

ROYAL ASCOT 2017

In this month's article I am going to take a look at Royal Ascot 2017 and the trainers we should be focussing on. All stats are for the last five meetings, 2012/13/14/15/16

So far this season I have had success with a similar approach for Chester's May meeting and York's Dante meeting. With any luck the following trainer micro angles and pointers will help you back the odd winner also.

I am a believer that the trainers are more important than the horse at meetings such as this. (or maybe that is my lack of form reading skills in the highest classes of flat racing!
©)Time and time again many of them target the same races, with the same horses, having had similar preparations. They are creatures of habit and often it can pay just to follow them in. This is even more relevant at big competitive meetings such as Royal Ascot where many horses have strong form lines and are arriving at the top of their game.

In any case, this approach is designed to help arm you with some added information in your battle against the bookies

Time will tell if this approach will work this year but the stats are the stats, and I suspect they will point us to the odd nice priced winner or three.

Let's get to it.

To start with I have just highlighted all trainers with three or more winners in the period.

Trainers	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
OBrien, A P	115	20	17.39	61.14	52	45.22	113.2	33.69	1.01
Gosden, J H M	95	14	14.74	15.23	35	36.84	42.6	30.14	1.28
Stoute, Sir Michael	69	12	17.39	5.5	23	33.33	15.52	-10.04	1.13
Johnston, M	94	5	5.32	-59	14	14.89	-55.57	-40.65	0.87
Ward, Wesley	24	5	20.83	7	7	29.17	10.21	2.79	1.48
Lynam, Edward	11	4	36.36	11.75	6	54.55	16.2	5.53	2.35
Mullins, W P	17	4	23.53	5.5	6	35.29	6.72	-3.86	1.56
Cox, C G	26	4	15.38	13	6	23.08	21.68	-4.57	1.82
Hannon (Jnr), Richard	88	4	4.55	-64.7	17	19.32	-61.61	-38.17	0.51
Ryan, K A	43	3	6.98	13	10	23.26	22.92	18.13	1.41
Hills, Charles	45	3	6.67	-10	7	15.56	-6.83	-4.22	1.26
Cowell, R M H	12	3	25	29	3	25	39.89	3.67	4.11
Wachman, David	7	3	42.86	7.83	3	42.86	9.38	-1.3	2.63
Weld, D K	13	3	23.08	5.5	4	30.77	7.53	-3.57	1.4
Suroor, Saeed Bin	70	3	4.29	-52.5	18	25.71	-51.59	0.9	0.48

Now for a look at each trainer in turn...

Aiden O'Brien

Pointers

- Group 3 + Listed Races: 35 bets / 9 wins / 16 places / 26% sr / +92 BFSP / AE 1.64
 - 2 runs this season: 5/14,6 places... +74 BFSP
 - 2nd or 3rd Last Time Out: 7/13,8p...+91 BFSP
 - Ran in same class LTO as today's race (so Listed or G3): 3/6,5p...+12 BFSP
 - Ran at Curragh LTO: 7/15,9p...+58 BFSP
 - Made career debut on the All-Weather: 3/5,5 places... +35 BFSP
- Group 1 + 2 Races: 69 bets / 10 wins / 32 places / 15% sr / +12 BFSP / AE 0.75
 - 2 year old only races: 3/15,8 places... +30 BFSP
 - 1 run this season only: 5/19,10 places... +15 BFSP
 - Ran at the Curragh LTO: 3/27,12p, -21 BFSP
- All Runners
 - Ran at Dundalk on first career start: 5/14,11p... +32 BFSP
 - One run at track previously: 4/15,6 places... +20 BFSP

Micro System

- Group 3 or Listed Race
- 2nd or 3rd Last Time Out
- Any odds

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	13	7	53.85	66.73	8	61.54	91.08	16.74	3.27
2016	3	3	100	40.73	3	100	57.76	10.73	4.05
2015	3	2	66.67	6.5	2	66.67	7.58	1.6	3.7
2013	4	1	25	1.5	1	25	1.28	-1.84	1.96
2012	3	1	33.33	18	2	66.67	24.47	6.25	2.86

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John Gosden

Pointers

- 12/1 or shorter starting price: 58 bets / 13 wins / 27 places / 22% sr / +47 BFSP / AE 1.39
- 1m-1m2f: 9/43, 17 places... +22 BFSP
 - 4 year olds: 4/12,8p... +20 BFSP
- GB Bred: 11/53,23 places... +45 BFSP
 - 7f-1m2f: 27 bets / 9 wins / 14 places / 33% sr / +47 BFSP (0/5,0p last year)
 - 4 year olds: 5/16,10 places... +23 BFSP
- One run this season: 4/21, 10 places...+41 BFSP
- One career run: 3/7,4places...+41 BFSP
- Three career wins: 5/15,7 places...+16 BFSP
- WON LTO: 9/30, 16 places...+37 BFSP
- Ran 1-25 days ago: 9/38, 18 places...+46 BFSP
- Ran in 'Non Major' race LTO (so not G1/2/3/Listed): 10/39, 17 places... +60 BFSP
 - Listed LTO: 0/27, 7 places

Micro System

- GB Bred
- NOT Listed Race LTO

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	40	11	27.5	42.73	20	50	57.62	23.65	2.14
2016	5	0	0	-5	1	20	-5	4.18	0
2015	6	2	33.33	5.75	4	66.67	8.16	3.48	1.89
2014	10	4	40	22.23	5	50	29.71	2.63	2.94
2013	11	1	9.09	-7.75	5	45.45	-7.82	7.6	0.78
2012	8	4	50	27.5	5	62.5	32.57	5.76	4.35

NOTE: There have been two losing years but the good years have more than made up for that. 2013 could be seen as an unlucky year also, with seconds at 16/1 and 20/1, 3rds at 7/1 and 13/2. Last year there was a decent 25/1 3rd. Those going off over 12/1 SP are now 0/11,3 places, but as noted some biggies have gone close. There can be more confidence in those priced 12/1 or shorter SP. The overall stats for listed LTO runners are 0/27,7p and within this angle 0/13,3p... I wonder whether that is because of the types of races these are/where they are in the programme book/tracks they are at etc. I suspect there is some logic there but in any case the numbers suggest that those runners that ran in a Listed race LTO haven't had an ideal prep for the test of Royal Ascot. Something to keep an eye on.

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Sir Michael Stoute

Pointers

- 12/1 or shorter SP: 56 bets / 12 wins / 23 places / 21% sr / +28 BFSP / AE 1.2
- 1m4f or further: 10/34, 16 places... +45 BFSP
 - 12/1 or shorter SP: 26 bets / 10 wins / 16 places / 38% sr / +53 BFSP / AE 1.99
- Group 2: 7/22,10 places... +36 BFSP
- 4 year olds: 8/26,12 places... +33 BFSP
- 3 or more career wins: 8/25,13 places... +34 BFSP
- Ran 31-60 days ago: 10/38,15 places... +32 BFSP
- Ran over 1m4f or further LTO: 16 bets / 8 wins / 10 places / 50% sr / +51 BFSP / AE 2.87

Micro System

- 1m4f or further
- 12/1 or shorter SP (0/8,0p over this in period)

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	26	10	38.46	42.5	16	61.54	52.49	15.94	1.99
2016	7	2	28.57	12	4	57.14	17.39	6.76	1.67
2015	5	1	20	8	1	20	9.78	-0.44	0.84
2014	5	2	40	1.5	4	80	2.21	3.66	1.98
2013	7	3	42.86	15	5	71.43	17.03	4.4	2.68
2012	2	2	100	6	2	100	6.08	1.56	4

Note: Within this angle those that ran over 1m4f or further LTO are 8/14,10 places... +53 BFSP. It should also be noted that all of Sir Michael’s runners in the period sent off bigger than 12/1 SP are 0/13,0 places. Some prominence in the market appears to be significant.

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Mark Johnston

Pointers

- 6/1 or shorter SP: 7 bets / 4 wins / 4 places / 57% sr / +17 BFSP / AE 3.01
 - Against his overall record of 5/94, that looks fairly decent.
- Distance Move: Horse Up 4-5 furlongs from last run: 3/5,3p... +20 BFSP

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Wesley Ward

Pointers

- 5 furlongs: 4/12,5 places...+5 BFSP
- Group 1 + 2: 4/12,5 places... +17 BFSP

Edward Lynam

Pointers

- Won LTO: 3/6,4 places... +10 BFSP

Willie Mullins

Pointers

- Non Major (not Group/Listed): 4/12,5 places... +12 BFSP
- 8/1 or shorter SP: 4/11,6 places... +13 BFSP

Richard Hannon

Pointers

- All winners 8/1 or shorter SP: 4/28,12 places... -2 BFSP
 - Bigger than this SP, 0/60, 5 places
- 8/1 or shorter SP
 - 2 runs at track previously: 2/6,3 places...+4 BFSP
 - Fillies: 2/6,3 places... +8 BFSP

Charles Hills

Pointers

- 14/1 or shorter SP: 3/13,6 places... +25 BFSP
 - Bigger than 14/1 SP: 0/32, 1 place
- 14/1 or shorter...
 - 6f-7f: 3/7, 4 places...+31 BFSP
 - Group 2: 2/4,2 places...+20 BFSP
 - GB Bred: 3/5,3p... +33 BFSP
 - Irish Bred: 0/8, 3 places

Kevin Ryan

Pointers

- 25/1 or shorter SP: 3/21, 9 places... +45 BFSP
 - 26/1 or bigger SP: 0/22,1p
- 25/1 or shorter...
 - Ran 16-30 days ago: 3/11,8 places... +55 BFSP
 - Running in same class as LTO: 2/9,4 places... +38 BFSP

Saeed Bin Suroor

Pointers

- 7/1 or shorter SP: 3/19, 12 places... -1 BFSP
 - Bigger than 7/1 SP: 0/51,6p
- 7/1 or sorter SP...
 - WON LTO: 3/12,9 places... +6 BFSP

Clive Cox

Pointers

- 16/1 or shorter SP: 4/15, 5 places... +33 BFSP
 - Bigger than 16/1 SP, 0/11,1p
- Non Handicaps: 4/18, 4 places... +29 BFSP
 - Handicaps: 0/8, 2 places

Micro System

- Non Handicaps
- 16/1 or shorter SP

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	12	4	33.33	27	4	33.33	35.68	1.65	2.63
2016	4	2	50	18	2	50	25.57	3.49	4.65
2015	2	0	0	-2	0	0	-2	-2	0
2014	1	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	0
2013	3	1	33.33	9	1	33.33	10.07	1.1	2.08
2012	2	1	50	3	1	50	3.04	0.06	3.85

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Others of note...

Robert Cowell is now 3/5,3p with all runners at the last two meetings which would suggest he now knows what horses to target here. So, anything he runs may be worthy of a second glance.

Likewise anything that Dermot Weld runs here is always worth serious consideration albeit there are no 'ways in' as such with his runners that I could see, and in any case it is an even smaller set of numbers than some.

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How to use these pointers...

As with all angles such as these they are based on small sets of data. This is partly off-set by the fact that we are trying to tap into trainer behaviour which should give us some confidence that they may be repeated moving forwards. Some will work this year, some won't.

I suggest using them as a starting point and as part of any further research you may do.

Good profits at meetings like this are often made by backing a handful of decent priced winners and with any luck the notes above will highlight a few of those.

As always do take account of current trainer form and what I call 'in meeting' form. The first day or two may indicate whether certain trainers are really firing and that in turn may help you have more confidence in any 'qualifiers' from above. These 'hot' trainers are always worth keeping a close eye on. Likewise note those who may arrive out of form and whose fancied runners may underperform. That can be an ominous sign.

The final point to make is that you should never really be put off a horse by anything above. If you like something do not let the odd stat above put you off. They can be painful winners to leave behind. These notes are intended mainly as 'positive pointers' and useful starting pointers, to use/ignore as you please.

One of my O'Meara micro angles for York's Dante meeting found three winners at 28/1, 56/1 and 24/1 which is an indication of how powerful/lucrative this approach can be. Clearly there were a few losers also from other angles etc, but winners such as that pay for plenty of those and can help you come out in front over the week.

Have a great meeting and I hope you take some cash from those bookies.

Happy Punting,

Josh

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