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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[Power Bet Pro](#)

Win Bet - Ascot 16:20 - Alpha Centauri @ 7/2

[The Secret Handicapper](#)

Win Bet - Ascot 17:00 - Bubble And Squeak @ 40/1

[Neo Investments](#)

Win Bet - Newmarket 20:00 - Homeopathic @ 7/2

Harry Angel Is The Horse For The Diamond Jubilee Stakes

- By Ian Hudson

It's the fifth and final day of Royal Ascot on Saturday and midway through the third day the races to be the top jockey and trainer were still far from over. John Gosden and Frankie Dettori took the honours at the start of the meeting but Aidan O'Brien and Ryan Moore bounced back with winners on Thursday. There are six races on each of the five days so 30 races up for grabs during the best Flat meeting in the world.

The most famous racing fixture in the sport features eight Group 1 races and 18 Group races in total. The most prestigious race of the summer festival is the Gold Cup. It is the longest championship race at Royal Ascot and the winner will have an influence on who is the leading jockey and trainer. The market leaders were Order Of St George for O'Brien and Moore and Stradivarius for Gosden and Dettori. The latter won an epic race so the trainer and jockey are in good shape to win the leading training and riding honours.

Royal Ascot used to be a four day meeting and the Saturday fixture was called Ascot heath. There was always the odd race goer who thought it was still the royal meeting and turned up in top hat and tails. They probably looked a bit conspicuous amongst those attending in regular clothes. The Saturday of the week is now part of Royal Ascot and the racing justifies that status, especially in the form of the Diamond Jubilee Stakes which is a Group 1 contest over six furlongs.

The race often identifies the best sprinter in Europe in the first half of the season and sometimes even the best in the world. There are some speedy animals racing in the Southern Hemisphere but the journey to Ascot is sometimes seen to be too long and potentially unsettling. However, Redkirk Warrior has made the trek from Australia and connections are confident their horse can win the race. The dual Newmarket Handicap winner will be ridden by Dettori in attempting to become the first winner of the race from Australia since Black Caviar in 2012.

Merchant Navy is an ex-Australia based horse who is now owned by Coolmore and trained in Ireland by O'Brien. The horse finished a neck behind Redkirk Warrior when third in this year's Newmarket Handicap at Flemington in March. Merchant Navy was going best at the end of the race and can reverse the form. US Sprinter Bound For Nowhere represents North America and could be the fly in the ointment but that is speculation rather than based on proven form.

Limato and Librasa Breeze have something to find on recent form but the former has better prospects based on Group 1 runs in the past. Limato looked like a world-beater four seasons ago but hasn't quite built on that potential. His best efforts have come in races over six furlongs so the horse has the speed to figure. However, Harry Angel has produced the best sprint form in the last year.

With Redkirk Warrior and Merchant Navy in particular involved Harry Angel won't have things his own way in the Saturday feature and the race distance is not ideal but class can prevail. The horse is the ante post favourite but no challenge has been beyond him recently and he can enhance his reputation even further by adding another race at the highest level to his record. To record a win Harry Angel will have to finish in front of The Tin Man the horse that won the race last year. Harry Angel is good enough to win the 2018 Diamond Jubilee Stakes.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Croatia Are Good Enough To Win The World Cup

Argentina are all but out of the World Cup after looking like a shambles against Costa Rica. Surely the same fate is not awaiting Brazil who play COSTA RICA today and that side can be backed at with 20/1 with **bet365** to win the match. Lionel Messi looked frustrated during the match and distraught at the final whistle as he realised he would not be winning this World Cup surrounded by inferior team mates. The team to take out of yesterday's action is CROATIA who were brilliant against Argentina and the nation are now 16/1 with **Betfair**.

Brazil were nothing special in their first match against Switzerland which was a draw but they will be too strong for Costa Rica. Only Russia in the opening match have scored more than three goals in 90 minutes and in theory Brazil can reach that tally. However, an organised defence can thwart even the best teams so UNDER 2.5 GOALS in this match at 20/23 with **Ladbrokes** is the suggested bet.

The second match today brings together Nigeria and Iceland and this is the closest fixture in the tournament based on the bookmaker's odds in the three-way match winner market. Nigeria have won just one of their last 13 matches in the World Cup and Iceland have not won a match of any nature since October 2017. In a blatant act of sitting on the fence the natural conclusion is a DRAW at 8/5 with **William Hill**.

Serbia beat Costa Rica in their first match and another three points against Switzerland would secure their passage into the last 16. They meet Brazil in the final group phase and avoiding defeat in that match looks beyond them. SERBIA have only failed to win once in five competitive matches. They can extend that run by beating Switzerland and that outcome is 17/10 with **Coral**.

It's the fourth day of Royal Ascot and I hope you will have winnings from backing Stradivarius in the Gold Cup to play with today. The feature race is the Coronation Stakes which is a Group 1 mile contest for fillies aged three. Billesdon Brook has the best form on paper having won the 1,000 Guineas. Alpha Centauri won the Irish version in which CLEMMIE was unplaced but that is the horse to back today at 9/2 with **Betfair**.