

# BetFan

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Your No.1 FREE Magazine For A Quick Sport Fix!

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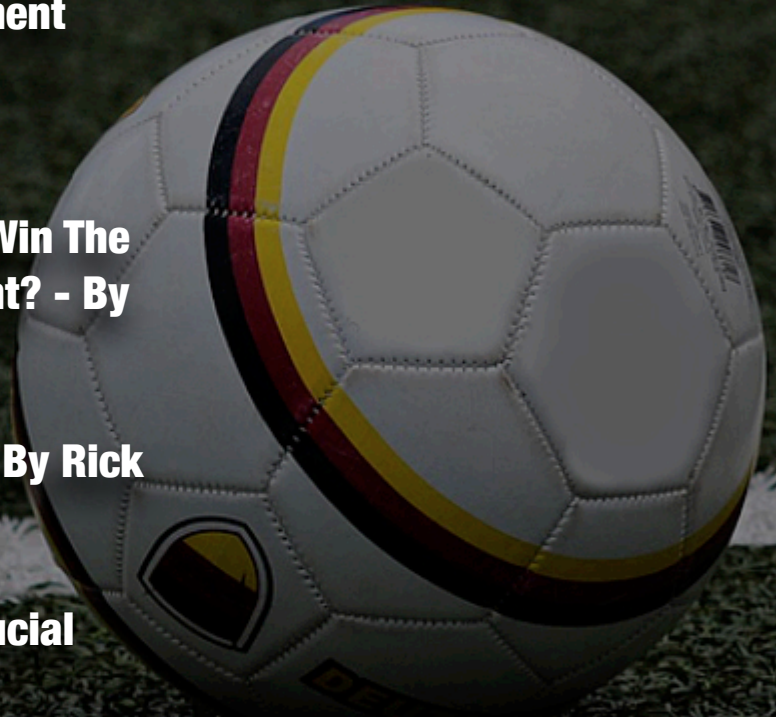
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## TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

### Winning Way

Win Bet - Ascot 16:20 - Harry Angel @ 3/1

### Betting Development

Win Bet - Ascot 14:30 - Natalie's Joy @ 7/4

### Racing Investment

Win Bet - Ascot 15:05 - Crystal Ocean @ 8/13

## **When Losing Is Winning** - By Bet World Reviews

Punters are often heard to say they can find losers just like that – when they have placed a win bet of course. But is it easy to find the horses that will lose? After all the saying goes that you never see a poor bookie and they pick the horses that will lose all the time.

So how about becoming a mini bookmaker and laying bets rather than placing them? If you like the idea and are already reading your own form then you will need to select the ones that you discard when looking for winners. Simple! But I reckon that once you think that you might lose money if the horse wins your mindset will change significantly. You will soon start seeing reasons the horse might win after all and so not be prepared to lay a bet.

Of course there are tipping services that offer advice on which horses will lose and, as with win tipsters, the quality varies widely. Over the years I have struggled to find a service that has had a consistently profitable performance – a look at [Racing Index](#) will show that in the past 12 months only 5 tipsters have generated a profit, the best being just 40 points.

But the search continues and over at [Bet World Reviews](#) we have just posted initial reviews for 3 lay betting services which have seen mixed fortunes.

[The Daily Lay](#) offers 1 tip when the author has the inclination and specifies a maximum price of 4.50 so the loss potential is limited. In 5 months a loss of 6.58 points was seen and the prospects seem poor.

Somewhat better has been [Merlin Lays](#) which has averaged 2 bets a day over 6 months and made a profit of 8.66 points with 1 point level staking. A rather impersonal service with no maximum odds (up to 39.78 BSP seen) and has moved into profit only recently.

Finally [The Laying Game](#) aims to find low priced favourites that will struggle to win and despite a wobble recently has achieved a profit of 12.86 points over 108 runners. The difference here is the author offers his commentary on the reasons behind his selections and will advise maximum prices where considered appropriate. If he were proofing to Racing Index he would be top of the tree for lay tipsters in 2018.

If you would like to consider lay betting then take a look at the reviews and if you have any questions get in touch.

## NEW SERVICE BETA TESTERS NEEDED

As well as these live services we have been testing a possible new lay service and are now looking for a small number of beta testers to take a critical look at things before any public launch. If you are interested full details can be [found here](#).

Last time I mentioned how well Mike Cruikshank's **Advantage Play Secrets** was performing and what was then a 600 point profit is now past the 800 point mark. It really is worth checking out especially as there is a 14 day trial for just £1.

Finally I cannot let the incredible non use of VAR in the FIFA World Cup pass by without comment. The other major sports – Tennis, Cricket, Rugby Union and League, Athletics, American Football – have all embraced technology and made it an asset to their games. But FIFA seem to have an inbuilt desire to make it fail. The Harry Kane non penalties were bad enough and a similar even more clear cut incident in the **Serbia game** was ignored. How is it that the so called professional referees cannot see what is blatantly obvious to all watching. Has the cheating culture that prevails in soccer has embedded itself to such a degree that the officials lean towards supporting the cheats rather than the wronged. A clear opportunity to put things right has yet again been missed.

## **Rick's Sports Betting: Do Teams Win The World Cup Outside Their Continent?** - By Rick Elliott

There have been 21 World Cups and only three teams have ever won the tournament outside their own continent. Brazil won the 1958 finals in Sweden with the help of a player aged 17 who happened to be called Pele. They were world champions in the United States in 1994 in Japan and Korea in 2002. Spain won the World Cup in South Africa in 2010 and in 2018 Germany are defending the title they won in Brazil four years ago.

That means only five tournaments have been won by teams visiting a different continent and three of those happened in the last four World Cups. Usually a European country wins the World Cup in Europe and a South American country wins the World Cup in South America. No other continent has produced a World Cup winner despite the emergence of nations from Africa in the world game.

It was only in the 1980's that players started to move overseas in numbers. There was the odd high profile transfer of a great player from one country or continent but generally a player plied his trade in the country of his birth. Jimmy Greaves and Denis Law had spells in Italy and Ian Rush moved to Juventus. He didn't stay in Italy too long and he came back to Liverpool saying something like he didn't enjoy the food but that could be a myth.

There is now a mass migration of the best players in the world to the superpowers of European football. Barcelona has a history of signing players from Brazil and Maradona played for the Spanish giants. Ossie Ardilles was the first significant arrival in England of a player from outside the British Isles. The growth of the Premier League means only about one third of registered players are English born.

There is now movement of players from within continents which means players from South America in particular are used to conditions in Europe. It's not such a culture shock when they play in World Cups away from the continent of their birth. The 1958 Brazilian team were just so good they would have won the World Cup in any country and in 2002 Ronaldo was at his peak. Brazil have only won one World Cup in Europe.

Spain were a cut above the rest eight years ago in South Africa and Germany grew into the tournament in 2014. They became the first European nation to win the World Cup in South America and their three other world titles were won in Europe. Italy are the next most successful nation in the World Cup and each of their four titles were won in Europe. In 2018 Brazil are the favourites to win the World Cup but the next seven teams in the betting are European.

Russia are playing well at their own tournament this year and if they won the World Cup it would be the 17th time in 22 tournaments that a team were world champions in their own continent. Five hosts have lifted the trophy which means it's the continent and not the country that is a key factor in identifying potential world champions. So, don't rule out England.

## **Today's Sports Betting Preview** - By Rick Elliott

### **Germany Can Beat Sweden In Crucial Match**

If Germany lose to Sweden today they are almost certainly out of the World Cup and will become the second successive holders not to progress to the knockout stages. Spain did not get out of their group four years ago having won the World Cup in South Africa in 2010. Germany looked out of sorts against Mexico in their first match and there are rumours of disharmony in the camp. However, when it matters most the side delivers so GERMANY are the bet to win today at 8/15 with **Ladbrokes**.

Mexico beat Germany in their first fixture and were better value than the 1-0 win especially in the first half. Mexico played with pace and could have scored more than one goal and were resolute in defence when Germany were trying to peg them back after the break. South Korea did not create many chances when losing to Sweden in their opening fixture and don't have the players to trouble their opponents today. MEXICO should be backed to beat South Korea at 7/10 with **William Hill**.

Belgium play Tunisia in England's group and the outcome will indicate the value of England's 2-1 win over the same side. England played well in the first half and could have been leading by several goals. However, the play was laboured and slow after Tunisia scored and maybe the late winner papered over the cracks. Belgium finally got going in the second half against Panama and were worthy winners. BELGIUM should beat Tunisia and that outcome is 1/3 with **Betfair**.

It's the fifth and final day of Royal Ascot and the feature is the Diamond Jubilee Stakes at 4.20pm. The favourite is Harry Angel but horses based in Australia have won the race including Black Caviar in 2012. The Newmarket Handicap is one of the most prestigious sprint races at Australia. REDKIRK WARRIOR has won the race twice so is the selection for today's six furlong contest and the best price is 9/2 with **Coral**.

## **Value in The Eye of The Beholder** - By Dave Owens

The 2nd test saw two stand out performances with the ball from what on paper and statistics looked unlikely sources in Shannon Gabriel and Lahiru Kumara for West Indies and Sri Lanka. Both managed to take the first innings market with a 5 and 4 wicket hauls respectively. Gabriel has always looked a bowler who potentially has all the attributes to unsettle any batsman in the world He is tall, bowls at very good pace and with hostility when he gets it right. It has never quite clicked for him for one reason or another and 6 years after his test debut takes his wicket at higher than 30 runs per wicket and always been in and out of the side.

Kumara at 21 years of age has a much smaller sample size but the raw numbers of 11 tests played for Sri Lanka and an average of over 40 runs per wicket would not really get anyone very excited on his record alone and not make him a very attractive proposition in the top bowler market.

Aside from reasonably modest returns from their international careers they also share a rare ability to bowl at pace that is increasingly rare in the game due to various reasons ranging from the amount of cricket played to unhelpful pitches for out and out pace bowlers. The first test match of the series saw both bowl with pace and hostility and trouble two batting line ups who are lacking world class players at the highest level. Gabriel really began to show the quality that many viewers always suspected he was capable of and bowled excellently and despite not getting his rewards looked a bowler who could trouble Sri Lanka with his pace and bounce. Sri Lanka were soundly beaten in the first test and most of the focus was on the poor batting that cost them the game and overlooked the exciting prospect that Kumara looked, bowling with a cutting edge and threat that none of the other Sri Lankans showed despite his poor numbers from the start of his test career.

The 2nd test match was played at St Lucia a ground which has been well known for offering pace and bounce and assistance to the quicker bowlers. It was this wicket,

coupled with two genuine fast bowlers who looked in fine form and bowling with good pace and hostility on an unhelpful wicket that allowed a spot of value over the bookmakers. The pricing up of the markets saw the Sri Lankan bowling market have left arm spinner Herath as firm favourite due to having over 400 wickets to his name and Kumara rated an outsider with his indifferent start to his test career. The West Indian market saw Gabriel rated behind his more experienced colleagues in Roach and Bishoo.

It was priced up on long term statistics of performances from the bowlers involved in the game and offered an opportunity to viewers of the first test and the performances of Gabriel and Kumara and the knowledge that the 2nd test match would be tailored to their style of bowling against vulnerable batting lines ups that allowed both players to be backed at inflated odds for this specific match on this specific pitch at this specific time.

The match itself saw Sri Lanka not even select market favourite Herath with conditions not in his favour and allowing their young Sri Lankan quick Kumara every opportunity to continue his progress from the first match and see him duly oblige with 4 of the first innings wickets to be their leading wicket taker. Gabriel went one better for the West Indies with their captain Jason Holder keen to utilise an in form and dangerous Gabriel with the new ball and use him more regularly than he usually would on a pitch suited for his fast bowler who managed to take 5 of the first innings wickets for the honours.

This particular game was a good example that raw numbers for players do not always tell the full or sometimes most accurate picture of how a market may go with the evidence of the eye sometimes adding equally and sometimes more than just the figures on a bowler average and also unique playing conditions can favour certain players more than other regardless of their long-term results.

**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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## **Trackside In Ireland** - By Declan O'Donoghue

While Royal Ascot understandably hugged the limelight, normal life goes on and Leopardstown on Thursday evening provided some interesting fare on the home front.

Billy Lee was back fresh from his Royal Hunt Cup success on Settle For Bay, and later that day he was just touched off on Willie McCreery's Belle Boyd in a Listed race at Chelmsford City.

Now he took the opener here at this sunlit suburban south Dublin track on Highland Fortune for Fozzy Stack.

After a bright start to the season things had gone a little quiet for Fozzy but there has been a noticeable stepping up in the last week or two.

Lee brought Highland Fortune from off the pace for a snug victory.

He had been a steady 11/4 in the market, with 5/2 joint favourites Heavenly Rainbow and Alfona Walde just preferred.

The latter also came in for market support when third at Roscommon and had to settle for the same placing again.

Recent Fairyhouse scorer Heavenly Rainbow had been in the mix until his saddle slipped and he faded to sixth.

Ironically Hyde Park Corner, eight in the Fairyhouse race that Heavenly Rainbow won, finished a staying on second here.

Of the winner Lee said: "He settled into a lovely rhythm and I was able to tuck him in."

"He picked up real well and is a nice horse for the future."

Earlier in the day Ballydoyle had struck gold with Hunting Horn and Magic Wand at the Royal meeting, though the defeat of Order Of St George had dampened the party mood a bit.

If there was much confidence in the famed Tipperary yard about Spanish Point's chances here then it never showed in the betting.

A drifter from "twos" to 4/1 during the day, he went off at 5/1 yet won as he pleased under Emmet McNamara.

Sent to the front early he comfortably held off sustained challenges from 2/1 jolly Dawn Trouper and 9/2 chance Hasimmiya.

In his previous outing Spanish Point had finished last in the Irish 2,000 Guineas but was very much at home in this maiden.

With the main Ballydoyle jockeys all in action at Ascot, McNamara made full use of this opportunity.



"I got an easy lead and he stretched well to the line" he said.

While Spanish Point should win a few more races it's unlikely this son of Frankel will compete at a particularly high level in the future.

Dermot Weld is based at The Curragh, but it's noticeable that he often starts off his good juveniles at Leopardardstown.

The Ger Lyons trained California Daddy had shown huge promise in his first two races - including a second to Van Beethoven at Naas - and was the only one punters wanted to know about.

They never got evens - 5/6 was the best of it - and he was sent off at 4/6.

Everything seemed to be going to plan when he eased into the lead two out, but Weld's first timer and big market drifter - 8/1 to 14's - Masaff was picking up speed on the outside.

He led at the furlong pole and, while still running a bit green, he stayed on well for Declan McDonogh to beat the odds on favourite by a length.

Surprisingly perhaps it was Weld's first two year old winner of the season and he said: "He's a nice colt but very immature."

"He's a horse I've always liked, he worked very nicely the other morning and handled that (fast) ground well."

"I'm going to give him a bit of time now, let him fill into that frame of his and hope he'll make a nice Stakes horse in the second part of the year" he added.

**Declan's Irish Racing Service continues to send out the winners - Settle For Bay 16/1; Flattering 4/1 (won 5/2); Dali 5/2 (w 9/4); Count Simon 9/4; Exchange Rate 6/5 (w 8/11); Mohawk evens (w 4/7) and each way - Torcedor 16/1 (pl. 14/1) and Land Force 9/1 (pl. 7/1).**

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