

Thursday 18th June

# ROYAL ASCOT



**2.30** CHESHAM STAKES (Listed) (1) 7f (1410 Metres)

RACE 1 **(1) AIX LA CHAPELLE | (8) SOUTH DAKOTA | (15) SEA VENTURE**

**3.05** KING GEORGE V STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 1m3f211y (2410 Metres)

RACE 2 **(12) INTO THE LIGHT | (17) HEYZOOM | (2) TIERRA DEL TORO**

**3.40** RIBBLESDALE STAKES (Group 2) (1) 1m3f211y (2410 Metres)

RACE 3 **(4) EARTH SHOT | (9) LEGACY LINK | (7) JOHANNA WALSH**

**4.15** GOLD CUP (Group 1) (1) 2m3f210y (4010 Metres)

RACE 4 **(10) SCANDINAVIA | (6) TRAWLERMAN | (9) RAHIEBB**

**4.50** BRITANNIA STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)

RACE 5 **(10) WE'RE GOOSERS | (20) OUTBACK HEAT | (3) ORGANISE**

**5.35** HAMPTON COURT STAKES (Group 3) (1) 1m1f212y (2000 Metres)

RACE 6 **(7) MAHO BAY | (3) ENDORSEMENT | (10) MY LOVE IS KING**

**6.10** BUCKINGHAM PALACE STAKES (HANDICAP) (2) 7f (1410 Metres)

RACE 7 **(9) GREAT ACCLAIM | (28) MEZCALA | (15) DANCE IN THE STORM**

## 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**

**CHESHAM STAKES (Listed) (1) 2yo £125,000 7f (1410 Metres)**

RACE 1



Going: **Good to Firm**

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>7</b>	<b>AIX LA CHAPELLE (USA) (15)</b> (D)	<b>99</b>
	1	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Ryan Moore</b>
Aidan O'Brien, Ireland Well-related Justify colt who made a highly promising start when landing 6-runner maiden at the Curragh (7f, good) 15 days ago, coming clear last 1f despite running green. Exciting prospect for yard with an excellent record in this.			
<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>CELTIC CHARIOTEER (10)</b> (D)	<b>79</b>
	91	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Jonny Peate</b>
James Ferguson Mondialiste colt. Much improved from his debut when bagging 9-runner maiden at Leicester (7f, good) 10 days ago. Open to further progress but this is no easy ask.			
<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>NOLA SOUL (USA) (34)</b> (D)	<b>95</b>
	1	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Seamie Heffernan</b>
J. A. Stack, Ireland Overcame inexperience to make a winning debut in 7-runner maiden at Leopardstown (7f, good) last month, getting up late on. This son of Justify should have more to offer so is one to consider.			
<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>ON JUST TERMS (USA)</b>	
		<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>D. B. McMonagle</b>
Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland £100,000Y, 220,000 2-y-o. Half-brother to 3 winners, notably useful US 2-y-o 7.5f/8.5f winner Junipermarshmallow. Dam, French 7f winner, is closely related to high-class 1m winners Alpha Centauri and Alpine Star. Third in a barrier trial at Naas in May but this son of Justify faces no easy ask.			
<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>PIKACHU (18)</b>	<b>92</b>
	2	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>David Egan</b>
Charlie Johnston Frankel colt shaped really well when a debut second of 10 in novice at Thirsk (7f, good) 18 days ago, staying on strongly and making the favourite pull out all the stops. Sure to build on it.			
<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>REVELS (31)</b> (D)	<b>88</b>
	1	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Sam James</b>
K. R. Burke 350,000 gns yearling. Lope de Vega colt proved a cut above his rivals when landing the odds in 7-runner maiden at Redcar (7f, good to firm) on his debut 31 days ago, well on top at the finish. Needs considering with improvement very much on the cards.			
<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>ROMANZA (40)</b>	<b>76</b>
	4	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>James McDonald</b>
Charlie Fellowes Frankel colt who showed promise on his first run when a rallying fourth of 10 in novice here (6f, good to firm) 40 days ago. That form has been well advertised since and he's open to a fair amount of improvement over this longer trip.			
<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA (IRE) (26)</b>	<b>80</b>
	4	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>W. M. Lordan</b>
Aidan O'Brien, Ireland St Mark's Basilica colt shaped very well under a considerate ride when a never-nearer fourth of 8 in maiden at the Curragh (6f, good to firm) on his debut 26 days ago. That race has already thrown up two subsequent winners and he looks open to significant progress for top stable.			
<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>SWORD SALUTE (USA) (19)</b> (D)	<b>87</b>
	31	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Rowan Scott</b>
Charlie Johnston Masar colt who built on debut promise with victory in 8-runner maiden at Lingfield (7f, good to firm) 19 days ago, forging clear last 1f. Capable of better still but this is much tougher.			
<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>SYDNEY CARTON (22)</b>	<b>78</b>
	3	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Cieren Fallon</b>
James Owen Hooded and looked badly in need of the experience but stayed on well late when third of 8 in novice at Beverley (7.5f, good to firm) 22 days ago. This son of Ulysses could take a sizeable step forward now.			

<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>TIME FOR THE MOON (13)</b> (D)	<b>99</b>
	31	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Billy Loughnane</b>
Charlie Johnston Sea The Moon colt created an excellent impression when a wide-margin winner of 6-runner novice at Musselburgh (7f, good to firm) 13 days ago, drawing right away last 1f. Better still to come over this stiffer 7f.			
<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>WHISPERING MOON (18)</b>	<b>81</b>
	3	<b>2</b> 9-5   59.4kg	<b>Oisin James Orr</b>
Richard & Peter Fahey 18/1, very much caught the eye when third of 10 in novice at Thirsk (7f, good) on his debut 18 days ago, green and soon behind but going on really well at the finish. This Sea The Moon colt is capable of considerably better. Live outsider.			
<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>APEROLL (17)</b> (D)	<b>96</b>
	1	<b>2</b> 9-0   57.2kg	<b>Pat Dobbs</b>
Richard Hannon Promising Ghaiyyath filly made a winning start in 12-runner maiden at Newbury (6.5f, firm) 17 days ago, pushed clear last 1f. Open to a fair bit of progress and not out of things.			
<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>BAYSIDE (40)</b>	<b>79</b>
	316	<b>2</b> 9-0   57.2kg	<b>Lewis Edmunds</b>
Rod Millman Landed 5f novice at Beverley in April but came in only a fair sixth of 7 under a 4 lb penalty in 6f Nottingham novice following month. This Cracksman filly faces a very stiff task here.			
<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>SEA VENTURE (IRE) (27)</b>	<b>100</b>
	1	<b>2</b> 9-0   57.2kg	<b>Daniel Tudhope</b>
George Scott Sea The Stars filly looked a good prospect in overcoming both inexperience and a troubled passage when taking 9-runner maiden at Haydock (6f, good to soft) on her debut 27 days ago. Very much one to consider with this step up to 7f also a plus.			

15 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**5-2** Aix La Chapelle, **9-2** Sea Venture, **11-2** Time For The Moon, **10-1** Aperoll, **11-1** Nola Soul, **14-1** Revels, **22-1** Pikachu, **22-1** South Dakota, **33-1** On Just Terms, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

Aidan O'Brien has captured this prize in five of the last ten years and can add to the tally with the exciting AIX LA CHAPELLE who overcame greenness to make a winning start in a Curragh maiden and can take this step up in class in his stride. Stablemate South Dakota ran a race full of promise when a debut fourth at the same track and could emerge as the main danger. George Scott's stylish Haydock scorer Sea Venture appeals as the pick of the home contingent ahead of outsider Whispering Moon.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. AIX LA CHAPELLE 2. SOUTH DAKOTA 3. SEA VENTURE**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Humidity</b> 2-9-5	4-1	Andrew Balding	James Doyle	9
2024	<b>Bedtime Story</b> 2-9-0	11-8f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	15
2023	<b>Snellen</b> 2-9-0	12-1	Gavin Patrick Cromwell	G. F. Carroll	16
2022	<b>Holloway Boy</b> 2-9-5	40-1	K. R. Burke	Daniel Tudhope	13
2021	<b>Point Lonsdale</b> 2-9-3	10-11f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	10

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.05**

**KING GEORGE V STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 3yo  
(Rated 0-105) £120,000 1m3f211y (2410 Metres)**

RACE 2



Going: **Good to Firm**

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>15</b>	<b>GUILDMASTER (IRE) (35)</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>87</b>
	1-37	3 9-9   61.2kg		
John & Thady Gosden <b>Billy Loughnane</b>				
Overcame inexperience to make a winning start in a decent Lingfield novice in December. Useful form in defeat both starts since (9 lengths seventh in Dante latest) but he'll require a very smart performance to defy clear top weight in this ultra-competitive handicap. Blinkered first time.				
<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>TIERRA DEL TORO (33)</b>		<b>97</b>
	212-3	3 9-6   59.9kg		
Ralph Beckett <b>James Doyle</b>				
Progressive form, improving a good chunk again when 2¼ lengths third of 10 to Lost Boys in London Gold Cup at Newbury (1¼m, good) on reappearance. 1½m ought to suit him at least as well and Ralph Beckett has a strong recent record in this race.				
<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>CANNES (IRE) (39) (D)</b>		<b>93</b>
	2-21	3 9-4   59.0kg		
Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland <b>D. B. McMonagle</b>				
€500,000 Sea The Stars colt who was a promising second on first 2 starts before getting off the mark when stepped up to 1½m at Leopardstown (good) 39 days ago. Should have more to offer now moving into handicaps but a wide draw is far from ideal.				
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>BIRGHAM DUB (IRE) (35) (D)</b>		<b>85</b>
	1-15	3 9-2   58.1kg		
Jane Chapple-Hyam <b>David Egan</b>				
Won first 2 starts (1½m Southwell novice latterly). Lost his unbeaten record but wasn't disgraced when 8¼ lengths fifth of 8 to Rumoriste in listed race at Longchamp (1½m, soft) 35 days ago. His opening handicap mark looks tough, though.				
<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>AL AZD (IRE) (33) (D)</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>95</b>
	95-222116	3 9-1   57.6kg		
Roger Varian <b>Cieren Fallon</b>				
Improved since blinkered, winning 11f maiden at Southwell (all-weather) and 1½m handicap at Doncaster (good to firm; did it easily) this spring. Nearest finish when 4¼ lengths sixth of 10 to Lost Boys in London Gold Cup at Newbury (1¼m, good) last time and will be suited by the return to 1½m.				
<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>JOULANY (IRE) (41) (BF)</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>92</b>
	24-32	3 9-0   57.2kg		
Ralph Beckett <b>Hector Crouch</b>				
800,000 gns buy who has shown useful form in defeat in his 4 starts, finishing second of 7 in maiden at Chester (12.3f, good to firm) 41 days ago. Makes handicap debut from a mark which demands improvement. Tongue tied first time on the back of a gelding operation.				
<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>AMORA QUEEN (GER) (27)</b>		<b>93</b>
	110-259	3 8-13   56.7kg		
Charlie Johnston <b>Rossa Ryan</b>				
Won her first 2 starts in 2025. Returned with a good second in handicap at Doncaster but well held twice since. Her stable has done well in this race over the years but her claims aren't obvious.				
<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>ATOMIC CITY (IRE) (46)</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>86</b>
	3-31	3 8-12   56.2kg		
Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland <b>Tom Marquand</b>				
Promising Ghaiyyath colt who made it third time lucky in a maiden at Cork (10.5f, heavy) last month. In top hands and open to further progress in handicaps. Wears a first-time tongue tie.				
<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>DIAL ME IN (IRE) (38)</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>89</b>
	14-42	3 8-12   56.2kg		
Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland <b>James McDonald</b>				
Quite useful but hasn't really progressed since a debut win last summer. 2¼ lengths second of 5 to Nil Bua Gan Dua in conditions event at Roscommon (10.4f, good) 38 days ago. Steps up to 1½m for handicap debut from a mark which isn't obviously generous.				

<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>ENCELADUS (IRE) (55)</b>		<b>92</b>
	33-1	3 8-12   56.2kg		
Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland <b>Ryan Moore</b>				
From a good family and knuckled down well to see off a promising newcomer in 10.5f Cork maiden (good to soft) on reappearance. Tackles first handicap here. Will go on improving and Ryan Moore rides.				
<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>BELIEVED (IRE) (23) (D)</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>87</b>
	421	3 8-11   55.8kg		
John Patrick Murtagh, Ireland <b>Oisin Murphy</b>				
Frankel filly who has improved with each start, looking suited by the step up to 1½m when easily winning maiden at Dundalk 23 days ago. Has the potential for better but pitched in very deep on handicap debut.				
<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>INTO THE LIGHT (55)</b>		<b>98</b>
	122	3 8-11   55.8kg		
Charlie Appleby <b>William Buick</b>				
Well-bred colt who went down by only a short head to subsequent London Gold Cup winner Lost Boys on handicap debut at Sandown (1¼m, good) 8 weeks ago, finishing strongly from too far back. The return to 1½m looks in his favour. Big player with further improvement likely.				
<b>13</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>GOLDEN KNIGHT (IRE) (21)</b>		<b>91</b>
	41-6	3 8-10   55.3kg		
Ed Walker <b>Kieran Shoemark</b>				
Built on debut promise when making all in 7-runner novice at Newmarket (1m, good to firm) in October. Not up to the listed Heron over 1m on Sandown reappearance and now takes a big jump up in trip for his handicap debut. Stall 22 is likely to prove tricky to overcome.				
<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>WATERFORD CASTLE (IRE) (40) (BF)</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>97</b>
	376-2222	3 8-9   54.9kg		
George Boughey <b>Zac Lloyd</b>				
Still a maiden but has recorded 4 good runner-up efforts since joining George Boughey, including over 1¼m here in first-time cheekpieces (retained) 6 weeks ago. Steps up to 1½m for the first time now. Probably capable of better again.				
<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>GENCHEV (33)</b>		<b>92</b>
	354-21	3 8-9   54.9kg		
G. M. Lyons, Ireland <b>C. T. Keane</b>				
Made it fifth time lucky when seeing off 7 rivals in maiden at Navan (1¼m, good to soft) 33 days ago. His yard is in a good vein of form but doesn't obviously have the same scope for improvement as some of today's rivals.				
<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>ARC OLE OLE (35) (D)</b>		<b>93</b>
	51-11	3 8-8   54.4kg		
Dylan Cunha <b>Rowan Scott</b>				
Has won all 3 starts since his debut, finding another good chunk of improvement for step up to 1½m when seeing off 13 rivals in a handicap at the York Dante meeting. Raised 10 lb but he looks capable of better as his stamina is drawn out. The draw could have been kinder.				
<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HEYZOOM (IRE) (34)</b>		<b>100</b>
	3-21	3 8-8   54.4kg		
Owen Burrows <b>Saffie Osborne</b>				
Beaten at short odds on first 2 outings but made no mistake in maiden at Newbury (1¼m, good) 34 days ago and 4 subsequent winners have already emerged from that race. Not certain to benefit from the step up to 1½m on breeding but there's a good chance a mark of 85 underestimates him.				
<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>GALILEAN QUALITY (IRE) (20) (D)</b>		<b>95</b>
	641-131	3 8-8   54.4kg		
K. R. Burke <b>Pierre-Louis Jamin</b>				
Has the odd quirk but he's essentially progressive and posted quite a useful effort to win 1½m Wolverhampton handicap 3 weeks ago, taking his career record to 3-6.				
<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>BLUE HERCULES (IRE) (20)</b>		<b>88</b>
	842	3 8-8   54.4kg		
William Muir & Chris Grassick <b>Lewis Edmunds</b>				
Fairly useful form when reaching the frame in maiden/novice events at Newbury and Chepstow (both 1¼m) on his last 2 starts. Up in trip for handicap debut. May have more to offer.				

**RESERVES**

<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>WHO'S LOPE (19) (D)</b>		<b>92</b>
	8-21	3 8-6   53.5kg		
Andrew Balding <b>Reserve</b>				
Improved again when easy winner of 3-runner novice at Beverley (1½m, good to firm) 19 days ago. That race fell apart to some extent but he should still have more to offer in handicaps. RESERVE.				

**3.05****KING GEORGE V STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 3yo  
(Rated 0-105) £120,000 1m3f211y (2410 Metres)**

RACE 2

**21 19 CHARLES DARNAY (17) (D) 92**  
5311 3 8-6 | 53.5kg

James Owen

**Reserve**

All 4 starts on AW, winning maiden and handicap over this trip on his last 2 outings. Appeals as the type to keep on improving now tackling turf for the first time. RESERVE.

**22 18 BNAIDER (27) 94**  
443-41 3 8-5 | 53.1kg

Harry Charlton

**Reserve**

Finished 3½ lengths behind the reopposing Into The Light on his Sandown handicap debut/reappearance and built on that when seeing off 10 rivals at Haydock (1¼m, good to soft) 4 weeks later. Did that readily so a 7 lb rise isn't severe. 1½m promises to suit, too. RESERVE.

19 DECLARED RUNNERS (3 RESERVES)

**BETTING FORECAST:**

5-1 Heyzoom, 7-1 Into The Light, 8-1 Tierra Del Toro, 14-1 Waterford Castle, 16-1 Al Azd, 16-1 Arc Ole Ole, 16-1 Enceladus, 18-1 Joulany, 18-1 Believed, 20-1 Cannes, 22-1 Atomic City, 28-1 Galilean Quality, 28-1 Dial Me In, 33-1 Golden Knight, 33-1 Guildmaster, 40-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

INTO THE LIGHT and Heyzoom have both had the form of their latest run boosted and look ahead of their marks. There's a slight doubt about the latter's stamina for 1½m so that tips the vote the way of Godolphin's charge, who is already proven at the trip. Ralph Beckett has won this race twice in recent years and Tierra Del Toro is next on the list after his good run in the London Gold Cup. Waterford Castle and Al Azd, another from the London Gold Cup, complete the shortlist.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. INTO THE LIGHT 2. HEYZOOM 3. TIERRA DEL TORO

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Merchant</b> 3-9-4	3-1f	William Haggas	Tom Marquand	19
2024	<b>Going The Distance</b> 3-9-2	9-1	Ralph Beckett	Rossa Ryan	19
2023	<b>Desert Hero</b> 3-8-13	18-1	William Haggas	Tom Marquand	19
2022	<b>Secret State</b> 3-9-6	4-1jf	Charlie Appleby	William Buick	19
2021	<b>Surefire</b> 3-8-9	5-1	Ralph Beckett	Hector Crouch	17

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.40**

**RIBBLESDALE STAKES (Group 2) (1) 3yo fillies £250,000**  
**1m3f211y (2410 Metres)**

RACE 3





Going: **Good to Firm**


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 2 BRILLIANT STAR (26) (D) 78**  
 2-115 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **John & Thady Gosden**  **Robert Havlin**  
 Wide-margin winner of novices at Yarmouth (11.5f, good to firm) and Kempton (11f) this spring. Only 9 lengths fifth of 8 to Inis Mor in listed race at Goodwood (1¼m, good to firm) 26 days ago but that race placed the emphasis too much on speed for her and she's open to progress with 1½m in mind.



**2 8 COMPOSING (IRE) (39) b 90**  
 111436-56 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Aidan O'Brien, Ireland** **Ryan Moore**  
 Dual Group winner as a juvenile but has come up short in 2 outings this season, latterly finishing 4¼ lengths last of 6 to Lapotheose in Prix Saint-Alary at Longchamp (1¼m, good) 39 days ago. Up in trip with blinkers also added. Aidan O'Brien seeks a fourth successive win in this.


**3 10 DARK LUCINDA (IRE) (44) h 78**  
 1 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **P. Twomey, Ireland**  **William James Lee**  
 Decisive winner of 8-runner maiden at Gowran (9.5f, good to soft) on debut 44 days ago. Should improve but this is a big ask on second start.


**4 6 EARTH SHOT (IRE) (26) (BF) 92**  
 2-12 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **William Haggas**  **James Doyle**  
 Looked an exciting prospect on return when easily landing the odds in 7-runner maiden at Newmarket (1¼m). Confirmed those impressions when head second to Inis Mor (third in Sunday's French Oaks) in listed race at Goodwood (1¼m, good to firm) 26 days ago. More to come, particularly at 1½m.


**5 3 GILDED PRIZE (39) (BF) 89**  
 1-115 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Francis-Henri Graffard, France** **Oisin Murphy**  
 Won first 3 starts, including 10.5f Saint-Cloud Group 3 (good) in April by 3½ lengths from Warriors Whisper. Lost her unbeaten record in rather tame fashion when only fifth in the Group 2 Prix Saint-Alary at Longchamp (1¼m, good) 39 days ago. Steps up in trip as she bids to resume her progression.


**6 5 GOLDEN ORBIT (33) (BF) b 75**  
 1-4 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Ralph Beckett** **Rossa Ryan**  
 Sea The Stars filly who saw off a next-time-out winner when making a winning start in 7f Newmarket maiden (good to firm) last September. Went off at 6/4 but could manage only 7½ lengths fourth of 6 to Esna in listed race at Newbury (1¼m, good) on return. Evidently well regarded. Blinkers go on.



**7 7 JOHANNA WALSH (IRE) (39) t 80**  
 3-31 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland** **D. B. McMonagle**  
 €460,000 Sea The Stars filly who came good at the third time of asking in maidens at Leopardstown (1¼m, good) 39 days ago, looking well suited by a switch to front-running tactics. Will stay 1½m and looks the type to go on improving for a while yet.


**8 12 LADY ROISIA (33) 78**  
 31-3 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Ralph Beckett** **Hector Crouch**  
 Won a 1m Nottingham maiden (good to soft) last autumn. Stepped up on that form when 3¾ lengths third of 6 to Esna in listed race at Newbury (1¼m, good) on reappearance. Likely capable of better again.


**9 1 LEGACY LINK (13) ★ 100**  
 314-12 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **John & Thady Gosden**  **C. T. Keane**  
 Highly progressive form, winning Musidora at York on reappearance before excellent 3¾ lengths second of 9 to Thundering On in Oaks at Epsom (1½m, good to soft) 13 days ago, pulling 6 lengths clear of the third. Sets high standard but this comes quick on the back of Epsom.


**10 9 MALDIVES (IRE) (46) 72**  
 26 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Kevin Philippart de Foy** **David Egan**  
 2,900,000 Camelot filly who made a promising start to her career when length second in 1¼m novice at Yarmouth (good) in April but well beaten in a Newmarket listed event over the same trip 3 weeks later. This is even harder.

**11 11 VENETIA (11) (C) s 79**  
 623-121 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **Ralph Beckett** **Richard Kingscote**  
 Improving front-runner who won a 1¼m course handicap on her reappearance in May and, with cheekpieces on, added a Goodwood listed race (1¼m, soft) 11 days ago, holding on gamely. Likeable but plenty more will be needed here.

**12 4 WARRIORS WHISPER (IRE) (62) h+t 85**  
 132 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

 **C. & Y. Lerner, France** **Christophe Soumillon**  
 €1,000,000 yearling. Made a winning debut on Deauville's all-weather in February and has built on that with placed efforts in listed/Group 3 events around 1¼m at Saint-Cloud since, latterly finishing 3½ lengths second of 6 to Gilded Prize. Up in trip.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**13-8** Legacy Link, **10-3** Gilded Prize, **13-2** Earth Shot, **12-1** Johanna Walsh, **22-1** Composing, **25-1** Warriors Whisper, **33-1** Lady Roisia, **33-1** Brilliant Star, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

EARTH SHOT's Goodwood listed form received a boost when the winner ran a cracker in Group 1 company in France over the weekend and Wathnan Racing's new purchase might be worth siding with to get the better of Legacy Link, who sets the bar high on her Oaks second but this comes only 13 days after that big effort. Johanna Walsh promises to be suited by 1½m and may prove best of the remainder.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. EARTH SHOT 2. LEGACY LINK 3. JOHANNA WALSH**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Garden of Eden</b> 3-9-2	7-1	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	11
2024	<b>Port Fairy</b> 3-9-2	12-1	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	12
2023	<b>Warm Heart</b> 3-9-2	13-2	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	17
2022	<b>Magical Lagoon</b> 3-9-2	11-4	Mrs J. Harrington	Shane Foley	6
2021	<b>Loving Dream</b> 3-9-0	18-1	John & Thady Gosden	Robert Havlin	13

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**4.15**

**GOLD CUP (Group 1) (1) 4yo+ £700,000 2m3f210y (4010 Metres)**

RACE 4



Going: **Good to Firm**

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: **Even**

<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>AL NAYYIR (34)</b>	s		<b>91</b>
	58323-132	<b>8</b> 9-4   59.0kg			
	Tom Clover				<b>James Doyle</b>
Evergreen 8-y-o who gained a first win at pattern level in the Nad Al Sheba Trophy at Meydan in February. Ran up to his recent best when 2¼ lengths second of 7 to Rahiebb in Yorkshire Cup (1¼m, good) last month, though proved no match for that rival and faces an even stiffer task here.					
<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>AL RIFFA (FR) (28)</b>	s		<b>95</b>
	421174-63	<b>6</b> 9-4   59.0kg			
	Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland				<b>D. B. McMonagle</b>
Very smart 6-y-o who recorded a brace of authoritative wins at the Curragh in 2025, including the Group 1 Irish St Leger. Shaped well when neck third to Caballo De Mar in Group 1 at Longchamp latest, left poorly placed in a falsely-run affair, and has solid place prospects if his stamina holds up.					
<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>CABALLO DE MAR (IRE) (28) (D)</b>	s		<b>94</b>
	28117-221	<b>5</b> 9-4   59.0kg			
	George Scott				<b>Oisin Murphy</b>
Enjoyed a coming-of-age season in 2025, the last of his 6 wins coming in the Group 1 Prix du Cadran (2½m) at Longchamp. Has shown himself to be better than ever this season, though did have the benefit of a good position when winning a falsely-run Group 1 at Longchamp (15.4f) latest.					
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>DUBAI FUTURE (21) (C)</b>	s		<b>89</b>
	19366-841	<b>10</b> 9-4   59.0kg			
	Saeed bin Suroor				<b>David Probert</b>
Veteran who was a creditable third in this race last year and showed he's still capable of smart form when just holding off Sweet William in 7-runner Henry II Stakes at Sandown (2m, good) 3 weeks ago. Had the benefit of a very good ride in a tactical affair, though, and looks vulnerable here.					
<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>SWEET WILLIAM (IRE) (21) (C, BF)</b>	v		<b>94</b>
	343212-12	<b>7</b> 9-4   59.0kg			
	John & Thady Gosden				<b>Robert Havlin</b>
Smart and consistent stayer who again featured in the big cup races last season, winning the Doncaster Cup in September. As good as ever when narrow winner of Sagaro Stakes at Ascot on return and undone by the tactical nature of the Henry II Stakes at Sandown since. Has solid frame claims.					
<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>TRAWLERMAN (IRE) (243) (CD)</b>	h		<b>100</b>
	323/51111-	<b>8</b> 9-4   59.0kg			
	John & Thady Gosden				<b>William Buick</b>
The dominant stayer around following the retirement of Kyprios, storming clear in last season's Ascot Gold Cup before adding to his tally in the Lonsdale Cup at York and Long Distance Cup at this venue. Has had an unusual eye condition that has kept him off the track but the one to beat even so.					
<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>CARMERS (IRE) (20) (C)</b>	v		<b>91</b>
	11125-51	<b>4</b> 9-3   58.5kg			
	P. Twomey, Ireland				<b>William James Lee</b>
Smart colt who won Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot in 2025 and signed off with a good fifth in the St Leger at Doncaster. All the better for his reappearance fitted with a first-time visor when resuming winning ways in workmanlike fashion in 2m Down Royal listed event and seems likely to stay 2½m.					
<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>FURTHUR (IRE) (21)</b>			<b>90</b>
	525160-46	<b>4</b> 9-3   58.5kg			
	Andrew Balding				<b>C. T. Keane</b>
Runner-up to Carmers in the Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot last year and showed a fine turn of foot when landing the Geoffrey Freer at Newbury 2 starts later. However, has been below the pick of his 3-y-o form both starts this season and looks firmly up against it.					
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>RAHIEBB (34)</b>			<b>95</b>
	1222342-1	<b>4</b> 9-3   58.5kg			
	Roger Varian				<b>Ray Dawson</b>
Progressive in defeat last season after his winning debut at Newcastle, notably when just failing to reel in Scandinavia in St Leger at Doncaster final start. Notched a first pattern success in Yorkshire Cup (1¼m) on return and he's an interesting contender with the step up to 2½m worth exploring.					

<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>SCANDINAVIA (USA) (34)</b>	s		<b>97</b>
	7/15111-11	<b>4</b> 9-3   58.5kg			
	Aidan O'Brien, Ireland				<b>Ryan Moore</b>
Made up into a very smart performer in 2025, typically finding plenty when completing the hat-trick in St Leger at Doncaster. Also successful both starts this season, including Leopardstown Group 3 last time and gives the impression this step up to 2½m won't be a problem. Big chance.					
<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>MISS ALPILLES (26)</b>			<b>86</b>
	4450211-32	<b>5</b> 9-1   57.6kg			
	Ed Walker				<b>Kieran Shoemark</b>
Progressed during second half of last season, winning Goodwood handicap before following up in 2m listed race at Newmarket, suited by step up in trip. Ran up to her best when placed in a pair of Group 3s this season but has masses to find at this level.					

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**13-8** Scandinavia, **7-2** Trawlerman, **6-1** Rahiebb, **8-1** Sweet William, **16-1** Caballo De Mar, **18-1** Al Riffa, **22-1** Carmers, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

SCANDINAVIA had to dig a bit deeper than might have been expected to land the odds in a Group 3 at Leopardstown last time, but he again left the impression he was just drossing in front and looks the natural successor to Trawlerman on the staying scene, the latter having reportedly had an interrupted preparation owing to an unusual eye condition. Rahiebb is another fascinating up-and-coming type who warrants plenty of respect.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. SCANDINAVIA 2. TRAWLERMAN 3. RAHIEBB**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Trawlerman</b> 7-9-4	85-40f John & Thady Gosden	William Buick	8
2024	<b>Kyprios</b> 6-9-4	11-10f Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	9
2023	<b>Courage Mon Ami</b> 4-9-3	15-2 John & Thady Gosden	Frankie Dettori	12
2022	<b>Kyprios</b> 4-9-3	13-8f Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	9
2021	<b>Subjectivist</b> 4-9-1	13-2 Mark Johnston	Joe Fanning	12

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.50

RACE 5














**BRITANNIA STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 3yo colts and geldings (Rated 0-105) £130,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)**
















Going: **Good to Firm**

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: **Strongly Favours High** Pace Information: **Extreme**

<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>PATHEIN (IRE) (26)</b> (D)	<b>94</b>
	15-33	3 9-9   61.2kg	<i>Rossa Ryan</i>
Ed Dunlop			
Looked a good prospect when scoring on debut at Doncaster (1m) last September and similar form in 3 subsequent starts, running well under a big weight on his handicap debut when third of 17 at Goodwood (7f) last month. Return to 1m will suit and drawn high, he's one for the shortlist.			
<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>WISE PRINCE (IRE) (21)</b> (D)	<b>93</b>
	1-384	3 9-8   60.8kg	<i>Toby Moore (71lb/3kg)</i>
John & Thady Gosden 			
Made a successful debut in taking fashion at Nottingham and stepped forward from that on return when third in Classic Trial at Sandown (1¼m) in April. Things haven't really gone to plan since, but he may yet do better now sent down the handicap route with a promising apprentice booked.			
<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>ORGANISE (55)</b> (D, BF)	<b>94</b>
	1-12	3 9-7   60.3kg	<i>James Doyle</i>
John & Thady Gosden 			
Highly-promising start when winning 14-runner novice at Southwell before following up over 1m at York in April. Sent off odds on and upped his game further when second of 7 to Laureate Crown on handicap debut at Sandown (1m). Gelded after and remains of considerable interest with cheekpieces fitted.			
<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>TALES OF WISDOM (IRE) (34)</b> (D)	<b>93</b>
	1-51	3 9-6   59.9kg	<i>William Buick</i> 
Charlie Appleby 			
Created a big impression when scoring by a wide margin on debut and wasted no time getting back on the up after a tame effort on return when landing 10-runner novice at Newmarket (1m) 5 weeks ago, racing clear with a similarly interesting type. More to come now handicapping.			
<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>HILITANY (26)</b>	<b>90</b>
	117-44910	3 9-6   59.9kg	<i>Billy Loughnane</i>
George Boughey			
Hadn't been pulling up any trees in Meydan but found a test of speed at this trip suiting back on these shores when landing 8-runner listed contest at Lingfield (7f) in February. Had 12-week break and was well held on handicap debut at Goodwood (7f) last month. Upped further in trip.			
<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>FLUSHING MEADOWS (USA) (11)</b>	<b>88</b>
	122-855	3 9-5   59.4kg	<i>Ryan Moore</i>
Aidan O'Brien, Ireland			
Promising 2-y-o but yet to better that form this season, though did get closer than previously this year taking on older horses for the first time when 3 lengths fifth of 10 to Isaac Newton in listed race at Navan (9f, good) 11 days ago. Cheekpieces applied for this handicap debut.			
<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>LAUREATE CROWN (IRE) (55)</b> (C, D)	<b>93</b>
	1856-11	3 9-4   59.0kg	<i>Jamie Spencer</i>
Hugo Palmer			
Useful effort to make a winning reappearance at Wolverhampton (8.6f) and improved again to follow up in traditionally strong Esher Cup at Sandown (1m) 8 weeks ago by ½ length from Organise. Raised another 5 lb but further progress isn't ruled out.			
<b>8</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>CONCLAVE (IRE) (46)</b> (D)	<b>93</b>
	121	3 9-3   58.5kg	<i>P. J. McDonald</i>
Andrew Balding			
Made winning start at Kempton in March (awarded race after first past post weighed in light) and doubled his tally in workmanlike fashion in 3-runner novice at Hamilton (1m) early last month. In good hands and remains with potential sent handicapping, especially drawn high.			
<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>NEW CONNECTION (IRE) (56)</b>	<b>85</b>
	414	3 9-1   57.6kg	<i>James McDonald</i>
Francis-Henri Graffard, France			
Confirmed debut promise when scoring at Fontainebleau (9f) in March and progressed upped in trip when fourth of 6 in minor event at Longchamp (10.7f, good) 8 weeks ago, though seemed unsuited by the emphasis on speed. Dropped to 1m for this handicap debut and a tongue tie goes on.			

<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>WE'RE GOOSERS (IRE) (34)</b>	<b>100</b>
	221-61	3 9-1   57.6kg	<i>Oisin Murphy</i>
Hugo Palmer			
Landed the odds in 7f Newcastle novice in November and having had shaped best in a competitive event on reappearance, improved a chunk to bolt up in 6-runner handicap at Newmarket (7f) 5 weeks ago, hammering a now 90-rated rival. More to come so he's one to be very positive about.			
<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>WECHAAD (IRE) (26)</b>	<b>95</b>
	63213-4	3 9-1   57.6kg	<i>Ray Dawson</i>
Roger Varian 			
Progressive as a 2-y-o, confirming maiden promise when scoring on nursery debut at Doncaster (7f) in September. Ran well after 7 months off despite not being seen to best effect when fourth of 17 in handicap at Goodwood (7f) and this return to 1m promises to suit. High draw also a potential plus.			
<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>RICHIE'S ROCKET (IRE) (26)</b>	<b>93</b>
	31-457	3 9-0   57.2kg	<i>Hector Crouch</i>
Ralph Beckett			
Lingfield maiden winner in November who found residual inexperience catching him out when fourth in listed company there in February. Gelded and did all he could from a long way back when seventh of 17 on handicap bow at Goodwood (7f) last month and there's a bigger effort in him. Upped in trip.			
<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>VICTORY TIP (IRE) (32)</b> (D)	<b>88</b>
	192	3 8-13   56.7kg	<i>D. B. McMonagle</i>
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland			
Won on 1m Curragh debut (heavy) in March. Found the Ballysax at Leopardstown (1¼m, soft) too hot to handle the following month but found it easier dropped in grade/trip when second of 7 in minor event at Naas (1m) recently. Will likely find this too competitive on handicap debut.			
<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>LANGSTONE (19)</b>	<b>94</b>
	5-112	3 8-13   56.7kg	<i>Rob Hornby</i>
Clive Cox			
Has looked useful winning 7f novices at Doncaster (good to soft) and Kempton this spring. maintained his record of run-by-run progression when 1½ lengths second of 14 to Blue Courvoisier on handicap debut at Carlisle (1m) recently and although up 6 lb for that, he's capable of better again.			
<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>CHARLY (FR) (44)</b> (D)	<b>88</b>
	411-131	3 8-13   56.7kg	<i>Stephane Pasquier</i>
N. Clement & F. Hermans, France			
Won 3 claimers for 2 different yards late last year and produced a career-best effort back on turf to gain a first success for current trainer in 14-runner handicap at Saint-Cloud (1m) just over 6 weeks ago, well positioned in a steadily-run race. Strike rate very healthy but likely outsider here.			
<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>BOBBY MCGEE (32)</b> (D)	<b>91</b>
	6434-111	3 8-13   56.7kg	<i>Non Runner</i>
Noel Meade, Ireland NON RUNNER.			
<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>BLUE COURVOISIER (19)</b> (D)	<b>95</b>
	12-241	3 8-12   56.2kg	<i>Saffie Osborne</i>
Clive Cox			
Made a winning debut at Leicester last September and has taken his form up a notch this year, suited by a return to a turning track when readily doubling his tally in 14-runner handicap at Carlisle (1m) recently by 1½ lengths from Langstone. Such tactics will be harder to pull off here.			
<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>NOELAN STAR (GER) (47)</b> (D, BF)	<b>90</b>
	1-13	3 8-12   56.2kg	<i>Oisin James Orr</i>
Edward Bethell			
Bolted up on debut at Newcastle (1m) in December and wasn't hard-pressed to land the odds over 7f at the same track in April. Lost unbeaten record conceding lumps of weight switched to turf at Doncaster (1m) early last month, but the chances are he's better than that. Handicap debut.			
<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>INTENSE VISION (56)</b> (D)	<b>94</b>
	11-3	3 8-11   55.8kg	<i>Cieren Fallon</i> 
Oli Rix			
Unbeaten in 2 starts in France for H-F. Devin as a juvenile, posting useful effort when scoring at Bordeaux (1m, soft) in October. Unable to live with a couple of promising types on return/yard debut at Southwell (1m) 8 weeks ago but it was a sound effort and he's now sent down the handicap route.			
<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>OUTBACK HEAT (41)</b> (CD)	<b>98</b>
	131	3 8-11   55.8kg	<i>Kaiya Fraser</i>
Harry Eustace			
Continued his race-by-race progression as he made it 2 wins from 3 starts in 11-runner handicap over C&D (good to firm) 6 weeks ago, always doing enough once hitting the front under a change of tactics. Strongly-run race promises to suit and yard won this with Docklands in 2023. Interesting.			

**4.50**

RACE 5

**BRITANNIA STAKES (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (2) 3yo colts and geldings (Rated 0-105) £130,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)**



**21 21 ST ANTON (IRE) (19) (D)** **98**  
322-311 **3** 8-11 | 55.8kg



**Richard Hannon** **Sean Levey**  
Built on earlier promise to get off the mark Newmarket handicap early last month and did well to follow up in 8-runner handicap at Carlisle (1m) recently, staying on to lead dying strides having been messed around a bit by a wandering rival. Progressive so would be folly to ignore.

**22 30 CAPALL RASA (IRE) (33) (D)** **93**  
3811-49 **3** 8-11 | 55.8kg



**Tom Dascombe** **Richard Kingscote**  
Won novice and nursery on all-weather at Southwell last autumn. Matched that when fourth of 7 in Esher Cup at Sandown (1m) on reappearance and undone by a steadier tempo up in trip when ninth of 10 in handicap at Newbury (1¼m) last month. Returns to 1m but big outsider.

**23 14 RUNMAN (30) (D)** **91**  
1-14 **3** 8-11 | 55.8kg



**John & Thady Gosden** **Daniel Tudhope**  
Successful on debut at Salisbury last autumn and made heavy weather of landing very short odds on Epsom reappearance (8.5f) in April, the track possibly the reason. Unable to advance his form under a double penalty at Nottingham last month and more is needed switched to a handicap. Tongue tie on.

**24 13 NEW MONARCH (IRE) (26)** **89**  
2244-176 **3** 8-11 | 55.8kg



**Andrew Balding** **David Probert**  
Progressive form in defeat as a juvenile and made no mistake in 7f Kempton novice on reappearance in March. Seemingly not 100% in listed company next time and wasn't really seen to best effect having been caught wide on handicap debut at Goodwood (7f) last month.

**25 12 VINCENZO PERUGGIA (IRE) (48)** **93**  
310-27 **3** 8-11 | 55.8kg



**Charlie Johnston** **David Egan**  
Ready winner of 7.5f Beverley novice (good to firm) last summer. Resumed his progression when length second of 6 on 1m Musselburgh reappearance but not in the same form when seventh of 9 at the Newmarket Guineas meeting since. Bounce back needed.

**26 5 CREST OF FIRE (IRE) (19) (D)** **94**  
52432-13 **3** 8-11 | 55.8kg



**Jack Channon** **Tom Marquand**  
Took his form up another notch on his reappearance after a gelding operation when a wide-margin winner of 1m Southwell maiden in March and improved again after 9 weeks off when 2 lengths third of 14 to Blue Courvoisier in handicap at Carlisle (1m) recently. That unlikely to prove his limit.

**27 28 MOONFALL (IRE) (42)** **97**  
2317-5 **3** 8-10 | 55.3kg



**George Boughey** **Zac Lloyd**  
Made the most of experience when off the mark at Newbury last June. Well held in Group 2 at Newmarket the following month, but very much caught the eye on return/handicap debut when fifth of 12 at Chester (7.6f, good to firm) 6 weeks ago. Better to come with a high draw also a potential positive.

**28 32 LION OF ALBA (48) (D)** **91**  
551-7 **3** 8-10 | 55.3kg



**Hugo Palmer** **Jack Callan (3lb/1kg)**  
Most progressive last year and seemed to relish the switch to front-running tactics when getting off the mark at Chester in August. Unable to build on that after 8 months off when mid-field in Group 3 Premio Parioli at Milan (1m) early last month but handicaps could see him back on track.

**29 25 JAMESTOWN (IRE) (23)** **97**  
4221 **3** 8-10 | 55.3kg



**David Marnane, Ireland** **Luke McAteer**  
Stood out on form but was impressive in landing the odds in 11-runner maiden at Dundalk (7f) just over 3 weeks ago, soon clear having been produced to lead 2f out. Yard had success here previously and, as a strong-traveller with lots to like about him physically, he's one to consider.

**30 3 EXCLUSIVE CODE (IRE) (61) (D)** **93**  
44-1 **3** 8-10 | 55.3kg



**Archie Watson** **Kieran Shoemark**  
Son of Blue Point who showed improved form to get off the mark in 25-runner maiden at Newbury (1m) on return a couple of months ago, very professional in how he went about things having been gelded over the winter. Will go on improving and very much one to consider on handicap debut.

**31 24 WINDING STREAM (IRE) (55)** **94**  
1-26 **3** 8-9 | 54.9kg



**Richard Hughes** **Reserve**  
Decisive winner on 7f Southwell debut last year. Shaped well when second to useful Balzac (who received weight) in 1m Kempton novice on return. Raced keenly in a clear lead for a long way in 1¼m Classic Trial at Sandown since. Makes handicap debut.

**32 33 SYNINNERS KID (IRE) (19) (D)** **91**  
80911-66 **3** 8-9 | 54.9kg



**Henry Dwyer** **Reserve**  
Ended his time for Joseph O'Brien with a pair of 1m nursery wins in the mud in Ireland last autumn. Mid-field in a couple of handicaps last month and probably needs respite from the assessor. RESERVE.

**33 19 WILD THOUGHTS (IRE) (19) (D)** **96**  
096-11112 **3** 8-9 | 54.9kg



**Richard Spencer** **Reserve**  
Has proved a different proposition switched to handicaps this year, completing a four-timer in 12-runner contest at Windsor (1m) last month. Found winning run coming to an end but lost no caste in defeat at Carlisle since (St Anton winner) and further progress impossible to rule out. RESERVE.

30 DECLARED RUNNERS (3 RESERVES)

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**12-1** We're Goosers, **12-1** Organise, **14-1** Wechaad, **16-1** Moonfall, **16-1** Langstone, **16-1** Tales of Wisdom, **18-1** Exclusive Code, **20-1** Outback Heat, **20-1** Blue Courvoisier, **20-1** Laureate Crown, **20-1** Flushing Meadows, **25-1** Pathein, **28-1** Crest of Fire, **33-1** Jamestown, **33-1** Conclave, **33-1** Wise Prince, **33-1** New Connection, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

As is usually the case this looks a contender for the strongest handicap of the season with a plethora of developing 3-y-os on show, WE'RE GOOSERS selected to make it 3 wins from his last 4 starts having hammered a now 90-rated rival at Newmarket last month. Harry Eustace is no stranger to success in this race, and his Outback Heat could be the one to offer most resistance, while Wathnan Racing look to have a strong hand and Organise may prove best of their battalion.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. WE'RE GOOSERS 2. OUTBACK HEAT 3. ORGANISE**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Arabian Story</b> 3-9-6	15-2	Saeed bin Suroor	Oisín Murphy	30
2024	<b>Mickley</b> 3-8-11	15-2	Edward Bethell	Callum Rodriguez	29
2023	<b>Docklands</b> 3-9-2	6-1f	Harry Eustace	Hayley Turner	29
2022	<b>Thesis</b> 3-8-11	14-1	Harry & Roger Charlton	Ryan Moore	30
2021	<b>Perotto</b> 3-9-3	18-1	Marcus Tregoning	Oisín Murphy	29

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**RESERVES**

**5.35**

**HAMPTON COURT STAKES (Group 3) (1) 3yo £175,000**  
**1m1f212y (2000 Metres)**

RACE 6



Going: **Good to Firm**

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**

**1 10 OCEANS FOUR (55) 91**

912d1-7 **3 9-6** | 59.9kg  
**Brian Meehan** *Christophe Soumillon*  
 Didn't need to improve on his second past the post in the Solario (placed third for interference) when landing a Group 3 at Chantilly (1m) on final 2-y-o start, however, he was beaten before his stamina could be tested (not sure to stay) in the Classic Trail at Sandown (1¼m) on return in late-April.

**2 2 OXAGON (FR) (18) s 97**

51255-160 **3 9-6** | 59.9kg  
**John & Thady Gosden** *Oisin Murphy*  
 Frankel colt who resumed progress in a race run to suit when successful in the Craven on return. Subsequently below that form when sixth in the 2000 Guineas/well held in the French Derby, though is at least worth another crack at 1¼m with sights lowered.

**3 7 ENDORSEMENT (IRE) (14) s ★ 100**

2128-231 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**Aidan O'Brien, Ireland** *Ryan Moore*  
 Close second to Christmas Day in the Ballysax is the best piece of form on offer, and while he was a cut above his opposition when scoring under a no-nonsense ride from the front in a 1½m listed event at Leopardstown last time, the drop back in trip on firmish ground does raise a slight doubt.

**4 3 GENERIC (IRE) (42) 98**

212 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**Andrew Balding** *James Doyle*  
 Fast-improving son of Kameko who went one better than on debut with a straightforward success at Yarmouth (1m). No match for subsequent French Derby winner Constitution River in the Dee Stakes last time, however, he's entitled to be firmly in the shake-up given the upward trajectory of his form.

**5 5 GLACIUS (250) 93**

143- **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**Hugo Palmer** *Billy Loughnane*  
 Progressive juvenile who made a winning debut at Newmarket prior to finishing a useful third in the Group 3 Autumn Stakes (1m) there last October. That form still leaves him with plenty to find on first start as a 3-y-o, however, he's certainly worth a go over this longer trip.

**6 8 ITALY (67) h 96**

12238-4 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**Aidan O'Brien, Ireland** *W. M. Lordan*  
 Attractive Wootton Bassett colt who showed plenty of ability amid flaws in 7f Group races as a juvenile. Fourth behind Endorsement in the Ballysax (1¼m) on return, though a 6-month absence likely contributed to his finishing effort that day, and he could yet have more to offer over this trip.

**7 1 MAHO BAY (40) (D, BF) 99**

1-14 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**Charlie Appleby** *William Buick*  
 Striking Kempton debut success was backed up by the clock and again proved most impressive when following up at Newmarket on return. The track was surely a factor in his Lingfield Derby Trial fourth and he's well worth another chance over a more suitable C&D, with stable in better form now, too.

**8 4 MORSHDI (35) 98**

21-15 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**William Haggas** *Tom Marquand*  
 Much-improved effort to make it 2 wins from 3 starts on return in the Gerry Feilden (form has taken a few knocks) at Newmarket and despite only running to a similar level when fifth in the Dante at York last time, it's still early days for one from an excellent yard.

**9 9 MOUNTAIN CAT (IRE) (31) 87**

11 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**Saeed bin Suroor** *Kieran Shoemark*  
 Bred to be useful and is well on his way to that level, following up an impressive debut success at Doncaster in straightforward fashion at Wolverhampton (8.5f). Taking on much stiffer opposition for his hat-trick bid, but there's some merit to his form, and he's still unexposed stepping up in trip.

**10 6 MY LOVE IS KING (48) s 97**

1-22 **3 9-2** | 58.1kg  
**John & Thady Gosden** *Robert Havlin*  
 Improving Kingman colt (from a family connections know well) who chased home smart Maltese Cross in a Newbury novice before finishing runner-up in a Newmarket listed race last time. Excellent yard now adds first-time cheekpieces and he's likely to be in the mix with further progress anticipated.

**10 DECLARED RUNNERS**

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**3-1** Endorsement, **4-1** Maho Bay, **13-2** Italy, **8-1** Morshdi, **12-1** Generic, **12-1** My Love Is King, **14-1** Oxagon, **20-1** Mountain Cat, **25-1** Glacius, **50-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

It's hard to knock the form of Endorsement, who'll probably try to draw the sting out of his opposition back over 1¼m, but he may just set things up for MAHO BAY, who looked a fine prospect prior to the Lingfield Derby Trial and can resume winning ways returning to a more suitable track. My Love Is King and Generic are both firmly on the up and command plenty of respect.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. MAHO BAY 2. ENDORSEMENT 3. MY LOVE IS KING**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Trinity College</b> 3-9-2	5-2f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	12
2024	<b>Jayarebe</b> 3-9-2	7-1	Brian Meehan	Sean Levey	12
2023	<b>Waipiro</b> 3-9-2	7-1	Ed Walker	Tom Marquand	16
2022	<b>Claymore</b> 3-9-2	7-1	Jane Chapple-Hyam	Adam Kirby	6
2021	<b>Mohaafeth</b> 3-9-0	11-8f	William Haggas	Jim Crowley	9

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**6.10**

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE STAKES (HANDICAP) (2) 3yo+ (Rated 0-105) £120,000 7f (1410 Metres)**

RACE 7



Going: **Good to Firm**

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

<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>ROOM SERVICE (IRE) (257)</b> (D)	b+t	<b>94</b>
	021/42875-	5 9-12   62.6kg	<i>William Carver</i>	
<p>Jamie Osborne Made a promising start last season when making the frame in a couple of 7f Group 3s. His form subsequently tailed off, with cheekpieces failing to revive him. More severe headgear tried (has looked lazy) on first start for 8 months for new yard. This is a tough return.</p>				
<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>THE WIZARD OF EYE (IRE) (40)</b> (CD)	s	<b>95</b>
	160/39-1	7 9-11   62.1kg	<i>Neil Callan</i>	
<p>Tom Clover Springly campaigned in recent years but returned with a second success in the Victoria Cup over C&amp;D last month, proving as good as ever at the age of 7. May prove vulnerable from a 5 lb higher mark.</p>				
<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>ENGLISH OAK (104)</b> (CD)		<b>93</b>
	06020-116	6 9-10   61.7kg	<i>Faleh Bughenaim</i>	
<p>Hamad Al Jehani Didn't go on for Ed Walker after landing this race in 2024 but rejuvenated for new yard when winning 2 handicaps in Meydan earlier this year and is entitled to be competitive after 3 months off.</p>				
<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>FONDO BLANCO (232)</b>		<b>94</b>
	1/2272214-	4 9-10   61.7kg	<i>Ray Dawson</i>	
<p>Roger Varian Won 1m handicap at Haydock last autumn and was a good fourth in a listed race at Nottingham next time. Gelded ahead of return and could have more to offer despite a revised handicap mark in the 100s.</p>				
<b>5</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>GOLDEN MIND (IRE) (12)</b> (D)	t	<b>94</b>
	0001-7248	5 9-10   61.7kg	<i>Oisin James Orr</i>	
<p>Richard &amp; Peter Fahey Form is a bit up and down but he's a smart handicapper on his day. Won 3 times last year and also ran well when fourth of 28 in the Victoria Cup over C&amp;D in May. Stiff task when last of 8 in Tattenham Corner Stakes at Epsom (7f, good to soft, 14/1) 12 days ago. Can bounce back.</p>				
<b>6</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>ELARAK (48)</b> (D, BF)		<b>93</b>
	6/11761-44	4 9-10   61.7kg	<i>Billy Loughnane</i>	
<p>Charles Hills Kingman gelding who registered a third success of a productive 2025 in a 7f Newmarket handicap in September, looking well suited by an aggressive ride back down in trip. Gelded thereafter and finished fourth both starts this season, including back at Newmarket at the Guineas Meeting last month.</p>				
<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>ROYAL VELVET (40)</b> (D)		<b>93</b>
	531815-11	5 9-9   61.2kg	<i>William Buick</i>	
<p>William Knight Has a good strike rate and made it a perfect 2 from 2 this season with wins over 7f in handicap at Newmarket and Group 3 at Lingfield. Returns handicapping from an 11 lb higher mark than the Newmarket race and can't be discounted given her profile.</p>				
<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>VAFORTINO (IRE) (35)</b> (CD)		<b>95</b>
	557-45078	8 9-8   60.8kg	<i>Christophe Soumillon</i>	
<p>Charlie Fellowes Is on a long losing run but made the frame in a Meydan Group 2 in January. Hasn't been able to build on that, just mid-division back in a handicap at York last month, and looks no more than averagely treated at present.</p>				
<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>GREAT ACCLAIM (40)</b> (D)	v	<b>95</b>
	12240-032	5 9-7   60.3kg	<i>Charles Bishop</i>	
<p>Eve Johnson Houghton Reacted well to blinkers last summer, winning at Goodwood and Chepstow (both 7f) before running 3 crackers in defeat, including twice over C&amp;D. In first-time visor, length second of 28 to The Wizard of Eye in Victoria Cup over C&amp;D (good to firm, 12/1) in May. Another big run is anticipated.</p>				

<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>ARCTIC DAWN (12)</b> (D)	s	<b>94</b>
	715185-31	5 9-7   60.3kg	<i>Zac Lloyd</i>	
<p>Daniel &amp; Claire Kubler Produced a career-best effort when winning 11-runner handicap at Doncaster (7f, good to firm) 12 days ago. Is low mileage on turf and has to be respected from a 9 lb higher mark.</p>				
<b>11</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>BLUE BROTHER (FR) (365)</b> (D)		<b>97</b>
	251125/60-	5 9-5   59.4kg	<i>James Doyle</i>	
<p>Hamad Al Jehani Useful form in France in 2024, winning a pair of handicaps prior to a second in listed contest at Saint-Cloud. Changed yards thereafter and was much better than result in last year's Royal Hunt Cup, meeting significant trouble. Absent since (gelded) ahead of first run for another new stable.</p>				
<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>APIARIST (IRE) (47)</b> (D)		<b>98</b>
	003-41306	5 9-5   59.4kg	<i>Jack Callan (31b/1kg)</i>	
<p>Kevin Ryan A prolific scorer on the all-weather, latest at Lingfield in February. Better than result when 2½ lengths sixth of 13 to Mirsky in handicap (8/1) at Thirsk (1m, good) last month, meeting trouble. Finished eighth in this last year from the same mark.</p>				
<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>THE LOST KING (47)</b> (D)		<b>98</b>
	6/30-12134	4 9-4   59.0kg	<i>P. J. McDonald</i>	
<p>Andrew Balding Caught the eye in the Britannia last season and having been gelded, has got back on the up on the all-weather this year, winning twice before a good third at Newcastle on Good Friday. Translated that form back onto turf when 2½ lengths fourth of 12 to Erzindjan at Newmarket (9f) in May.</p>				
<b>14</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>COSI BELLO (54)</b> (D)		<b>96</b>
	1124-1	4 9-4   59.0kg	<i>Paddy Bradley</i>	
<p>Charlie Fellowes Lightly-raced gelding who began his career with 2 all-weather wins last spring. Ran creditably in 2 good handicaps after, before winning 12-runner event (5/2) at Haydock (7f, good to firm) on reappearance in April. Up just 2 lb in this more competitive race.</p>				
<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>DANCE IN THE STORM (13)</b> (D, BF)	h	<b>100</b>
	714230-15	4 9-3   58.5kg	<i>Oisin Murphy</i>	
<p>Andrew Balding Returned after 7 months off when landing 13-runner handicap at Chester (7f) in May, overcoming a pace bias in eye-catching style. Did a bit too much too soon when fifth to Colombier in similar event at Epsom 13 days ago. Has to be taken seriously in a race that should be run to suit.</p>				
<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>DEFENCE MINISTER (40)</b> (D)		<b>96</b>
	6/90249-10	4 9-3   58.5kg	<i>James McDonald</i>	
<p>Hamad Al Jehani Useful gelding who had some strong handicap form to his name last season without winning. Returned with victory at Kempton (7f) in March and can have his latest effort ignored when down the field in Victoria Cup over C&amp;D last month, having a hopeless task from his position.</p>				
<b>17</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>STORM STAR (48)</b>		<b>95</b>
	1113-6602	5 9-3   58.5kg	<i>Alfie Redman (71b/3kg)</i>	
<p>Andrew Balding Completed a Newcastle hat-trick last year. Dropped in the weights and bounced back to form when second of 11 in handicap at this course (1m, good to firm, 12/1) in May. That was his best turf effort, though this is a whole lot tougher.</p>				
<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>COLOMBIER (13)</b> (D)		<b>97</b>
	70114/9-01	6 9-3   58.5kg	<i>Ryan Moore</i>	
<p>Hamad Al Jehani A 4-time winner in France who stepped up markedly on his stable debut when winning 16-runner handicap at Epsom (7f, good to soft) 13 days ago, proving game. The booking of Moore is a plus and has to merit consideration.</p>				
<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>MIRSKY (13)</b>		<b>97</b>
	1109-3100	7 9-2   58.1kg	<i>Rossa Ryan</i>	
<p>David O'Meara Back-to-back winner last season and stepped forward from reappearance to land the Thirsk Hunt Cup last month. Latest effort at Epsom can be excused as he clipped heels and stumbled just as the race was starting to unfold. Finished in mid-division from the same mark in last year's renewal of this.</p>				
<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>PELLITORY (40)</b> (D)		<b>96</b>
	9478550-0	4 9-2   58.1kg	<i>Daniel Tudhope</i>	
<p>David O'Meara Used 3-time 7f winner when trained by James Owen. Wasn't seen to best effect on first run for new yard in Victoria Cup over C&amp;D in May. Has been given some further help from the handicapper.</p>				

6.10

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE STAKES (HANDICAP) (2) 3yo+ (Rated 0-105) £120,000 7f (1410 Metres)**

RACE 7



**21 14 RIVER KING (IRE) (17)** 4/3231-21 4 9-2 | 58.1kg  
**Richard Hannon** *Pat Dobbs*  
 Off the mark at Windsor (1¼m) last summer and much improved when making all in handicap at Newbury (1m) earlier this month. Raised 8 lb and 7f should suit given this set up.

**22 12 THE FINGAL RAVEN (IRE) (97) (D)** 0336-4155 4 9-2 | 58.1kg t **95**  
**Jamie Osborne** *Saffie Osborne*  
 Winner over 1m at Meydan in January. 7/1, respectable fifth of 14 in handicap over same C&D (good) when last seen in March. Goes with a first-time tongue strap here.

**23 13 STRATUSNINE (IRE) (26)** 912-U52P2 4 9-2 | 58.1kg **95**  
**Hugo Palmer** *Kieran Shoemark*  
 Won at Wolverhampton (6f) in December and has filled the runner-up spot on 3 occasions since, latest at York over 5f last month when unlucky not to win having conceded first run. Takes a significant step back up in trip.

**24 1 ROCK OF CASHEL (IRE) (21) (D)** 1606-0001 4 9-2 | 58.1kg **86**  
**Niels Petersen, Norway** *Jamie Spencer*  
 Won 4-runner conditions race at Navan last summer for Aidan O'Brien but then struggled in some competitive handicaps at Meydan earlier in the year for this yard. Didn't need to improve to win 7-runner handicap at Orevoll (8.7f, good) 21 days ago. This is much tougher.

**25 17 HICKORY (IRE) (21) (CD)** 635212-06 8 9-2 | 58.1kg s  **96**  
**Jamie Osborne** *C. T. Keane*  
 Winning start for this yard over C&D in Victoria Cup last year and added to his tally in September, landing a classified event over the same C&D from Fondo Blanco. Looks to have been brought along gradually this season and should be fully primed for this.

**26 7 SO DARN HOT (40)** 03135-067 4 9-1 | 57.6kg s **96**  
**Ed Walker** *Ashley Lewis (5lb/2kg)*  
 Progressive in 2025, ending his time with Kevin Philippart de Foy with a decisive success at Windsor (6f) in June. In first-time cheekpieces, produced best effort of the season when 4¼ lengths seventh of 28 to The Wizard of Eye in Victoria Cup over C&D (good to firm, 28/1) last month.

**27 27 BRASIL POWER (FR) (46) (D)** 1-3441609 7 9-1 | 57.6kg t **93**  
**George Boughey** *Grace McEntee*  
 Kept busy on the all-weather over the winter, winning 4 times with the latest at Wolverhampton (1¼m) in March. Found it more difficult back on turf last month. Takes a significant drop in trip and has work to do.

**28 30 MEZCALA (33) (BF)** 52127-13 4 9-1 | 57.6kg **96**  
**Jack Channon** *Tom Marquand*  
 Got back on the up when landing 22-runner Spring Mile at Doncaster in impressive fashion on return. Ran well on the back of an 8 lb rise when third in handicap at Newbury (1m) last month. Up just a further 1 lb and merits consideration back in a big field.

**29 11 NIZAM (FR) (13) (D)** 672156-07 4 9-1 | 57.6kg **94**  
**Ian Williams** *Cieren Fallon*   
 Winner of 3 of his 9 starts in France, most recently landing a 1m Deauville handicap last summer. Stepped up on reappearance when seventh at Epsom 13 days ago, meeting some trouble late on and losing 3 places close home.

**RESERVES**

**30 32 HOUQUETOT (IRE) (33) (D)** 217/065-97 4 9-1 | 57.6kg **94**  
**James Owen** *Reserve*  
 Useful performer in France for Christopher Head. Matched that in 2 outings for David O'Meara over the winter and ran to a similar level on first start for this yard at Newbury last month. RESERVE.

**31 21 BACK IN BLACK (IRE) (40) (D, BF)** 3/15324-43 4 9-1 | 57.6kg t **98**  
**James Fanshawe** *Reserve*  
 Quite a lightly-raced sort and has proven relatively consistent. Winless since last spring but has made the frame both starts this season. Could make his presence felt in a first-time tongue strap. RESERVE.

**96 32 9 MUDBIR (40) (D, BF)** 2/15117-0 4 9-1 | 57.6kg s **99**  
**John & Thady Gosden** *Reserve*  
 Made good progress last year, winning 3 times, including at Glorious Goodwood over 7f when beating Dance In The Storm. Well backed but finished down the field in Victoria Cup over C&D last month (not knocked about). Gelded since and could yet be more to come from him in 2026. RESERVE.

29 DECLARED RUNNERS (3 RESERVES)

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-1** Cosi Bello, **12-1** Dance In The Storm, **12-1** River King, **16-1** Colombier, **16-1** The Wizard of Eye, **18-1** Mezcala, **18-1** Elarak, **22-1** Great Acclaim, **22-1** Arctic Dawn, **22-1** Royal Velvet, **25-1** Blue Brother, **25-1** Fondo Blanco, **25-1** English Oak, **28-1** Apiarist, **28-1** Vafortino, **33-1** The Lost King, **33-1** Hickory, **33-1** Defence Minister, **33-1** Stratusnine, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

A typically competitive renewal and preference is for GREAT ACCLAIM, who can build on his Victoria Cup effort and go one better here. The in-form Mezcala could have a plum draw and can make his presence felt once more, with Dance In The Storm and English Oak a couple of the fancies for the placings.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. GREAT ACCLAIM 2. MEZCALA 3. DANCE IN THE STORM**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Never So Brave</b> 4-9-12	4-1f	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	27
2024	<b>English Oak</b> 4-9-8	10-3f	Ed Walker	James Doyle	26
2023	<b>Witch Hunter</b> 4-9-10	50-1	Richard Hannon	Jamie Spencer	29
2022	<b>Inver Park</b> 4-9-1	12-1	George Boughey	Ben Curtis	29
2021	<b>Highfield Princess</b> 4-8-11	18-1	John Quinn	Jason Hart	28

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race