

EPSOM DERBY DAY CHEAT SHEET

PUNDITS' PICKS OF THE DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

MATT CHAPMAN



MICK FITZGERALD



JASON WEAVER



RUBY WALSH



TIMEFORM



2:00PM

PRINCESS ELIZABETH STAKES

- MC** I'm stunned **RUNNING LION** is not shorter in the betting and I'll be disappointed if she doesn't win.
- MF** The drop in class to Group 3 company can see **CHIC COLOMBINE** get competitive now at a sporting price.
- JW** **ASTRAL BEAU** ran a huge race last season in arguably a better contest. The softer conditions will play to her strengths.
- RW** I wanted to take on Running Lion and after a deep dive I landed on **BREEGE** for John and Sean Quinn. She ran well on her seasonal reappearance at Goodwood and can improve for the run.
- TF** **RUNNING LION** should take plenty of beating back down in class. has a good record in this contest.

2:35PM

DIOMED STAKES

- MC** **EPICTETUS** is an each-way selection here. The former French Derby fifth will enjoy running at a strong gallop.
- MF** **REGAL REALITY** won this contest last year. His recent run at Chester should see him fighting fit and he's versatile regarding ground conditions.
- JW** **EMBESTO** is going to take a significant step forward and the team have put the hood on to get him to settle early on.
- RW** Roger Varian's **EMBESTO** will wear a hood as he can race a bit keenly. He's drawn just inside Regal Reality so I'll take my chances with him.
- TF** With a hood added, **EMBESTO** is taken to get the better of last year's one-two in the race.

3:10PM

'DASH' HANDICAP

- MC** **MASHAADI** is piping fit and running well and should have a chance of getting a place at least.
- MF** Things didn't quite work out for **DUE FOR LUCK** last time at Chester on seasonal debut when third to Knicks in a three-way photo finish. He's drawn in stall 19 which should help him now.
- JW** **DUE FOR LUCK** was so unlucky not to get his head in front on his return at Chester and the handicapper has only given him a gentle nudge up the weights with a 2lb rise.
- RW** **MASHADI** didn't stay on his last start at Ascot when folding in the last 50 yards. He drops back to 5f now from 6f and looks better than his handicap mark of 84.
- TF** **GRANGLAD** confirmed himself a useful sprinter in the making when adding to his tally over this trip at Goodwood 7 days ago, A 3 lb rise for that looks fair.

3:45PM

ASTON MARTIN 'DASH' HANDICAP

- MC** **LIVE IN THE MOMENT** has been running over 6f of late and he is a winner over that trip – but I think he's all about speed.
- MF** **CLARENDON HOUSE** looked really good when winning at York last time and ran well in this contest last year. He got a 6lb penalty for that victory but he can justify it now.
- JW** **SILKY WILKIE** reappears fully 8lb below last season's rating and won't mind whatever the weather throws at him.
- RW** **SILKY WILKIE** is 8lbs lower than when second in this race last year. At a bigger price, **ONE NIGHT STAND** ran on well last year in this contest and has a fair draw in stall 10 this time.
- TF** **CLARENDON HOUSE** arrives at the top of his game and his strong-travelling style is suited to this speedy track.

4:30PM

EPSOM DERBY

- MC** I'm risking one at huge odds and going to have a few quid each-way on **DEIRA MILE**. First time cheekpieces are interesting and if he's dropped in and ridden for a place he might just come home strong.
- MF** I like **LOS ANGELES** who won at Leopardstown on seasonal debut. He can lead home Ancient Wisdom, Macduff & Ambiente Friendly.
- JW** **LOS ANGELES** brings in the perfect 100 per cent record with three unbeaten runs and still has a massive amount of improvement left in him judged by the way he went through his last win at Leopardstown.
- RW** I'm not forgiving City of Troy's odds-on defeat in the 2000 Guineas but I will side with another Aidan O'Brien runner in **LOS ANGELES**.
- TF** **LOS ANGELES** looks sure to benefit from the step up to 1½m.

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