

COMMENTS & SELECTIONS - EPSOM DOWNS

RACE 1: BRITISH EBF 40TH ANNIVERSARY WOODCOTE STAKES (CONDITIONS RACE) (GBB RACE)

Valour And Swagger Balon D'or Haatem

VALOUR AND SWAGGER was an impressive winner on debut at Windsor before attempting to give 3lb and upwards to his rivals when finishing second in what appeared to be a warm contest at Ascot. The extra furlong is unlikely to be a concern and he is taken to continue the stable's fine run of form in this division. Balon D'or shaped well from a bad draw when third at Chester and warrants plenty of respect, with the Richard Hannon pair Haatem and The Camden Colt appealing most of the remainder.

NO. HORSE NAME

- 1 BALON D'OR Foaled 28 Jan. Dam won at 5f. A winner at 5f on good to soft ground. Third of 11 behind Ziggy's Phoenix beaten 1 1/2l at 5-1 on his latest outing at Chester over 5f (soft) last month.
- 2 BOBSLEIGH Foaled 3 Apr. Dam unraced. Won on his latest outing when 11-4jt-fav at Brighton over 5f (good to firm) last month, beating Grey Gray by 2 3/4l.
- 3 HAATEM Foaled 2 Mar. Half-brother to Groundnut, won at 7f. Won on his latest outing when 4-9fav at Bath over 6f (good) last month, beating Relentless Warrior by 6l.
- 4 MYCONIAN Foaled 28 Feb. A winner at 4f. Finished 4l behind Ziggy's Phoenix when fifth of 11 at 14-1 on his latest outing at Chester over 5f (soft) last month. He is wearing blinkers for the first time.
- 5 THE CAMDEN COLT Foaled 24 Apr. Dam a lightly raced maiden. A winner at 10-1 at Haydock over 6f (good to firm) on his latest outing last month, beating Thunder Blue by 1/2l.
- 6 VALOUR AND SWAGGER Foaled 20 Jan. Half-brother to One Vision, won twice at 1m and 1m 2f. A winner at 5f on soft ground. Beaten 1l by Natural Force when second of 5 at 7-2 on his latest outing at Ascot over 5f (soft) last month.
- 7 YORKSHIRE TERRIER Foaled 10 Feb. Successful twice at 5f on the all-weather. A winner at 11-5 at Southwell over 5f on his latest outing last month, beating Melisende by 4l.
- 8 FIFTY GRAND SLATER Foaled 18 Apr. Dam a lightly raced maiden. Beaten 12l by Asadna when second of 6 at 11-2 on his racecourse debut at Ripon over 6f (good) last month.
- 9 GLANDFORD Foaled 26 Mar. Half-brother to Priscilla's Wish, won seven times at 6f and 7f. Finished 4 1/2l behind Room Service when fourth of 9 at 11-1 on his racecourse debut at Wetherby over 5f (good) last month.
- 10 LAND LOVER Foaled 24 Feb. Half-brother to Sir Prize, won three times at 1m 3f and 1m 4f. Finished 4 1/2l behind Mon Na Slieve when fourth of 7 at 40-1 on his racecourse debut at York over 5f (good) last month.

11 REDNBLUE SOVEREIGN Foaled 20 Mar. Dam a lightly raced maiden. Finished 7l behind Zoulu Chief when fifth of 10 at 11-1 on his racecourse debut at Newbury over 6f (good) last month.

12 MAYMAY Foaled 21 Feb. Half-sister to Desert Path, won three times at 1m 2f and 1m 3f. Placed once in two starts. Beaten 2 1/4l by Flag Of St George when second of 14 at 22-1 on her latest outing at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.

RACE 2: RACEHORSE LOTTO HANDICAP

Fantastic Fox Revich All The King's Men

A case can be made for plenty of these but marginal preference is for FANTASTIC FOX, who is 5lb lower than when third in this race last year. His two efforts this year over 1m2f have both suggested that a drop back in trip would suit the son of Frankel. Revich finished a place in front of the selection 12 months ago and is an obvious threat following his Chester success three weeks ago. Others to note are All The King's Men and Rhoscolyn.

NO. HORSE NAME

1 REVICH Winner of six races from 7f to 1m on ground varying from good to soft. A winner at 9-2 at Chester over 1m (soft) on his latest outing last month, beating Witch Hunter by 3l.

2 ORBAAN Winner of five races from 7f to 1m on ground varying from good to firm to good to soft. Well beaten at 50-1 behind Rebel Territory when 20th of 22 on his latest outing at Ascot over 7f (soft) last month.

3 ALREHB Winner of five races from 7f to 1m 1f on the all-weather. Well beaten at 18-1 behind Bear Force One when last of 12 on his latest outing at Newbury over 1m (good) last month.

4 RHOSCOLYN He has won four times at 7f on ground varying from good to firm to soft, but last win was over two years ago. Beaten 8l behind Rebel Territory at 33-1 when 10th of 22 on his latest outing at Ascot over 7f (soft) last month.

5 FANTASTIC FOX Successful twice at 1m on good to firm and soft ground. Finished 5l behind Pride Of America when fifth of 9 at 9-1 on his latest outing at Chester over 1m 2f (soft) last month.

6 AUSTRIAN THEORY Successful at 7f and 1m on good to firm ground. Third of 11 behind Boardman beaten 4l at 33-1 on his latest outing at Chester over 1m (good) last month.

7 HODLER He has won four times at 7f on good and soft ground. A winner at 17-2 at Chester over 7f (soft) on his latest outing last month, beating Gorak by 2l.

8 ALL THE KING'S MEN He has won three times at 7f on heavy ground and on the all-weather. Third of 15 behind Scottish Summit beaten 1 1/2l at 10-3fav on his latest outing at Thirsk over 7f (good) last month. He is wearing blinkers for the first time.

- 9 DUTCH DECOY Has won eight races from 6f to 1m on good to firm and good to soft ground and on the all-weather. Finished 2l behind Pisanello when fourth of 13 at 13-2 on his latest outing at Hamilton over 1m (good to soft) last month.
- 10 REPERTOIRE He has won three times from 7f to 1m on good to firm and good ground and on the all-weather. A winner at 11-2 at Newmarket over 1m (good) on his latest outing last month, beating Fantasy Believer by 1/2l.
- 11 SATONO JAPAN A winner at 7f on the all-weather, but that win was over three years ago. Beaten 13l behind Ziggy at 50-1 when 9th of 12 on his latest flat outing at Kempton over 1m 4f in November last year.
- 12 MAYSONG He has won three times from 7f to 1m on good and soft ground and on the all-weather. Finished 9l behind Hodler when sixth of 14 at 10-1 on his latest outing at Chester over 7f (soft) last month.
- 13 TWO TEMPTING A winner at 1m on the all-weather. Beaten a nose by Darwell Lion when second of 14 at 5-2fav on his latest outing at Kempton over 1m last month. Runs from 4lb out of handicap.

RACE 3: DAHLBURY CORONATION CUP (GROUP 1) (BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES)

Emily Upjohn Hurricane Lane Westover

Just five runners line up for this valuable Group 1 prize, but the small field doesn't make this an easy puzzle to solve, with the vote going to EMILY UPJOHN. John and Thady Gosden's filly was a very good winner at Ascot on Champions Day in October and if returning to the track in similar form, she will take the beating in this contest. Hurricane Lane has already had a few runs this season and bounced back when scoring over 1m 4f at Newmarket when last seen, while last year's Derby third Westover also commands respect.

NO. HORSE NAME

- 1 HURRICANE LANE Winner of seven races from 1m to 1m 6f on ground varying from good to heavy. A winner at 2-1 in the Group 2 Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket over 1m 4f (good) on his latest outing last month, beating Global Storm by a nose.
- 2 POINT LONSDALE He has won three times from 7f to 1m 2f on ground varying from good to heavy. Won on his latest outing when 5-6fav in the Group 2 Ire-Incentive, It Pays To Buy Irish Huxley Stakes at Chester over 1m 2f (soft) last month, beating Mujtaba by a neck.
- 3 TUNNES Winner of five races from 1m to 1m 6f on soft and heavy ground. Beaten 3 1/2l by Assistent when second of 7 at 4-5fav on his latest outing in the Group 2 Carl Jaspers Stakes at Cologne over 1m 4f (good to firm) in April. Having his first run for a new stable today.
- 4 WESTOVER He has won three times from 1m to 1m 4f on good and good to soft ground. Beaten 3 1/2l by Equinox when second of 10 at 15-2fav on his latest outing in the Group 1 Longines Dubai Sheema Classic at Meydan over 1m 4f in March.

5 EMILY UPJOHN She has won four times from 1m 1f to 1m 4f on good and good to soft ground and on the all-weather. Won on her latest outing when 3-1fav in the Group 1 Qipco British Champions Fillies Thunder Kiss Mares Stakes at Ascot over 1m 4f (good to soft) in October last year, beating & by 3l.

RACE 4: BETFRED HANDICAP

Marhaba The Champ Honiton Bad Company

The lightly-raced MARHABA THE CHAMP showed the benefit of his latest wind operation when winning a decent prize at York a fortnight ago. The son of Galileo has a live chance of following up off just a 2lb higher today and another big run can be expected. Honiton also won in good style last time out and is feared most, while the locally-trained Bad Company is the pick of the remainder.

NO. HORSE NAME

1 SAVVY VICTORY Successful twice at 1m 2f on good to soft and soft ground. Beaten 1l by Pride Of America when second of 9 at 3-1fav on his latest outing at Chester over 1m 2f (soft) last month.

2 CADILLAC He has won four times from 7f to 1m 2f on good ground. Beaten 16l behind King Of Conquest at 9-1 when 15th of 17 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 1m 1f (good to soft) last month. He is wearing cheekpieces for the first time.

3 MASEKELA Successful at 6f and 7f on good and soft ground. Beaten 8l behind Marhaba The Champ at 18-1 when 9th of 13 on his latest outing at York over 1m 2f (good to firm) last month.

4 HONITON Successful twice at 1m 2f on good to firm and good ground. A winner at 11-2 at Newmarket over 1m 2f (good) on his latest outing last month, beating Misty Dancer by 1 1/4l.

5 BAD COMPANY Has won eight races from 1m 2f to 1m 4f on ground varying from good to heavy. Beaten 1 1/4l by Time Interval when second of 8 at 4-1 on his latest outing at Goodwood over 1m 2f (heavy) last month.

6 LORD PROTECTOR He has won four times from 1m to 1m 2f on good and soft ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 14l behind Pride Of America at 22-1 when last of 9 on his latest outing at Chester over 1m 2f (soft) last month.

7 MARHABA THE CHAMP Successful at 1m 1f and 1m 2f on good to firm and good to soft ground. A winner at 10-1 at York over 1m 2f (good to firm) on his latest outing last month, beating Marie's Diamond by a neck. He is wearing a tongue-tie for the first time.

8 DUAL IDENTITY He has won three times at 1m 2f on good ground and on the all-weather. Finished 2 1/2l behind Honiton when fourth of 6 at 11-4 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 1m 2f (good) last month.

9 MAJESTIC Successful at 1m and 1m 1f on good to firm and good ground. Finished 1l behind Marhaba The Champ when fourth of 13 at 10-1 on his latest outing at York over 1m 2f (good to firm) last month.

10 TOSHIKOU A winner at 7f on good - yielding ground, but that win was over two years ago. Beaten 8l behind Croupier at 10-1 when eighth of 16 on his latest outing at York over 1m (good to firm) last month.

11 THE CITY'S PHANTOM He has won three times at 1m 2f on good to firm ground. Beaten 14l behind King Of Conquest at 66-1 when 14th of 17 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 1m 1f (good to soft) last month.