

The Championships at Royal Randwick
Day One
by
Dick Powell

Race 6A

Ingis Sires Produce Stakes (G1)

\$1,000,000

7 Furlongs

Win, Place, Show, Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta

#7 ENGLISH

Beat group two stakes foes here two starts back in the Reisling Stakes (G2) going six furlongs in fast time when she flew home to win going away. She came back in the Golden Slipper (G1) last out and was a game second behind VANCOUVER whose breeding rights were just sold for \$40,000,000. Tommy Berry, who rode Vancouver to victory, picks up the mount here for Gai Waterhouse whose 2YOs have been firing on all cylinders the past few years. Daughter of ENCOSTA DE LAGO is out of a dam by ANABAA that won three group stakes races down under.

#5 TARQUIN

On a track that right now is listed as a "6 – Slow," his experience on soft turf should come in handy here. He made his debut a winning one at Newcastle then came back and won the Pago Pago Stakes (G2) on soft turf at decent odds going six furlongs. William Buick was in town last out and rode him to victory but James McDonald gets the mount back after breaking his maiden on him. The Godolphin 2YOs have not skipped a beat since switching to the John O'Shea barn and he draws outside for a clear run down the middle of the stretch. By HARD SPUN, he is out of a full-sister to 2001 European Horse of the Year FANTASTIC LIGHT.

#1 PRIDE OF DUBAI

Loved his win two starts back when he overcame traffic and prevailed in the Blue Diamond Stakes (G1). He has been off for 35 days and now returns at seven furlongs where he should prosper. This will be his first start on wet ground but he has more than enough stamina in his pedigree to do it. By STREET CRY, he is out of a dam by DANEHILL that is a half-sister to French classic winner RAFHA who won the Prix de Diane going long.

#8 PASADENA GIRL

After two barrier trials, she broke her maiden first time out at outrageous odds at Flemington going 5 ½ furlongs on the straightaway. She came back there and won the Flemington Thoroughbred Breeders Stakes (G3) going six furlongs when their final sectional splits were sensational. Daughter of SAVABEEL rallies from off the pace and draws inside today with Vlad Duric back aboard for Peter Moody.

Race 7A

BMW Australian Derby (G1)

\$2,000,000

1 ½ miles

Win, Place, Show, Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick Four

#7 OMEROS

In what appears to be a wide-open race going long under testing conditions, this lightly-raced improving gelding can take it down at a decent price. He broke his maiden second time out going a mile in good time when he came home very fast then was a gritty second in the Tulloch Stakes (G2) going ten furlongs here last out when he was stuck behind a slowish pace, took the lead in the stretch and held on for second. Son of HIGH CHAPARRAL draws inside and gets Joao Moreira for the first time. Can see him saving ground throughout and being produced by Moreira at the right time.

#2 VOLKSTOK'N'BARRELL

Was a game second two starts back in the New Zealand Derby (G1) going this distance then shipped to Rosehill two weeks ago and won going ten furlongs in the Rosehill Guineas (G1) going ten furlongs. Even though he had won five starts in a row going shorter distances, he has prospered since stretching out and has a solid record on soft turf. Craig Williams rides back on the gelded son of LORD TAVISTOCK.

#5 HAURAKI

Rallied for second two starts back going shorter in the Phar Lap Stakes (G2) then came back last out to run down the top choice here in the Tulloch Stakes (G2) going ten furlongs. He is asked to stretch out some more here for John O'Shea and he seems to be in fine form. James McDonald rides back for John O'Shea and we have seen that combination do extremely well. Son of RESET is out of a dam that has produced a winner of the South Australian Derby (G1) so he should be able to get the distance.

#1 PREFERMENT

Very good colt from last spring won the Victoria Derby (G1) at Flemington going 1 9/16 miles. He is gradually working his way back to that form and his last start was his best since returning when he was a close second in the Rosehill Guineas (G1) going ten furlongs. He will have to overcome a wide draw today and his record on soft ground is a bit spotty so he could be a vulnerable favorite today. Damien Oliver rides back for Chris Waller on the son of ZABEEL who is a full-brother to a grade three stakes winner.

Race 8A

Darley T J Smith Stakes (G1)

\$2,500,000

6 Furlongs

Win, Place, Show, Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta

#2 TERRAVISTA

Horse for the course has been racing down in Victoria lately but she won a group two and three stakes race here going this distance with Hugh Bowman aboard. He was a game third last out down the Flemington straight in the Newmarket Handicap (G1) and will have to break well here from post ten. His soft track record is superb and he has won with this weight before. Son of CAPTAIN RIO is a half-brother to group one stakes winner TIGER TEES.

#1 LANKAN RUPEE

Was the leading sprinter for much of 2014 and looked good two starts back at Flemington going five furlongs in the Lightning Stakes (G1) when he drew off to an easy win then raced one-paced last out when conceding major weight to the field. He draws well in this weight-for-age event and gets Craig Newitt back aboard. He won his lone start here last year in this race and the expected soft ground should not be a problem.

#3 CHAUTAUQUA

Was a sharp winner off the layoff two starts back at Caulfield going 5 ½ furlongs in very fast time in the Rubiton Stakes (G2). He came back with a good second in the Newmarket Handicap (G1) at Flemington but picks up seven pounds off that effort. He has been a sprinter his entire career and the son of ENCOSTA DE LAGO gets a major rider upgrade to Tommy Berry.

#10 SWEET IDEA

Raced mostly at seven furlongs last Spring down in Victoria with good results. He had two barrier trials to get ready for his last start, which she won going 5 ½ furlongs in fast time in the Galaxy Stakes (G1). She picks up seven pounds off that win and she could take these all the way if Joao Moreira can break her on top and try to break the race open. Her record at Ranwick is terrific and she can handle wet going.

Race 9A

The Star 150th Doncaster Mile (G1)

\$3,000,000

1 mile

Win, Place, Show, Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta

#14 PORNICHE

In an absolutely crazy race where most of the major contenders drew terrible posts with high weights, this improving 4YO has already shown he can handle the distance and soft ground. He made up some ground two starts back in the Ajax Stakes (G2) going 7 ½ furlongs then came back to win a group three stakes race last out at ten furlongs. He should be dead fit from those efforts and takes

off ten pounds while receiving huge chunks of weight from the major contenders. Son of VESPONE drew okay with Kerrin Mcevoy in the irons for Gai Waterhouse.

#19 SUAVITO

Draws post one and seems to have enough gate speed lately to keep from getting shuffled back. When the field strings out across the track, Corey Brown can keep him pinned to the rail and save ground. Throw in 110 pounds feathery impost and he suddenly looks solid. He won four straight stakes races coming into here including a win going seven furlongs in the Caulfield Futurity Stakes (G1) despite losing a shoe then won going a mile at Flemington going a mile.

#4 REAL IMPACT

Awesome Japanese shipper won a group two stakes race up there two starts back going seven furlongs in blazing-fast time. He shipped to Rosehill last out and won the George Ryder Stakes (G1) going 7 ½ furlongs when he made all the running. He certainly will need to show that kind of speed again today from the wide draw but he is a mystery on soft ground and gets no real break at the weights like some of these. James McDonald rides back on the son of DEEP IMPACT that makes his second start off the layoff.

#10 HALLOWED CROWN

Another that is impossibly drawn but picks up Tommy Berry for the first time. 3YO son of STREET SENSE was a sharp winner two starts back going a mile here in the Randwick Guineas (G1) then could not make up enough ground in a slow-paced group one stake going ten furlongs two weeks ago. He is trained by the living legend, Bart Cummings, and his son Jim. No question about his ability to handle a soft turf course as he loves it. Only edge he might have is if the rain soaks the inside and the ground is firmer on the outside which is where he will be.