



Saturday 19th October

# **ASCOT**

| 1.20   | QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (Group 2) (1) 1m7f127y (3130 Metres)       |
|--------|--|
| RACE 1 | (5) KYPRIOS   (7) TRAWLERMAN   (1) AL NAYYIR   |
| 1.55   | QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (Group 1) (1) 6f (1210 Metres)                 |
| RACE 2 | (16) KIND OF BLUE (12) BEAUVATIER (4) KINROSS  |
| 2.35   | QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES & MARES STAKES (Group 1) (1) 1m3f133y (2330 Metres)  |
| RACE 3 | (2) QUANTANAMERA   (12) KALPANA   (7) TIFFANY  |
| 3.15   | QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES (Sponsored by QIPCO) (Group 1) (1) 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.) |
| RACE 4 | (1) CHARYN   (13) TAMFANA   (3) FACTEUR CHEVAL                                       |
| 3.55   | QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES (Group 1) (1) 11/4m (2010 Metres)                              |
| RACE 5 | (7) CALANDAGAN (8) ECONOMICS (10) LOS ANGELES  |
| 4.35   | BALMORAL HANDICAP (Sponsored by QIPCO) (2) 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)                   |
| RACE 6 | (14) TOIMY SON (5) ELNAJMM (17) LATTAM   |

## **KEY TO SYMBOLS**



**Top Rated:** The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.



**Horses For Courses:** A suitable track for the horse, compared to its lifetime record on similar courses as defined by Timeform's course data.



**Jockey Uplift:** The engaged rider has a notably higher Timeform Jockey Ranking than those who've ridden the horse on its most recent starts



**Trainer Form:** A hot trainer to follow, based on Timeform ratings-related measurements looking at the recent performance of runners.

## QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (Group 2) (1) 3yo+ £450,000 1m7f127y (3130 Metres)



RACE 1

## Going: Straight course: Soft, Round course: Heavy (Soft in places)

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further

## Draw: N/A Pace Information: Strong

AL NAYYIR (23) (D) Tom Clover

14-242521 6 9-9 61.2kg

Developed into a smart stayer trained in France and made an excellent start for new yard when second in the Lonsdale Cup at York, closing all the way to the

line. Éasily went one better in 5-runner listed event at Newmarket and comes here at the top of his game.

ALSAKIB (57) (C) 4 9-9 61.2kg 117-63417

Andrew Balding

Oisin Murphy

Developed into a smart performer in 2023, winning 4 times, including a couple of valuable handicaps, and best effort this term when winning Group 3 at York (13.8f) in July. However, that wasn't a strong race for the grade and he was found out in better company at York

**BELLOCCIO (FR) (123)** (C, D) **6** 9-9 61.2kg

W. P. Mullins, Ireland



Developed into a smart performer for David Menuisier, ending 2022 campaign with listed success at Kempton (12f). Winless in 4 starts last term but returned for top NH yard with an impressive hurdles success at Punchestown prior to winning Copper Horse Handicap at Royal Ascot. This is much tougher.

89 BURDETT ROAD (22) (C, D)

1153-5041 4 9-9 61.2kg

James Owen



Developed into a useful hurdler for this yard last winter and took a step forward when making all in 5-runner listed contest at Newmarket (12f) 22 days ago, kept up to work. This is a whole different ball game, however, and will likely come

KYPRIOS (IRE) (14) (C, D) 6 9-9 61.2kg



Aidan O'Brien, Ireland High-class stayer who looked back to his very best when regaining the Ascot Gold Cup/Goodwood Cup in the summer. Has added to his tally with wins in the Irish St Leger and Prix du Cadran at Longchamp and is clearly the one to beat.

**SWEET WILLIAM (IRE)** (36) 94

**5** 9-9 61.2kg

John & Thady Gosden Made into a smart stayer in 2023 and has improved again this term. Landed

Henry II Stakes at Sandown in May and has posted very good placed efforts

behind Kyprios in Ascot Gold Cup and Goodwood Cup prior to resuming winning ways in Doncaster Cup. Has each-way claims. TRAWLERMAN (IRE) (121) (CD)

97 h **6** 9-9 61.2kg



John & Thady Gosden Ebor winner in 2022 and improved again last season, winning all 3 starts in this country, notably when edging out Kyprios (ridden inefficiently) in this event 12

months ago. Gave his all when runner-up to that rival in Gold Cup at Royal Ascot in June and looks sure to make another bold bid.

**CAIUS CHORISTER (FR) (14)** 87

5 9-6 59.9kg David Menuisier

Took her form to a new level when just failing under a penalty in Sagaro at

Ascot/Henry II Stakes at Sandown on first 2 starts this season. However, was too keen in the Ascot Gold Cup and it was a similar story in the Prix de Royallieu at Longchamp (13.9f) 2 weeks ago. Passed over at this level.

THE EUPHRATES (20) 91 b

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland



Squashed suspicions he might've been flattered by his fourth in the Irish St Leger when winning 30-runner Irish Cesarewitch (Handicap) in first-time blinkers at the Curragh (16.8f) 20 days ago, in command final 1f and closed down only late. That form is working out and he's an interesting runner.

## **BETTING FORECAST:**

5-6 Kyprios, 9-2 Trawlerman, 8-1 Sweet William, 10-1 Al Nayyir, 22-1 The Euphrates, 33-1 Belloccio, 40-1 bar

#### **TIMEFORM VIEW:**

KYPRIOS has looked back to his very best this season and is taken to gain his revenge on Trawlerman for the result in this race 12 months ago having endured a far smoother campaign this time around. Trawlerman looks sure to make another bold bid nonetheless, while Al Nayyir is plainly better than ever for his latest change of yard and can fill the places.

## TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

93

90

100

Luke Morris

1. KYPRIOS 2. TRAWLERMAN 3. AL NAYYIR

#### **WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:** Trawlerman 5-9-9 John & Thady Gosden Frankie Dettori 11-8f Alan King 2022 Trueshan 6-9-9 Hollie Dovle 2021 Trueshan 5-9-7 evsf Alan King Hollie Doyle 10 Alan King 2020 Trueshan 4-9-7 Hollie Doyle 13

Aidan O'Brien

Donnacha O'Brien

9

7-2

#### SMART STATS:

Kew Gardens 4-9-7

2019

Sam James

92

96

95

93

## QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £500,000 6f (1210 Metres)



RACE 2

## Going: Straight course: Soft, Round course: Heavy (Soft in places)

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further

## Draw: Favours High Pace Information: Very Strong

ANNAF (IRE) (28) (CD)

6711-2103

**5** 9-4 | 59.0kg Michael Appleby

Thrived this time last year, taking the Portland and Group 3 over C&D, and added another win to his tally in Group 2 in the Middle East in February. Likely to be at his peak following 2 comeback runs last month, seeming to find a bare 5f against him at Newbury, and not dismissed back here.

ART POWER (IRE) (42) (CD)

05404250 7 9-4 59.0kg

Tim Easterby **David Allan** 

Has form figures of 4481 in this race, finally landing the big pot he'd long promised when beating Kinross 12 months ago. Form mixed this year but was a good fourth in the July Cup and no surprise to see him go well here again with conditions in his favour.

AUDIENCE (56) (BF) **5** 9-4 59.0kg

John & Thady Gosden 🦰 Made all (raced apart from rest) in the Lockinge at Newbury on reappearance

and quickly back to his best when defying a penalty in Group 2 Lennox at Goodwood, beating Art Power and Kinross. Off day when odds on for York Group 2 latest and has rare crack at 6f now with the ground probably not ideal.

**KINROSS (13)** (CD, BF) 122-28312 **7** 9-4 59.0kg 18

Ralph Beckett Rossa Ryan Very smart and likeable performer who won this in 2022 and was edged out

by Art Power last year. Arrives in top form following victory in the Park Stakes at Doncaster and another second in the Prix de La Foret and looks set for another big performance.

MILL STREAM (IRE) (76) (D, BF)

SHARTASH (IRE) (34) (D)

168-21315 4 9-4 59.0kg Jane Chapple-Hyam

Has had a fine year, winning the Duke of York and July Cup, with a good third in the QEII Jubilee at Royal Ascot in between. Ran a bit flat in the Maurice de Gheest

11 weeks ago but shouldn't stay down for long.

MONTASSIB (42) (D) **6** 9-4 59.0kg William Haggas 🔼 Cieren Fallon

Has taken his form to a new level this year and made it 4 wins from his last 5 starts when edging out Kind of Blue in the Group 1 Sprint Cup at Haydock 6 weeks ago. Handles soft conditions well and is a key player.

MOSS TUCKER (IRE) (13) (D) **6** 9-4 | 59.0kg 110-17900

K. J. Condon, Ireland William James Lee Successful return at Naas but well below that form since, including in the Abbaye

b

a fortnight ago, and up against it in a first-time visor here.

**4** 9-4 59.0kg 06-118356 Hollie Doyle Archie Watson

Successful on his first 2 starts of the year over 7f and went close behind Shouldvebeenaring in 6f Deauville Group 3 in the summer. Not so good since and plenty on his plate here in first-time blinkers.

SHOULDVEBEENARING (8) (D) 26913039 4 9-4 59.0kg

Just failed behind Mill Stream in the Duke of York in May and landed a Deauville Group 3 in the summer. Poor at Newmarket last week and hard to fancy from SPYCATCHER (IRE) (20) (D)

3-3056105 6 9-4 59.0kg K. R. Burke

those held up when just over 2 lengths behind Art Power and Fared best of Kinross in this last year and added another Deauville Group 3 to his tally this summer. Good run at the Curragh latest and conditions have come right for him again so no surprise to see him outrun his odds.

VAFORTINO (IRE) (56) (C) 011-26632 **6** 9-4 59.0kg

> Kevin Philippart de Foy Christophe Soumillor 2022 Victoria Cup winner who ran well on his only go over 6f for this yard in the Wokingham in June. Runner-up again in a Group 2 at York 8 weeks ago but probably only playing for a place again at best in such a hot contest.

BEAUVATIER (FR) (13) (D)

96

99

100

99

98

92

92

**(1)** 

13-203333 **3** 9-3 58.5kg

Y. Barberot, France **Alexis Pouchin** Won his first 4 starts in his homeland last year and placed on all bar one of his

runs since, ending up with a lot to do when third in the Prix de La Foret at the Arc Meeting a fortnight ago. Goes well in the mud and an interesting contender, representing different formlines to the principals.

**BUCANERO FUERTE (34)** (D) **13** 15

**3** 9-3 58.5kg 13113-167 Adrian Murray, Ireland

Group 1 winner at 2 yrs and successful in 6f Naas Group 3 on return in May. Might have needed his 2 runs back last month, fading in the Haydock Sprint Cup and taken off his feet behind Bradsell in the Flying Five. Proven in the mud and not

ELITE STATUS (42) (D)

3 9-3 58.5kg K. R. Burke

Much improved in his second season, winning 6f listed and Group 3 at Newbury, clear of Kind of Blue in the latter. Not seen to best effect drawn away from the main principals in the Haydock Sprint Cup last time and could have a bigger effort in him at the top level.

**15** 7 JAMES'S DELIGHT (IRE) (55) (D)

Clive Cox Has had a great season, notching up a fourth win of the year in 6f listed race at Deauville in July before splitting Spycatcher and Beauvatier there last time

(better placed than the third). Proven in the mud and has Ryan Moore in the plate again but this is a big step up. **16** 17 KIND OF BLUE (42) (D) 98

**3** 9-3 | 58.5kg James Fanshawe James Doyle

Has come a long way since winning his first two in the spring, taking another big leap forward when just failing behind Montassib in the Sprint Cup at Haydock 6 weeks ago. From the family of The Tin Man and Deacon Blues, both winners of

this race for the stable, and looks poised for another big run. SWINGALONG (IRE) (42) (D)

K. R. Burke

Group 3 winner at York last year and better than ever when narrowly beaten in the QEII Jubilee here and July Cup at Newmarket (headed late on by Mill Stream) this summer. Another not seen to best effect in the Haydock Sprint Cup and she forms part of a mighty challenge for Karl Burke.

UNEQUAL LOVE (42) (CD) 18 9 **4** 9-1 57.6kg 014-15133

> William Haggas Has gone from strength to strength this year, taking the Wokingham over C&D before good runs behind Flora of Bermuda at York (third, not seen to best effect)

and stablemate Montassib and Kind of Blue at Haydock. More needed again to take a hand here but it's not impossible.

**19** 11 VADREAM (14) (CD) 93 **6** 9-1 57.6kg

Charlie Fellowes Has blown hot and cold this year but ran well in the Group 3 Bengough over C&D a fortnight ago, a race she won in 2021 when also fifth in this. Fourth behind Montassib and co in the Haydock Sprint Cup but she'll do well to better that here.

**20** 20 FLORA OF BERMUDA (IRE) (42) (D) 92

**3** 9-0 57.2kg

Andrew Balding **Oisin Murphy** Won the Group 3 Summer Stakes at York in July and has remained in form, finishing with running left when fifth to Montassib in the Haydock Sprint Cup.



824-92145

Plenty more on her plate now. Yard took this with 33/1 shot in 2019.



# QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £500,000 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 2



#### 20 DECLARED RUNNERS

## BETTING FORECAST:

**5-1** Kinross, **6-1** Montassib, **9-1** Kind of Blue, **11-1** Mill Stream, **12-1** Audience, **14-1** Beauvatier, **14-1** Unequal Love, **20-1** Swingalong, **25-1** Elite Status, **25-1** James's Delight, **25-1** Spycatcher, **25-1** Flora of Bermuda, **40-1** bar

## TIMEFORM VIEW:

KIND OF BLUE has gone from strength to strength in his first season, just failing behind Montassib in the Group 1 Sprint Cup at Haydock 6 weeks ago. He's since changed hands privately and certainly has the pedigree for this race, being related to the yard's 2011 and 2016 winners Deacon Blues and The Tin Man. There is probably a bigger performance in his locker and if he handles conditions he seems sure to go well. Frenchrunner Beauvatier, 2022 winner Kinross and Montassib are firmly in the mix.

## TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

## 1. KIND OF BLUE 2. BEAUVATIER 3. KINROSS

| WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:           |      |                 |                    |    |
|--------------------------------------|------|-----------------|--------------------|----|
| 2023 Art Power 6-9-4                 | 40-1 | Tim Easterby    | David Allan        | 15 |
| 2022 Kinross 5-9-4                   | 3-1f | Ralph Beckett   | Frankie Dettori    | 18 |
| 2021 Creative Force 3-9-1            | 11-2 | Charlie Appleby | William Buick      | 20 |
| 2020 Glen Shiel 6-9-2                | 16-1 | Archie Watson   | Hollie Doyle       | 16 |
| 2019 <b>Donjuan Triumphant</b> 6-9-2 | 33-1 | Andrew Balding  | Silvestre De Sousa | 17 |
|                                      |      |                 |                    |    |

## SMART STATS:

96

100

## RACE 3

## **QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES & MARES STAKES** (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ fillies and mares £500,000 1m3f133y (2330 Metres)



## Going: Straight course: Soft, Round course: Heavy (Soft in places)

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further

## Draw: N/A Pace Information: Strong

14 **DOHA (15)** (C)

**4** 9-7 60.3kg 41-212521



Ralph Beckett

**Hector Crouch** Regally bred filly who has taken her form up a notch this year, landing 1m Royal Ascot handicap in June then doubling her tally for the campaign with a cosy

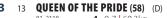
success in listed mares' event at Saint Cloud (9.9f, soft) earlier this month. This level seemingly beyond her pay grade, though.

QUANTANAMERA (GER) (55) **4** 9-7 60.3kg



Andreas Suborics, Germany Stephane Pasauier Smart performer who won both starts at 2 yrs and recorded a first success since when comfortably winning Grand Prix de Deauville (12.4f, soft) just under 8

weeks ago, beating Arrest by 4 lengths. This is clearly tougher, but she'll have no issue with conditions and could be worth chancing.







Beautifully-bred filly who won the Group 3 Pinnacle Stakes at Haydock on only her fourth career start and took a big step forward when following up in Lancashire Oaks there the following month. However, she ran no sort of race in Yorkshire Oaks at York (11.8f) last time so must bounce back.

SEA THEME (IRE) (14) (D)

4 9-7 60.3kg



William Haggas 🕷 Recorded career victory number 3 with wide-margin success in listed event at Clairefontaine in July and ran about as well as could've been expected when

sixth of 15 to Grateful in Prix de Royallieu at Longchamp (13.9f, good to soft) a fortnight ago (tongue tied). Up against it.



4 9-7 60.3kg



D. K. Weld, Ireland C. D. Hayes Runner-up twice in listed company in spring then won Munster Oaks at Cork in June. Improved on that despite not being seen to very best effect in a deeper race when fourth of 10 in Kilternan Stakes at Leopardstown (12f, good) 5 weeks ago and remains with potential. Cheekpieces applied.

THUNDER ROLL (IRE) (14)



**4** 9-7 60.3kg 3210-1634 Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland James Doyle Doubled her career tally in listed event at Cork in April and has matched rather



TIFFANY (IRE) (49) (D) 97 **4** 9-7 60.3kg



Sir Mark Prescott Bt Progressive filly who made it 7 wins from her last 9 starts in T. von Zastrow Stutenpreis at Baden-Baden (11.9f, good) 7 weeks ago, a move to the stand-side

rail into the straight probably making all the difference. Further improvement forthcoming so she's one to consider with cheekpieces applied.

TIME LOCK (22) (D) 96 **5** 9-7 60.3kg 3117-2531



(12f, soft) just over 3 weeks ago. Seventh in this last year, she'll need a career best to take this on what may prove her swansong. VILLAGE VOICE (36) (D) 94

4 9-7 60.3kg

Mrs J. Harrington, Ireland Cristian Demuro



Got off the mark for the season in good style after 4 months off at Saint-Cloud (11.9f, soft) just over 5 weeks ago, admittedly well positioned in a steadily-run race but showing a good turn of foot to quickly put matters to bed. Another jolt of improvement needed.

10 9 CONTENT (IRE) (13) (D) 14-883210 **3** 9-1 57.6kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland

Found quite a bit of improvement this season, keener than ideal but still strong in the finish when winning Yorkshire Oaks at York (11.8f) in August. Easy to put a line through her effort in Prix de l'Opera at Longchamp (9.9f, soft) earlier this month (when hooded) so holds every chance.

**11** 2 GRATEFUL (IRE) (14) (D)

**3** 9-1 57.6kg 9-161631

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland Christophe Soumillon Showed much improved form to spring a mild surprise upped markedly in trip

in Stanerra Stakes at Fairyhouse in July and ran her best race yet when winning 15-runner Prix de Royallieu at Longchamp (13.9f, good to soft) a fortnight ago, scoring with a bit in hand. 1 of 3 for the yard.

KALPANA (42) (D) 1212311

93

98

95

**3** 9-1 57.6kg

Andrew Balding William Buick Having been unraced at 2 yrs, made it 4 wins from 7 starts this year with a

impressive success in 7-runner September Stakes at Kempton (12f) 6 weeks ago, beating Lion's Pride by 4¾ lengths. Capable of better still and she looks ready to make her mark at the highest level.

WAR CHIMES (FR) (91) 94 **13** 12



**Billy Loughnane** Ran up to best when third of 12 to Ezeliya in Oaks at Epsom (12f, soft) in June but not in the same form in the Irish equivalent at the Curragh (12f, good to firm) back in July, pulling hard and generally looking a hard ride. Plenty to find

once again. WINGSPAN (IRE) (34)



Doubled her tally with a listed success at Gowran in August and took her form

up a notch when neck second of 9 to Hanalia in Blandford Stakes at the Curragh (10f, good) just under 5 weeks ago, seen to good effect from the front. Likely to progress further and should stay at least this far.

## 14 DECLARED RUNNERS

## **BETTING FORECAST:**

9-4 Kalpana, 17-2 Tiffany, 10-1 Content, 12-1 Quantanamera, 14-1 Queen of The Pride, 14-1 Time Lock, 16-1 Grateful, 20-1 Village Voice, 20-1 Wingspan, 20-1 War Chimes, 25-1 Sumiha, 33-1 Doha, 50-1 bar

### TIMEFORM VIEW:

A substandard renewal of one of the major prizes in the calendar for fillies & mares so it could be worth taking a chance on German-raider QUANTANAMERA, who looked a filly with a bright future when bolting up in a Group 3 on just her second career start and belatedly added to her tally at Deauville when last seen in August. Kalpana has progressed rapidly this season, so she rates as the obvious danger, with Tiffany, Content and Wingspan all having the potential to rate higher, too.

## **TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. QUANTANAMERA 2. KALPANA 3. TIFFANY

| WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:    |      |                     |                 |    |
|-------------------------------|------|---------------------|-----------------|----|
|                               |      |                     |                 |    |
| 2022 Emily Upjohn 3-9-1       | 3-1f | John & Thady Gosden | Frankie Dettori | 14 |
| 2021 Eshaada 3-8-13           | 16-1 | Roger Varian        | Jim Crowley     | 8  |
| 2020 Wonderful Tonight 3-8-13 | 4-1f | David Menuisier     | William Buick   | 12 |
| 2019 Star Catcher 3-8-13      | 7-4f | John Gosden         | Frankie Dettori | 12 |

93

Cristian Demuro

RACE 4

## **QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES (Sponsored by QIPCO) (Group** 1) (1) 3yo+ £1,156,250 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)

100

93

95

91

James Doyle

Ø

95

98

Ryan Moore

Ø



## Going: Straight course: Soft, Round course: Heavy (Soft in places)

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further

## Draw: N/A Pace Information: Very Strong

CHARYN (IRE) (41) (CD, BF)

33-112117

**4** 9-6 59.9kg Silvestre De Sousa Roger Varian

Has developed into a high-class performer this year, winning 4 times, notably

the Queen Anne over C&D and Prix Jacques le Marois at Deauville. Should have

completed a hat-trick of Group 1s in the Prix du Moulin de Longchamp (left with too much to do) and obvious claims of making amends.

CHECKANDCHALLENGE (31) (D)

**5** 9-6 59.9kg

William Knight **Christophe Soumillon** 

Smart at his best but was beaten at listed level at Sandown last time and unlikely he'll open his account for the year in this. Fourth in this last year, albeit beaten

FACTEUR CHEVAL (IRE) (80) (D)

23232-163 5 9-6 59.9kg

J. Reynier, France

Seasoned Group 1 performer who made a successful return in the Dubai Turf in March. Excuses in Queen Anne after before firmly back on track when third in Sussex Stakes at Goodwood. Decent second in this last year under similar conditions so needs considering.

LORD MASSUSUS (IRE) (35) (D)

4 9-6 59.9kg Joseph G. Murphy, Ireland

G. F. Carroll Smart performer who handles the mud but flying too high here even so.

POKER FACE (IRE) (22) (D, BF)

12-27P242 **5** 9-6 59.9kg

Simon & Ed Crisford

Winless this season but ran close to his best when second to Ice Max in Celebration Mile at Goodwood. Only respectable efforts next 2 starts, including when 3¾ lengths second of 4 to Prague in Joel Stakes at Newmarket 3 weeks ago. Firmly up against it.

**PRAGUE (IRE) (22)** (D)

Dylan Cunha **Daniel Tudhope** Failed to make the track during his time with Aidan O'Brien but has quickly made

up into a very smart performer for this yard, improving again when winning 4-runner Joel Stakes at Newmarket (soft) 3 weeks ago by 3¾ lengths from Poker Face, well on top finish. This much deeper but respected.

QUDDWAH (69) (CD) 11-114

**4** 9-6 59.9kg Simon & Ed Crisford

William Buick

Took another step up the ladder when making it 4 from 4 in Summer Mile here (round course) in July. Lost his unbeaten record when 31/4 lengths fourth of 8 to Charyn in Prix Jacques le Marois at Deauville following month so needs to resume progress. Unraced on going softer than good to soft.

**DANCING GEMINI (IRE)** (78)

5115-2665 **3** 9-3 58.5kg Tom Marauand

Listed winner at 2 and confirmed himself a smart performer when ½-length second to Metropolitan in French 2000 Guineas on reappearance. Hasn't kicked on since, however, and easily passed over.

**HENRY LONGFELLOW (IRE)** (41)

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland

111-8243 **3** 9-3 58.5kg

Won all 3 starts as a juvenile, notably the Group 1 National Stakes at the Curragh. Proved his French 2000 Guineas run all wrong when runner-up St James's Palace, getting first run. Not seen to best effect third in Prix du Moulin de Longchamp, though was beaten fair and square by Charyn that day.

ICE MAX (22) (D) **3** 9-3 58.5kg 15-114514

K. R. Burke

Much improved this year and again took form to another level when a length too strong for Poker Face in the Celebration Mile at Goodwood. Frame claims on that form and testing ground will suit, though he needs to shrug off a poor run in the Joel Stakes at Newmarket.

**11** 6 METROPOLITAN (FR) (69) (D) 11-5132

**3** 9-3 58.5kg M. Baratti, France

3 9-0 57.2kg

Proved a totally different proposition when holding on by 1/2 length from Dancing Gemini in French 2000 Guineas at Longchamp and confirmed himself a

smart 3-y-o when placed in St James's Palace at Royal Ascot and Prix Jacques le Marois at Deauville. Likely to find a few too good once again, however.

**12** 2 SIRONA (GER) (22) (D) 89 4 9-3 58.5kg

David Menuisier Rossa Ryan Useful filly who got off the mark for the season in 5-runner listed race at Newmarket 3 weeks ago but this level is very much beyond her.

TAMFANA (GER) (14) (D) 99 **13** 9

David Menuisier Oisin Murphy Very smart filly who was unlucky not to win the 1000 Guineas. Decent efforts in

defeat upped in trip next 2 starts but confirmed this is her best distance when stylish winner of the Sun Chariot back at Newmarket 2 weeks ago. Will handle the ground so another big run looks on the cards.

#### 13 DECLARED RUNNERS

#### **BETTING FORECAST:**

11-343411

6-4 Charyn, 9-2 Tamfana, 11-1 Prague, 11-1 Facteur Cheval, 12-1 Henry Longfellow, 12-1 Metropolitan, 18-1 Quddwah, 50-1 bar

## **TIMEFORM VIEW:**

CHARYN should have completed a hat-trick of Group 1 wins in the Prix du Moulin de Longchamp 6 weeks ago and can make amends in what isn't a particularly strong renewal. Improving 3-y-o filly Tamfana rates the main threat on the back of her stylish win in the Sun Chariot at Newmarket 2 weeks ago, while Facteur Cheval is a solid performer at this level and is also likely to be in the mix.

## **TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. CHARYN 2. TAMFANA 3. FACTEUR CHEVAL

## **WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

|      | Big Rock 3-9-3<br>Bayside Boy 3-9-3 | 5-1<br>33-1 | Christopher Head<br>Roger Varian | Aurelien Lemaitre<br>Tom Marguand | 11<br>9  |
|------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
|      | Baaeed 3-9-1                        |             | William Haggas                   | Jim Crowley                       | 10       |
|      | The Revenant 5-9-4                  | 5-1         | Francis-Henri Graffard           | Pierre-Charles Boudot             | 14<br>16 |
| 2019 | King of Change 3-9-1                | 12-1        | Richard Hannon                   | Sean Levey                        | 10       |

## **SMART STATS:**

## QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £1,300,000 1¼m (2010 Metres)



RACE 5

## Going: Straight course: Soft, Round course: Heavy (Soft in places)

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further

## Draw: Favours High Pace Information: Even

ANMAAT (IRE) (14) (D, BF)

111/21-15 **6** 9-7 60.3kg

Owen Burrows

Cracking strike-rate in the last 3 years, including a Longchamp Group 1. Added to his excellent record fresh with a second win in the Rose of Lancaster at Haydock

(10.5f, good to firm) in August but not at his best when only fifth in Group 2 Prix Dollar back at Longchamp a fortnight ago.

CONTINUOUS (JPN) (13) (D)

2115-5130 4 9-7 60.3kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland Christophe Soumillon Won last year's St Leger. Built on his Royal Ascot reappearance fifth when winning the Royal Whip at the Curragh in August but only third to Iresine in the

Foy next time and down the field in the Arc 13 days ago. 94

IRESINE (FR) (34) (D) **7** 9-7 60.3kg 21219-141

J-P. Gauvin, France Very smart performer in France, including a win in the Group 1 Prix Ganay last year. Gained a second win the Group 2 Prix Foy at Longchamp last month and won't be fazed by this ground having won a Prix Royal Oak on heavy in 2022.

ROYAL RHYME (IRE) (35) (D)

115-15467 4 9-7 60.3kg

K. R. Burke

**NOVUS (IRE) (8)** (D)

even hetter

**Clifford Lee** Added to his very good record on going softer than good when landing the Brigadier Gerard at Sandown (11/4m, soft) on his reappearance in May. Behind a few of these rivals on a quicker surface since but he's one who could go well at big odds with ground conditions in his favour.

NASHWA (14) (D) 96

**5** 9-4 59.0kg 213236-95

Hollie Doyle John & Thady Gosden Very smart mare with 3 Group 1 wins to her name but she's been well below

that level in her 2 outings this year, albeit she ran as if needing the outing after 6 months off when fifth in the Sun Chariot a fortnight ago. Acts on soft.

**4** 9-4 | 59.0kg Gary & Josh Moore **Tom Oueally** 

Enhanced her fine Goodwood record with a listed win (11/4m, heavy) last month but well held in Group 3 Pride at Newmarket last week and nothing in her record to think she's up to this level.

CALANDAGAN (IRE) (59) (C, D)

**3** 9-3 58.5kg

Francis-Henri Graffard, France Most impressive tackling going firmer than good for the first time when a 6-length winner of King Edward at the Royal meeting. Bettered that form when length second to City of Troy (pair clear) in International at York (good to firm

98 ECONOMICS (35) (D)

again) since. The one to beat if as effective back on deep ground.

William Haggas 🚴 Dual Group 2 winner who battled gamely to make it 4-4 for the season in the Irish Champion at Leopardstown (1¼m, good) last month, fending off Auguste Rodin by a neck with Los Angeles a length back in fourth. Looks capable of

KING'S GAMBIT (IRE) (59) (D) 90 **3** 9-3 58.5kg

Harry Charlton **Oisin Murphy** 

Impressive winner of the London Gold Cup (handicap) on his Newbury reappearance and even better form when placed at listed/Group level in his 3 outings since, including C&D. Los Angeles gave weight and a beating to him at York last time, though

## LOS ANGELES (IRE) (13) (D)

**3** 9-3 58.5kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland

Placed in the Epsom Derby before winning the Irish version. Good effort to defy a Group 1 penalty in the Voltigeur at York in August before fine in-frame efforts in the Irish Champion (to Economics) and Arc this autumn. 11/2m is his optimum trip but the ground should place the emphasis on stamina.

**11** 12 PERSICA (IRE) (28) (D)

3 9-3 | 58.5kg 1-3410131

Sean Levey

92

Richard Hannon

92

Has really flourished as a 3-y-o, winning 2 competitive handicaps and an Ayr listed race (all 11/4m). Acts on soft and might be capable of even better but he'll require a big jolt of improvement to play a prominent role here.

**12** 3 **SEE THE FIRE (14)** 94

23-054213 **3** 9-0 | 57.2kg

**Andrew Balding** 

Went close in the Group 1 Nassau at Goodwood before landing Group 3 Strensall at York (9f, good to firm) in August. Placed again in Group 1 company among her own sex when third in Sun Chariot at Newmarket 2 weeks ago. Return to 11/4m in favour but still hard to make a strong case for.

#### 12 DECLARED RUNNERS

## **BETTING FORECAST:**

6-4 Economics, 7-4 Calandagan, 9-1 Los Angeles, 16-1 Iresine, 33-1 Anmaat, 33-1 King's Gambit, 80-1 bar

#### **TIMEFORM VIEW:**

Progressive 3-y-os CALANDAGAN and Economics do need to prove themselves fully effective on deep ground but they are clear on form and have the potential for even better. The former had 11 others, including Arc winner Bluestocking, well behind him when chasing home City of Troy in a strong renewal of the International at York and is narrowly preferred. Los Angeles, Iresine and Royal Rhyme can fight it out for third.

## **TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

## 1. CALANDAGAN 2. ECONOMICS 3. LOS ANGELES

| WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS: |      |                    |                   |    |
|----------------------------|------|--------------------|-------------------|----|
| 2023 King of Steel 3-9-3   | 3-1f | Roger Varian       | Frankie Dettori   | 8  |
| 2022 Bay Bridge 4-9-7      | 10-1 | Sir Michael Stoute | Richard Kingscote | 9  |
| 2021 <b>Sealiway</b> 3-9-1 | 12-1 | Cedric Rossi       | Mickael Barzalona | 9  |
| 2020 Addeybb 6-9-5         | 9-1  | William Haggas     | Tom Marquand      | 10 |
| 2019 <b>Magical</b> 4-9-2  | evsf | Aidan O'Brien      | Donnacha O'Brien  | 9  |

## **SMART STATS:**

88

100

Daniel Tudhope

95

99

95

98

98

98

C. D. Hayes

98

## BALMORAL HANDICAP (Sponsored by QIPCO) (2) 3yo+ £200,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)



RACE 6

## Going: Straight course: Soft, Round course: Heavy (Soft in places)

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further

## Draw: Against Low Pace Information: Even

HOLLOWAY BOY (42) (C, D)

4-4352331 4 9-12 62.6kg

K. R. Burke First success

since taking the 2022 Chesham on debut when proving ½ length too strong for Prague (Group 2 winner since) in Haydock Group 3 (1m, good) 6 weeks ago. Posted some good efforts in big-field handicaps over the summer.

SIR BUSKER (IRE) (28) (CD)

William Knight

Brandon Wilkie (3lb/1kg) Credit to connections and ended 2-year losing run in big-field handicap at the York Ebor meeting. Respectable 21/4 lengths fourth of 9 to Persica in listed race at Ayr (11/4m, good to firm) since but very smart effort needed to defy this mark.

CICERO'S GIFT (14) (D)

**4** 9-11 62.1kg 1/117-1748

Charles Hills **Billy Loughnane** 



Much improved when making a successful return in strong 1m Sandown handicap (soft) from Holloway Boy. Respectable fourth to that same reopposing rival in a Haydock Group 3 in September but never involved in a Longchamp Group 2 a fortnight ago. His mark demands a very smart performance.

WITCH HUNTER (FR) (29) (C)

**5** 9-11 62.1kg

Richard Hannon Jamie Spencer



Won the Buckingham Palace here and Group 2 Hungerford at Newbury last year. Only narrowly failed to win the latter race again in August and also a good third in 1m Haydock Group 3 last month. Latest Newbury effort wasn't one of his best, though.

ELNAJMM (31) (CD, BF)



**Tom Marquand** Lightly-raced 4-y-o who readily won 1m handicaps at Newcastle and over C&D on his return in midsummer. Respectable 2½ lengths fifth in listed race at Sandown (1m, good) 31 days ago, needing stronger gallop. Wears first-time cheekpieces. Enters calculations back in handicap.



2-6770560 6 9-6 59.9kg





Course winner who ended 2023 with an excellent second in the Challenge Cup over 7f here but he was well held in this year's running of that race a fortnight ago. Others arrive with more pressing claims.

CARRYTHEONE (14) (D)

13451346 **7** 9-6 59.9kg





A two-time 7f scorer this term who also shaped well in a few big handicaps here this summer. Another fine effort when sixth of 18 in Challenge Cup here (7f, good) 14 days ago, left with too much to do. Plenty of soft ground form during his time in Ireland and Soumillon a good booking.

DAYSOFOURLIVES (IRE) (35) (CD)

4 9-3 | 58.5kg 6131-3241

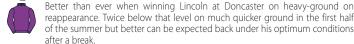
Marco Botti

First home in his group when fourth of 29 in the Hunt Cup over C&D (firm) at the Royal meeting and followed that with a win at the Doncaster St Leger meeting. Should remain competitive up 4 lb but needs to show he's fully effective on this ground.

MR PROFESSOR (IRE) (121) (D)

24126-100 **5** 8-13 | 56.7kg





THUNDER RUN (IRE) (58) (D)

**3** 8-13 56.7kg

95

95

William Buick

Ø

Ø

Ø

Ø

Jack Mitchell

**David Egan** 

95

97

K. R. Burke Very promising individual who was having only the fifth start of his career when seeing off Mirsky by ½ length in valuable 1m handicap at the York Ebor meeting. Soft ground is an unknown for this strong traveller but likely capable of even

**11** 3 BOPEDRO (FR) (14) (D)

8 8-12 56.2kg 70560203

David O'Meara

Losing run is mounting up but plenty of creditable efforts to his name this season, including third of 18 in the Challenge Cup over 7f here a fortnight ago. Fourth in this 12 months ago. Each-way claims again.

**12** 10 STAR OF ORION (IRE) (14)

443-92337

**Eve Johnson Houghton** Back to his best for his new yard when placed at Newmarket (1m) and Sandown

(7f, twice) at the end of the summer. Shaped as if still in form when seventh of 18 in the Challenge Cup over 7f here 2 weeks ago. Acts in the mud.

ALASKAN GOLD (IRE) (58) **13** 12 3172-5445 **3** 8-12 56.2kg

Alan King

Rossa Rvan Useful at his best for Karl Burke (including second in listed race on heavy) but well below par when last of 5 in Chelmsford handicap on yard debut in August.

Blinkered first time. Hard to fancy.

TOIMY SON (FR) (21) (D) 38243143 5 8-11 55.8kg

David Menuisier

Chose a good day to open his account for this yard when a 2-length winner of the valuable Golden Mile at Glorious Goodwood in August. Better form in defeat since (third of 31 in Cambridgeshire latest) and should go well again.

**MEXICALI ROSE** (13)

4 8-11 55.8kg

Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland Waxime G Useful filly who won a Galway handicap in July. Creditable 3 lengths third of 14 **Maxime Guyon** in Tipperary listed race (7.4f, soft, 20/1) 13 days ago, never nearer. Not obviously well handicapped.

**GODWINSON (21)** (D) 315-20410 **4** 8-11 55.8kg **16** 13

William Haggas 💏 Silvestre De Sousa Fine placed efforts in Newbury and York in the first half of this year and returned from a 10-week break to win a 1m Goodwood handicap (good to soft) in August. Caught on the wrong part of the track when mid-field in the Cambridgeshire last time and treated as if still in form. Cheekpieces added.

**LATTAM (IRE) (114)** (D)

10357-285 **5** 8-11 55.8kg

Julie Camacho Good second to Mr Professor in the Lincoln at Doncaster (1m, heavy) in March on his reappearance and first outing for Julie Camacho. Not at the same level in his

2 outings since but given a break (goes well fresh) and could bounce back with a bang on ground which suits. **18** 20 PADISHAKH (FR) (8) (D)

58-607420 4 8-11 55.8kg

David O'Meara

Useful in France and back to that level for new yard when going close in a 1m Ayr handicap last month. Well held at York last weekend but it wasn't a race run to suit his hold-up style. Connections have tasted success in this race before.

**19** 2 STATE ACTOR (IRE) (49) (D, BF) **4** 8-11 55.8kg

W. T. Farrell, Ireland

Won twice over 1m at the Curragh in the spring, including on heavy. Added to his largely progressive record when beaten only a head in the Irish Cambridgeshire back at the Curragh at the end of August. Much respected Irish raider.

20 19 MIRSKY (14) (D) **5** 8-11 55.8kg 7-5905285

David O'Meara

Kieran Shoemark Useful ex-French performer who arrives in good nick, finishing fifth of 18 in the Challenge Cup over 7f here a fortnight ago. 1m probably suits him a bit better and he's another from the yard with an each-way shout.

**RESERVES** 



## BALMORAL HANDICAP (Sponsored by QIPCO) (2) 3yo+ £200,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)



RACE 6

**21** 11 **QIRAT (14)** (BF)

**3** 8-10 | 55.3kg 312-16512

**⊘** ★ 100



Ralph Beckett

Has landed 2 good prizes over 7f at Goodwood this year. Bumped into another progressive 3-y-o when second of 18 in the Challenge Cup here (7f, good) a fortnight ago. Same mark here and shapes as if he'll be equally effective at 1m. Leading claims in first-time cheekpieces if getting in. RESERVE.

THEORYOFEVERYTHING (8) (CD)

98

**4** 8-10 55.3kg



Winner of handicaps at Hamilton (9f) and over C&D at the end of the summer but has struggled to make an impact in stronger races since, albeit he was better than the result at York last week. RESERVE.

AKKADIAN THUNDER (14) (D) 71021028 **4** 8-9 54.9kg



David O'Meara

David O'Meara

Reserve

A dual 7f winner at Newcastle and Doncaster this summer. Also posted a good second of 13 over 7f here last month and he would have been closer in the Challenge Cup back here 2 weeks ago but for meeting trouble. Not discounted if getting a run. RESERVE.

20 DECLARED RUNNERS (3 RESERVES)

## **BETTING FORECAST:**

8-1 Elnajmm, 10-1 State Actor, 10-1 Thunder Run, 12-1 Toimy Son, 12-1 Holloway Boy, 14-1 Lattam, 14-1 Carrytheone, 14-1 Daysofourlives, 16-1 Bopedro, 25-1 Godwinson, 25-1 Popmaster, 25-1 Star of Orion, 28-1 Cicero's Gift, 28-1 Witch Hunter, 33-1 Padishakh, 33-1 Mr Professor, 40-1 bar

#### TIMEFORM VIEW:

A host with chances. TOIMY SON has some good efforts to his name in strong handicaps in recent months and might prove the answer under Oisin Murphy. Elnajmm, Lincoln runner-up Lattam, who has a strong record fresh and on deep ground, and recent Challenge Cup third Bopedro head the dangers. First reserve Qirat already has one really good effort to his name in a big-field handicap here this autumn and would be a major player if getting a run.

## TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TOIMY SON 2. ELNAJMM 3. LATTAM

| WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS: |  |  |   |   |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 3 The Gatekeeper 4-8-12    | 25-1   | Charlie Johnston   | Joe Fanning   | 20  |
| 2 Shelir 6-9-5             | 80-1   | David O'Meara  | Jason Watson  | 20  |
| 1 Aldaary 3-9-6            | 7-2  | William Haggas   | Jim Crowley   | 20  |
| 0 <b>Njord</b> 4-9-5       | 15-2   | Mrs J. Harrington  | Tom Marquand  | 18  |
| 9 <b>Escobar</b> 5-9-6     | 16-1   | David O'Meara  | Adam Kirby  | 20  |
|                            | VINNERS IN PREVIOU<br>3 The Gatekeeper 4-8-12<br>2 Shelir 6-9-5<br>11 Aldaary 3-9-6<br>10 Njord 4-9-5<br>9 Escobar 5-9-6 | 3 <b>The Gatekeeper</b> 4-8-12 25-1<br>2 <b>Shelir</b> 6-9-5 80-1<br>11 <b>Aldaary</b> 3-9-6 7-2<br>10 <b>Njord</b> 4-9-5 15-2 | 33 The Gatekeeper 4-8-12 25-1 Charlie Johnston   12 Shelir 6-9-5 80-1 David O'Meara   11 Aldaary 3-9-6 7-2 William Haggas   10 Njord 4-9-5 15-2 Mrs J. Harrington | 33   The Gatekeeper 4-8-12   25-1   Charlie Johnston   Joe Fanning     12   Shelir 6-9-5   80-1   David O'Meara   Jason Watson     11   Aldaary 3-9-6   7-2   William Haggas   Jim Crowley     10   Njord 4-9-5   15-2   Mrs J. Harrington   Tom Marquand |

## **SMART STATS:**