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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[Footie Flutters](#) - Wolves v Southampton/Birmingham v Ipswich 15:00 - Wolves/Birmingham @ 1.85/1.97

[The Pro Punter](#)

Win Bet - Newmarket 15:00 - Ten Sovereigns @ 4/6

[Two Percent Club](#)

Win Bet - Ripon 17:20 - Knighly Spirit @ 6/1

Rick's Sports Betting: Enable Can Win Another Arc - By

Rick Elliott

The first Sunday in October sees an influx of racing fans to France for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. After two years at Chantilly the race returns to Longchamp for the 2018 race as renovations at the course have been completed. The tracks have different features and the false straight at Longchamp means the shape of the race can change in the closing stages. In 2017 Enable was a decisive winner but not necessarily the best horse in the race. The three-year-old filly received weight from the older male horses and took full advantage of that concession.

The Arc is the richest Flat race in Europe and identifies the champion horse of Europe. Horses aged three and older are eligible which means it brings together the best of the Classic generation and older horses. Enable received weight so was the best weighted horse in the race. She returns to Longchamp this year but aged four will not receive any weight for age but the fillies allowance still applies. Enable is the clear favourite for a second win but could be good enough to beat the better older male horses again. The Classic generation is represented by the colt Kew Gardens who won the St Leger and will benefit from weight for age but not gender.

The weight for age scale has passed the test of time and few fillies would be competitive without the sex allowance. However, the best horses should win championship races and the weight allowances muddy the waters. Horses do develop physically from three to four and colts and geldings are physically stronger than females. Racing is rare in that both sexes compete in the same contests but it is not a level playing field. In most sports there are specific events and leagues for men and women but male and female horse run in the same races in racing.

Since 2003 every winner of the Arc was aged three or four. Some top Flat horses stay in training as four-year-olds but very few run the following year. The winner of the Arc has much greater earning potential at stud than on the track. Treve won the Arc in 2013 and 2014 but came up short when the race favourite the following year at the age of five. She is the only back-to-back winner this century but she had the benefit of the allowances. Enable races under the same conditions as Treve in her second winning year. The filly ran a great prep race on the All-Weather at Kempton.

Enable was the 10/11 favourite in 2017 but was only the third winning favourite since 2004. In that time the SP's of the winning horse ranged from 10/11 to 33/1. The average price of the winner over the last 10 years is about 8/1. Three of those winners started at double figure odds and two odds-on favourites

obliged. The last two consecutive winning favourites won the race in 2008 and 2009 and despite not receiving the age allowance Enable can emulate those horses and Treve who won two Arcs in two years. .

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Europe Keep Matching On In The Ryder Cup

The Ryder Cup was turned on its head yesterday afternoon as Europe produced their first whitewash since 1989 and their first ever in foursomes. Trailing 3-1 after the four balls Europe won all four matches in the afternoon. The second day action has begun and the United States have not responded, losing three of the four matches in the early stages. At the time of writing EUROPE are 1/3 with **bet365** to win the Ryder Cup and now you could cash out to guarantee a profit.

Chelsea beat Liverpool at Anfield in the EFL Cup on Wednesday but today's Premier League fixture in London will be a different kettle of fish. The outcome of the Cup tie will have very little bearing on today's match at Stamford Bridge. Both managers made eight changes in the week and Chelsea's second string plus Eden Hazard were too good for the opposition.

Today's Premier League showdown is one of the blockbuster matches of the league season and the outcome will be significant in the race to be top dogs in England. Liverpool have conceded at least one goal in the last 14 meetings and on this occasion CHELSEA can secure three points and are 9/5 **William Hill** to win and leapfrog Liverpool at the top of the table.

Jose Mourinho is the 5/2 favourite for the first Premier League manager to leave his current position. In most seasons losing in the third round of the EFL Cup would not be a major issue but for Manchester United just now every reverse increases the pressure on the not so Special One. Romelu Lukaku has a good scoring record against West Ham and he can ease the pressure on his boss by helping MANCHESTER UNITED beat West Ham at the London Stadium and an away win is 4/5 with **Ladbrokes**.

The Cambridgeshire is a heritage handicap over one and one furlong at Newmarket and with a maximum field of 35 runners is difficult to call. KENYA won the Irish equivalent with something to spare and can be backed at 14/1 with **William Hill**. There are two Group 1 races and one at Group 2 level before the big race. On ratings PRETTY POLLYANNA is the horse to back in the contest at the highest level for fillies aged two (2.25) and the best price is 6/4 with **Betfair**.

Trackside In Ireland - By Declan O'Donoghue

After three blank days, the Irish racing circus rolled into Sligo on Thursday.

The annual Student Race Day certainly added to the crowd, atmosphere and noise levels at this north western outpost.

While Gordon Elliott was sending out a remarkable five winners at Perth, Moonlight Escape kept the home fires burning when taking the opener under Davy Russell.

Generally a good result for the bookies, but some of the each way shrewdies lined their pockets in the nine runner affair, with 16/1 being clipped to "twelves" at the off.

The winner had already chalked up bumper and hurdles success so this mares beginners chase victory shows here to be quite versatile.

Her trainer will certainly place her to good effect in handicaps, but runner up, 2/1 fancy Dawn Shadow, probably has more potential.

The J P McManus owned Thecraicisninety landed a real touch - 11/4 to 6/4 jolly - in the next.

Mark Walsh took no prisoners here, and this front runner had them well strung out crossing the line.

Lake Takapuna had, like Moonlight Escape in the first, some useful bits of form to recommend him, but again nothing that would have you knocking your bookie off his perch in a rush to get on.

Since Jim Culloty gave up training, he has been transferred to Robbie McNamara and was nibbled at in the ring, 12/1 to 10's.

David Mullins took his time, and delivered him at just the right moment to gamely beat Eight Till Late by a neck.

Major Destination was probably the best backed horse of the day, and Jonathan Moore seemed to have timed things to perfection on the 5/4 hotpot.

Always in the firing line, they eased past long time leader Justmemyselfandi before the last.

But then - perhaps distracted by the student cheering from the stands - the favourite wobbled slightly near the line.

And much to the horror of favourite backers Adam Short got a renewed effort from 11/2 chance Justmemyselfandi on the far rail and won by half a length.

Another winner for back in form trainer Liz Doyle, with first time headgear possibly helping.

And it would be no surprise to see Major Destination similarly attired next time out.

Another good week for Declan's Irish Racing Service with Swingbridge 17/2; Its All Guesswork 7/2 (won 4/5); Only The Brace 7/2 (w 3/1); Make My Heart Fly evens and Montalbano 10/11 (w 4/7) and each way Kings Field 9/1 (placed).

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England's New Order - Uncertainty And Opportunity In Sri Lanka - By Dave Owens

England's tour of Sri Lanka begins next week and marks a new era for the England team with the retirement of Alastair Cook from international cricket ending a 12-year fixture for the side at the top of the order and a player who played 161 consecutive tests. This coinciding with a period of mass uncertainty as to England's other opening batsman with a dozen players used to partner Cook over the last five years and not one player making a convincing enough case to fill the role on a permanent basis.

The Cook retirement and the lack of an opener who has made a success of the job has left England with an interesting squad selection as to who will be tasked with the roles of opening the England innings. With a lack of options England have decided to keep the faith with Keaton Jennings who played in the last series against India but has a poor average of 22 from his 12-test match's and only one 50 to his name from 22 innings. He is backed up with the form player from the County Championship in Rory Burns who has regularly passed 1,000 runs in a season over the last few seasons and Joe Denly who has only ever represented England in the one-day arena and which was back in 2009.

It's entirely likely that England will go with a new look top 3 in the order, with captain Joe Root regularly stating his preference to bat at No 4 and Moeen Ali being promoted to fill the No 3 slot in the last test match against India. Leaving four

players fighting to bat in the top three positions and every single one of the them unaccustomed to batting at the top of the order at the highest level.

Conditions in Sri Lanka could not be more different to what the England side are used to on home territory or the uncapped players are used to face with week in and out in the County Championship. The extreme heat of the subcontinent and wickets that are slow and take prodigious spin from very early in the game and offer little to nothing for the quicker bowlers.

The conditions offer opportunity in the markets with England's red-hot favourites of Broad and Anderson in the top bowler category could well have reduced roles as spin plays a more prominent role, meaning a keen eye on the warm up games and which spinner looks to be given the greatest opportunity with the ball and who adapts to the different pitch's best could well be a strong contender.

Another market of interest could well be in the Man of the Match field with potentially two of England's top three in Denly and most certainly Moeen Ali also likely to have big roles with their ability to bowl spin and offering them both the opportunity to score heavily and pick up wickets.

England goes into the series with many questions to answer about how they are likely to proceed with a new line up, but also offering a chance for players to really grab a massive opportunity and play themselves into England's future.

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