

Aidan O'Brien



Royal Ascot Profits

Introduction

Aidan O'Brien was the Champion Amateur Jockey of 1993/94, the same season in which he trained his first winner, on his first day as a licensed Trainer. In 1996, he would become Ireland's youngest ever Champion Trainer, a title he has now held continuously since 1998.

In 2001, he became the youngest ever Champion British Trainer, and the first overseas holder of the title since, well, since one Dr. M.V. O'Brien.

Aiden had his first Royal Ascot winner in 1997 – Harbour Master in the Coventry, just the one, he even drew a blank in 1998!

Since then he has had at least two winners every year bar the Millennium, when Giant's Causeway was his only winner in the St James' Palace Stakes.

We, at least I, take Aidan for granted sometimes, as do the bookmakers, who tend to get carried away with one or two of his runners, just because they have the name A P O'Brien beside their name in the racecard.

Mozart, Johannesburg, Rock Of Gibraltar, Henrythenavigator, Excellent Art, Duke Of Marmalade, Yeats, Mastercraftsman, Lillie Langtry, Starspangledbanner, Power, Fame And Glory, Await The Dawn and So You Think, in the Prince Of Wales are some of his winners.

Aidan also tends to run a number of no – hopers/pacemakers during the five days, which got me thinking. Let's 'cut the crap' – if you excuse the expression – and look to making a profit from Aidan's runners in the races he likes to target.

I have found this quite eye opening, digging into Ballydoyles runners since racing returned to Royal Ascot in 2006.

Hope you enjoy this guide throughout the week.

Tony McCormick

Aidan O'Brien At Royal Ascot

Ok, master trainer Aidan O'Brien has had over 150 runners at the Royal meeting in the last eight years, let's start with his overall record...

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
157	27	17.20%	-10.12	56	35.67%

Even though his overall loss is -10.12, his 17.20% win strike rate is only bettered by his win and place strike rate of 35.67%.

First off, let's get rid of his pacemakers/outsideers, some up to 200/1!

Let's go up to 20/1

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
130	27	20.77%	16.88	56	43.08%

The figures are now showing a profit, losing 27 of his no-hopers.

Now we will break the stats down to the type of race.

Major Races (Group/Grade/Listed)	Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
Group 1	42	15	36%	25.08	24	57%
Group 2	37	5	14%	-3.20	16	43%
Group 3	21	5	24%	18.75	9	43%
Listed Race	18	1	6%	-14.50	4	22%
Non-Major	12	1	8%	-9.25	3	25%

Handicaps and Listed races haven't been the best of hunting grounds for O'Brien, or by the initial appearance of his Group 2 figures, but I'm not ready to give up on them just yet.

Aidan O'Brien Group runners...

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
100	25	25%	40.63	49	49%

The figures now boast a healthy profit and an amazing win and place strike of 49%.

Breaking The Group Races Down

Group 1

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
42	15	36%	25.08	24	57%

Race Distance	Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Places	PlaceStrike
6f	2	1	50%	5.50	1	50%
1m	26	7	27%	12.90	13	50%
1m2f	6	2	33%	-2.20	4	67%
2m4f	8	5	63%	8.88	6	75%

First of all, most of the **2m4f** figures are clearly down to a legend by the name of Yeats (4 wins). At the moment Aidan has four entries in the Blue Riband event.

O'Brien has only had two runners over **6f**, in 2008 and 2010

All in all here, we will look to back all of his Group 1 runners under 20/1.

His 57% win and place strike has included a number of placed horses up to 20/1



'Royal Ascot Trends' is well worth checking out. Tony analyses the recent trends of the race and comes up with some excellent selections such as his 3 winners from 4 races on day 1 last year, including Sole Power (Advised at 11/1). The trends, sent out on the morning of the race are easy to follow and results are very encouraging, I'm a huge fan' -
Tony Ennis, At The Races

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Group 2

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
37	5	13.51%	-3.20	16	43.24%

Race Distance	Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
5f	5	0	0%	-5.00	2	40%
6f	13	3	23%	16.75	5	38%
1m4f	19	2	11%	-14.95	9	47%

We are clearly going to give O'Brien's **5f** horses a wide berth, and, YES, his 1m4f runners. We will concentrate on 6f, 2yo runners, which won last time out and were running within 45 days.

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
10	3	30%	19.75	5	50%

Group 3

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
21	5	23.81%	18.75	9	42.86%

Race Distance	Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
6f	4	0	0%	-4.00	2	50%
7f	6	2	33%	20.50	2	33%
1m2f	2	0	0%	-2.00	0	0%
2m	9	3	33%	4.25	5	56%

I'm happy to lose the **1m2f** category (Hampton Court Stakes), while he has not had a runner at **6f** since 2009. At **7f**, his Ishvana surprised at 20/1 in 2012, if not for that it would be another losing Group 3 distance event.

The Queens Vase is the only two miler during the meeting, with O'Brien winning three times, Mahler, Mikhail Glinka and Leading Light last year. Tweaking the stats a little further and just having runners with an SP of up to 7/1 and horses with no more than 5 career runs, we get...

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
6	3	50%	7.25	4	66.67%



'With two dedicated Racing Channels, and so much racing these days, it really is more than a one man job keeping on top of the form, especially at this time of the year, at Royal Ascot.

I've tried many different tools to try and give me an edge; G1 Racing Trends is simple, on the ball, but most of all very accurate'

Niall Hannity, Racing UK

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Backing Aidan O'Brien At Royal Ascot

Group 1 runners

Distance	6f	1m	1m2f	2m4f
Trends	Up to 20/1			

Group 2 runners

Distance	6f
Trends	Up to 20/1, 2yo, Won last time out, running within 45 days

Group 3 runners

Distance	2m
Trends	Up to 7/1, No more than 5 career runs

Conclusion

So, from backing Aidan O'Brien blindly at Royal Ascot to a little tweak, here and there.....

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
131	23	17.56%	-21.37	47	35.88%

We can turn in a healthy profit

Bets	Wins	WinStrike	SP_PL	Win & Places	PlaceStrike
58	21	36.20%	52.08	33	56.89%

The remaining races are races that Aidan O'Brien targets strongly, with a good win and place strike rate.

Source:

HORSERACEBASE.com