

# TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET

meydan

**UAE DERBY**  
G2 - 1 3/16-Mile  
PURSE \$2,500,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Walking Thunder	5-1
2	Jahbath	6-1
3	Golden Jaguar	15-1
4	Plus Que Parfait	15-1
5	Derma Louvre	12-1
6	Divine Image	2-1
7	Superior	12-1
8	Gray Magician	15-1
9	Razeena	50-1
10	Al Hayette	50-1
11	Van Beethoven	10-1
12	Stubbins	10-1
13	Swift Rose	30-1
14	Manguzi	15-1

TOP PICKS	
6	Divine Image
11	Van Beethoven
1	Walking Thunder
3	Golden Jaguar

#### \$10 EXACTA BOX

6 with 1, 3, 11

#### \$1 TRIFECTA BOX

1, 3, 6, 11

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The \$2,500,000 UAE Derby (G2) will be run on Saturday morning as race 5 in Dubai at Meydan Racecourse. The huge purse and the same amount of Kentucky Derby (G1) eligibility points as the other major prep races have attracted a field of 14 going 1 3/16 miles. Post time is expected to be 10:05AM ET. Earlier this week, severe thunderstorms blew in from the Persian Gulf leaving enough hail to look like it snowed. Usually, the main track at Meydan is pretty dry and cuppy while the sun is still up but this year might be different with this week's rain. In the past, I would not like horses that drew inside going two turns because the kickback from the dry dirt is so severe but the rain should have tightened the track.

#6 DIVINE IMAGE broke her maiden by six lengths on an all-weather track in England on December 13 for Charlie Appleby and Godolphin. She shipped to Meydan for her dirt debut but lost all chance when she broke poorly going a mile in the UAE Guineas but then bounced back to win the UAE Oaks (G3) going today's distance next time out. Without any more races for three-year-old fillies, Appleby brought her back in the Al Bastakiya Stakes against males and she won by over seven lengths in a 14-runner field. Her time for the 1 3/16 miles of 1:59 flat is close to older horse Cappezzano who won the Maktoum Challenge (G1) later that night covering 1 1/4 miles 2:05 flat and she gets five pounds from her male rivals in here. The daughter of Scat Daddy hopes to follow in the footsteps of last year's UAE Derby winner, Mendellsohn, who was also by Scat Daddy.

#11 VAN BEETHOVEN had eight starts on the turf last year and finished up only five lengths behind Too Darn Hot who was champion juvenile last year. He returned almost six months later on an all-weather track at Dundalk and wound up fourth going a mile and now stretches out to two turns while dropping eight pounds. Getting Ryan Moore to ride doesn't hurt either. Aidan O'Brien usually ships live horses to the DWC card and this son of Scat Daddy looks well-meant for his dirt debut.

#1 WALKING THUNDER will need to break well from post one or he has no shot. He won his first three career starts on the dirt by wide margins although the first two came against suspect company here. In the UAE Guineas (G3), he was no match for the winner going a mile and now stretches out in distance. I like that he skipped the Al Bastakiya and shows up here fresh and dangerous. Frankie Dettori picks up the mount but he will have to hustle him. #3 GOLDEN JAGUAR broke his maiden on the dirt going five furlongs at Jebel Ali then came here and won a minor stakes race going seven furlongs on the turf. Last out, he missed by a neck going a mile on the turf in a \$175,000 stakes race. The son of Kentucky Derby (G1) / Dubai World Cup (G1) winner Animal Kingdom is from the female family of Derby winner Mine That Bird and gets a major rider switch to Oisín Murphy.