COMMENTS & SELECTIONS - YORK

RACE 1:SKY BET RACE TO THE EBOR JORVIK HANDICAP

Gaassee Sam Cooke Dark Jedi

William Haggas won this with a similarly progressive sort last year and GAASSEE fits the bill this time around as he looks the land the four-timer following a ready success at Kempton last December. Global Storm must be feared despite being top-weight, while C&D winner Sam Cooke and Dark Jedi are big players on last season's form. A year down the line from being well beaten on his only attempt at this distance at Royal Ascot, better can be expected from Just Fine on this occasion.

- 1 GLOBAL STORM He has won four times from 1m 1f to 1m 6f on ground varying from good to heavy. Third of 14 behind Hukum beaten 2 1/2l on his latest outing in the Group 2 Dubai City Of Gold Turf at Meydan over 1m 4f in March.
- 2 ZABEEL CHAMPION Winner of six races from 1m to 1m 4f on ground varying from firm to soft; has also won two hurdles (latest NH win was last month). Third of 4 behind Volcanic Sky beaten 11l at 7-2 on his latest flat outing at Newmarket over 1m 4f (good) in August last year.
- 3 ON TO VICTORY He has won four times from 1m to 1m 6f on good to soft and soft ground; has also won two hurdles. Beaten 8l behind Makram at 14-1 when 9th of 12 on his latest flat outing at Newbury over 1m 4f (good to soft) in September last year.
- 4 SAM COOKE He has won three times from 1m to 1m 4f on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Third of 23 behind Farhan beaten 2l at 12-1 on his latest outing at Doncaster over 1m 4f (soft) in November last year.
- 5 JUST FINE Successful at 1m and 1m 2f on good to firm and good ground. Beaten 6l by Majestic Dawn when second of 8 at 8-1 on his latest outing at Salisbury over 1m 2f (soft) in September last year.
- 6 DARK JEDI He has won four times from 7f to 1m 4f on ground varying from good to soft. Finished 9l behind Cemhaan when sixth of 9 at 11-2 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 1m 6f (good to firm) earlier this month.
- 7 GRAPHITE He has won four times from 1m to 1m 4f on good and good to soft ground. Finished 6l behind Farhan when sixth of 23 at 40-1 on his latest outing at Doncaster over 1m 4f (soft) in November last year.
- 8 GAASSEE He has won three times from 1m 2f to 1m 4f on soft ground and on the all-weather. Won on his latest outing when 8-15fav at Kempton over 1m 4f in December last year, beating Trevolli by 5l.
- 9 KINGS PRINCE Successful at 1m and 1m 4f on good to firm and heavy ground. Well beaten at 9-2 behind Going Gone when last of 9 on his latest outing at Epsom over 1m 4f (good) last month.

- NOBLE MASQUERADE He has won three times at 1m 3f on good to firm ground and on the all-weather. Won on his latest outing when 13-8fav at Windsor over 1m 3f (good to firm) last month, beating Croeso Cymraeg by 3 1/2l.
- 11 FORZA ORTA Successful at 1m 3f and 1m 5f on good and good to soft ground. Won on his latest outing when 6-4fav at Hamilton over 1m 5f (good to soft) earlier this month, beating Tribal Art by 3/4l. Carries a 5lb penalty today for that success.

RACE 2: CHURCHILL TYRES HANDICAP

Dakota Gold Mr Lupton Bergerac

A highly competitive renewal but one that could fall the way of DAKOTA GOLD, already a winner here five times and entitled to have benefited from his recent seasonal debut. He is better than a handicapper on his day and has been dropped 3lb for one poor run which gives him every chance. Mr Lupton won this last year and has to be considered on his reappearance, while Bergerac is possibly the best of the younger horses after a valiant effort in first-time cheekpieces at Newmarket.

- 1 SUMMERGHAND Has won 13 races at 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft and on the all-weather. Beaten 13l behind Blackrod at 18-1 when 16th of 19 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.
- 2 NOMADIC EMPIRE He has won three times from 5f to 6f on good to firm and good ground. Third of 8 behind Ava Go Joe beaten 1 1/4l at 15-2 on his latest outing at Ripon over 5f (good) last month.
- 3 BIELSA Winner of five races at 6f on ground varying from good to firm to heavy. Finished 7l behind Mutasaabeq when fourth of 5 at 12-1 on his latest outing at Thirsk over 7f (soft) last month.
- 4 JUST FRANK He has won three times from 6f to 7f on good and soft ground. Beaten 17l behind Volatile Analyst at 20-1 when 17th of 21 on his latest outing over this course and distance (good to soft) in October last year.
- 5 PUNCHBOWL FLYER Winner of seven races at 6f on ground varying from good to firm to heavy. Beaten 18l behind King's Lynn at 16-1 when 14th of 15 on his latest outing at Doncaster over 6f (soft) in November last year.
- 6 DAKOTA GOLD Has won 13 races from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Beaten 9l behind Zarzyni at 4-1 when last of 11 on his latest outing at Musselburgh over 5f (good to soft) last month.
- 7 MR LUPTON Has won ten races from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Beaten 6l behind Volatile Analyst at 33-1 when eighth of 21 on his latest outing over this course and distance (good to soft) in October last year.

- 8 MR WAGYU Has won 13 races at 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Beaten 5l behind Blackrod at 40-1 when eighth of 19 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.
- 9 VENTUROUS Has won 13 races from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to heavy and on the all-weather. Beaten 2 3/4l behind Bouttemont at 12-1 when 9th of 14 on his latest outing at Newcastle over 6f last month.
- 10 MAKANAH Winner of six races from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Finished 1 3/4l behind Zarzyni when fourth of 11 at 5-1 on his latest outing at Musselburgh over 5f (good to soft) last month.
- 11 COUNT D'ORSAY Winner of five races at 5f on ground varying from good to soft. Beaten a head by Look Out Louis when second of 7 at 13-2 on his latest outing at Chester over 5f (good to soft) earlier this month.
- 12 PREMIER POWER Successful twice at 6f on the all-weather. Finished 4l behind Mondammej when fifth of 10 at 5-1 on his latest outing at Haydock over 5f (good to firm) in September last year. Having his first run for a new stable today, previously with Roger Varian.
- 13 STRIKE RED He has won four times at 6f on good and soft ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 10l behind Blackrod at 10-1 when 13th of 19 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.
- 14 PENDLETON He has won three times from 5f to 6f on soft ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 8l behind Bernardo O'Reilly at 11-2 when 13th of 18 on his latest outing at Doncaster over 6f (good) in March.
- BERGERAC Successful twice at 6f on good to firm ground.

 Beaten a nose by Gale Force Maya when second of 12 at 6-1 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.
- 16 WOVEN Successful twice at 7f on good and good to soft ground, but last win was over two years ago. Beaten 1 1/2l by Asjad when second of 10 at 5-2fav on his latest outing at Redcar over 6f (good to soft) last month.
- ABERAMA GOLD Winner of six races from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft and on the all-weather. Finished 10l behind Asadjumeirah when last of 6 at 11-4jt-fav on his latest outing at Newcastle over 6f in February.
- 18 EMBOUR Winner of seven races from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to good to soft and on the all-weather. Beaten a head by Lipsink when second of 10 at 14-1 on his latest outing at Chelmsford City over 5f in September last year.
- BOOGIE TIME

 He has won four times at 6f on good to firm and good ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 6l behind Gale Force Maya at 22-1 when 11th of 12 on his latest outing at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.
- 20 ASADJUMEIRAH Winner of five races from 5f to 6f on good and good to soft ground and on the all-weather. A winner at 15-2 at Thirsk over 6f (good) on his latest outing last month, beating Ghathanfar by a nose. Has won 3 times this season.

- WOBWOBWOB He has won three times from 6f to 7f on ground varying from good to soft. Finished 3/4l behind Asadjumeirah when fourth of 10 at 5-1 on his latest outing at Thirsk over 6f (good) last month.
- DEVILWALA A winner at 6f on good to firm ground. Finished 4 1/2l behind Hortzadar when fourth of 8 at 16-1 on his latest outing at Ripon over 1m (good) last month.

RACE 3:1895 DUKE OF YORK CLIPPER LOGISTICS STAKES (GROUP 2)

Dragon Symbol Minzaal Happy Romance

DRAGON SYMBOL was the bridesmaid on several occasions at the highest level in 2021, most notably when demoted to second in the Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot. The four-year-old can be forgiven his final outing of the year in the Champions Sprint, as it appeared to be one run too many, and a change of stables over the winter might yield further progression. Minzaal suffered an interrupted 2021 campaign, only making it out at the back end of the season, but the son of Mehmas showed enough to suggest he could be a major force in the sprinting division if getting a clear run of things. Happy Romance ran some fine races in defeat when sent out to Dubai earlier in the year and she has to be respected along with Vadream, who remains of interest in this sphere despite her maybe wanting a stiffer test than York provides, and Hurricane Ivor.

- 1 EMARAATY ANA Winner of five races from 5f to 6f on good to firm and good ground. Beaten 10l behind A Case Of You when 15th of 16 on his latest outing in the Group 1 Al Quoz Sprint at Meydan over 6f in March.
- 2 DRAGON SYMBOL He has won four times from 5f to 6f on good to firm ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 7l behind Creative Force at 7-1 when 14th of 20 on his latest outing in the Group 1 Qipco British Champions Sprint Stakes at Ascot over 6f (good to soft) in October last year. Having his first run for a new stable today.
- 3 EJTILAAB Winner of five races from 6f to 7f on good and good to soft ground and on the all-weather. Finished 1 1/2l behind Bouttemont when fifth of 14 at 9-4fav on his latest outing at Newcastle over 6f last month.
- 4 GARRUS Winner of six races from 5f to 6f on good to firm and good ground and on the all-weather. Beaten a short head by Double Or Bubble when second of 8 at 5-1 on his latest outing in the Group 3 Abernant Stakes at Newmarket over 6f (good) last month.
- 5 HURRICANE IVOR Winner of six races from 5f to 6f on good and good to soft ground. Beaten 7l behind Khaadem at 10-1 when last of 12 on his latest outing in the Group 3 Betfair Palace House Stakes at Newmarket over 5f (good) last month.
- 6 MINZAAL Successful twice at 6f on good to firm and good ground. Third of 20 behind Creative Force beaten 2l at 16-1 on his latest outing in the Group 1 Qipco British Champions Sprint Stakes at Ascot over 6f (good to soft) in October last year.

- 7 ROHAAN Winner of seven races from 6f to 7f on ground varying from good to firm to heavy and on the all-weather. Beaten 5l behind Songline at 15-2 when seventh of 14 on his latest outing in the Group 3 1351 Cup Turf Sprint) Presented By Stc at Riyadh over 7f (good) in February.
- 8 SPYCATCHER He has won three times at 6f on good to firm and good ground and on the all-weather. Third of 14 behind Bouttemont beaten a head at 7-2 on his latest outing at Newcastle over 6f last month.
- 9 HAPPY ROMANCE Winner of six races from 5f to 6f on good to firm and good ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 1 1/4l by A Case Of You when second of 16 on her latest outing in the Group 1 Al Quoz Sprint at Meydan over 6f in March.
- 10 HIGHFIELD PRINCESS Has won eight races at 7f on ground varying from good to firm to soft and on the all-weather. Won on her latest outing when 15-8jt-fav at Newcastle over 7f last month, beating International by 1/2l.
- 11 VADREAM Successful twice at 6f on heavy ground and on the all-weather. Finished 3l behind Creative Force when fifth of 20 at 16-1 on her latest outing in the Group 1 Qipco British Champions Sprint Stakes at Ascot over 6f (good to soft) in October last year.

RACE 4:TATTERSALLS MUSIDORA STAKES (FILLIES' GROUP 3)

Emily Upjohn Life Of Dreams Luna Dorada

A case can be made for all of these but the vote goes to EMILY UPJOHN, who created a big impression when defying a penalty in a novice event at Sandown last month. This is a much tougher contest but the daughter of Sea The Stars should be capable of making her mark at this level. The form of Life Of Dreams' debut victory can be questioned but she won well and is entitled to improve for the experience. Luna Dorada edges out The Algarve to be the pick of the remainder.

- 1 CHING SHIH Won on her latest outing when 6-4fav at Newbury over 1m (soft) in October last year, beating Geri Hatrick by 4l.
- 2 EMILY UPJOHN Successful at 1m 1f and 1m 2f on good ground and on the all-weather. Won on her latest outing when 5-4fav at Sandown over 1m 2f (good) last month, beating Follow That Star by 10l.
- 3 LIFE OF DREAMS Dam won six times between 1m and 1m 6f including a Group 2 race. Won on her latest outing when 4-5fav at Newbury over 1m 2f (good) last month, beating Spyfall by 3 1/2l.
- 4 LUNA DORADA Half-sister to Galah, won over hurdles at 2m 1f and on the flat at 1m. A winner at 6-1 here over 1m (soft) on her latest outing in October last year, beating Gin O'Clock by 1 1/4l.

5 THE ALGARVE Won on her latest outing when 5-4fav at Galway over 1m (heavy) in October last year, beating Native Queen by 2 1/4l.