The West Australian

GROUP 1 : 3200m
Flemington, noon, Tuesday

THE CUP 2025 OFFICE SWEEP

PRIZE MONEY: $10 million
1st: $4,500,000 2nd: $1,100,000 3rd: $550,000 4th: $350,000 5th: $230,000

HAYDEN KING'S TIPS

1: Al Riffa
2: Buckaroo
3: Chevalier Rose
Roughie: Furthur

*PRICING CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING

1 AL RIFFA 59kg

Trainer: Joseph O'Brien
Jockey: Mark Zahra
Barrier: 19

Won the Group 1 Irish St Leger last start before coming to Australia, which is the A-class form. Weight is the only thing that can beat him.

$9

DRAWN BY

2 BUCKAROO 57kg

Trainer: Chris Waller
Jockey: Craig Williams
Barrier: 12

Went within a breath of winning the Cox Plate last start, Australia's best race. 3200m could test and he has 2.5kg more than last year's ninth.

$8

DRAWN BY

3 ARAPAHO 56.5kg

Trainer: Bjorn Baker
Jockey: Rachel King
Barrier: 15

Nine-year-old veteran who won the Sydney Cup in April. Finished midfield in 2022 and may be resigned to the same fate.

$51

DRAWN BY

4 VAUBAN 56.5kg

Trainer: Gai Waterhouse & Adrian Bott
Jockey: Blake Shinn
Barrier: 2

High-class galloper who has improved since being based in Australia for the last year. Needs to improve on previous Cup showings.

$26

DRAWN BY

5 CHEVALIER ROSE 55.5kg

Trainer: Hisashi Shimizu
Jockey: Damian Lane
Barrier: 5

Best form brings him into the mix but he's getting older, and his recent runs don't suggest that he's at his top.

$51

DRAWN BY

6 PRESAGE NOCTURNE 55.5kg

Trainer: Alessandro Botti
Jockey: Stephane Pasquier
Barrier: 9

Admirable performance in the Caulfield Cup and will appreciate the 3200m journey. Does drop 2.5kg for that effort.

$9

DRAWN BY

7 MIDDLE EARTH 54.5kg

Trainer: Ciaron Maher
Jockey: Ethan Brown
Barrier: 13

Finished mid-division in the Caulfield Cup before a placing in the JRA Cup. Needs to elevate to win this.

$34

DRAWN BY

8 MEYDAAN 54kg

Trainer: Simon & Ed Crisford
Jockey: James McDonald
Barrier: 22

Placings behind Al Aasy and Giavellotto prior to arriving in Australia were handy. Grinding type but must get the 3200m trip.

$17

DRAWN BY

9 ABSURDE 53.5kg

Trainer: Willie Mullins
Jockey: Kerrin McEvoy
Barrier: 4

Has raced well in this event twice previously and Mullins expects improvement from the Caulfield Cup. Should be

$21

DRAWN BY

10 FLATTEN THE CURVE 53.5kg

Trainer: Henk Grewe
Jockey: Thore-Hammer Hansen
Barrier: 17

Has won eight of his last 10 starts and hasn't lost a race on turf since Grewe took over. Has been dominating but this is harder.

$31

DRAWN BY

11 LAND LEGEND 53.5kg

Trainer: Chris Waller
Jockey: Joao Moreira
Barrier: 16

Creditable when eighth last year after a positive Caulfield Cup run. Didn't beat a runner home in that race in 2025.

$101

DRAWN BY

12 SMOKIN' ROMANS 53.5kg

Trainer: Ciaron Maher
Jockey: Ben Melham
Barrier: 11

Nine-year-old who always tries his best and is thereabouts, but this is a step up and he was only eighth in the JRA Cup.

$101

DRAWN BY

13 CHANGINGOFTHEGUARD 53kg

Trainer: Kris Lees
Jockey: Tim Clark
Barrier: 24

Forget the Metropolitan run but needs to turn the form around from the Geelong Cup when only sixth.

$101

DRAWN BY

14 HALF YOURS 53kg

Trainer: Tony & Calvin McEvoy
Jockey: Jamie Melham
Barrier: 8

Two-kilo penalty for winning the Caulfield Cup but won on his merits. The real Australian chance being bred in Victoria.

$6

DRAWN BY

15 MORE FELONS 53kg

Trainer: Chris Waller
Jockey: Tommy Berry
Barrier: 23

Competitive this preparation with solid efforts in the Metropolitan and St Leger but will find this tougher.

$71

DRAWN BY

16 ONESMOOTHOPERATOR 53kg

Trainer: Brian Ellison
Jockey: Harry Coffey
Barrier: 6

A 3300m winner, the 3200m distance could suit. Received a one-kilo penalty for his recent Gold Cup win and can go better than last year.

$15

DRAWN BY

17 FURTHUR 52kg

Trainer: Andrew Balding
Jockey: Michael Dee
Barrier: 7

Comes from a top UK yard and won a Group 3 two starts ago. However, he's still young and could this be too much too soon?

$23

DRAWN BY

18 PARCHMENT PARTY 52kg

Trainer: William Mott
Jockey: John Velazquez
Barrier: 3

Looks set to appreciate the expanses of Flemington and has thrived over 2816m at his last two. Best form is on dirt, however.

$51

DRAWN BY

19 ATHABASCAN 51.5kg

Trainer: John O'Shea & Tom Charlton
Jockey: Declan Bates
Barrier: 1

Better performance in the Moonee Valley Gold Cup when second to Onesmooth-operator but still has to find something more.

$101

DRAWN BY

20 GOODIE TWO SHOES 51.5kg

Trainer: Joseph O'Brien
Jockey: Wayne Lordan
Barrier: 20

Brilliant recent record in Ireland, winning six in a row before finally being defeated in a Group 2 last time. Stable second-stringer.

$41

DRAWN BY

21 RIVER OF STARS 51.5kg

Trainer: Chris Waller
Jockey: Beau Mertens
Barrier: 14

Did some good work in France and has been racing well at her second Waller preparation. Ran well in the Caulfield Cup off the right run.

$17

DRAWN BY

22 ROYAL SUPREMACY 51kg

Trainer: Ciaron Maher
Jockey: Robbie Dolan
Barrier: 21

Stylish success in the Metropolitan and then his Caulfield Cup effort had credit, beaten just two and a half lengths. Dolan won this race in 2024.

$26

DRAWN BY

23 TORRANZINO 51kg

Trainer: Paul Preusker
Jockey: Celine Gaudray
Barrier: 18

An enduring preparation culminates here courtesy of a Geelong Cup win two weeks ago. This is a new test and needs to step up.

$26

DRAWN BY

24 VALIANT KING 51kg

Trainer: Chris Waller
Jockey: Jye McNeil
Barrier: 10

Stamped himself in contention with a bold third in the Caulfield Cup. Should get the 3200m and if it's a dry track, it will help.

$7

DRAWN BY

1. AL RIFFA
2. BUCKAROO
3. ARAPAHO
4. VAUBAN
5. CHEVALIER ROSE
6. PRESAGE NOCTURNE
7. MIDDLE EARTH
8. MEYDAAN
9. ABSURDE
10. FLATTEN THE CURVE
11. LAND LEGEND
12. SMOKIN' ROMANS
13. CHANGINGOF-THEGUARD
14. HALF YOURS
15. MORE FELONS
16. ONESMOOTH-OPERATOR
17. FURTHUR
18. PARCHMENT PARTY
19. ATHABASCAN
20. GOODIE TWO SHOES
21. RIVER OF STARS
22. ROYAL SUPREMACY
23. TORRANZINO
24. VALIANT KING

WINNERS & PRIZE MONEY

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Last