

RACE COMMENT & SELECTION
UNITED KINGDOM RACING WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING
SANDOWN

RACE 1: SPORTING TIMES SRI LANKA HANDICAP (CLASS 5) (3YO PLUS) (FROM SANDOWN RACE 1)

SUB THIRTEEN - TWILIGHT MADNESS - MERRIMACK

Race Preview: This is competitive for the grade and several are notable. Twilight Madness is well handicapped based on his peak form. However, he hasn't won on turf since July 2021 and isn't without risk. Merrimack has much more recent winning form to his name and could have a say if he handles the forecast going. However, preference is for proven mudlark SUB THIRTEEN, who runs off 4lb below his last winning mark.

NO.	HORSE NAME	RACE COMMENT
1	DANGER ALERT	He has won three times from 5f to 6f on soft ground and on the all-weather, but last win was over two years ago. Beaten 1l by Em Four when second of 6 at 11-2 on his latest outing at Epsom over 6f (good) last month.
2	TWILIGHT MADNESS	Winner of seven races from 5f to 6f on good ground and on the all-weather. Third of 7 behind Agostino beaten 1 3/4l at 3-1 on his latest outing at Chelmsford City over 5f in May.
3	MERRIMACK	He has won three times from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Finished 3l behind Smooth Silesie when fourth of 7 at 9-2 on his latest outing at Goodwood over 5f (good) last month.
4	IORELLA PRINCESS	A winner at 6f on the all-weather. Third of 6 behind Hint Of Humour beaten 1l at 7-1 on her latest outing at Lingfield over 5f last month.
5	SUB THIRTEEN	He has won three times from 5f to 6f on ground varying from good to heavy. Finished 6l behind Connie's Rose when fourth of 7 at 9-1 on his latest outing at Chepstow over 6f (soft) earlier this month.
6	SOUTH SHORE ISLAND	Placed twice in 15 starts. Finished 4l behind Bonnita when fourth of 6 at 5-1 on his latest outing at Salisbury over 6f (heavy) earlier this month.
7	MAMMY	A winner at 7f on the all-weather. Third of 9 behind Travel Agent beaten 2 1/2l at 6-1 on her latest outing at Lingfield over 6f last month.
8	ROMAN SPRING	A winner at 6f on good to firm ground. Beaten 5l behind Pietro at 28-1 when 10th of 13 on his latest outing at Brighton over 6f (good) last month.
9	COLORADA DANCER	Successful at 6f and 1m on good and soft ground. Beaten 11l behind Kranjcar at 16-1 when seventh of 11 on his latest outing at Brighton over 6f (good to firm) earlier this month.

RACE 2: SPORTING TIMES SRI LANKA NOVICE STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 4) (2YO ONLY) (FROM SANDOWN RACE 2)

ESNA - MORSHDI - MIDNIGHT BANDIT

Race Preview: ESNA, a daughter of top-class sprinter Starman and a half-sister to five winners, posted an encouraging second to a potentially useful prospect when she was introduced over C&D 18 days ago. Midnight Bandit and Shadowmere were less eye-catching on their respective debuts and need to improve. Therefore, Morshdi, a full-brother to Group 2 winner Nakheel, could be a bigger danger.

NO.	HORSE NAME	RACE COMMENT
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1	MIDNIGHT BANDIT	Foaled 11 Mar. Half-brother to Aumale, won at 1m 2f. Beaten 16l behind Raaheeb at 28-1 when last of 7 on his racecourse debut at Ascot over 7f (soft) earlier this month.
2	MONTAGUE MENACE	Foaled 18 Mar. Dam won at 1m 3f.
3	MORSHDI	Foaled 16 Mar. Full brother to Elraaed, won at 1m and 1m 2f.
4	SHADOWMERE	Foaled 25 Apr. Half-brother to Hedwig, won at 6f. Beaten 11l behind Sticktoyourguns at 100-1 when eighth of 10 on his racecourse debut over this course and distance (soft) last month.
5	ESNA	Foaled 4 Apr. Half-sister to Dariya, won four times over hurdles between 2m and 2m 5f and twice on the flat at 1m 2f. Beaten 2l by Deedaydiva when second of 7 at 12-1 on her racecourse debut over this course and distance (soft) last month.

RACE 3: SPORTING TIMES SRI LANKA FORTUNE STAKES (LISTED) (CLASS 1) (3YO PLUS) (FROM SANDOWN RACE 4)

SALLAAL - CICERO'S GIFT - CHANTILLY LACE

Race Preview: Cicero's Gift hit the crossbar in Group 3 company at Deauville last month and arguably sets the standard on the back of that performance. However, preference is for the unexposed SALLAAL. Roger Varian's colt hand plenty in hand when scoring off a mark of 97 at Hamilton last time and that form suggests that he should be capable of making his mark at this level. Chantilly Lace was also placed in a Group 3 last time but this arguably tougher as she takes on colts/geldings.

NO.	HORSE NAME	RACE COMMENT
1	BALMACARA	Successful twice at 7f on soft ground. Beaten 20l behind Shout at 9-1 when 16th of 17 on his latest outing at Ascot over 1m (soft) earlier this month.
2	CICERO'S GIFT	He has won four times from 1m to 1m 1f on good to soft and soft ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 3/4l by Dreamliner when second of 11 at 7-1 on his latest outing in the Group 3 Barriere Prix Quincey Stakes - Group 3 at Deauville over 1m (heavy) last month.
3	SALLAAL	He has won three times from 7f to 1m on ground varying from good to firm to soft. Won on his latest outing when 4-6fav at Hamilton over 1m (good) in July, beating English Oak by 2l. Has won twice at Hamilton this season.
4	CELESTIAL ORBIT	Successful twice at 7f on good ground. Beaten 7l behind Princess Child at 14-1 when seventh of 10 on her latest outing in the Group 3 Coolmore Stud No Nay Never Fairy Bridge Stakes at Tipperary over 7f (yielding) last month.
5	CHANTILLY LACE	A winner at 7f on heavy ground. Third of 9 behind Cheshire Dancer beaten 1/2l at 11-4fav on her latest outing in the Group 3 Longines Valiant Stakes at Ascot over 1m (good) in July.
6	PINA SONATA	Successful at 1m and 1m 1f on good to soft ground and on the all-weather. Beaten 12l behind Fallen Angel at 16-1 when 11th of 13 on her latest outing in the Group 1 Prix Rothschild - Fonds Europeen de l'Elevage at Deauville over 1m (good) last month. Has won at Leicester and Wolverhampton this season.