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# BetFan

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

[TWL Pro Tip](#)

Chelmsford (A.W) 21:00 - Final Choice @ 5/2 Win Bet

[The Secret Handicapper](#)

Newbury 14:25 - Keeper's Choice @ 11/2 Win Bet

[The Pro Punter](#)

Nottingham 13:30 - Camber @ 6/1 Each Way Bet

# **Librisa Breeze Can Boost Your Betting Bank For York -**

By Ian Hudson

The Hungerford Stakes at Newbury on Saturday is the highlight of the weekend racing programme but some racing fans favourite meeting of the season takes place next week. The York Ebor meeting runs from Wednesday to Saturday and Stratum is fancied to win the title race. The Ebor is one of the most competitive handicaps of the season but the favourite could have something in hand at the weights. The best horse running at the meeting will be Battaash in the Nunthorpe Stakes.

In the south York is known as the Ascot of the north but in Yorkshire Ascot is known as the York of the south. In fact when the new stand was being built at Ascot in 2005 the Royal meeting moved north to York. The track is fair and the long straight means there is rarely bad luck in running. There are few hard luck stories at York and the best horse on the day almost always wins and that could be the case with Stratum. The Ebor could also be a stepping stone to the Melbourne Cup in November.

The three great summer Flat festivals are Royal Ascot in June, Glorious Goodwood at the end of July and in early August and the York Ebor meeting this month. Ascot is as much a social occasion as racing occasion and many race goers have little interest in the horses. Goodwood does not have the quality to sustain five days but York have it just right. The meeting combines Group action with high class handicaps and races for the most promising juveniles.

The racing this weekend is relatively ordinary but there are two Group races at Newbury. The Geoffrey Freer Stakes (Group 3) looks tailor made for Algometer on form and ratings. The Hungerford Stakes has a prize fund of £150,000 and is a Group 2 race. It's a race for three-year-olds and older for both sexes. Fillies and younger horses receive allowances but the older colts still have a form edge. Librisa Breeze has the highest Racing Post Rating and looks an each-way bet to nothing.

On ratings the Juddmonte International is consistently one of the best races in the world. The race is the highlight of the first day at York and the potential field makes it one the strongest anywhere this season. When Cracksman is only the fourth favourite you know you have a special race. The trainer said earlier in the season that his horse would be at his best at this time of the year. John Gosden pointed out that Cracksman was being distracted in the spring but if the horse concentrates he can win this race.

The Nunthorpe Stakes is a Group 1 race over five furlongs and identifies a champion over the minimum distance. Battaash was stunning at Goodwood but has been beaten by Blue Point in the past. The rest of the field are racing for third place. The York track suits Blue Point more than Battaash but it will take something very special for the favourite not to prevail. The odds overestimate Battaash's form advantage but the market leader just cannot be opposed.

Stratum is trained by Willie Mullins and owned by Tony Bloom who also has Librisa Breeze running in his colours. The predominant colour is blue which is not surprising because Bloom also owns Brighton FC, the Premier League team. Mullins must be respected when he brings a horse from Ireland to run in a big Flat handicap. Apparently, Bloom is one of the best sports bettors in the industry and Stratum can earn him a few more bob by winning York's Ebor Handicap.

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

### **Shared Points When Birmingham Host Swansea**

You can back a team tonight at 2/1 who are unbeaten at home in six matches to win at their own stadium and extend that run. Birmingham City have made a poor start to the new season but they can avoid defeat against Swansea. However, beating the newly relegated side in the Championship at St Andrews may be beyond them despite home advantage against a team playing in the Premier League last season.

Swansea have been dropping down the pyramid since sacking Garry Monk at the end of 2015 and he is now the manager of Birmingham. He wasn't too concerned about losing in the League Cup this week. Winning three points tonight will move Birmingham in the right direction and give Monk the satisfaction of beating the club who got rid of him after 11 years service. However, he may have to settle for a DRAW and that outcome is 21/10 with **Ladbrokes**.

The televised T20 Blast action is Yorkshire's home match against Notts. The shortest format of the game is unpredictable and that is one of the attractions. Notts won the reverse fixture by 63 runs last Friday which suggests they can win on the road tonight. Yorkshire are two points adrift of the visitors but have a match in hand. On run rates Notts have the edge but home advantage can negate that so YORKSHIRE are the bet to beat Notts at 4/5 with **William Hill**.

Warrington are playing in the final of the Challenge Cup at the end of the month but play Castleford away from home in the Super 8s tonight. The hosts finished one place and two points ahead of their opponents at the end of the regular season. Castleford had a positive difference of 87 points but Warrington scored 121 points more than they conceded. That's 44 points advantage over 23 matches and home advantage is worth six points so the projected start for Warrington should be four points. You can back WARRINGTON +6 at 10/11 with **Coral**.

There are seven Flat meetings and one over the jumps in Britain and Ireland today. Chelmsford should be applauded for putting up £132,000 in prize money at their All-Weather fixture. The card features three decent handicaps and the 7.20pm race is the joint most lucrative and interesting from a betting point of view. Nicola Currie is worth more than her three pounds claim and she can ride QUEEN IN WAITING to a win at 9/2 with **bet365**.