

Globeform Preakness Weekend Special

Previews and ratings by Geir Stabell



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5:52 ET

GLOBEFORM RANKING

JIM MCKAY TURF SPRINT (LR) 5.5 fur Turf, Laurel Park, May 16

Horses ranked in pounds (0.45kg). 1 length = 3 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	7	ISIVUNGVUNGU <i>GF 108 in Feb '25</i> <i>GF 113 in Nov 2024</i>	(113) 108	97 - 96 - 0	Motion / Velazquez
(3) 6	2	DETERMINED KINGDOM <i>GF 107 in Aug '25</i> <i>GF 110 in Oct 2024</i>	(110) 107	87 - 103 - 105	Trombetta / J L Ortiz
3 / 6	10	FORE HARP <i>GF 110 in Apr '25</i>	110 / 107	107 - 87 - ?	Reid Jr / Lopez
4	3	JEAN VALJEAN <i>GF 109 in Aug 2024</i>	109	107+ 98 - 109	Merryman / Prat
5	4	CHASING LIBERTY	108	108 - 100 - 102	Atras / I Ortiz Jr
(5) 9	8	OUTLAW KID <i>GF 108 in Aug '25</i>	(112) 108	107 - 99 - 106	Weaver / Ruiz
6 / 11+	11	HAD TO HAVE HIM <i>GF 107 also in Aug '25</i>	107 / 102+	102+ 107 - 107	Salzman / Toledo
7	1	RUN CURTIS RUN <i>GF 105 in Aug & Sep '25</i> <i>GF 106 also in June '25</i>	106	106 - 0 - 103	Maker / Gaffalione
10 / 14+	5	INCINERATOR <i>GF 103 in Sep '25</i>	103 / 99+	99+ 83 - 86	Magana / Villalobos
15	6	TIDEWATER	98	84 - 98 - 94	Aguirre / Barbosa
?	9	CARD TRICK	?	?	Allard / Boyce

Globeform ratings are expressed in pounds. **The "Rank" column** shows the horse best in at the weights based on Globeform ratings on top, with other horses ranked down in pounds. For example; rank figure 6 tells us that the horse is 6lbs below the top ranked horse. Length values: 5-6 furlongs: 3lbs per length. 7 fur: 2.5lbs. 8 - 11 fur: 2lbs. 12 fur: 1.5lbs

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 Jim McKay (Pimlico)

2025	WITTY	GF 116	Elizabeth Merryman	Flavien Prat
2024	GROOMS ALL BUSINESS	GF 113+	Jorge Duarte Jr	Jorge Ruiz
2023	BEER CAN MAN	GF 115	Phil D'Amato	Flavien Prat
2022	CAROTARI	GF 111+	Brian Lynch	Luis Saez
2021	FIRECROW	GF 113	Ron Moquett	Joel Rosario
2020	HOLLIS	GF ?	John Ortiz	Gabriel Saez

Run over 5 furlongs at Pimlico
Average winning Globeform: 113.6

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GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

ISIVUNGVUNGU, as big as **10-1 on the morning line**, is well worth a bet in this wide open sprint - but he can't be the selection, simply because his best form dates back to 2024 and three of his four runs last year were all way below that level. Most likely, Graham Motion is using this event to get the G1 winning South African import started again and he may therefore not be super fit - but don't overlook him; Isivunguvungu ran a very good race when beaten just 2 lengths behind Starlust in the 5-furlong Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint at Del Mar in November '24, improving to **Globeform 113** in the big race; and it won't take that sort of form to win this contest. Isivunguvungu was only seventh at the Breeders' Cup but getting so close was a good achievement, not least given that he had a troubled trip. He had won the Da Hoss Stakes at Colonial Downs on his previous start, and he was a respectable third in the Turf Dash at Tampa Bay in February last year. After that he was sent to Dubai, where he ran as if something was amiss, then had two dull runs back home in the summer. It's pure guesswork what we might see from him in the McKay Sprint but this son of What a Winter has the best back class, and he has run well after breaks in the past. He has to be considered.

OUTLAW KID won the Leatherbury Stakes over this course and distance in April. Finishing the race well by coming from just off the pace, he beat the late charging **CHASING LIBERTY** by a neck, with Wheingettoheaven third, **FORE HARP** fourth, **HAD TO HAVE HIM** sixth, **JEAN VALJEAN** seventh, **DETERMINED KINGDOM** tenth and **INCINERATOR** eleventh. At first glance, this result might suggest that it's as easy as going for Outlaw Kid to come out best again in the Jim McKay Sprint; but it's probably not quite that simple. Chasing Liberty must have a chance of turning the tables; he came from a couple of lengths further back and - more importantly - he was spotting the winner 2lbs. This time, he will be receiving 4lbs from Outlaw Kid. A six-pound weight swing equals about two lengths in sprint races.

Another factor worth noting is that the top two in the Leatherbury had different trips. They both broke well enough to take up a position in midfield but, while Outlaw Kid found a ground saving trip on the inside and was presented with a perfect gap by the rail at the finish, Chasing Liberty was forced wide. He too had great momentum and delivered a late kick that would have deserved a win. He might well beat Outlaw Kid this time - though it needs mentioning that the latter appeared to have extra energy passing the winning post.

JEAN VALJEAN was having his first run since November 2024 when finishing seventh, 2 1/2 lengths behind **OUTLAW KID** in the 5.5-furlong Leatherbury Stakes, and he ran much like horse in need of the outing; tiring after having been part of the early pace. He took a big step forward to win an allowance heat over the same trip three weeks later, and this lightly raced 7yo makes a lot of appeal. He is also better off at the weights compared to Outlaw Kid - but not against Chasing Liberty. Jean Valjean was capable of **Globeform 109** two years ago, and he returned GF 107+ with his solid 2 1/2-length win over **INCINERATOR** last time out. The son of Uncle Liam was once more part of the speed and he hit the line strongly, looking very determined indeed. This field does not have 'tons of speed' and Jean Valjean, who is nicely drawn in stall three, should get a good trip. He has Determined Kingdom directly to his inside; that runner may not have the same gate speed as in his younger days - and the rail drawn **RUN CURTIS RUN** is an off-the-pace runner with no gate speed to speak of. So what about the horses nearest on Jean Valjean's outside? They are **CHASING LIBERTY** (not fast early) and **INCINERATOR** (not fast early). This really does augur well for a smooth early phase for Jean Valjean, who gets Flavien Prat on board. Without arguing that 4-1 is great value in an open looking affair like this, it is a price worth taking about Jean Valjean. His career best is a close third behind Alogon and Works for Me in the Turf Sprint Championship over 6 furlongs at Aqueduct. That he gets further than this 5.5-furlong distance is a plus.

FORE HARP, who is 4lbs better off here, was beaten 1 1/2 lengths when fourth to **OUTLAW KID** in the Leatherbury Sprint, and this is also a horse to respect. It was his first start this year, he ran to GF 107 and his career best, **Globeform 110** earned when he won the 2024 edition of the Leatherbury, makes him a serious candidate. He won that race by 1 3/4 lengths from Witty, who captured the McKay Sprint on his next outing. Fore Harp was a silly price when 115-1 last time; he has a better chance than what **15-1 morning line** indicates and he could well go off at even bigger odds. Keep an eye on the board.

HAD TO HAVE HIM is not quite as good as Fore Harp, but he has a similar profile in that he was also exiting a long layoff. A game and consistent sort, he ran to **Globeform 107** three times on the trot before ending his campaign in October last year. >>>

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CONCLUSION: This is a wide open race and it's tempting to use two A-horses, in which case Chasing Liberty would be the one moving one step up in the selection box. The good impression given in Jean Valjean's recent win, his advantageous post position, and the fact that he has Prat as his pilot, makes him the narrow selection. ***Trifecta players should be prepared to see a 1-2-3 result where a proper longshot is involved;** this is that kind of a race; so do fill up well underneath. The way to do that in an affordable way is to rely on the Leatherbury form and **play the Tri based on Outlaw Kid or Chasing Liberty finishing in the first three.** Using that brave strategy we can afford to include quite a few of the others - and the logical bonus ticket is boxing the top three in the selections box. In case we've got the race spot on. It happens.

GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

A	3 JEAN VALJEAN
B	4 CHASING LIBERTY Won @ 3.6-1, 8 OUTLAW KID 2nd Exacta 36-1
C	7-ISIVUNGUUVUNGU, 10 FORE HARP, 11 HAD TO HAVE HIM

RESULT: 1. CHASING LIBERTY 3.6-1 2. OUTLAW KID 8.8-1 3. CARD TRICK 23-1 *
Trifecta 748-1

Jean Valjean / Laurel Allowance (R7): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nFyMV2vs7Wc>
2nd Incinerator

Outlaw Kid / Leatherbury Sprint (R8): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skc_2lzK7RI&t=1608s
2nd Chasing Liberty, 4th Fore Harp, 6th Had to Have Him,
7th Jean Valjean, 10th Determined Kingdom, 11th Incinerator

Isivunguvungu 7th / Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint '24: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ch00_XcWai8&t=71s

Isivunguvungu / Da Hoss Stakes '24: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Qt9jMAKZLE>



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