

ARABIAN RACE | 5.20PM





ONE MILE, TWO FURLONGS OR THEREABOUTS.
FOR PUREBRED ARABIANS, FOUR YEARS OLD ONLY.



PRESIDENT OF THE UAE CUP (UK ARABIAN DERBY) GROUP 1 PA



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No	Horse	Age	st	lb	Draw
	1 ASRAA MIN AL-TALQA (48) Bay c Asraa Min Albarq (GB) - Manaal (GB) Owner: Forta Stud Trainer: Mr P J Hammersley Breeder: Forta Stud Form: 01-060 Extras:	4	9 - 8	(8)	Jockey: Mr D Turner Colours: BEIGE with DARK GREEN sash, belt and cuffs. BEIGE cap.
<p>Likeable type, who beat Shomoos Athbah in a muddling three-runner affair on the AW last year over a mile. Hasn't progressed so quickly into this company like that one, and though ran well here in a handicap in June, difficult to make a case for him against some of the best colts in Europe. (R6 W1 P0) (OR 74)</p>					
	2 GOUMOH (90) Gr c Jaafer ASF (GB) - Djeldora (FR) Owner: HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani Trainer: M. F Rohaut (FR) Breeder: Al Shahania Stud Form: 36-016 Extras: BL	4	9 - 8	(3)	Jockey: Mickael Forest Colours: ROYAL BLUE with WHITE stars, WHITE cap, ROYAL BLUE star.
<p>Both wins just short of this trip and has been found wanting at this level in the past. Best effort when third to Rajeh and Rodess Du Loup in a juvenile Gr1PA over this trip last autumn and has been beaten by that pair again since, most recently when sixth in the French Derby Gr1PA. Needs to improve, but could make the frame. (R7 W2 P1)(OR 108)</p>					
	3 RAJEH (FR) (35) Gr c Jaafer ASF (GB) - Nelka (FR) Owner: HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani Trainer: M. F Rohaut (FR) Breeder: Al Shahania Stud Form: 11-241 Extras: BL	4	9 - 8	(2)	Jockey: Francois Xavier Bertras Colours: ROYAL BLUE, WHITE stars, ROYAL BLUE cap, WHITE star.
<p>Dual Gr1PA winner at this trip, only finishing out of the frame once in six starts, when disappointing in the French Derby Gr1PA when fourth to Rodess Du Loup. Has beaten that one four times to date however, including on their latest rematch in a Deauville Gr1PA, when fitted with first-time blinkers. Top rated here and the one they all have to beat. (R6 W4 P2) (OR 113)</p>					
	4 RIJM (FR) (26) Ch c Azadi (FR) - Kerjam (FR) Owner: Al Shaqab Racing Trainer: Thomas Fourcy (FR) Breeder: Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani Form: 26-422 Extras:	4	9 - 8	(5)	Jockey: Fahel Bughenaim Colours: GREY, GOLD braid. GREY sleeves, MAROON cap with GOLD tassle.
<p>Won on his juvenile debut last term over 7f and has raced entirely at Group PA level since, gaining three Gr1PA second placings, including to Rodess Du Loup in the French Derby Gr1PA. Has a kilo to find with that one, and is two adrift of Rajeh on French ratings, though close second in a Belgian Gr3PA recently to the 2016 UK Derby winner over a furlong less. Chance. (R7 W1 P5) (OR 110)</p>					



5 RODESS DU LOUP (35)

Gr c Dahess (GB) - Aurore Du Loup (FR)

Owner: Khalifa Hamad Al Attiyah

Trainer: Mr Charles Gourdain (FR)

Breeder: JM. Saphores

Form: 21-512

Extras:

Bidding to repeat the French-UK Derby double for his trainer, who won this last year and has followed a similar programme.

Was just over a length clear of Rajeh in the French equivalent, and was three-quarters of a length behind him at Deauville last time, all at this trip. Closely matched with that one, though will need to be at the top of his game to win. Respected. (R7 W3 P3) (OR 114)

4 9 - 8 (6)

Jockey: Christophe Soumillon

Colours: GREY with RED diablo, GREY sleeves, RED striped, GREY and RED quartered cap.



6 ABIYAH ATHBAH (27)

Gr f Jafer ASF (GB) - Burning Fancy (US)

Owner: Dilmun Racing

Trainer: Mr P J Hammersley

Breeder: Athbah Stud

Form: -3

Extras:

Well bred filly. Sire a multiple Gr1PA winner. Dam also top class, winning 13 times in the US, UK and France, three of which were Group or Graded PA races. Pleasing debut in maiden company last month on the AW suggests she's capable of more, however this is a big step up in class and best watched today. (R1 W0 P1) (NOR)

4 9 - 4 (1)

Jockey: Racheal Kneller

Colours: RED and WHITE halved jacket, RED and WHITE alternate sleeve, RED cap, WHITE star.



7 ANFAAS (27)

Ch f No Risk Al Maury (FR) - Laqataat (GB)

Owner: H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin R Al Maktoum

Trainer: Mr Philip Collington

Breeder: Shadwell Estate Company Ltd

Form: -12331

Extras:

Winner from 6f to a mile in conditions and high-level handicaps. Got the better of Shomoos Athbah on her debut win at three, but has failed to beat her in two meetings since. Drying ground will help her cause, however has a bit to find on ratings with most of these and hard to see her winning. (R7 W3 P3) (OR 90)

4 9 - 4 (4)

Jockey: Jim Crowley

Colours: ROYAL BLUE, WHITE epaulettes, striped cap.



8 SHOMOOS ATHBAH (28)

Ch f Burning Sand (US) - Djanet Monlau (FR)

Owner: Athbah Stud

Trainer: Mr Philip Collington

Breeder: Athbah Stud

Form: 0-1102

Extras: HD

Overcame her quirks to finally get off the mark in Group company on her seasonal debut, beating a subsequent Gr1PA winner. Posted a quick time over this trip in a Newbury conditions event in June (Anfaas 3rd), but not at the races in this grade on easy ground over today's trip back in July. Better latest, over the minimum, and has had this race as a target, but will need to make the most of her allowance to win. (R10 W3 P5) (OR 107)

4 9 - 4 (7)

Jockey: Tadhg O'Shea

Colours: BLACK, GREY sleeves, ROYAL BLUE diamonds, GREY cap, ROYAL BLUE diamond.

NUMBER OF DECLARED RUNNERS 8

(EXACTA)

Probable Starting Prices -

5-2 Fav RAJEH (FR), 3-1 RODESS DU LOUP, 9-2 RIJM (FR), 13-2 SHOMOOS ATHBAH,

15-2 GOUMO, 9-1 ANFAAS, 14-1 ASRAA MIN AL-TALQA, 16-1 ABIYAH ATHBAH

RACE SELECTION

A decent renewal. Shomoos Athbah looks best of the home contingent and this step up in trip should suit but you have to go back to 2005 to find the last British trained winner of this race. The French trained horses look the ones to concentrate on, they have a good record in this race having won it eleven times since the turn of the century and all three of the trainers represented have won this race before. Rijm was a close up second in the French Derby on his penultimate outing he's only had the one start since where he gave a dual Group One winner a real scare in Belgium. He was getting weight that day but looks to be improving and has probably been targeted at this race for some time. Rodess Du Loup won the French Derby fairly comfortably beating three of today's rivals and this has been the main target ever since, that form was reversed by Rajeh when they met last month in a Group One contest at Deauville. On that occasion the latter wore blinkers for the first time and might have benefitted from challenging widest of all. That said **Rajeh** is fancied to come out on top again albeit there probably won't be a lot between him and Rodess Du Loup.