



# ROYAL ASCOT CHEAT SHEET

## PUNDITS' PICKS FOR DAY FIVE

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

TIMEFORM

MICK FITZGERALD

JASON WEAVER

FRANK HICKEY

MATT CHAPMAN



2:30PM

### CHESHAM STAKES 7F

- TF** Charlie Appleby's Lope de Vega colt **NEW SCIENCE** can build on his promising Yarmouth debut success and announce himself among the leading juveniles.
- MF** Pinatubo won this in 2019 and the same team have **NEW SCIENCE** here who won well over 7f at Yarmouth. Lope de Vega's offspring usually cope with soft ground too.
- JW** **NEW SCIENCE** didn't disappoint on debut at Yarmouth last month. His top speed figure suggests a bold showing is to be expected here.
- FH** **SWEEPING** is bred to be a strong stayer and ran well on debut in a strong maiden at Leicester. Could surprise in testing conditions.
- MC** Oisin Murphy is very keen on **MASEKELA** and that's good enough for me! Won on debut at Goodwood in style and bred to love the extra furlong. Has each-way claims.

3:40PM

### GROUP 2 HARDWICKE STAKES 1M 4F

- TF** **HUKUM** made a good impression winning a very competitive three-year-old handicap over course and distance a year ago. Shaped like a horse with more to offer when winning at Goodwood last time out too.
- MF** **ALBAFLORA** finished just behind Japan in the Coronation at Epsom, and she handles very soft ground really well. She's a good value bet.
- JW** **ALBAFLORA** was impressive on her return to action at this course and distance and didn't run too badly under quickening ground conditions at Epsom. With James Doyle in the saddle now and from an inside stall she can announce herself on a bigger stage.
- FH** **WONDERFUL TONIGHT** relishes testing ground and is a course and distance winner.
- MC** **ILARAAB** is up in class but just keeps on winning. Stepping up to this trip at York last time he improved again to land a handicap in great style. Has to find another 5lb here but might well do so.

5:00PM

### WOKINGHAM STAKES 6F

- TF** **KING'S LYNN** went up 12lb in the handicap for his Haydock listed win but can run under just a 5lb penalty here. Unlucky not to finish closer in the King's Stand earlier this week and could be a handicap snip.
- MF** I can't help but like **CHIEFOFCHIEFS**. He won a strong Silver Wokingham Handicap at Ascot last year so clearly likes the track and is proven on soft ground.
- JW** That his jockey comes down to maintain the partnership with **AIR RAID** is a good sign of his chances. He stays a bit further than 6f which will help as this is going to turn into a real slog.
- FH** **GREAT AMBASSADOR** handled easy ground in last year's Britannia but dropping to sprint trips could be the making of him.
- MC** **GULLIVER** is a big price and not easy to predict, but he's down to a very handy mark now of 99 and can never be ignored in these races.

6:10PM

### QUEEN ALEXANDRA STAKES 2M 5F

- TF** **FALCON EIGHT** looked better than ever when landing the Chester Cup on his reappearance and, with a strong pace on the cards, there's a good chance he can follow up.
- MF** Willie Mullins loves races like this and Ryan Moore loves riding for him as jumps horses like **STRATUM** are suited to the extreme conditions we expect.
- JW** This is his first try at the age of eight at the distance, but his previous over two miles suggests **MORANDO** will be suited to it. Loves deep underfoot conditions and retains all his enthusiasm for racing.
- FH** **STAG HORN** is a young, progressive stayer when getting testing conditions and could provide Hollie Doyle with another Royal Ascot winner.
- MC** I see no reason why the Chester Cup winner **FALCON EIGHT** won't take all the beating.

3:05PM

### GROUP 3 JERESY STAKES 7F

- TF** **MUTASAABEQ** was found wanting having been supplemented for the 2000 Guineas but his reputation remains intact and a well run race over 7f looks the ideal set-up for him to regain the winning thread.
- MF** **NAVAL CROWN** ran in the 2000 Guineas, the best guide for this race. He did well to finish fourth in it and we all saw what winner Poetic Flare did in the St James' Palace Stakes.
- JW** **MUTASAABEQ** faced a tough ask against Group 1 company after an easy win at Newmarket, but ran a race full of potential behind Poetic Flair and looks to be a star dropping back to this 7f long sprint.
- FH** **MUTASAABEQ** was a little disappointing in the Guineas but testing ground holds no fears for him and the drop back to 7f is a positive.
- MC** **NAVAL CROWN** really should run well for Charlie Appleby and William Buick. A pacemaker in the 2000 Guineas, he ran a corker to finish fourth. A huge each-way chance.

4:20PM

### GROUP 3 DIAMOND JUBILEE STAKES

- TF** **STARMAN** is the least exposed and has the potential to dominate this division so rates as a confident selection.
- MF** **DREAM OF DREAMS** was pipped here last year and showed in the Belfair Sprint at Haydock that he handles soft ground. Ryan Moore adds confidence.
- JW** **ART POWER** likes soft conditions and although he was behind Starman at York last time he can turn that form around given favourable ground.
- FH** Expect **ART POWER** to take a big step forward from his York run now the ground has come right for him.
- MC** **GLEN SHIEL** was a big priced winner of the Champions Sprint at Ascot in October and he's decent odds again for Archie Watson and Hollie Doyle. I reckon he's got strong each-way claims here.

5:35PM

### GOLDEN GATE STAKES H'CAP 1M 2F

- TF** **ALFAADHEL** is a colt very much on the up and looks to have been allotted a handy opening mark.
- MF** I hoped **SEASETT** would get in as a reserve and thankfully he has. Raadobarg beat him at Haydock last month then ran well in the Britannia Stakes, so his form looks strong and he is good on soft ground.
- JW** **ALFAADHEL** is building a very impressive profile stepping up from his racecourse debut for two great successes. He has a little bit of class about him and his team are confident a mark of 98 underestimates his potential.
- FH** **WITHOUT REVENGE** was extremely impressive last time he stepped up to this trip and breeding suggests the ground should be fine at a fair each-way price.
- MC** **KING FRANKEL** should have won at Epsom last time so even though he's up another 3lb here he is not out of it. Dettori is an interesting jockey booking.

**PADDYPOWER.** NEWS

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