

ROYAL ASCOT

TUESDAY -9:30 A.M.

1ST Queen Anne Stakes (Group 1)

A strong renewal where the form of the Lockinge Stakes may be reversed by a couple who finished in behind Lead Artist who got first run on the field that day. It's much more difficult to race close to the pace and win over this C&D but it may not be his closest rival that day Dancing Gemini who is the beneficiary given he had a big fitness edge last time. 2024 Guineas winner NOTABLE SPEECH and Rosallion were behind that pair at Newbury but they both hadn't had a run this year previously and the latter hadn't been seen since landing the St James's Palace over C&D at this meeting last summer. There was only a neck between them that day and they got the better of each other once last year so should be closely matched once again. Small preference is for the Godolphin horse who hasn't the injury issues of his rival and who showed a liking for fast ground in the Sussex Stakes and Breeders' Cup. Of the others Sardinian Warrior is still on the upgrade and as a C&D winner will appreciate the drop back in trip having been outstayed by a classy rival in the Prix D'Ispahan last time. He can compete for a place behind the front pair.

Selections Notable Speech (8) Rosallion (10) Lead Artist (7)

2ND - Coventry Stakes (Group 2)

Aidan O'Brien has won this 10 times and has strong claims of improving that record with Warsaw and GSTAAD. The former wasn't fancied for debut but overcame a slow start to win over a stiff 5f turning over an odds on shot while posting a good speed figure and should appreciate the longer trip here. However Ryan Moore has opted for the former after he turned over a well touted stablemate on debut also relishing the stiff finish. The pair that day came a long way clear of the remainder suggesting that they were a class apart and the selection could take this step up in grade in his stride. Andab wasn't beaten far last time by a top class stablemate of the selection and could make it a 1-2-3 for Ireland with his experience edge a bonus. Of the home challenge course winner Military Code is feared most with his form working out extremely well. He's bred to appreciate this extra distance and has posted big speed figures on both of his runs so far. **Gstaad (9)Warsaw (21)Andab (2)**

3rd - King Charles III Stakes (Group 1)

Asfoora took this contest in 2024 appreciating the stiff track at the trip and has proved she retains her ability this term with a Group victory in Australia. However, she massively showed the benefit of a prep run on these shores last year and the lack of it this time is a big concern. Both Regional and BELIEVING were not beaten far behind here and have the potential to reverse that form here. Both are strong stayers at the trip so will appreciate the likely fast pace with plenty of it drawn around the latter which should give her a nice tow into the race. If she gets it she can pounce late and follow up on his deserved Group 1 victory in the Al Quoz last time

.Selections -Believing (14)Asfoora (12)Starlust (9)

4th - St James's Palace Stakes (Group 1) (Rnd)

The UK, Irish and French Guineas winners all collide in what promises to be a great spectacle. Ruling Court got the better of FIELD OF GOLD at Newmarket but he got first run that day as the runner up was given a poor ride which the jockey paid the price for. However he made amends at the Curragh in impressive fashion producing a big speed figure and being eased at the finish so is fancied to reverse that form if ridden closer to that re-opposing rival. Henri Matisse was given a fine ride at Longchamp getting up late as the runner up possibly kicked on a bit early. He is open to further progression and the faster ground won't be an issue given he was a Breeders' Cup winner on firm late last year so he is very much respected.

Selections Field Of Gold (1)Ruling Court (6)Henri Matisse (3)

5th - Ascot Stakes (Heritage Handicap) (GBBPlus Race)

The Irish hold a particularly strong hand here notably the stables of Willie Mullins and Joseph O'Brien. Poniros and Reaching High both go for the former and are unexposed on the flat for the stable. The first of those went off favourite for the Cambridgeshire when last seen on the flat but was ultimately well held. However he landed the Triumph Hurdle this spring on stable debut so likely has more to offer on the flat over staying trips. His stablemate was well fancied for his stable debut and looked the winner everywhere but the line so holds fair claims with improvement likely from that first run in nearly a year. It is 2024 Galway Hurdle winner NURBURGRING who appeals most though having had a sharpener on the flat over an inadequate 10f. Prior to that he ran a big race behind a future Grade 1 winner in a hot Cheltenham handicap and he also ran well in the Irish Cesarewitch last autumn despite a troubled passage. If ridden more positively in this discipline he will likely improve and should go close. His progressive stablemate Leinster is also feared having gone off too quickly in the Chester Cup last time.

Selections Nurburgring (13)Poniros (20)Reaching High (15)

6th - Wolferton Stakes (Listed)

An open race where last year's Jersey winner HAATEM may be the answer. He does have his stamina to prove over this longer trip but that victory here last year is worth marking up significantly as he fared much the best of those ridden close to the pace. Though he was a beaten favourite in France last time that came on easier ground and it should put him spot on for this. Enfjaar finished behind a couple of these in the Brigadier Gerard last time but looked in need of the outing that day and last year's John Smith's Cup winner could reverse the form with that run under his belt. He will provide a big challenge along with Haunted Dream who placed in this last year and ran well behind a top class rival in Saudi Arabia last time. He has a small break to overcome but should run his race while last year's unlucky Hampton Court loser King's Gambit also rates a threat. He didn't take to the blinkers last time when a big drifter suggesting that he was in need of the run and could bounce back at a track he likes.

Selections Haatem (9) Enfjaar (8) Haunted Dream (10)

7th - Copper Horse Stakes (Handicap) (GBBPlus Race)

An extremely open race to close the card where dual purpose performers may be the way to go. JESSE EVANS has run very well in a couple of renewals of the Galway Hurdle and proved he retained his ability with an easy chase win last time. He wasn't knocked about from a poor position on his sole flat start this year and looks potentially thrown in back in a handicap on favourable quick ground. He could get the better of Lavender Hill Mob who was a game winner last time in a race which threw up a next time out winner. He was too keen over this C&D in the Queen's Vase last year but remains unexposed over staying trips and will pose a big threat. Charlus represents the top jumps yard around which has a good record at this meeting and though he was outclassed in the Triumph Hurdle last time he likely has more to offer in this sphere having placed at Listed level when trained in France. The unexposed French Master completes the list of dangers as he was worth more than the winning margin last time when not given the best ride on his first attempt over this trip. The first time blinkers could deliver further improvement.

Selections Jesse Evans (15) Lavender Hill Mob (10) Charlus (9)