



9 February 2023

## Coin Toss Challenge by The Magician

Well after weeks of having to watch night after night of the Big Bash, the rugby league is back.

The 2023 NRL Pre-season Challenge has us licking our lips with anticipation. For years people have professed that trials should be ....well ... Trials. And that rugby league is a simple game.

Well this is 2023 my friends and there is a Pre-season Challenge to win.

Now it is important we all understand the rules for this two-week competition. Now everyone concentrate. Yes, even you Punters Pal.

Firstly, even though there are 17 teams in the NRL comp, there are 18 teams in the Challenge. St Helens is coming over for the World Club Challenge which is not to be confused with the Pre-season Challenge though they are playing both ... at the same time.

Now before there are any arguments each game goes for 80 minutes, there is no golden point, except if you are playing the World Club Challenge where there is golden point.

Each team has a squad of 28 players in week one and 26 players in week two, and there are unlimited interchanges. However, if you are playing the World Club Challenge that match is limited to game-day squads of 17 and interchanges capped at 10. For the Dolphins I assume anyone who lives on the Peninsula will pretty much be given an opportunity for a run.

Now we get to the points. Oh the points. If a team wins they get 12 points. Why 12 points for a win? Why not 50? How about 1000? Sounds like someone was binge watching 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?' over the summer break.

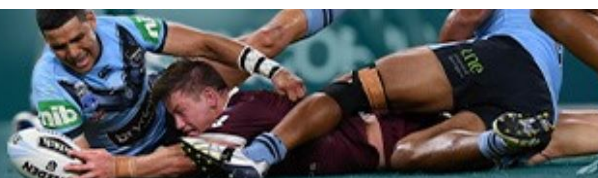
But that is not all ... there are bonus points if any team scores 5+ tries, 5+ line breaks, 10+ offloads or if the Great Man, Mr Fivestar is able to land a 5-leg multi.

Importantly, as it is highly likely there will be more than one team on the same points after the two rounds the NRL has detailed a substantial list of tiebreakers.

And you guessed it ... if all else fails the winner will be decided by the toss of a coin. There is something very Australian having the \$100,000 winner's cheque determined by a coin toss.

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# CF Orr Stakes Preview

The CF Orr is a Group 1 WFA event over 1400m at Sandown.

Recent winners and lead-up race.

2022	Tofane SP \$7	FU. Previous 7 <sup>th</sup> Empire Rose
2021	Streets of Avalon SP \$8.50	1 <sup>st</sup> Australia Stakes 1200m The Valley \$4.80
2020	Alabama Express SP \$11	1 <sup>st</sup> Flemington 1100m Hcp \$3.50
2019	Manuel SP \$21	7 <sup>th</sup> Australia Stakes 1200m The Valley \$41
2018	Hartnell SP \$6	FU. Previous start was Melbourne Cup
2017	Black Heart Bart SP \$3.20F	2 <sup>nd</sup> Australia Stakes 1200m The Valley \$2.50F
2016	Suavito SP \$15	FU
2015	Dissident SP \$2.75F	3 <sup>rd</sup> Australia Stakes 1200m The Valley \$1.90F

Feature Race this week is the CF Orr Stakes.

From 1993 onwards it has been classified as a Group 1 and the honour roll is littered with multiple Group 1 champions such as Rising Fast, Tobin Bronze, Manikato (3 x winner), At Talaq, Vo Rogue (another 3 x winner), Jeune, Saintly and Black Caviar.

It was once considered one of the form races for the year as the trick was to blackbook all the starters. Last year's runners included Cascadian which went on to win the Peter Young Stakes, All Aged, Hill Stakes and Craven Plate; Lighthouse (Coolmore), Sierra Sue (Futurity) and I'm Thunderstruck (Makybe Diva).

The winner is likely to come from the top 3 in the betting. From the inside barrier Tuvalu will set the pace. The long straight should benefit both I'm Thunderstruck and Jacquinot as both will get back and run on. Putting Jacquinot on top as it drops 4kg from its last start win at Sandown and if it reproduces the sectionals from its first up run will be hard to beat.

## Join us for the Legendary Early Thoughts Lunch

**12 noon, Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
**Brisbane Airport Conference Centre, 2 Dryandra Road**  
**Special guests inc Dave Donaghy, Brisbane Broncos CEO**  
**and Peter Psaltis**  
**Cost: \$110 (inc gst)**

**Email Alex Penklis to book your seat ...**  
**[alexp@bneahg.com.au](mailto:alexp@bneahg.com.au)**

# Winners in Early Thoughts last week

## Tipped by

Aft Cabin	The GM, Winno
Head of State	Winno
Remarque	The Magician
A Lot of Good Men	Super Man
The Velvet Queen	Punters Pal
King Kapa	Super Man
Banju	Super Man
NBL – Cairns to beat Perth	Gerard Daffy

## Weekend Selections

### 2-Bet Strategy

#### Sandown

R3 Barber, Brave Halo  
R7 Jacquinot, I'm Thunderstruck  
R8 Corner Pocket, Young Werther

#### Doomben

R1 Rupert's House, Tengun Ready

#### Ascot

R5 Acromantula, Our Wind Spirit  
R7 All the King's Men, Saintorio



### Super Man's Best Around Australia

- Sandown R6 Uncommon James
- Randwick R7 In Secret
- Doomben R1 Rupert's House
- Morph R1 Siyata
- Ascot R4 Casino Seventeen



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Project Kai



## Super Man's Place All Up

- Randwick R6 Lezzago
- Morph R7 The Map
- Randwick R10 Kanazawa

## Long Range Betting

The Philadelphia Eagles were the Early Thoughts tip to win the Super Bowl back in October last year. Those that followed the tip to back them to win the Conference Title will be well in front and could lay off on the Chiefs for a no loss result.



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# Early Thoughts Crew Selections

	<u>Feature Race</u> CF Orr Stakes Sandown	<u>Best Bet</u>	<u>Best Value</u>
The Magician @earlythoughts	Jacquinot	Randwick R6 Learning to Fly	Sandown R5 She Dances R6 Lofty Strike
Gerard Daffy The Patron Saint	I'm Thunderstruck		
The GM Finding Feature Race winners is his life	Jacquinot	Doomben R2 Ashgrove	Randwick R9 Swats That
Punters Pal Racing's Radar	Jacquinot (Western Empire ew \$50)	Ascot R7 All the King's Men	Sandown R5 Laced Up Heels
Super Man Beating the market	Jacquinot	Ascot R4 Casino Seventeen	Randwick R10 Kanazawa
The Striker Always kicking goals	Tuvalu	Grafton (Friday) R7 Darci Diva	Sandown R8 Mankayan
The Shadow Light in the Darkness	Tuvalu	Sandown R6 Uncommon James	Sandown R8 Pounding
Winno's Winners	Jacquinot	Doomben R7 Coco Rox R8 The Big Goodbye	Doomben R3 Clyde R9 French Marine
2023 Tipping Leaders	<u>Feature Race</u> 2 Winners The Magician The GM Winno 1 Winner Gerard Daffy The Pye Man The Striker Punters Pal Super Man The Shadow	<u>Best Bet</u> 4 Winners Winno Super Man 3 Winners Punters Pal 2 Winners Gerard Daffy The Magician 1 Winner The GM The Brazilian Beauty	<u>Value</u> 3 Winners The Magician 1 Winner Super Man The GM



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