

Issue 243

Saturday 28th July 2018

BetFan



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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

Solid Claim Racing

Win Bet - Ascot 15:40 - Crystal Ocean @ 5/2

Lucky 7 Naps

Win Bet - Chester 16:55 - Amazing Michele @ 6/1

Two Percent Club

Win Bet - Chester 15:10 - Powerallied @ 5/2

Angles for Glorious Goodwood - By The Champagne Kid

For anyone who has never been to Goodwood, if you get a chance, don't miss it. The course is often described as being the most scenic in the world, and it would take something special for another course to take that crown. It really is a wonderful sight on a bright sunny summer day during the Glorious Goodwood festival. I go every year for the first two days, the highlight usually being the Sussex Stakes on the Wednesday, and I have many great memories of that race, which include two impressive wins by the mighty Frankel.

A very common way to approach festival races nowadays is of course to use trends. One of the main trends I have found over the years to be prevalent every year in pretty much every class, age range and distance of race is the trend for horses you've backed with your hard-earned to suffer interference, get blocked on the rail, get bumped or baulked, to 'not-get-a-run' or whatever else the Goodwood gods can throw at it. It is just one of these things you have to live with, although one way to try to take care of that bad-luck angle is to search out jockeys with good records at the course.

One such jockey was the now retired Richard Hughes who has of course moved into the trainer ranks, who returned an 18.7% level stake profit at Betfair SP in his last 7 years of rides at Goodwood. That is pretty impressive for a large number of rides (105 wins from 532 at 19.7% strike rate).

So, in the absence of Hughes, who rides well at Goodwood these days? In terms of strike rate, looking at just the last 5 years, Andrea Atzeni is 14.7% from 68 rides for BSP profit £233.40 (328.5% ROI). Those figures include a couple of massive BSP winners (Breton Rock at 163.8 and Flying Bear at 58.19), but apart from those, he does seem to have the knack of riding well at the course. Another to keep an eye on is William Buick with 13 from 81 for an 80% ROI, whilst two others with similar figures are worth comment. Ryan Moore has a 17% strike rate over the last 5 years, but that has returned a £43.41 level stake loss at BSP. The other is Frankie Dettori who has good positive figures, but he will miss the first two days of the festival even after the reduction in length of his current ban.

In terms of trainers to follow at the festival, some of the following are worth a check. Richard Hannon is 9 from 45 for a £19.60 LSP (43.6% ROI) and the stable (father and now son) are worth looking out for in the Vintage Stakes, the Lennox Stakes, the Molecomb Stakes, and in particular the Richmond Stakes on the Thursday where the yard has won 6 of the last 10 runnings. This year, Hannon has one entry in the Richmond Stakes, Neverland Rock, who may be worth keeping an eye out for.

Keep a close eye on trainer Mark Johnston's handicap runners at the festival. He tends to go in a bit mob-handed and the strike rate of 12% in the last 5 years isn't the greatest, but it will be a surprise to me if he doesn't bag one of the handicaps at least. Don't worry about his charges' form coming into the race, as they often find a

new lease of life when they set foot on the Sussex downs. The opening handicap on Tuesday is a good place to start, as Johnston has won 4 of the last 10 runnings of this race. He has just the one entry this year, Rainbow Rebel who is looking to complete a four-timer having won consecutively at Pontefract, Haydock and Chester.

Others to watch out for are top trainers William Haggas and also John Gosden whose winners are almost always from colts and fillies in Group races. Some trainers who have struggled for winners in recent years are George Baker (0 from 44 in the last 5 years), Roger Charlton (0 from 24), Sir Mark Prescott (0 from 15), and one to avoid in particular it would seem, is Richard Fahey who tries hard but doesn't get the returns with just the 2 wins from 113 tries in 5 years.

Whatever angles you follow at Goodwood during the Glorious Festival, you will almost certainly need a bit of luck on your side to come out ahead, so here's wishing that for each and every Betfan client.

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Rick's Sports Betting: Opposing Hand Picked Greyhounds For Profit - By Rick Elliott

Greyhound racing in Britain has a format that has not changed for many years. In terms of the number of active tracks the sport appears to be in decline. However, Racing Post Greyhound TV shows live racing every night so the sport must be doing something right. Every race involves six dogs who run from traps and statistics can be used to identify runners to lay in graded races.

Each track employs a handicapper who assesses the relative merits of dogs based at the track. They are assigned places in graded races based on their ability and the best dogs race from the best traps. Statistically Trap 1 and Trap 6 provide most winners because the dogs are best positioned to avoid trouble in running. Runners from Traps 2 to 5 are more likely to bump into each other at the first bend.

If the dog running from Trap 1 starts the race well and takes the first bend in front of the rest of the field the race can be over. A favourite that "pins the lids" (breaks well) from the inside trap will be hard to catch and can gain a winning advantage over the first 50 metres of the race. The other dogs will be scrambling for position around the first bend and there could be interference.

The dogs drawn wide on the outside can drift further out to avoid trouble in running while the other four runners must fight for a good position as they head into the back straight. Statistics show that runners from Trap 2 and Trap

5 are more likely to have their runs disrupted by collisions and these dogs can be out of a race in the early stages. Money can be made opposing dogs running from these traps.

It is best to focus on graded races rather than heats in open competitions. The form is more reliable and the dogs are exposed. They are racing at their true level while in open races their might be little collateral form. If you looking to lay dogs to make money you should focus on graded races but ignore Grade 1 and Grade 10 level as these are the extremes and the statistics do not hold up as well as in the other grades.

There are trap statistics online which show the winning percentages at each track. We are not concerned with Trap 1 and Trap 6 but we are interested in the statistics for the other four traps. You should identify the trap that has produced fewest winners in the calendar year. If two or more traps have the same winning percentage use results for second place finishes to determine the trap number to lay.

Race cards are published in the Racing Post or on websites online. You have identified the dogs to lay but if the forecast starting price is more than 6/1 these dogs are eliminated. You should also ignore any greyhound that finished first or second on the last start and disregard dogs that recorded the best time over the race distance on the last run. There will be about 6 qualifying races at each meeting and you will now have a list of dogs to lay.

You can apply a level stake strategy or use a compounding bank. Your lay stake will be to lose a fixed amount which goes up during a winning run and drops during a period of losing bets. You are laying dogs running from traps 2,3,4 and 5 so generally are opposing the slowest dogs who are most likely to find trouble in running. Over time this strategy will make you steady profits when you want a dog not to win.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Three Against The Field In Ascot's Heritage Handicap

CRYSTAL OCEAN (5/2 with William Hill) is the tip to win the King George V1 and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot but the feature handicap on the card is not as easy to work out. The International Stakes (3pm) is a heritage handicap over seven furlongs. There are 29 horses declared to run and some bookmakers are paying out on the first six places but you only get one fifth the odds. The standard terms for a handicap with 16 runners or more are four places at one quarter the odds so its swings and roundabouts in terms of at which bookmaker you place your bets. One

bookmaker is going a step further by settling each way bets on seven places at one fifth the odds.

As a punter I prefer to have two win bets on different horses rather than an each way bet on one horse. The place terms mean that the true odds of a horse backed at 20/1 to be placed at one quarter the odds are 2/1 and not 5/1. The total win and place stake is 2 units and the return is 6 units. The win part of the bet is lost if a horse does not win a race but finishes in the frame. In a competitive handicap with so many runners you could burn the midnight oil and still be well off the mark. Today we can simplify things by backing the three joint top-rated horses. Our three against the field are Flaming Spear (9/1 with **Ladbrokes**), Shady McCoy (12/1 with **Betfair**) and Cardsharp (16/1 with **bet365**).

You may wish to 'Dutch' these three horses which means adjusting the stake so the profit is the same regardless of which one wins. Obviously there are 26 other runners in the race so picking the winner is not guaranteed. Let's assume the total investment is £50 the dutched stakes are as follows:

£21.21 on Flaming Spear
£16.31.63 on Shady McCoy
£12.48 on Cardsharp

The profit is £162.09...as long as you have found the winner!

England's Heatwave Could Benefit Visitors - By Dave Owens

Conditions in England and India could not really be any different. Both teams are fantastic at home and start every series as a big favourite with conditions in their favour and just as importantly the visitors playing in conditions totally alien to them. In Broad and Anderson England have a couple of world class performers who are as good as anyone on the green pitch's in England and ably supported by overhead conditions which assist the ball moving around and make batting incredibly difficult. Overseas, both have had their moments but are not even close to as effective as they are at home on flatter pitches with the sun shining all day and getting nowhere near the assistance they would in England.

The exact same thing can be said of India's excellent spinners in Ravi Ashwin and Ravi Jadeja who can be near unplayable in India and regularly can be seen to bowl nearly all day, every day on wickets ideally suited to them – making playing away in India possibly the toughest test in cricket.

The main reason for the massive difference's in conditions in both respective lands is the opposite weather conditions. Cricket in England being generally played in overcast conditions on wickets that rarely see the sun and can often be slightly damp or soft and offer England's excellent seamers plenty. Cricket in India is nearly

always played in extreme heat with the wickets baking quickly and crumbling just as fast to offer enormous assistance to India's trump card of excellent spin bowling.

The current heatwave in England could potentially offer a bizarre role reversal with no rain seen in weeks and wickets becoming increasingly difficult to manage with the extreme heat which could the Indian side more at home than the hosts. An obvious advantage of playing at home is most of the support being in the host's favour, this again could take a strange twist with India receiving fabulous support in certain areas of England – and with the first test taking place in Birmingham on Wednesday, it would not be a total surprise for India to have a partisan crowd roaring them on at Edgbaston.

England currently have a real selection dilemma over their spinning options with Moeen Ali left out of their last series, Adil Rashid making himself available for only white ball cricket, Dom Bess being the player who played in the last tests but at 20 years old and not a massive amount of first class cricket behind him and potentially a bit early for him to be bowling at some of the finest players of spin in the world. India's selection headache is a more positive one with who to select from three quite brilliant spinners in Ashwin, Jadeja and Kuldeep, all of which means it could be a real opportunity for India to turn the status quo of home dominance in the five test series.

Click the link below it would be a pleasure to have you on board.

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Trackside In Ireland - By Declan O'Donoghue

Snakes and ladders, that's what racing is.

Patrick Prendergast travelled to Leopardstown on Thursday evening convinced he'd win the opener, a claimer, with Cedars Of Lebanon.

Clearly the public didn't quite share his confidence as the 5/4 morning price had stretched to 5/2 by the off.

Second for a long way, he faded to fourth late on and Patrick was not quite in love with the world afterwards.

He was annoyed to lose a claimer, yet two races later he won a Group 3!

His 10/1 shot Skitter Scatter - how was that smart filly such a juicy price? - landed the Silver Flash Stakes under Ronan Whelan as 4/9 jolly Goddess, clearly out of sorts, dropped from first place to last.

Needless to say Patrick was in slightly better form after that contest.

"I was very keen to try her over seven furlongs. She's full of heart, I'm very proud of her."

"We don't want to over race her this year, but she's in the Debutante and the Moyglare."

"Ronan thinks she'll get a mile no problem so we could have a 1,000 Guineas Trial filly for next season on our hands."

"I was sulking after the claimer, but God I feel good now!" he added.

Ballydoyle were clearly disappointed with Goddess and some of their horses, like Magic Wand in the Irish Oaks, are clearly a bit under the weather.

Nothing wrong with Anthony Van Dyck however who maintained Aidan O'Brien's formidable Tyros Stakes strike rate as the Tipperary handler won this race for the fifth time in a row.

This very impressive runaway Killarney winner repeated the dose here bolting home at 8/11.

Granted main market rival Bold Approach made a hash of the start and that 7/4 fancy ran very babyish before coming through late to take second place.

But the winner looked different league and is possibly Ballydoyle's leading juvenile right now.

BoyleSports immediately chalked him up at 14/1 for the 2,000 Guineas and go the same price for the Derby.

"We always knew he'd get a mile" Aidan said "and he proved that at Killarney, but you saw here he's just as happy over seven furlongs."

"So we might go for the Futurity over that trip next next followed by the National Stakes."

"I didn't get a chance to talk to Ryan (Moore) as he was rushing to catch a flight, but he said to the groom that he thinks he's a very nice colt" O'Brien concluded.

Let's hope Anthony Van Dyck is all he's cracked up to be - and certainly so far, so good - because there seem to be very few - if indeed any - outstanding Irish juveniles this season.

That said Goddess is undoubtedly way better than what we saw on Thursday night.

Aidan reported her in no way distressed afterwards, but very quiet and a bit subdued.

No doubt those who took the long odds on in the betting ring were quiet and subdued also.

A most unusual - if not indeed unique - happening was that we had two dead heats at the one meeting.

The judge could not separate 2/1 favourite Howling Ridge and Pythion 6/1 in the mile maiden - I actually said in the Press Room that it's probably a dead heat but they never call them anymore!

Then I was proved wrong on the double after the Listed Vinnie Roe Stakes when 8/1 shot Sizzling - just one previous win in 17 outings - finished like an express train on the stands side to share the spoils with 5/1 chance Cimeara.

Obviously Dermot Weld would love to win a race named after former stable star Vinnie Roe, and his Bandua was hammered in from early "fours" to top the market at 9/4.

He was in the mix all the way but finished a close up fifth.

Join Declan's Irish Racing Service to strike gold at the seven day Galway Summer Festival which kicks off on Monday!

That week long Western jamboree has long been a bonanza for his followers - remember big race hero Lord Scoundrel 33/1 (won 10/1), Titonhus 16/1, Creggs Pipes 14/1, On Fiddlers Green 8/1 etc.

Of course you will also get the inside line on the Irish runners at Glorious Goodwood - he hit the Jackpot with runaway 16/1 scorer Settle For Bay at Royal Ascot.

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