

BetFan

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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[Shrewd Tipster](#)

Win Bet - Thirsk 17:15 - The Knot Is Tied @ 9/4

[Declan O'Donoghue - Irish Racing](#)

Win Bet - Curragh 16:50 - Pink Dogwood @ 2/1

[Equine Equity](#)

Win Bet - Hamilton 16:55 - Summer Blossom @ 11/4

Take Cover Can Run Fastest In The Bullet - By Ian Hudson

Take Cover ran in the Group 1 Nunthorpe Stakes at York last week and was not totally outclassed. If the horse shows similar form he will win the Beverley Bullet on Saturday for the second year in a row. Take Cover has won 14 of 46 starts and the 11-year-old can add to that tally at the East Yorkshire track this weekend. Beverley is in a great setting and the course is well run. It's well worth a visit and if you go on Saturday you should back Take Cover.

The Flat season is now in a bit of a lull after the wonderful York Ebor meeting and before the St Leger in two weeks and the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and Champions Day at Ascot in October. Haydock stages its only Group 1 Flat race next Saturday for which Harry Angel is the favourite. Limato has finally come back to form after some disappointing runs and looks a big price in the ante post market for Haydock's Sprint Cup run over the five furlongs straight course.

Old Persian ran a good trial for the St Leger at York while Latrobe won the Irish Derby and De Ex Bee was second in the English version. Kew Gardens is the favourite for Aiden O'Brien but there has been a bug in his stable and many of the horses have been underperforming. There are signs that his horses are now running up to their form but if ill health is lingering amongst the animals in his yard backing his runners should be approached with some caution.

Three-year-old fillies have a great recent record in the Arc but it is not a level playing field. Horses in this bracket receive the age and sex allowance which seems unfair. The best horse should win a Group 1 championship race and not the horse that is the best weighted. The weight-for-age and gender scale has been fit for purpose for many years but change can be a good thing. Male and older horses are physically able to run faster but may be beaten by horses carrying up to 10 pounds less which seems excessive. Enable could have won the Arc last year off level weights.

There are no horses proven at the highest level running at Beverley on Saturday. Take Cover would be a hugely popular winner and the horse has a good chance based on the ratings and past form. Perfect Pasture represents some each way value because the horse has a pound better Racing Post Rating than Take Cover. The Beverley Bullet is a five furlong sprint and takes about one minute to run. There are no races over a shorter official distance in Britain and Ireland.

Graham Lee is booked to ride Mythmaker and he won the Nunthorpe at York. As a rider of a Grand National winner he has won the shortest and longest races in the UK calendar. Mythmaker has something to find with Take Cover and Perfect Pasture but Lee won the Nunthorpe on an unfancied horse. He has experience in getting sprinters to deliver as he did with Amberleigh House in the 2004 National. That horse was trained by Donald 'Ginger' McCain, famous for training Red Rum, the only horse to win three Nationals. Lee looks booked for a place at best behind Take Cover in the Beverly Bullet which takes about eight minutes less than the National.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

City Favourites For Champions League

The ultimate fly on the wall documentary is the story of Manchester City's record breaking title winning season in 2017/18. City beat all before them in the Premier League but they will be known as flat track bullies until the Champions League is in the trophy cabinet. The huge investment in the club is paying dividends but the ultimate goal is to be champions of Europe. Winning the Premier League by 19 points is a fine achievement but the next step is being dominant on the continent. After a kind draw for the group stages MANCHESTER CITY are the favourites to win the Champions League at 5/1 with **Ladbrokes**.

There is a huge match in the Championship which brings together the top two teams in the table. Leeds are at home to Middlesbrough in a classic six-pointer. Both clubs have won 13 points but Leeds have the better goal difference so occupy first place. Middlesbrough would overhaul them with a win but any other outcome means the positions remain unchanged. Leeds have beaten Boro at home in all but one of the last five meetings and have looked impressive this season to date. However, the visitors can avoid defeat so the best bet is the DRAW at 5/2 with **William Hill**.

One of the biggest fixtures in rugby league is a meeting between St Helens and Wigan. The two sides are first and second favourites to win the Grand Final respectively so tonight's match could be a prelude to trying to be top dogs at Old Trafford. Home advantage should help Saints record a narrow win but WIGAN can win the handicap market with a start of 6 points at 10/11 with **Coral**.

There are six Flat meetings and two jumps fixture in Britain and Ireland today and this evening and the racing is about quantity over quality. The Curragh stages a decent handicap for horses aged two (a nursery) at 5.20. Cardini often finds a way of not winning a race and ROYAL CANFORD can exploit favourable weight conditions and the horse should be backed each way at 12/1 with **bet365**.