

Tuesday 16th June

# ROYAL ASCOT



**2.30** QUEEN ANNE STAKES (Group 1) (1) 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)

RACE 1 **(5) MORE THUNDER | (6) NOTABLE SPEECH | (7) OPERA BALLO**

**3.05** COVENTRY STAKES (Group 2) (1) 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 2 **(6) CUT A DASH | (10) GREAT BARRIER REEF | (5) CONFUCIUS**

**3.40** KING CHARLES III STAKES (Group 1) (1) 5f (1010 Metres)

RACE 3 **(8) NIGHT RAIDER | (9) OVERPASS | (13) ASFOORA**

**4.20** ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES (Group 1) (1) 7f213y (1600 Metres)

RACE 4 **(1) BOW ECHO | (2) GSTAAD | (6) TALK OF NEW YORK**

**5.00** ASCOT STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 2m3f210y (4010 Metres)

RACE 5 **(4) REACHING HIGH | (16) PUTURHANDSTOGETHER | (9) SIEMPRE ARTURO**

**5.35** WOLFERTON STAKES (Listed) (1) 1m1f212y (2000 Metres)

RACE 6 **(9) HAATEM | (12) NAHRAAN | (5) ENFJAAR**

**6.10** COPPER HORSE STAKES (HANDICAP) (2) 1¾m34y (2850 Metres)

RACE 7 **(10) VALIANCY | (4) DAIQUIRI BAY | (14) SING US A SONG**

## KEY TO SYMBOLS

**Top Rated:** The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.

**Horses For Courses:** A suitable track for the horse, compared to its lifetime record on similar courses as defined by Timeform's course data.

**Jockey Uplift:** The engaged rider has a notably higher Timeform Jockey Ranking than those who've ridden the horse on its most recent starts

**Trainer Form:** A hot trainer to follow, based on Timeform ratings-related measurements looking at the recent performance of runners.

**2.30**

**QUEEN ANNE STAKES (Group 1) (1) 4yo+ £800,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)**

RACE 1



Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Weak**

**1 6 CICERO'S GIFT (31) (CD)** **94**  
362211-47 6 9-2 | 58.1kg

Charles Hills **Jason Watson**  
Surprise winner of the Group 1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes on Champion Day at Ascot. However, he was seen to maximum effect on that occasion and has been put firmly in his place in the Sandown Mile and Lockinge this term.

**2 3 DAMYSUS (31)** **96**  
1/32011-16 4 9-2 | 58.1kg

John & Thady Gosden **James Doyle**  
Highly progressive in 2025 aside from a blip in the Derby, ending the year with listed/Group 3 wins before returning to easily defy a penalty in Newmarket Group 3 (9f). Failed to meet expectations in the Lockinge at Newbury but is probably worth another chance considering his overall profile.

**3 4 DOCKLANDS (51) (CD)** t **95**  
154494-13 6 9-2 | 58.1kg

Harry Eustace **Mark Zahra**  
Course specialist who recorded a first success at the highest level when emerging on top in a thrilling finish in this race last year. Looked as good as ever when landing the odds at Doncaster on reappearance and backed that up with an excellent third in Group 1 at Sha Tin. Respected.

**4 2 FIRST CONQUEST (179) (D)** **91**  
1/1133433- 5 9-2 | 58.1kg

Charlie Appleby **Ryan Moore**  
Smart sort who completed a hat-trick in good style in Group 3 at Meydan (1¼m) in early 2025. Most creditable efforts in defeat later that year but could well act as a pacemaker on this occasion.

**5 9 MORE THUNDER (IRE) (31)** **97**  
3/112114-2 5 9-2 | 58.1kg

William Haggas **Tom Marquand**  
Vastly improved for this yard last year, running out a ready winner of Group 2 Hungerford Stakes (7f) in August. Left poorly placed when fourth of 16 in Group 1 Foret on final start last year and reappeared with an excellent second to Notable Speech in Lockinge at Newbury. More to come at 1m.

**6 1 NOTABLE SPEECH (31) (D)** **100**  
445211-41 5 9-2 | 58.1kg

Charlie Appleby **William Buick**  
Winner of the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket and Sussex Stakes at Goodwood as a 3-y-o. Proved as good as ever when gaining his fifth success at the top level in Lockinge Stakes at Newbury (1m) latest, displaying a striking turn of foot. The one to beat, even if the return to a stiffer track is a niggler.

**7 7 OPERA BALLO (IRE) (53) (D)** h **99**  
161121-11 4 9-2 | 58.1kg

Charlie Appleby **Billy Loughnane**  
High-class colt who made it a remarkable 7 wins from 9 starts when landing Sandown Mile in convincing fashion under a well-judged front-running ride (1m) in April. Leading contender on that form but it's worth noting his 2 defeats have come on straight tracks.

**8 8 TEN BOB TONY (IRE) (10)** **94**  
5/1830-481 5 9-2 | 58.1kg

Ed Walker **Kieran Shoemark**  
Quickly put a poor run behind him when bagging a second Group 3 at Epsom (7f) 10 days ago but he's likely to be outclassed back up in trip/grade.

**9 5 ZEUS OLYMPIOS (31) (D)** **96**  
1111-33 4 9-2 | 58.1kg

K. R. Burke **Clifford Lee**  
Made rapid progress when winning all 4 starts last year, culminating with 2¼-length defeat of Opera Ballo in Group 2 Joel at Newmarket (1m). Stepped up on his reappearance when 2¾ lengths third of 10 to Notable Speech in Lockinge Stakes at Newbury (1m) latest but has work to do to reverse the form.

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**9-4** Notable Speech, **7-2** Opera Ballo, **4-1** More Thunder, **8-1** Docklands, **9-1** Zeus Olympios, **14-1** Damysus, **50-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

A mouth-watering renewal of the Queen Anne. MORE THUNDER made giant strides forward in his first season with William Haggas last year, and his second to Notable Speech in the Lockinge on his first try at 1m fully confirms he belongs at the highest level. The stiffer 1m should play perfectly to his strong-finishing style and it's reasonable to believe he can reverse the Lockinge form with Notable Speech, who may not be ideally suited by a return to Ascot. Opera Ballo is a fascinating runner, too.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. MORE THUNDER 2. NOTABLE SPEECH 3. OPERA BALLO**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Docklands</b> 5-9-2	14-1	Harry Eustace	Mark Zahra	10
2024	<b>Charyn</b> 4-9-2	10-3f	Roger Varian	Silvestre De Sousa	13
2023	<b>Triple Time</b> 4-9-2	33-1	Kevin Ryan	Neil Callan	12
2022	<b>Baaeed</b> 4-9-2	1-6f	William Haggas	Jim Crowley	7
2021	<b>Palace Pier</b> 4-9-0	2-7f	John & Thady Gosden	Frankie Dettori	11

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.05**

**COVENTRY STAKES (Group 2) (1) 2yo £200,000 6f (1210 Metres)**










RACE 2














Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Extreme**

<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>ADAAY OF SCARLETT (IRE) (19) (C)</b>	<b>90</b>
	112	2 9-3   58.5kg Hugo Palmer Mehmas colt who was impressive when making a winning debut in 5-runner novice at Newmarket before coming out on top in 3-runner class 2 here (5f). However, unable to complete hat-trick in listed race at Sandown and this much tougher.	<i>Billy Loughnane</i>
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>ARIZONA RAIDER (IRE) (29)</b>	<b>82</b>
	531	2 9-3   58.5kg Michael Mulvany, Ireland Didn't have to improve when off the mark at the third attempt in maiden at Roscommon but form is just ordinary.	<i>William James Lee</i>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>BULL SHARK (IRE) (13)</b>	<b>87</b>
	3332	2 9-3   58.5kg Robson De Aguiar, Ireland Placed all 4 starts in maidens, his latest second at the Curragh (stepped up to 7f) easily his best effort. Very unlikely to be breaking his duck in this.	<i>David Egan</i>
<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>CILICIAN (IRE) (13)</b>	<b>83</b>
	2	2 9-3   58.5kg Brian Meehan £90,000 yearling, Blackbeard gelding. Half-brother to 2-y-o 1m winner Monte Vista. Promising start when second to The Ginger Kid in Nottingham novice, faring best of newcomers. Pitched into the deep end here but connections won this 2 years ago with one with a similar profile.	<i>Joe Leavy</i>
<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>CONFUCIUS (IRE) (38) (D)</b>	<b>95</b>
	21	2 9-3   58.5kg Aidan O'Brien, Ireland No Nay Never colt. 1,700,000 gns yearling. Dam won Cheveley Park Stakes. Unlucky not to make a winning debut at the Curragh and had no trouble landing very skinny odds at Naas (placed horses have boosted the form since). The choice of Ryan Moore and strong contender.	<i>Ryan Moore</i>
<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>CUT A DASH (34)</b>	<b>96</b>
	1	2 9-3   58.5kg Richard Hannon Starspangledbanner half-brother to 7.4f-9f winner Foretell. Dam, 6f winner. Immature in the preliminaries, including at the start, but proved very professional in the race itself when making a winning debut at York, sealing it with a turn of foot. Exciting prospect who needs considering.	<i>Sean Levey</i>
<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>EASY ANSWER (IRE) (27)</b>	<b>76</b>
	3	2 9-3   58.5kg Michael Bell 70,000 gns No Nay Never colt. Dam, placed at 9.5f-11½m, out of useful 7f-1¼m winner (stayed 1½m) Beyond Brilliance. Showed plenty to work on when third in Yarmouth novice but time was ordinary and this is a massive step up.	<i>Cristian Demuro</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>FINAL OBJECTIVE (IRE) (15)</b>	<b>77</b>
	2	2 9-3   58.5kg Hamad Al Jehani £55,000 yearling, £115,000 2-y-o, Sioux Nation colt. Closely related to 5f/6f winner Midnight Call. 2¾ lengths second of 7 to Mrair in novice at Lingfield on debut 15 days ago, green for the most part. Will improve but this a very tall order.	<i>Faleh Bughenaim</i>
<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GOD GIVEN TALENT (IRE) (32) (D)</b>	<b>84</b>
	1	2 9-3   58.5kg James Ferguson 95,000 gns yearling. No Nay Never colt. Closely related to 2-y-o 6f winner Must Be Ten and 1m/8.3f winner Vincent Rocks. Belied long odds when making a winning debut in a Newbury maiden that was won last year by Chesham winner Humidity. Showed signs of inexperience under pressure so can do better.	<i>William Buick</i>

<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>GREAT BARRIER REEF (IRE) (23) (D)</b>	<b>100</b>
	11	2 9-3   58.5kg Aidan O'Brien, Ireland No Nay Never colt. Brother to several winners, including useful winner up to 9f Mystery Power. Justified market confidence at the Curragh on debut and still looked quite rough around the edges when following up in Marble Hill there. Form pick and strongly-run 6f here will suit.	<i>W. M. Lordan</i>
<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>HIGH KING (IRE) (19) (D)</b>	<b>78</b>
	01	2 9-3   58.5kg Donnacha Aidan O'Brien, Ireland Bred to be useful and much sharper second-time out when running out a convincing winner in Fairyhouse novice 3 weeks ago. Needs to improve another chunk but he's capable of better.	<i>G. M. Ryan</i>
<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>JAAN KI TUKRI (IRE) (25) (BF)</b>	<b>83</b>
	322	2 9-3   58.5kg Clive Cox Stepped up from debut when second in strong novice at Newmarket but disappointed at Bath since. Tough ask.	<i>Rossa Ryan</i>
<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>KAMAAL (IRE) (32)</b>	<b>76</b>
	5	2 9-3   58.5kg Jack Jones 100,000 gns yearling, 90,000 gns 2-y-o, Minzaal colt. Half-brother to useful 2-y-o 7f/7.3f winner North Coast and 11f winner Super Goldendragon. Dam useful US 7.5f-9f winner. Encouraging start when 2¾ lengths fifth of 10 to God Given Talent in maiden at Newbury but needs to leave that well behind.	<i>Cieren Fallon</i>
<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>MRAIR (IRE) (15) (D)</b>	<b>88</b>
	21	2 9-3   58.5kg George Scott £880,000 breeze-up purchase by Mehmas who confirmed debut promise when landing very short odds in Lingfield (turf) novice, shaping as if a well-run race is likely to get the best out of him (raced freely).	<i>Oisín Murphy</i>
<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>NIGHT IN VEGAS (IRE) (25) (CD)</b>	<b>96</b>
	11	2 9-3   58.5kg Eve Johnson Houghton Lucky Vega colt who impressed with the way he went about things in C&D novice on debut and put himself firmly in the picture for this when comfortably landing the odds in 3-runner class 2 at Goodwood.	<i>Charles Bishop</i>
<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>ROYAL HERITAGE (6) (D)</b>	<b>88</b>
	1	2 9-3   58.5kg Hamad Al Jehani Blue Point colt. 98,000 gns yearling, €800,000 2-y-o. Closely related to useful 7f-1m winner Lattam and half-brother to 3 winners. Looked a mightily good prospect when making winning debut at Hamilton, outclassing rivals despite greenness. That form yet to be tested but James Doyle sticks with him.	<i>James Doyle</i>
<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>RULER'S PRIDE (IRE) (27)</b>	<b>91</b>
	1	2 9-3   58.5kg K. R. Burke 550,000 gns 2-y-o, Mehmas colt. Brother to 2-y-o 6f winner Naughty Eyes. Dam, placed at 5f/6f, closely related to Queen Mary/Commonwealth Cup winner Campanelle. Looked promising when making a winning debut at Ayr. Beat only 2 rivals that day but second has since won the Hilary Needler at Beverley.	<i>James McDonald</i>
<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>SIouxPERB (56) (D)</b>	<b>88</b>
	1	2 9-3   58.5kg Archie Watson 90,000 gns foal, 110,000 gns yearling, Sioux Nation colt. Brother to useful winner up to 7f Ancestral Land. Booked his place for this with an impressive successful debut at Yarmouth, beating a subsequent winner by a wide margin. Stable won this in 2022.	<i>Hector Crouch</i>
<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>THE GINGER KID (IRE) (13) (D)</b>	<b>85</b>
	01	2 9-3   58.5kg Ed Walker Mehmas colt out of an unraced half-sister to very smart 2-y-o 5f/6f winner Tiggy Wiggy. Failed a long way to meet expectations on debut (got rather worked up beforehand) but proved a different proposition when winning a Nottingham novice. Another big step forward needed but has potential.	<i>Kieran Shoemark</i>
<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>THE HARV (IRE) (9) (D)</b>	<b>81</b>
	1	2 9-3   58.5kg M. D. O'Callaghan, Ireland Ten Sovereigns half-brother to 2-y-o 5f winner Awraad. Dam 5f-6f winner (including at 2 yrs). This £260,000 breeze-up purchase needed every yard to catch an experienced rival when justifying short odds first time out at Goodwood but plenty of improvement required just 9 days on.	<i>C. T. Keane</i>

**3.05****COVENTRY STAKES (Group 2) (1) 2yo £200,000 6f (1210 Metres)**

RACE 2



**21 16 THE SCALLIONATOR (IRE) (16) (D) 88**  
 421 2 9-3 | 58.5kg  
 Michael Mulvany, Ireland *Wesley Joyce*  
 Off the mark at the third attempt in maidens at Listowel 16 days ago. Going the right way but looks up against it here.

**22 1 TREASURER (IRE) (16) 73**  
 4 2 9-3 | 58.5kg  
 Charlie Fellowes *Rowan Scott*  
 €40,000 yearling, Persian Force colt. Half-brother to several winners, including useful winner up to 6f Es Raco and 2-y-o 5f winner Lorelei Rock. Dam 7.5f winner. Showed promise amid greenness when fourth in Nottingham maiden but likely out of his depth here.

22 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**9-4** Confucius, **13-2** Great Barrier Reef, **17-2** Night In Vegas, **11-1** Ruler's Pride, **12-1** Royal Heritage, **14-1** Cut A Dash, **18-1** Siouxperb, **22-1** Mrair, **33-1** God Given Talent, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

This is potentially more wide open than the market suggests so it could be worth chancing CUT A DASH, who created a very good impression when clocking a good time at York. Aidan O'Brien has won this a record 11 times and holds a strong hand once again with Great Barrier Reef and Confucius, while Royal Heritage was extremely impressive at Hamilton and can leave the bare form well behind.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. CUT A DASH 2. GREAT BARRIER REEF 3. CONFUCIUS**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Gstaad</b> 2-9-3	7-2f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	20
2024	<b>Rashabar</b> 2-9-3	80-1	Brian Meehan	Billy Loughnane	22
2023	<b>River Tiber</b> 2-9-3	11-8f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	20
2022	<b>Bradsell</b> 2-9-3	8-1	Archie Watson	Hollie Doyle	17
2021	<b>Berkshire Shadow</b> 2-9-1	11-1	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	17

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.40**

**KING CHARLES III STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £700,000 5f (1010 Metres)**

RACE 3



Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Very Strong**

**1 12 AIN'T NOBODY (IRE) (34) (CD)** s **92**  
062007-09 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Kevin Ryan **Kevin Stott**  
Seemed to excel himself in first-time headgear when second in the Nunthorpe last season. Hasn't come close to matching that form in 5 subsequent starts and this another very stiff examination. Cheekpieces back on.

**2 18 AMERICAN AFFAIR (24) (CD)** **97**  
10/1151-02 6 9-7 | 60.3kg

Jim Goldie **Paul Mulrennan**  
Very likeable sprinter who improved again last season, winning 3 of his 4 starts, including this race (big career best). Was off 11 months prior to low-key appearance at York but came on plenty for that when length second of 12 to Night Raider in Temple Stakes at Haydock. Bold bid expected.

**3 17 BIG MOJO (IRE) (34) (C, D)** **97**  
1472510-7 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Michael Appleby **Tom Marquand**  
Advanced his form further when winning 17-runner Sprint Cup at Haydock (6f, good to firm) in September, albeit seen to good effect racing close to the stand rail. Failed to fire in the Champions Sprint Stakes here final start and back at 5f after a mid-field effort in the Minster Stakes at York.

**4 21 COVER UP (IRE) (80) (CD)** t **94**  
60141-138 6 9-7 | 60.3kg

Simon & Ed Crisford **James McDonald**  
Handicap winner over C&D last summer and productive spell at Meydan during the winter/spring, winning listed event and Group 2 Blue Point Sprint, both at 5f. Wasn't seen to best effect when 3 lengths eighth of 11 to Native Approach in Al Quoz Sprint last time (6f) and well-run 5f is ideal.

**5 1 GETREADYTORUMBLE (24) (D)** **88**  
132213-37 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Jack Channon **Callum Rodriguez**  
Low-mileage 4-y-o who ended last season on the up, travelling sweetly when successful in handicap company at Doncaster prior to an excellent third in listed C&D event. Shaped quite well on reappearance but limitations perhaps exposed when 4½ lengths seventh of 12 to Night Raider in Temple Stakes.

**6 23 JAKAJARO (IRE) (24) (D)** **95**  
33557-114 5 9-7 | 60.3kg

Robert Cowell **Jamie Spencer**  
Returned from a 5-month break with back-to-back handicap victories at Newmarket in April, the latter saw him run out a most impressive winner of a 21-runner contest away from the main action. Confirmed he's in top form when 1¼ lengths fourth of 12 to Night Raider in Temple Stakes at Haydock.

**7 14 JM JUNGLE (IRE) (24) (D)** **93**  
123160-49 6 9-7 | 60.3kg

John & Sean Quinn **Jason Hart**  
Made the leap from handicaps to pattern company last season, winning the King George at Goodwood and shaped with promise when fourth of 14 in a Group 3 at Newmarket after 7 months off in May. Backward step when 6¾ lengths ninth of 12 to Night Raider in Temple Stakes at Haydock.

**8 6 NIGHT RAIDER (IRE) (24) (D)** **98**  
006450-11 5 9-7 | 60.3kg

K. R. Burke **James Doyle**  
Always promised to be a Group 1 performer and gelding operation prior to reappearance has made a big difference, dominating the Group 3 Palace House Stakes and he overcame a tardy start when beating several of these in the Temple Stakes at Haydock. Mid-field last year but much better expected here.

**9 19 OVERPASS (AUS) (73) (D)** **100**  
1/259423-4 8 9-7 | 60.3kg

Bjorn Baker, Australia **Joshua Parr**  
Hasn't tasted success since the Group 1 Winterbottom Stakes in 2024 but he's run some fine races in defeat, notably when fourth in last season's Everest behind Ka Yung Rising. Bold showing when fourth of 9 in T. J. Smith Stakes at Randwick (6f) and he's a very smart Australian sprinter.

**10 4 RUMSTAR (45) (CD, BF)** **97**  
6015560-2 6 9-7 | 60.3kg

Jonathan Portman **Rob Hornby**  
Picked up in 2025 where he left off the previous year when landing Group 3 Palace House Stakes at Newmarket. Another smart effort when swooping late to land the Coral Charge in that grade 2 months later and reappearance second to Night Raider in former race was another cracking effort.

**11 10 SHAGRAAN (IRE) (24) (CD)** **94**  
384121-30 5 9-7 | 60.3kg

Clive Cox **Hector Crouch**  
Twice a listed winner in 2025 for Michael Appleby (including over C&D) and shaped well before fitness told on recent stable debut when third to Night Raider and Rumstar in the Palace House Stakes. Must have been amiss in the Temple Stakes given he was eased off.

**12 5 STARLUST (17) (D, BF)** **96**  
63910/74-6 5 9-7 | 60.3kg

Ralph Beckett **Rossa Ryan**  
Cracking third in the 2024 Nunthorpe and bagged a Grade 1 prize in the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint at Del Mar 3 months later, suited by strong tempo. Fourth in this race a year ago and returning from a spell at stud in Australia, he probably needed reappearance at Carlisle.

**13 26 ASFOORA (AUS) (24) (CD)** b+t **98**  
757171-00 8 9-4 | 59.0kg

Henry Dwyer **Oisín Murphy**  
One of the top sprinters around on her day, fifth in this fitted with blinkers before landing Group 1s at York (Nunthorpe) and Longchamp (Prix de l'Abbaye) last year. Low-key start to 2026 but always a chance the returning headgear (and tongue tie) and firmer ground will see her in a better light.

**14 25 AZURE ANGEL (17) (D)** b+t **87**  
13881-615 6 9-4 | 59.0kg

Edward Bethell **Daniel Tudhope**  
Has advanced her form for Ed Bethell with blinkers on but beaten on merit in listed company at Carlisle 17 days ago and this a far harder assignment.

**15 7 FIRST INSTINCT (45) (D)** **92**  
1325410-9 4 9-4 | 59.0kg

William Haggas **Cieren Fallon**  
Good test over 5f suited when landing Group 3 at Newbury on soft in September but didn't make much of an impact when ninth of 14 in the Palace House Stakes on return from 7 months off 45 days ago. In expert hands but this is a tough ask.

**16 3 FROST AT DAWN (USA) (24) (D)** v **92**  
212430-08 5 9-4 | 59.0kg

William Knight **William Buick**  
Smart performer who peaked when runner-up in this race a year ago. Doesn't arrive in the same form this time though with a pair of heavy defeats behind Night Raider this season.

**17 22 HEAVENLY HEATHER (33) (D)** **84**  
21-152542 5 9-4 | 59.0kg

Tracy Waggett **Barry McHugh**  
Progressive all-weather handicapper who showed she's equally effective on turf in recent weeks, running a cracker when second of 12 to Jakajaro at York. This is a big leap in class, though.

**18 2 MGHEERA (24) (D)** **92**  
112865-65 6 9-4 | 59.0kg

Ed Walker **Kieran Shoemark**  
Ex-French mare who upped her game upon joining Ed Walker when winning a Group 3 and then Group 2 last spring. Ran up to form when fifth in a deeper renewal of the Temple Stakes 3 weeks ago but no obvious reason why she'll reverse the form with a few of these.

**19 16 MISS ATTITUDE (45) (D)** s+t **92**  
62710-745 6 9-4 | 59.0kg

Jack Channon **R. P. Whelan**  
Better than ever when landing listed race at Deauville in August. Hasn't come close to repeating that form since, missing the break a couple of times and she looks set to struggle in this company.

**20 13 MONTEILLE (80) (D)** **92**  
0/61816-75 5 9-4 | 59.0kg

M. Baratti, France **Cristian Demuro**  
Smart mare who won a pair of Group 3s in France in 2025. Below-form 4¾ lengths seventh of 15 to Native Approach in Nad Al Sheba Turf Sprint on return in February but much more like it when 1½ lengths fifth of 11 to Native Approach in Al Quoz Sprint at Meydan (6f) a month later. Back in trip.

**3.40**

**KING CHARLES III STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £700,000 5f (1010 Metres)**

RACE 3



**21 15 RAYEVKA (IRE) (37) (D)** **97**

13726-561 **4** 9-4 | 59.0kg  
Francis-Henri Graffard, France



**Mickael Barzalona**

Won listed race at Chantilly and excellent third in Group 1 Commonwealth Cup at this meeting a year ago. Undone by poor track position in Nad Al Sheba Turf Sprint and down at 5f she produced a career best when winning 9-runner Prix de Saint-Georges at Longchamp. Enters the reckoning on that form.

**22 11 ROSY AFFAIR (25) (D)** **89**

2/34411-21 **5** 9-4 | 59.0kg  
George Boughey



**Billy Loughnane**

Ended 2025 on the up with 6f victories in Pontefract listed event and Group 3 at Deauville in August. Good head second of 9 to Flora of Bermuda in listed race at Newmarket on reappearance before going one place better at Haydock (both 6f). This is a completely different assignment.

**23 9 TIME FOR SANDALS (IRE) (34) (C, BF)** **95**

2/32137-58 **4** 9-4 | 59.0kg  
Harry Eustace



**Richard Kingscote**

Sent off a big price but no fluke about her win in Commonwealth Cup at this meeting a year ago. Matched that form when third in the King George Stakes at Goodwood and with her York run easy-enough to excuse from a poor draw, better is expected here with stiff 5f likely to suit.

**24 20 ASPECT ISLAND (33) (BF)** **87**

892133-73 **3** 9-1 | 57.6kg



James Owen **Silvestre De Sousa**

Nursery winner at Yarmouth during the autumn. Held his own in better company since without looking as though he's capable of making an impact at this level. Visor on.

**25 8 BEHIKE (IRE) (29)** **88**

3-11 **3** 9-1 | 57.6kg  
George Scott



**David Egan**

Sales price rocketed to 500,000 gns as a yearling and this promising Night of Thunder colt chased home the exciting Raaheeb on debut over 7f here in September. Won both starts this spring and way he goes about things suggests this first crack at 5f will suit. Can rate higher.

**26 24 MISSION CENTRAL (IRE) (30) (C, D)** **92**

511610-11 **3** 9-1 | 57.6kg



Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Ryan Moore**

Triple winner over 6f last season, including Curragh Group 3 and valuable conditions race here on Champions Day. Kicked on again this year, winning a pair of 5f listed races at Naas and dangerous to think that's his ceiling given the yard he represents.

26 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**4-1** Overpass, **6-1** Night Raider, **13-2** Rayevka, **11-1** Asfoora, **11-1** American Affair, **11-1** Mission Central, **20-1** Big Mojo, **20-1** Rumstar, **28-1** Time For Sandals, **33-1** Starlust, **33-1** Rosy Affair, **33-1** Behike, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

A gelding operation has seen NIGHT RAIDER start to fulfil his immense early promise, supplementing his Newmarket win despite a slow start forcing a change of tactics in the Temple Stakes and he could be the answer. Australian representatives have enjoyed plenty of success over the years and Overpass (providing he copes with a bare 5f) has the form to be a major factor, while the re-application of headgear will also surely see the classy Asfoora in a much better light.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. NIGHT RAIDER 2. OVERPASS 3. ASFOORA**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>American Affair</b> 5-9-7	11-1	Jim Goldie	Paul Mulrennan	20
2024	<b>Asfoora</b> 6-9-4	5-1	Henry Dwyer	Oisin Murphy	17
2023	<b>Bradsell</b> 3-9-1	14-1	Archie Watson	Hollie Doyle	17
2022	<b>Nature Strip</b> 8-9-7	9-4	Chris Waller	James McDonald	16
2021	<b>Oxted</b> 5-9-5	4-1	Roger Teal	Cieren Fallon	16

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**4.20**

**ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo colts and geldings £700,000 7f213y (1600 Metres)**

RACE 4



Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Weak**

**1 2 BOW ECHO (IRE) (45) (D)** **100**  
111-1 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

George Boughey **Billy Loughnane**  
Took his unbeaten record to 4 with a highly impressive defeat of the reopposing Gstaad in the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket (1m, good to firm). That was one of the best modern-day performances in that race and he could be capable of even better. Can't oppose.

**2 1 GSTAAD (24) (C, D)** **94**  
112221-21 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Ryan Moore**  
Easy winner of Coventry at this meeting last year. Second Group 1 success of career when pulling 3 lengths clear in Irish 2000 Guineas 24 days ago but he was beaten a similar margin by Bow Echo in the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket prior to that. Sure to go well but his old rival looks too strong.

**3 6 LORD BRITAIN (20)** t **76**  
5138-401 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

Ismail Mohammed & Jose Santos **Benoit de la Sayette**  
Useful effort to win 7f Kempton handicap 3 weeks ago but down the field in the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket before that and out of his depth back at this level.

**4 5 POWER BLUE (IRE) (24)** **84**  
32531-274 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

Robson De Aguiar, Ireland **David Egan**  
Smart form to win the Group 1 Phoenix Stakes at the Curragh (6f) last summer but his limitations have been exposed in the Classics this spring. Got closer than at Newmarket when fourth in the Irish 2000 Guineas but has 4¼ lengths to make up on Gstaad.

**5 4 PUERTO RICO (IRE) (37) (D, BF)** **88**  
2224111-4 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Christophe Soumillon**  
Pair of Group 1 wins in France (7f/1m) last autumn. Respectable 1¼ lengths fourth of 13 to Rayif in French 2000 Guineas (1m, good to soft) on return last month but Gstaad looks very much the stable number one.

**6 3 TALK OF NEW YORK (19) (D)** h **92**  
1-311 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

Charlie Appleby **William Buick**  
Highly progressive colt who has benefited from the addition of a hood and looked ready for a step up to the highest level when landing last month's listed Heron Stakes at Sandown (1m, good) by 5½ lengths. More to come but whether it's enough to seriously trouble Bow Echo is another matter.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**4-6** Bow Echo, **4-1** Gstaad, **11-2** Talk of New York, **16-1** Puerto Rico, **50-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

BOW ECHO is potentially one of the best milers of the century and can confirm his Newmarket superiority over Gstaad, who has boosted that form by comfortably winning the Irish Guineas since. The hugely exciting Talk of New York adds further lustre to what is always one of the highlights of the meeting.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. BOW ECHO 2. GSTAAD 3. TALK OF NEW YORK**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Field of Gold</b> 3-9-2	8-11f	John & Thady Gosden	C. T. Keane	7
2024	<b>Rosallion</b> 3-9-2	5-2	Richard Hannon	Sean Levey	8
2023	<b>Paddington</b> 3-9-2	11-5	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	9
2022	<b>Coroebus</b> 3-9-2	10-11f	Charlie Appleby	William Buick	11
2021	<b>Poetic Flare</b> 3-9-0	7-2f	J. S. Bolger	K. J. Manning	13

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**5.00**

RACE 5

**ASCOT STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £120,000 2m3f210y (4010 Metres)**



Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Weak**

**1 16 BEYLERBEYI (11) h+t 96**

31-322360 6 9-12 | 62.6kg  
 Ian Williams *Billy Loughnane*  
 Thriving on his racing when successful on his only previous start over a marathon distance in the Cesarewitch at Newmarket in October and having had a hopeless task from his usual hold-up position at Epsom (1¼m) last time, he's certainly worth another chance over a more suitable test.

**2 10 BUNTING (FR) (248) (BF) 94**

3/453- 6 9-10 | 61.7kg  
 W. P. Mullins, Ireland *Harry Vigors (71b/3kg)*  
 Useful dual-purpose performer who posted a personal best when third in the Cesarewitch on his latest Flat start and while more miss than hit over hurdles subsequently, he cannot be totally discounted with good-value apprentice taking over.

**3 3 BARNSO (248) 98**

235/44460- 5 9-8 | 60.8kg  
 Alan King *Rossa Ryan*  
 Ran his best race when fourth behind a smart trio in the Copper Horse handicap here last year but clearly didn't give his running in the Cesarewitch at Newmarket in October. Isn't fully exposed over a longer trip on just third start for this yard, though, and could be interesting if back on song.

**4 8 REACHING HIGH (IRE) (364) (BF) ★ 100**

623210/29- 5 9-6 | 59.9kg  
 W. P. Mullins, Ireland *Ryan Moore*  
 Unexposed stayer who just failed to make a winning start in a 1½m Leopardstown handicap for Willie Mullins and looked sure to have gone close granted anything resembling a clear run when eighth in this race 12 months ago. Looks to have been saved for this since and he's fancied to make amends.

**5 2 LAVENDER HILL MOB (60) v ✓ 89**

541003-86 5 9-6 | 59.9kg  
 James Owen *Cieren Fallon*  
 Winner of a 21f handicap hurdle on testing ground at Cheltenham in November, though has yet to prove his stamina for staying trips on the Flat, and he returns in a first-time visor having failed to show much spark in a couple of handicaps over the spring.

**6 12 MORDOR (FR) (78) 90**

1/31020-1 6 9-6 | 59.9kg  
 Gordon Elliott, Ireland *Jamie Spencer*  
 Shaped well when runner-up in a valuable marathon event under Jamie Spencer at Goodwood last summer and while he backed up his winning return at Navan (1¾m) with an encouraging third in a Kilbeggan handicap hurdle, this requires another career best on return to the level.

**7 20 GALILEO DAME (IRE) (39) 93**

622/000-24 5 9-6 | 59.9kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *C. T. Keane*  
 Hasn't won on the Flat since her Leopardstown maiden success in 2024, though did shape well to finish fourth in the Chester Cup on her latest start and is one for the shortlist with the stiffer test expected to be right up her street.

**8 14 COMFORT ZONE (IRE) (44) b ✓ 92**

1/30003-0P 7 9-6 | 59.9kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *Tom Marquand*  
 Useful in both codes, he's likely to be spot on for this following a couple of spins over inadequate trips, and is only 1 lb higher when a close third in this race 12 months ago.

**9 18 SIEMPRE ARTURO (38) s 97**

9611637-5 6 9-6 | 59.9kg  
 Daniel & Claire Kubler *Jason Watson*  
 Shaped as though he could have another race in him off this mark when an eye-catching fifth in a strong 1½m handicap here on his return (100/1). The significantly longer trip is a complete unknown but he's a fascinating contender, nevertheless.

**10 7 DEFIANTLY (FR) (35) b 92**

3147-04 4 9-5 | 59.4kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *James Doyle*  
 Lightly-raced sort who hasn't matched his useful 3-y-o form in either start this year, latterly in a first-time visor at Killarney (1¾m), though did shape like an out-and-out stayer last season and benefits from more severe headgear here.

**11 13 BAHADUR (25) 94**

33111-651 4 9-5 | 59.4kg  
 S. P. C. Woods *Robert Havlin*  
 Landed a hat-trick on the all-weather at the end of last year and ran his best race when successful on first start over 2m in a 5-runner handicap at Goodwood last time. This demands more but this straightforward sort is certainly worth trying over a marathon trip.

**12 17 SMALL FRY (IRE) (228) 94**

122/31199- 5 9-4 | 59.0kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *Oisin Murphy*  
 Progressive sort for Gary & Josh Moore who seemed stretched by 2m in the Irish Cesarewitch on stable debut last season, but he had been off for 4 months prior to that run and has another crack at a staying Flat handicap on the back of a career-best second in a Listowel maiden hurdle.

**13 11 WESTMINSTER MOON (IRE) (23) t 94**

00000-071 6 9-4 | 59.0kg  
 A. J. Martin, Ireland *Seamie Heffernan*  
 Having capitalised on a falling mark when landing a gamble at the Curragh (1¾m) last time, he still looks well treated on his smart form in Germany and is unexposed over a markedly longer trip for shrewd connections.

**14 4 ISMAHANE (GER) (206) s 96**

10942322- 4 9-4 | 59.0kg  
 P. Twomey, Ireland *William James Lee*  
 Useful middle-distance performer in Italy/Germany who finished a well-backed runner-up on second start over hurdles at Ballinrobe last time and looks interesting making a first Flat start for a very capable yard, over a trip at which she's completely unexposed.

**15 1 GLENROYAL (IRE) (246) s 95**

70231011- 4 9-4 | 59.0kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *Declan McDonogh*  
 Australia gelding who was most progressive when making it 3 wins from 4 in a conditions race at Roscommon (1¼m) last autumn. Subsequent hurdling debut at Killarney was likely a pipe-opener and he now explores longer trips for yard with a powerful hand in this race.

**16 5 PUTURHANDSTOGETHER (IRE) (39) (BF) s 92**

73217/31-7 5 9-4 | 59.0kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *D. B. McMonagle*  
 2025 Fred Winter winner. Hasn't been seen to best effect in either code since his win in the Irish Cesarewitch, coming from a hopeless position when seventh in the Chester Cup latest. Looks the type to benefit from headgear and big run could be on the cards.

**17 9 ALL IN YOU (FR) (756) h 89**

17/ 6 9-3 | 58.5kg  
 Warren Greatrex *Edward Greatrex*  
 Won 2 of his 3 starts on the level in France. Capped a promising rookie season over hurdles when fourth in the Scottish Champion Hurdle at Ayr in April (heavy) but needs to improve making handicap debut in this sphere.

**18 15 ANNABEL'S GHOST (IRE) (54) 94**

0650-1370 5 9-3 | 58.5kg  
 M. Seror, France *Pierre-Charles Boudot*  
 Useful sort who's won 4 times at trips ranging between 13f to 2m. Not seen to best effect from a less-than-ideal position on final start for Andre Fabre in late-April, though will need to improve for extra distance to be in the mix on stable debut.

**19 19 TIM TOE (IRE) (16) 96**

131 5 9-3 | 58.5kg  
 Henry de Bromhead, Ireland *R. P. Whelan*  
 Bred for jumps but has proved remarkably versatile, adding to his bumper/1½m maiden wins when successful in a 1m conditions event at Listowel last time. Completely unexposed on handicap debut over a significantly longer trip and may well have a bigger performance in him.

**20 6 KIZLYAR (IRE) (35) t 92**

321-01 4 9-3 | 58.5kg  
 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *J. M. Sheridan*  
 Progressive 1¾m winner in France who got back on the up when successful on second Flat start for new yard at Killarney last time, finding plenty/showing a good attitude in seeing off subsequent winner Tim Toe, and that bodes well for his first crack over a marathon test.

**5.00****ASCOT STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £120,000 2m3f210y (4010 Metres)**

RACE 5

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**7-2** Reaching High, **9-1** Puturhandstogether, **14-1** Bunting, **16-1** Westminster Moon, **20-1** Tim Toe, **20-1** Beylerbeyi, **20-1** Galileo Dame, **25-1** Barnso, **25-1** Glenroyal, **25-1** Bahadur, **25-1** Kizlyar, **25-1** Comfort Zone, **25-1** Mordor, **28-1** Ismahane, **33-1** Siempre Arturo, **33-1** Small Fry, **33-1** Defiantly, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

This has likely been the long-term target for His Majesty's REACHING HIGH given his luckless passage in this race 12 months ago and he can gain compensation for a stable that has already won this 4 times. The main danger could be Puturhandstogether, who rates the pick of Joseph O'Brien's powerful hand, while Siempre Arturo and Tim Toe look fascinating tackling a markedly longer distance.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. REACHING HIGH 2. PUTURHANDSTOGETHER 3. SIEMPRE ARTURO**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Ascending</b> 6-9-7	20-1	Henry de Bromhead	William James Lee	20
2024	<b>Pledgeofallegiance</b> 4-8-13	20-1	Sir Mark Prescott Bt	Luke Morris	20
2023	<b>Ahorsewithoname</b> 8-9-8	7-1	Nicky Henderson	William Buick	19
2022	<b>Coltrane</b> 5-9-10	14-1	Andrew Balding	Callum Hutchinson (5)	19
2021	<b>Reshoun</b> 7-9-7	66-1	Ian Williams	William Buick	19

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

5.35

**WOLFERTON STAKES (Listed) (1) 4yo+ £125,000**  
1m1f212y (2000 Metres)

RACE 6



Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **Against Low** Pace Information: **Very Strong**

<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>ADELAIDE RIVER (IRE) (43)</b> 04/88270-3 6 9-5   59.4kg	t	<b>95</b>
		Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland Smart gelding who was placed in Group 1 company and won a Group 3 when trained by Aidan O'Brien in 2023. Failed to win in Australia subsequently but returned to action for new yard (in a tongue tie) with a good third in Curragh Group 2 in May. However, has a bit to find with a few on these terms.		<b>Tom Marquand</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>ANCIENT WISDOM (FR) (181)</b> 13/725223- 5 9-5   59.4kg	s	<b>95</b>
		Charlie Appleby Gelded after struggling in last season's Coronation Cup and back on track when runner up in listed/Group 2 contests thereafter. Seemed unsuited by modestly-run race when third in Kempton listed race (1½m) when last seen in December and this test may be on the sharp side nowadays. Cheekpieces go on.		<b>Billy Loughnane</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>ARABIAN LIGHT (19) (D)</b> 31305-124 5 9-5   59.4kg		<b>97</b>
		Charlie Appleby At least as good as ever when winning handicap at Meydan (1¼m) in January and probably should have followed up in Group 3 there later that month. Resumed after 4 months off with a respectable fourth in the Brigadier Gerard at Sandown (1¼m, good) 3 weeks ago and he holds each-way claims.		<b>William Buick</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>DIVIDEND (80)</b> 036-31125 4 9-5   59.4kg	s	<b>95</b>
		Dr Richard Newland & Jamie Insole Thrived equipped with cheekpieces in Meydan earlier this year, winning back-to-back handicaps in February. Hard to knock his consistency thereafter, runner up in a Group 2 prior to a solid fifth in Group 1 in March. Relatively unexposed at this trip and he ran well at this meeting 12 months ago.		<b>Rossa Ryan</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ENFJAAR (IRE) (25) (D)</b> 1252/543-3 6 9-5   59.4kg	h	<b>96</b>
		Roger Varian Smart performer who was a fine ½ lengths fourth behind Haatem in this race 12 months ago. Seen in action only twice since, setting himself up nicely for another tilt at this when third in a Goodwood listed race (1¼m, good) 25 days ago and he ought to be on the premises.		<b>Ray Dawson</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>GALEN (122) (D)</b> 1523324-0 5 9-5   59.4kg	v	<b>99</b>
		Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland Improved for the application of headgear last season, winning Curragh Group 3 prior to finishing an excellent second behind Haatem in this race. Held his own in Group company thereafter but absent since shaping as if amiss in Saudi Arabia in February. Type to bounce back.		<b>D. B. McMonagle</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>GAUCHER (74) (D)</b> 41-12 7 9-5   59.4kg	t	<b>96</b>
		W. P. Mullins, Ireland Smart dual-purpose performer who landed a Grade 3 hurdle in October and in good form on all-weather thereafter, successful twice at Dundalk prior to finishing an excellent second in Easter Classic at Newcastle (1¼m) in April. This asks for more but he's a likeable type.		<b>C. T. Keane</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>GHOSTWRITER (IRE) (360) (C)</b> 44335/463- 5 9-5   59.4kg		<b>98</b>
		Kevin Philippart de Foy Winless since the 2023 Royal Lodge at Newmarket but has recorded some decidedly smart performances, including when third in Group 2 Hardwicke at this meeting 12 months ago on final start for Clive Cox (had changed hands for £2 million prior to that). Should be ready to roll for new yard.		<b>David Egan</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>HAATEM (IRE) (25) (CD, BF)</b> 21/54136-7 5 9-5   59.4kg		<b>100</b>
		Richard Hannon Smart and versatile sort who landed 2024 Jersey Stakes and added another dimension to his game when taking this race 12 months ago, digging deep to work his way past reopposing Galen. Left the impression he'd come on for last month's Goodwood reappearance and this presumably been the target again.		<b>James Doyle</b>

<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>KING'S GAMBIT (IRE) (39) (D)</b> 71/46352-29 5 9-5   59.4kg		<b>92</b>
		Harry Charlton Useful gelding who got firmly back on track when third in this race 12 months ago. Returned to action with a good second in Earl of Sefton in April and whilst below his best in the Huxley at Chester since, he appeals as the type to bounce back (placed on both previous runs at the Royal Meeting).		<b>Jamie Spencer</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>MAP OF STARS (44) (D)</b> 112427-35 5 9-5   59.4kg	s	<b>95</b>
		Francis-Henri Graffard, France French raider who progressed into a very smart performer last spring but become a shade disappointing following his second in a German Group 1 last summer, well held in a Longchamp Group 3 on latest start in May. Cheekpieces now reached for.		<b>James McDonald</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>NAHRAAN (275) (D)</b> 1113- 4 9-5   59.4kg		<b>95</b>
		John & Thady Gosden Quickly reached a smart level last year, bringing up the hat-trick in listed Glasgow Stakes at Hamilton (11f) in July. Lost little caste in defeat when chasing home a pair of high-class colts (including the subsequent Arc winner) at Longchamp on final outing and he's very interesting on return.		<b>Oisín Murphy</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>PERSICA (IRE) (11) (D)</b> 815608-42 5 9-5   59.4kg		<b>99</b>
		Richard Hannon Produced a career best when landing last year's Diomed Stakes at Epsom and this 5-y-o arrives having produced comfortably his best performance since when going down narrowly in this season's renewal 11 days ago. However, worth noting he didn't kick on last summer.		<b>Sean Levey</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>ROYAL RHYME (IRE) (39) (D)</b> 4673/35-65 6 9-5   59.4kg	t	<b>98</b>
		K. R. Burke Campaigning mostly in Group 1 company since winning the Brigadier Gerard Stakes 2 years ago. Ran only twice in 2025 and better than bare result both starts this season, latterly when fifth in last month's Huxley Stakes at Chester. That should have put him spot on for this and he's not discounted.		<b>Clifford Lee</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>WIMBLEDON HAWKEYE (19)</b> 5342210-5 4 9-5   59.4kg	s	<b>94</b>
		James Owen Made the frame at pattern level 5 of first 6 starts last season, before gaining reward for his consistency when landing a Grade 3 at Kentucky in August. Feasible to think he'll come on for last month's reappearance fifth in the Brigadier Gerard and he's a player.		<b>Cieren Fallon</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>SURVIE (IRE) (44) (D)</b> 3240-1343 5 9-0   57.2kg	t	<b>98</b>
		George Boughey Big-money purchase who completed a simple task at Lingfield on seasonal/stable debut. Hasn't looked the easiest of rides back up in grade of late, though, getting going too late when third in Group 2 Dahlia Stakes at Newmarket (9f) 44 days ago. In receipt of weight all round but others stronger.		<b>Ryan Moore</b>

16 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

13-2 Haatem, 9-1 Wimbledon Hawkeye, 10-1 Nahraan, 11-1 Galen, 11-1 Ghostwriter, 11-1 Map of Stars, 12-1 Enfjaar, 14-1 Arabian Light, 14-1 King's Gambit, 16-1 Survie, 18-1 Ancient Wisdom, 22-1 Persica, 22-1 Gaucher, 22-1 Dividend, 28-1 Royal Rhyme, 40-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

HAATEM has long since advertised his durability and unearthed newly-revealed stamina when adding a second Royal Ascot success to this tally in this race 12 months ago. Expected to be all the better for his reappearance at Goodwood 25 days ago, all looks set fair for another big run this time around. Low-mileage Nahraan chased home a pair of high-class colts on his final start as a 3-y-o and rates an intriguing runner on return. Enfjaar, Wimbledon Hawkeye and Galen complete the dangers.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. HAATEM 2. NAHRAAN 3. ENFJAAR

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Haatem</b> 4-9-5	8-1	Richard Hannon	James Doyle	16
2024	<b>Israr</b> 5-9-5	11-4jf	John & Thady Gosden	Jim Crowley	15
2023	<b>Royal Champion</b> 5-9-8	16-1	Roger Varian	Jack Mitchell	16
2022	<b>Dubai Future</b> 6-9-8	20-1	Saeed bin Suroor	Daniel Tudhope	15
2021	<b>Juan Elcano</b> 4-9-3	14-1	Kevin Ryan	Andrea Atzeni	13

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

6.10

**COPPER HORSE STAKES (HANDICAP) (2) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £120,000 1¾m34y (2850 Metres)**

RACE 7



Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Strong**

<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>ASCENDING (IRE) (46) (C)</b>	<b>96</b>
221/1126-7 7 9-12   62.6kg			
	Henry de Bromhead, Ireland		<b>William James Lee</b>
Progressive in 2025, bagging the 2½m Ascot Stakes at this meeting before an excellent second of 22 in Ebor at York (1¾m, good to firm). Again performed with credit when sixth in the Irish Cesarewitch on final start but he needs to shrug off a disappointing reappearance in the Sagaro here (2m).			
<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>STRESSFREE (FR) (34)</b>	<b>98</b>
594355-27 6 9-12   62.6kg			
	David O'Meara		<b>Daniel Tudhope</b>
Consistent handicapper who ran well in competitive company last autumn, most notably when 4 lengths fourth in the Ebor at York and when fifth in November Handicap at Doncaster. Good second on Ripon reappearance and the type to bounce back from a rare below-par run at York last time.			
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>PADDY THE SQUIRE (34)</b>	<b>96</b>
4/132115-6 6 9-12   62.6kg			
	Iain Jardine		<b>Andrew Mullen</b>
Took his form up a level last season, winning 3 of his 6 starts. Proved his stamina for 1¾m when fifth of 15 in the Old Borough Cup at Haydock (good to firm) last autumn. Should be sharper for last month's 1½m York reappearance. Has refitted cheekpieces combined with his usual tongue tie.			
<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>DAIQUIRI BAY (45)</b>	<b>99</b>
1284353-1 4 9-12   62.6kg			
	Alan King		<b>Rossa Ryan</b>
Plenty of good efforts in defeat in strong 3-y-o handicaps last season and improved again to see off the reopposing Gamrai on his Newmarket reappearance (1½m, good to firm) 45 days ago. The return to 1¾m should help him if anything. Has plenty going for him.			
<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>HALLELUJAH U (318)</b>	<b>93</b>
51/341637- 4 9-12   62.6kg			
	James Owen		<b>Luke Morris</b>
Useful performer who was an excellent sixth of 13 in Group 2 Queen's Vase over C&D (firm) at last year's Royal meeting. Didn't take to hurdling at Cheltenham in November and off since. Tough ask on return.			
<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>REAL DREAM (IRE) (17) (CD)</b>	<b>96</b>
335-64077 7 9-11   62.1kg			
	Ian Williams		<b>Mickael Barzalona</b>
Generally a consistent performer in turf handicaps, including eighth in this off 2 lb higher last year. Respectable seventh of 12 in handicap (25/1) at Carlisle (11f, good) 17 days ago. The step back up in trip should suit. Also refitted with a tongue strap for yard which targets the big handicaps.			
<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>YASHIN (IRE) (44) (C, D)</b>	<b>91</b>
06/17606-0 7 9-11   62.1kg			
	Michael Bell		<b>Tom Marquand</b>
Hasn't kicked on from last year's Sagaro win over 2m here and, despite a good record fresh, he didn't run much of a race on seasonal reappearance at Newmarket. Hardly a sign of confidence that blinkers/hood are fitted, either.			
<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>GAMRAI (45) (BF)</b>	<b>99</b>
3/124-12 4 9-11   62.1kg			
	John & Thady Gosden		<b>Oisin Murphy</b>
Lightly-raced son of Lope de Vega who took a big step forward (gelded) when making a winning return in 13-runner handicap at Kempton (11f) in March. Improved again when length second of 8 to Daiquiri Bay in handicap at Newmarket (1½m, good to firm) 45 days ago. Not obviously crying out for 1¾m.			
<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>ENEMY (17) (C, D)</b>	<b>97</b>
255-13109 9 9-10   61.7kg			
	Ian Williams		<b>Cieren Fallon</b>
Posted useful performances when successful on all-weather in January/February. Disappointed at Newcastle on Good Friday but left the impression he's back in better form over a trip short of his best at Carlisle (11f) 8 weeks later. His wide stall could be awkward.			

<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>VALIANCY (IRE) (30) (D)</b>	<b>100</b>
721321-1 4 9-10   61.7kg			
	William Haggas		<b>James Doyle</b>
Son of Cracksman who won a strong 3-y-o handicap over this trip at Haydock (good to firm) last September and progressed again to win 13f Hamilton handicap (good to firm) on reappearance. Almost certainly more to come, particularly now back at 1¾m. Makes obvious appeal.			
<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>GREEN CAPE (FR) (129)</b>	<b>89</b>
4/63514-94 4 9-10   61.7kg			
	Simon & Ed Crisford		<b>Silvestre De Sousa</b>
Matched the pick of his form for Andre Fabre at the second time of asking for new yard when 5½ lengths fourth of 8 to Royal Power in listed race at Abu Dhabi (1½m, good) in February. Tongue tie worn on that occasion is retained. His mark isn't obviously generous.			
<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>AERONAUTIC (IRE) (116)</b>	<b>98</b>
4/05337-36 5 9-9   61.2kg			
	Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland		<b>John R. Velazquez</b>
Useful gelding who was fifth in this race last year. Creditable third of 12 in 1½m Meydan handicap in January but well held in a listed race over this trip there 5 weeks later. Off since.			
<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>DURAJI (IRE) (39)</b>	<b>95</b>
584940-63 5 9-9   61.2kg			
	Richard Hughes		<b>Finley Marsh</b>
Useful performer who made a positive start for his new yard when length third of 15 in the Chester Cup (18.6f, good to firm) last month, going from the front and worn down only in the final 50yds. Similar tactics will be harder to pull off here, particularly from a wide stall.			
<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>SING US A SONG (IRE) (34) (D)</b>	<b>97</b>
31/1971-32 4 9-9   61.2kg			
	Ralph Beckett		<b>James McDonald</b>
Got back on track after a gelding operation when winning at Haydock (1¾m, good) on final 3-y-o start. Has shaped well when placed in 1½m handicaps at Epsom (good) and York (good to soft) this spring. The step back up in trip will suit. James Doyle prefers Valiancy but he's still high on the list.			
<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>ERNST BLOFELD (IRE) (20)</b>	<b>96</b>
313400-41 4 9-8   60.8kg			
	Hamad Al Jehani		<b>Billy Loughnane</b>
Came up well short in 3-y-o handicaps here and at Glorious Goodwood for the Gosdens last summer but firmly back on the up for new yard this year, winning 13-runner Kempton handicap (1½m) under Billy Loughnane 20 days ago. Up in trip.			
<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>INCENSED (46)</b>	<b>97</b>
4/51429-23 5 9-6   59.9kg			
	Amanda Perrett		<b>Kieran Shoemark</b>
Three of her 4 wins have come on all-weather but latest third in a 1½m Goodwood listed race (good) was a career best. Raised in the handicap as a result and will need another improved performance to come out on top here.			

**RESERVES**

<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>TOO SOON (10)</b>	<b>97</b>
5338-0451 4 9-6   59.9kg			
	Gary & Josh Moore		<b>Reserve</b>
Both wins on soft at Epsom, reacting well to first-time cheekpieces (retained) when seeing off 12 rivals in 1½m handicap at the recent Derby meeting. Faces a very different test here. RESERVE.			
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>FOURONEOHFEVER (IRE) (235)</b>	<b>98</b>
8/0339513- 5 9-5   59.4kg			
	George Boughey		<b>Reserve</b>
Useful effort to win 1½m handicap at Catterick for George Boughey last autumn. Has won over hurdles for Ben Pauling this spring. Rejoined yard ahead of return to the Flat. RESERVE.			
<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>DANCING IN PARIS (FR) (10) (CD)</b>	<b>97</b>
4328240-9 6 9-4   59.0kg			
	Ian Williams		<b>Reserve</b>
Acquitted himself well without winning in staying handicaps last year. Well-beaten ninth of 13 to Too Soon in handicap at Epsom (1½m, soft, 40/1) on reappearance 10 days ago. Needs to have come on a lot. RESERVE.			

16 DECLARED RUNNERS (3 RESERVES)

**BETTING FORECAST:**

5-2 Valiancy, 6-1 Gamrai, 7-1 Daiquiri Bay, 10-1 Aeronautic, 14-1 Sing Us A Song, 14-1 Ascending, 18-1 Ernst Blofeld, 20-1 Stressfree, 28-1 Paddy The Squire, 28-1 Duraji, 33-1 Incensed, 40-1 bar

**6.10**

**COPPER HORSE STAKES (HANDICAP) (2) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £120,000 1¾m34y (2850 Metres)**

RACE 7



**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

VALIANCY has a similarly progressive profile to Wathnan's 2025 winner French Master and is selected to make light of an 8 lb rise for Hamilton. Daiquiri Bay's Newmarket reappearance success appeals as strong form and he's second choice ahead another Wathnan runner Sing Us A Song. Real Dream is one who could go well at bigger odds.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. VALIANCY 2. DAIQUIRI BAY 3. SING US A SONG**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>French Master</b> 4-9-7	5-2f	John & Thady Gosden	James Doyle	16
2024	<b>Belloccio</b> 6-9-7	4-1	W. P. Mullins	William Buick	16
2023	<b>Vauban</b> 5-9-8	evsf	W. P. Mullins	Ryan Moore	16
2022	<b>Get Shirty</b> 6-9-6	16-1	David O'Meara	Daniel Tudhope	16
2021	<b>Amtiyaz</b> 4-9-1	33-1	John & Thady Gosden	Hollie Doyle	15

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race