

ASCOT



QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS DAY

RACING'S BREATHTAKING FINALE



SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2016
ASCOT RACECOURSE

MEDIA GUIDE

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FOREWORD

This year is the sixth running of QIPCO British Champions Day, the richest raceday in the British calendar with £4.2 million in prize money and the finale to the European Flat racing calendar. Over the years we have been treated to some incredible performances on the day and the record number of entries this year (up 10.8% on 2015) suggests that we are in for another spectacular day, come Saturday 15th October. Amongst those entered are the winners of no fewer than 79 Group 1 races and 15 European Classics. The day continues its strong international theme with a weighty contingent from Ireland, over ten per cent of the entries coming from 12 different stables across France and an entry from Hong Kong for the first time ever. Many of the season's most exciting equine talents have entries including Minding, winner of three QIPCO British Champions Series races this season, dual Derby hero Harzand and the cream of the milers in Galileo Gold, The Gurkha and Awtaad.

Last year a crowd of 31,000 enjoyed a magical day's racing with Frankie Dettori kicking off festivities by claiming his first Champions Day win on Flying Officer before Muhaarar confirmed his position as Europe's best sprinter when blowing apart a high class field in the QIPCO British Champions Sprint. Following the controversy of the St Leger, Simple Verse confirmed her class by claiming a second Group 1 in just over a month when winning the Fillies' and Mares'. Freddy Head claimed back to back wins in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes with Solow, having won in 2014 with Charm Spirit and Dermot Weld confirmed his status as the master of Ascot by winning the QIPCO Champion Stakes with Fascinating Rock, and in doing so, became the most successful trainer at Champions Day.



Of course the day will not just be about our equine stars but will also see the crowning of the Champion Flat Owner, the Stobart Champion Apprentice and the Stobart Champion Flat Jockey. Already this contest is hotting up with defending champion Silvestre De Sousa narrowly holding onto his current lead from the in-form pairing of James Doyle and Ryan Moore. We are grateful to Stobart for their continued support of the Jockeys' Championships and of course to QIPCO for their unstinting support of the QIPCO British Champions Series and British Champions Day itself. This year across the Series there has been £18.8 million in prize money, a 43.5% increase since the first running of the Series in 2011. Offering such prize money is crucial in attracting so many of the stars that have been entered for Champions Day and in establishing it as one of the world's great racedays. We are grateful to all of the owners and trainers who continue to support the day and we look forward to welcoming you all at Ascot on 15th October.

RACE DAY PROGRAMME

- 10.30** Gates open
- 12.45** The QIPCO British Champions Day Opening Ceremony featuring the crowning of the new Stobart Champion Flat Jockey
- 13.30** **The QIPCO British Champions Series Long Distance Cup** (Group 2)
- 14.05** **The QIPCO British Champions Series Sprint Stakes** (Group 1)
- 14.40** **The QIPCO British Champions Series Fillies' & Mares' Stakes** (Group 1)
- 15.15** **The Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (Sponsored by QIPCO)** Group 1
- 15.50** **The QIPCO Champion Stakes** (Group 1)
- 16.00** Win a car – Competition Draw
(Entrants must be around the Parade Ring to win)
- 16.25** **The Balmoral Handicap (Sponsored by QIPCO)**
- 16.40** The QIPCO British Champions Day After Party begins (located in the West End of the Grandstand, headlined by chart-topping sensation Sigala and featuring BBC Radio 2 DJ Sara Cox.
- 19.00** The After Party ends



1:30pm QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (GROUP 2)



Total prize money £350,000

Prize money breakdown: 1st: £198,485 - 2nd: £75,250
3rd: £37,660 - 4th: £18,760 - 5th: £9,415 - 6th: £4,725

- 2m 3YO+ Safety Factor/Maximum Figure 14
- Next deadline is the second entry stage on Tuesday 27th September.
- Confirmation by noon Monday 10th October
- Supplementary Entries (£18,000) close by noon on Monday 10th October
- Declare 10am Thursday, 13th October

LAST YEAR'S WINNER: FLYING OFFICER

Jockey: **Frankie Dettori** Trainer: **John Gosden** Owner: **George Strawbridge** Breeder: **George Strawbridge Jr**

A first QIPCO British Champions Day success for champion trainer John Gosden – and, incredibly, for Frankie Dettori too – as 6/1 chance Flying Officer burst into a commanding advantage two furlongs out. He had enough left in the tank to hold off the late challenge of luckless Yorkshire raider Clever Cookie, who endured a nightmare passage, by a length. Dettori described the successful horse afterwards as “a real big unit”.



POSSIBLE CONTENDERS THIS YEAR INCLUDE



ORDER OF ST GEORGE

A late bloomer at three, he improved throughout last year to win the Irish St Leger in emphatic fashion at The Curragh and has continued from where he left off this season with a cosy comeback win at Leopardstown before taking the Gold Cup In Honour Of The Queen's 90th Birthday at Royal Ascot. Ryan Moore rode him with supreme confidence there and he simply cruised through the field when asked to go and win. Aidan O'Brien's runner will take some beating if lining up in the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup, given that he has no shortage of speed to go with his obvious stamina reserves.



PALLASATOR

Third in this race in 2014 and fourth last year, Pallasator will attempt to make it third time lucky in 2016. He started this season in fine form when taking the Group 3 Henry II Stakes at Sandown and although he couldn't get competitive in the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot he is capable of top-class form on his day, as he showed when running away with the Doncaster Cup last September. Since then he was runner-up in the Qatar Goodwood Cup in what his trainer declared was a career-best effort.



MIZZOU

Luca Cumani's lightly-raced five-year-old has emerged as a serious contender for the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup this season, holding on gamely to win the Sagaro Stakes at Ascot on his seasonal reappearance before running a cracking race when second behind Order Of St George in the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot. He has the versatility to handle any type of going and is a strong stayer at this two-mile trip.



1:30pm

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (GROUP 2)

List of horses entered on 2nd August.

HORSE	AGE	OWNER	TRAINER
Almela (IRE)	4	H.H. Aga Khan	D. K. Weld
Amour de Nuit (IRE)	4	L. A. Larratt - Osborne House	Sir Mark Prescott Bt
Anglophile (GB)	5	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Antiquarium (IRE)	4	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Arya Tara (IRE)	3	Mrs A. M. O'Brien	Joseph Patrick O'Brien
Aussie Reigns (IRE)	6	Wicklow Bloodstock (Ireland) Ltd	W. P. Mullins
Bhutan (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Big Blue (GB)	4	Godolphin S.N.C.	A. Fabre
Big Orange (GB)	5	W. J. and T. C. O. Gredley	Michael Bell
Bondi Beach (IRE)	4	L. Williams, Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor, D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Burmese (GB)	4	Sir Thomas Pilkington	Marcus Tregoning
Charming Kitten (USA)	6	Mr K. L. Ramsey	D. K. Weld
Clever Cookie (GB)	8	Mr P. D. Niven	Peter Niven
Clondaw Warrior (IRE)	9	Act D Wagg Syndicate	W. P. Mullins
Commissioned (IRE)	6	Nick Bradley Racing Nineteen Partnership	Gordon Elliott
Cook Islands (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Curbyourenthusiasm (IRE)	5	Mr M Caine & Mr J Barnett	David Simcock
Dannyday (GB)	4	Sir Evelyn De Rothschild	Sir Michael Stoute
Flying Officer (USA)	6	Mr George Strawbridge	John Gosden
Forgotten Rules (IRE)	6	Moyglare Stud Farms Ltd	D. K. Weld
Glaring (GB)	5	Mr George Materna	Amanda Perrett
Gold Prince (IRE)	4	Mr J. C. Smith	Sylvester Kirk
Green Light (GB)	5	Sceptre	Ralph Beckett
Housesofparliament (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Idaho (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Important Message (GB)	4	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Ivan Grozny (FR)	6	Andrea & Graham Wylie	W. P. Mullins
Kellstorm (IRE)	3	T. Ah Khing / Mrs J. Magnier / M. Tabor / D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Kinema (IRE)	5	The Ashes	Ralph Beckett
Landofhopeandglory (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Launched (IRE)	4	Niarchos Family	P. Bary
Litigant (GB)	8	Mr A. A. Byrne	Joseph Tuite
Magic Circle (IRE)	4	Mr and Mrs David Aykroyd	Ralph Beckett
Max Dynamite (FR)	6	Mrs S. Ricci	W. P. Mullins
Mizzou (IRE)	5	Mr Jon S. Kelly	Luca Cumani
Muntahaa (IRE)	3	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	John Gosden
Nearly Caught (IRE)	6	Mr A. N. Solomons	Hughie Morrison
Order of St George (IRE)	4	L. Williams, Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor, D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Oriental Fox (GER)	8	Mr Markus Graff	Mark Johnston
Pallasator (GB)	7	Qatar Racing Limited	Sir Mark Prescott Bt
Pamona (IRE)	4	Highclere Thoroughbred Racing (Albany)	Ralph Beckett
Pearl Dragon (FR)	5	Pearl Bloodstock Ltd	M. Delzangles
Qewy (IRE)	6	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Quest For More (IRE)	6	H.R.H. Sultan Ahmad Shah	Roger Charlton
Renneti (FR)	7	Mrs S. Ricci	W. P. Mullins
Sandro Botticelli (IRE)	4	Mr Graham Smith-Bernal & Mr Alan Dee	John Ryan
Secret Number (GB)	6	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Sheikhzayedroad (GB)	7	Mr Mohammed Jaber	David Simcock
She Is No Lady (GB)	4	D & J Newell	Ralph Beckett
Simenon (IRE)	9	Wicklow Bloodstock (Ireland) Ltd	W. P. Mullins
Simple Verse (IRE)	4	QRL/Sheikh Suhaim Al Thani/M Al Kubaisi	Ralph Beckett
Sir Chauvelin (GB)	4	Mr J. Fyffe	Jim Goldie
Star Rider (GB)	4	Ben & Sir Martyn Arbib	Hughie Morrison
Suegioo (FR)	7	Dr Marwan Koukash	Richard Fahey
Sword Fighter (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
The Major General (IRE)	3	Magnier/Tabor/Smith/Jooste/Kantor	Aidan O'Brien
Triplicate (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Trip To Paris (IRE)	5	La Grange Partnership	Ed Dunlop
Twilight Payment (IRE)	3	Godolphin	J. S. Bolger
Unicorn (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Wicklow Brave (GB)	7	Wicklow Bloodstock (Ireland) Ltd	W. P. Mullins
Winning Story (GB)	3	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Wrangler (GB)	5	Highclere Thoroughbred Racing - Ashes	William Haggas



2016 SERIES WINNERS IN THE LONG DISTANCE DIVISION:

1. The Betway Yorkshire Cup (1m and 6f, 4YO+), York, May 13th – **Clever Cookie**
2. The Gold Cup In Honour of The Queen's 90th Birthday (2m and 4f, 4YO+), Ascot, June 16th – **Order of St George**
3. The Qatar Goodwood Cup (2m, 3YO+), Goodwood, July 28th – **Big Orange**
4. The Weatherbys Hamilton Insurance Lonsdale Cup (2m, 3YO+), York, August 19th –
5. The Doncaster Cup (2m and 2f, 3YO+), Doncaster, September 9th –
6. The Ladbrokes St Leger Stakes (1m and 6f, 3YO), Doncaster, September 12th –
7. **QIPCO British Champions Series Long Distance Cup, (2m, 3YO+), Ascot, October 15th**

PAST WINNERS OF THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (GROUP 2)

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
2011	120	Fame And Glory	J. Spencer	A. O'Brien
2012	113	Rite of Passage	P. Smullen	D. Weld
2013	114	Royal Diamond	J. Murtagh	J. Murtagh
2014	111	Forgotten Rules	P. Smullen	D. Weld
2015	115	Flying Officer	L. Dettori	J. Gosden

HISTORY OF THE RACE

Established in 1873 as the Jockey Club Cup, this race was run at Newmarket until 2011, when it was moved to Ascot and renamed the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup. With two demanding miles (3,200 metres) of Ascot's famous turf to negotiate, it provides a thorough test of stamina for Flat racing's top stayers as they contest the final major long-distance race of the British season.

The seven races in the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance category vary in distance from the extended mile and six furlongs (2,920 metres) of Doncaster's Ladbrokes St Leger to the two and a half miles (4,000 metres) of the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot. The intermediate two-mile trip of the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup therefore provides the perfect distance for the category finale.

At £350,000, second only in value amongst Europe's staying races to the Gold Cup itself, the race had been dominated by Irish challengers in its first four years at Ascot before Frankie Dettori and John Gosden each claimed a first victory at QIPCO British Champions Day last year in the race with Flying Officer.

2:05pm QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (GROUP 1)

SP

Total prize money £600,000

Prize money breakdown: 1st £340,620 - 2nd £129,000
3rd £64,560 - 4th £32,160 - 5th £16,140 - 6th £8,100

- 6f 3YO+ Safety Factor/Maximum Figure 20
- Next deadline is the second entry stage on Tuesday 27th September
- Confirmation by noon Monday 10th October
- Supplementary Entries (£40,000) close by noon on Monday 10th October
- Declare 10am Thursday, 13th October

LAST YEAR'S WINNER: MUHAARAR

Jockey: **Paul Hanagan** Trainer: **Charlie Hills** Owner: **Hamdan Al Maktoum** Breeder: **Shadwell**

A fourth consecutive Group 1 success, but this was the victory that conclusively crowned Muhaarar as the very best sprinter seen anywhere in Europe last year. Concerns over the suitability of the ground and the tough campaign he'd faced to this point were blown away in a matter of strides soon after the furlong-pole. He coasted home under Paul Hanagan to beat Twilight Son by two lengths and cap a tremendous season which saw him claim most of 2015's biggest sprinting prizes.



POSSIBLE CONTENDERS THIS YEAR INCLUDE



TWILIGHT SON

Henry Candy's speedball was beaten two lengths by Muhaarar in last year's QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes but his victory at Royal Ascot this year in the Group 1 Diamond Jubilee Stakes suggests he could be ready to go one better in this year's contest. Although beaten in a very strong renewal of the July Cup at Newmarket by stablemate Limato, he seems to come alive at Ascot.



QUIET REFLECTION

One of the most memorable moments of the season so far came at Royal Ascot when jockey Dougie Costello came back into the winner's enclosure in tears after Quiet Reflection had demolished her rivals in the Group 1 Commonwealth Cup. Karl Burke's three-year-old has already been one of the sprinting stars of the season and backed up her Royal Ascot win with a very solid third-placed effort behind Limato in the July Cup at Newmarket. Her ability to handle soft ground, shown when winning on heavy ground at Chantilly on her seasonal reappearance, means that connections will not fear any rain.



MAGICAL MEMORY

After Muhaarar's commanding performance last year, Charlie Hills will be bidding for back-to-back victories with the nippy Magical Memory. The four-year-old made the best possible start to the season when winning the Group 2 Duke Of York Stakes and then stepped up on this effort when narrowly beaten into third behind Twilight Son in the Diamond Jubilee Stakes at Royal Ascot. He was also touched off by the same rival in the Group 1 Betfred Sprint Cup at Haydock last autumn and will looking to take his revenge on QIPCO British Champions Day.



2:05pm

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (GROUP 1)

List of horses entered on 2nd August.

HORSE	AGE	OWNER	TRAINER
Adaay (IRE)	4	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	William Haggas
Air Force Blue (USA)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Air Vice Marshal (USA)	3	M. Tabor / D. Smith / Mrs J. Magnier / Joseph Allen LLC	Aidan O'Brien
Ajaya (GB)	3	Saleh Al Homaizi & Imad Al Sagar	William Haggas
Brando (GB)	4	Mrs Angie Bailey	Kevin Ryan
Buratino (IRE)	3	Godolphin	Mark Johnston
Dancing Star (GB)	3	Mr J. C. Smith	Andrew Balding
Danzeno (GB)	5	Mr A. M. Wragg	Michael Appleby
Dick Whittington (IRE)	4	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Divine (IRE)	5	Mr M. Al-Qatami & Mr K. M. Al-Mudhaf	Mick Channon
Don't Touch (GB)	4	Nicholas Wrigley & Kevin Hart	Richard Fahey
Donjuan Triumphant (IRE)	3	Middleham Park Racing LXXXVII	Richard Fahey
Dutch Connection (GB)	4	Godolphin	Charles Hills
Fort Del Oro (IRE)	4	Ballylinch Stud	Edward Lynam
Goken (FR)	4	Mr Guy Pariente	Kevin Ryan
Gold-Fun (IRE)	7	Mr Sutong Pan	Richard Gibson
Gordon Lord Byron (IRE)	8	Dr Cyrus Poonawalla / Morgan J Cahalan	T. Hogan
Growl (GB)	4	Dr Marwan Koukash	Richard Fahey
Jack Dexter (GB)	7	Mr J. Fyffe	Jim Goldie
Jane's Memory (IRE)	4	Mr P. O'Neill	Rae Guest
Jimmy Two Times (FR)	3	Haras de Saint Pair	A. Fabre
Kachy (GB)	3	Jones Lowe Mound Trowbridge	Tom Dascombe
Librisa Breeze (GB)	4	Mr Tony Bloom	Dean Ivory
Limato (IRE)	4	Mr Paul G. Jacobs	Henry Candy
Lumiere (GB)	3	Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum	Mark Johnston
Maarek (GB)	9	Lisbunny Syndicate	Miss Evanna McCutcheon
Magical Memory (IRE)	4	Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds I	Charles Hills
Mecca's Angel (IRE)	5	Mr David T. J. Metcalfe	Michael Dods
Mobsta (IRE)	4	Mr Billy Parish	Mick Channon
Mr Lupton (IRE)	3	Mr N. D. Kershaw	Richard Fahey
Muhadathat (GB)	3	Mr Abdulla Al Mansoori	Mark Johnston
Naadirr (IRE)	5	Middleham Park Racing XXX	Marco Botti
Only Mine (IRE)	3	Mrs C. C. Regalado-Gonzalez	Joseph G. Murphy
Painted Cliffs (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Perfect Pasture (GB)	6	S Hull, S Hollings & D Swales	Michael Easterby
Quiet Reflection (GB)	3	Ontoawinner, Strecker & Burke	K. R. Burke
Shalaa (IRE)	3	Al Shaqab Racing	John Gosden
Signs of Blessing (IRE)	5	I. Corbani / Pandora Racing / A. Mouknass	Francois Rohaut
Sole Power (GB)	9	Mrs S. Power	Edward Lynam
Strath Burn (GB)	4	Qatar Racing Limited & R A Bartlett	Robert Cowell
Suedois (FR)	5	Mr George Turner	David O'Meara
The Tin Man (GB)	4	Fred Archer Racing - Ormonde	James Fanshawe
Twilight Son (GB)	4	Mr Godfrey Wilson & Cheveley Park Stud	Henry Candy
Washington DC (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien

2016 SERIES WINNERS IN THE SPRINT DIVISION:

1. The King's Stand Stakes (5f, 3YO+), Royal Ascot, June 14th – **Profitable**
2. The Commonwealth Cup (6f, 3YO), Royal Ascot, June 17th – **Quiet Reflection**
3. The Diamond Jubilee Stakes (6f, 3YO+) Royal Ascot, June 18th – **Twilight Son**
4. The Darley July Cup (6f, 3YO+) July Course Newmarket, July 9th – **Limato**
5. The Coolmore Nunthorpe Stakes (5f, 2YO+), York, August 19th –
6. The Betfred Sprint Cup (6f, 3YO+) Haydock Park, September 3rd –
7. **QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes (6f, 3YO+) Ascot, October 15th**

PAST WINNERS OF THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT DIVISION (GROUP 1)

Year	Rating	Horse	Jockey	Trainer
2011	120	Deacon Blues	Johnny Murtagh	James Fanshawe
2012	114	Maarek	Jamie Spencer	David Peter Nagle
2013	115	Slade Power	Wayne Lordan	Edward Lynam
2014	118	Gordon Lord Byron	Wayne Lordan	Tom Hogan
2015	123	Muhaarar	Paul Hanagan	Charles Hills

HISTORY OF THE RACE

In 2015, the QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes was upgraded from Group 2 to Group 1 status and, in response to its enhanced prestige, the race's value was boosted from £350,000 to £600,000 establishing it as Europe's joint-most valuable sprint.

This six-furlong (1,200 metres) contest provides the grand finale to the seven-race QIPCO British Champions Sprint division. There are three Series races run over five furlongs (1,000 metres) and four, including today's contest, over six furlongs. Many sprinters tend to specialise over one of these distances, but the true greats have the versatility to excel over both trips.

The QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes has evolved from the Diadem Stakes, which was first run at Ascot in 1946. The first running under its current name was won by Deacon Blues, trained in Newmarket by James Fanshawe, in 2011. The three subsequent scorers travelled across the Irish Sea to land the prize, before European champion Muhaarar scored for Britain last year.

2:40pm QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES' & MARES' STAKES (GROUP 1)

FM

Total prize money £600,000

Prize money breakdown: 1st £340,620 - 2nd £129,000

3rd £64,560 - 4th £32,160 - 5th £16,140 - 6th £8,100

- 1m 4f 3YO+ fillies and mares Safety Factor/Maximum Figure 19
- Next deadline is the second entry stage on Tuesday 27th September
- Confirmation by noon Monday 10th October
- Supplementary Entries (£35,000) close by noon on Monday 10th October
- Declare 10am Thursday, 13th October

LAST YEAR'S WINNER: SIMPLE VERSE

Jockey: **Andrea Atzeni** Trainer: **Ralph Beckett** Owner: **Qatar Racing / Sheikh Suhaim Al Thani / M Al Kubaisi**
Breeder: **Barronstown Stud**

Just weeks after winning the Ladbrokes St Leger, losing the race in the stewards' room and then being re-awarded it upon appeal, Simple Verse claimed a second Group 1 victory in far more straightforward circumstances. Frankie Dettori poached a lead on Journey early in the straight, but the winner's stamina reserves kicked in and she steadily cut down her rival to score at 5/1 by three-quarters of a length in the colours of Qatar Racing who so generously support the meeting under the QIPCO banner.



POSSIBLE CONTENDERS THIS YEAR INCLUDE



EVEN SONG

Aidan O'Brien has an embarrassment of riches in this division, with Minding (winner of the QIPCO 1000 Guineas, the Investec Oaks and Qatar Nassau Stakes) and Alice Springs (winner of the Group 1 Falmouth Stakes at Newmarket) both leading the way in the QIPCO British Champions Series. However, Even Song showed just what a progressive filly she was when running away with the Group 2 Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot on only her fourth start and, with a tilt at the St Leger a distinct possibility, she could take the same route to this race that her half-sister, Simple Verse, took last year.



ENDLESS TIME

This Godolphin-owned daughter of Sea The Stars began last season in relatively lowly handicap company, but she has improved out of all recognition and successfully moved up to Group 2 level when grinding out victory in the Lancashire Oaks on her seasonal reappearance. Connections have already nominated this contest as a likely end-of-season target and the run of '1's next to her name - she has now won six of her last seven - says she must be taken seriously.



MINDING

Arguably the star of the entire season so far in Britain and Ireland, Minding has mopped up a series of Group 1 prizes including a brace of English Classics and her presence among the entries for QIPCO British Champions Day confirms the elite status of this contest, now that it has achieved top level billing. Only an unfortunate defeat in the Irish 1000 Guineas has prevented Minding from going unbeaten this year and Ryan Moore praised her professionalism after her latest success in Goodwood's Qatar Nassau Stakes. Versatile, game and possibly still even improving, the dual Classic winner sets the bar high for any would-be rival.



2:40pm

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES' & MARES' STAKES (GROUP 1)

List of horses entered on 2nd August.

HORSE	AGE	OWNER	TRAINER
Agnes Stewart (IRE)	4	Clipper Logistics Group Ltd	Edward Lynam
Ajman Princess (IRE)	3	Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum	Roger Varian
Almela (IRE)	4	H.H. Aga Khan	D. K. Weld
Al Wathna (GB)	3	Al Shaqab Racing	Jean Claude Rouget
Anzhelika (IRE)	4	Mr B. E. Nielsen	David Lanigan
Architecture (IRE)	3	Lael Stable	Hugo Palmer
Arya Tara (IRE)	3	Mrs A. M. O'Brien	Joseph Patrick O'Brien
Ballydoyle (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Bateel (IRE)	4	Al Asayl Bloodstock Ltd	David Simcock
Beautiful Romance (GB)	4	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Best In The World (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Bocca Baciata (IRE)	4	Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd	Mrs J. Harrington
California (IRE)	4	Denford Stud	John Gosden
Candarliya (FR)	4	H.H. Aga Khan	A. de Royer Dupre
Carnachy (IRE)	4	St Albans Bloodstock Limited	David Simcock
Coolmore (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Deremah (USA)	3	H.H. Aga Khan	A. de Royer Dupre
Endless Time (IRE)	4	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Even Song (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Fashion Parade (GB)	3	Mr Abdulla Al Khalifa	Charles Hills
Found (IRE)	4	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Furia Cruzada (CHI)	5	Mr F. Fantini	John Gosden
Harlequeen (GB)	3	Mrs S. Brandt	Mick Channon
Highlands Queen (FR)	3	Mme N. Kerjean	Y. Gourraud
How High The Moon (IRE)	3	Mrs R Henry/Mrs J Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Journey (GB)	4	Mr George Strawbridge	John Gosden
Koora (GB)	4	Fittocks Stud	Luca Cumani
Left Hand (GB)	3	Wertheimer et Frere	C. Laffon-Pariis
Maleficent Queen (GB)	4	Weldspec Glasgow Limited	Keith Dalgleish
Mambomiss (FR)	5	Mr J. M. De Watrigant	D. Watrigant
Mango Tango (FR)	3	Galileo Racing	P. Bary
Minding (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Miss Marjorie (IRE)	6	Chris van Hoorn Racing	Denis Coakley
Mountain Bell (GB)	3	Qatar Racing Limited	Ralph Beckett
Nezwaah (GB)	3	Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum	Roger Varian
Pacific Angel (IRE)	4	Ballymore Thoroughbred Ltd	M. Delzangles
Prefer (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Pretty Perfect (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Promising Run (USA)	3	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Queen's Trust (GB)	3	Cheveley Park Stud	Sir Michael Stoute
Seventh Heaven (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Shamreen (IRE)	3	H.H. Aga Khan	D. K. Weld
Simple Verse (IRE)	4	QRL/Sheikh Suhaim Al Thani/M Al Kubaisi	Ralph Beckett
Skiffle (GB)	3	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Somehow (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
So Mi Dar (GB)	3	Lord Lloyd-Webber	John Gosden
Sotteville (FR)	3	Mr G. Augustin-Normand	Jean Claude Rouget
Speedy Boarding (GB)	4	Helena Springfield Ltd	James Fanshawe
Swiss Range (GB)	3	Mr K. Abdullah	John Gosden
The Black Princess (FR)	3	Mr R. J. H. Geffen	John Gosden
To Eternity (GB)	3	Lady Bamford	John Gosden
Turret Rocks (IRE)	3	Mrs June Judd	J. S. Bolger
Very Dashing (GB)	3	Helena Springfield Ltd	Luca Cumani
Zhukova (IRE)	4	Mrs C. C. Regalado-Gonzalez	D. K. Weld



2016 SERIES WINNERS IN THE FILLIES' & MARES' DIVISION

1. QIPCO 1000 Guineas (1m, 3YO fillies), Rowley Mile Newmarket, May 1st – **Minding**
2. The Investec Oaks (1m 4f, 3YO fillies), Epsom Downs, June 3rd – **Minding**
3. The Coronation Stakes (1m, 3YO fillies), Ascot, June 17th – **Qemah**
4. The QIPCO Falmouth Stakes (1m, 3YO + fillies and mares), July Course Newmarket, July 8th – **Alice Springs**
5. The Qatar Nassau Stakes (1m2f, 3YO+ fillies and mares), Goodwood, July 30th – **Minding**
6. The Darley Yorkshire Oaks – (1m4f, 3YO+), York, August 18th –
7. **QIPCO British Champions Series Fillies' & Mares' Stakes (1m4f, 3YO+)**
Ascot, October 15th –

PAST WINNERS OF THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES' & MARES' STAKES (GROUP 1)

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
2011	117	Dancing Rain	Johnny Murtagh	William Haggas
2012	116	Sapphire	Pat Smullen	Dermot Weld
2013	115	Seal of Approval	George Baker	James Fanshawe
2014	113	Madame Chiang	Jim Crowley	David Simcock
2015	116	Simple Verse	Andrea Atzeni	Ralph Beckett

HISTORY OF THE RACE

The genealogy of the QIPCO British Champions Fillies' And Mares' Stakes dates back to 1946, when Ascot staged the Princess Royal Stakes for the first time. In 2008 it was renamed the Pride Stakes and moved to Newmarket, but it returned to Ascot under its current name in 2011.

The new race was given a boost in its very first year as it was won by none other than the Investec Oaks and Preis der Diana (German Oaks) winner, Dancing Rain, a dual Classic heroine having her final European start. Simple Verse was the second Classic winner to claim the spoils in its short recent history when successful last year. The race was awarded Group 1 status in 2013 and now boasts prize money of £600,000, the latest increase of £50,000 making it Britain's joint-most valuable fillies-only race.

3:15pm **QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES** SPONSORED BY QIPCO (GROUP 1)



Total prize money £1,100,000

Prize money breakdown: 1st: £623,810 - 2nd: £236,500
3rd: £118,360 - 4th: £58,960 - 5th: £29,590 - 6th: £14,850

- 1m 3YO+ Safety Factor/Maximum Figure 20
- Next deadline is the second entry stage on Tuesday 27th September
- Confirmation by noon Monday 10th October
- Supplementary Entries (£70,000) close by noon on Monday 10th October
- Declare 10am Thursday, 13th October

LAST YEAR'S WINNER: SOLOW

Jockey: **Maxime Guyon** Trainer: **Freddy Head** Owner: **Wertheimer & Frere** Breeder: **Wertheimer Et Frere**

A third French-trained winner in the short history of QIPCO British Champions Day as Freddy Head's superstar miler routed his rivals in ideal conditions.

Jockey Maxime Guyon knew he had the race in safe keeping from some way out, although the fast-finishing Belardo was making late gains in second close home. Head hailed his winner as "a brilliant horse, who is easy to train and does whatever you ask him to".



POSSIBLE CONTENDERS THIS YEAR INCLUDE



GALILEO GOLD

One of last season's top juveniles, Galileo Gold has taken his form to another level this season, with victories in the QIPCO 2000 Guineas at Newmarket and the Group 1 St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot. Hugo Palmer's three-year-old is likely to take in all the top mile races en-route to a crack at the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO) and a victory at QIPCO British Champions Day could well see him crowned champion miler at the end of the season.



THE GURKHA

Aidan O'Brien's three-year-old has shown himself a top-class performer over a variety of trips this season and has locked horns a number of times with Galileo Gold. He came off second best behind that rival in the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot but many observers think he was the victim of a top-class riding performance from Frankie Dettori on Galileo Gold that day. He had previously taken his rivals apart in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (French 2,000 Guineas) at Deauville before running Hawkbill close in the Coral-Eclipse and then exacting revenge on Galileo Gold in the Qatar Sussex Stakes.



BELARDO

The Godolphin-owned four-year-old could well fly the flag for the older horses in this year's Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO) and, if he replicates his performance in both the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes (when behind American raider Tepin) and the Al Shaqab Lockinge Stakes (when beating Euro Charline by a length), then he will certainly give the three-year-olds something to think about. Roger Varian's colt was narrowly beaten by the top-class Solow in this race last year and will be looking to go one better on QIPCO British Champions Day in October.



3:15pm

QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES

SPONSORED BY QIPCO (GROUP 1)

List of horses entered on 2nd August.

HORSE	AGE	OWNER	TRAINER
Adaay (IRE)	4	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	William Haggas
Alice Springs (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Arod (IRE)	5	Qatar Racing Limited	Peter Chapple-Hyam
Awtaad (IRE)	3	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	K. Prendergast
Ballydoyle (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Barchan (USA)	4	Godolphin	Roger Varian
Belardo (IRE)	4	Godolphin & Prince A A Faisal	Roger Varian
Breton Rock (IRE)	6	Mr John Cook	David Simcock
Charming Thought (GB)	4	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Cougar Mountain (IRE)	5	M Tabor/D Smith/Mrs Magnier/Mrs O'Brien	Aidan O'Brien
Daily Bulletin (USA)	3	Godolphin	John Gosden
Deauville (IRE)	3	Mrs F Hay/M Tabor/Mrs J Magnier/D Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Dicton (GB)	3	Mr Robert Ng	Gianluca Bietolini
Dutch Connection (GB)	4	Godolphin	Charles Hills
Endless Drama (IRE)	4	Sheikh Khalifa, Sheikh Suhaim/QRL	G. M. Lyons
Ervedya (FR)	4	H.H. Aga Khan	Jean Claude Rouget
Franklin D (USA)	4	W. J. and T. C. O. Gredley	Michael Bell
Galileo Gold (GB)	3	Al Shaqab Racing	Hugo Palmer
Hathal (USA)	4	Al Shaqab Racing	William Haggas
Hit It A Bomb (USA)	3	Mrs E. M. Stockwell	Aidan O'Brien
Johannes Vermeer (IRE)	3	M Tabor/D Smith/Mrs J Magnier/T Ah Khing	Aidan O'Brien
Knife Edge (IRE)	3	Mrs J Magnier, Mr M Tabor & Mr D Smith	Marco Botti
Latharnach (USA)	4	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Lightning Spear (GB)	5	Qatar Racing Limited	David Simcock
Long Island Sound (USA)	3	D Smith/Mrs Magnier/M Tabor/Joseph Allen	Aidan O'Brien
Massaat (IRE)	3	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	Owen Burrows
Minding (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Mitchum Swagger (GB)	4	Paul Dean & The Mitchum Swagger P'Ship	David Lanigan
Mutakayyef (GB)	5	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	William Haggas
Qemah (IRE)	3	Al Shaqab Racing	Jean Claude Rouget
Reckless Gold (IRE)	3	Maxwell Morris	Joseph Patrick O'Brien
Ribchester (IRE)	3	Godolphin	Richard Fahey
Stormy Antarctic (GB)	3	Mr P. K. Siu	Ed Walker
The Gurkha (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Thikriyaat (IRE)	3	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	Sir Michael Stoute
Toormore (IRE)	5	Godolphin	Richard Hannon
Vadamos (FR)	5	Haras de Saint Pair	A. Fabre
Zawraq (IRE)	4	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	D. K. Weld
Zelzal (FR)	3	Al Shaqab Racing	Jean Claude Rouget
Zonderland (GB)	3	Cheveley Park Stud	Clive Cox

2016 SERIES WINNERS IN THE MILE DIVISION:

1. QIPCO 2000 Guineas (1m, 3YO), Rowley Mile, Newmarket, April 30th – **Galileo Gold**
 2. The Al Shaqab Lockinge Stakes (1m, 4YO+), Newbury, May 14th – **Belardo**
 3. Queen Anne Stakes (1m, 4YO +), Ascot, June 14th – **Tepin**
 4. The St James's Palace Stakes (1m, 3YO colts), Ascot, June 16th – **Galileo Gold**
 5. The Qatar Sussex Stakes (1m, 3YO +), Goodwood, July 27th – **The Gurkha**
 6. Kingdom of Bahrain Sun Chariot Stakes (1m, 3YO+), Rowley Mile, Newmarket, October 1st –
 7. **British Champions Series Queen Elizabeth II Stakes Sponsored by QIPCO (1m, 3YO+) Ascot, October 15th -**
-

HISTORY OF THE RACE

Long recognised as Europe's mile championship, 1,600 metre races come no bigger than this anywhere on the international stage. Carrying a cool £1.1 million in prizemoney, the race has entered a different stratosphere in financial terms, boosted from £250,000 in 2010 when it was run at Ascot's late September meeting. It is now by far the richest mile race in Europe and one of the most valuable anywhere in the world. Named in honour of The Queen in 1955, the race has a roll of honour packed full of stars, including Brigadier Gerard (1971 & 1972), Known Fact (1980), Dubai Millennium (1999) and the awesome Frankel, who took the contest in 2011 in effortless fashion. After a dozen straight home wins leading up to 2005, the winner's trophy has been exported four times in the last nine years, most recently to France following Charm Spirit's 2014 success and Solow's last year.

The race also holds special memories for Frankie Dettori. It provided him with his first-ever Group 1 victory thanks to Markofdistinction in 1990 and six years later Mark Of Esteem was the third leg of his 'Magnificent Seven' when he won all seven races on that famous (or infamous if you were a bookmaker) Ascot card.



MI

QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES SPONSORED BY QIPCO (GROUP 1) WINNERS AND RATINGS 2000-2015

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	OWNER
2000	126	Observatory	Kevin Darley	John Gosden	Khalid Abdullah
2001	122	Summoner	Richard Hills	Saeed bin Suroor	Godolphin
2002	123	Where or When	Kevin Darley	T. Mills	John Humphreys
2003	127	Falbrav	Darryll Holland	Luca Cumani	Rencati/ Yoshida
2004	123	Rakti	Philip Robinson	Michael Jarvis	Gary Tanaka
2005	124	Starcraft	Christophe Lemaire	Luca Cumani	The Australian Syndicate
2006	127	George Washington	Mick Kinane	Aidan O'Brien	Magnier/ Tabor/ Smith
2007	123	Ramonti	Frankie Dettori	Saeed Bin Suroor	Godolphin
2008	129	Raven's Pass	Jimmy Fortune	John Gosden	Princess Haya of Jordan
2009	129	Rip Van Winkle	Johnny Murtagh	Aidan O'Brien	Magnier/ Tabor/ Smith
2010	122	Poet's Voice	Frankie Dettori	Saeed Bin Suroor	Godolphin
2011	136	Frankel	Tom Queally	Sir Henry Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
2012	130	Excelebration	Joseph O'Brien	Aidan O'Brien	Smith/ Magnier/ Tabor
2013	125	Olympic Glory	Richard Hughes	Richard Hannon Sr	Sheikh Joaan Al Thani
2014	122	Charm Spirit	Olivier Peslier	Freddy Head	Sheikh Abdulla Bin Khalifa
2015	125	Solow	Maxime Guyon	Freddy Head	Wertheimer & Frere





ROLL OF HONOUR 1970-1999 FOR THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES

FIRST RUN IN 1955 AND RUN AT NEWMARKET IN 2005 WHEN ASCOT WAS BEING REDEVELOPED.

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	OWNER
1970	Welsh Pageant	4	Sandy Barclay	Noel Murless	Jim Joel
1971	Brigadier Gerard	3	Joe Mercer	Dick Hern	Jean Hislop
1972	Brigadier Gerard	4	Joe Mercer	Dick Hern	Jean Hislop
1973	Jan Ekels	4	Jimmy Lindley	Guy Harwood	Anthony Bodie
1974	Track Waterlogged				
1975	Rose Bowl	3	Willie Carson	Fulke Johnson Houghton	Jane Engelhard
1976	Rose Bowl	4	Willie Carson	Fulke Johnson Houghton	Jane Engelhard
1977	Trusted	4	Willie Carson	John Dunlop	Duchess of Norfolk
1978	Homing	3	Willie Carson	Dick Hern	2nd Baron Rotherwick
1979	Kris	3	Joe Mercer	Sir Henry Cecil	Lord Howard de Walden
1980	Known Fact	3	Willie Carson	Jeremy Tree	Khalid Abdullah
1981	To-Agori-Mou	3	Lester Piggott	Guy Harwood	Andry Muinos
1982	Buzzards Bay	4	Walter Swinburn	Hugh Collingridge	Vera McKinney
1983	Sackford	3	Greville Starkey	Guy Harwood	Anthony Bodie
1984	Teleprompter	4	Willie Carson	Bill Watts	18th Earl of Derby
1985	Shadeed	3	Walter Swinburn	Sir Michael Stoute	Maktoum Al Maktoum
1986	Sure Blade	3	Brent Thomson	Guy Harwood	Sheikh Mohammad
1987	Milligram	3	Pat Eddery	Sir Michael Stoute	Helena Springfield Ltd
1988	Warning	3	Pat Eddery	Guy Harwood	Khalif Abdullah
1989	Zilzal	3	Walter Swinburn	Sir Michael Stoute	Mana Al Maktoum
1990	Markofdistinction	4	Frankie Dettori	Luca Cumani	Gerald Leigh
1991	Selkirk	3	Ray Cochrane	Ian Balding	George Strawbridge
1992	Lahib	4	Willie Carson	John Dunlop	Hamdan Al Maktoum
1993	Bigstone	3	Pat Eddery	Elie Lellouche	Daniel Wildenstein
1994	Maroof	4	Richard Hills	Robert Armstrong	Hamdan Al Maktoum
1995	Bahri	3	Willie Carson	John Dunlop	Hamdan Al Maktoum
1996	Mark of Esteem	3	Frankie Dettori	Saeed bin Suroor	Godolphin
1997	Air Express	3	Olivier Peslier	Clive Brittain	Mohamed Obaida
1998	Desert Prince	3	Olivier Peslier	David Loder	Lucayan Stud
1999	Dubai Millennium	3	Frankie Dettori	Saeed bin Suroor	Godolphin

3:50pm QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES

(GROUP 1)



Total prize money £1,300,000

Prize money breakdown: 1st £737,230 - 2nd £279,500
3rd £139,880 - 4th £69,680 - 5th £34,970 - 6th £17,550

- 1m2f 3YO+ Safety Factor/Maximum Figure 14
- Next deadline is the second entry stage on Tuesday 27th September
- Confirmation by noon Monday 10th October
- Supplementary Entries (£75,000) close by noon on Monday 10th October
- Declare 10am Thursday, 13th October 2015

LAST YEAR'S WINNER: FASCINATING ROCK

Jockey: **Pat Smullen** Trainer: **Dermot Weld** Owner: **Newtown Anner Stud** Breeder: **Newtown Anner Stud**

Dermot Weld's faith in his late-maturing four-year-old was fully justified as Fascinating Rock came with a powerful late challenge to cut down Irish Derby winner Jack Hobbs and hold off the final threat of ace filly Found. Weld, who has won more QIPCO British Champions Day contests than any other trainer, revealed afterwards that he had been eyeing this race all year long.



POSSIBLE CONTENDERS THIS YEAR INCLUDE



FASCINATING ROCK

When faced with his favoured conditions and 10 furlongs, Dermot Weld's Fascinating Rock looks almost unbeatable and it will be a big surprise if the five-year-old doesn't at least go close in his bid to win the QIPCO Champion Stakes for a second year running. Campaigned sparingly by his shrewd handler, Fascinating Rock has looked better than ever this year and ran out the authoritative winner of the Group 1 Tattersalls Gold Cup at the Curragh following a warm-up at the same course just a couple of weeks earlier.



HAWKBILL

The Godolphin-owned three-year-old has been a revelation this season and is now unbeaten in his last six starts. He burst onto the Group-race scene with a scintillating victory in the Group 3 Tercentenary Stakes at Royal Ascot and followed that up with a spirited success in the Coral-Eclipse at Sandown. Could he be the horse who gives Fascinating Rock the most to think about should they clash at Ascot in October?

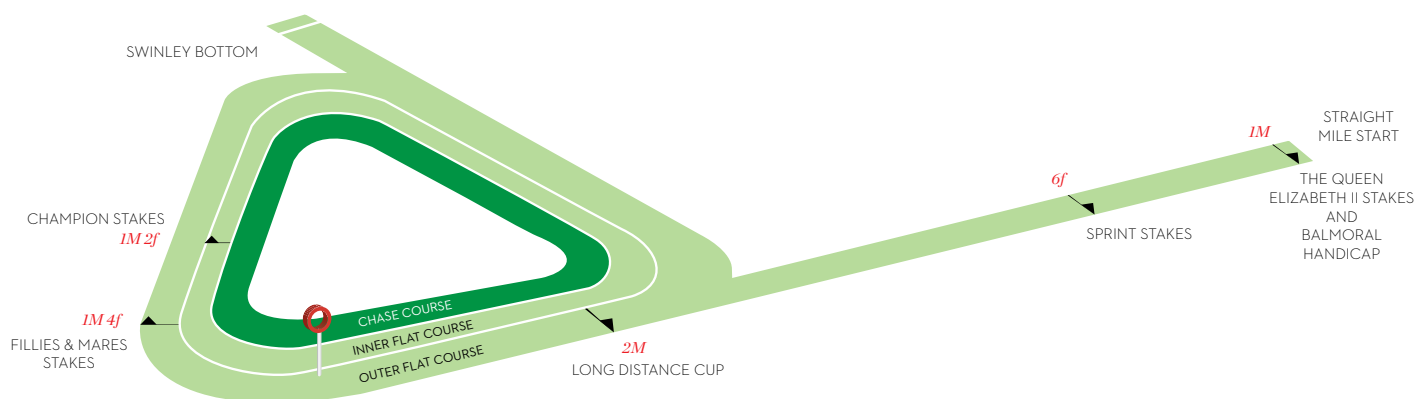


MY DREAM BOAT

Clive Cox's improving four-year-old was given little chance when he lined up alongside red-hot favourite A Shin Hikari at Royal Ascot in the Group 1 Prince Of Wales's Stakes but he made a mockery of his double-figure odds by storming to success. He was soundly beaten by that rival in the Group 1 Prix d'Isbahan at Chantilly and was down the field behind Hawkbill and The Gurkha in the Coral-Eclipse at Sandown. However, he has bounced back from a modest run in the past and, back at the scene of his greatest triumph, it wouldn't be a surprise to see him run a big race in the QIPCO Champion Stakes.

QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES

RUN ON INNER FLAT COURSE IN 2016



British Champions Series and Ascot have confirmed that the Group 1 QIPCO Champion Stakes will be run on a newly demarcated Inner Flat Course which, it is anticipated, will deliver the best possible ground available.

Additional running rails will create a bespoke track, not subject to summer watering, on the inside of the usual flat track rails. As a result, the start of the race on this track will move back approximately 80 yards allowing for a longer run to the first bend and likely reducing the significance of the draw. The change marks the conclusion of a project to investigate the possible deployment of rain covers.

Nick Smith, Director of Racing and Communications at Ascot, said: "Supported by the BHA, we believe that it is in the best interests of fairness and clarity to make this decision now. Changing the course at the five-day stage or at declarations runs the risk of upsetting connections, and indeed punters, by actively deciding to favour certain parties over others.

"Making the decision now means that everyone knows that the surface will, in all likelihood, be a degree quicker than might ordinarily be the case. They can plan accordingly from the start - the initial entry fee payment stage.

"Of course making a late call on which course will be used without any guarantee of what the weather might do, even at 48 hours, is not palatable - we had 30mm of rain in the 24 hours before last year's King George (good to firm became soft). We are confident that this decision not only offers connections greater clarity, but is in the best interest of the race itself."

Ruth Quinn commented: "The BHA directive for Flat racing is always to race on the best possible ground available (aiming for good to firm). Making a late decision about which course to run the Champion Stakes on is likely to court controversy and this approach presented by Ascot is a sensible and pragmatic one. The BHA Inspectorate, along with the PJA Safety Officer, have approved the change and we feel that this option presents the greatest scope to improve the quality of the race, now and in the future."

There is a possibility going forward that the QIPCO British Champions Fillies' and Mares' Stakes and QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup could also transfer to the Inner Flat Course. However, slight distance changes would be required to produce ideal positions for their starts, which would need European Pattern Committee approval. This rules out the possibility of any changes to those races for 2016.

There will be an opportunity for horsemen to walk and ride the Inner Flat Course in advance of QIPCO British Champions Day as a familiarisation exercise.



3:50pm

QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES

(GROUP 1)

List of horses entered on 2nd August.

HORSE	AGE	OWNER	TRAINER
Air Pilot (GB)	7	Lady Cobham	Ralph Beckett
Alice Springs (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Almanzor (FR)	3	Ecurie Antonio Caro/G Augustin-Normand	Jean Claude Rouget
Almodovar (IRE)	4	Mr B. E. Nielsen	David Lanigan
Awtaad (IRE)	3	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	K. Prendergast
Ballydoyle (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Dariyan (FR)	4	H.H. Aga Khan	A. de Royer Dupre
Deauville (IRE)	3	Mrs F Hay/M Tabor/Mrs J Magnier/D Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Elliptique (IRE)	5	Rothschild Family	A. Fabre
Endless Drama (IRE)	4	Sheikh Khalifa, Sheikh Suhaim/QRL	G. M. Lyons
Exosphere (GB)	4	Mr K. Abdullah	Sir Michael Stoute
Fascinating Rock (IRE)	5	Newtown Anner Stud Farm	D. K. Weld
Found (IRE)	4	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Gabrial (IRE)	7	Dr Marwan Koukash	Richard Fahey
Garlingari (FR)	5	Mrs C. Barande-Barbe	Mrs C. Barande-Barbe
Gershwin (GB)	3	Mr B. E. Nielsen	David Lanigan
Harzand (IRE)	3	H.H. Aga Khan	D. K. Weld
Hawkbill (USA)	3	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Heshem (IRE)	3	Al Shaqab Racing	C. Ferland
Highland Reel (IRE)	4	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Hit It A Bomb (USA)	3	Mrs E. M. Stockwell	Aidan O'Brien
Idaho (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Intilaaq (USA)	4	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	Roger Varian
Jack Hobbs (GB)	4	Godolphin & Partners	John Gosden
Johannes Vermeer (IRE)	3	M Tabor/D Smith/Mrs J Magnier/T Ah Khing	Aidan O'Brien
Lightning Spear (GB)	5	Qatar Racing Limited	David Simcock
Long Island Sound (USA)	3	D Smith/Mrs Magnier/M Tabor/Joseph Allen	Aidan O'Brien
Maverick Wave (USA)	5	Godolphin	John Gosden
Midterm (GB)	3	Mr K. Abdullah	Sir Michael Stoute
Minding (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Moonlight Magic (GB)	3	Godolphin	J. S. Bolger
Mutakayyef (GB)	5	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	William Haggas
My Dream Boat (IRE)	4	Paul & Clare Rooney	Clive Cox
New Bay (GB)	4	Mr K. Abdullah	A. Fabre
One Foot In Heaven (IRE)	4	Fair Salinia Limited	A. de Royer Dupre
Qatari Gold (USA)	3	H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani	M. Delzangles
Racing History (IRE)	4	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Scottish (IRE)	4	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby
Seventh Heaven (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Sir Isaac Newton (GB)	4	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
Sky Hunter (GB)	6	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor
Somehow (IRE)	3	Mr M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs John Magnier	Aidan O'Brien
Success Days (IRE)	4	Mr Robert Ng	K. J. Condon
Taareef (USA)	3	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum	Jean Claude Rouget
The Grey Gatsby (IRE)	5	Mr F. Gillespie	Kevin Ryan
The Gurkha (IRE)	3	Mr D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier, Mr M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien
The Steward (USA)	5	Newtown Anner Stud Farm	D. K. Weld
Time Test (GB)	4	Mr K. Abdullah	Roger Charlton
Ultra (IRE)	3	Godolphin S.N.C.	A. Fabre
Ulysses (IRE)	3	Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd	Sir Michael Stoute
Us Army Ranger (IRE)	3	Mrs John Magnier, Mr M. Tabor & Mr D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien
Western Hymn (GB)	5	RJH Geffen and Rachel Hood	John Gosden
Wings of Desire (GB)	3	Lady Bamford	John Gosden
Yorker (SAF)	7	To Be Confirmed	William Haggas
Zarak (FR)	3	H.H. Aga Khan	A. de Royer Dupre

MD

2016 SERIES WINNERS IN THE MIDDLE DISTANCE DIVISION

1. The Investec Coronation Cup (1m4f, 4YO+), Epsom Downs, June 4th – **Postponed**
2. Investec Derby (1m4f, 3YO), Epsom Downs, June 4th – **Harzand**
3. Prince of Wales's Stakes (1m2f, 4YO+), Royal Ascot, June 15th – **My Dream Boat**
4. Coral-Eclipse (1m2f, 4YO+), Sandown Park, July 2nd – **Hawkbill**
5. King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1m4f, 3YO+), Ascot, July 23rd – **Highland Reel**
6. Juddmonte International (1m2f, 3YO+), York, August 17th –
7. **QIPCO Champions Stakes (1m2f, 3YO+) Ascot, October 15th -**

HISTORY OF THE RACE

With £1.3 million in prize money, the QIPCO Champion Stakes over 1 mile 2 furlongs (2,000 metres) is the most valuable ten-furlong race in Europe. Following on from iconic races like the Investec Derby and King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes sponsored by QIPCO, this is the final, pulsating showdown in the British Champions Series Middle Distance division.

The race brought a great heritage with it from Newmarket, where it had been run from its inception in 1877 until 2010. But the dramatic injection in prize money that accompanied its move to become the glittering highlight of the new QIPCO British Champions Day has changed its status completely.

Each of the five renewals in the race's new surroundings have produced top-quality fields and thrilling finishes. The first set the bar high, with French raider Cirrus Des Aigles getting the better of Aussie superstar So You Think with two champion mares, Snow Fairy and Midday, further behind. For quality and drama few races could ever match the 2012 running, when Frankel completed his career unbeaten despite unsuitable ground and a very slow start from the stalls.

2013 saw Farhh prevail in a three-way battle, while in 2014 we were treated to a spine-tingling duel between Al Kazeem and Noble Mission, who ultimately came out on top for Lady Cecil. Last year, QIPCO British Champions Day dream team Dermot Weld and Pat Smullen (who have each enjoyed four winners on the day over the past five years) pounced late to land the spoils with Fascinating Rock.





QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES WINNERS AND RATINGS 2000-2015

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	OWNER
2000	126	Kalanisi	Johnny Murtagh	Sir Michael Stoute	HH Aga Khan IV
2001	121	Nayef	Richard Hills	Marcus Tregoning	Hamdan Al Maktoum
2002	121	Storming Home	Michael Hills	Barry Hills	Maktoum Al Maktoum
2003	121	Rakti	Philip Robinson	Michael Jarvis	Gary Tanaka
2004	124	Haafhd	Richard Hills	Barry Hills	Hamdan Al Maktoum
2005	123	David Junior	Jamie Spencer	Brian Meehan	Roldvale Ltd
2006	123	Pride	Christophe Lemaire	Alain De Royer Dupre	NP Bloodstock Ltd
2007	123	Literato	Christophe Lemaire	Jean-Claude Rouget	Herve Morin
2008	130	New Approach	Kevin Manning	Jim Bolger	Princess Haya of Jordan
2009	123	Twice Over	Tom Queally	Sir Henry Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
2010	125	Twice Over	Tom Queally	Sir Henry Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
2011	128	Cirrus des Aigles	Christophe Soumillon	Mrs Corinne Barande-Barbe	Jean-Claude Dupouy
2012	140	Frankel	Tom Queally	Sir Henry Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
2013	124	Farhh	Silvestre de Sousa	Saeed bin Suroor	Godolphin
2014	122	Noble Mission	James Doyle	Lady Jane Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
2015	123	Fascinating Rock	Pat Smullen	Dermot Weld	Newtown Anner Stud Farm Ltd





QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES ROLL OF HONOUR 1970-1999

FIRST RUN IN 1877 AND HELD AT NEWMARKET UP TO 2010

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	OWNER
1970	Lorenzaccio	5	Geoff Lewis	Noel Murless	Charles St George
1971	Brigadier Gerard	3	Joe Mercer	Dick Hern	Jean Hislop
1972	Brigadier Gerard	4	Joe Mercer	Dick Hern	Jean Hislop
1973	Hurry Harriet	3	Jean Cruguet	Paddy Mullins	Malcolm Thorp
1974	Giacometti	3	Lester Piggott	Ryan Price	Charles St George
1975	Rose Bowl	3	Willie Carson	Fulke Johnon Houghton	Jane Engelhard
1976	Vitiges	3	Pat Eddery	Peter Walwyn	Mrs Marc Laloum
1977	Flying Waters	4	Yves Saint-Martin	Angel Penna	Daniel Wildenstein
1978	Swiss Maid	3	Greville Starkey	Paul Kelleway	Max Fine
1979	Northern Baby	3	Philippe Paquet	Francois Boutin	Anne-Marie d'Estainville
1980	Cairn Rouge	3	Tony Murray	Michael Cunningham	D. Brady
1981	Vayrann	3	Yves Saint-Martin	Francois Mathet	HH Aga Khan IV
1982	Time Charter	3	Billy Newnes	Henry Candy	Robert Barnet
1983	Cormorant Wood	3	Steve Cauthen	Barry Hills	Bobby McAlphine
1984	Palace Music	3	Yves Saint-Martin	Patrick Biancone	Nelson Bunker Hunt
1985	Pebbles	4	Pat Eddery	Clive Brittain	Sheikh Mohammed
1986	Triptych	4	Tony Cruz	Patrick Biancone	Alan Clore
1987	Triptych	5	Tony Cruz	Patrick Biancone	Alan Clore
1988	Indian Skimmer	4	Michael Roberts	Sir Henry Cecil	Sheikh Mohammed
1989	Legal Case	3	Ray Cochrane	Luca Cumani	Sir Gordon White
1990	In the Groove	3	Steve Cauthen	David Elsworth	Brian Cooper
1991	Tel Quel	3	Thierry Jarnet	Andre Fabre	Sheikh Mohammed
1992	Rodrigo de Triano	3	Lester Piggott	Peter Chapple-Hyam	Robert Sangster
1993	Hatoof	4	Walter Swinburn	Criquette Head	Maktoum Al Maktoum
1994	Dernier Empereur	4	Sylvain Guillot	Andre Fabre	Gary Tanaka
1995	Spectrum	3	John Reid	Peter Chapple-Hyam	Lord Weinstock
1996	Bosra Sham	3	Pat Eddery	Sir Henry Cecil	Wafic Said
1997	Pilsudski	5	Michael Kinane	Sir Michael Stoute	Lord Weinstock
1998	Alborada	3	George Duffield	Sir Mark Prescott	Kirsten Rausing
1999	Alborada	4	George Duffield	Sir Mark Prescott	Kirsten Rausing

4.25pm **BALMORAL HANDICAP** SPONSORED BY QIPCO



Total prize money £250,000

Prize money breakdown: 1st £155,625 - 2nd £46,600
3rd £23,300 - 4th £11,650 - 5th £5,825 - 6th £2,925

- 1 mile, Royal Hunt Cup course. For three year olds and upwards.
Winners after 1st October to carry a 6lb penalty. Safety Factor/Maximum Figure 20
- Entries Tuesday 27th September
- Confirmation by noon Monday 10th October
- Declare 10am Thursday, 13th October

PAST WINNERS OF THE BALMORAL HANDICAP SPONSORED BY QIPCO

YEAR	RATING	HORSE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
2014	108	Bronze Angel	Louis Steward	Marcus Tregoning
2015	102	Musaddas	Eddie Greatrex	Saeed bin Suroor



HISTORY OF THE RACE

Named after the castle in Scotland that has belonged to the British Royal Family since it was purchased by Prince Albert, consort to Queen Victoria, in 1852, the Balmoral Handicap was inaugurated in 2014.

A race known as the Balmoral Handicap had previously been staged over five furlongs at the Royal Meeting, discontinued in 2004 in favour of the new Windsor Forest Stakes for fillies and mares. The Ascot Executive always intended to bring the name back when the appropriate opportunity arose, and Her Majesty The Queen graciously consented to it being re-introduced on QIPCO British Champions Day.

The new Balmoral Handicap Sponsored by QIPCO, with its £250,000 race value, is the richest one-mile (1,600 metre) handicap in Europe.

In its inaugural running, the race could not have had a more popular winner than Marcus Tregoning's Bronze Angel, who had built up a legion of fans via his two triumphs, in 2012 and 2014, in another of Britain's most prestigious handicaps, the Betfred Cambridgeshire. His victory also showcased an exciting new riding talent in the shape of 20-year-old Louis Steward. Last year, although open to all jockeys, it was another apprentice who stole the show when 17-year-old Eddy Greatrex scored aboard Musaddas for Godolphin.

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS DAY - WHERE CHAMPIONS ARE CROWNED

Before the first horse had even taken to the track last year, the crowds were deep around the winner's enclosure at Ascot to witness the crowning of the 2015 Stobart Champion Flat Jockey, Silvestre De Sousa. In scenes that will be remembered for years to come, De Sousa received his award to a rapturous reception and was joined by wife Vicky, his son Ryan, and his mother Estelina, who had flown in from Brazil for the occasion – the first time she had even seen her son for four years.

The success of De Sousa, who rode 132 winners during the period covered by the championship, proved one of the highlights of the day – not to mention the whole season – and the 35-year-old is in contention to win the trophy and the £25,000 first prize again this year.

Generously funded by the Stobart Group, Great British Racing and British Champions Series, a total of £105,000 in prize money is once again on offer in 2016.



THE £105,000 IN PRIZE MONEY FOR THE STOBART FLAT JOCKEYS' CHAMPIONSHIP WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:

Champion Jockey:	£25,000
Runner-up:	£10,000
Champion Apprentice:	£5,000
Leading Jockey (most wins throughout the full calendar year):	£15,000
All-weather Championship:	£10,000
PJA Welfare Scheme for all members:	£25,000

JOCKEY OF THE MONTH WINNERS SO FAR IN 2016

Throughout the Championship a Jockey of the Month Award, in association with Channel 4, has been made by a panel of leading industry journalists and for which all members of the weighing room are eligible. Each month the winner receives £1000, as well as £500 for a charity of their choice and the two runners up £500 each.

May 2016: Adam Kirby and Richard Kingscote (other shortlisted riders: Silvestre De Sousa)

June 2016: Adam Kirby (other shortlisted riders: Dougie Costello; Pat Smullen)

July 2016: Shortlisted jockeys: James Doyle; James McDonald; Ryan Moore

CONTENDERS FOR THIS YEAR'S CHAMPIONSHIP



SILVESTRE DE SOUSA

Born in Brazil, the reigning Stobart Flat Jockeys' Champion brings some South American flair to the weighing room. Not only is he so far on course to defend his title in 2016, but he will surely make a bold bid to surpass last year's total of 132 winners. De Sousa's winners have, as ever, come from a variety of sources so far this season, but his biggest single success came at Epsom on Investec Derby Day when the Mick Channon-trained Epsom Day took the Princess Margaret Stakes.



RYAN MOORE

Moore is viewed by many as the most talented jockey of his generation and has picked up the winning thread once again this season with a host of Group 1 victories. He is raising the bar in this year's QIPCO British Champions Series and has already won eight of this year's features - a feat no other jockey has managed since the Series was initiated in 2011. Moore has achieved three Series wins on Minding (QIPCO 1000 Guineas, Investec Oaks and Qatar Nassau Stakes) and has also secured victories on Order Of St George (Gold Cup), Twilight Son (Diamond Jubilee Stakes), Alice Springs (Falmouth Stakes), Highland Reel (King George VI And Queen Elizabeth Stakes). The Gurkha (Qatar Sussex Stakes) and Minding (Qatar Nassau Stakes). Moore has been Champion Jockey three times, in 2006, 2008 and 2009.



JAMES DOYLE

The son of former trainer Jacqui Doyle and the brother of successful US-based jockey Sophie Doyle, James Doyle was born to ride racehorses. The 28-year-old exploded on to the racing scene in 2012, when he became stable jockey to trainer Roger Charlton and the pair didn't have to wait too long for their first big race success, when Cityscape won the Group 1 Dubai Duty Free Stakes at Meydan. Doyle's skills in the saddle quickly attracted the attention of some of racing's biggest owners and he is now one of the retained jockeys for Godolphin, Sheikh Mohammed's racing operation.



WILLIAM BUICK

Born in Norway and fluent in Norwegian, Danish and German, Buick has an enviable racing pedigree as his father, Walter, was champion jockey in Scandinavia eight times. He landed the 2008 Champion Apprentice Title and was quickly snapped up by top trainer John Gosden to ride his horses in 2010. The pair had plenty of success at the top level but Buick now rides alongside James Doyle in the royal blue of Godolphin. His biggest winners so far this year have all come in those silks, albeit for a number of different trainers.



OISIN MURPHY

Oisín Murphy is one of the most promising young jockeys riding and it's easy to see why. In 2013, Murphy went from being an almost-unknown apprentice to a budding superstar courtesy of a stunning four-timer at Ayr, which included a victory in the Ayr Gold Cup. Murphy, the nephew of trainer and former jockey Jim Culloty, is the only retained rider in 2016 for Qatar Racing who have put their faith in the Irishman since he guided Hot Streak to victory in the Group 2 Temple Stakes at Haydock in 2014.

Keep up to date with the Stobart Flat Jockeys' Championship at gbraci.ng/championship

STOBART CHAMPION APPRENTICE TITLE RACE

Racing fans have come to expect a thrilling climax to the Stobart Champion Apprentice title after **Tom Marquand**, attached to Richard Hannon's yard, fought out a nip-and-tuck battle with **Jack Garritty**, Richard Fahey's apprentice last year.

The race for the title, along with the £5,000 first prize, had to be decided on the final day of the season, QIPCO British Champions Day, after Garritty had ridden a double the day before to keep his championship dream alive.

However, while Garritty could only draw a blank at Ascot, a winner for Marquand at Catterick meant that at just 17, he ended up on top with a total of 54 winners in the Stobart Apprentice Championship – not bad for a jockey who had only ridden his first winner a mere 11 months earlier!

The victory catapulted Marquand into the limelight and even earned him a nomination for the prestigious **BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year**.

Now 18, Marquand is making a bold bid to become the first jockey to win successive Stobart Champion Apprentice titles but his task became a little harder after he successfully rode out his allowance in June of this year, a feat also matched by one of his main rivals in the championship race, 20-year-old **Joe Doyle**, with a double at Musselburgh on July 8.

The talented **Josephine Gordon** has also been making a name for herself in the saddle this year and the 23-year-old has quickly risen to become one of the leading lights in this year's title race. Gordon, attached to Stan Moore's yard in Lambourn, almost quit the saddle a year ago, but her career has flourished so much that she is now under 30 winners away from losing her 5lb claim and her services have been called upon by some top stables, including Sir Michael Stoute, for whom she scored aboard Third Rock at Windsor on June 27.

Eddy Greatrex is another young jockey in with a shout of winning this year's title. Son of National Hunt trainer Warren Greatrex, the 18-year-old has won many admirers over the last 12 months and he was seen to great effect when winning the Balmoral Handicap on QIPCO British Champions Day last year.

However, many shrewd judges think that Richard Fahey's apprentice, **Adam McNamara**, will be the one to land this year's Stobart Champion Apprentice title. The 19-year-old came to Fahey's yard this winter, having previously ridden for Johnny Murtagh in Ireland, and he immediately caught the eye at the northern tracks.

McNamara has already ridden out his 7lb-claim in a matter of months and his ride on Mayfair Lady at York in June marked him down as a jockey to follow closely. He has already won the backing of several of Fahey's major owners, including Mayfair Lady's owners Norman and Helen Steel, as well as Dr Marwan Koukash, whose horses have provided McNamara with several of his winners to date.

With so many talented young jockeys in the saddle at the moment, it is impossible to tell just who will be receiving the plaudits and the prize money. And that's why, once again, it looks like we're set for another thrilling finish on QIPCO British Champions Day



Tom Marquand



Jack Garritty



Josephine Gordon



Eddy Greatrex



Adam McNamara

WINNING RECORDS OF JOCKEYS ON QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS DAY

No. of wins	Date	Race	Winner	SP	Jockey	Owner
Andrea Atzeni (1)	17/10/15	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Simple Verse	5/1	Ralph Beckett	QRL/Sheikh Suhaim Al Thani/M Al Kubaisi
George Baker (1)	19/10/13	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Seal Of Approval	16/1	James Fanshawe	T R G Vestey
Jim Crowley (1)	18/10/14	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Madame Chiang	12/1	David Simcock	Miss K Rausing
Matthew Davies (1)	15/10/11	Future Stars Handicap	Edinburgh Knight	18/1	Paul D'Arcy	Knights Racing
Silvestre De Sousa (1)	19/10/13	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Farhh	11/4	Saeed bin Suroor	Godolphin
Frankie Dettori (1)	17/10/15	QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup	Flying Officer	6/1	John Gosden	Mr George Strawbridge
George Downing (1)	20/10/12	Future Stars Handicap	Jack Dexter	11/2	Jim Goldie	Jim Goldie Racing Club
James Doyle (1)	18/10/14	QIPCO Champions Stakes	Noble Mission	7/1	Lady Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
Edward Greatrex (1)	17/10/15	Blamoral Handicap (sponsored by QIPCO)	Musaddas	7/1	Saeed bin Suroor	Godolphin
Maxime Guyon (1)	17/10/15	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Solow	10/11F	Freddy Head	Wertheimer et Frere
Paul Hanagan (1)	17/10/15	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Muhaarar	5/2F	Charlie Hills	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum
Richard Hughes (1)	19/10/13	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Olympic Glory	11/2	Richard Hannon	Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani
Wayne Lordan (2)	19/10/13	QIPCO British Champions Sprint	Slade Power	7/1	Edward Lynam	Mrs S Power
	18/10/14	QIPCO British Champions Sprint	Gordon Lord Byron	5/1JF	Tom Hogan	Dr Cyrus Poonawalla & Morgan L Cahalan
Johnny Murtagh (3)	15/10/11	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Deacon Blues	5/2F	James Fanshawe	Jan and Peter Hopper & Michelle Morris
	15/10/11	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Dancing Rain	6/1	William Haggas	M J & L A Taylor
	19/10/13	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Royal Diamond	20/1	Johnny Murtagh	Andrew Tinkler
Joseph O'Brien (1)	20/10/13	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Excelebration	10/11F	Aidan O'Brien	D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor
Olivier Peslier (1)	18/10/14	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Charm Spirit	5/1	Freddy Head	H H Sheikh Abdulla Bin Khalifa Al Thani
Tom Queally (2)	15/10/11	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Frankel	4/11F	Sir Henry Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
	20/10/11	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Frankel	2/11F	Sir Henry Cecil	Khalid Abdullah
Pat Smullen (4)	20/10/12	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Rite Of Passage	8/1	Dermot Weld	Dr R Lambe
	20/10/12	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Sapphire	5/2JF	Dermot Weld	Moyglare Stud Farm
	18/10/14	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Forgotten Rules	3/1	Dermot Weld	Moyglare Stud Farm
	17/10/15	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Fascinating Rock	10/1	Dermot Weld	Newtown Anner Stud Farm
Christophe Soumillon (1)	15/10/11	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Cirrus Des Aigles	12/1	Mme C Barande-Barbe	Jean-Claude-Alain Dupouy
Jamie Spencer (2)	15/10/11	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Fame And Glory	3/1	Aidan O'Brien	Mrs F Hay, D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor
	20/10/12	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Maarek	5/1	David Nagle	Lisbunny Syndicate
Louis Steward (1)	18/10/14	Balmoral Handicap (sponsored by QIPCO)	Bronze Angel	20/1	Marcus Tregoning	Lady Tennant
Lewis Walsh (1)	19/10/13	Future Stars Handicap	Breton Rock	12/1	David Simcock	John Cook

PAT SMULLEN: CHAMPIONS DAY LEADING JOCKEY

From seasoned racegoer to novice, everyone who follows racing understands the notion that certain trainers and jockeys tend to come to the fore time and again at the big meetings.

QIPCO British Champions Day is no different. Since its inception in 2011, Britain's richest race day has belonged to jockey Pat Smullen, thanks in no small part to his longstanding partnership with trainer Dermot Weld.

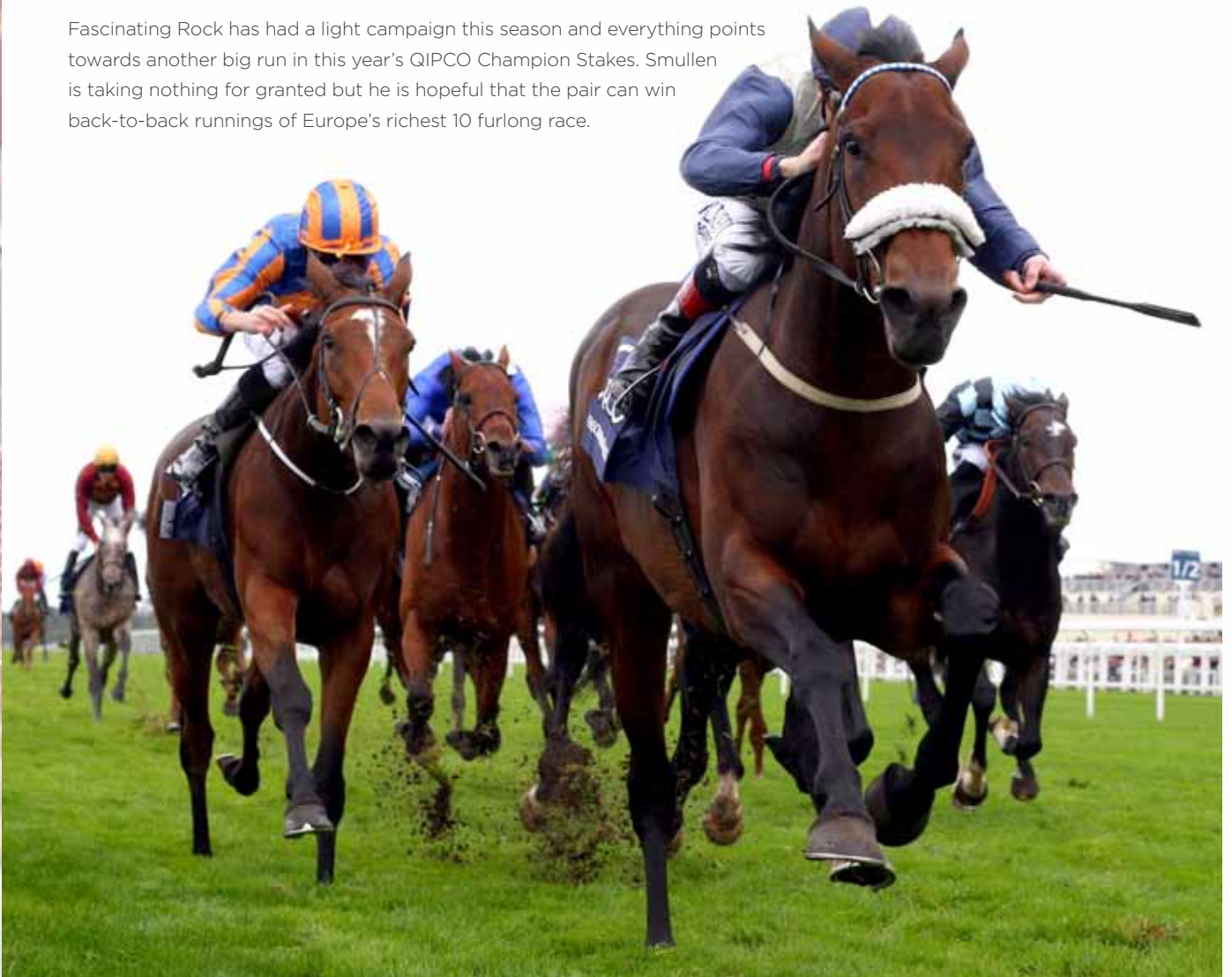
Between them, the pair have tasted success in no fewer than four races on QIPCO British Champions Day and, as Smullen explains, it has quickly become a day circled in his diary each year.

"It's a brilliant card, highlighted by the Champion Stakes of course," says Smullen. "It's a complete Championship day's racing and there's a big build-up to it, pitting together the best horses who will compete for the best races at that time of year."

Smullen, who achieved another lifetime ambition this year after he steered Harzand to victory in the Investec Derby, has ridden more winners than any other jockey on QIPCO British Champions Day and understandably, finds it very difficult to choose a favourite among the quartet.

"I'm very fortunate to have ridden four winners at the meeting in Rite Of Passage, Sapphire, Forgotten Rules and Fascinating Rock and all four winners were brilliant," he explains. "It would be very difficult to single out one win over the others, they were all great, but obviously it was hugely important to win the QIPCO Champion Stakes last year (on Fascinating Rock)."

Fascinating Rock has had a light campaign this season and everything points towards another big run in this year's QIPCO Champion Stakes. Smullen is taking nothing for granted but he is hopeful that the pair can win back-to-back runnings of Europe's richest 10 furlong race.





“Fascinating Rock is a high-class colt and has a huge chance of going back to defend his crown at Ascot,” opines the jockey. “I’m sure the QIPCO Champion Stakes is a race that’s very much on his agenda. He’s being trained for an autumn campaign and Ascot is very much on his radar. Right now he’s very much the serious contender again, especially if there is any ease in the ground, and he’s a horse I’m very much looking forward to riding.”

“Between now and then, there’ll be plenty of other horses that will come out of the woodwork and be serious opposition to him, but as things stand right now, to me, he’s the horse I’m looking forward to for Champions Day.”

While Fascinating Rock’s victory in the QIPCO Champion Stakes last year ranks as Smullen’s favourite moment of QIPCO British Champions Day, he also has a soft spot for Rite Of Passage’s victory in the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup in 2012 as it highlighted the training talents of Dermot Weld.

“In terms of a training achievement though, Rite Of Passage winning the stayers race after being off for so long was a huge training performance by the boss,” admitted Smullen. “The horse showed great heart and determination, he was just a great horse and for him to come back from a serious injury to win such a competitive race on Champions Day. I thought it was very special. It was a brilliant performance from both trainer and horse but that being said, all four winners were absolutely brilliant and memorable in their own right. I’ve been very lucky.”

Although both Smullen and Weld have made winning look easy on QIPCO British Champions Day, other trainers and jockeys have not been so lucky. Champion trainer John Gosden only got off the mark last year when Flying Officer landed the QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup while Aidan O’Brien has only had two winners in the last five years (Excelebration in the 2012 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO) and Fame And Glory in the 2011 QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup).

Spare a thought for Ryan Moore though. While the former champion may boot the winners home with alarming regularity throughout the QIPCO British Champions Series, he has yet to taste victory in any of the QIPCO British Champions Day races. That record surely can’t continue much longer, can it?



WINNING RECORDS OF TRAINERS ON QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS DAY

No. of wins	Date	Race	Winner	SP	Jockey	Owner
Mme C Barande-Barbe (1)	15/10/11	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Cirrus Des Aigles	12/1	Christophe Soumillon	Jean-Claude-Alain Dupouy
Ralph Beckett (1)	17/10/15	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Simple Verse	5/1	Andrea Atzeni	QRL/Sheikh Suhaim Al Thani/M Al Kubaisi
Sir Henry Cecil (2)	15/10/11	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Frankel	4/11F	Tom Queally	Khalid Abdullah
	20/10/12	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Frankel	2/11F	Tom Queally	Khalid Abdullah
Lady Cecil (1)	18/10/14	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Noble Mission	7/1	James Doyle	Khalid Abdullah
Paul D'Arcy (1)	15/10/11	Future Stars Handicap	Edinburgh Knight	18/1	Matthew Davies	Knights Racing
James Fanshawe (2)	15/10/11	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Deacon Blues	5/2F	Johnny Murtagh	Jan and Peter Hopper & Michelle Morris
	19/10/13	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Seal Of Approval	16/1	George Baker	T R G Vestey
Jim Goldie (1)	20/10/12	Future Stars Handicap	Jack Dexter	11/2	George Downing	Jim Goldie Racing Club
William Haggas (1)	15/10/11	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Dancing Rain	6/1	Johnny Murtagh	M J & L A Taylor
Richard Hannon (1)	19/10/13	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Olympic Glory	11/2	Richard Hughes	Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani
Freddy Head (2)	18/10/14	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Charm Spirit	5/1	Olivier Peslier	H H Sheikh Abdulla Bin Khalifa Al Thani
	17/10/15	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Solow	10/11F	Maxime Guyon	Wertheimer et Frere
Charlie Hills (1)	17/10/15	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Muhaarar	5/2F	Paul Hanagan	Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum
Tom Hogan (1)	18/10/14	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Gordon Lord Byron	5/1JF	Wayne Lordan	Dr Cyrus Poonawalla & Morgan L Cahalan
Edward Lynam (1)	19/10/13	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Slade Power	7/1	Wayne Lordan	Mrs S Power
Johnny Murtagh (1)	19/10/13	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Royal Diamond	20/1	Johnny Murtagh	Andrew Tinkler
Aidan O'Brien (2)	15/10/11	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Fame And Glory	3/1	Jamie Spencer	Mrs F Hay, D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor
	20/10/12	Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (sponsored by QIPCO)	Excelebration	10/11F	Joseph O'Brien	D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor
David Nagle (1)	20/10/12	QIPCO British Champions Sprint Stakes	Maarek	5/1	Jamie Spencer	Lisbunny Syndicate
David Simcock (2)	19/10/13	Future Stars Handicap	Breton Rock	12/1	Lewis Walsh	John Cook
	18/10/14	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Madame Chiang	12/1	Jim Crowley	Miss K Rausing
Saeed bin Suroor (2)	19/10/13	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Farhh	11/4	Silvestre De Sousa	Godolphin
	17/10/15	Balmoral Handicap (sponsored by QIPCO)	Musaddas	7/1	Edward Greatrex	Godolphin
Marcus Tregoning (1)	18/10/14	Balmoral Handicap (sponsored by QIPCO)	Bronze Angel	20/1	Louis Steward	Lady Tennant
Dermot Weld (4)	20/10/12	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Rite Of Passage	8/1	Pat Smullen	Dr R Lambe
	20/10/12	QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes	Sapphire	5/2JF	Pat Smullen	Moyglare Stud Farm
	18/10/14	QIPCO British Long Distance Cup	Forgotten Rules	3/1	Pat Smullen	Moyglare Stud Farm
	17/10/15	QIPCO Champion Stakes	Fascinating Rock	10/1	Pat Smullen	Newton Anner Stud Farm



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THE QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS DAY AFTER PARTY



SIGALA

Chart-topping British artist Sigala will hit the decks and bring the flat racing season to an explosive close when he headlines the after-party at this year's QIPCO British Champions Day.

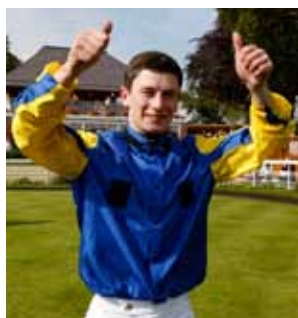
Sigala, who topped the charts in 2015 with his debut single, 'Easy Love', will follow in the footsteps of Award-winning British Artist Paloma Faith who performed last year in front of a sell-out Ascot crowd.

The DJ and producer will be performing his chart-topping tunes at festivals across Europe over the summer, including V and Sundown, before treating racegoers to an exclusive set on the UK's richest raceday. The official after-party will kick off immediately following racing making it a day of non-stop entertainment on and off the track.

Sigala, who in the last year has released three major UK singles, selling over 2 million records worldwide, will be performing at a racecourse for the first time. He said; "Performing at Champions Day is a pretty unique opportunity, it's going to be a new experience for me and a lot of fun. It's the end of season party so I am sure there will be an amazing atmosphere. Radio 2 DJ Sara Cox is also performing and I know she is really into her horses so I'm going to have to hit her up for some tips."

BBC Radio 2 DJ and horse racing fan Sara Cox will also be playing earlier in the day. Sara said "I DJ'd at Champions Day a couple of years ago and had an absolute blast so I'm really excited to be back again this year. Champions Day is a really unique day as there's this exciting buzz in the air and underlying sense of celebration. I'm super excited."

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES AMBASSADORS



OISIN MURPHY

Oisín is without doubt one of the rising stars of the horseracing world. He burst onto the scene in 2013 with a sensational 9,260/1 four-timer on Ayr Gold Cup day, while in 2014 he became the youngest jockey to win a QIPCO British Champions Series race, when at 19 he partnered Hot Streak to victory in the Temple Stakes at Haydock.

Coming from a family steeped in racing tradition (his uncle is Grand National winning jockey, turned trainer, Jim Culloty), Oisín has been described by those in racing as a “rare young talent” and, unsurprisingly, it wasn’t long before he was snapped up to become the retained rider for the powerful Qatar Racing operation.

He will be partnering their principal horses throughout the racing calendar and will be aiming to ride his maiden QIPCO British Champions Day victory on Saturday October 15th.



MICHAEL OWEN

Michael Owen, the former Liverpool, Real Madrid, Newcastle and Stoke footballer, is one of England’s most prolific goal scorers, sitting fifth on the scoring all-time list.

A horse racing aficionado, he was introduced to the sport as a child by his grandfather and his passion has grown from there.

He has owned a number of horses over the years, starting with his first foray into ownership at the age of 18 and has since set up his own training centre at Manor House Stables in Cheshire where trainer Tom Dascombe is based.

He has gone on to own several high-class thoroughbreds, including his beloved home bred, Brown Panther who won the Irish St. Leger as well as QIPCO British Champions Series race, the Artemis Goodwood Cup during his illustrious career.

Michael Owen said: “Ascot provides an amazing sporting amphitheatre, the incredible prize money brings the high-quality horses and the passionate crowd make it a highlight of the season.”



SARAH COX

Sara Cox, BBC Radio 2 presenter and TV broadcaster, has had a long running love of horses. Having ridden since the age of six, Sara has had a connection to horses all her life. Sara previously rode out on the gallops for the late trainer John Hills in Lambourn and has also taken part in the Magnolia Cup at Goodwood in 2011 and 2012. She now currently rides a retired racehorse in Epsom on a regular basis.

Sara performed an exclusive DJ set at Newmarket on the opening weekend of the Series, the QIPCO Guineas Festival, and will be closing the Series by hitting the decks for the second time at Ascot on QIPCO British Champions Day.

“I love a day out at the races. I had an absolute ball performing at Champions Day in 2014, and it will be great to be back to Ascot for this year’s season finale.”

BACKGROUND TO QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES AND QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS DAY

Now in its sixth year, the QIPCO British Champions Series incorporates Great Britain's top 35 Flat races under one banner to highlight the very best quality of competition the sport has to offer. The ambition of the QIPCO British Champions Series is to increase the appeal of horseracing in this country and in QIPCO British Champions Day, create an iconic and fitting finale to the British Flat racing season, something the racing calendar previously lacked.

Some of the world's leading thoroughbred racehorses, the most talented jockeys and trainers, internationally-renowned racecourses and the highest-rated races on earth - including three of the top 10 races run anywhere in the world in 2015 - come together to create a unique offering for existing and new fans of racing.

The QIPCO British Champions Series reaches its climax on QIPCO British Champions Day at Ascot Racecourse on Saturday October 15th. Staged for the first time in 2011, Champions Day is the single richest day in the British Flat calendar boasting £4.2 million in prize money. The prize money is spread across the final races in the five Series categories (Sprint, Mile, Middle Distance, Fillies & Mares and Long Distances divisions) as well as the prestigious £250,000 Balmoral Handicap.

The race programme consists of no fewer than four Group 1 races - the £1.3 million QIPCO Champion Stakes run over a mile and a quarter, the £1.1 million Queen Elizabeth II Stakes sponsored by QIPCO and run over the straight mile course, the £600,000 Fillies' & Mares' Stakes, contested over the Derby and Oaks distance of a mile and a half and the £600,000 QIPCO Sprint Stakes. These races comprise some of the most valuable races of their kind in Europe.

The Group 2 £350,000 QIPCO Long Distance Cup concludes the Pattern race line-up. Despite its official classification, the Long Distance Cup is effectively a Group 1 race in respect of its conditions, such as no weight penalties for previous Group 1 winners, and attracts a high-class field every year.

STRUCTURE OF QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SERIES

The QIPCO British Champions Series comprises five categories:

- **Sprint**
- **Mile**
- **Middle Distance**
- **Long Distance**
- **Fillies & Mares**

Each division features the seven highest-rated races in each category in Great Britain which culminate in a same-day finale on QIPCO British Champions Day on Saturday October 15th 2016.

With a collective prize fund of over £18million, the Series is staged across ten of the UK's leading racecourses:

- **Ascot**
- **Doncaster**
- **Epsom Downs**
- **Goodwood**
- **Haydock Park**
- **Newbury**
- **Newmarket's Rowley Mile**
- **Newmarket's July Course**
- **Sandown Park**
- **York**

The Series encompasses British Flat racing's key festivals including:

- **The QIPCO Guineas Festival**
- **The Investec Derby Festival**
- **Royal Ascot**
- **The Moët & Chandon July Festival**
- **King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes Day**
- **Qatar Goodwood Festival**
- **The Welcome to Yorkshire Ebor Festival**
- **The Ladbrokes St Leger Festival**

TITLE PARTNER – QIPCO HOLDING

The Series is sponsored by QIPCO Holding, one of the leading private investment companies in Qatar. Established in 1999, QIPCO has since developed and diversified its range of interests which currently include real estate, construction, oil and gas, finance and health services as well as Thoroughbred horseracing.

The global racing and bloodstock operations, Qatar Racing and Qatar Bloodstock, are both subsidiaries of QIPCO. Qatar Bloodstock was established in 2010, following the purchase of the World Champion miler Makfi, and the operation currently stands stallions in Britain, France, Australia and New Zealand.

Qatar Investment & Projects Development Holding Company (QIPCO Holding) is owned by six brothers who are members of the Qatari Royal Family. The Chief Executive is Sheikh Hamad bin Abdullah Al Thani who together with his brothers are cousins of the Emir of the State of Qatar.

Since the company's inception, the group has diversified to form individual subsidiaries each operating independently and specializing in various fields of expertise. For more information please visit www.qipco.com.qa

In 2011 QIPCO became the inaugural sponsors of British Champions Series and in June 2015 a landmark, multi-million pound deal secured QIPCO's on-going support for the Series and British racing for a further ten years until 2024.

As the Title Partner, QIPCO enjoys exclusive naming rights for the Series and full partnerships rights for the £4.2 million QIPCO British Champions Day climax at Ascot, which is set to have increased to £5 million when the new contract expires in 2024.

QIPCO is also the official partner of the Guineas Festival at Newmarket's Rowley Mile Racecourse which launches the British Champions Series with the QIPCO 2000 and 1000 Guineas and is title partner to the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes hosted at Ascot in July. Under the deal signed in 2015, QIPCO is an official commercial partner with Ascot Racecourse, including Royal Ascot.



TICKET INFORMATION

For tickets to QIPCO British Champions Day on Saturday 15th October head to <http://bcseri.es/ChampionsDayAscot>

Ticket Prices:

King Edward VII Enclosure: £80

Winning Post Enclosure: £40

Queen Anne Enclosure: £34

Children: under 18 and accompanied by an adult: FREE

Ticket holders are able to bring children under 18 years of age FREE of charge, however please note that all under 18s must be accompanied by a ticket-holding adult (ID may be required at the turnstiles).

Free Student admission: students can access their free tickets by registering via the Ascot Racecourse website using the promotional code STUDENTSBCD. Admission will only be granted with a valid photo student ID.

TRAVELLING TO ASCOT RACECOURSE

Ascot Racecourse is ideally situated in the beautiful, wooded countryside adjoining Windsor great Park and is approximately a 50 minute drive or train journey from London.

Located close to the M3, M4, M40 and M25 as well as to London's Heathrow Airport for international visitors, Ascot Racecourse offers easy access for all racegoers.

By Road:

From London and The North

M4 Junction 6 onto the A332 Windsor by-pass then follow signs for Ascot

From The West

M4 Junction 10 to the A329(M) signed as Bracknell then follow signs to Ascot

From The South and East

M3 Junction 3 onto the A332 signed to Bracknell then follow signs to Ascot

From The Midlands

M40 southbound, Junction 4. Take the A404 towards the M4 (Junction 8/9). On the M4 head towards Heathrow/ London. Leave M4 at Junction 6 and follow A332 Windsor by-pass to Ascot.

For up-to-date travel information tune into BBC Radio Berkshire on 94.5FM or 104.1FM or log onto www.bbc.co.uk/berkshire before you leave to receive a local traffic update.

By Rail:

There are regular services to Ascot from both Reading and London Waterloo using South West Trains. The average journey time is 27 minutes from Reading and 52 minutes from Waterloo. Ascot railway station is a 7-minute walk from the racecourse.

CONTACT LIST

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Please note:

Metal RCA Press badges are valid for entrance to Ascot on QIPCO British Champions Day on Saturday October 15th 2016. They will provide access to the press room and lawn-level media centre. Only members of the national and international racing/ sports media are permitted to enter the Parade Ring area.





ASCOT

QIPCO



BRITISH
CHAMPIONS
DAY

#ChampionsDay