

NARROWING THE FIELD **RACE TRENDS ANALYSIS**

ASCOT CHAMPIONS DAY

FEATURING...

- ✓ **IN-DEPTH RACE TRENDS ANALYSIS**
- ✓ **DRAW AND PACE ANALYSIS**
- ✓ **PC HORSES**
- ✓ **TRAINER TRENDS**
- ✓ **AND MORE!**

SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER

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12:55 Ascot

🏇 2YO Conditions Stakes – Class 2 (2yo) 6f

Race Trends...

Only the 2nd renewal of this contest, so no Race Trends for us to work with...

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Pace: **VICTORY GOLD (Stall 9)** looks the most likely early pace angle... although **OAKFORD (11)**, **SPEED OF SOUND (3)** & **CRUSHERMAN (1)** have also shown signs of early speed and one or a mix of them may also be near/on the speed...

Draw: There possibly won't be a huge bias at play here in an 11 runner field... although if you look at 6f Ascot races since 2020 in similar field sizes and on similar ground you do see a **positive to those drawn in Q4** (a 17% S/R, with the other draw sectors returning 8%, 8% & 7%), which would be roughly in line with the bias in larger field sizes on the Ascot straight track in recent seasons...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map	
11	OAKFORD	CP/FR		
10	ARAPAHO GOLD	CP		
9	VICTORY GOLD	FR		
8	CONFUCIUS	HU/CP		
7	SATELLITE OF LOVE	CP		
6	THEHEATISON	CP		
5	NIGHT IN VEGAS	CP		
4	ADAAY OF SCARLETT	HU/CP		
3	SPEED OF SOUND	CP/FR		
2	INNER CITY BLUES	HU		
1	CRUSHERMAN	FR/CP		
Pace: Likely contested early lead/possible solo leader Draw Bias: Small positive Q4				
Running style of previous 1 winner: FR-X CP-1 HU-X				

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

CHARLIE APPLEBY holds some strong stats at Ascot under similar conditions... **C Appleby** | Ascot 2yo non-hcps on straight track | NOT Royal Ascot | G/S or quicker | SP 4/1 or less = (since 2015) 19/37 | 51% S/R | +£19.97 – W&P 27/37 | 73% S/R – 33% above exp... **INNER CITY BLUES** meets those stats here...

AIDAN O'BRIEN holds some solid stats at Ascot under similar conditions... **AP O'Brien** | Ascot 2yo non-hcps on straight tracks | GB or IRE bred | 1 or 2 career

wins Ryan Moore riding = (since 2011) 15/42 | 36% S/R | +£29.68 – W&P 21/42 | 50% S/R – 39% above exp... **CONFUCIUS** meets those stats here...

EVE JOHNSON HOUGHTON holds some solid stats at Ascot under similar conditions... **E Johnson-Houghton | Ascot 2yo non-hcps on straight tracks | Listed level or lower | Good or quicker = (since 2019) 8/24 | 33% S/R | +£68.74 – W&P 12/24 | 50% S/R – 197% above exp... NIGHT IN VEGAS** meets those stats here...

BRIAN MEEHAN holds some solid stats at Ascot under similar conditions... **B Meehan | Ascot 2yo non-hcps over 6f-1m | July-Oct | Male horses | 0-2 starts last 90-days = 11/42 | 26% S/R | +£79.68 – W&P 16/42 | 38% S/R – E/W = +£82.48 | 108% above exp... CRUSHERMAN** meets those stats here...

My play(s)...

NIGHT IN VEGAS (E Johnson-Houghton) holds multiple pieces of strong form on his CV already, including a win and a close G2 5th (of 21) over this Ascot 6f trip, and he can round his season out in style here...

 **1:30 Ascot**

Long Distance Cup – Group 1 (3yo+) 2m

Race Trends...

Some strong trends at play in this Marathon Group 1 contest (UK & IRE form only considered for trends)...

- 1** **12/12 aged 4yo-7yo**
- 2** **12/12 rated OR 109+**
- 3** **12/12 1-5 runs in current season**
- 4** **12/12 1st or 2nd LTO (beaten no more than 2.5L)**
- 5** **12/12 Won 1 of last 4 starts**
- 6** **12/12 1-2 starts last 90-days**
- 7** **12/12 ran in a non-Hcp over 1m6f+ LTO**

...for a trends shortlist of...

CABALLO DE MAR (Stall 6)

GREGORY (4)

QUEENSTOWN (8)

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-1 | CP-6 | HU-5

Pace: **QUICKTHORN (Stall 1)** looks the most likely early pace angle...

QUEENSTOWN (8) & GREGORY (4) will likely be sitting at the head of the main body of the field...

Draw: There probably won't be any great impact from the draw in this field size... although worth noting that **Q4 of the draw has only won 2 of the 15 renewals of this (52% below exp)**... so wide perhaps isn't an ideal place to be drawn...

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

THE GOSDEN'S have won this 4-times and had 9 others place from their 14 runners (since 2015)... their winners all met the following... **WON LTO | DSLR 21-60**... for a race form line of... **1221332311 (4/10, 6p)**... **GREGORY** meet those stats...

AIDAN O'BRIEN has won this 4-times and had 2 others place from his 23 runners... his winners all met the following... **Top-rated or no more than 3lbs below | 14+ career starts | Won or Placed 1 of last 2 starts...** for a race form line of... **1111 (4/4)...** **QUEENSTOWN** meets those stats...

Horses aged 4YO-7YO that WON LTO over 1m6f-2m2f (DSLIR 21-90) and had 1-2 runs in last 90-days (UK/IRE form only) have won 10 of the last 12 renewals of this... for race form of... **10/21, 5p | +£42.14 – 91% above exp...** **CABALLO DE MAR, GREGORY & DAIQUIRI BAY** meet those stats...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts...

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

CABALLO DE MAR (Stall 6) bounced back from a couple of disappointing efforts with a comfortable win in the G2 Doncaster Cup in September and then landed the G1 Prix du Cadran in France LTO... wore Blinkers both those runs (stay on here)... holds strong (UK) form under similar conditions... **1m5f-2m2.5f | Fields <14 | Good + or A/W = 12111111 (7/8, 1p – all UK wins)...**

GREGORY (4) 2 from 2 this season (both Listed level) after returning off 476-day break in June... 0/3, 0p previous G1 runs, so needs to improve on that to win here...

QUEENSTOWN (8) 3rd in France LTO behind CABALLO DE MAR... only 2 from 18 in career and yet to win over further than 1m6f ...

Thoughts on others...

HIGHWAYMAN (Stall 2) won St Leger LTO by 2.5L... steps up past 1m6.5f for 1st time here... unbeaten 3 from 3 in fields of 11 or less (0/4, 0p in fields of 12+)...

DAIQUIRI BAY (Stall 9) won the EBOR LTO... steps into Group level for 1st time here and steps past 1m6.5f for 1st time... Alan King holds some tight stats with similar LTO winners at Ascot... **A King | Ascot (Turf) | Male horses aged 3yo-5yo | WON LTO = (since 2012) 1211141101 (7/10, 2p) | +£33.36 – E/W = +£39.10...** form line includes 2 runs in this race (both wins)...

My play(s)...

CABALLO DE MAR (G Scott) blinkers/TT combination looks to have worked a treat on this 5yo on his last 2 starts and he comes here off the back of posting a career best effort LTO in France... I'll side with the 5yo to land the 4th G1 of his career...

 **2:05 Ascot**

Champion Sprint Stakes – Group 1 (3yo+) 6f

Race Trends...

Some strong trends at play to help us narrow the field in this Group 1 sprint (UK & IRE form only considered for trends)...

- 1 11/11 aged 3yo-6yo
- 2 11/11 2-7 runs in current season
- 3 11/11 DSLR 14-100
- 4 11/11 top 6 finish LTO (beaten 6L or less)
- 5 11/11 no tongue-tie or headgear
- 6 11/11 previously run at G1 or G2 level
- 7 11/11 top 2 finish 1 of last 3 starts

...for a trends shortlist of...

ALMERAQ (Stall 8)

KIND OF BLUE (10)

PABORUS (1)

POWER BLUE (4)

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Pace: **MARVELMAN (Stall 13) & SOUL LOVE (7)** look the likely early pace angles and that should give pace options across the track, giving most of the field some level of early pace to latch on to...

Draw: Despite the high numbers being favoured on the straight track recently, things flip a bit when you look at 6f NON-Hcps at the track on similar ground and in similar field sizes (fields of 14+).. **there have been 25 such races since 2020... 10 have been won by a horse drawn in Q1 (9% S/R – 40% of races – 44% above exp) whilst those drawn in Q4 have only won 4 of the races (3.5% S/R – 16% of races – 47% above exp)...** which levels things out a lot more on the draw front...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
16	JAMES'S DELIGHT	CP	
15	SAMANGAN	CP/HU	
14	BINHAREER	HU	
13	MARVELMAN	FR/CP	
12	DIVISION	HU	
11	JASOUR	HU/CP	
10	KIND OF BLUE	CP	
9	GREAT WISH	CP/HU	
8	ALMERAQ	HU/CP	
7	SOUL LOVE	CP/FR	
6	PRINCE OF INDIA	CP	
5	COPPULL	CP/HU	
4	POWER BLUE	CP	
3	POATAN	CP/HU	
2	MITBAAHY	HU	
1	PABORUS	HU/CP	
Pace: Probable dual leaders/Possible solo leader Draw Bias: XX			
Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-3 CP-2 HU-6			

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

JAMES FANSHAW has won this 3-times from his 12 runners (since 2011)... all 3 of his winners met the following... **4-6 seasonal starts | DSLR 16+ | 1st or 2nd LTO**... for race form of... **10151 (3/5)**... **KIND OF BLUE** meet those stats...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts...

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

ALMERAQ (Stall 8) 3 from 4 this season, two at G1 level including the Jubilee Stakes over CD at Royal Ascot in June... Haggas holds some tight stats with similar LTO winners at G1 level... **W Haggas | Group 1's | G/S or quicker | Colts & Geldings | Won at Class 1 level LTO | DSLR 16-240 = (since 2021) 9/21 | 43% S/R | +£64.02 – W&P 13/21 | 62% S/R – 40% above exp...**

KIND OF BLUE (10) won this in 2024... Billy Loughnane rides for 1st time and he holds some tight stats for Fanshawe under similar conditions... **B Loughnane/J Fanshawe | Turf 6f-1m3f | 3yo-7yo's = (since 2024) 41121213 (4/8, 3p)**... and Loughnane holds some solids stats at Ascot under similar conditions... **B Loughnane | Ascot 6f-1m | June-Oct | DSLR 12-45 = 12/50 | 24% S/R | +£197.13 – W&P 20/50 | 40% S/R...**

PABORUS (1) 2nd in G1 Sprint Cup behind ALMERAQ LTO... solid form to date in career when you remove his runs at York... 2111114 (5/7, 1p – all 5 career wins)...

POWER BLUE (4) was running over 1m at stages this season but looks better over shorter trips... **5f-7f on straight or RH tracks | Soft or quicker = 1135231 (3/7, 1p – all 3 career wins)**... 5th came in 20-runner Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot last year behind GSTAAD... Group 1 winner over 6f as a 2yo...

Thoughts on others...

SAMANGAN (Stall 15) beaten over 7f in France LTO but looks better over shorter trips, especially at this time of the year... **5.5f-6.5f | Aug-Oct = 1111 (4/4 – all 4 career wins)**... by Blue Point and his offspring hold solid stats at track... **Blue Point 2yo-4yo IRE bred colts and fillies | Ascot 6f-1m | June-Oct | SP 11/1 or less = 11/22 | 50% S/R | +£59.38 – W&P 13/22 | 60% S/R – 133% above exp...**

My play(s)...

ALMERAQ might just prove too hard to beat here... and I can certainly see the case for him... but the record in this of horses starting at SP 9/4 or shorter doesn't read well... 2242061 (1/7, 3p)... and although that's no reason to think he can't or won't win, it does at least give me confidence to play a couple against him...

KIND OF BLUE (J Fanshawe) had a good tune up for this when winning at Kempton LTO and Fanshawe holds some tight stats at Ascot with similar LTO winners... **J Fanshawe | Ascot Aug-Oct | G/S or quicker | 3yo-5yo male horses | 4+ runs in season | WON LTO = 7/12, 1p | +£20.50...** and Billy Loughnane is an eye-catching booking...

SAMANGAN (F-H Graffard) drop back to 6f looks a smart move and his unbeaten 4 from 4 record under these conditions makes him a horse of plenty appeal...

○ 2:40 Ascot

🏆 Champions Fillies & Mares – Group 1 (3yo+) 1m4f

Race Trends...

A strong set of trends at play here for this Fillies & Mares Group 1 contest (UK & IRE form only considered for trends)...

- 1 12/12 2-12 previous career starts
- 2 12/12 1-6 starts in current season
- 3 12/12 won or placed on 1 of last 2 starts
- 4 12/12 aged 3yo or 4yo
- 5 12/12 0-2 starts last 90-days
- 6 12/12 rated OR 108+

...for a trends shortlist of...

SPARAN NUA (Stall 4)

LILT (10)

MINNIE HAUKE (12)

JOHANNA WALSH (6)

INIS MOR (2)

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Pace: **SUGAR ISLAND (Stall 5)** looks the most likely early pace angle here and will possibly get an uncontested lead out front...

Draw: There has been a bit of a draw bias at play in this contest... **Q3 & Q4 have been favoured in the past 12 renewals, winning 10 of the 12 and pulling in combined stats of... 10/69, 12p | 32% above exp...** Q1 & Q2 have returned combined stats of 2/71, 12p | 70% below exp... and the lower half of the draw has had a trickier time of things (on the win side at least)...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
13	COEDANA	HU	
12	MINNIE HAUK	CP	
11	TAJLINA	CP/HU	
10	LILT	CP	
9	SYMBOL OF MAJESTY	HU/CP	
8	DANIELLE	HU/CP	
7	SEE THE FIRE	HU/CP	
6	JOHANNA WALSH	CP	
5	SUGAR ISLAND	FR	
4	SPARAN NUA	CP	
3	BELIEVED	HU/CP	
2	INIS MOR	HU/CP	
1	KALPANA	HU/CP	
Pace: Likely solo leader Draw Bias: Positive Q3 & Q4/Small negative Q1 & Q2			
Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-1 CP-7 HU-4			

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

THE GOSDEN'S have won this 3 times and had 5 others place from their 22 runners (since 2011)... all their winners met the following... **Previously WON at Group level | 1+ run at Ascot | 3-5 seasonal starts | Won 1 of last 3 starts...** for race form of... **191210 (3/6, 1p)...** **DANIELLE** meet those stats...

FRANCIS-HENRI GRAFFARD holds solid stats at Ascot... **F-H Graffard | Ascot 1m-1m4f non-hcps | 3yo-5yo | NO TT = (since 2017) 7/20 | 35% S/R | +£71.36 – W&P 16/20 | 80% S/R – 66% above exp...** **TAJLINA** meet those stats...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts...

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

SPARAN NUA (Stall 4) 9th in a Fillies & Mares G1 in France over 1m4f LTO... finished a short-head 2nd to KALPANA start before that in the Yorkshire Oaks (getting 9lbs from that one there, only gets 6lbs here)...

LILT (10) 2 from 4 in career to date... first try over 1m4f here... by Lope De Vega and his offspring in Ascot G1 & G2's are 0/59, 11p and she'd need to be going against those stats to be winning here...

MINNIE HAUK (12) 10th in the Arc LTO... strong UK/IRE form line over 1m3.5f-1m4f when Ryan Moore riding... 31111 (4/5, 1p)...

JOHANNA WALSH (6) comfortable winner of the Irish Oaks in July and 2nd in the Ribblesdale over CD at Royal Ascot on start prior to that... disappointed in Yorkshire

Oaks LTO but that could have been down to G/S ground... form of 121 (2/3, 1p – both career wins) on good or quicker ground...

INIS MOR (2) 2nd over 1m4f in a G3 at Newmarket LTO... 2nd behind JOHANNA WALSH in Irish Oaks earlier in season (although 4L behind)...

Thoughts on others...

KALPANA (Stall 1) winner of last 2 renewals of this and overall Ascot form of... 121213 (3/6, 3p)... form over 1m3f-1m4f in the UK of... 11211221113 (7/11, 4p)... improving to 11122111 (6/8, 2p) in July to Oct...

My play(s)...

This looks a bit of a puzzle... I'll play the following...

JOHANNA WALSH (JP O'Brien) plenty of this field will be sitting mid-pack or out the back and that should allow this 3yo to get a good early position from her stall 6 draw and sit just off the leader... Joseph O'Brien is also starting to build some solid stats with similar types at Ascot... **JP O'Brien | Ascot 1m2f+ | IRE bred | 3-10 career starts | won or placed 1 of last 2 | DSLR 21-60 = (since 2022) 7/23, 5p | +£72.71...** and this filly looks to hold a strong chance of improving those stats here...

○ 3:20 Ascot

🏆 QEII Stakes – Group 1 (3yo+) 1m

Race Trends...

A tricky race to pin down solid Race Trends for, so I'll use some of my other analysis methods to dig into the Group 1 contest...

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Pace: **HAWK MOUNTAIN (Stall 2)** will likely go and set the early pace for **GSTAAD** here and he likely won't get much pressure for the lead out front...

Draw: There possibly won't be a huge bias at play here in an 11 runner field... although if you look at 1m (straight) Ascot races since 2020 in similar field sizes and on similar ground you do see **a positive to those drawn in Q4** (a 15% S/R – 18% above exp) and **a negative to those drawn Q1** (a 5% S/R – 51% below exp) which would be roughly in line with the bias in larger field sizes on the Ascot straight track in recent seasons...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
11	GSTAAD	HU/CP	
10	ZEUS OLYMPIOS	CP	
9	ZAVATERI	HU/CP	
8	TALK OF NEW YORK	CP	
7	DANCING GEMINI	HU/CP	
6	NEEDLE MATCH	CP/HU	
5	DOCKLANDS	HU	
4	MORE THUNDER	HU	
3	TEN BOB TONY	HU	
2	HAWK MOUNTAIN	CP/FR	
1	RAYIF	CP/HU	
Pace: Probable solo leader Draw Bias: Small pos to Q4/Small neg to Q1			
Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-1 CP-5 HU-6			

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

AIDAN O'BRIEN has won this 4-times and had 7 others place from 31-runners (since 2006)... all 4 of his winners met the following... **7-12 career starts | 3-6 runs in season | 3+ career wins | Top 3 finish over 1m-1m2f LTO...** for race form of... **1612121 (4/7, 2p)...** **GSTAAD** meet those stats...

CHARLIE APPLEBY holds solid stats at Ascot with LTO winners... **C Appleby/W Buick** | Ascot 7f-1m6f | 3yo's | SP <10/1 | DSLR <57 | WON LTO = 11/28 | 39% S/R | +£33.26 – W&P 15/28 | 54% S/R – 57% S/R... **TALK OF NEW YORK** meet those stats...

FRANCIS-HENRI GRAFFARD holds solid stats at Ascot... **F-H Graffard** | Ascot 1m-1m4f non-hcps | 3yo-5yo | NO TT = (since 2017) 7/20 | 35% S/R | +£71.36 – W&P 16/20 | 80% S/R – 66% above exp... **RAYIF** meet those stats...

My play(s)...

TALK OF NEW YORK (C Appleby) produced an eye-catching effort when winning at Newmarket LTO and this *has* been a good race for LTO winning 3yo's... especially those that started at SP <3/1 LTO... 21 have met that profile since 2008 and 9 have won (the only had qualifiers in 14 of the renewals) for overall stats of... **9/21, 4p** | **+£58.11 – 80% above exp...** TALK OF NEW YORK is 1 of 2 qualifiers this year (ZAVATERI is the other) and I'll side with him here...

 **4:00 Ascot**

Champion Stakes – Group 1 (3yo+) 1m2f

Race Trends...

A bit of a fiddly race to dig into on the trends front, but the following should help build a solid enough shortlist (UK & IRE form only considered for trends)...

- 1 12/12 rated OR 115+**
- 2 11/12 WON 1 of last 3 starts**
- 3 11/12 Won or Placed 1 of last 2 starts**
- 4 11/12 won or beaten no more than 4L LTO**
- 5 11/12 1+ win in current season**
- 6 11/12 Top-rated or no more than 10lbs below**

...for a trends table of...

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Tot
BAY CITY ROLLER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	6
CONSTITUTION RIVER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	6
ALMAQAM	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	5
CALANDAGAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	5
OMBUDSMAN	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	5
DEVIL'S ADVOCATE	N	N	N	N	N	N	0

...and a trends shortlist of...

BAY CITY ROLLER (Stall 5)

CONSTITUTION RIVER (3)

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Pace: **DEVILS ADVOCATE (Stall 6)** is in this to front-run for **OMBUDSMAN**, and he should get an uncontested time on the front end here... **BAY CITY ROLLER (5) & CONSTITUTION RIVER (3)** will likely sit at the head of the main pack...

Draw: There shouldn't be any impact on the draw front with only the six runners going to post in this Group 1...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
6	DEVIL'S ADVOCATE	FR	
5	BAY CITY ROLLER	CP	
4	CALANDAGAN	HU	
3	CONSTITUTION RIVER	CP	
2	OMBUDSMAN	HU/CP	
1	ALMAQAM	CP/HU	
Pace: Likely solo front-runner Draw Bias: N/A Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-2 CP-5 HU-5			

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

FRANCIS-HENRI GRAFFARD holds solid stats at Ascot... **F-H Graffard | Ascot 1m-1m4f non-hcps | 3yo-5yo | NO TT = (since 2017) 7/20 | 35% S/R | +£71.36 – W&P 16/20 | 80% S/R – 66% above exp...** **CALANDAGAN** meet those stats...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts...

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

BAY CITY ROLLER (Stall 5) 2nd in The Arc LTO... his 2 previous G1 wins both came over 1m4f and on ground with cut in it...

CONSTITUTION RIVER (3) yet to finish outside of first 3 in all 8 career starts, winning 5 times, including 2 G1's... first run at Ascot but sire stats suggest he'll handle the track well... **Wootton Bassett 2yo-4yo colts & geldings | Ascot 1m2f & shorter (NOT Royal Ascot) = 14/32 | 44% S/R | +£43.35 – W&P 17/32 | 53% S/R...**

Thoughts on others...

CALANDAGAN (Stall 4) winner of this last year and 2nd year before... **strong record at Ascot... 12112 (3/5, 2p)...**

OMBUDSMAN (Stall 2) 2nd in this last year... **strong record at Ascot... 121 (2/3, 1p)...** disappointed LTO at York...

My play(s)...

CALANDAGAN & OMBUDSMAN are 2 I've struggled to get right (for some unknown reason!!)... but as neither meet the trends I'm happy to play something else...

CONSTITUTION RIVER (AP O'Brien) comes back to a RH track here after 2 defeats on LH tracks and given he's undefeated in 4 start going RH it could just be he prefers going this way round... sire stats also suggest Ascot will be ideal for him... **Wootton Bassett 2yo-4yo colt or gelding | Ascot 5f-1m2f (NOT Royal Ascot) = 14/32 | 44% S/R | +£43.35 – W&P 17/32 | 53% S/R...**

○ 4:35 Ascot



Balmoral Handicap – Class 2 (3yo+) 1m

Race Trends...

Some strong trends at play in this 1m handicap, to help build a solid shortlist...

- 1 12/12 rated OR 109-96
- 2 12/12 carried 9-06 or less
- 3 12/12 33 or less career starts
- 4 12/12 DSLR 14-42
- 5 12/12 Won or beaten 9.5L or less LTO
- 6 12/12 top 2 finish 1 of last 5 starts
- 7 12/12 yet to run over further than 1m2f
- 8 12/12 aged 3yo-7yo
- 9 11/12 ran in a C2 Hcp LTO

...for a trends table of...

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Tot
INDALO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
BULLET POINT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
SCOVILLE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
FIFTH COLUMN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
GAVRIEL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
TRIBAL CHIEF (Res)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
JAGGED EDGE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	8
CROWN OF OAKS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	8
ORANDI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	8
CLASSIC	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	8
EXCELLENT BELIEVE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	8
BRIAN	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	8
ARCTIC THUNDER (Res)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	8
EBTS GUARD	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	7
VALVANO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	7
COLORI FOREVER	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	7
MISTER WINSTON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	7
WHIP CRACKER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	7
HICKORY	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	7
WISE PRINCE (Res)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	7
ROOM SERVICE	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	6
TORITO	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	6
PERSICA	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	5

...and a trends shortlist of...

INDALO (Stall 16) - BULLET POINT (17) - SCOVILLE (23) - FIFTH COLUMN (13) - GAVRIEL (18) - TRIBAL CHIEF (Res) (19)

Pace/Draw thoughts...

Pace: Not much in the way of obvious early pace-setters in this handicap... **CROWN OF OAKS (Stall 9)** did look the most likely one to find himself out front in the early stages...but he's now a NON-RUNNER... **BULLET POINT (17)** may try and go from the front... but the majority of the others look likely to sit held up or in midfield...

Draw: A definite bias towards those drawn high on the Ascot straight track in recent seasons... with **Q4 of the draw** winning 26 of the 50 straight track Ascot 16+ runners Hcps on Good or quicker ground (since 2023)... under the same conditions Q1 has only managed to win 5 of the 50 races (10% of races – 64% below exp)... that bias has been stronger since the start of 2025... 18 of the 29 races (62% of races) have been won by Q4 and Q1 has won only TWICE (7% of races)...

DRAW	Horse	Run Style	Pace Map	
23	SCOVILLE	HU/CP		
22	HICKORY	HU		
21	EBTS GUARD	CP/HU		
20	BRIAN	HU/CP		
19	TRIBAL CHIEF	HU		
18	GAVRIEL	CP/HU		
17	BULLET POINT	CP		
16	INDALO	HU/CP		
15	ROOM SERVICE	HU		
14	COLORI FOREVER	HU		
13	FIFTH COLUMN	HU		
12	JAGGED EDGE	CP/HU		
11	WISE PRINCE (Res)	CP/HU		
10	PERSICA	HU/CP		
9	~~CROWN OF OAKS~~ N/R	CP/FR		
8	TORITO	HU/CP		
7	CLASSIC	HU/CP		
6	VALVANO	HU		
5	EXCELLENT BELIEVE	HU/CP		
4	ARCTIC THUNDER (Res)	HU		
3	MISTER WINSTON	HU		
2	WHIP CRACKER	CP/HU		
1	ORANDI	HU/CP		
Pace: Possibly slowly/falsey run Draw Bias: Positive to Q4/Negative to Q1				
Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-3 CP-1 HU-8				

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

WILLIAM HAGGAS has won this twice and had 2 others place from his 13 runners... his winners met the following... **DSLRL 12-45 | Top 3 LTO | Won 1 of last 4...** for race form of... **121 (2/3, 1p)...** **SCOVILLE & CROWN OF OAKS** meet those stats...

JAMIE OSBORNE has solid stats at Ascot under the following... **J Osborne | Ascot 6f-1m (straight track) 3yo+ Hcps | July-Oct | G/S or quicker | Male horses | NO TT | DSLR <31 = (since 2012) 9/28 | 32% S/R | +£71.74 – W&P 15/28 | 54% S/R – E/W = +£83.81...** **HICKORY** meets those stats...

9 of the 12 winners ran at ASCOT or NEWMARKET (Rowley) LTO in a C2 Hcp (DSLRL 11-25) and were aged 3yo-7yo... for race stats of... **9/88, 16p | +£115.50 – E/W = +£149.62...** **GAVRIEL & INDALO** meets those stats...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts...

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

INDALO (Stall 16) goes well under these conditions... **7f-1m | May-Dec = 01321111 (5/8, 2p – all 5 career wins)...** beaten in Cambridgeshire LTO but draw was against him and run easily excused...

BULLET POINT (17) goes well under these conditions... **1m Hcps | DSLR 16+ = 02122111 (4/8, 3p – all 4 career wins)...** Ascot form over 1m of... **223 (0/3, 3p)...**

SCOVILLE (23) winner at Doncaster LTO and form of race working out well... future form of 1W, 5P from 11 subsequent runs... Haggas holds solid stats at track with similar LTO winners... **W Haggas | Ascot Hcps over 6.5f-1m4f | June-Oct | SP <9/1 | WON LTO = (since 2012) 23/62 | 37% S/R | +£45.68 – W&P 32/62 | 62% S/R – 61% above exp...**

FIFTH COLUMN (13) 16th in this last year off 3lbs higher... goes well under conditions... **1m | Good+ or A/W | OR <100 = 11711 (4/5 – all 4 career wins)...** needs to improve Ascot form... **0076 (0/4, 0p)...**

GAVRIEL (18) 4th in Cambridgeshire LTO but was a big run as was drawn on wrong side and only beaten 0.5L... still unexposed after 5 career starts, only 2 in hcps...

TRIBAL CHIEF (19) goes well under these conditions... **1m-1m0.5f Hcps | DSLR 21-60 = 6/12, 2p – all 6 career wins...** all wins in races worth 25k or less and is 0/7, 2p in races worth 50k+, so query there (this race worth £103k)...

Thoughts on others...

JAGGED EDGE (Stall 12) goes well under these conditions... **1m-1m0.5f | Good – Soft = 313111 (4/6, 2p – all 4 career wins)...**

HICKORY (Stall 22) strong Ascot form when drawn Q2, Q3 or Q4 and Saffie Osborne riding... **1101132 (4/7, 2p)...**

My play(s)...

Looks a standard tricky puzzle to solve... I'll cover three of the trends shortlist...

SCOVILLE (W Haggas) looks like he's still got a bit to play with yet on the handicapping front based on the figure he posted LTO...

INDALO (R Varian) the draw was against him LTO at Newmarket, and the trip likely just stretches him, but conditions are more suitable here and Jack Mitchell back on board is a positive, the jockey holding form on the horse of...2131 (2/4, 1p)...

BULLET POINT (W Haggas) might find himself as the default leader here and that could play bang in his favour... he's ran in two big-field 1m straight track Ascot handicaps previously, led on both of those runs and finished 0.5L 2nd in one of them and 0.75L 2nd in the other, both times beaten by a horse with a better draw than him... if the straight track draw bias holds up again here then he 'should' be on the right part of the track and he could prove hard to peg back...



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