



Royal Ascot 2024 Preview

Saturday 22 June 2024

CHESHAM STAKES (Listed)

Time: 2:30 PM GMT

2YOs £100,000

Distance: Seven Furlongs

2023 Winner: Snellen

1. AGE OF GOLD (pictured right) -

Well-bred Frankel colt who could not have been more impressive winning first time out in a six-furlong race at Yarmouth. Form out of this race is only fair but sure to step up on his good winning debut and sound winning chance here.



2. BRIAN - Two-start maiden who needs to find plenty to be competitive.

3. CHILLY BREEZE - Steps up to seven furlongs after a five-furlong novice win at Nottingham in late April. This is a big step up. Hard to have.

4. DEFENCE MISSILE - Ran well on debut in a 20-runner novice at Newbury when finishing second behind the talented Mr Chaplin. Can easily take a big step forward here and a place chance at long odds.

5. DUKE OF MONROTH - Makes his debut in here, but showed plenty of ability at the breeze ups. Place chance.

6. HARVEY - Another set to make his debut. Hard to get a line on. Progeny of his sire usually appreciate some cut in the ground.

7. LAZY GRIFF - Bred to get well beyond today's trip. Ran well on debut when second in a seven-furlong novice at Doncaster. This is a big step up in class.

8. METRO DUBAI - Second on debut at Leicester in a seven furlong Novice with the visor applied. Plenty to find here.

9. MONEY SNIPER - Plenty to find in terms of form and ratings. Beaten at both starts to date.

10. MOTAWAHIJ - Breeze Up graduate who was second on debut at Hamilton, finishing two lengths behind Catalyse who disappointed a little in the Coventry Stakes (Gr 2) on Tuesday. Place chance.

11. PENTLE BAY - Another breeze up graduate who won well on debut at Leicester coming from back in the field. Sold at the Goffs London Sale on Monday for £400,000. Place chance.

12. SEAPLANE - NON RUNNER

13. SHOCKER - Trainer has won this race previously. Progressed well to finish second at Tipperary over seven furlongs. Big odds and a place chance.



14. BEDTIME STORY (pictured left) - Well-bred daughter of Frankel who won very well on debut at Leopardstown over seven and a half furlongs. Clearly sets the standard here and hard to beat.

15. EXPENSIVE ROSE - Progressed to breakthrough at her second start in a seven furlong novice at Carlisle two weeks ago. Needs to take another step forward, but a

place chance in a race that lacks a bit of depth.

16. HOT LIKE ME - Hard to line up being first time out. Possible place chance based on her pedigree.

17. JEWEL OF LONDON - Placed and not beaten far on her only two starts. Needs to take a step up but could be placed in what is not the strongest of races.

18. **MISS EL FUNDI** - Unusual early two-year-old runner for the stable. Showed a little ability on debut when fourth in a Kempton six furlong maiden. Will need to step up but have to respect that her trainer has decided to enter in this race and a step up in trip is sure to suit.

Selections: **BEDTIME STORY**

Best outsider: **SHOCKER, MISS EL FUNDI**

☑ POSITIVES	☒ NEGATIVES
Had one start	Outside the first four in the betting
The favourite	By stallions with a Sire Index of under 9f
By stallions with a Sire Index of at least 10f	
Trained by Aidan O'Brien or the Cole, Gosden or Johnston stables	
Owned by Godolphin	
Fillies	

[https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/chesham-stakes--\(listed-race\)](https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/chesham-stakes--(listed-race))

RP Key Trends

- Rated within 9lb of RPR top-rated, eight winners in last ten runnings
- Raced just once, 8/10 (four had won)
- By a sire with a stamina index of at least 8.7f, 7/10
- Recorded Top speed figure of at least 63, 6/10
- Adjusted RPR of at least 91, 7/10
- Since Bach in 1999, only three winners have previously scored over 7f – September in 2017, Point Lonsdale in 2022 (both trained by Aidan O'Brien) and last year's winner Snellen.



- The record of fillies is 2-30.
<https://www.racingpost.com/royal-ascot/chesham-stakes/>

HARDWICKE STAKES (Group 2)

Time: 3:05 PM GMT

4YO+ £250,000

Distance: One Mile, Four Furlongs

2023 Winner: Pyledriver

1. CANDLEFORD - Winner of the 2022 Duke Of Edinburgh Stakes at Royal Ascot. Raced fairly consistently in Listed and Group Three company since and returned in good order to win the Orby Stakes (Listed) at the Curragh at the end of May. This is a step up in class but he has good form at the course and is a solid place chance.

2. CONTINUOUS (pictured right) - Last year's impressive St Leger (Gr 1) winner over the extended one mile and six furlongs. Has not been seen since finishing fifth in the Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe (Gr 1) last October. Finished a good second to King Of Steel in the King Edward VII Stakes (Gr 2) over course and distance at the corresponding meeting by last year. Has not run this season but is sure to be ready to go and the strength in the market is a good sign. Hard to beat.



3. CRYPTO FORCE - Group Two winner as a two-year-old two seasons back. Almost had two years off before returning this season as a four-year-old. A lot to find on recent form.

4. DESERT HERO - Winner of the King George V Stakes at Royal Ascot over the same course and distance last year. Progressed well since that win, picking up a Group Three win in the Gordon Stakes at Glorious Goodwood before finishing third behind Continuous in the St Leger (Gr 1). Returned this year in great form with a good second in the Gordon Richard Stakes (Gr 3) before failing last time out in the Aston Park Stakes (Gr 3) at Newbury. Can bounce back to form and is a winning chance.

5. ELEGANT MAN - Posted some very high ratings on the All Weather over the winter but failed to step up when tried in Group One company in the Tattersalls Gold Cup (Gr 1) at the Curragh where he was a well-beaten fourth. A talented horse but better placed on All Weather or dirt.

6. GOLIATH - Lightly raced progressive four-year-old who is very consistent. Posted a good win in a Group Three on very soft ground at Longchamp in early May before disappointing when stepped up in class in the Grand Prix de Chantilly (Gr 1) where he was a well-held fourth. He would need to get his preferred going to come into calculations but he has plenty of ability and should not be underestimated.

7. ISLE OF JURA - Hugely progressive handicapper last season who has taken the step up into stakes company this year winning a Listed race in Bahrain before adding another Listed win at Goodwood in late May. In great form and should not be underestimated despite this being another step up in class.

8. MIDDLE EARTH - High-class, progressive middle distance colt who stepped up from handicaps to stakes company last season. He returned in career best form scoring well in the Aston Park Stakes (Gr 3). This is a further step up in class and he has obvious winning claims but does seem like he has been well found in the market.

9. MISSED THE CUT (pictured right) - 2022 Golden Gates Stakes winner at Royal Ascot who has continued his career in USA. He has won three Grade Three races on the turf in California and was last seen finishing second in the Elkhorn Stakes (Gr 2) at Keeneland behind Silver Knott. This is a step up in class but he has good course form and he is a consistent performer at this level.



Selections: **CONTINUOUS & MIDDLE EARTH**

Best outsider: **MISSED THE CUT**

☑ POSITIVES	☒ NEGATIVES
Four-year-olds	Aged 6+
Group 1 winners	Failed to have won over at least 1m4f
Won a Group race earlier in the season	Failed to win a Group race
Trained by Sir Michael Stoute, Aidan O'Brien or Charlie Johnston	
Ran in the Coronation Cup (notably if finished between third-sixth)	
Won this season	

[https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/hardwicke-stakes--\(group-2\)](https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/hardwicke-stakes--(group-2))

RP Key Trends

- Group-race winner, 10/10
- Adjusted RPR of at least 128, 10/10
- Rated within 8lb of RPR top-rated, 10/10
- Distance winner, 9/10
- Top-two finish last time out, 8/10
- Aged four, 7/10
- Finished in the first three in a Listed or Group race that season, 7/10
- Six winners scored last time out.
- Four winners were RPR top-rated.

<https://www.racingpost.com/royal-ascot/hardwicke-stakes/>

QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE STAKES (Group 1)

Time: 3:45 PM GMT

4YO+ £1,000,000

Distance: Six Furlongs

2023 Winner: Khaadem

1. ART POWER - Winner of the British Champions Sprint (Gr 1) over course and distance on soft ground at the end of last year. Top-class sprinter on his day but saves his best with a little give in the track.

2. JUMBY - Will find life tough in this class over six furlongs. Often slowly away and hard to have.

3. KHADEEM - Winner of this race last year at 80/1. One to never be underestimated but does not win out of turn and hard to have today.

4. KINROSS (pictured right) - High class and hugely consistent horse who has very good course form. First up here but obvious winning claims.



5. MILL STREAM - Talented and progressive colt, who was last seen winning the Duke Of York Stakes (Gr 2) at York (normally a good trial for this race). Has the ability to win this race but needs to step up in terms of form.

6. MITBAAHY - Slightly under-rated horse who has taken a big step forward since switching to Charlie Hills over the winter. Impressive last start winner in the Greenland Stakes (Gr 2) at the Curragh last start over Regional who ran well early in the week. Winning chance.

7. QUINAULT - Progressive sprint handicapper last season who is taking a big step up in class. Will not be disgraced but this is a big ask.

8. SHARTASH - Group Two winner as two-year-old before slightly losing his way as a three-year-old. Taken a big step forward since being gelded and transferring to Archie Watson.

Preference for ground with some give in it but won well on good to firm last time out. Winning chance.

9. SHOULDVEBEENARING - Consistent high-class sprinter who finds it hard to get his head in front. Only beaten a nose in the Duke Of York Clipper Stakes (Gr 2) at York before an even effort in the Greenland Stakes (Gr 2) behind Mitbaahy. Place chance.



10. THE WIZARD OF EYE (pictured left) - Eye-catching jockey booking with Ryan Moore taking the ride. High-class horse who was extensively raced by his former trainer Stan Moore. Took a big step forward for new trainer Charlie Fellowes first time out and a forward showing would not surprise.

11. WASHINGTON HEIGHTS - Very consistent and under-rated sprinter who brings very good form into this race including a win in the Abernant Stakes (Gr 3) first time out this year followed up by a close fourth in the Duke Of York Clipper Stakes (Gr 2). Well over the odds - place chance.

12. BELIEVING - Backing up quickly after finishing a close fourth in the King Charles III Stakes (Gr 1) on Tuesday. Hardy filly who has had plenty of racing of late including a well-beaten ninth in the Chairman's Sprint Prize (Gr 1) at Sha Tin in late April. Winning chance in an open field.

13. SWINGALONG - High-class sprinting filly who can easily figure her on the best of her from last season which included a third in the Commonwealth Cup (Gr 1) at the same meeting last season. Place chance at long odds.

14. VADREAM - Finished second last at 100/1 in the King Charles III Stakes (Gr 1) on Tuesday. Group Three quality mare that has struggled to be competitive at the higher levels so far in her career. She has good course and distance form and a preference for soft ground but she would have to get her conditions to be competitive here. Plenty to find on form to be a winning chance.

Selections: **SHARTASH**

Best outsider: **WASHINGTON HEIGHTS**

☑ POSITIVES	☒ NEGATIVES
Won or placed at Royal Ascot before	Not won over 6f
Won a Group or Listed race earlier in the season	Fillies/mares
Non-European trained contenders	
Contested a 7f race at some stage	
Never raced over 5f	

[https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/queen-elizabeth-ii-jubilee-stakes-\(group-1\)-\(british-champions-series\)](https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/queen-elizabeth-ii-jubilee-stakes-(group-1)-(british-champions-series))

RP Key Trends

- Top-three finish within last two starts, 9/10
- Group or Listed winner over 6f, 9/10
- Adjusted RPR of at least 127, 8/10 (last two winners the exceptions)
- Rated within 8lb of RPR top-rated, 8/10
- No older than five, 8/10
- Five winners had yet to score earlier in the season.
- Three winners had run in the race the year before, finishing 782, while seven winners had contested a previous Royal Ascot (one won, three placed and three unplaced).

<https://www.racingpost.com/royal-ascot/diamond-jubilee-stakes/>

JERSEY STAKES (Group 3)

Time: 4:25 PM GMT

3YOs £150,000

Distance: Seven Furlongs

2023 Winner: Age of Kings

1. HAATEM - Clearly sets the standard on form but has to carry a three pound penalty as the recent winner of the Craven Stakes (Gr 3). Subsequently placed in both the English and Irish 2000 Guineas. Hard to beat despite the weight.



2. BOILING POINT - Brings very good form to this race and looks a little over the odds. Last seen winning the King Charles II Stakes (Listed) at Newmarket in early May. Solid place chance at good odds.

3. CHICAGO CRITIC - Progressive Irish-trained handicapper who is taking a big step up in class and distance. Suspect he will find life tough in this company.

4. DARK TORNADO - Has some ability but this looks a rather ambitious target at this stage of his career.



5. EBEN SHADDAD (pictured left) - Very talented and under-rated colt who finished third in the Dewhurst Stakes (Gr 1) behind City Of Troy at the end of last season. He resumed with a solid second behind Hateem in the Craven Stakes (Gr 3) (meets him on better weight terms today) before running well on very heavy ground in the French 2000 Guineas (Gr 1). Leading chance at good odds.

6. EL BODON - Has a decent level of ability but needs to bounce back to form after a plain effort last time out. He was second in the Greenham Stakes (Gr 3) first time out this season and a return to that level of form would see him in the place money.

7. INDIAN RUN - Winner of the Acomb Stakes (Gr 3) last season who is having his first start after wind surgery. Very big odds but does have the plenty of ability. Place chance at very long odds.

8. KIKKULI - Lightly raced half-brother to Frankel by Kingman. Won a seven furlong novice at Newmarket well, before finishing second in the Heron Stakes (Listed) at Sandown last time out. A further step up would not surprise today. Place chance.

9. KORTEZ BAY - Looks a rather ambitious target. Took nine runs to break through last time out. Others preferred.

10. MOUNTAIN BEAR - Strong two-year-old form highlighted by a second place finish in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (Gr 1) behind Unquestionable. He made his seasonal reappearance

in the Irish 2000 Guineas (Gr 1) at the Curragh where he disappointed, finishing down the field. If he can recapture his form last year would see him being competitive for the placings.

11. NATIVE AMERICAN - Form is a little in and out but comes here on the back of a career best effort finished second in the Surrey Stakes (Listed) at Epsom. This is a step up in terms of class and a place chance at best.

12. NEVER SO BRAVE - Rapidly progressive colt who is having his first start in stakes company. Could not have been more impressive winning a Novice at Chester last time out in May. Needs to take a big step up but he definitely has the ability to be a winning chance here.

13. NIGHT RAIDER - Could not have looked more impressive in winning two races on the All Weather earlier in the year before failing badly in the English 2,000 Guineas (Gr 1). On a recovery mission but has plenty of talent and a place chance.

14. RIVER TIBER (pictured right)
- Solid and consistent colt that has good course form at Ascot having won the Coventry Stakes (Gr 2) at the meeting last year. He was a good third first up in the Irish 2000 Guineas (Gr 1) at the Curragh behind subsequent St James's Palace Stakes (Gr 1) winner Rosallion. Sure to have come on in terms of fitness and a drop back to seven furlongs is sure to suit. Winning chance.



15. SON - Plenty to find on form.

16. TAKE ME TO CHURCH - Been well-tried and needs soft ground to be at this best.

17. TASK FORCE - Second in the Middle Parks Stakes (Gr 1) last season before being well-held in the English 2000 Guineas (Gr 1), when finishing seventh. A drop back to seven furlongs will suit and a solid place chance.


18. ZOUM ZOUM - Has ability but needs soft ground to be at his best. Place chance.

19. PEARLS AND RUBIES - Looks well over the odds. Well-bred filly who was a close second in the Chesham Stakes (Listed) at Royal Ascot last season before rounding at the season with a second in the in the Cheveley Park Stakes (Gr 1) behind Porta Fortuna. Disappointed when last on season reappearance in the Irish 1000 Guineas (Gr 1) but a return to her best form would see her in the money here.

20. ZIGGY'S DREAM - Has a lot to find here on form.

Selections: **RIVER TIBER**

Best outsider: **EBEN SHADDAD**

 POSITIVES	 NEGATIVES
Contested any version of a Guineas (notably if finishing placed)	Unplaced on most recent start unless in the 2000 Guineas
Penalised runners	
Last-time-out winner	
Listed race winner	
Ran well in the King Charles II Stakes	
Trained by Sir Michael Stoute, Charlie Appleby, Aidan O'Brien or Richard Fahey	
The favourite	

[https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/jersey-stakes--\(group-3\)](https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/jersey-stakes--(group-3))

RP Key Trends

- Adjusted RPR of at least 122, 7/10
- At least one top-two finish within last two starts, 7/10
- Rated within 5lb of RPR top-rated, 7/10
- Drawn in single figures, 7/10
- Ran in a Classic trial, 6/10
- Six winners had yet to win as a three-year-old.
- Five winners had run in a Guineas.



- Five winners had yet to score over the trip.
<https://www.racingpost.com/royal-ascot/jersey-stakes/>

WOKINGHAM STAKES (Heritage Handicap) (Class 2) (0-110)

Time: 5:05 PM GMT

3YO+ £175,000

Distance: Six Furlongs

2023 Winner: Saint Lawrence

The talented **DARK TROOPER** looks hard to beat here. He was highly consistent last season winning four consecutive six-furlong races before transferring to his current owner. A very good winner of a good Class 2 at Saint-Cloud Handicap in late May sets him up well. Leading winning chance in an open field.. **HARRY THREE** looked a promising sprinter as a winner of three races as a three-year-old, including a Listed race in France. He was almost certainly in need of a run last time out after 21 months away from the racecourse, finishing fourth in Listed company at Salisbury. He is entitled to build on that run and place chance if he can replicate previous form. **APOLLO ONE** has been a highly consistent performer sprinting up to Listed level and has gradually improved with maturity to be in the best form of his career. Although he finds it a bit difficult to win, he should be competitive for a place chance.

Selections: **DARK TROOPER**

Best outsider: **APOLLO ONE**

☑ POSITIVES	☒ NEGATIVES
Four and five-year-olds	Aged older than six
Ran no more than twice earlier in the season	Unplaced last time out
Ran at the Dante meeting	Last-time-out winner (unless at Ascot)
The favourite	
Trained by Roger & Harry Charlton or Paul Cole & Oliver Cole	

[https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/wokingham-stakes--\(heritage-handicap\)](https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/wokingham-stakes--(heritage-handicap))

RP Key Trends

- Distance winner, 8/10
- Officially rated between 99 and 107, 8/10
- Aged four or five, 8/10 (six aged five)
- Rated within 6lb of RPR top-rated, 7/10 (last three winners the exceptions)
- Won over 7f, 7/10
- Top-four finish last time out, 6/10
- Three winners were drawn between 12 and 22, four in one to 11 and three between 23 and 31.
- Five winners had won or placed in a field of at least 16 runners.

<https://www.racingpost.com/royal-ascot/wokingham-stakes-handicap/>

GOLDEN GATES STAKES (Handicap) (Class 2) (0-105)

Time: 5:40 PM GMT

3YOs £100,000

Distance: One Mile, Two Furlongs

2023 Winner: Burdett Road

HAND OF GOD sets the standard in terms of form and looks notched up a hat-trick in this event, building on an impressive maiden score at the end of last season and made all in his handicap debut in April. Although he has not been tested beyond a mile, his pedigree suggests he could improve for the distance. **OLD FAITHFUL** looks to have plenty of ability, but not being entirely straightforward. Open to improvement and proven at the trip, winning chances.

PORTSMOUTH ran creditably for second in his last two starts, a pair of ten-furlong handicaps at Goodwood and Epsom. Hayler Turner takes over the reins for the first time on this colt who is developing a habit of running too freely. He gets into this race well at the weights and with previous winning form on good/firm ground has a right to be competitive.

Selections: **HAND OF GOD**

Best outsider: **PORTSMOUTH**



✔ POSITIVES	✘ NEGATIVES
Drawn high	None

<https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/golden-gates-stakes-handicap>

QUEEN ALEXANDRA STAKES (Conditions) (Class 2)

Time: 6:15 PM GMT

4YO+ £100,000

Distance: Two Miles, Six Furlongs

2023 Winner: Dawn Rising

DAWN RISING will attempt to defend his title in this race last year. Very tough genuine horse, who handles any ground, winning chance. **RUN FOR OSCAR**, a dual-purpose veteran whose previous efforts staying extended trips on the flat command respect. He finished third in this race and third in the Prix Du Cadran (Gr 1) last season, each of those efforts on the same Good to Firm going which is expected tomorrow. Place chance. **FASOL** showed he can stay the trip in two promising runs over hurdles this season for new English connections. His previous form on the flat includes placing in the Prix Gladiateur (Gr 3) and the Prix Gerald de Geoffre (Gr 3). Solid place chance.

Selections: **DAWN RISING & RUN FOR OSCAR**

✔ POSITIVES	✘ NEGATIVES
Ran during the previous jumps season (notably in novice hurdles)	Likely to start at a double-figure price
Trained by Willie Mullins, Gordon Elliott or Andrew Balding	
Posted a top-six finish in the Gold Cup, Ascot Stakes or a previous running of this race	
Had contested Group or Listed races during their career	

<https://ascot.attheraces.com/royal-ascot/stats-guides/queen-alexandra-stakes-conditions-race>

RP Key Trends

- Officially rated 90-plus, 10/10
- Aged six to nine, 10/10
- Contested a Group or Listed race since last season, 9/10
- Top-six finish in race over 2m2f-plus, 8/10
- Rated within 11lb of RPR top-rated, 8/10
- Adjusted RPR at least 113, 7/10
- Only one winner had tasted victory on the Flat that season.

<https://www.racingpost.com/royal-ascot/queen-alexandra-stakes/>

Stuart Boman has been a member of the Blandford Bloodstock team for over 15 years and became a partner in 2020. Stuart specialises in the horses in training market with a focus on selling horses abroad primarily to Australia, Hong Kong and America and has a strong network of connections in those regions. He has also enjoyed great success with yearling purchases and is an expert in the breeze up market.



His many horses in training successes are headed by the brilliant **ZAAKI** (pictured below) who was purchased with Annabel Neasham for 150,000gns at the Tattersalls Autumn Horses In Training Sale and



went on to win four Group One races and over \$10 million in prize money as well as Group 2 winner and Group One placegetter **FAWKNER PARK** who was purchased for 120,000gns at the 2022 Tattersalls Autumn Horses In Training Sale. He has now won over \$1.3 million in prize money.

Other notable purchases include Group One winners **BOIS D'ARGENT**, **TOP RANKED** as well as **EURO CHARLINE**, **EXCELEBRATION** and **CRACKERJACK KING**.

Stuart has also enjoyed success with his yearling purchases that include Royal Ascot winner **DOCKLANDS** (pictured right) (£16,000 purchase), Group winners **SYDNEYARMS CHELSEA** (£9,000 purchase - Group 3 winner), **WISDOM OF WATER** (\$70,000 purchase - Group 3 winner won \$1.1 million), **POSITIVE PEACE** (\$260,000 purchase - Group 2 winner and won \$550,000), **MISSYBEEL** (\$210,000 purchase - Group 3 winner and won \$450,000) and **UNENCUMBERED** (\$70,000 purchase - MM 2YO Classic winner and won \$1.8 million).



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