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TOP TIPSTERS MARCH 2018

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Pos	Service Name	Points
1st	 The Chief Tipster	64.06
2nd	 Golf Bet Gold	53.67
3rd	 Trend Betting	51.27
4th	 Shrewd Tipster	47.68
5th	 The Judge	45.98
6th	 Two Percent Club	42.44
7th	 Lucky 7 Naps	35.90
8th	 Each Way Hits	32.00
9th	 Bets of the Day	30.35
10th	 Power Bet Pro	29.81

TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[Andy Bell Racing](#)

Win Bet - Cheltenham 15:30 - Sam Spinner @ 7/2

[Bets Of The Day](#)

Win Bet - Cheltenham 14:50 - Un De Sceaux @ 11/10

[The Pro Punter](#)

Win Bet - Cheltenham 16:50 - Laurina @ 8/13

Wigan Could Represent League 1 In The Last Four - By

Ian Hudson

Wigan are the last team from outside the Premier League in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup. They are also the last side not playing in the top division to win the trophy. It could be a good time to play at home against Southampton because the visitors have just sacked their manager and the club is in disarray. Wigan have a great chance to progress to a semi-finals at Wembley and they are the one outsiders who can do the business in the four ties over the weekend.

There are often upsets in the early rounds when ties bring together teams from League 1 and League 2 and Premier League outfits on the road. Wigan are currently third in League 1 and Southampton are 17th in the Premier League but only one point above the relegation places. The tie has the potential for a classic upset, a team riding high in a lower league playing at home against opponents struggling in the Premier League. Team selection will be key to the outcome.

Both teams would not refuse a semi-final and possible final at Wembley but both have other priorities. Wigan were relegated from the Premier League in the year they won the Cup and have now dropped even further down the structure and are one tier below the championship. The stadium and infrastructure is geared to top flight football and moving back into the Championship is more important than the Cup. Wigan can beat Southampton in the last eight of the FA Cup.

It's not the end of the world if Wigan miss out on promotion as there will be no material effect on the finances. However, it would be a huge blow for Southampton if they faced the nightmare scenario of relegation to the Championship. They were poor in losing 3-0 at Newcastle last weekend and the board reacted by sacking the manager. Statistically teams do no better with a new man in charge and they are struggling in the league for a reason and that's not usually related to the manager.

If Wigan make the last four it will be an exception to the rule. The cream rises to the top in the FA Cup which is dominated by the Premier League superpowers. The average league finishing position of the Cup winners in the Premier League era is fourth while the runners-up usually come from the upper echelons of the hierarchy. Southampton cannot afford to lose their Premier League status and they might take their eye off the ball against Wigan and the home team can progress.

Winning the FA Cup would not negate the damage caused by Manchester United being eliminated by Sevilla in the last 16 of the Champions League. United only had to win the second leg to progress but they played poorly and Sevilla's win did not flatter the Spanish team. Jose Mourinho must now get the players focused on the visit of Brighton to Old Trafford in the FA Cup. A home win is the most likely outcome but it could be a one-goal victory which was the objective against Sevilla that did not look like being met.

Tottenham should have too much for an improved Swansea and the class of the home team should prevail. Leicester can beat Chelsea at home and continue the process of winning the FA Cup for the first time even though in four years they were the losing finalists. However, Wigan could win the Cup and be promoted which would have a good synergy with 2013 when they went in the opposite direction and won the Cup.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Laurina Is The Banker Of The Bankers

Cue Card won the bumper at the Cheltenham Festival in 2010 aged four and today is not a totally forlorn hope to win the Ryanair Chase. No horse has won separate races at the meeting with an eight year gap. Cue Card never got the job done in the Gold Cup and today Un De Sceaux could spoil the party. Last year's winner won't have the sidelined Ruby Walsh on board but has the best recent form in the race. However, it's not the heart ruling the head to suggest at the relative prices you should be backing CUE CARD at 13/2 with bet365 to win the Ryanair Chase.

Sam Spinner has the best form this year in the context of the Stayers' Hurdle but the odds and favouritism look questionable. The horse was visually impressive at Haydock and looked an outstanding stayer when winning the Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot. The form looks rock solid because Unowahntimeanharry and Lil Rockerfeller were soundly beaten. The two horses made the frame when the sadly departed Nichols Canyon won the staying hurdler's championship last season and are back for more today. YANWORTH started favourite for the Champions Hurdle last season but wasn't fast enough for the race but can win the stayers' and that outcome is 6/1 with Ladbrokes.

One of the consequences of a four day festival is more races for mares and their novices' hurdle takes place today. Willie Mullins has won the first two runnings and has a great chance to win the third one today. Marias Benefit has won good races in the division this season but for some Laurina is the banker of the bankers and defeat is out of the question. The horse has won her two races in Ireland with Mullins on heavy ground. The ratings, form and trends point to LAURINA delivering and the best morning price is 8/13 with William Hill.

Arsenal must win the Europa League to qualify for the Champions League and keep Arsene Wenger in his job for another year. They were on an awful run of form before beating AC Milan in Italy in the first leg of their last 16 tie. Milan have met English clubs away from home 16 times and won just one of those fixtures. Even though ARSENAL don't need to push for a victory they must be backed at 21/20 with Betfair to win this match.

The Halfway Stage Of The Festival - By Eddie Lloyd

We're now halfway through the festival and what a couple of days it's been. We've seen Footpad win in impressive fashion. Buveur D'Air managing to get up on the line. Apple's Jade dsappoint. Altior running tamely but still winning in style. Fourteen races that have had the heart racing and six favourites obliging. If it continues like this, the bookies won't be paying out any Christmas bonuses, this year! And all on the heavy ground! The festival never fails to impress.

My festival started with the necessary fuelling that anyone standing up all day needs and that was a fry-up. From there, my friends and I walked up Evesham Road to the sound of touts, buskers and Irish sing-alongs. Thirsty work and straight to the Guinness village for some refreshments.

Next, it was time to get money down on the first and my tip from last week, Kalashnikov looked mightily impressive in the parade ring. I was tempted to go on the nose but stuck to my guns and went each-way. Managed to get 11/2 with a few rails bookies and went down to the rail to witness the Cheltenham roar and watch my selection run.

Second by a neck (ouch). He was soaring up the run in and looked the likely winner with a furlong to go. Summerville Boy joined the party and turned a large payout into a barely breakeven position (ouch, again!)

Footpad and Buveur D'Air provided a nice double but Apple's Jade would have paid for a holiday had she obliged. Anyhow, the day ended with a profit and spirits were high as 62,000 people left the course and headed into town.

You feel like you've walked the Cross Country course by the time you've found a pub and finding a seat is harder than finding the winner of the Grand National. It was a quick scoop and then a taxi back to the cottage for a takeaway and board games.

Not much joy, yesterday, as Altior was the only return on my wagers but was happy with the 6/5 I got on course before he was backed into evens. Nicky Henderson was looking very emotional as he entered the parade ring to pick up his prize and deservedly so. Let's hope he can make history with Might Bite, tomorrow in the Gold Cup.

So, it's been an exciting two days and my bank has increased by a whopping 1.3 points. Two more days to turn that around and today, I wanted to look at the Ryanair, running at 2.50 pm.

Here are some trends to get us going -

9 of the last 10 winners had won at Cheltenham before
9 of the last 10 winners had won a Grade 1 Chase before
10 of the last 12 winners were 6/1 or lower in the market
9 of the last 10 winners were rated 161 or more

Un De Sceaux looks like the winner, fitting all of the trends above and could certainly be another spoiler for the bookies. He's best priced at 11/10 at the moment and it'll be interesting to see how the market reacts to whoever gets the ride, now that Ruby Walsh is on the sidelines. There are obvious dangers in Cue Card, a veteran and Frodon at a big price could reverse the form with the latter and give the favourite something to think about. All in all, it's going to be an exciting renewal and if you can't part with your money at 11/10, at least watch the greats battle it out for the thrill of it!

Good luck for the rest of the festival and I'll be back next week when it'll be all very quiet!