



ROYAL
ASCOT

2025 PREVIEW



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GROUP 1 STATS GUIDES

BY PAUL JONES



No one knows more about the crucial trends behind the races at Royal Ascot than Paul Jones, who has compiled comprehensive Stats Guides for every Group 1 race at Royal Ascot 2025.



QUEEN ANNE STAKES TUESDAY 17TH JUNE, 14:30PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 4YO plus

✓ POSITIVES:

Contested the Lockinge Stakes
Four-year-olds
Owned by Godolphin
Trained by Richard Hannon

✗ NEGATIVES:

Failed to win a Group 1
Aged over five
Fillies/mares (unless a Breeders' Cup winner)
Seasonal debutantes



KING CHARLES III STAKES TUESDAY 17TH JUNE, 15:40PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 3YO plus

✓ POSITIVES:

Last-time-out winners
Trained in Australia
Contested the Temple Stakes
Top-four finish in the Prix du Gros-Chêne
Fillies/mares
Previous winner of the race

✗ NEGATIVES:

Outside the first two last time out
Failed to win a Group 1 or Group 2
Failed to win a Group race over 5f



ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES TUESDAY 17TH JUNE, 16:20PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 3YO only

✓ POSITIVES:

Ran in both the 2000 Guineas and Irish 2000 Guineas
A Group 1 winner (especially a European Guineas)
The favourite
Trained by Aidan O'Brien (especially if contested the Irish 2000 Guineas)
Drawn low
Won last season's Coventry Stakes

✗ NEGATIVES:

Yet to contest a Group 1 (unless trained by John & Thady Gosden)
Failed to finish in the first four in any European Guineas (unless trained by John & Thady Gosden)
Less than two starts this season



PRINCE OF WALES'S STAKES

WEDNESDAY 18TH JUNE, 16:20PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 4YO plus

✓ POSITIVES:

Last-time-out winners
Contested last season's renewal

✗ NEGATIVES:

Aged 6+
Unplaced last time out
Likely to start bigger than 8/1
Odds-on favourite



GOLD CUP

THURSDAY 19TH JUNE, 16:20PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 4YO plus

✓ POSITIVES:

Likely to start no bigger than 15/2
Trained by Aidan O'Brien
Won the Gold Cup or Queen's Vase previously
Four-year-olds
Owned by Godolphin
Contested the Henry II Stakes
Won earlier in the season
Drawn lower half

✗ NEGATIVES:

Aged 6+



COMMONWEALTH CUP

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE, 15:05PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 3YO only

✓ POSITIVES:

Contested the Sandy Lane Stakes
Dropping down in trip from the 2000 Guineas
Officially rated 114+ (or 117+ even better)
Fillies

✗ NEGATIVES:

More than two runs this season



CORONATION STAKES

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE, 16:20PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 3YO only

✓ POSITIVES:

The Irish 1000 Guineas winner
Finished in the first six in the 1000 Guineas
Trained in France
The favourite
Won a Pattern race as a two-year-old
Drawn in the higher half

✗ NEGATIVES:

Not run in a Classic
Likely to start bigger than 6/1
Beaten in the Irish 1000 Guineas



QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE STAKES

SATURDAY 21ST JUNE, 15:40PM

Group 1 | Class 1 | 4YO plus

✓ POSITIVES:

Won or placed at Royal Ascot before
Won a Group or Listed race earlier in the season
Non-European-trained contenders
Contested a 7f race at some stage
Never raced over 5f

✗ NEGATIVES:

Never won over 6f
Fillies/Mares

STABLE TOUR

BY RICHARD BROWN OF WATHNAN RACING

TUESDAY 17 JUNE | 15:05 | COVENTRY STAKES

POSTMODERN

He is a very, very impressive colt who won at Yarmouth where he jumped out and made the running. He was travelling beautifully, and Jamie took a pull a furlong out and was waiting for them to come to him, but they never did, and he just pulled away again. It was probably a decent field, and the Godolphin colt was then second in a good maiden at Nottingham. The form probably has some substance to it, and he will go to the Coventry. Again, is a colt we are excited about.

TUESDAY 17 JUNE | 15:05 | COVENTRY STAKES

UNDERWRITER

Underwriter won at Ayr, and I think this is a bit of a forgotten horse as he won a while ago. At the time he was all the rage, and he went to Ayr and bolted up and it was straight to the Coventry, that was always the plan. He is probably going to be second string as James will almost certainly ride Postmodern, but I think he will run very well.

TUESDAY 17 JUNE | 15:40 | KING CHARLES III STAKES

NIGHT RAIDER

Night Raider, again, is a horse we have had our eyes on for a long time. Karl holds him in high regard, and you had to question what he would do on the turf as all his form had been on the all-weather. I think he ran well in the Duke Of York for a long way and it looks like he has got bags of speed. He looks a very fast horse, and we will drop him back to five furlongs now in the King Charles III Stakes. James went up to Karl's the other day to ride him and was impressed with him. He thinks he's a very fast horse.

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE | 14:30 | QUEEN MARY STAKES

ZELAINA

I try to keep my feet on the ground with the horses I deal with and there is nothing worse than getting carried away as they can disappoint you, as you know. I have to say potentially, we saw some a bit special at Nottingham. On paper, it was a phenomenal race, and you could nearly say it was a stakes race, and I can't believe the way she absolutely destroyed them. There has been comments about temperament, but I think she is more a filly that just wants to get on with it. She was very cool and calm at Nottingham and she is all about speed and will go for the Queen Mary. I thought there was something wow about that performance. Leovanni won the Nottingham race last year and went on and won the Queen Mary. I am trying to keep my feet on the ground, but I thought that was a very exciting performance.

STABLE TOUR

BY RICHARD BROWN OF WATHNAN RACING

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE | 15:40 | DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE STAKES

FALLEN ANGEL

Fallen Angel had a nice comeback run in the Lockinge. She was up on the pace and probably got a bit tired. It was a very good race, and she is going to run in the Duke Of Cambridge. I would imagine it will be a hot race, but she is a multiple Group 1 winner running in a Group 2. She should have a good chance.

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE | 16:20 | PRINCE OF WALES'S STAKES

MAP OF STARS

He has done very little wrong and is a horse we hold in high regard, as does James Doyle. He obviously got beaten in the Prix Ganay by Sosie and there was a bit of hard luck as he had to wait to make his run and Sosie got first run on him. Sosie went on and won the Prix d'Ispahan and the form looks very strong. Map Of Stars will go on any ground and the stiff mile and quarter in the Prince Of Wales's Stakes will be perfect.

THURSDAY 19 JUNE | 14:30 | NORFOLK STAKES

NAVAL LIGHT

Naval Light went in what was called the Brian Yeardley at Beverley. He missed the break and then ran on well and it was a race we won the previous year with Shareholder, and he went on to win the Norfolk Stakes. He ran green in behind and the gaps didn't appear but when they did, he took off. He is probably a six-furlong horse, but we have Postmodern and Underwriter in the Coventry. As long as they are going to Ascot, he is going to run in the Norfolk. Though if one of those had a hold up for some reason and didn't make it we would probably switch him to the Coventry.

SATURDAY 21 JUNE | 15:40 | QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE STAKES

LAZZAT

He is a horse we have had our eye on for a long time and it didn't take much detective work to know why. He is a thoroughly admirable horse and the stiff six on a straight course will play to his strengths in the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Stakes. He is one of our big bullets for the week.



ANTEPOST FOCUS

BY GARY NUTTING

SARDINIAN WARRIOR | QUEEN ANNE STAKES



SARDINIAN WARRIOR has made rapid strides this spring and looks capable of taking the fight to the much-lauded Lockinge principals in the Queen Anne.

Lead Artist, Dancing Gemini, Rosallion and Notable Speech filled the first four places at Newbury last month in what was billed beforehand as the best renewal of the race for 50 years.

Interestingly though the John and Thady Gosden-trained winner had been a big price earlier in the week - the drum rolls at the time referencing the other three plus Sun Chariot heroine Tamfana - and he's a stablemate of the selection.

Short-priced winner of two novice events and a Class 2 handicap last year (all at Southwell), Sardinian Warrior impressed on the switch to turf when beating high-class yardstick Docklands in the Listed trial for this race at the end of April.

The latter, runner-up in last season's Queen Anne, went off a strong favourite that day, whereas the

horse named after Frankie Dettori was noticeably weak in the market, suggesting he might improve a good deal for the run.

And that's how it's turned out because, pitched into Group 1 company for the Prix d'Ispahan at ParisLongchamp last month, he answered the class question with a strong-travelling second to Prix Ganay winner Sosie, last year's Arc fourth.

By common consent the step up to nine furlongs on easy ground appeared to stretch his stamina in Paris - dropping back to a mile on quicker terrain looks likely to suit a colt who retains scope for improvement as the relatively new kid on the block.

Recommended Bet (scale 1-5 points)

QUEEN ANNE | TUESDAY 17 JUNE
1 pt each-way **SARDINIAN WARRIOR** (10-1 general)

MY CLOUD | THE ROYAL HUNT CUP



MY CLOUD is a win or bust selection for me in the Royal Hunt Cup, already trading at single-figure odds and with the potential to start even shorter.

Roger Varian's lightly-raced, progressive four-year-old boasts the sort of pedigree and profile that could see him match 2009 winner Forgotten Voice, who went off 4-1 favourite and scored comfortably.

Jeremy Nosedá's then unbeaten colt did so on fourth career start off a mark of 101 - the selection, a slower maturing type, is set for his sixth run next week, off 95 after being raised 15lb for his two wins this spring.

He sauntered home on seasonal reappearance, gaining useful course-and-distance experience in the process, and did well to reel in subsequent winner Boyfriend at Newbury last time under a hold-up ride in a race which the latter was left alone to dictate a muddling early pace.

A striking feature of My Cloud's career to date is that he's gone off a hot favourite on all five starts, four times at odds-on and no bigger than 13-8.

He clearly has a massive home reputation, as befits a half-brother to Palace Pier, winner of five Group 1 races (including the St James's Palace and Queen Anne here).

More will be known on Thursday about his prospects of sneaking in at the foot of the weights, but Varian has gone on record as saying this has been a long-term aim, so he'll surely be declared and if he doesn't make the cut any ante-post bets will be refunded.

Recommended Bet (scale 1-5 points)

ROYAL HUNT CUP | WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE
4pts win **MY CLOUD** (7-1 general)

ROYAL ASCOT 2025

ORDER OF RUNNING

DAY 1 TUESDAY, JUNE 17

TIME	RACE	RACE DISTANCE		CONDITIONS
2:30pm	THE QUEEN ANNE STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	1M		4YO+ £750,000.00
3:05pm	THE COVENTRY STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	6F		2YO £175,000.00
3:40pm	THE KING CHARLES III STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	5F		3YO+ £650,000.00
4:20pm	THE ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	7F 213Y		3YO £650,000.00
5:00pm	THE ASCOT STAKES (CLASS 2) (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (CL 2) (GBBPLUS RACE)	2M 3F 210Y	4YO+ £110,000.00	RATING 0-100
5:35pm	THE WOLFERTON STAKES (CLASS 1) (LISTED RACE) (CL 1)	1M 1F 212Y		4YO+ £120,000.00
6:10pm	THE COPPER HORSE STAKES (CLASS 2) (HANDICAP) (GBBPLUS RACE) (CL 2)	1M 6F 34Y	4YO+ £110,000.00	RATING 0-105

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

TIME	RACE	RACE DISTANCE		CONDITIONS
2:30pm	THE QUEEN MARY STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	5F		2YO £150,000.00
3:05pm	THE QUEEN'S VASE (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	1M 6F 34Y		3YO £265,000.00
3:40pm	THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	7F 213Y		4YO+ £225,000.00
4:20pm	THE PRINCE OF WALES'S STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	1M 1F 212Y		4YO+ £1,000,000.00
5:00pm	THE ROYAL HUNT CUP (CLASS 2) (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (CL 2)	1M		3YO+ £175,000.00
5:35pm	THE KENSINGTON PALACE STAKES (CLASS 2) (FILLIES' HANDICAP) (CL 2)	1M	4YO+ £110,000.00	RATING 0-105
6:10pm	THE WINDSOR CASTLE STAKES (CLASS 1) (LISTED RACE) (CL 1)	5F		2YO £110,000.00

DAY 3 THURSDAY, JUNE 19

TIME	RACE	RACE DISTANCE		CONDITIONS
2:30pm	THE NORFOLK STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	5F		2YO £150,000.00
3:05pm	THE KING GEORGE V STAKES (CLASS 2) (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (GBBPLUS RACE) (CL 2)	1M 3F 211Y	3YO £110,000.00	RATING 0-105
3:40pm	THE RIBBLESDALE STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	1M 3F 211Y		3YO £250,000.00
4:20pm	THE GOLD CUP (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	2M 3F 210Y		4YO+ £650,000.00
5:00pm	THE BRITANNIA STAKES (CLASS 2) (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (CL 2)	1M	3YO £120,000.00	RATING 0-105
5:35pm	THE HAMPTON COURT STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 3) (CL 1)	1M 1F 212Y		3YO £150,000.00
6:10pm	THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE STAKES (CLASS 2) (HANDICAP) (CL 2)	7F	3YO+ £110,000.00	RATING 0-105

ROYAL ASCOT 2025

ORDER OF RUNNING

DAY 4 FRIDAY, JUNE 20

TIME	RACE	RACE DISTANCE		CONDITIONS
2:30pm	THE ALBANY STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 3) (CL 1)	6F		2YO £125,000.00
3:05pm	THE COMMONWEALTH CUP (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	6F		3YO £650,000.00
3:40pm	THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH STAKES (CLASS 2) (HANDICAP) (GBBPLUS RACE) (CL 2)	1M 3F 211Y	3YO+ £110,000.00 RATING 0-105	
4:20pm	THE CORONATION STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	7F 213Y		3YO £650,000.00
5:00pm	THE SANDRINGHAM STAKES (CLASS 2) (HANDICAP) (CL 2)	1M	3YO £110,000.00 RATING 0-105	
5:35pm	THE KING EDWARD VII STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	1M 3F 211Y		3YO £250,000.00
6:10pm	THE PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE STAKES (CLASS 2) (HANDICAP) (CL 2)	5F	3YO £110,000.00 RATING 0-105	

DAY 5 SATURDAY, JUNE 21

TIME	RACE	RACE DISTANCE		CONDITIONS
2:30pm	THE CHESHAM STAKES (CLASS 1) (LISTED RACE) (CL 1)	7F		2YO £110,000.00
3:05pm	THE HARDWICKE STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 2) (CL 1)	1M 3F 211Y		4YO+ £250,000.00
3:40pm	THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 1) (CL 1)	6F		4YO+ £1,000,000.00
4:20pm	THE JERSEY STAKES (CLASS 1) (GROUP 3) (CL 1)	7F		3YO £150,000.00
5:00pm	THE WOKINGHAM STAKES (CLASS 2) (HERITAGE HANDICAP) (CL 2)	6F	3YO+ £175,000.00 RATING 0-110	
5:35pm	THE GOLDEN GATES STAKES (CLASS 2) (HANDICAP) (CL 2)	1M 1F 212Y	3YO £110,000.00 RATING 0-105	
6:10pm	THE QUEEN ALEXANDRA STAKES (CLASS 2 CONDITIONS RACE) (GBBPLUS RACE) (CL 2)	2M 5F 143Y		4YO+ £110,000.00