

## Wolverhampton Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August Preview

By Paul Simmons

### The Bait Al Wakeel Maiden Stakes

#### PA Maiden over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

It's hard to look past **Qariem De Faust** who has been unlucky not to have lost his maiden tag yet this season, having come 2<sup>nd</sup> to stablemate Al Janoob over 9 furlongs at Wolverhampton and then 2<sup>nd</sup> again to Qattab De Faust over 7 furlongs at Hereford. He looks more than capable of opening his account today especially after Qattab De Faust franked the form when winning last week at Huntingdon. Stablemate Moshahed looked good when chasing home Yaqoot over this trip at Fontwell and he has strong place claims, as does the Bill Smith trained Maxymus (a Makzan half brother to multiple Group winner Nokomys).

### The gototheraces.com Stakes

#### PA Conditions over 7 Furlongs

An interesting race, but the clear selection is **Riko** who powered home here on his debut over 6 furlongs and then trounced a classy field over a mile on Dubai Day in the final amateur handicap; he will take all the beating. Dangers come from Bill Smith's all weather specialist Angel Picamer who has been quiet this season but has done most of her winning on the all weather, including twice here last season over 6 furlongs and a mile. Amwaj was outclassed on Dubai Day in the Group 1 Hatta Stakes but has won twice in Qatar and this step down in trip should suit.

### The Burj Nahar Open Race Handicap

#### TB, AA & PB 0-180 over 1 Mile 5 Furlongs

**Golden Peacock** has been in superb form this season winning over 6 furlongs at Huntingdon and then following up over 10 furlongs at Fontwell. He was 4<sup>th</sup> last time out at Ffos Las but he can return to winning ways here. Burnley won over course and distance back in June and looks sure to go close again, whilst Dancing Grace has been in a revelation this season for Genny Peyton, winning at Ffos Las over 14 furlongs (beating Finished Article) and over 9 furlongs at Hereford, where she beat Troublemaker.

### The Tijara Town Handicap Stakes

#### PA 0-65 over 7 Furlongs

This should be an ideal opportunity for all weather specialist **Ajyaal** to get his head in front; a superb handicapper on this surface from 6-7 furlongs, he won over course and distance last term and looked in fine form when going down by just under a head to Benny The Dip over this trip at Huntingdon. His main danger is Mr Ben who looks to be rapidly improving, a decent 3<sup>rd</sup> to Whisper over 6 furlongs first time out he followed this was a narrow defeat over this distance to Balladore in the opening premier handicap on Dubai Day and was 4<sup>th</sup> to Gazal in a Premier handicap over 10 furlongs last; this trip and track look ideal. Benny The Dip is in great heart this term, having won over course and distance in June and last week over this trip at Huntingdon; despite having to carry a 6lb win penalty for that success he is sure to make the winner pull out all the stops.

### The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes

#### PA 0-70 over 2 Miles

**Floren** has been in fantastic form this season, winning twice under top weight. He has clearly been rejuvenated after a year off the track and looked impressive when scoring here over 14 furlongs in June, where he beat Affar and Notid (and subsequent winner Whisper). He then followed up at Fontwell over 12 furlongs beating Affar and Notid again, and looks capable of landing a hatrick. Dangers come from Debrett who has been third over 12 and 10 furlongs this season behind Mudalal and multiple winner Adraaj, and recently was a game third behind stablemate Gazal in a Premier Handicap over 10 furlongs at Newbury; this step up in trip will suit and he is a big danger. Former Champion Arab Mushammer caught the eye on his seasonal debut when 2<sup>nd</sup> to Barik at Huntingdon last weekend, he will relish this stamina sapping trip and has place claims.

### The Al Fahidi Handicap Stakes

#### PA 0-95 over 1 Mile 4 Furlongs

**Few and Far** looked very impressive when over turning smart performer Qawaafil over 14 furlongs at Hereford last month. This mare won last year's Jebel Ali Gold final over 10f and should be able to continue her winning streak here. Dangers come from Al Janoob, who won his maiden here over 9 furlongs and ran a brave race to finish 4<sup>th</sup> under top weight on Dubai Day over a mile, whilst Noble Athlete has been in superb form all season, winning at Ffos Las and Hereford over 9 furlongs. He was a course winner over this distance last year over a slightly lower handicap mark, so has good place claims.

**The Al Wasl Open Race Handicap Stakes  
TB, AA & PB Open Handicap over 7 Furlongs**

**Chapter** won well at this track over 8 furlongs in June when beating Marbaa and Reminscent; he was a close third to Son Of Sophie over 10 furlongs last time out and will take all the beating here. Reminscent re-opposes and was 4<sup>th</sup> last week but previously won well at Hereford over 12 furlongs and has place claims, although this trip may be a bit on the short side. Former Champion Fraternity won well on his seasonal debut over 6 furlongs and could go close here.

**The Palm Islands Handicap Stakes  
PA 0-50 over 1 Mile 4 Furlongs**

The selection here is **Mahbishai** who has been slowly coming to hand this term; he was a fair 4<sup>th</sup> behind Whisper over 6 furlongs at Fontwell and last weekend at Huntingdon ran a decent race to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> to Barik over 9 furlongs and looks capable of opening his account at this level. Dangers come from Millenium Leap who was a superb sprinter a few seasons back when she won 4 on the bounce from 5-6 furlongs; she impressed when 2<sup>nd</sup> to Hayleys Comet over 9 furlongs at Hereford but was comprehensively beaten last week over 9 furlongs behind Barik in a higher grade. This race looks much easier and she has strong place claims, although the extra 3 furlongs may stretch her stamina. Lady Marisha won over 6 furlongs last week at Huntingdon and won over 9 furlongs last term, at this grade she could easily get home and land another victory.