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Inside Today...

FREE Tips From Sean Haren Racing, The Secret Handicapper and On The Nod

Top Tipsters For March 2018

Rick's Sports Betting: Identifying Potential Grand National Winners - By Rick Elliott

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

It's Cambridge And Moore For Me This Year

Rotation in Cricket and Goodbye KP - By Dave Owens

Declan's Eye-Catchers - By Declan O'Donoghue

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TOP TIPSTERS March 2018

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Pos	Service Name	Points
1st	 Lucky 7 Naps	166.65
2nd	 The Judge	157.54
3rd	 Two Percent Club	78.14
4th	 Shrewd Tipster	52.73
5th	 LayZy Profits	51.85
6th	 Trend Betting	47.20
7th	 The Secret Handicapper	39.20
8th	 Value Finder	38.31
9th	 Footie Flutters	33.83
10th	 Dog Race Wagers	32.85

TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[Sean Haren Racing](#)

Win Bet - Newbury 14:40 - Oistrakh Le Noir @ 11/8

[The Secret Handicapper](#)

Win Bet - Doncaster 17:50 - Boycie @ 11/2

[On The Nod](#)

Win Bet - Wolverhampton (A.W) 17:45 - Pulsating @ 5/1

Rick's Sports Betting: Identifying Potential Grand National Winners - By Rick Elliott

The Grand National is the most famous steeplechase in the world and a unique test for horse and rider. This week we are looking at a strategy to identify potential winners of the Aintree marathon. The National is the longest race of the year and the course and fences are unique. The race puts special demands on the participants but certain trends have emerged over a number of years. The race is now less a lottery and more a high quality handicap chase that now favours the better horses.

The National is also the richest race in jumps racing and money talks in attracting Gold Cup quality horses. Golden Miller is still the only horse to win the Cheltenham Gold Cup and National in the same year (1934) but more horses are now targeted at both races. In the past there has only been a two week gap between Cheltenham and Aintree but this year due to Easter its four weeks from one festival to the next.

The winner of the first National was called Lottery but it's something of a myth that that word describes the nature of the race. In the last 20 years only one winner has started at triple figure odds and the average price of the winner is about 20/1. In a 40 runner handicap a 20/1 horse will be in the top 10 in the betting. Over a sustained period of time the more fancied horses have a good record in the National.

From 2012 to 2014 three horses aged 11 won the National. That run was exceptional and over the next three years the winning horse was aged 8, 9 and 8 again. The average age of the winner since 1998 is almost 10 so experienced horses have dominated the race in recent years. Horses run in a number of Nationals and it can take time to get used to the course and the atmosphere at Aintree on National Day.

The Grand National is a handicap whereby runners are allocated a weight based on their past form. However, the handicapper gives more credence to form over the National fences than form on park course. There is a proven phenomenon of Aintree horses who perform better over the National course than at other tracks. The weights are announced in February but can rise if a horse from the top of the handicap is withdrawn. In the last 20 years six horses have carried 11 stone or more to victory.

The weight range is from 10 stone to 11 stone 10 pounds which equates to 24 pounds. One of the objectives in framing the weights is to get as many horses as possible to run of their true weight. An overall rise in standards means there are fewer runners from outside the handicap which makes the race more competitive. Only one horse has prevailed carrying the minimum weight since 1998. Six winners carried ten and a half stone or less.

Stamina and jumping are required to win the National. There are 30 fences to be jumped and some come quickly on parts of the course. Even over more than four

miles a horse must get into a good rhythm and jump the fences efficiently without making errors. Once the jumping is over there is a punishing run-in which tests a horse's stamina and some tire and drop out of contention. The fences are now more forgiving but errors accumulator and can be costly towards the end of the race.

Previous Grand National, spring and Cheltenham Festival form are all important and horses that run well at this time of the year have an advantage. The race is now more reliable in producing winners that could have been identified using key criteria. However, stamina is the main attribute and horses that have won chases over more than three miles should be at the top of your short list of horses to back in the National.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

It's Cambridge And Moore For Me This Year

The meaningless nature of international breaks for friendlies is summed up by today's main football action. Northern Ireland play South Korea at home while punters have no betting opportunities on matches in the Premier League. The other main televised match is Luton against Barnet in League 2 or you can bet on Tranmere versus Eastleigh in the National League. England meanwhile have organised friendlies against Holland and Italy and neither have qualified for the World Cup. ENGLAND are 18/1 with bet365 to be the world champions for the second time but there won't be any clues from these fixtures.

With such a paucity of football for betting at least we have one of the most celebrated two-runner races in sport. It's the final of University boat racing today and the finalists this year are Oxford and Cambridge! Not sure if I can deal with the anticipation and excitement leading up to the race at 4.30pm. Apparently Oxford have lost one of their best oarsmen under suspicious circumstances. It's CAMBRIDGE's turn this year but you won't get rich backing them at 4/11 with William Hill.

The Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster is the first major race of the turf Flat season and first leg of the Spring Double completed by the Grand National in three weeks. On this day last year Ryan Moore rode the first three winners at Doncaster but was beaten by a head in the Lincoln, an outcome that reportedly saved bookmakers a £40 million payout. The bets on Moore were beginning to have the momentum of Frankie Dettori's Magnificent Seven at Ascot in 1996 but the bookies got Moore beat in the Lincoln but only just. Today he rides FIRE BRIGADE in the race and the horse is the joint favourite with Lord Glitters at 6/1 with Ladbrokes.

Rotation in Cricket and Goodbye KP - By Dave Owens

The tri series between India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka has just come to a thrilling end with a semi final ending in dramatic scenes with Bangladesh miraculously managing to score 12 off the last 4 balls to win a game they had all but lost, followed by an even more dramatic final where India needed a 6 off the last ball to overturn Bangladesh and Dinesh Kartick managing to clear the ropes to win the trophy in the most dramatic fashion.

The series was not given much build up or coverage due to India resting lots of their star players and playing squad and fringe players in the tournament.

Cricket regularly seems to take a dim view of players missing match's series or tournaments. In this sense its quite far behind football in its thinking with regards to resting and rotating players. The advent of the Champions league saw the top Premier league clubs having to fight hard in three or even four competitions and having to juggle the demands of travel in Europe with playing twice a week in hard fought contests. The result of which saw teams come to the realisation that it was not merely enough to have a strong first XI but realistically needed a squad of players that could compete and play in any game and any competition.

Cricket like football has now evolved into a sport where competition and internationals are taking place all throughout the calendar year. It's not remotely realistic that someone like Virat Kohli can play in all three formats of Test cricket, 50 over cricket and 20 over cricket for India as well as play in tournaments spanning months like the IPL for a franchise side. Cricket supporters enjoy the opportunity to watch action all around the world, all year round but must realise that its now a changing landscape where players are going to have to be rested and rotated to keep them fit and healthy for the biggest tournaments and series.

The result of which still produces exciting cricket to watch as the tremendously fought tri series produced. It also offers viewers and players an opportunity to see exciting young talent like 18-year-old Washington Sundar appear and take a leading role for India.

From a betting perspective it can offer some good opportunities with bookmakers not having seen a cluster of players perform at the highest level and able to form accurate perceptions of their value in a field. Sundar and Thakur were big odds winners in the Top India bowling market with firms unsure as to how to price these players with few games at the highest level to form opinion on.

Finally, just a note on the retirement of Kevin Pietersen. The most exciting and entertaining batsman I've seen in an England shirt in the last 25 years. Known as much if not more for his not always easy to swallow personality and attitude (especially with team mates), but key participant in the greatest test series of all the

2005 Ashes win, an away series win in Australia and some of the most exhilarating and unmissable innings you could ever see at the highest level of cricket. Thanks for the memories Kev!

Click the link below it would be a pleasure to have you on board and taking your share of the profits.

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Declan's Eye-Catchers - By Declan O'Donoghue

BALKO DES FLOS (Henry de Bromhead) His excellent run against Road To Respect and track specialist Outlander in the Christmas Chase (formerly the Lexus) at Leopardstown was a real gauge to his rate of improvement and his slamming of Un De Sceaux - who had every chance - in the Ryanair confirmed it in dramatic fashion. The Gold Cup will be a temptation next year, but as the sponsors had waited so long to win the Ryanair they will most likely opt for a repeat. Has had a light enough season so Fairyhouse or Punchestown could be next on the schedule.

BARRINGTON COURT (Jessica Harrington) Plenty of word for this first timer before her close second in a hot looking mares bumper at Cork on Thursday. Bred for the flat, she was a bit keen and possibly hit the front too soon. Not to be missed next time particularly if the ground dries out.

BLEU BERRY (Willie Mullins) A nice 25/1 touch for our Irish Racing Service when landing the Coral Cup. With the late changing of jockeys and a helter skelter race at times this might have looked a bit hap hazard but Mullins doesn't depend on circumstance. "This was the plan, a big handicap, if we could get him right" said the Closutton maestro.

CALTEX (Gordon Elliott) Finally got off the mark in a maiden hurdle, will be going chasing during the summer and should win his share away from the main tracks.

GLENLOE (Gordon Elliott) A last hurdle error proved very costly against stablemate Delta Work in the Pertemps. Harsh TV criticism of Barry Geraghty afterwards was made with the unerring wisdom of hindsight. Trust me, Geraghty makes precious few mistakes. Compensation awaits at Punchestown.

LACKANEEN LEADER (Gordon Elliott) A highly progressive mare, plenty of pace and stays. Particularly noteworthy win on heavy ground at Limerick as she would prefer a better surface. Big enough to go chasing next season, but should continue to prosper over the minor obstacles in the meantime.

MAX DYNAMITE (Willie Mullins) Many punters seem to leave logic at home when they go to Cheltenham. How they steamed into this one on ground that was never going to remotely suit - and backed Foxrock at a track he clearly hates - is a mystery. Max never jumped well and looked like a fish out of water. Back to the flat for him though whether the Melbourne Cup will be on the agenda this time remains to be seen.

MENDELSSOHN (Aidan O'Brien) Breeders Cup hero and a recent Dundalk winner, will go to Dubai for the UAE Derby but the Kentucky Derby is the main target. Incidentally, Aidan brought American starting stalls (fitted with the customary bell) to Dundalk to give six runners, including Lancaster Bomber, a spin together around the Polytrack. While - with the obvious exception of the Breeders Cup - Ballydoyle have been lukewarm at times about racing Stateside until now, expect big changes in that regard this season.

MONALEE (Henry de Bromhead) Met something special in Presenting Percy who looks a sharp Gold Cup prospect for next season. Still ran a cracker and remains a horse of vast potential.

MOYHENNA (Denis Hogan) Ran a cracker when second to Lackaneen Leader, the pair way clear of the rest. Possibly best at two and a half miles. The trainer too is very much one to keep an eye on, both on the flat and over sticks.

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