

**TEAM HHH, 2026**  
**International Racing Tip Sheet II**  
**January 31st, 2026**  
**Kenilworth, Cape Town**

Given the freezing conditions State side, this is great opportunity to enjoy Southern Hemisphere Summer Racing in South Africa. It is one of biggest days in World Racing, with prestigious **G1 Cape Town Met** and a host of other Graded / Group Stakes to enjoy. This is on a par with Royal Ascot and Melbourne Cup day. All you have to do is brew your coffee, pop your bagels in the toaster and your ham and eggs on the griddle and play top racing from daybreak to lunchtime on the East Coast. Contrary to what the Betting N Boozin' guys say, it really helps to be caffeinated and not drunk when playing the ponies.

**Recap on Team HHH Intl Tip 1, 2026.**

I am bating.400 Ted Williams with 2 from 5 on **UAE 2000 Guineas & Al Maktoum Rd 2 Challenge** day last weekend. I managed to get 10/3 on **Six Speed** to win the **UAE 2000 Guineas** and **5/2 on Cover Up** to win the **G2 Blue Point Stakes** over 5 furlongs. The sheet almost began with a bang with **Chicago Critic** taking charge down the lane and leading into the final strides. The horse was not fancied in the market and drifted to **14/1** at the off. I advised against playing the Godolphin Fav. He was lacklustre. I am also proud that I suggested to play **Tumbarumba** at price in the **G1 Al Maktoum Challenge Rd 2**. He kept coming to grab 2nd. He went off at **25/1**. Mufasa let me down. In retrospect, it was a sentimental and stupid play. I had won on him before, but he needed to held up and being drawn 1 was only going to invite getting choked up. Meydann was not disappointing. He ran best late, but the race was over by then. An ROI for my two January Tip Sheets will be posted in February when I cover the Saudi Cup card on Valentine's Day.

**R1 04:50 EST A Listed Juvenile Stakes** over 5 1/2 furlongs kicks off the card. 12 (12) Champagne Castle was an emphatic winner on King's Plate day three weeks ago, one I actually got right. He draws tough here, but can still win. He is currently joint Fav at 2/1. His stablemate 7 (7) Querari Dqncer opened at the 8/1 and is now 6/1. There is Kingmambo in the pedigree, so the summer going will suit. He can win. The initial buzz locally had been for **4 (4) St Harry**. The knock against him is that he a ran 2 seconds slower than Champagne Castle on his maiden win, but he blew the start that day, yet still came home like a bullet train to win a race he had no right to win. The extra half furlong will help with any tardiness at the gate. He has a sweet draw in 4. This is a son of Harry Angel (IRE) a prolific G1 winning Godolphin sprinter from the UK. He opened at 16/10 and has since drifted to 2/1. If he (re)tightens in to 7/4 or less on the day, he will be the bet. I have taken the 2/1. Hard to see past the noted three here. I would not put you off a boxed Trifecta.

**R2 05:25 EST.** This is 10 furlong Stakes race that is an opportunity for the 3 yr olds with South Africa Derby potential to test their mettle against older horses. **7 (7) Eric Liddell** has been taking money. He opened at 9/2 and is now 7/2. The horse gets 4 1/2 kgs from 1 (1) Note to Self who will be going 10 furlong for the first time. Note to Self was eating up the ground last time over 9 furlongs and would be my strong win bet, but for the weight disadvantage. He will place for sure and will be a definite threat the South African Derby later in their Summer. **2 (2) World First** another is grinder and won't be far away. I will be playing Eric Liddell to win and Note to Self 9/2 to place.

**R3 06:00 EST** is **G3 "Marathon" Stakes** contest over 14 furlongs. **8 (8) Holding Thumbs** is top weight, but proved he could carry it when winning against several of these last time. **2 (2) Magic Verse** will again be right there. **Holding Thumbs** should prevail again, just. The **Quinella** or **Reverse Exacta 8 & 2** is probably the play, though I will be playing **Holding Thumbs** in exotic multiples.

**R4 06:35 EST.** This is a 6 furlong **Stakes**. 19 go to post. It's difficult, but not impossible. I like a couple at a price, first, the well bred and well drawn **4 (4) Paratrooper 20/1** for the shrewd Vaughn Marshall. The horse won a cheap race last time, but did it well carrying more weight than he does on Saturday. This son of the former Aiden O'Brien horse **Lancaster Bomber**, a G1 winner who finished 2nd in the **Breeders Cup Mile**, can keep progressing. I wouldn't play him with a double figured draw, but he can get away and then fight them off. I recall **Lancaster Bomber** being a gutsy horse and he'll be hard to peg back. A 3 star medium confidence bet.

**R5 07:10 EST** is the **Schweppes Winchester Cup**. It is the biggest pot on the card thus far, though it is not a black type race. 18 runners over 5 1/2 furlongs. The **14 (14) All the Rage** is partially owned by Barry Irwin's Team Valor. He is the best 3 yr old sprinter in Africa and always looks like he has more in the locker. You will get a price because he is a younger horse and drawn wide. He has to be a win bet. However, I cannot go all in on a 3 yr with a tough draw. This invites me to double dip with **2 (2) His Majesty, a 16/1** shot for Vaughn Marshall and Shaun Veale. This horse was Group placed in Europe when with Aiden O'Brien. The longer distances have not worked out in South Africa, but he could be deadly cutting back to this Sprint distance.

**R6 07:45 EST** This is 7 furlong stakes races and I am compelled to stick to my guns **10 (10) Snow Pilot** for Justin Snaith and Richard Fourie. I have tipped this horse twice on these pagee before and twice lost. This 7F trip is his optimal distance. He goes hard, but is not fast enough for Sprints and he can often blow out over a mile. **The horse is fair value at 7/1.**

**R7 08:20 EST** The first G1s is the historic **G1 Majorca Stakes** over a mile. They run for a Million Rand. **10 (10) Double Grand Slam** is a miler and didn't get home over 9 furlongs, despite Oisín Murphy flying in the race. I hate to bet against a horse I touted strongly last time, but to my eye she was loosely goosey, so the value has to be the horse often her bridesmaid, **(2) Mon Petit Cherie** for James Crawford (whose father Brett Crawford just started training in Hong Kong this season). She is by a Galileo mare. They'll go hard and she won't flinch. She is great value as the **11/2 2nd Fav**, given her breeding, credentials and sweet draw.

**R8 09:05 EST** This is **G1 Cape Town Met**, one of the world's greatest races. I am very keen on the Fav. **10 (10) See it Again 3/1**. His stablemate **Ocavango** (a winner on King's Plate day, three weeks ago) has been drafted to be the pacemaker. He closed like a runaway train to finish 3rd over the mile in the King's Plate over a Mile. 10 furlongs is his optimal distance. The back from the brink, drink, found God, hip replacement 58 yr old legend jockey Andrew Fortune takes the ride. He is riding better than when he was going around with the best in the world in the 1990s.

**R9 09:45 EST** The **G3 Politician Stakes** over 9 furlongs should provide another winner for the Snaith / Fortune combination with **2 (2) Happy Verse 2/1** a likely winner. He is by **Vercingetotex**, a South African stallion known for stamina. He was 2nd to Jan Van Goyen in the Cape Guineas over a mile, but had a wide trip and was eating into the substantial lead of the winner near the line.

**R10 10:25 EST.** This is a **Listed Stakes** over 6 furlongs. I like one at a price here for Lucidna Woodruff. Lucinda inherited her father's Johannesburg a few years ago. She is a very capable trainer. The **11 (11) Mai Sensation is great value at 12/1**. She has great back class as a winner of 5 races including Stakes races at the distance. She was bumped around last time and still finished a close 9th. She is great price at 12/1 and will probably shorten.

**R11 10:55 EST.** The **G3 Summer Fling Stakes** is a 10 furlong race for the fillies and mares. I am with the **4 (4) Give Me Everything**, the current **7/2 2nd Fav**. This horse had a purple patch winning four on the bounce this time last year, including three at Kenilworth She is third up after a long six month winter lay off. I like horses returning to the scene of the crime a year later. Craig Zackey rides.

**R12 11:30 EST** I have to offer a tip or two in the last given the time zone, the **City of Cape Town stakes over a mile**. It is impossible to get away from trainer Justin Snaith here. This could easily be his 6th or 7th winner in the card. He once had 8 winners on this card. He is the Chad Brown or Todd Pletcher of South Africa racing. 17 runners go to post. Even the Fav will be a square price. I am siding with German jockey Rene Piechulek's mount **5 (5) Blind Date 6/1** for that man, Justin Snaith. Sweet draw. Gets a 5lb weight break off the Fav Foudre who beat him last time. I like Piechulek to produce him at the right time. I also advising another Snaith 3 yr **3 (3) Yamazaki** who gets JP Van der Merwe up. This horse is by Danon Platina (JPN) who was by Deep Impact (JPN) who was by Sunday Silence (USA). Playing the progeny of Sunday Silence is an occasionally regular theme of this tip sheet. **He is great value at 10/1**.

**For the purposes of TIP SHEET WIN ROI the following are my advised plays. I have advised a bet in every race and two bets in two races.**

**R1 4. St Harry 2/1**

**R2 7. Eric Liddell 7/2**

**R3 8. Holding Thumbs 15/8**

**R4 4. Paratrooper 20/1**

**R5 14. All the Rage 7/2**  
**2. His Majesty 16/1**

**R6 10. Snow Pilot 7/1**

**R7 2. Mon Petit Cherie 11/2**

**R8 10. See it Again 3/1**

**R9 2. Happy Verse 2/1**

**R10 11. Mai Sensation 12/1**

**R11 4. Give Me Everything 7/2**

**R12 5. Blind Date 6/1**  
**3. Yamazaki 10/1**