



NEW FEATURES OF THE FLAT WINTER MEETING OF CAGNES-SUR-MER FOR 2024

A press conference was held on Tuesday 10th October 2023 with the presentation of the various adjustments made to the 2024 flat meeting at Cagnes-sur-Mer.

During the press conference, François Forcioli-Conti, President of the "Association des Courses de la Côte d'Azur", reminded the audience that the aim of the various measures taken is to provide a new impetus to the flat meeting of Cagnes-sur-Mer with the goal to regain a positive dynamic in terms of runners.

One of the main measures taken and one wished for by Cagnes-sur-Mer racecourse is the even split between races on grass and races on the AWT during the meeting from January 15th, 2024, to February 26th, 2024. Previously, 40 % of races were run on the turf while 60% were run on the AWT.

Moreover, the two race meetings which were previously held in February at Marseille-Vivaux (AWT) will now be run in February 2024 at Marseille-Borély (Turf).

These two adjustments of the fixture list and in the programme will allow for an additional thirty races on grass in the South-East of France during the meeting while offering fewer races on the AWT. Hence, racing in the South-East of France in January and February will offer a distinctive feature in terms of races at that time of the year in France which otherwise only offers races on the AWT.

Changes made to Listed races and the « Grands Prix ».

The main « Grand Prix » of Cagnes-sur-Mer have been adjusted in the fixture list and some distances and surface altered. The aim of these changes is twofold: stabilize the rating of Black Type races at Cagnes-sur-Mer and make them more attractive.

- **Grand Prix de la Riviera Côte d'Azur:** Traditionally held mid-February, this Listed race is now scheduled on Saturday 27th January. It remains on the same distance and surface (2000m. AWT) and may serve as a preparatory race for competition in the Middle East such as the Saudi Cup. Moreover, on that same day, two conditions races – Class 1 races – for older horses over 1300m. and 2500m. on the turf may also be used as a springboard for races taking place in Qatar or Saudi Arabia in February.

- **Grand Prix du Département 06:** This Listed race which is the 1st stage of the Défi du Galop in 2024 remains at its usual slot at the end of the meeting. But its distance is shortened to 2150m. (previously 2500m.) to attract a greater number of runners while it may also serve as a prep race for the Prix Exbury (Gr3) run three weeks later.
- **Prix Saonais:** The Prix Saonais (Listed) is still run over 1600m. on the AWT but sees its date of running in the fixture list moved up a week earlier compared to previous years. It is held on Sunday 11th February.
- **Prix de la Californie:** The Prix de la Californie (Listed) goes back to grass and the distance of 1500m. The race will take place on the last Sunday of the meeting: Sunday 25th February 2024, the same day as the Grand Prix. This date brings it closer to the first important races of the season for 3yo horses at Group 3 level.
- **Prix Policeman:** The Prix Policeman (Class 1) also changes and will be run on Saturday 17th February 2024, on grass (2150m). The race thus provides the opportunity to run in the first Listed races for 3yos at Saint-Cloud next.

Launch of the « Challenge PSF » with the finals at Cagnes-sur-Mer

The two finals of the « challenge PSF » which kickstarts this winter is staged at Cagnes-sur-Mer racecourse.

Six Listed races run over the winter on the AWT are part of this challenge which offers two bonuses:

- One bonus for the horse which has won the most points in races run over the distance between 1400m. and 1600m.: sprint/mile division.
- One bonus for the horse which has won the most points in races run over the distance between 1900m. à 2500m.: intermediate/classic division.

The three Listed races for each division are:

Sprint/Mile division

Date	Racecourse	Race	Distance
November 5 th 2023	Deauville	Prix Irish River	1400m
December 3 rd 2023	Deauville	Prix Luthier	1500m
February 11 th 2024	Cagnes-sur-Mer Final	Prix Saonais	1600m

Intermediate/Classic division

Date	Racecourse	Race	Distance
November 28 th 2023	Deauville	Prix Lyphard	1900m
December 16 th 2023	Deauville	Prix Arcangues	2500m
January 27 th 2024	Cagnes-sur-Mer Final	Grand Prix de la Riviera Côte d'Azur	2000m

The points are awarded as follows:

Races	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Prix Irish River Prix Luthier Prix Lyphard Prix Arcangues	50 pts	20 pts	15 pts	10 pts	5 pts
Finals: Prix Saonais Gd Px de la Riviera Côte d'Azur	100 pts	40 pts	30 pts	20 pts	10 pts

Each division offers a bonus of 40 000 € to the owners of the two horses which have won the most points:

- 30 000 € to the winner
- 10 000 € to the 2nd

Actions taken by the « Association des Courses de la Côte d'Azur ».

The « Association des Courses de la Côte d'Azur » is putting in place several measures with a view to support and boost the attractiveness of its flat and jumps meetings. The first four measures listed below are applicable for the flat and jumps meetings:

1. Boxes are free of charge during the meeting.
2. Flax shavings boxes remain free of charge.
3. Rates on housing are frozen (rents should have risen by 10% to 20 % due to the electricity rate increase).
4. A welcome booklet (with all the top addresses of Cagnes-sur-Mer) is available for all professionals.
5. Housing and food service are free of charge for all participants to the Listed races and Prix Policeman (over a 72-hr period maximum).
6. Increase of 10.000 € of the prizemoney of the Prix Policeman.

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