

MEYDAN - Thursday

FIRST RACE

9:30 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

7 Furlongs(A-W) 3yo and Up Al Naboodah Commercial Group Maiden Stakes - Dirt - Purse: \$45,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(4)	ALSHAHHAD	W J Lee	H Al Alawi	132	20-1
2	(1)	ANTIGUAN ROCK	T O'Shea	H Al Alawi	132	30-1
3	(8)	KARAGINSKY	R Mullen	S Seemar	132	4-1
4	(7)	MULTICURRENCY	A Fresu	H Al Alawi	132	15-1
5	(9)	NIBRAS TIME	F Veron	I Mohammed	132	10-1
6	(6)	AL WAFI	F Jara	A Al Rayhi	118	8-1
7	(5)	MIDNIGHT SANDS	S Hitchcott	D Watson	118	2-1
8	(2)	TABARAK	R French	R Bourlesy	118	3-1
9	(3)	TOWN BEE	C D Hayes	D Watson	118	15-1

SELECTIONS: 7 - 8 - 3

This is far from a strong race and an ideal opportunity for **MIDNIGHT SANDS** to get off the mark. The son of Speightstown was highly tried as a juvenile, finished 14th in the Coventry at Royal Ascot, and his pedigree suggests that he should handle the surface. Doug Watson's colt displayed plenty of speed when fourth at Doncaster on his last start for James Given and that should help his chances on the dirt. **Karaginsky** failed to fire on his debut at Newmarket but he is one to note as a half-brother to Lavaspin, who is a dual winner at this track for the same yard. **Tabarak** ran well in the Meydan Classic Trial here last week so has to enter the reckoning as well.

SECOND RACE

10:05 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta,

Double, Pick 3

2 Miles(Turf) 4yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$175,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(5)	RED GALILEO	C Soumillon	S bin Suuroo	132	9-5
2	(1)	EARNSHAW	M Barzalona	S Jadhav	128	5-1
3	(4)	ZAMAAM	J Crowley	E Charpy	126	4-1
4	(2)	JUKEBOX JIVE	C D Hayes	J Osborne	122	20-1
5	(6)	SPEEDO BOY	B Curtis	I Williams	122	7-1
6	(3)	DUBHE	W Buick	C Appleby	120	3-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 3 - 6

A wide-open contest despite the small field, although once again Godolphin have a strong hand with **RED GALILEO** and **Dubhe**. The former was only beaten a short head and a nose when third in this 12 months ago and made a promising seasonal debut over 1m6f here last month. That was the same prep he used last year and it should also be noted that he was not beaten far in the Dubai Gold Cup over C&D on World Cup night. **Dubhe** was a bit disappointing on his return but that was his first start in 272 days and the son of Dubawi is open to improvement over marathon trips. **Zamaam** failed to fire at last year's Carnival but won this race in 2017 and finished in front of **Dubhe** last time out. **Earnshaw** is worth a try over this sort of trip given how well he tends to stay on over shorter, although he is not one to have too much faith in given that he is winless since 2013.

THIRD RACE

10:40 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta,

Double, Pick 3

1 Mile(A-W) 3yo Only UAE 2000 Guineas (Group 3) - Dirt - Purse: \$250,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(2)	ESTIHDAAF	C Soumillon	S bin Suuroo	126	5-1
2	(1)	FINTAS	S W Kelly	R Hughes	126	15-1
3	(3)	MULFIT	M Barzalona	S Jadhav	126	12-1
4	(4)	RED CACTUS	C Lopez	B Olsen	126	30-1
5	(5)	WALKING THUNDER	C Beasley	A Bin Harmash	126	6-5
6	(6)	MOSHAHER	P Dobbs	D Watson	126	2-1
7	(7)	SPORTING CHANCE	P Cosgrave	S Crisford	126	15-1
8	(8)	EYELOOD	C D Hayes	N Bachalard	126	30-1

SELECTIONS: 5 - 6 - 1

The three to concentrate on are **Estihdaaf**, **Moshafer** and **WALKING THUNDER** but it is very hard to oppose the latter given the strength of his form. The son of Violence was an easy nine-length winner of the 2000 Guineas Trial over C&D and that form was boosted when the second beat **Estihdaaf** a couple of weeks later. **Walking Thunder** was drawn poorly in the Trial and faces an easier task to get a good early position in this smaller field. **Moshafer** had clearly been showing Doug Watson plenty of promise prior to his debut given how well he was backed in the international markets and the colt did not disappoint. He is likely to be the most popular pick to take the selection on with, given how unexposed he is. Godolphin have won four of the last five renewals so **Estihdaaf** has to be respected, but he will have to improve to beat the selection.

FOURTH RACE

11:15 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta,

Double, Pick 3, Pick 4

1 Mile 1 Furlong(Turf) 4yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$135,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(4)	SYMBOLIZATION	James Doyle	C Appleby	132	4-1
2	(12)	AQUARIUM	R Ffrench	M Johnston	131	30-1
3	(10)	BAROOT	A de Vries	M De Kock	131	7-1
4	(3)	NORDIC LIGHTS	W Buick	C Appleby	131	5-2
5	(7)	ZORION	C O'Donoghue	C Appleby	130	8-1
6	(6)	KRONPRINZ	A Fresu	E Charpy	129	20-1
7	(11)	WALK IN THE SUN	M Barzalona	S Jadhav	128	20-1
8	(1)	CONNECT	C Beasley	A Bin Harmash	127	10-1
9	(5)	ORIGINAL CHOICE	Daniel Tudhope	W Haggas	127	15-1
10	(9)	DESERT FIRE	C Soumillon	S bin Suuroo	126	4-1
11	(8)	VENTURA KNIGHT	O Murphy	M Johnston	123	30-1
12	(2)	BOLD REX	S Hitchcott	M De Kock	121	30-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 4 - 10

Nordic Lights caught the eye on his UAE debut over 1m2f here three weeks ago, pulling hard in front but allowing only one to pass him in the final furlong. There is not a lot of pace in this race but he is unlikely to be allowed to set such slow fractions. With that in mind, a chance can be taken on **SYMBOLIZATION**, who has been deserted by William Buick but filled fourth place in a recent renewal of the Jersey at Royal Ascot last year and he was last seen chasing home an above-average rival in a Listed race in France. His dam improved with age and it would be no surprise to see him make his mark at the Carnival. Recent course winner **Desert Fire** could complete Godolphin's domination of the race, while it is probably too soon to be writing off **Baroot**.

FIFTH RACE

11:50 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta,

Double, Pick 3

1 Mile 1 Furlong 110yards(A-W) 4yo and Up Al Maktoum Challenge (Group 2) - Dirt - Purse: \$450,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	SECOND SUMMER	R Ffrench	A Al Rayhi	126	20-1
2	(2)	LESHLAA	C Soumillon	S bin Suuroo	126	9-2
3	(3)	SENIOR INVESTMENT	P Cosgrave	K McPeck	126	20-1
4	(4)	ETJAAH	J Crowley	D Watson	126	30-1
5	(5)	NEW TRAILS	C Beasley	A Bin Harmash	126	7-1
6	(6)	NORTH AMERICA	R Mullen	S Seemar	126	4-5
7	(7)	COSMO CHARLIE	P Dobbs	D Watson	126	9-2

SELECTIONS: 6 - 7 - 2

A race that revolves around **NORTH AMERICA** and how much pressure he receives in a contest that doesn't have a lot of front runners. The son of Dubawi seemed as good as ever when winning the first round of this series by nine lengths over a mile last month. He managed to see off another strong pacesetter in Heavy Metal and his main threat for the lead today comes from **Cosmo Charlie**, who appeared to improve when stepped up to 1m2f last time out and is in the same ownership. **New Trails** is going in the right direction but he was well held by **Cosmo Charlie** in a Listed race here shortly before Christmas. **Leshlaa** is certainly worth noting after proving his wellbeing with a second in the Al Rashidiya.

SIXTH RACE

12:25 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta,

Double

6 Furlongs(Turf) 4yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$175,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(8)	TOP SCORE	C Soumillon	S bin Suuroo	132	9-2
2	(10)	INTISAAB	Daniel Tudhope	D O'Meara	131	15-1
3	(2)	ANOTHER BATT	C Beasley	G Scott	130	10-1
4	(9)	REBEL STREAK	O Murphy	A Jan	125	15-1
5	(11)	HIGH ON LIFE	M Barzalona	S Jadhav	122	12-1
6	(7)	IBN MALIK	J Crowley	M Al Mheiri	122	7-1
7	(12)	MAZZINI	A de Vries	F Nass	122	5-2
8	(5)	DREAM TODAY	C D Hayes	J Osborne	120	7-1
9	(3)	GLENAMOY LAD	R Mullen	M Wigham	119	10-1
10	(1)	MANAHR	R Ffrench	S Jadhav	119	30-1
11	(4)	ALFREDO ARCANO	B Curtis	D Marnane	118	10-1
12	(6)	DOUBLE UP	T O'Shea	I Williams	118	20-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 6 - 7

TOP SCORE wasn't beaten far in the Group 2 Al Fahidi Fort over 7f and he only found **Another Batt**, who is 4lb worse off at these weights, too good over the same trip in a handicap. The drop back to six furlongs should not be a problem based on his second to Limato in a Newmarket Listed race in August, while he only found Jungle Cat and Ertijaal too good in the Nad Al Sheba Turf Sprint last March. **Ibn Malik** chased home Faatinah and Hit The Bid over 5f here when last seen on turf and makes plenty of appeal off the same mark, especially as he ran well on the dirt here last week. **Mazzini** has to be shortlisted following his defeat of Hit The Bid, but he got an easy time of it up front and is 5lb higher now.

SEVENTH RACE

1:00 EDT

Win, Place, Show, Omni, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

7 Furlongs(Turf) 4yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$135,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(10)	LANSKY	M Barzalona	S Jadhav	132	9-2
2	(5)	ALFOLK	J Crowley	M De Kock	128	20-1
3	(13)	FAS	O Murphy	P Brandt	127	12-1
4	(12)	NEVER BACK DOWN	James Doyle	H Palmer	127	15-1
5	(11)	AMAZOUR	B Curtis	I Mohammed	126	20-1
6	(8)	VICTORY WAVE	P Cosgrave	S bin Suuroo	126	10-1
7	(14)	MUBTASIM	W Buick	C Appleby	125	4-1
8	(6)	RACE DAY	C Soumillon	S bin Suuroo	125	5-2
9	(3)	CLIFFS OF CAPRI	C D Hayes	J Osborne	123	8-1
10	(9)	GODD EFFORT	F Veron	I Mohammed	123	20-1
11	(4)	POET'S SOCIETY	C Beasley	A Bin Harmash	123	20-1
12	(2)	FREESCAPE	W J Lee	D Marnane	122	15-1
13	(1)	LOVE DREAMS	R Ffrench	M Johnston	121	30-1
14	(7)	TRICKBAG	C Lopez	Susanne Berneklint	121	30-1

SELECTIONS: 11 - 1 - 7

Race Day was only denied by a neck over 1m here last month and he may be more suited to this trip, although **Mubtasim** is arguably the pick of the Godolphin trio. The son of Arcano was third in the 2017 Jersey at Royal Ascot and he ran well enough in some competitive handicaps last year, after he which he was purchased for 140,000gns. **Lansky** really caught the eye when finishing third to D'Bai in the Group 2 Al Fahidi Fort over C&D two weeks ago but he tired badly in the last furlong on that occasion and the trip is a slight concern. With that in mind, a chance can be taken with **POET'S SOCIETY**, who put in a promising effort on his debut for these connections over 1m here recently. That followed a 117-day break and that is the longest time he's been off the track since his debut in April 2016 and the five-year-old can be expected to sharpen up for the run. He should go forward from stall four and he could be hard to pass if ridden aggressively.