

SUN MET

What Those In The Know, Know...

Attorney and racehorse owner Robert Bloomberg:



As a WFA contest, it is hard to look past the top two. I'm siding with MARINARESCO as he had an eye-catching run in the Queen's Plate and is far more effective over this trip. He has had a great prep. LEGAL EAGLE will race handy from his wide gate and is bound to be there as he always is when the chips are down, but may have to settle for a runner-up berth for the 3rd consecutive year. Having said that, he is easily the best handicapped horse in the race, bearing in mind though that his rating was achieved over a mile. CAPTAIN AMERICA is a great each-way bet as he is as game as they come, doesn't know how to run a bad race and will be in the frame again as he did when finishing third the last two years. SAIL SOUTH is the dark horse of the race who is always under the radar. He hasn't been the trip, but the manner of his win in the Champions Cup over 1800m and his style of racing, coupled with his bad draw which will see him dropped out, could see him running a blinder here and he is a nice place bet at big odds. LAST WINTER should actually still be unbeaten after 5 career outings so looks far better than his current rating of 107. Despite being out at the weights at these WFA conditions and even with the worst of the draw, which isn't the end of the world at Kenilworth over this distance, it wouldn't be a surprise were he to end up in the winners enclosure

1. Marinaresco 2. Legal Eagle 3. Captain America 4. Sail South 5. Last Winter

Gauteng race-caller Nico Kritsiotis:



With the change of conditions to this year's race, Legal Eagle may get the chance to visit the winner's enclosure after running second for 2 year's running. He is well in at the weights and this race always favours the horses that fit that bill. Marinaresco's last run was a brilliant prep and he would be the biggest danger to my choice. I still believe Gold Standard to be capable but at the weights it would be a hard task - and Cascapedia would be the best from the fillies' ranks for me. I was impressed calling her last time and she is maturing into a good solid racehorse.

1. Legal Eagle 2. Marinaresco 3. Gold Standard 4. Cascapedia

The Gr1 Sun Met has captured the public imagination and everybody is looking to back a winner in what is traditionally the toughest budget month on the calendar. We asked a few well informed experts for a guide on where their money will be on Saturday.

Gold Circle Racing Analyst Warren Lenferna:



LEGAL EAGLE has recorded two wins over the Met distance and is quite simply a CHAMPION! Arguably he is best over a mile, but good milers can win the Met and he is my confident first choice. In saying that, he will need a tremendous amount of luck from the draw. When chatting to Anton Marcus late last week he was fairly upbeat about his chances. I do have healthy respect for COPPER FORCE (great run last time) and MARINARESCO (also caught the eye in his last run) but in my opinion, they will all have to run to beat LEGAL EAGLE!

1. Legal Eagle 2. Copper Force 3. Marinaresco

Former Jockey Rael Zieve:



I haven't really studied the race yet, but it has to be Legal Eagle. He is the best horse in South Africa. And the 3yo filly of Snaith's Oh Susanna must have a massive chance at the weight.

Betting World COO Dean FINDER:



I feel it is a very open race. I am going with Copper Force to beat Legal Eagle, Sail South, Heavenly Blue and African Night Sky.

Highlands And Ridgemont Racing Marketing Amanda Carey:



I am going with African Night Sky for obvious reasons. He is Highlands bred and by our stallion Dynasty. Also, Emma Rourke, Team Crabbia and Snaith Racing are friends and loyal Highlands supporters. Apart from that, he is a smart colt.

Racing television producer Andrew Bon:



My heart says Captain America or Legal Eagle, both exceptional competitors, soldiers and home-bred champions. My gut says Nother Russia for many reasons, not least of all her run to Deo Juvente and Legal Eagle at Turffontein. I will not be surprised if Legal Eagle or Marinaresco win what is truly a great Sun Met.

Former owner and breeder Tony Mincione:



I am going with Legal Eagle.... at half the price.

Saturday's Met racecaller Rouvaun Smit:



This year's Sun Met is going to be a humdinger and calling it will require nerves of steel as the pace will be on from the word go. Legal Eagle will be the first one to pounce in the straight and they will have to come and catch him. Don't be fooled by his hard run in the Queen's Plate - he will be freshened up and ready. Marinaresco will be arriving on the scene late as well as Last Winter as he is a young and improving horse. Sail South is as honest as the day is long. My heart says Legal Eagle to get third time lucky, but my head says Marinaresco. The trick will really be to find the joker in the pack that pops up and makes the quartet pay. That happens every year!

Kenilworth Racing Director Vidrik Thurling:



For me its Last Winter. I feel he has tons of scope and is probably a good few pounds better than his rating. That said, the 3yo filly Oh Susanna has to go very close at the weights. I am looking forward to a record-breaking day with two Pick 6's for the first time and Usain to 'boltster' the day!

Gauteng trainer Candice Dawson:



I fancy Cascapedia to win it.