

**(R4) 16:20 ASCOT, 2m 3f 210y**
**Gold Cup (Group 1) (British Champions Series) (Class 1) (4YO plus)**
**TRIFECTA JACKPOT 6 PLACEPOT QUADPOT SCOOP 6**

No(Dr)	Silk	Form	Horse Details	Age/Wt	Jockey/Trainer	OR
1 (8)		30/136-4	<b>MAX DYNAMITE</b> (FR) 34 b g Great Journey - Mascara	8 9 - 2	W Buick W P Mullins	111
2 (7)		1141-11	<b>ORDER OF ST GEORGE</b> (IRE) 27 CD b h Galileo - Another Storm	6 9 - 2	R L Moore A P O'Brien	123
3 (1)		54620/6	<b>SCOTLAND</b> (GER) 40 b g Monsun - Sqillo	7 9 - 2h	Jim Crowley A M Balding	103
4 (4)		437-328	<b>SHEIKHZAYEDROAD</b> 28 C b g Dubawi - Royal Secrets	9 9 - 2h	M Harley D M Simcock	113
5 (9)		1522-01	<b>TORCEDOR</b> (IRE) 50 C b g Fastnet Rock - Magnolia Lane	6 9 - 2p	C O'Donoghue Mrs J Harrington	115
6 (5)		112-211	<b>VAZIRABAD</b> (FR) 25 D b g Manduro - Visorama	6 9 - 2	C Soumillon A De Royer Dupre	117
7 (2)		3219-32	<b>DESERT SKYLINE</b> (IRE) 34 ch g Tamayuz - Diamond Tango	4 9 - 1p	S De Sousa D R C Elsworth	112
8 (3)		3354-15	<b>MOUNT MORIAH</b> 28 C b g Mount Nelson - Rule Britannia	4 9 - 1	Harry Bentley R M Beckett	111
9 (6)		21133-1	<b>STRADIVARIUS</b> (IRE) 34 C ch c Sea The Stars - Private Life	4 9 - 1	L Dettori J H M Gosden	118

**ATR VERDICT:** This looks a fascinating renewal of the Royal Ascot centrepiece with a European flavour added by the addition of star French stayer Vazirabad, who makes his debut in the UK. He has long looked tailor-made for this contest due to his style of racing and is expected to show up well. Order Of St George clearly sets the standard having won this two years ago before getting touched off in the race 12 months ago by Big Orange, but his better performances have tended to come on ground yielding some cut. STRADIVARIUS, who has conditions to suit, improved massively throughout last season when taking both the Queen's Vase at this meeting, a race which has thrown up Gold Cup winners in recent years, and the Goodwood Cup when beating last year's winner Big Orange. His subsequent efforts on ground softer than ideal were excellent with two thirds, one in the St Leger behind Capri and one on Champions Day behind Order Of St George, and his return to action this year at York suggested he was at least as good as his three-year-old campaign. The way he ran through the line at Goodwood over 2m suggested he had plenty in the tank so the extra half a mile should pose no issue. If any of the top three fail to run their races, Torcedor and Desert Skyline are both capable performers.

**Top Tip:** STRADIVARIUS (9)

**Watch out for:** ORDER OF ST GEORGE (2)

**AT THE RACES**