

Thursday 13th July

BET365 HANDICAP – Class 2 Handicap (3yo)

300 NEWMARKET

A trio of trends would have found you 14 of the last 15 winners of this (and the year they didn't find the winner the neck 2nd at 40-1 was on the trends shortlist)...

15/15 Won or beaten no more than 5L LTO (5.1)

15/15 previously won over at least 6f

14/15 OR 96 or less

...for a trends shortlist of...

QUINAULT - EMINENCY - BE FRANK - TOUGH ENOUGH - ANIMATE - FERROUS

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Given this is a straight-track blast I'd be more concerned about where the pace horse are drawn rather than any potential track bias... although on this occasion it is worth noting that there *has* been a small bias towards the top half of the field, certainly in more recent renewals... these are the splits when looking at **the last 26 renewals** of the race...

Bottom half of draw – 9 winners (35% of winners)

Top half of draw – 17 winners (65% of winners)

...and it becomes more prominent when looking at **the last 10 renewals** of the race...

Bottom half of draw – 2 winners (20% of winners)

Top half of draw – 8 winners (80% of winners)

Given the nature of the race (big field and straight track) I'd still be inclined to weigh heavier on where the pace is coming from, but the above draw stats are still worth keeping in mind...

On the pace front this year there doesn't actually look to be all that much in the way of potential front-runners, with only really **QUINAULT (Stall 11)** guaranteed to be pinging off out front. **TOUGH ENOUGH (Stall 10)** is a potential to be up there, same with **WASHINGTON HEIGHTS (Stall 12)**, which puts most of the potential pace coming from the middle part of the draw and overall slightly favouring the middle to high numbers...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
17	FRANKNESS	HU/CP	
16	TAJALLA	CP	
15	ROUSING ENCORE	HU/CP	
14	EXECUTIVE DECISION	CP	
13	ALPHA CAPTURE	HU/CP	
12	WASHINGTON HEIGHTS	CP	
11	QUINAULT	FR	
10	TOUGH ENOUGH	CP	
9	MILL STREAM	CP	
8	REDEMPTION TIME	HU	
7	FERROUS	HU	
6	ANIMATE	CP	
5	EMINENCY	HU/CP	
4	DARK THIRTY	CP	
3	DESERT COP	CP	
2	BE FRANK	CP/HU	
1	BRAVE NATION	HU	

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Trainer notes/Jockey notes/Horse notes/General pointers...

ANDREW BALDING has won this 4 times and had 2 others place from 11 runners. All his winners had 3-5 starts in current season and had previously won at least at C4 level... for a race form line of...**114115 (4/6, 1p)**... both his runners this year - **FRANKNESS & DESERT COP** - fit those stats this year...

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Conclusion/Current Thoughts...

Trend Toppers...

QUINAULT comes in off the back of 5 straight handicap wins (now 31lbs higher than first of them)...unbeaten 4 from 4 over 6f and is 2 from 2 at Newmarket (Rowley Mile course)...

EMINENCY Only 1 from 8 in career but has gone close on all 4 starts this season and CP's are applied for first time here... Clive Cox has saddled 3 placed horses from his 6 runners in the race...

BE FRANK 2 from 2 this season and form of handicap win LTO was franked by 3rd winning a C3 next time out. Form of maiden win at Salisbury (27th May) also been working out well (2nd is 2 from 2 since and 4th & 6th have both also won since)...

TOUGH ENOUGH Won his last 2 starts and never been beaten more than 1.2L on any of his 4 runs to date. Form of Windsor win LTO looks solid enough...

ANIMATE both wins to date have come over 7f on the AW but went close over 6f at Newcastle LTO. 0/3, 0p so far on turf although they've all been over further (7f & 1m X2).

FERROUS comfortably beaten last time out over 5f against elders when fav. Not all that easy to assess but has some decent bits and bobs of form on his CV...

Thoughts on others...

FRANKNESS the drop back to 5f at Royal Ascot possibly didn't suit as she was doing all her best work late in the day, so run can probably be marked up a few pounds on the bare form...yet to fully show she's up to C3 level+ (0/5, 0p) although worth noting she is 1113 in June-August over 6f-7f on G/S & quicker...

TAJALLA is worth noting due to Roger Varian's record with handicap debutants at Newmarket (both tracks)... R Varian | Newmarket | C2-C4 Hcps | Hcp debutants with 1-4 career starts | 1+ career wins = (since 2016) 10/24 | 42% S/R | +£38.87 – W&P 13/24 | 54% S/R... TAJALLA meeting those stats here...

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Potential for ground slowing down from current Good to Firm (Good in places) as there are some thunderstorms forecast on Wednesday, although there doesn't look to be a huge amount forecast so hopefully it won't go any slower than Good...

QUINAULT (S Williams) 6 of the last 9 winners of this race came from the 6f handicap at York that this one won LTO and he doesn't look like he's done with his winning just yet. Prominent runners have been the call in this race in recent times and he could get things his own way on the front end here, and he looks overpriced as he bids for his 6th win on the bounce.

TOUGH ENOUGH (J Tate) looks to have a good draw here and would likely have won with plenty more ease LTO had he got a clearer run at the furlong pole. James Tate also has a decent record with his 2yo-3yo's in handicaps over less than 1m2f that WON LTO and were running in the same class or moving up 1 class level... (since 2018) 23/56 | 41% S/R | +£36.20 – W&P 34/56 | 61% S/R... stats that TOUGH ENOUGH fits here.

TAJALLA is feared most of those not on the trends shortlist as he has a good draw to attack from and the Varian Hcp Debutant Stats mentioned above look strong...



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