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# BetFan

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

[High Roller Racing](#)

Win Bet - Fairyhouse 13:35 - Andalusia @ 11/10

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Win Bet - Plumpton 14:40 - Good Man Pat @ 11/8

[Sean Haren Racing](#)

Win Bet - Kempton (A.W) 17:45 - Ulster @ 1/1

## **Potentially A Good Week For Spieth And Pieters** - By Ian Hudson

The Genesis Open on the PGA Tour is the current name for one of the oldest professional tournaments in the United States. The event started its life as the Los Angeles Open in 1926 and has been played at Riviera Country Club since 1973 except for two years in which it was hosting major championships, the latest the 1998 US Seniors Open. It's a traditional tournament played on an old style course and in contrast to this week's event on the European Tour.

The ISPS Handa World Super 6 Perth combines strokeplay and matchplay in a unique format but in both events the best player prevails. Strokes will reduce the field from 156 to 24 players over the first three days. Matches will be played over six holes on Sunday with the top eight players getting a bye into the second round. If matches are tied after six holes sudden death will determine which player progresses to the next round. The defending champion is Kiradech Aphibarnrat and Bret Rumford won the first staging of the event in 2017 but neither former winners are playing this week.

Bubba Watson is the defending champion and three times winner of the Genesis Open so has a game suited to the host course. Riviera is looked upon as one of America's great traditional courses and a classic of course design. It was nicknamed Hogan's Alley after Ben Hogan won three times there in 17 months in the late 1940's. It could also be called Tiger's torment because Woods has not won on the course despite a number of visits and he plays again this week. Phil Mickelson won the Pebble Beach Pro-Am for the fifth time on Sunday but the track does not play to his strengths.

Riviera has been lengthened in an effort to recreate the original feel of the layout. It's a course that requires players to think their way around, shaping tee shots and avoiding the sand traps. That profile does not fit the perception of how Watson and the 2017 winner, Dustin Johnson, play golf but both have more than one dimension to their game. The greens at Riviera are below average in size and similar to those at Pebble Beach last week. Driving accuracy is more important than driving distance and hitting the greens in the correct number of shots is key to good scoring.

The par of the course is 71 and at 7,322 yards in length it's about average for this par. The average winning score over the last 10 years is 13 under and in all but one year the winning margin has been two strokes or less and that includes three playoffs. Since 2008 there has only been one overseas winner so this is a tournament dominated by players from the United States. Jordan Spieth has a decent profile for the host course so could get his career back on track with a 12th PGA Tour win. Rory McIlroy has entered the event but his skills are not the best fit for the course.

The innovative tournament on the European Tour is being played at Lake Karrinyup Country Club in Perth and this is another course that puts a premium on accuracy over distance. Last year's leader after the 54 holes of stroke play was first for driving accuracy and greens in regulation but also second for GIR putting. Aphibarnrat was sixth for driving accuracy but also fourth for driving distance so a player clearly must drive the ball well to contend. Putting in any matchplay format is also important so a good all-round game is required. Thomas Pieters ticks many of the boxes and the former Ryder Cup player matches the requirements of both formats so is the tip.

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

### **Tottenham Face Tough Task At Wembley**

The Premier League's chances of producing the winner of the Champions League were reduced with Manchester United's 2-0 loss at home to PSG last night. Tottenham are in action tonight when they meet Borussia Dortmund in the first leg of their last 16 tie at Wembley Stadium.

United had a reality check against the champions of France who were missing Neymar and Edinson Cavani but were still much too good at Old Trafford. Tottenham face the best team in Germany in the first of three clashes between Premier League and Bundesliga outfits. PSG's win now means FRANCE is 6/1 with **Betfair** to be the Champions League winning nationality.

Tottenham beat Leicester 3-1 in the Premier League on Sunday following three league matches in which the points have been secured with late goals. It's encouraging that Dortmund have let in at least one goal in nine of their last 10 matches but Tottenham will be without Harry Kane and Dele Alli this evening.

PSG coped without two major payers against United but it could be a different kettle of fish for Tottenham. Dortmund will not be at full strength but depth of squad could be the deciding factor. The visitors might not be going back to Germany with three points but would take the DRAW and that outcome is 23/10 with **Ladbrokes**.

Ajax host Real Madrid in tonight's other last 16 fixture and the defending champions should have no fears about a trip to Amsterdam. Real have won six and drawn one of their last seven matches in all competitions. They have also won five of six away fixtures in the Champions League. Ajax have not been in great form since returning from the winner break so REAL MADRID are the bet at 10/11 with **Betfair**.

Was it an overreaction or did the BHA get it right? That question is hopefully hypothetical because racing resumes in the UK today after a six day break due to equine flu. We should not worry about the quality of racing at four meetings in Britain but Fairyhouse in Ireland stages the richest race. The rated chase over almost three miles at 3.05 is a good opportunity for CALL IT MAGIC, the tip 3/1 at **Ladbrokes**.