

Nottingham Saturday 17th May Preview

By Paul Simmons

The Pamela Linney Memorial Maiden Stakes over 1 Mile

A hot maiden with several in with a chance. The selection is Balladore, a superbly bred mare. Full sister to Dormah De Brugere who won 7 races in the UK inc. Group 2 Jumeirah Stakes and the Emirates Stakes and was former UK Champion Juvenile, she can open her account on her debut. Her main dangers come from Duffield's smartly bred debutant Alsharq, a daughter of French & UK Derby winner Al Sakbe, whilst Bill Smith runs Try My Best who would have finished 2nd on his debut to Estihlal over a mile at Taunton but dropped his jockey in the final furlong; and Chazan placed twice last season over 7f.

The Eurobale Ltd Open Race (TBs and AA) over 1 Mile 6 Furlongs

Son Of Sophie was unbeaten in 2 starts last term including over this trip. He will take all the beating here and should score a hatrick. His main danger comes from course and distance winner Adalar and ARO debutant Reminiscent who has won 3 times on the flat over this trip and was 4th last time out over this trip in March.

The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes 0-45 over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

Glastonbury Pop can open his account for the season here over trip and track to suit. He won last season at Huntingdon over a mile where he beat the useful Bodiddle. Main dangers are Anganate Safinat who was a decent 2nd to The Way To Go on his debut over 13f at Taunton and can put his light weight to good use here, and Benny The Dip who ran well when 2nd to Hayleys Comet over 9f at Huntingdon last term.

The Royal Cavalry of Oman Conditions Stakes over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

Very hard to see anyone managing to lower the colours of the powerhouse that is No Risk Al Maury. Duffield has entered 6 other stablemates but it is hard to imagine anyone getting past No Risk Al Maury who won 4 races last season including the Group 1 Dubai Stakes over this trip and an International Handicap over 1 Mile. Place claims go to Noble Athlete who blew away the opposition at Taunton (holds Madid) when coming home 8 lengths too good for the smart WFA Leopard. Also Malik D'Or a classy horse who won all 3 starts last season over trips of 12f plus but was well beaten by No Risk Al Maury on his debut at Wolverhampton over 8f.

The ARO Sweepstakes Open Race (TBs won no more 2 races) over 6 Furlongs

Global Achiever ran well when 2nd to Take The Plunge at Taunton over 8f and has previously won 3 races from 5-6f under rules- he can open his ARO account here. His main danger comes from Saucepot who ran well when winning over this trip at Wolverhampton. Also with place claims is Megabond who was placed on 5 of his 6 starts last season including when 2nd to Saucepot over this trip.

The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes 0-80 over 6 Furlongs

A competitive handicap with the selection being Duffield useful recruit Baseerah who won in fine style on her debut over this trip at Taunton where she had Edjalie and The Debator comfortably beaten. She can land her second victory here. Place claims go to Sam Davison's smart filly Aberfeldy who was a good 2nd to Furaat over this trip at Newbury whilst stablemate WFA Leopard will love track and trip and was decent 2nd to Noble Athlete over 7f at Taunton on his debut.

The Springfield Video Handicap Stakes 0-65 over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

Debrett was a solid 3rd to stablemate Kizhi over this trip at Taunton and is taken to reverse the form over this track and trip with the drying ground working in his favour. A former winner over 2 miles he looked to be progressing at Taunton and is taken to win again here. Main dangers come from stablemate Kizhi, as well as Merwah who is fairly lightly raced and takes an interesting step up in trip and Operatic who was 4th to Kizhi at Taunton and is a consistent performer at this level.