

ROYAL ASCOT CHEAT SHEET

PUNDITS' PICKS FOR DAY FOUR

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

TIMEFORM

MICK FITZGERALD

JASON WEAVER

FRANK HICKEY

MATT CHAPMAN



2:30PM

GROUP 3 ALBANY STAKES 6F

- TF** **FLOTUS** created a tremendous impression when making a successful start to her career at Goodwood last month. An exciting prospect.
- MF** Elliptic should run well at a big price but **PRETTIEST** was a very good filly and I am siding with her.
- JW** **FLOTUS** made no mistake on her racecourse debut 27 days ago and it's significant they've decided to book Dettori for her big date at the Royal meeting.
- FH** Elliptic and **EVE LODGE** are the two to focus on and I've a slight preference for the latter, though I'll probably back both each-way.
- MC** **SANDRINE** could be value. The Bobby's Kitten offspring won going away on debut at Kempton and had the reopposing Oscula back in third.

3:40PM

GROUP 1 COMMONWEALTH CUP 6F

- TF** **SUESA** has passed each of her four Chantilly assignments with flying colours and is every inch a Group 1 filly in the making.
- MF** **SUPREMACY** was laboured at Ascot in April but his form last season was so impressive you have to think he'll be better here. Adam Kirby's sticking with him over Diligent Harry too and blinkers might help.
- JW** **FIVETHOUSANDTOONE** was a rocket juvenile last season. This looks a massive ask on his return but his team's had a great campaign. An each-way shot.
- FH** Provided the ground doesn't deteriorate too much, **SACRED** would look to have fair each-way claims as I thought she was very good in the Nell Gwyn Stakes.
- MC** **JUMBY** has plenty to find on ratings for Eve Johnson Houghton and Charlie Bishop but what he does bring is current, progressive form. Campanelle was a monster juvenile and, if ready, she's a serious player.

5:00PM

SANDRINGHAM STAKES H'CAP 1M

- TF** **CAMDEBOO** promises to take a big step forward tackling this trip for the first time having been an excellent fourth over 5.5f in a Cork listed event.
- MF** I like **POMELO** for Ralph Beckett. She was favourite in the Prestige Stakes won by Isabella Giles last August, but bounced back to form at Wolverhampton and could have improved physically over the winter. Lucid Dreamer is one to watch too.
- JW** **PRADO** is growing into her impressive frame and wasn't given a hard time when returning here over a mile under quick conditions. She will be spot on for this assignment and any easing in the ground is a bonus with the excellent Jamie Spencer on board.
- FH** Hayley Turner has won this race the last two years and she can land the hat-trick as her mount **PROFESSIONAL WIDOW** only got 3lbs for winning on handicap debut last time.
- MC** **BELIEF** is interesting and the handicapper has only given her a handicap mark of 88. She could be miles better than that and a high draw looks a plus.

6:10PM

PALACE OF HOLYROOD STAKES H'CAP 5F

- TF** **BOOMSHALAA** has looked a smart sprinter in the making with two impressive victories this year. The drop to 5f here will suit and his stay in handicaps could be a short one.
- MF** **WARRIOR BRAVE** won the Gusbourne Handicap at Goodwood in late April and was a good second at Sandown earlier this month. If the rain does come, Michael Appleby's gelding shouldn't mind it.
- JW** **DESERT GULF** has put up some solid performances in his career despite running at the wrong distance. Back down to the minimum now with Hollie Doyle on board and a featherweight on his back, he's a totally different proposition - and a massive each-way price.
- FH** I'm not sure **DESERT GULF** will handle the ground if it gets very soft but I do know he is well handicapped and is worth taking a chance on at the price.
- MC** **BOOMSHALAA** is the sexy horse judged by his facile success at Windsor last time. He might just blitz this lot off a rating of 95.

3:05PM

GROUP 3 KING EDWARD VII STAKES 1M 4F

- TF** **ALENQUER** claimed the Classic Trial at Sandown and that form got a massive boost when runner-up Adayar won the Derby just under a fortnight ago.
- MF** **ALENQUER** rolled around a little at Sandown but beat the Derby winner and was not stopping. This step up in trip should not be a problem.
- JW** **ALENQUER** won at a massive price at Sandown but injury saw him miss a start at York which would've put him in the Derby picture. The yard's patience can be rewarded on favourable ground.
- FH** **TITLE** was very impressive in a maiden at Yarmouth, clocking a similar time to Queen's Vase winner Kimari, who won on the same card.
- MC** I have a feeling we have not seen the best of **YIBIR** this term and I'll keep the faith one more time as he goes up a little in trip.

4:20PM

GROUP 1 CORONATION STAKES 1M

- TF** **MOTHER EARTH** wasn't far off landing the British/French 1000 Guineas double and she's a solid option to get back to winning ways.
- MF** **PRIMO BACIO** has come on from her fourth place behind Alcohol Free in April's Fred Darling at Newbury. She flew home that day then had an easy success at York last month. Looks a good value bet.
- JW** **EMPRESS JOSEPHINE** is the only runner to have started her career in 2021 and has come a long way already. A sister of Minding, she got her nose in front at the Irish 1000 Guineas and may prove better over longer distances. Not to be underestimated.
- FH** Conditions should be ideal for **PRETTY GORGEOUS** and she should take a big step forward from her run in the Irish 1000 Guineas.
- MC** **SNOW LANTERN** never settled at York last time but she's surely miles better than that form suggests and she has a fabulous draw to work from.

5:35PM

DUKE OF EDINBURGH STAKES 1M 4F

- TF** **AADDEEY** hacked up when returned to this trip at Newmarket last time and could have plenty more to offer.
- MF** A very competitive handicap but I really fancy **ZABEEL CHAMPION**. Trainer Mark Johnston has a good record in this race and his colt looks to have more up his sleeve at a decent each-way price.
- JW** Second in the Golden Gate Handicap last year, **TRITONIC** progressed through the season and has proved good over obstacles too since then. Enjoyed a nice return to the flat at Chelmsford in April and Ryan Moore's booking gives us added confidence.
- FH** **QUICKTHORN** clocked a fast time at Haydock and got 13lbs for it but he is capable of defying the rise.
- MC** **TRITONIC** for Ryan Moore and trainer Alan King has every chance of hitting the frame at the very least here.

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