



ROYAL ASCOT

2024 PREVIEW



CONTENTS

GROUP 1 STATS GUIDES BY PAUL JONES

PAGE 2

STABLE TOUR BY AIDAN O'BRIEN

PAGE 4

“WHAT THEY SAY”

PAGES 5&6

TIM CARROLL'S INTERNATIONAL STARS

PAGE 7

ROYAL ASCOT 2024 ORDER OF RUNNING

PAGES 8&9



GROUP 1 STATS GUIDES

BY PAUL JONES



No one knows more about the crucial trends behind the races at Royal Ascot than Paul Jones, who has compiled comprehensive Stats Guides for every Group 1 race at Royal Ascot 2024.



QUEEN ANNE STAKES

TUESDAY 18TH JUNE, 14:30PM

Group 1 | British Champions Series
Class 1 | 4YO plus
Winner £425,325 - 16 entered to run

✓ POSITIVES:

Contested the Lockinge Stakes
Four-year-olds

✗ NEGATIVES:

Failed to win a Group 1
Outside the first four in the betting
Aged over five
Fillies/mares (unless a Breeders' Cup winner)
Seasonal debutantes



KING CHARLES III STAKES

TUESDAY 18TH JUNE, 15:45PM

Group 1 | British Champions Series
Class 1 | 3YO plus
Winner £368,615 - 19 entered to run

✓ POSITIVES:

Last-time-out winners
Trained in Australia
Contested the Temple Stakes
Top-four finish in the Prix du Gros-Chêne
Three-year-old winner at Royal Ascot last year
Fillies/mares

✗ NEGATIVES:

Outside the first two last time out
Failed to win a Group 1 or Group 2
Failed to win a Group race over 5f



ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES

TUESDAY 18TH JUNE, 16:25PM

Group 1 | British Champions Series
Rnd | Class 1 | 3YO only
Winner £368,615 - 11 entered to run

✓ POSITIVES:

Ran in both the 2000 Guineas and Irish 2000 Guineas
A Group 1 winner (especially a European Guineas)
The favourite
Trained by Aidan O'Brien (especially if contested the Irish 2000 Guineas)
Drawn low
Won last season's Coventry Stakes

✗ NEGATIVES:

Yet to contest a Group 1 (unless trained by John & Thady Gosden)
Failed to finish in the first four in any European Guineas (unless trained by John & Thady Gosden)
Less than two starts this season



PRINCE OF WALES'S STAKES

WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE, 16:25PM

Group 1 | British Champions Series
Class 1 | 4YO plus
Winner £567,100 - 13 entered to run

POSITIVES:

Last-time-out winners
Contested last season's renewal

NEGATIVES:

Yet to win a Group/Grade 1
Aged 6+
Unplaced last time out
Likely to start bigger than 8/1
Odds-on favourite



GOLD CUP

THURSDAY 20TH JUNE, 16:25PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 4YO plus
Winner £368,615 - 16 entered to run

POSITIVES:

Likely to start no bigger than 15/2
Trained by Aidan O'Brien
Won the Gold Cup or Queen's Vase previously
Four-year-olds
Owned by Godolphin
Contested the Henry II Stakes
Won earlier in the season
Drawn lower half

NEGATIVES:

Aged 6+



COMMONWEALTH CUP

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE, 15:05PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 3YO only
Winner £368,615 - 29 entered to run

POSITIVES:

Contested the Sandy Lane Stakes
Dropping down in trip from the 2000 Guineas
Officially rated 114+
Fillies

NEGATIVES:

More than two runs this season



CORONATION STAKES

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE, 15:45PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 3YO only
Winner £368,615 - 22 entered to run

POSITIVES:

The Irish 1000 Guineas winner
Finished in the first six in the 1000 Guineas
Finished in the first three in the French 1000 Guineas
The favourite
French connections
Won a Pattern race as a two-year-old
Drawn in the higher half

NEGATIVES:

Not run in a Classic
Likely to start bigger than 6/1
Beaten in the Irish 1000 Guineas



QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE STAKES

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE, 15:45PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 4YO plus
Winner £567,100 - 21 entered to run

POSITIVES:

Won or placed at Royal Ascot before
Won a Group or Listed race earlier in the season
Non-European-trained contenders
Contested a 7f race at some stage
Never raced over 5f

NEGATIVES:

Never won over 6f
Mares

STABLE TOUR

BY AIDAN O'BRIEN



TUESDAY 18 JUNE | 15:05 | COVENTRY STAKES

CAMILLE PISSARRO

The plan is for him to run in the Coventry Stakes. We have thought for quite some time that he is a Coventry horse. He works like a very good horse. He was just green in the Marble Hill last time. Ryan felt he was very babyish and would come forward a good bit again. We're looking forward to him.

TUESDAY 18 JUNE | 16:25 | ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES

HENRY LONGFELLOW

He will go for the St James's Palace Stakes. His last run in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains was a bit of a mess. He got trapped back in the field in a slowly run race and every time he tried to come out someone cut the head off him. We think he'll perform an awful lot better at Royal Ascot. If the rain comes, that'll be fine for him.

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE | 16:25 | PRINCE OF WALES'S STAKES

AUGUSTE RODIN

He's in great order and he has been trained for the Prince of Wales's Stakes. We were happy with his run in the Tattersalls Gold Cup. The hope going into it was that he'd win, but the rain sent the ground in a direction that wasn't ideal for him. He also just had a little wobble when he got pushed out on the home turn which interrupted his rhythm for a few strides. Even though he was beaten, the run was always going to bring him on. Royal Ascot has been a big part of the plan with him, and we couldn't be happier with where he is at the minute. We wouldn't want rain for him and would much prefer faster ground.

THURSDAY 20 JUNE | 16:25 | GOLD CUP

KYPRIOS

He is bang on target for the Gold Cup. He has hit every marker we've set for him this season and it has all gone very smoothly. He's never likely to be the type to stretch away and after what happened in France, where he veered left after hitting the front, we are never in a rush to deliver him to the front. We would always ideally like to get him a lead for as long as possible. After all the difficulties he faced last season, we are excited to see him back in the Gold Cup.

FRIDAY 21 JUNE | 15:45 | CORONATION STAKES

OPERA SINGER

We're really looking forward to seeing her in the Coronation Stakes. She had a hold-up earlier this year and we felt we had to run her in the Irish 1,000 Guineas if she was going to make it to Royal Ascot. She hadn't been away for a work and really, we didn't expect her to run as well as she did at the Curragh as we didn't think she had nearly enough work done. It says plenty about how much class and ability she has that she ran so well. She looks to have come forward at home just as we hoped she would since then and she's one to look forward to.

“WHAT THEY SAY”

QUOTES FROM CONNECTIONS ACROSS THE WEEK

TUESDAY 18 JUNE | 15:05 | COVENTRY STAKES



COWARDOFTHECOUNTY

He put his hand up as potentially a very smart horse in the spring. We threw him in at the deep end for his debut at the Curragh against Whistlejacket who had a big reputation, and we were thrilled with how he performed. He showed inexperience in the first half of the race, but really came to life in the second half and ended up running out the impressive winner. The time stood up well on the day and the runner-up was obviously impressive in winning a Listed race on his next start. The Coventry Stakes has been his aim since then. He is a colt with plenty of size and substance that will improve as the season goes on, so as important as it is, we didn't want to make it all about Royal Ascot with him. His work has been very good, and we are very excited to see what he can do. He has already shown that he handles ground with a good ease in it, so it wouldn't be a problem for him if it arrives.

Joseph O'Brien, *Trainer*

TUESDAY 18 JUNE | 15:45 | KING CHARLES III STAKES



BELIEVING

She surprised me in the Achilles because she wasn't fully wound up and I was vocal about that before the race. She could run in both the King Charles III and the Jubilee but we are governed by the ground. I do favour 5f for her so if it's wet in the early part of the week we'll take our chance in the King Charles and see how the rest of the week pans out.

George Boughey, *Trainer*

TUESDAY 18 JUNE | 17:40 | WOLFERTON STAKES



CHECKANDCHALLENGE

He's come out of the Prix d'Ispehan fine. They didn't go that quick and turned it into a bit of a sprint, he was only beaten by four lengths. Tuesday is a drop-in class, we would just like to see a little bit of rain around. He is in very, very good form so I'm very happy with where we are at. He likes the straight course at Ascot, but it's a different situation around the bend. Probably when he ran it last year (when seventh) he maybe got a bit further back than we wanted to be. Over a mile and a quarter, he really wants a nice, even gallop.

William Knight, *Trainer*

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE | 14:30 | QUEEN MARY STAKES



MAKE HASTE

We're looking forward to next week and the filly heads there in top form. We've always liked her at home and Gavin rode her in her work at Dundalk before her debut and felt she would be a nice filly going forward. We think she is special, and we like her a lot. I think she will get further than five furlongs in time, but we will look forward to the Queen Mary Stakes over five furlongs first.

Diego Dias, *Trainer*

“WHAT THEY SAY”

QUOTES FROM CONNECTIONS ACROSS THE WEEK

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE | 14:30 | QUEEN MARY STAKES



ULTIMA GRACE

She won impressively by a considerable margin with Johnny just sitting on her. When we switched her over to the grass you can tell that's where she'll be for the rest of her life. She's much, much better on the grass. She had some really nice breezes on the grass leading up to Keeneland.

Wesley Ward, *Trainer*

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE | 15:45 | DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE STAKES



ROGUE MILLENNIUM

The Duke Of Cambridge is her target at this stage. She obviously didn't get much luck on her first start for us at the Curragh, but she ran well and seems to have come forward well for it since. She won the Duke Of Cambridge last year when it was run on the straight track. It has been switched to the round track this year and we think that will play to her strengths. It looks a lovely spot for her before she makes her way back into Group 1 company and she's one that we've love quick ground for.

Joseph O'Brien, *Trainer*

FRIDAY 21 JUNE | 15:45 | CORONATION STAKES



CHIC COLOMBINE

The Coronation Stakes has been the aim but she may run in the Sandringham instead, as I think she's unexposed as a handicapper off 103. I was delighted with her in the Group 3 Princess Elizabeth Stakes at Epsom. I thought at evening stables last night that I'd never had her looking better but I won't waste a run if the ground's too fast.

George Boughey, *Trainer*

FRIDAY 21 JUNE | 15:45 | CORONATION STAKES



RAMATUELLE

I thought she ran very well in the Guineas, and it looks to be one of the most competitive races of the week. There are a lot of stars in there and there is a whole host of them who can win, but she was very good at two and has done nothing wrong this year. Sheikh Fahad is part of her ownership along with the former NBA star Tony Parker and a few others.

Oisin Murphy, *Jockey*

TIM CARROLL'S INTERNATIONAL STARS



ASFOORA | KING CHARLES III STAKES



Australia, who have had plenty of success in this race, have one entry this year in the form of the Henry Dwyer-trained **ASFOORA**.

The 5yo mare arrives with a record of eight wins from her 19 starts, which includes a couple of Group 2 sprints. Connections sent her over early, basing her with Amy Murphy in Newmarket, and she was given a prep run at Haydock when performing well enough to finish fourth in the Temple Stakes in soft ground.

She showed pace that day before puncturing over the concluding stages, but she should come on for the run, and she'll be seen to better effect on a quicker surface

With an official rating of 111, whilst a very good mare, she is not at the top of the tree in the Australian sprinting ranks, but this year's edition of the King Charles III Stakes doesn't look as stacked as a few previous renewals.

However, she's not a six-furlong horse at home and although I'd like to be proven wrong, I don't like backing Australian horses in this race that haven't won over a minimum of six furlongs on the flat tracks in Australia.

GABALDON | WINDSOR CASTLE STAKES



The American raider, **GABALDON**, at time of writing holds entries in the Coventry, this race and the Norfolk, and I need to stress that I have no lead in to which way they'll go; however, I'd be surprised if they elected to take on the Europeans over six-furlongs in the Coventry, given this fellow looks your typical speedy American juvenile.

The Jose D'Angelo-trained inmate would be a fabulous story if he were to win, as not only will he be the trainers' first runner at the Royal meeting, but he cost just a paltry \$9,000 at the sales.

He arrives having won the Royal Palm (5f) at Gulfstream Park in his only start in May, which is the male equivalent of the race Crimson Advocate won prior to taking out the Queen Mary last year.

His Equibase speed figure that day was just 5 points below what Crimson Advocate ran when winning the fillies edition last year, but she had the advantage of being second up. Whilst the uphill layout of the straight course at Royal Ascot would concern me, his trainer said afterwards: "I think he has a big chance to win over there (Royal Ascot)."

MISSED THE CUT | HARDWICKE STAKES



A high-quality turf race over one and-a-half miles in Europe isn't where you expect to see an American raider, but make no mistake, **MISSED THE CUT** (also holds an entry in the Wolferton Stakes) is not only a full bloodied European, but he is also a previous winner at the Royal meeting.

The son of Quality Road (out of a Sea The Stars mare) started his career with George Boughey, winning three of his first four starts including when dotting up in the Golden Gate Stakes here in 2022, which has been his only trip to Ascot.

He's now been with John Sadler since early last year and was able to win a Grade 3 on the dirt track at Santa Anita last October before finishing well beaten in the Breeders' Cup Classic.

However, they've kept him to the turf this year, winning a couple of Grade 3s, before running with merit in defeat as runner-up over this trip in the Grade 2 Elkorn Stakes last month when splitting the Charlie Appleby pair of Silver Knott and Bold Act.

The 5yo ran a joint career best figure over this trip at his penultimate start, thus we know he's at the top of his game, and whilst he dives into deeper waters, he'll enjoy lining up in what should be a truly run race having endured a couple of American walk-fests recently.

ROYAL ASCOT 2024 ORDER OF RUNNING

DAY 1 TUESDAY, JUNE 18

TIME	RACE	AGE	PRIZE MONEY	DISTANCE
02:30pm	The Queen Anne Stakes (Group 1)	4+	£750,000	Straight Mile
03:05pm	The Coventry Stakes (Group 2)	2	£175,000	Six furlongs
03:45pm	The King Charles III Stakes (Group 1)	3+	£650,000	Five furlongs
04:25pm	The St James's Palace Stakes (Group 1)	3YO colts	£650,000	Old Mile
05:05pm	The Ascot Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (0-100)	4+	£110,000	Two miles, four furlongs
05:40pm	The Wolferton Stakes (Listed)	4+	£120,000	One mile, two furlongs
06:15pm	The Copper Horse Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (0-105)	4+	£110,000	One mile, six

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

TIME	RACE	AGE	PRIZE MONEY	DISTANCE
02:30pm	The Queen Mary Stakes (Group 2)	2YO fillies	£150,000	Five Furlongs
03:05pm	The Queen's Vase (Group 2)	3	£265,000	One Mile, Six Furlongs
03:45pm	The Duke of Cambridge Stakes (Group 2)	4YO+ fillies & mares	£225,000	Old Mile
04:25pm	The Prince of Wales's Stakes (Group 1)*	4+	£1,000,000	One Mile, two furlongs
05:05pm	The Royal Hunt Cup (Heritage Handicap) (Class 2) (Open)	3+	£175,000	Straight Mile
05:40pm	The Kensington Palace Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (0-105)	4YO+ fillies & mares	£110,000	Straight Mile
06:15pm	The Windsor Castle Stakes (Listed)	2	£110,000	Five Furlongs

DAY 3 THURSDAY, JUNE 20

TIME	RACE	AGE	PRIZE MONEY	DISTANCE
02:30pm	The Norfolk Stakes (Group 2)	2	£150,000	Five Furlongs
03:05pm	The King George V Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (0-105)	3	£110,000	One Mile, four furlongs
03:45pm	The Ribblesdale Stakes (Group 2)	3YO fillies	£250,000	One Mile, Four Furlongs
04:25pm	The Gold Cup (Group 1)	4+	£650,000	Two Miles, Four Furlongs
05:05pm	The Britannia Stakes (Heritage Handicap) (Class 2) (0-105)	3YO colts & geldings	£120,000	Straight Mile
05:40pm	The Hampton Court Stakes (Group 3)	3	£150,000	One Mile, Two Furlongs
06:15pm	The Buckingham Palace Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (0-105)	3+	£110,000	Seven Furlongs

ROYAL ASCOT 2024 ORDER OF RUNNING

DAY 4 FRIDAY, JUNE 21

TIME	RACE	AGE	PRIZE MONEY	DISTANCE
02:30pm	The Albany Stakes (Group 3)	2YO fillies	£125,000	Six furlongs
03:05pm	The Commonwealth Cup (Group 1)	3YO colts & fillies	£650,000	Six furlongs
03:45pm	The Coronation Stakes (Group 1)	3YO fillies	£650,000	Five furlongs
04:25pm	The Duke of Edinburgh Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (O-105)	3+	£110,000	Old Mile, Four Furlongs
05:05pm	The Sandringham Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (O-105)	3YO fillies	£110,000	Straight Mile
05:40pm	The King Edward VII Stakes (Group 2)	3YO colts & geldings	£250,000	One Mile, Four Furlongs
06:15pm	The Palace of Holyroodhouse Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (O-105)	3	£110,000	Five Furlongs

DAY 5 SATURDAY, JUNE 22

TIME	RACE	AGE	PRIZE MONEY	DISTANCE
02:30pm	The Chesham Stakes (Listed)	2	£110,000	Seven furlongs
03:05pm	The Hardwicke Stakes (Group 2)	4+	£250,000	One Mile, Four Furlongs
03:45pm	The Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Stakes (Group 1)	4+	£1,000,000	Six Furlongs
04:25pm	The Jersey Stakes (Group 3)	3	£150,000	Seven furlongs
05:05pm	The Wokingham Stakes (Heritage Handicap) (Class 2) (O-110)	3+	£175,000	Six Furlongs
05:40pm	The Golden Gates Stakes (Handicap) (Class 2) (O-105)	3	£110,000	One Mile, Two Furlongs
06:15pm	The Queen Alexandra Stakes (Conditions) (Class 2)	4+	£110,000	Two Miles, Six Furlongs