

# YORK DANTE (MAY) FESTIVAL - 10 YEAR TRENDS

A brief summary of key trends is detailed below for each race over the three-day meeting - trends alone will not usually find winners but they may help you to draw up a short-list and then use your own skill and judgement to find that elusive winner! The figure after each race name/detail is the favourites win rate e.g. 5 wins in 10 years = 50%. The main race of the day is also highlighted. Draw facts data of past winners assumes the stalls are split into three parts ~ Low/Middle/High. N&M RC members can find fuller Drawfacts data on the club website [www.northernracingclub.com](http://www.northernracingclub.com)

There was no meeting in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

## WEDNESDAY

**1m 4f 'Ebor Jorvik Stakes' Handicap (55%):** 8/9 winners since 2014 had finished 3<sup>rd</sup> or better on at least one of last two runs. Just 3/9 winner's odds were 9/1 to 16/1 with all others being 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> favourites. 8/9 recent winners were aged 4yo. Stall 7 has produced 3 winners from the last 5 renewals. *Kihavah* has won the class 4 handicap on this day for the last two years and whilst this is a step up in grade the horse clearly likes the track! Drawfacts: Low 22%; Middle 67%; High 11%.

**6 Furlongs Handicap for 3yo+ (4%):** A difficult handicap comes next! 8/9 winners had finished 5<sup>th</sup> or better on at least one of their last two races. 7/9 winners had odds of 10/1+ (including two at 14/1, one at 18/1 and two at 25/1). The last nine winners were all trained in the North of England or Scotland. *Lethal Levi* was 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2023 and is now 5lbs lower in the ratings whilst *Magical Spirit* was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the race last year and is 2lbs lower in the ratings this time. Veteran *Dakota Gold* won the race in 2022 and is now 14lbs lower in the ratings. Drawfacts: Low 33%; Middle 33%; High 33%.

**(Gr 2) '1895 Duke of York' Stakes over 6 Furlongs (27%):** Considering its Group 2 status, this race throws up quite a lot of long priced winners with 4/9 having odds of 10/1+. 7/9 winners were 4<sup>th</sup> or better LTO with the last five winners all also winning on at least one of their last two starts. Stall 4 has produced three winners since 2014. Six of the last seven winners were aged 4yo. *Azure Blue* seeks back-to-back wins and carries the same weight as last year although is now 10lbs higher in the ratings – the last dual winner was in 1987/88 (*Handsome Sailor*). Drawfacts: Low 45%; Middle 33%; High 22%.

Year	Form	Horse + Days since last run	Age/Weight	Jockey	Odds	Trainer	Draw
2014	0110-02	Maarek (16)	7 9 13	D McDonogh	12/1	E McCutcheon (Ire)	4 of 14
2015	6254/6-0	Glass Office (11)	5 9 8	J Crowley	40/1	D Simcock	7 of 15
2016	13113-1	Magical Memory (27)	4 9 8	L Dettori	5/2F	C Hills	4 of 12
2017	212/10-2	Tasleet (18)	4 9 8	J Crowley	14/1	W Haggas	9 of 13
2018	212114-	Harry Angel (207)	4 9 13	A Kirby	4/9F	C Cox	3 of 7
2019	2/1200-1	Invincible Army (46)	4 9 8	P J McDonald	7/2JF	J Tate	8 of 10
2020		No race due to Covid-19					
2021	/1110-	Starman (207)	4 9 8	O Murphy	5/1	E Walker	4 of 12
2022	36-3521	Highfield Princess (26)	5 9 7	J Hart	11/2	J J Quinn	1 of 11
2023	41411-1	Azure Blue (11)	4 9 7	P Mulrennan	12/1	M Dods	9 of 11

**(Gr 3) 'Musidora Stakes' over 1m 2f for 3yo Fillies (44%);** Recognised by many as a strong Oaks trial albeit only two winners, *Sariska* (2009) , *Snowfall* (2021), & *Soul Sister* (2023) have gone on to win at Epsom in recent years (with two doubling up at the Curragh equivalent). Trainers John & Thierry Gosden has an excellent record in this race with 5 wins since 2015 (all ridden by L Dettori) and four started as odds-on favourites (other was 18/1). Indeed, all four winning favourites since 2014 were odds on and when a 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> favourite did not win the race during this time the winners odds were 8/1, 14/1 (twice) & 18/1. Drawfacts: Low 22%; Middle 33%; High 45%.

Year	Form	Horse + Days since last run	Age/Weight	Jockey	Odds	Trainer	Draw
2014	1-	Madame Chiang (204)	9st	K Fallon	8/1	D Simcock	10 of 10
2015	31-1	Star Of Seville (26)	9st	L Dettori	4/6F	J Gosden	4 of 5
2016	1-1	So Mi Dar (21)	9st	L Dettori	4/5F	J Gosden	6 of 7
2017	1-1	Shutter Speed (26)	9st	L Dettori	4/7F	J Gosden	1 of 5
2018	221-2	Give And Take (19)	9st	J Doyle	7/2	W Haggas	5 of 7
2019	/1-4	Nausha (25)	9st	A Atzeni	14/1	R Varian	2 of 10
2020		No race due to Covid-19					
2021	014500-	Snowfall (215)	9st	R L Moore	14/1	A P O'Brien (Ire)	7 of 7
2022	1-1	Emily Upjohn (19)	9st 2lbs	L Dettori	4/7F	J & T Gosden	3 of 5
2023	1-0	Soul Sister (25)	9st 2lbs	L Dettori	18/1	J & T Gosden	4 of 8

**7 Furlong Handicap for 3yo (55%);** 9/9 winners had finished 4<sup>th</sup> or better LTO. Only two of the last nine winners had odds of more than 8/1 being 10/1 & 11/1 shots. Drawfacts: Low 44%; Middle 44% High 12%..

**5 Furlong Novice Stakes for 2yo (22%);** Five debutants have won the race with the others all 6<sup>th</sup> or better LTO. 6/9 winners had odds of 11/2 or shorter with the others 7/1 & 17/2 shots. Stall 3 has supplied three winners since 2014 with no recent winners drawn higher than stall 5. K Ryan is leading trainer with 3 wins since 2015 (none were favourites). Drawfacts: Low 45%; Middle 55%.

**1m 4f Handicap for 4yo+ (33%);** After a drought dating back to 2004 three of the last four favourites have prevailed with 6/9 recent winners being either 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> favourites – remainder had odds of 7/1, 12/1 and 14/1. 9/9 winners to date had finished 6<sup>th</sup> or better. 4yo have won 6/9 races since 2014. All winners since 2014 came from stall 7 or higher with stall 14 producing three winners during that time. 9st 7lbs is the highest weight carried by a winner since 2003. Drawfacts: Low 12%; Middle 55%; High 33%.

## THURSDAY

**5f Handicap (0%);** The last nine winners were all aged between 5-9 years old. 8/9 winners finished 5<sup>th</sup> or better LTO. 7/9 winners since 2014 had odds of 8/1 or shorter. Whilst the favourite's record is poor there have been four winning sole/joint 2<sup>nd</sup> favourites in the last nine renewals. Drawfacts: Low 67%; Middle 33%.

**1 Mile 'Hambleton' Handicap (5%);** The highest weight carried by the last nine winners was 9st 5lbs. 8/9 winners had odds of 10/1 or shorter with just one joint favourite and no 2<sup>nd</sup> favourites winning since 2014. Stall 1 has provided three winners since 2014. None of the last nine winners had also won LTO. Drawfacts: Low 45%; Middle 22%; High 33%.

**(Gr 2) 'Middleton Stakes' over 1m 2f for 4yo+ Fillies (44%):** Only two of the last nine winners had odds greater than 5/1 thus the betting market is generally a good guide. There have been five 5yo winners and four 4yo winners since 2014. 8/9 winners were 5<sup>th</sup> or better on their last run. Three past winners since 2016 had last run 208 days earlier at Ascot in a Gr 1 race, where all finished 3<sup>rd</sup> LTO. *Free Wind* is seeking a follow up win in the race but has dropped 1lb in the ratings since that win. Drawfacts: Low 66%; Middle 12%; High 22%.

Year	Form	Horse + Days since last run	Age/Weight	Jockey	Odds	Trainer	Draw
2014	23102-3	Ambivalent (47)	5 9 0	A Atzeni	9/2	R Varian	3 of 8
2015	0/21235-	Secret Gesture (194)	5 9 0	A Atzeni	7/2	R Beckett	8 of 9
2016	36153-	Beautiful Romance (208)	4 9 0	J Doyle	5/1	S Bin Suroor	4 of 8
2017	100210-	Blond Me (207)	5 9 0	O Murphy	11/1	A Balding	2 of 5
2018	514253-	Coronet (208)	4 9 0	L Dettori	2/1F	J Gosden	1 of 7
2019	11123-	Lah Ti Dar ((208)	4 9 0	L Dettori	1/3F	J Gosden	2 of 6
2020		No race due to Covid-19					
2021	4/2343-2	Queen Power (11)	5 9 0	S De Sousa	6/4F	Sir M Stoute	1 of 6
2022	32012-5	Lilac Road (11)	4 9 2	T Marquand	15/2	W Haggas	2 of 6
2023	11211/1-	Free Wind (320)	5 9 2	L Dettori	6/5F	(J & T Gosden)	6 of 8

**(Gr 2) 'Dante Stakes' over 1m 2f for 3yo (11%):** The best backed horses often fare poorly in this race with just one winning favourite and no winning 2<sup>nd</sup> favourite since 2014. The most likely reason for this is that many runners are trying a longer trip for the first time. Often referred to as a 'Derby trial' and since 1986 the winners of the race have produced nine Epsom winners (latest 2015 – *Golden Horn* 2022 – *Desert Crown*) and three Irish Derby winners (latest 2021) whilst the 2014 winner won the French Derby. J & T Gosden remains leading trainers with 3 wins since 2015. Since 2014, three winners had last run 12 days earlier at Newmarket. As can be seen from the chart below, 6/9 winners had also won LTO. 8/9 recent winners had all run in the current season. Drawfacts: Low 33%; Middle 33%; High 33%.

Year	Form	Horse + Days since last run	Age/Weight	Jockey	Odds	Trainer	Draw
2014	1220-20	The Great Gatsby (12)	9st	R L Moore	9/1	K Ryan	6 of 6
2015	1-1	Golden Horn (29)	9st	W Buick	4/1	J Gosden	1 of 6
2016	-31	Wings Of Desire (19)	9st	L Dettori	9/1	J Gosden	9 of 12
2017	153-321	Permian (12)	9st	F Norton	10/1	M Johnston	7 of 11
2018	1112-35	Roaring Lion (12)	9st	O Murphy	3/1F	J Gosden	4 of 9
2019	-21	Telecaster (31)	9st	O Murphy	7/1	H Morrison	5 of 8
2020		No race due to Covid-19					
2021	1-1	Hurricane Lane (27)	9st	W Buick	5/1	C Appleby	11 of 11
2022	1-	Desert Crown (190)	9st 2lbs	R Kingscote	7/2JF	Sir M Stoute	3 of 9
2023	4011-2	The Foxes (28)	9st 2lbs	O Murphy	6/1	A Balding	2 of 12

**5 Furlong (Listed) Westow Stakes for 3yo (11%):** New 'conditions' race in 2009 and upgraded to listed status in 2015. D Tudhope has ridden three of the last nine winners. Four of the last five winners had also won their previous race. In the betting we have seen one favourite winning the race since 2014 with 6/9 having odds of 9/1 or shorter. Drawfacts: Low 22%; Middle 33%; High 45%.

**6 Furlong Maiden for 2yo (33%):** 5/9 winners were making their racecourse débuts with all others finishing 4<sup>th</sup> or better on their last run. Only two winners had odds greater than 9/1 (winning odds were 14/1 & 28/1) thus the market tends to be a fairly good guide. Drawfacts: Low 33%; Middle 33%; High 33%.

**1M 4f Handicap for 3yo (55%);** All past winners finished 6<sup>th</sup> or better on their last run. Six of the last eight renewals were won by the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> favourites. 9/9 winners carried a weight between 9st and 9st 7lbs. M Johnston is the leading trainer with four wins since 2015 (all 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> favourites). In the betting 7/9 winners had odds of 9/2 or shorter with the others sent off at 10/1 & 12/1. Drawfacts: Low 55%; Middle 33%; High 12%.

## FRIDAY

**(Listed) 'Marygate Stakes' over 5 Furlongs for 2yo Fillies (6%):** 6/9 past winners had won at least one previous race and 6/9 were well supported at odds of 13/2 or shorter – the others were largely unbacked at odds of 10/1, 20/1 and 33/1. Drawfacts: Low 44%; Middle 44%; High 12%.

**1m 2f Handicap for 4yo+ (33%):** 5/9 winners had odds of 7/1 or shorter with all other winners having odds of 10/1 to 12/1. No past winner had run more than twice in the current season. None of the last seven winners had finished better than 4<sup>th</sup> on their last run. Drawfacts: Low 56%; Middle 22%; High 22%.

**(Listed) Sky bet Fillies Stakes' over 1M for 3yo Fillies (11%):** 8/9 winners finished 5<sup>th</sup> or better on last run. *Lustrous* was a surprise 20/1 winner in 2014 and *Primo Bacca/Sounds Of Heaven* slightly lesser shocks at 14/1 in 2021 & 2023 but no other major surprises with all other winner's odds being 7/1 or shorter. Stall 2 has produced 3 of the last 9 winners. Six recent winners had run once in the current season with all others making their seasonal re-appearance. Drawfacts: Low 55%; Middle 33%; High 12%

**(Gr 2) 'Yorkshire Cup' over 1m 6f (55%):** 7/9 past races were won by the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> favourites. R L Moore has won three of the last nine renewals (all for Sir M Stoute). J Gosden is the leading trainer with 3 wins provided by *Stradivarius*. Since 1986, just five winners of this race also won the Ascot Gold Cup (including *Stradivarius* in 2018 & 2019). Stall 2 has provided three winners since 2014. /9 winners were making their seasonal re-appearance. Drawfacts: Low 56%; Middle 33%; High 12%.

Year	Form	Horse + Days since last run	Age/Weight	Jockey	Odds	Trainer	Draw
2014	0/015-41	Gospel Choir (13)	5 9 0	RL Moore	7/2F	Sir M Stoute	2 of 13
2015	141230-	Snow Sky (152)	4 8 13	R L Moore	5/2	Sir M Stoute	3 of 6
2016	1542-22	Clever Cookie (16)	8 9 1	P J McDonald	5/2	P D Niven	2 of 6
2017	111322-	Dartmouth (215)	5 9 1	R L Moore	11/4F	Sir M Stoute	3 of 8
2018	121133-	Stradivarius (209)	4 9 1	L Dettori	4/6F	J Gosden	5 of 8
2019	3/11111-	Stradivarius (209)	5 9 4	L Dettori	4/5F	J Gosden	4 of 8
2020		No race due to Covid-19					
2021	6110-25	Spanish Mission (48)	5 9 4	W Buick	11/2	A Balding	2 of 5
2022	141123-	Stradivarius (209)	8 9 6	L Dettori	6/4F	J&T Gosden	1 of 5
2023	32132-0	Giavellotto (55)	4 9 3	A Atzeni	14/1	M Botti	7 of 7

**1m Novice Stakes (n/a):** New race in 2023.

**7 Furlongs Handicap (50%);** New race in 2021. All winners to date were well backed at odds of 10/1 or shorter; and were 5<sup>th</sup> or better LTO; all came from stalls 12-14. *Eligible* won in 2023 and is 2lbs higher in the ratings this time. Drawfacts: Middle 67%; High 33%.

**5f Handicap for 3yo (33%);** 7/9 winners were in good form finishing 6<sup>th</sup> or better on last run. 9/9 winners carried weights of 8st 9lbs to 9st 9lbs. 5/9 winners had odds of 8/1 or shorter with the others being 12/1, 16/1, 20/1 and 28/1. Three winners since 2015 had last run 20 days earlier, finishing 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> or unplaced. Drawfacts: Low 33%; Middle 55%; High 12%.

© Phil Evans