

**TEAM HHH**  
**#4 International Racing Tip Sheet**  
**May 2-4, 2025**

**Newmarket - Morphetville - Eagle Farm - Thirsk - Goodwood - Kyoto**

The first Classics of the English season go at Newmarket this weekend. The three day card begins on Friday. Given Howard will be travelling to Kentucky, I thought it best to get this week's HHH International Tip Sheet into the hopper on Thursday. I will not have final declarations for Sunday's English races, so be alert to any scratches. The full tips are listed at the end of this analysis. There are a couple listed without analysis.

A few good touts came in at Sha Tin last Sunday. I used Sunlight Power 70/1 in place parlays and cashed for a modest four figures, with a few tickets from that card falling on to Kentucky Derby itself. It does invite a debate about how best to structure tips when we play in different jurisdictions with different bet offerings and ways to bet.

**Friday, May 2nd**  
**Newmarket**

We begin at Newmarket on Friday with **R2** over 10 Furlongs for 3 yr colts and geldings at **08:45 am EST**. I handicapped the field at the entry stage and was disappointed to see my play of the day not declared for the race. Sigh! It is a baking hot week in England and the ground will be rattling fast. I now make it a three way contest, between Alpine Trail for Charlie Appleby, Aurel for Ralph Beckett and Nebras for John Gosden. Alpine Trail is undefeated and has a run under his belt this season. Hence he is the 9/4 Fav, but both were low quality contests. Nebras has also ran this season with a 2nd place finish in Class 5 race over synthetic at Southwell, but not a great advert for a horse with Prix du Jockey Club entry later this Summer. He may still go better on a firmer surface. I think **2. (5) Aurel** is the best horse here. Breeders Cup winning jockey, **Rossa Ryan** rides. The horse does not have a French or English Classic entries, but is entered in both the German Derby and the Grand Prix de Paris, both in July, so connections are aiming to peak him over an extra two furlongs in 10-12 weeks time. This is clearly a pipe opener for what maybe one of the last sons of the Soldier Hollow around. I will take the risk that he is just better than the rest in a field that cut up. He is currently 7/2 2nd Fav.

**R3 09:20 am EST 4. (3) Cosmic Year** is the other Juddmonte. He may have been the Fav in Saturday's 2000 Guineas, but instead goes in the King Charles II Stakes, a 7 furlong listed affair. **Ryan Moore** takes the ride for Harry Charlton. He is the 11/10 Fav and should prevail. Chancellor, Diego Ventura and Symbol of Honour are all dangerous, but each have their knocks. Chancellor 11/1 faded badly first up, but better is expected. Diego Ventura 7/1 is first up and untested over a firmer surface and Symbol of Honour 6/1 is a sprinter who may not get the extra furlong. Cosmic Year was very impressive first up, albeit hurtling down the synthetic track with a hint of high head carriage. He should win, but he is still learning. Proceed carefully, they

are not sure the horse will handle the firm going and maybe happy to use this race to educate the horse. Watch the market here.

**R6** is the Gr2 Jockey Club stakes. A small, but competitive field that jumps at **11:05 am EST**. Silver Knott is the current 5/4 Fav and I tend to like horses than run well at Meydan over the Winter, but I am going to play **2. (3) Bellum Justum** again. **Oisín Murphy** rides. He flopped first up at Newbury, but this ground will be firmer and the winner of the Nashville Derby at Kentucky Downs last year is great value at 11/2. He was reportedly going well at home prior to his first up race. Silver Knott is good, but not a great horse. He raced into the US last year as a 2nd stringer to the last Measured Time. This will be close, so I am taking the horse that is 5 x the price.

**Saturday, May 3rd**

### **Morphetville**

We make a rare trip to South Australia for their Derby, Adelaide's biggest racing day.

We begin with a little appetiser in **R4 00:07 am EST** a Benchmark 78 race over 1600 Metres or 1 Mile. There is a horse I like here is **5. (12) West Cliff** who is 12/1, despite who going for a hat trick of wins. The wins have been at Fairground type tracks in South Australia. Think Pleasanton. The manner of the recent victories for this son of the great Canford Cliffs have been impressive. The penny has dropped and there always seemed more to spare. Great value bet at 12/1. And the kid **Jacob Opperman** can ride. Watch out for him in the years ahead.

**R7 01:55 am EST** is a Listed contest over the mile and I am sweet on **4. (7) Didn't Miss Many** for Archie Alexander with **Daniel Moor** up, the other Archie Alexander. Mark Zahra is in town to ride the more favoured Alexander, horse, Somewhere. Another good value play with current odds of 10/1. Son of D'Argento brought carefully through his 3 yr old season with this maybe a good ground finale before the colder weather.

**R8 02:35 am EST** The Fav Statuario has drawn well in (3) and gets Irish rider Johnny Allen. Local rider Damian Lane has ridden the horse before and generally rides at the big meet of the year at his hometown track, but he will instead be riding in Tokyo aboard the Fav in the Spring Tenno Sho. Follow the Jockey who Follows the Money! Another local **Jamie Melham** is back to her home town to ride Godolphin's **8. (15) Lavalier**, but is drawn in the car park. Melham had jumped off Goldrush Guru, a winner of the Victoria Derby at Flemington earlier in the year to ride Lavalier in the Gr2 Chairman's Stakes at Morphetville last time. The horse jumped great, but she eased it back and it made a lightening run down the stretch for a nose 2nd place finish, galloping out ahead of the field. Therefore the (15) post does not concern me. Melham has a proven closer in her soft hands. The horse is great value at 6/1, but the Fav will take some catching.

## Eagle Farm

The racing season is getting into swing up Brisbane, Queensland. The big race is the Queensland Guineas. I did tip Boomtown Boss to win at 4/1 on these pages a few weeks ago, but I like another here. Irish Jockey **Martin Harley** pops up on 16/1 shot **10. (13) Our Benefactor**. He didn't hit the board in some big city Sydney races earlier this year, but this is easier and you'll get a price because he is drawn 13. He has won a trial since. This is great value bet!

## Newmarket

Back to HQ on Saturday for a 9 race card. **R1 08:10 am EST. Unequal Love** ran well in the some big Gr1 races last year. It should be better than these. **Tom Marquand** takes the ride for William Haggas.

**R2** is a 6 furlong contest for 4 yr olds and up. The early market 4/1 Fav is More Thunder thanks an impressive first up win at Newmarket in mid April. There are some double figure prices to be had with the most logical being **11. (3) Two Tribes** 10/1 and **12. (11) Stanage** 12/1. Trainer Richard Spencer has two in the race and the booking of former British champion jockey, **Sylvester de Sousa** on Two Tribes is eye catching. Stanage was an unlucky 3rd first up this season. **Joanna Mason** rides. She's good. Always more juice in the female rider's price. Both horses get in off nice light weights. It will be hot day. I prefer horses carrying less weight.

**R3** is the 9 Furlong Suffolk Stakes. And again there is value to be had. The early jockey bookings of both **Ryan Moore** and **William Buick** saw **3. (1) Hand of God** and Arabian Light pushed to the front of the early markets at 7/2 the pair. But double figure value can found here too with **4. (2) Galeron** who returned after a year plus racing unsuccessfully in Australia to place a 2 length 5th in a 22 runner Lincoln field on the opening day meet at Doncaster, giving 8 lbs to the winner and those placed above him. He will be fitter and bang there at the finish. **Jason Watson** rides. Another to look out for is **5. (3) Bopedro** who has good winning form at Newmarket and gets in the race at a nice light weight, less than what he carried at this track twice before. He was entered at Thirsk, so connections want to roll the dice one more time at a track he connects with. Classic winning jockey **Sean Levey** gets the nod for David O'Meara. I will be playing Hand of God mostly, but will have some small stakes involvement with both Galeron and Bopedro.

**R4** will be an electric taster for the Guineas. The Palace House Stakes is 5 furlong contest that I first narrowed down to 5 horses: No Half Measures, Beautiful Diamond, Clarendon House, Twillight Calls and Washington Heights. Then pondered for two days and got no where. They are all so well matched. I am siding with **3. (10) No Half Measures** with **Ryan Moore** for his old nemesis, Richard Hughes. The horse was sent the Abbaye at Longchamp last year and ran a creditable 5th over the soft. It seems to have the most upside compared to the hard knockers here. Watch for Washington Heights. He ran a length 2nd to Rouge Lightening in Qatar in February. Rogue Lightening goes in R7 at Churchill Downs on Saturday.

**R5 The 2,000 Guineas** goes at **10:35 am EST**. The pre race 2nd Fav Twain scratched, apparently because of a dirty scope, but the weather is glorious in South East England this week. I am not sure Twain would have handled the surface. Expanded will be Aiden O'Brien's only representative. He is not without a chance. Same for Godolphin's Ruling Court, fresh off an impressive win at Meydan. Both have later season Classic entries and are tempting plays. The bookies have been saying that there has been a surge of interest in Ruling Court and his price has been cut. But has there really been any serious big bets on this horse? There is no transparency on English books. Can you really trust the bookies here? Are they exaggerating a few bets to keep punters unbalanced and away from Field of Gold?

I am with John Gosden's **3. (10) Field of Gold** the shortening Fav who runs in the Juddmonte colours. There have been plenty of clues in the past month as the Juddmonte team debated where to place their numerous other top 3 yr olds. That Field of Gold was saved for the key trial, the Gr3 Craven Stakes at Newmarket, spoke volumes. He is clearly the anointed one. And the way this son of Kingman won that race was eye catching. It was a push button 3 1/2 length win and he handled "the dip" as if it wasn't there. The dip being an area of uneven ground as the horses hit high gears approaching the final uphill furlong. However, I became a believer in the seconds before the race. I caught a glimpse of Field of Gold as the horses loaded. It was a Man v Boys moment. He was just so imposing. An immense beast of Game of Thrones proportions. The others looked like pit ponies. There are many ways to measure a horse, be it the hands, the weight, the stride etc and that data is out there, but that gate loading moment stuck with me just as much as when he accelerated into the dip. The draw makes this more interesting, with the two main protagonists drawn in 10 and 11. The gates will be in the middle. Who will taking cover from who here?

**R7 11:40 am EST**. Ryan Moore aboard **7. (7) The Dragon King** for Sprint specialist trainer Clive Cox seems the smart move in this 6 Furlong contest for 3 yr olds.

### Thirsk

And now for a first visit to a provincial Northern English track of Thirsk for their big day, the Thirsk Hunt Cup, a 1 Mile Handicap. Hi Royal returns to face fellow blue collar rivals after dabbling in the Group races down South in recent years, including a shock 66/1 2nd in the 2023 2000 Guineas, a race Galeron (who I have touted above) ran 4th. Hi Royal gets Danish rider Kevin Stott who made a name for himself in New Zealand over their recent Summer season. I like the jockey, but Hi Royal has too much weight to carry for mine. Another win threat is **12. (11) Obelix**. Obelix had been cross entered with a race at Newmarket, an angle that always serves those who pay attention well. Hi Royal drew lower, which saw his early market price of 14/1 quickly get cut to 8/1, but although Obelix drew higher, he ran a nice closing late 4th when first up at Thirsk in mid April. He is good value Fav 6/1. Cruyff Turn is a danger. He is now 8, but ran a cracking race at Redcar two weeks ago. He gets David Allan fresh from riding in India. David Allen rode one of my

great touts in India on the Follow the Jockey blog when he mowed them all down on Once You Go Black. I followed both Stott and Allen over the Winter, profitably, but you can't play everything. Obelix is the bet, though I will be considering Trifecta possibilities.

### **Goodwood**

**R1 08:30 am EST 4. (5) Anicent Times** started the season with a cracking win at Doncaster. The horse just kept finding. Ear pricked. Looking to take on the next contender. Bug rider Kaiya Fraser takes off 3 lbs. The horse is in hot form now, competitively weighted and gets a young, gifted and black jockey from inner city London.

**R4 10:20 am EST** This is a speculative punt in a maiden race over a mile. Three horses are running for the first time and I taking one of those. The form of the other six runners doesn't impress me. My angle is this: Local trainer Amanda Perrett is an in law of Jim Crowley. He often rides for her when he is riding at Goodwood, but here he shows up on **4. (9) Loraxed** for Harry Eustace, while another jockey rides for Amanda. The horse has a great middle to long distance pedigree. The Australian connections are probably keen to ship down Under before the end of the season. There are no prices up yet, but I will be playing Loraxed. It could open Fav. It could be a price. We'll see. I play it either way on my hunch.

### **Sunday, May 4th**

### **Kyoto**

**R11 02:40 am EST** I like one a price in the Tenno Sho (Spring). There has been some Spring rain in Kyoto. And **3. (3) Blow the Horn** has soft ground form. So the more rain, the better his chance. So watch for that and play accordingly. The 6 yr is old by great Japan Cup winner, Epiphaenia, who ate up the soft going. And is out of mare by Sunday Silence, a winning theme on these pages! Blow the Horn won the Gr1 Takarazuka Kinen over 1 Mile 3 furlongs over yielding ground in Kyoto last June. It was a 2 length win over Gr1 winners Sol Oriens and Bellagio Opera. The four extra furlongs may suit the Fav more, but if the going has some give in it, it suits Blow the Horn. I also look at pictures of the confirmed runner pre race, a great Japanese traditional. The horse looked great, all dappled out. I took 22/1. I advise watching the market, if Blow the Horn tightened to something not far South of 16/1 and if there has been a little rain over the past 24 hrs, he's a worth a punt. Otherwise, don't get cute and bet the **6. (6) Redentor**, with Damian Lane skipping the ride in home town South Australian Derby to ride for the beaucoup yen in Kyoto. He's in town just to see the Temples.

### **Newmarket**

**R1 08:45 am EST Falakeyah** for Shadwell should be get the day started on a winning note in the Listed Pretty Polly Stakes. There has been early market money for this horse. He opened at 4/1. He is now 5/2.

**R2 09:20 EST** sees the return of last year's 1,000 Guineas winner, Elamalka. The daughter of Kingman could well secure her first win since last year's 1,000 Guineas win. She did not flop in her subsequent Summer campaign, but was always a couple of lengths off good horses, such as Opera Singer, Porta Fortuna and Tamfana. However, I fear she will be a length or two back of more good horses, foremost among them **Cinderella's Dream** who was defeated a head by Choisya last time at Meydan. Choisya since stepped up to win the Gr1 Jenny Wiley at Keeneland on April 12th. And not forgetting the other Godolphin, Beautiful Love with Ryan Moore getting the call. Cinderella's Dream should be hard to beat here.

**R4 10:35 am EST** sees the 1000 Guineas. Godolphin's Desert Flower is the odds on Fav and I cannot begin to challenge her, particularly as it not clear which Aiden O'Brien's horses will take her on. So take this as a provisional play. One really needs to see if Victoria Road and or Bedtime Story are entered.

## **Friday, May 2nd**

### **Newmarket (UK)**

R2 - 2. Aurel 7/2  
R3. - 4. Cosmic Year 11/10  
R6 - 2. Bellum Justum 11/2

## **Saturday, May 3rd**

### **Morphetville (Australia)**

R4 - 5. West Cliff 12/1 **VALUE PLAY**  
R7 - 4. Didn't Miss Many 10/1 **VALUE PLAY**  
R8 - 8. Lavalier 6/1

### **Eagle Farm (AUSTRALIA)**

R7 - 10. Our Benefactor 16/1 **VALUE PLAY**

### **Newmarket (UK)**

R1 - 6. Unequal Love 11/10  
R2 - 11. Two Tribes 10/1 **VALUE PLAY**  
- 12. Stanage 12/1 **VALUE PLAY**  
R3 - 3. Hand of God 7/2  
- 4. Galeron 8/1  
R4 - 3. No Half Measures 4/1  
R5 - 3. Field of Gold 2/1  
R7 - 7. The Dragon King S/P

### **Thirsk (UK)**

R3 - 12. Obelix 6/1

### **Goodwood (UK)**

R1 - 4. Ancient Times S/P  
R4 - 4. Loraxed S/P

## **Sunday, May 4th**

### **Kyoto**

R11 - 6. Redentor 11/10  
- 3. Blow the Horn 22/1 **VALUE PLAY**

### **Newmarket**

R1 - Falakeyah 5/2  
R2 - Cinderella's Dream 7/4  
R3 - Liam's Swagger S/P  
R4 - Desert Flower 10/11