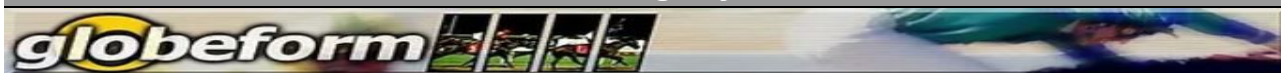


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GLOBEFORM RANKING

CHICAGO STAKES (G2) 7 fur Dirt, Churchill Downs June 21

Horses ranked in pounds (0.45kg). 1 length = 2.5 pounds over this distance

Rank	No.	Name of horse	Globeform	GF most recent runs	Trainer / Jockey
From right to left (most recent first)					
0	5	VAHVA <i>GF 117 in May '24</i> <i>GF 115+ in this race '24</i>	117	91 - 103 - 115	DeVaux / I Ortiz Jr
7	9	MY MANE SQUEEZE	110	107 - 107 - 108	Maker / Saez
8	1	EMERY	114	98 - 110 - 114	Cox / Geroux
8	4	BRIGHTWORK <i>GF 109 in Aug '24</i>	109	99 - 96 - 109	J A Ortiz / B Hernandez Jr
10	11	ZEITLOS	112	112 - 103 - 112	Asmussen / Prat
10	10	CLARET BERET	107	107 - ? - ?+	Joseph Jr / M Husbands
16p	6	MARMALADE SKYE	101p	101p - ?p - ?	Jacobson / Moncada
14	8	PIGALLE <i>GF 103 in Aug '24</i>	103 / 96	98+ 88 - 93+	Drury / Machado
14	7	HARBOR SPRINGS	103	93 - 100 - 103	Foley / Morales
19	2	MINK'S PALACE	100	88 - 100 - 0	Kenneally / Curtis
?	3	GRAY LIGHTNING	?	?	A Hernandez / W Rodriguez

Globeform rating with a "p" attached = this was the horse's best rating to date and the horse is likely to improve

Globeform rating with a "+" = this was not its best rating but the horse ran better than the rating suggests

Most recent winners of the Chicago

2024	VAHVA	GF 115+	Cherie DeVaux	Irad Ortiz Jr
2023	SOCIETY	GF 120	Steve Asmussen	Tyler Gaffalione
2022	LADY ROCKET	GF 117	Brad Cox	Ricardo Santana Jr.
2021	ABBY HATCHER <i>Run at Arlington Park</i>	GF 106	Anna Meah	Alex Achard
2019	MY MERTIE <i>Run at Arlington (as a handicap)</i>	GF ?	Michele Boyce	Carlos Marquez Jr.

Average winning Globeform: 114.5

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GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

VAHVA won this race last year and she has a good chance of taking the Chicago back to back. She disappointed as one of the favorites for the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (Del Mar may not have suited her and / or she had simply lost her form) and she was well below par also when reappearing in the Derby City Distaff at Churchill Downs in May (when the track was sloppy). Vahva is thus coming off two unplaced efforts and perhaps that's why she has not been made favorite in the morning line; **Morning line 3-1 makes her a value bet.** She is the best horse in the field, she is 4-for-5 over this track, 7 furlongs is her ideal distance and it's not hard to forgive those two runs. Given that she will be receiving 5lbs from Emery and meets Brightwork and My Mane Squeeze at level weights Vahva can win this race without running up to her best. Based on GF ratings he has upwards of 7lbs in hand on the field, meaning that - unless one of the others improve (somewhat unlikely) - Vahva can get her second Chicago win by running to GF 110-111. She ran to **Globeform 117**, 115+ and GF 115 in her three best races in 2024.

The daughter of Gun Runner produced her best performance to date when winning the Derby City Distaff over 7 furlongs at Churchill Downs in May '24. She was in great form at the time, taking the valuable sprint by 2 lengths from Alva Starr (won had beaten her in the Madison at Keeneland previously and won a minor stakes on her next start). Vahva following up with strong win in the Chicago Stakes over the same trip in June; beating this year's Madison Stakes winner Positano Sunset easily by 1 1/4 lengths while conceding 5lbs. Society ran third in that race and she gained revenge when winning the Ballerina Stakes at Saratoga, with Scylla second and Vahva third.

MY MANE SQUEEZE is not top class but she is a very consistent one, with form just a notch or two below the best in this division. She produced **Globeform 110** when winning the Dogwood Stakes over 7 furlongs at Churchill Downs last year (came from off the pace to beat Fibber by 5 lengths) and she has run to GF 108, 108 and 107 in her three races since. Her two starts this season have confirmed that she retains her ability at four. She was third behind Positano Sunset and **EMERY**, who beat her by 1 1/4 lengths for second, in the Madison at Keeneland in April - and she ran to the same level when third to Jody's Pride in the Ruffian at Aqueduct a month later. While Emery and My Mane Squeeze met at level weights in the Madison, Emery now has to concede 5lbs and that could well swing things in My Mane Squeeze's favor. She was giving weight also when Emery beat her by 2 lengths in the Raven Run Stakes at Keeneland last fall. These results suggest that it makes little sense to see Emery as a stronger contender than My Mane Squeeze here - and post positions favor My Mane Squeeze.

EMERY, like Vahva coming off a below par effort in the Derby City Distaff in May, ran much better when beaten length by Positano Sunset in the Madison Stakes at Keeneland, where she flashed speed from gate to wire. That performance was not quite up to form she showed when beaten a neck in a tremendous finish against Mystik Lake in the Inside Information over 7 furlongs at Gulfstream Park in January. Emery is a speedy filly and she has sharp throughout also in that contest. Fighting on gamely to the wire, she improved to Globeform 114 in the process. The Brad Cox trainee won the Victory Ride at Aqueduct last summer and was then a solid runner-up to the high class filly Ways and Means in the Test Stakes at Saratoga (beaten 2 1/2 lengths while conceding 2lbs), and went on to win the 7-furlong Raven Run Stakes at Keeneland in October. Again racing prominently from start to finish, she took the race by 2 lengths from **MY MANE SQUEEZE**. My Mane Squeeze carried 2lbs more than Emery.

BRIGHTWORK has two good wins in the book; a half-length verdict over future G1 winner Ways and Means in the 7-furlong Spinaway Stakes at Saratoga as a juvenile in 2023 (when Ways and Means was injured) and a narrow verdict over Two Sharp (impressive winner of two G3 races since, one with Brightwork well behind) in the 6-furlong Prioress Stakes over the same track in August last year. She was up with the pace from the outset that day, and she kept on well to win by a neck while spotting her runner-up 2lbs. Brightwork's Prioress win was worth **Globeform 109**, a mark that makes her a possible Trifecta horse in the Chicago - but Two Sharp beat her by almost five lengths when they met again in the Winning Colors at Churchill Downs in late May. Brightwork ran a bit of a dull race to finish fourth. It was her first start since October so she is entitled to come on for the run but 6 furlongs appears to be her best trip, so there's another reason to go against her this time. >>>

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CONCLUSION: Vahva would be a must bet if we get 3-1. Given that she was under 5-1 when meeting Kopion, Hope Road and Ways and Means in the Derby City Distaff, 3-1 seems unlikely for this race. She has so much going for her; distance, pace scenario, weights and the draw. Emery, with the tricky inside post and likely to be part of a hot pace, could be the main danger; though My Mane Squeeze, who should get a good trip just off the pace from post 9, has every bit as good a chance. **ZEITLOS** is exiting a career best, having won the Skipat Stakes at Pimlico, but this is a much better race and she has a tough weight. **CLARET BERET** improved plenty when making her first start for Saffie Joseph Junior; cruising home by almost 20 lengths in a mile allowance race at Gulfstream Park in May. Her rivals were not runners with *bad* form and she earned a provisional **Globeform 107**. It could well prove to be on the low side. Recent form counts for a lot and these two should be considered by Trifecta players.

GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS | CHICAGO STAKES

A	5 VAHVA WON	5-2 WINNER
B	1 EMERY 4th , 9 MY MANE SQUEEZE 5th	194-1 TRIFECTA
C	4 BRIGHTWORK, 10 CLARET BERET 2nd , 11 ZEITLOS 3rd	670-1 SUPERFECTA

Vahva / Chicago Stakes '24: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqudaGqWRk8>

Vahva / Derby City Distaff '24: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OMTBEqqZAw

Emery 2nd / Madison Stakes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58oAixao3_M&t=1s
3rd My Mane Squeeze

Emery 2nd / Inside Information St.: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4DPy58qIPI>

Emery / Raven Run Stakes '24: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uqbf3DJT0s>
2nd My Mane Squeeze

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