^	12	HAPPY DAILY	>>>>>>>>
2	20.5	HAPPY DAILY	8.9	11	CORLEONE	>>>>>>>>>>
3	5.4	BOWSER	9.5	10	SILVER KING	>>>>>>?
4	6.7	LUCKY TOUCH	9.9 V	9	NORTHERN BEAST	>>>>>>>>
5	8.4	NORTHERN BEAST	13	8	LUCKY TOUCH	>>>>>>
6	20.5	CORLEONE	4.9 ^	7	GOR MO TUEN	>>>>>>>>
7		GOR MO TUEN	46 ^	6	EXCEL WONGCHOY	>>>>>>>>>>
8		WAH MAY WAI WAI	4.7 ^	5	BRILLIANT FIRE	>>>>>>>>>>>>?
9		SILVER KING	22 ^	4	PANDA LEGEND	>>>>>>
10	26.0	PANDA LEGEND	29	3	BOWSER	>>>>>>>>>>?
11	2.8	TAKE ACTION	4.2 V	2	WAH MAY WAI WAI	>>>>>>>>>>>>
12		BRILLIANT FIRE	43 ^	1	TAKE ACTION	>>>>>>

The race: Average tempo at least, leaning to faster but 2 huge queries. Wah May Wai Wai isn't brilliant but he's quick enough to lead & has been showing plenty of intent for this jockey lately. That might be sufficient to get the front, but it does depend on the plans with a couple of other runners. Bowser has never been beyond 1200m in 11 starts but is bred for further & gets it here. He is an unreliable beginner but has speed at sprint distances, however, he can also be quite keen at times - so he's a potential fire cracker up in distance if he comes out with any intent? Brilliant Fire is the other question mark after he showed some pace 1000m straight at debut then went back from wide gates after slightly untidy starts next two circle races, before he led at a very solid pace over 1400m l/s. A similar show of pace here from gate 5 and he can lead here again? Silver King a lesser query - had been failing ridden for pace until last 2 starts when has gone a bit better ridden quietly and expect that he will do something similar here?

The market: Take Action fav or close 2d fav last 3 starts for a win and placing this c/d. No star but still good enough with gate 1, nice map and did a good job l/s after missing jump, making long run around the field when 3d Embraces. Way May Wai Wai looks unders - placed l/s at 14.0 and that's as short as he has been in 7 starts, might lead, might be pressured but certainly isn't any great talent on what we've seen yet. Have super ratings for Bowser, Lucky Touch and Northern Beast that could make them too good here but Bowser unknown distance, Lucky Touch and Northern Beast have map issues, so does Corleone and Purton's mount Happy Daily, who is going well though infrequent winner.

Recommendations: Taking a strong position here against Way May Wai Way and Corleone. TAKE ACTION right favourite and 3.5 at bookies a worthwhile price. 4 units. BOWSER really interesting runner with big distance rise and good draw. 2.5 units. LUCKY TOUCH and NORTHERN BEAST have map issues but over the odds. 1.5 units each.

Race 4 – Class 2 1000m

	Rating		Current	Draw		Tempo => AVE
1	9.9	MAJESTIC KNIGHT	9.0	9	STELLAR EXPRESS	>>>>>>>>>>
2	24.3	WHIZZ KID	11 ^	8	WHIZZ KID	>>>>>>>>>>>>
3		HARMONY N BLESSED	19 ^	7	BRAVE STAR	>>>>>>>>>>
4	19.6	TOMODACHI KOKOROE	19	6	HEALTHY HEALTHY	>>>>>>>
5		BRAVE STAR	8.7 ^	5	TOMODACHI KOKOROE	>>>>>>>>>>
6	2.1	BOTTOMUPTOGETHER	2.3 V	4	MAJESTIC KNIGHT	>>>>>>>>>>
7	6.3	STELLAR EXPRESS	7.3 V	3	YOUTHFUL SPIRITS	>>>>>>>>>>>>
8		HEALTHY HEALTHY	15 ^	2	HARMONY N BLESSED	>>>>>>>>>>
9	9.9	YOUTHFUL SPIRITS	6.2	1	BOTTOMUPTOGETHER	>>>>>>>>>>

The race: Good speed. At least average pace & likely quicker. Youthful Spirits is a keen-going, tearaway type who usually guarantees faster than average pace but has a change of rider tonight from Ferraris to Chadwick, so whether he goes as fast as usual is a query but this is a very aggressive horse, hard to hold down to a normal speed and will have a few chasers pushing him along. Bottomuptogether, Harmony N Blessed, Majestic Knight are all sharp horses and, unlike most horses, Bowman has tended to be very positive on Majestic Knight this c/d previously, with some success. Whizz Kid has not always been ridden that aggressively in recent times over varying courses but has had 10 starts this c/d and been first or second early in 9 of them.

The market: No discussion on who runs favourite in this - it's just a case of how short Bottomuptogether will be and it would not surprise to see him slightly into odds-on. Smart horse, always a touch keen at 1200m and back to 1000m with a draw to follow the pace suits. Youthful Spirits will be in front but vulnerable late, while Stellar Express in good form but the draw is sticky & he might have to be ridden quietly and running on late.

Recommendations: No value in this legitimate favourite & not seeing an edge in much to beat him either. NO BET.



Race 7 – Class 4 1200m

	Rating		Current	Draw		Tempo = AVE
1	13.2	YEE CHEONG SPIRIT	9.0	12	WINNING HEART	>>>>>>
2	2.8	NORTHERN FIRE BALL	2.7 V	11	YOUNG HORIZON	>>>>>>
3		POLARIS	30	10	WISDOM STAR	>>>>>>
4		MOTOMAN	33 ^	9	ACE POWER	>>>>
5	4.4	SUPER CHARIZZARD	5.7 V	8	POLARIS	>>>>>>>>
6		YOUNG HORIZON	23 ^	7	NORTHERN FIRE BALL	>>>>>>>>>
7		ACE POWER	30 ^	6	YEE CHEONG SPIRIT	>>>>>>
8	10.6	TELECOM POWER	6.7	5	TELECOM POWER	>>>>>>
9		WISDOM STAR	45 ^	4	MOTOMAN	>>>>>>>>>>
10	16.5	SPICY SO SMART	12	3	SUPER CHARIZZARD	>>>>>>>>
11	32.3	RAGNARR	13 ^	2	RAGNARR	>>>>>>
12	10.6	WINNING HEART	10	1	SPICY SO SMART	>>>>>>>>>>>>

The race: Average tempo at best, potential for slower. Spicy So Smart is the fastest horse, has gate 1, and both wins c/d have been from in front. Expect him to lead, then how fast he goes is the query and Purton on Northern Fire Ball will have a lot to say about that. He is not as fast as Spicy So Smart but is faster than nearly all the others, with maybe the exception of Motoman, who has been ridden behind recently in an effort to get him to finish his races off better & the box seat here looks his for the taking. While Polaris has some speed & will push forward, expect he will be happy to trail. So, the pace comes down to the chemistry between Purton on Northern Fire Ball and Chadwick on Spicy So Smart. Northern Fire Ball led throughout l/s this c/d when the early factions were slower than average, allowing him to keep his best for a strong last 400m. Presumably, Purton will want to replicate that so he may be happy to sit off Spicy So Smart for the first half of the race then apply some pressure. Still, he probably won't want to let the leader to get a break on him, considering the 15 pounds between them in the handicap.

The market: Race fell perfectly into place l/s for Northern Fire Ball from gate 2. He goes to gate 7 now with some speed Under him and a bit more weight but he's the right favourite. Purton gets off Super Charizzard to ride Northern Fire Ball, which will add to the support for the favourite,, but he is only allowed to ride one per race and Super Charizzard rated well enough in C5 to be competitive here with the good gate and weight drop. Expect market to tighten up around those two as a couple of others in the betting have some map challenges.

Recommendations: Not seeing a lot of value here but SUPER CHARIZZARD is 5.5 with bookies and that's worth a play. 1.5 units.

Race 8 – Class 3 1650m

	Rating		Current	Draw		Tempo = < AVE
1	23.1	I CAN	9.9 ^	12	SETANTA	>>>>
2	9.5	PRAY FOR MIR	4.9	11	GALAXY WITNESS	>>>>
3	11.9	GALAXY WITNESS	11	10	I CAN	>>>>>>>>?
4	6.1	SOLEIL FIGHTER	5.4	9	DEFINITIVE	>>>>>>>>?
5		GOLDEN ARTIE	8.7 ^	8	BEATO	>>>>>>
6		SETANTA	13 ^	7	GOLDEN ARTIE	>>>>>>
7		DEFINITIVE	21	6	COMET SPLENDIDO	>>>>>>
8	14.8	GLORIOUS JOURNEY	12	5	GLORIOUS JOURNEY	>>>>>>
9	18.5	BEATO	10 ^	4	FOREVER GLORIOUS	>>>>>>>>
10		COMET SPLENDIDO	25	3	PRAY FOR MIR	>>>>>>>>>
11	3.1	RED MAJESTY	11 V	2	SOLEIL FIGHTER	>>>>>>>>>
12	11.9	FOREVER GLORIOUS	9.9	1	RED MAJESTY	>>>>>>>>>

The race: Average tempo at best, leaning to slower. The inside three horses are the most likely leaders, two from the Hayes yard – Soleil Fighter and Red Majesty and Red Majesty has a 6-pound claim and likely 112 pounds to carry. That said, none of the three has been a dedicated leader in his races and all just as happy sitting behind something, so that doesn't look like a lot of pressure on the front. With most of the possible pace drawn low, that makes it more difficult for the wider draw horses to have a serious influence, unless they fly out of the gates. I Can has been ridden more conservatively from wide gates, in the past but Definitive is a query, getting Blkrs for the first time?

The market: Market is saying anything could be favourite in this but expect very good support for Red Majesty. He is up in grade on l/s 2d C4 this c/d but the C3 form here from horses further up in the weights is quite even, they have to give him a lot of weight and he maps beautifully. Not sure if that's enough for the market to make him favourite but he won't be this price. Pray For Mir and Soleil Fighter also map well but I Can has some challenges this time on the map and up in the weights.

Recommendations: RED MAJESTY won 9 races this c/d, not getting any younger at 8yo but his l/s 2d in C4 equalled his best-ever rating and he gets a lot in his favour with light handicap, good map. He is 11.0 with bookies and that's a top price. 6 units. The other horse up in class with sound C4 form is FOREVER GLORIOUS. He's 15.0 at bookies and worth a small play. 0.5 unit.,

