





(R5) 15:00 LEOPARDSTOWN, 1m

Clipper Logistics Desmond Stakes (Group 3) (Class 1) (3YO plus)

No(Dr)	Silk	Form	Horse Details	Age/Wt	Jockey/Trainer	OR
1 (5)		692-112	ANCIENT SPIRIT (GER) 33 D b c Invincible Spirit - Assisi	5 9 - 9	S Foley Mrs J Harrington	109
2 (3)		112127	BOWERMAN (GB) 21 D bay g Dutch Art - Jamboretta	6 9 - 9	R P Whelan A McGuinness	104
3 (6)		260-910	NEBO 16 D b g Kodiak - Kindling	5 9 - 9bt	W M Lordan T Hogan	105
4 (2)		330-734	TRAIS FLUORS (GB) 33 D b c Dansili - Trois Lunes	6 9 - 9	W J Lee K J Condon	107
5 (7)		2-55	FISCAL RULES 47 b c Make Believe - Gold Mirage	3 9 - 2	K J Manning J S Bolger	106
6 (1)		7151-07	ROYAL DORNOCH 54 D b c Gleneagles - Bridal Dance	3 9 - 2t1	J A Heffernan A P O'Brien	107
7 (4)		1	ETNEYA 34 D b f Siyouni - Eytarna	3 8 - 13	O J Orr D K Weld	-

ATR VERDICT: ANCIENT SPIRIT is a tough, admirable sort who looks sure to give it his all in a very tricky race. Since racing resumed in June, he has had a good time of it in winning a pair of Listed races before finishing second in a Group 3 behind Patrick Sarsfield over nine furlongs at this track. That run can be marked up as the latter was then a close third in a Group One in Germany. The fly in the ointment here is Etneya, in receipt of weight. The fact that Dermot Weld pitches her into this after she won her fillies' maiden at the Curragh last month appears significant. She is very hard to assess after that comfortable victory, however, the runner-up came out and won her maiden by a healthy three and a half lengths. Etneya holds a Group 2 entry, and is clearly a filly of considerable potential. She is a half sister to Eziyra who won at Group 2 level for Weld. Conversely, Royal Dornoch is a class dropper from being unplaced in Group One company. It was only three starts ago that he landed the Group 2 Royal Lodge, though, so he has to be given plenty of respect. Fiscal Rules is lightly raced but took fifth in both the Irish 2,000 Guineas and Irish Derby and has a part to play.

Top Tip: ANCIENT SPIRIT (1)

Watch out for: ETNEYA (7)