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### Inside Today...

FREE Tips From Neo Investments, On The Nod and Early Odds

Rose And McIlroy Are The Players To Back - By Ian Hudson

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott





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I get enough exercise just pushing my luck.

Today's free tips are courtesy of Neo Investments, On The Nod and Early Odds

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

**Neo Investments** 

Win Bet - 15:10 Lingfield (A.W) - Pactolus @ 7/2

On The Nod

Win Bet - 14:40 Lingfield (A.W) - Miss Dusky Diva @ 7/2

**Early Odds** 

Win Bet - 15:00 Catterick - Cracking Find @ 7/2



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### Rose And McIlroy Are The Players To Back - By Ian Hudson

Tiger Woods has won the Dubai Desert Classic on the European Tour twice in the past but is not playing in the event this week. Instead he has entered the Farmers Insurance Open in the States which will be his first regular event for a year. The former world number one has missed the best part of two years through injury but played well in the unofficial Hero World Challenge at the end of last year.

Rory McIlroy was out of the game for three months from last October. He had an injury-disrupted campaign in 2017 and finally gave up the unequal struggle. At 28 he is entering his golfing prime and at a crossroads in his career. He won the last of his four majors in 2014 but since then several young players have arrived on the scene. McIlroy is the favourite to win in Dubai this week but Tommy Fleetwood will be hard to beat because he is the man in form.

The Farmers Insurance Open was formerly called the Buick Invitational. Torrey Pines has hosted the event since 1968 except in 2008 when the US Open was played on the course. Tiger Woods won that championship in a playoff but that was his last major championship win. Woods has won the tournament seven times on the track so that makes him an eight-time course winner. He clearly has a game suited to the course but mentally he might not be quite at the races.

This week's tournament is played on the South Course and North Course. Players play one round at each of the two courses over the first two days and the final 36 holes at the weekend take place on the South course. Both courses have bentgrass greens which are below average in size. The South course is a monster measuring over 7,600 yards while the North course is short for a par 72. Overall the courses require experience and not one particular attribute stands out.

Woods showed in the Hero World Challenge that is long game is back in fine order. He played three rounds below 70 but a 75 in round three took him out of contention. Rickie Fowler won the event and is the second favourite this week behind Jon Rahm. The Spanish player won the on the US Tour last week and is now at number two in the world rankings behind Dustin Johnson. He is a certain future major champion and that breakthrough could come at the US Masters in April.

The heart says Tiger Woods is the player to back this week but the head says Rahm and Fowler are the players to support. However, a viable alternative is Justin Rose who is in great form. He won the Olympics golf tournament in 2016 and lost the playoff at the Masters last year to Sergio Garcia. The 2013 US Open winner has an excellent all-round game with few weaknesses and he has the skills to score well on the two courses in San Diego. Woods should make the cut and a top 10 finish is feasible but Rose is the tip.

There is plenty of course form to assess for the Dubai Desert Classic. The event has been played on the Maljis course at the Emirates Golf Club every year from 2001. The fairways are generous and water is a feature on 10 holes. The four par fives provide eagle and birdie chances and the 18th has a carry over water which involves risk and reward. McIlroy was the champion in 2009 when he won his first event as a pro. He has the course and current form to win the Dubai Desert Classic again.

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

#### Who Is Kyle Edmund?

Lets be honest now a week ago who had heard of Kyle Edmund and knew what he did for a living? The professional tennis player from Beverley in the East Riding Yorkshire is in the semi-finals of the Australian Open and currently the third favourite for the Sports Personality Of The Year award. If Edmund wins the Australian Open Anthony Joshua must unify the world heavyweight boxing titles or Harry Kane must be the leading goalscorer in the World Cup that England win to beat him in the contest. EDMUND was 500/1 to win the first Grand Slam tournament of the year before play began and now plays Marin Cilic in the last four at 8.30 tomorrow morning. He is now 12/1 with William Hill to cause a 'Leicester City' type upset.

The post Alexis Sanchez era begins at Arsenal and what better way to send him on his way to Manchester than progressing to the final of the EFL Cup at the expense of Chelsea tonight. The second leg of the semi-final tie at the Emirates tonight will be Chelsea's seventh match in 22 days. The 4-0 win at Brighton at the weekend was not typical of their start to the year. The first match at Stamford Bridge was a nil-nil draw so it's all to play for now. ARSENAL have only lost once in 25 home matches and are the bet at 11/10 with Ladbrokes to qualify for the final. MANCHESTER CITY will be the opponents and they are currently the favourites to win the EFL Cup at 1/2 with Coral.

With an inspection at Exeter planned this morning Catterick is the only jumps meeting that definitely goes ahead and there are two All-Weather fixtures at Lingfield and Kempton that presumably won't be affected by the weather. The six races at Catterick offer total prize money of £60,000 which isn't too bad but not a fortune. The betting industry is petrified of the maximum stake on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals being reduced to £2 due to the negative impact on betting office viability and the knock-on affect on racing and reduced prize money. BENTELIMAR will win less than £10,000 for prevailing in the richest race at Catterick (3pm) and the horse can be backed at 10/11 with William Hill.