

MEYDAN - Thursday

FIRST RACE

10:00 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, PA, ATC

7 Furlongs(Dirt) 3yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$120,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(4)	ONE MAN BAND	S Hitchcott	D Watson	132	4-5
2	(6)	NOLOHAY	P Hanagan	M Al Muhairi	127	8-1
3	(1)	HEAVY METAL	M Barzalona	S Ghadayer	126	15-1
4	(3)	OVER THE OCEAN	R Mullen	N Petersen	126	12-1
5	(5)	ENCIPHER	T O'Shea	A Al Raihe	122	6-1
6	(2)	GIFTORM	F Jara	F Reuterskiold	122	5-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 6 - 5

ONE MAN BAND very much sets the standard in the opener and can successfully concede weight to these rivals on the back of his latest second-placed effort behind Confrontation in the Group 3 Firebreak Stakes three weeks ago. However, he is yet to win in two starts over this trip and **Giftorm** finished a close second to the progressive Cool Cowboy over C&D last month and will be there to exploit in any chinks in the selection's armour. **Encipher** completes the shortlist.

SECOND RACE

10:35 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, Double, Pick 3, ATC

1 Mile 2 Furlongs(Dirt) 3yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$60,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(8)	ETIJAAH	P Hanagan	D Watson	130	5-2
2	(5)	ACTIVE SPIRIT	S Hitchcott	D Watson	129	4-1
3	(2)	PUPIL	R Mullen	S Seemar	128	10-1
4	(1)	TANFEETH	D O'Neill	M Al Muhairi	126	8-1
5	(3)	MUSTAHDADF	T O'Shea	M Al Muhairi	120	12-1
6	(4)	BRABBHAM	M Barzalona	A Bin Harmash	118	3-1
7	(6)	ENERY	F Jara	M Al Muhairi	118	7-1
8	(7)	INDIANA JONES	D Probert	M Al Muhairi	118	20-1

SELECTIONS: 2 - 6 - 7

ACTIVE SPIRIT arrives in the form of his career having put back-to-back wins together here in recent weeks and Doug Watson has found his gelding another winnable opening. A five-length winner over C&D at the expense of Nathr earlier this month, he has responded well to the recent fitting of a visor and is only 8lb higher in the weights now. Of the others, C&D winner **Brabbham** is probably not done improving yet and he is closely matched with **Enery**.

THIRD RACE

11:10 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, Double, Pick 3, ATC

6 Furlongs(Dirt) 3yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$110,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(5)	MARKING	W Buick	K McLaughlin	132	1-1
2	(8)	SHAISSHEE	D Probert	M Al Muhairi	132	10-1
3	(3)	LET'SGOFORIT	R Mullen	B Hallencreutz	129	15-1
4	(1)	KIFAAH	P Hanagan	A Al Raihe	127	7-2
5	(9)	SAAYERR	C D Hayes	D Selvaratnam	127	15-1
6	(10)	THE TAJ	D O'Neill	D Watson	127	7-1
7	(4)	KRYPTON FACTOR	F Tylicki	F Nass	123	15-1
8	(6)	TAAYEL	F Jara	M Al Muhairi	120	15-1
9	(2)	CHEONGU	R Ffrench	I Seo	119	20-1
10	(7)	KASB	T O'Shea	A Al Raihe	118	8-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 4 - 10

It was agony for favourite backers when **MARKING** stumbled out of the stalls and unseated James Doyle on his carnival bow here a fortnight ago. Sent off a shade of odds against for the Group 3 Al Shindagha Sprint that night, Kiaran McLaughlin's charge is as short as 4-1 for the Group 1 Golden Shaheen Stakes on Dubai World Cup night next month and will have to win this handicap if he's to justify such a quote. The unexposed sprinter finished a good second to the Breeders' Cup Sprint champion Runhappy in the Grade 1 Malibu Stakes at Santa Anita in December and that form stakes up considerably well in the context of this race. **Kifaah** and **Kasb** are expected to put up most resistance.

FOURTH RACE

11:45 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, Double, Pick 3, Jackpot, ATC

1 Mile(Turf) 3yo and Up Zabeel Mile Sponsored By Al Naboodah Construction Group - Group 2 - Turf - Purse: \$250,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	BOSSY GUEST	P J Smullen	M Channon	127	15-1
2	(2)	HARRY'S SON	R Mullen	Paul Lafferty	127	6-1
3	(3)	ZAHEE	W Smith	M De Kock	127	10-1
4	(4)	SAFETY CHECK	W Buick	C Appleby	130	4-5
5	(5)	JOHANN STRAUSS	C Soumillon	M De Kock	127	5-1
6	(6)	FORJATT	C D Hayes	D Selvaratnam	127	12-1
7	(7)	CHAMPIONSHIP	F Tylicki	A Bin Harmash	127	15-1
8	(8)	GHAAMER	P Hanagan	A Al Raihe	127	10-1
9	(9)	BIG BAZ	M Dwyer	W Muir	127	15-1
10	(10)	FANCIFUL ANGEL	D O'Neill	M Botti	127	15-1

SELECTIONS: 4 - 5 - 2

Last year's winner **SAFETY CHECK** has not tasted defeat in his last four starts at Meydan and his latest victory came in the Group 2 Al Fahidi Fort last month. It is hard to see **Harry's Son**, who was second that day, reversing that form despite a 3lb swing in the weights. The biggest danger could be **Johann Strauss**, who was fourth in this last year and was last seen finishing a respectable third in the Group 1 Jebel Hatta last March. **Forjatt** and **Ghaamer** could run on into a place on their best form.

FIFTH RACE

12:20 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, Double, Pick 3, ATC

1 Mile 2 Furlongs(Turf) 3yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$120,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(3)	FARRAAJ	C D Hayes	D Selvaratnam	132	4-1
2	(4)	ELLEVAL	P J Smullen	D Marnane	127	7-2
3	(1)	FEARLESS HUNTER	D Probert	R Haugen	126	15-1
4	(8)	THINK AHEAD	W Buick	S bin Surroor	126	2-1
5	(6)	SLUMDOGSMILLIONAIRE	S Hitchcott	D Watson	123	8-1
6	(7)	ZAMAAM	P Hanagan	E Charpy	121	10-1
7	(5)	BASATEEN	D O'Neill	D Watson	120	12-1
8	(2)	ROYAL NAVY SHIP	R Ffrench	Paul Lafferty	120	10-1

SELECTIONS: 6 - 4 - 1

Farraaj merits plenty of respect, despite top weight, having run well when third off this mark over 1m here last month. The step back up in trip will help and this former top-class performer can go close. **Think Ahead**, **Elleval** and **ZAMAAM** were the first three home, in that order, in a similar contest over C&D earlier in the month. **Zamaam** was only beaten half a length by **Think Ahead** on that occasion and is 2lb better of with that rival at the weights today. Furthermore, the pair that finished in front of him that day were better placed to take advantage of a fair but not testing pace and **Zamaam** had to come from further back.

SIXTH RACE

12:55 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, Double, ATC

1 Mile 2 Furlongs(Dirt) 3yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$150,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	CALIFORNIA CHROME	V Espinoza	A Sherman	132	3-5
2	(2)	EL TREN	C D Hayes	M Attwater	117	20-1
3	(6)	GOOD CONTACT	E Greatrex (5)	S bin Surroor	117	4-
4	(8)	HUNTING GROUND	M Barzalona	S Ghadayer	117	8-1
5	(5)	PIT STOP	R Ffrench	S Ghadayer	117	12-1
6	(7)	PLANTAGENET	R Mullen	N Petersen	117	15-1
7	(3)	STORM BELT	S Hitchcott	D Watson	117	15-1
8	(4)	SUCCESS STORY	T O'Shea	J K Min	117	10-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 3 - 4

It is impossible to oppose **CALIFORNIA CHROME** in this contest, despite the son of Lucky Pulpit having to concede weight to all of his rivals. The presence of this former Kentucky Derby winner has turned this handicap effectively into a conditions event with the American shouldering 15lb penalty as he keeps all of his rivals out of the handicap. **Good Contact** made a pleasing start to his career on dirt when only defeated by a short head and he gets Edward Greatrex's valuable 6lb claim. **Hunting Ground** and **Success Story** are the pick of the remainder.

SEVENTH RACE

1:30 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, ATC

6 Furlongs(Turf) 3yo and Up Handicap - Purse: \$175,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(9)	NAADIRR	C Soumillon	M Botti	132	7-2
2	(7)	CASPIAN PRINCE	T O'Shea	D Ivory	128	4-1
3	(2)	BACCARAT	W Buick	C Appleby	127	5-1
4	(1)	SHOLAAN	C D Hayes	D Selvaratnam	127	10-1
5	(5)	BANAADDEER	P Hanagan	D Watson	126	6-1
6	(8)	DIVINE	M Barzalona	M Channon	126	7-1
7	(10)	MAJESTIC MOUNT	R Mullen	S Seemar	126	15-1
8	(11)	WINKLEMAN	S Hitchcott	M De Kock	125	15-1
9	(4)	FITYAAN	D O'Neill	M Al Muhairi	123	12-1
10	(3)	JAMESIE	P J Smullen	D Marnane	123	8-1
11	(6)	ALMASHOOQA	W Smith	M De Kock	120	12-1

SELECTIONS: 1 - 6 - 9

Jamesie third, **Divine** fourth and **Fityaan** fifth all chased home Jungle Cat in a similar contest over C&D last month. It would not be a surprise to see **Divine** come out on top of those three as she received a bump during the race that day. That said, all of those look high enough in the handicap and could be vulnerable for win purposes. **NAADIRR** has to shoulder top weight but there was plenty of encouragement in his staying-on fourth over 5f here three weeks ago. The step back up in trip should suit and he is entitled to improve for that first run at Meydan. **Banaadeer** was a narrow winner over C&D last time but this is a better race, while the admirable **Caspian Prince** has to prove himself over 6f.