

EPSOM OAKS DAY CHEAT SHEET

PUNDITS' PICKS FOR FILLIES' CLASSIC

FRIDAY, MAY 31

MATT CHAPMAN



MICK FITZGERALD



JASON WEAVER



RUBY WALSH



TIMEFORM



2:00PM

BRITISH EBF WOODCOTE STAKES

- MC** **TEEJ A** impressed me at Chester and must have at least an each-way chance for Karl Burke and Clifford Lee.
- MF** **NEW CHARTER** can go one better than her debut second to Mountain Breeze at Newmarket.
- JW** **MEGALITHIC** was expected to win on his racecourse debut at over 5f trip. The step up in trip to 6f will be more in his comfort zone on his second run.
- RW** Karl Burke's **TEEJ A** won well at Chester last time over this 6f trip and appeals to me at an each-way price.
- TF** **NEW CHARTER** shaped well when chasing home Mountain Breeze at Newmarket and her stable that has a good record in this contest.

3:10PM

CORONATION CUP

- MC** **EMILY UPJOHN** is the only horse in this line-up with a turn of speed and I hope Kieran Shoemark will pull her out and charge down the middle of the track.
- MF** The Coronation Cup is the first Group 1 contest of the two days and **EMILY UPJOHN** sets the standard. She won this contest last year on good to firm ground but the slower ground shouldn't be against her now.
- JW** Emily Upjohn is going to be favourite but she's not a million miles clear on official ratings. The French raider **FEED THE FLAME** may take advantage.
- RW** I can see Time Lock bolting out and pushing Luxembourg on. Last year's winner **EMILY UPJOHN**, Feed The Flame and Hamish will like that as they're hold-up horses. Emily Upjohn can strike again
- TF** **EMILY UPJOHN** created a big impression when landing this last year and she's a straightforward choice to defend her crown.

4:30PM

EPSOM OAKS

- MC** I'm confident **YLANG YLANG** will be too good for this field for Ryan Moore and Aidan O'Brien.
- MF** **YLANG YLANG** is a very good filly who got outpaced over 1m in the 1,000 Guineas on seasonal debut but should be sharper now for this 1m 4f test of the Epsom Oaks. **EZELIYA** could be one for each-way backers.
- JW** **YLANG YLANG** put up a great performance in the 1,000 Guineas over a mile at HQ where she finished fifth on seasonal debut. This 1m4 trip should help her settle into a better rhythm.
- RW** I'm finding it hard to oppose **YLANG YLANG**. She's screamed 'Oaks horse' to me after finishing fifth in the 1,000 Guineas earlier this month. **SECRET SATIRE** could be over-priced as an each-way play.
- TF** **YLANG YLANG** looked ready for further when a promising fifth in the 1000 Guineas and can provide her yard with a seventh Oaks win since 2015.

2:35PM

TRUSTATRADER HANDICAP

- MC** **FINN'S CHARM** has been high in the handicap for much of his life but he has a win at Musselburgh off 3lb lower than this in similar conditions.
- MF** Epsom handicap regular **ORBAAN** looks a bit of value with Silvestre De Sousa booked to ride. He's finished placed in the last two editions of this contest.
- JW** **FANTASTIC FOX (EACH-WAY)** hit the line strongly at Ascot last time and the step up in trip to 1m 1/2f will suit.
- RW** **FINNS CHARM** ran on well on his seasonal reappearance at Chester earlier this month. A mark of 95 is more than workable.
- TF** **BOPEDRO** finished third last time out and looks set to uphold that form and emerge on top.

3:45PM

NIFTY 50 HANDICAP

- MC** **LIBERTY LANE** was second to Royal Ascot winner Waipiro over this trip as a novice so I have no worries about a step up in distance.
- MF** A 10f handicap where **LIBERTY LANE** can continue his ascension through the ranks after a smooth success at Newmarket last time.
- JW** The booking of Silvestre De Sousa is a positive for **SWEET REWARD (EACH-WAY)** who has some decent form at this venue.
- RW** A tricky handicap where both of mine are tentative picks. **DERRY LAD** impressed at Naas but has struggled to kick on before. **LIBERTY LANE** could defy a penalty and win again after his Newmarket victory earlier this month.
- TF** **I STILL HAVE FAITH** enjoyed a thoroughly productive 2023 campaign, he looks sure to go close.

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