

MEYDAN - Saturday

FIRST RACE

7:00 EDT

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

1 Mile 1 Furlong 110yards(Dirt) 3yo Only Al Bastakiya Sponsored By Emirates Skywards Listed Stakes - Dirt - Purse: \$262,500.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	HOMBRE ROJO	H Bentley	S Dow	126	4-1
2	(2)	BLUE CREEK	W Buick	C Appleby	126	15-1
3	(3)	LAZZAM	C Soumillon	M Botti	126	7-2
4	(4)	MARKET RALLY	P J Smullen	D Selvaratnam	126	2-5

SELECTIONS: 4 - 3 - 2

Blue Creek created a deep impression when winning a maiden over 1m on his racecourse debut here on New Year's Day but Charlie Appleby's charge couldn't justify odds of 2-11 in a handicap later that month and now has something to prove. **MARKET RALLY** comfortably accounted for the reopposing **Lazzam** (second) and **Hombre Rojo** (third) when winning the UAE 2000 Guineas on just his second start at this track last month and the step up in distance should only bring about further improvement from this progressive colt.

SECOND RACE

7:35 EDT

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

6 Furlongs(Dirt) 3yo and Up Mahab Al Shimaal Sponsored By Emirates Skywards Group 3 Stakes - Dirt - Purse: \$210,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	MUARRAB	P Hanagan	M Al Muhairi	126	2-1
2	(2)	SWEET SWAP	L Dettori	K Subaia	126	10-1
3	(3)	RICH TAPESTRY	G Mossie	C W Chang	126	3-2
4	(4)	SHAISHEE	T O'Shea	M Al Muhairi	126	6-1
5	(5)	KIFAHAH	D O'Neill	A Al Raihe	126	8-1
6	(6)	ANFITRION SALE	S Hitchcott	Y Blooshi	126	15-1

SELECTIONS: 3 - 1 - 5

Muarrab ran well below form on his carnival reappearance in the Dubawi Stakes in January, without taking anything away from what was a superb performance from local favourite Reynaldotohewizard, but bounced back to something like his best when second over C&D in the Al Shindagha Stakes last month. The son of Oasis Dream found **RICH TAPESTRY** too good that night, though, and there is little to suggest that form will be reversed. The winner of this race two years ago and second in the Group 1 Golden Shaheen later that month (close third last year), the son of Holy Roman Emperor is a Grade 1 winner in America and looked right back to his best when storming to a one-and-a-half-length success last time. **Kifaah** ran a blinder in defeat behind the well-touted Marking last week and he completes the shortlist.

THIRD RACE

8:10 EDT

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

5 Furlongs(Turf) 3yo and Up Meydan Sprint Sponsored By Arabian Adventures Group 3 Stakes - Turf - Purse: \$184,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	MIRZA	D Probert	R Guest	126	12-1
2	(2)	MEDICEAN MAN	H Bentley	J Gask	126	12-1
3	(3)	SOLE POWER	R L Moore	E Lynam	126	5-2
4	(4)	TAAYEL	D O'Neill	M Al Muhairi	126	20-1
5	(5)	STEPPER POINT	M Dwyer	W Muir	126	10-1
6	(6)	KRYPTON FACTOR	L Dettori	F Nass	126	15-1
7	(7)	TOSCANINI	James Doyle	M Halford	126	7-1
8	(8)	JUNGLE CAT	W Buick	C Appleby	126	5-1
9	(9)	GOLDREAM	M Harley	R Cowell	126	3-1
10	(10)	SIR MAXIMILIAN	P Dobbs	I Williams	126	6-1
11	(11)	FITYAAN	P Hanagan	M Al Muhairi	126	15-1

SELECTIONS: 9 - 3 - 8

Sole Power will no doubt attract plenty of support with Ryan Moore booked for his return to action, though it is worth remembering he was turned over in this race 12 months ago before winning the Al Quoz Sprint next time out, and that race is likely to be his main target once again. **Jungle Cat** romped to an impressive 6f victory in handicap company here last time and could figure if coping with this sharper test, while recent C&D scorer **Sir Maximilian** is respected as he has a high cruising speed and match fitness on his side. However, it might be worth changing the sharpness of returning King's Stand hero **GOLDREAM**, who showed that victory to be no fluke when landing the l'Abbaye on his latest outing in October. **Toscanini** is entitled to strip fitter for his recent Carnival outing and also has the requisite class for this assignment.

FOURTH RACE

8:45 EDT

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

1 Mile(Dirt) 3yo and Up Burj Nahaar Sponsored By Emirates Holidays Group 3 Stakes - Dirt - Purse: \$210,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	ROSS	A de Vries	P Schiergen	126	15-1
2	(2)	LAYL	S Hitchcott	D Watson	126	7-2
3	(3)	COOL COWBOY	P Dobbs	D Watson	126	5-2
4	(4)	OVER THE OCEAN	D O'Neill	N Petersen	126	15-1
5	(5)	GOD'S SPEED	Doubtful	H Shuwaib	126	
6	(6)	MIND THAT BOY	M Barzalona	S Ghadayer	126	12-1
7	(7)	LONG RIVER	R French	S Ghadayer	126	12-1
8	(8)	LE BERNARDIN	T O'Shea	A Al Raihe	126	5-2
9	(9)	TOP CLEARANCE	P J Smullen	D Selvaratnam	126	7-1

SELECTIONS: 3 - 8 - 2

COOL COWBOY was deemed good enough to contest the Group 1 Golden Shaheen Stakes last year and has improved no end this term - finishing a good second in the Dubawi Stakes on his carnival reappearance before he was successfully stepped up in trip in a warm handicap two starts ago and then finished runner-up to the smart Maftool last time (Prayer For Relief, American Hope and the reopposing **Ross** all behind). Having his first run over 1m that night, Doug Watson's charge very much proved his worth over the distance and after just the nine career starts there could be more to come. **Le Bernardin** beat **Layl** (second) in round one of the Al Maktoum Challenge over track and trip in January and he is feared most.

FIFTH RACE

9:20 EDT

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

1 Mile 4 Furlongs(Turf) 3yo and Up Dubai City Of Gold Sponsored By Skycargo Group 2 Stakes - Turf - Purse: \$262,500.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	HAAFAGUINEA	James Doyle	S bin Suroor	126	6-1
2	(2)	SANSHAAWES	R L Moore	M De Kock	126	7-1
3	(3)	REMBRANDT VAN RIJN	M Barzalona	S Ghadayer	126	12-1
4	(4)	DARIYAN	C Soumillon	A de Royer-Dupre	123	3-1
5	(5)	BALIOS	J P Spencer	D M Simcock	123	6-1
6	(6)	POSTPONED	A Atzeni	R Varian	126	8-5
7	(7)	MAKZON	F Tylicki	A Bin Harmash	123	20-1
8	(8)	CAPTAIN MORLEY	M Harley	D M Simcock	126	15-1

SELECTIONS: 4 - 6 - 5

Postponed is clearly the horse to beat in this contest, as the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes winner has between 4lb and 21lb in hand of his rivals today based on official ratings. Despite that, the son of Dubawi has never won on his seasonal debut and could prove vulnerable on his first start for Roger Varian. **DARIYAN** represents a trainer with a very good record with his runners in Dubai and he arguably put in a career best when third in the Hong Kong Vase in December. That shows that travelling is not a problem for him and he is open to more improvement than **Postponed**. **Balios** was a bit disappointing on his final two starts of last year but he is a Group 2 winner, while the others are decent handicappers and look up against it at this level.

SIXTH RACE

9:55 EDT

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

1 Mile 2 Furlongs(Dirt) 3yo and Up Al Maktoum Challenge R3 Sponsored By Emirates Group 1 Stakes - Dirt - Purse: \$420,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	GUN PIT	J Moreira	C Fownes	126	8-1
2	(2)	MUNAASER	P Hanagan	A Al Raihe	126	20-1
3	(3)	WATERSHED	James Doyle	K McLaughlin	126	12-1
4	(4)	MUBTAAHIJ	C Soumillon	M De Kock	126	5-2
5	(5)	HAATHEQ	D O'Neill	A Al Raihe	126	20-1
6	(6)	SPECIAL FIGHTER	F Jara	M Al Muhairi	126	15-1
7	(7)	GOLD CITY	R Mullen	S Seemar	126	15-1
8	(8)	FAULKNER	P Dobbs	D Watson	126	15-1
9	(9)	GOLDEN SOUL	W Smith	M De Kock	126	20-1
10	(10)	STORM BELT	S Hitchcott	D Watson	126	15-1
11	(11)	KEEN ICE	R L Moore	D Romans	126	2-1
12	(12)	PYLON	R French	M De Kock	126	15-1

SELECTIONS: 3 - 11 - 4

Keen Ice has yet to live up to the expectations of a horse who handed American Pharoah his only defeat as a three-year-old. That said, this is the weakest race he has contested in a long time and he sets a decent standard. **Mubtaahij** finished one place behind **Keen Ice** in both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes last year and he looks sure to improve for the step back up in trip. However, he did finish behind **WATERSHED** last time and the son of Bernardini is just as entitled to improve for the step up in distance. The Godolphin runner only made his debut in August last year and he still seems to be progressing, as his last run behind Confrontation was arguably a career best. He finish in front of **Mubtaahij** that day and, being by Bernardini and out of a Dubai Millennium mare, the step up in trip can bring about further improvement.

SEVENTH RACE

10:30 EDT

Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Quartet, ATC

1 Mile 1 Furlong(Turf) 3yo and Up Jebel Hatta Sponsored By Emirates Group 1 Stakes - Turf - Purse: \$315,000.

No	PP	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	Wt.	ODDS
1	(1)	ZAHEE	W Smith	M De Kock	126	8-1
2	(2)	JOHANN STRAUSS	C Soumillon	M De Kock	126	6-1
3	(3)	ERTJAAL	P Hanagan	M De Kock	126	6-1
4	(4)	HARRY'S SON	H Bentley	Paul Lafferty	126	8-1
5	(5)	EARNISHAW	M Barzalona	S Ghadayer	126	12-1
6	(6)	FARRIER	R Mullen	S Seemar	126	20-1
7	(7)	SEFRI	D O'Neill	E Charpy	126	20-1
8	(8)	TRYSTER	W Buick	C Appleby	126	9-5
9	(9)	PRAYER FOR RELIEF	R L Moore	M De Kock	126	4-1
10	(10)	ELLEVAL	P J Smullen	D Marnane	126	8-1

SELECTIONS: 8 - 3 - 2

It is impossible to oppose the high-class **TRYSTER** following his easy success over 1m2f here last month. The turn of foot he showed that day was devastating, especially as the race had not been run at a fast pace, and he can take this race on his way to a clash with Solow in the Dubai Turf on World Cup night. **Ertjaal** bombed out on dirt last time and now has questions to answer, but he was a Group 1 winner in South Africa and clearly has plenty of ability. His stablemate **Johann Strauss** was third in this contest 12 months ago and is entitled to improve for his seasonal debut, although he will need to. **Elleval** and **Harry's Son** are consistent performers but both would need **Tryster** to massively disappoint to win this race.