

Saturday 14th December

CHELTENHAM



12.10 JCB TRIUMPH TRIAL JUVENILE HURDLE (Qualifier) (2) 2m179y (3380 Metres)

RACE 1 **(5) LAVENDER HILL MOB | (4) TOTAL LOOK | (8) AMBIENTE AMIGO**

12.40 JOSH WYKE BIRTHDAY NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 3m1f56y (5080 Metres)

RACE 2 **(6) HAITI COULEURS | (2) PEAKY BOY | (4) ISAAC DES OBEAUX**

1.13 QUINTESSENTIALLY MARES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 2½m127y (4140 Metres)

RACE 3 **(2) COCO MADEMOISELLE | (8) REALISATION | (9) THEONEWEDREAMOF**

1.50 NYETIMBER DECEMBER GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Premier Handicap) (1) 2½m127y (4140 Metres)

RACE 4 **(4) FUGITIF | (8) MADARA | (3) LE PATRON**

2.25 BETMGM HANDICAP CHASE (2) 2m62y (3280 Metres)

RACE 5 **(1) MASTER CHEWY | (2) LIBBERTY HUNTER | (5) ISSAR D'AIRY**

3.00 ALBERT BARTLETT NOVICES' HURDLE (Bristol) (Grade 2) (1) 2m7f213y (4820 Metres)

RACE 6 **(2) SKYJACK HIJACK | (3) WESTERN KNIGHT | (5) CLONDAW GENERAL**

3.35 BETMGM MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 2½m56y (4070 Metres)

RACE 7 **(1) TAKE NO CHANCES | (10) JOYEUSE | (7) PRETENDING**

KEY TO SYMBOLS

Top Rated: The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.

Horses For Courses: A suitable track for the horse, compared to its lifetime record on similar courses as defined by Timeform's course data.

Jockey Uplift: The engaged rider has a notably higher Timeform Jockey Ranking than those who've ridden the horse on its most recent starts

Trainer Form: A hot trainer to follow, based on Timeform ratings-related measurements looking at the recent performance of runners.

12.10**JCB TRIUMPH TRIAL JUVENILE HURDLE (Qualifier) (2) 3yo**
£23,000 2m179y (3380 Metres)

RACE 1

Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 QUANTOCK HILLS (FR) (27) (D) h 98
2121 3 11-7 | 73.0kg



Warren Greatrex

James Bowen

Fairly useful form over hurdles in France, confirming debut promise when successful at Dieppe in June. Acquired for €130,000 after and didn't need to improve to go one better than on yard debut in 8-runner juvenile at Fontwell (17.7f) last month. Should be competitive.

2 TERIFERMA (83) (D) t 98
112 3 11-7 | 73.0kg



Jack Jones

Sean Bowen

Took well to hurdling with wins at Killarney and Down Royal in August. Ran well attempting to concede plenty of weight when second at Listowel the following month and should be competitive again now setting out for a new yard (previously with Joseph O'Brien).

3 MOUTARDE (IRE) (19) 96
241 3 11-4 | 71.7kg



Anthony Charlton

Gavin Sheehan

Fair Flat winner in Ireland for Gavin Cromwell and made the most of a good opportunity as he got off the mark over hurdles at the third attempt in 8-runner juvenile at Kempton (2m) 19 days ago. Needs a bit more back in better company.

4 TOTAL LOOK (FR) (27) 99
1 3 11-4 | 71.7kg



Gavin Patrick Cromwell, Ireland

Keith Donoghue

Progressive on the Flat (stays 1½m) and justified support in 11-runner juvenile hurdle at Navan (16f, good to soft) on NH debut 27 days ago, always holding on. Sure to progress and win more races in this sphere.

5 LAVENDER HILL MOB (14) (BF) s 95
2 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



James Owen

Sam Twiston-Davies

Useful on Flat, mid-field in Group 2 Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot (14.2f) on most recent outing in that sphere. Seemed rusty/in need of the experience sent hurdling when second in 4-runner juvenile at Newcastle (16.2f, good) a fortnight ago and seems sure to do better in first-time cheekpieces.

6 OCEAN CONQUEST 96
3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies

Jordan Nailor

Lightly-raced winner at up to 1m on the Flat but it is a little concerning he was solid for just 9,000 gns out of M. D. O'Callaghan's yard.

7 SMALL FRY (IRE) (8) 81
35 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Gary & Josh Moore

Niall Houlihan

Developed into a fairly useful handicapper on the Flat, registering 3 victories at up to 14.5f. However, has run to just a modest level on both hurdle starts to date.

8 AMBIENTE AMIGO (15) (BF) h+t ★ 100
13 3 10-11 | 68.5kg



James Owen

Harry Cobden

Useful performer on Flat who made a winning start in this sphere in ready fashion at Newcastle (16.2f, good) in October. Proved too keen when third in Newbury listed event since and remains with potential.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Total Look, **7-2** Lavender Hill Mob, **6-1** Ambiente Amigo, **13-2** Teriferma, **8-1** Quantock Hills, **10-1** Moutarde, **10-1** Ocean Conquest, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

LAVENDER HILL MOB seemed rusty/in need of the experience sent hurdling when second in a small-field, steadily-run affair at Newcastle recently and, open to plenty of improvement based on his Flat form, he's taken to extend his stable's excellent run in this division. Total Look looked good when justifying strong support on his debut in this sphere at Navan last month and seems sure to progress, with Ambiente Amigo and Quantock Hills others to consider.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. LAVENDER HILL MOB 2. TOTAL LOOK 3. AMBIENTE AMIGO****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	An Bradan Feasa 3-11-4	5-4f	Jack Jones	Tom Bellamy	7
2021	Interne de Sivola 3-10-12	5-1	Nick Williams	Chester Williams	10
2020	Adagio 3-11-2	4-9f	David Pipe	Tom Scudamore	8
2019	Botox Has 3-11-2	8-11f	Gary Moore	Joshua Moore	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

12.40**JOSH WYKE BIRTHDAY NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE**
(3) 4yo+ £20,000 3m1f56y (5080 Metres)

RACE 2

Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 HILLCREST (IRE) (21) (C) 89
4 9 11-10 | 74.4kg



Henry Daly

Sam Twiston-Davies

Big chasing type who is unbeaten when completing over hurdles, galloping on strongly on first crack at 3m in a Grade 2 at Haydock back in February 2022. Made a more than satisfactory return after no less than 33 months on the sidelines on chasing debut at Haydock recently and should progress.

2 PEAKY BOY (IRE) (27) (C) 98
21/11-1 6 11-7 | 73.0kg



Nicky Henderson

Nico de Boinville

Won second of 2 starts in bumpers for Michael Scudamore in 2022. Missed the following year but looked a useful prospect when winning both starts in maiden/novice hurdles during second half of last term and completed a course hat-trick on return/chase bow recently. More to come upped in trip.

3 DESTROYTHEEVIDENCE (37) (BF) 99
211240-12 6 11-5 | 72.1kg



Kim Bailey

Jonathan Burke

3-time winner over hurdles who justified good support sent chasing after 7 months off when landing 9-runner novices' handicap at Chepstow in October. Pulled clear with a well-handicapped rival at Newbury (23.4f, good to soft) last month and should continue his fine start over fences.

4 ISAAC DES OBEAUX (FR) (64) 93
7/6113P3-5 6 11-1 | 70.3kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Back-to-back hurdles winner to end 2023 and far from disgraced when third in a Grade 2 at this track after. A combination of a 6-month absence and some novice errors took their toll on chase debut at Chepstow (23.6f, good to soft) in October and seems sure to leave that form behind.

5 TRANSMISSION (IRE) (28) (CD) 98
231581-21 7 11-0 | 69.9kg



Neil Mulholland

James Bowen

Irish import who did well in staying handicap hurdles after joining this yard last season, winning twice and placed twice from half-a-dozen appearances. Made it third time lucky over the larger obstacles at this course (25f, good) 4 weeks ago and unlikely he's finished improving.

6 HAITI COULEURS (FR) (35) (D) 100
22411-21 7 10-12 | 68.9kg



Rebecca Curtis

Sean Bowen

Ended last season with a brace of hurdles wins and shaped well sent chasing after 6 months off when runner-up at Chepstow in October. Clearly derived plenty from that and produced a much sharper round of jumping to go one better at Aintree (25f, good) 5 weeks ago. Remains potentially smart.

7 BEACHCOMBER (FR) (36) (D, BF) 97
P41P1-632 6 10-10 | 68.0kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

A dual 25f hurdles winner who stepped up on his chasing debut form when runner-up at Exeter (24.2f, good) just over 5 weeks ago. May well do better still as he gains further experience and first-time cheekpieces could well sharpen him up that bit further.

8 MOON D'ORANGE (FR) (49) 94
U23310-33 6 10-10 | 68.0kg



John McConnell, Ireland

B. W. Harvey

Winner of a novice hurdle during a short stint for Fergal O'Brien during the spring and shaped well on chase debut having rejoined former yard when third of 12 in a Punchestown maiden. Failed to progress here last time (looked short of pace) and others look more appealing. Cheekpieces reapplied.

9 LIVIN ON LUCO (IRE) (45) 97
2F1222-1 6 10-5 | 65.8kg



Philip Hobbs & Johnson White

Micheal Nolan

Consistent rather than progressive over hurdles and bettered that form albeit fortuitously when making a winning start over fences in 7-runner handicap at Newton Abbot (21f, soft) 45 days ago. Step forward required in this company but that's certainly possible.

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Peaky Boy, **13-2** Transmission, **8-1** Haiti Couleurs, **8-1** Destroythevidence, **9-1** Isaac Des Obeaux, **14-1** Livin On Luco, **14-1** Hillcrest, **16-1** Beachcomber, **25-1** Moon D'Orange

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A cracking contest in store with a host of unexposed staying chasers lining up. The vote goes to HAITI COULEURS, who jumped with aplomb when landing the odds at Aintree 5 weeks ago and Rebecca Curtis' 7-y-o remains potentially smart now faced with a sterner assignment. Peaky Boy completed a course hat-trick on return/chase debut last month, so he heads up the opposition, with Isaac des Obeaux and Transmission both sure to advance their form in this discipline, too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. HAITI COULEURS 2. PEAKY BOY 3. ISAAC DES OBEAUX

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Are U Wise To That 6-11-0	5-1	Jonjo O'Neill	Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	6
2022	Hidden Heroics 5-10-9	10-11f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	3
2021	Corach Rambler 7-10-13	2-1f	Lucinda Russell	Derek Fox	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.13

RACE 3

QUINTESSENTIALLY MARES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier)
(3) 4yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-125) £21,000
2½m127y (4140 Metres)



Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Strong**

- 1 EXIMIA (286) (D) 93**
 11/61615P- 7 12-0 | 76.2kg
 Venetia Williams **Charlie Deutsch**
 Useful hurdler/chaser in France, successful 4 times in each sphere at up to around 2½m. Changed hands for €80,000 in November but was pulled up on debut for new connections at Huntingdon in March. No surprise to see her bounce back here with yard among the winners though.
- 2 COCO MADEMOISELLE (IRE) (78) (BF) 100**
 1/212P12-2 6 11-12 | 75.3kg
 Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**
 Winning Irish pointer who also scored twice over hurdles last term. Returned with a promising head second of 5 in 23f Worcester novice on debut over fences so she rates a big player off a lenient opening mark.
- 3 GAME ON FOR GLORY (IRE) (60) 94**
 42P2132-4 8 11-11 | 74.8kg
 Lucy Wadham **Harry Cobden**
 Landed Ludlow handicap chase in a first-time visor in February. Looked rusty after 6 months off when a well-held fourth of six at Market Rasen on her return. Can take a step forward with cheekpieces now back on.
- 4 AUTUMN RETURN (IRE) (29) (D) 94**
 21238-151 7 11-11 | 74.8kg
 Ruth Jefferson **Gavin Sheehan**
 Most likeable hurdler who made it 2-3 in this sphere in a match at Newcastle (2m4f) 29 days ago. This demands much more but she's still one to consider.
- 5 MALAITA (41) (CD) 96**
 F2211-632 8 11-10 | 74.4kg
 Mel Rowley **Charlie Hammond**
 A C&D winner last season and she arrives in good nick, second of 4 at Carlisle (2m4f) last month. This likeable mare needs considering.
- 6 REGAL RENAISSANCE (23) 94**
 42312-241 6 11-6 | 72.6kg
 Henry Daly **Sam Twiston-Davies**
 Reliable mare who resumed winning ways in 7-runner handicap chase at Warwick (20f, soft) 23 days ago by 5 lengths from So Said I. Up 6 lb but she's in the mix once more.
- 7 TRAPISTA (FR) (33) 94**
 5601-1125 7 11-4 | 71.7kg
 Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill **Jonjo O'Neill Jr.**
 Completed a hat-trick at Ludlow (20f) in May but off 4 months before beating only one in 2m4f Kempton handicap chase last month. Should take a step forward now. Possibilities.
- 8 REALISATION (FR) (32) (D, BF) 99**
 1/43148-32 6 11-4 | 71.7kg
 Charlie Longsdon **David Bass**
 A fair winning 2m4f hurdler who has made a promising chasing start on the back of wind surgery, just failing after a final-fence mistake in 2m4f Lingfield handicap last month. Can go well again despite a 4 lb weights rise.
- 9 THEONEWEDREAMOF (IRE) (165) 96**
 647287-31 5 11-1 | 70.3kg
 Gavin Patrick Cromwell, Ireland **Keith Donoghue**
 A fairly useful Flat/hurdles winner who was quick to get off the mark in this sphere at Tipperary in July. Only ninth reverted to hurdles at Galway following month but no surprise to see her get back on track here for last year's winning yard.
- 10 SHAKEYATAILFEATHER (IRE) (14) 96**
 B22-61264 5 10-13 | 69.4kg
 Dan Skelton **Tristan Durrell (3lb/1kg)**
 Scored over hurdles at Newton Abbot in September and made an encouraging start over fences when fourth at Doncaster (2m3f) two weeks ago. She's very much one to consider with better to come.

- 11 SO SAID I (23) (BF) 97**
 237184-52 8 10-13 | 69.4kg
 Joe Tizzard **Freddie Gingell (3lb/1kg)**
 Opened his chasing account at Lingfield in February and has started this season well, runner-up in 2m4f Warwick handicap 23 days ago. Not discounted.
- 12 SIMILAR STORY (IRE) (33) (BF) 98**
 23525-212 6 10-9 | 67.6kg
 Stuart Coltherd **Sean Quinlan**
 Easy winner of an Irish point and she made a winning chasing debut at Kelso in October. Backed it up with a very good second of 8 at Carlisle (2m4f) following month so must enter calculations.
- 13 GETBAZOUTOFHERE (13) 96**
 434P2-112 8 10-2 | 64.4kg
 Tom Gretton **Sean Bowen**
 Belatedly opened her account at Hereford in May and has advanced her form this winter, scoring again there before a very good second of 8 at Leicester (22f) 13 days ago. Not out of things.

13 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Coco Mademoiselle, **8-1** Realisation, **17-2** Similar Story, **10-1** Regal Renaissance, **11-1** Theonewedreamof, **16-1** So Said I, **16-1** Getbazoutofhere, **16-1** Eximia, **18-1** Shakeyatailfeather, **18-1** Autumn Return, **20-1** Malaita, **20-1** Game On For Glory, **25-1** Trapista

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A case can be made for most of these but it's still hard to side against COCO MADEMOISELLE who looks to start life in handicaps on a very good mark and can go one better than her promising chasing debut Worcester second. Realisation also has better days ahead of her and heads the list of dangers, with Irish-raider Theonewedreamof, Similar Story, So Said I and Shakeyatailfeather in the picture too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. COCO MADEMOISELLE 2. REALISATION 3. THEONEWEDREAMOF

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	La Malmason 5-12-1	11-4f	Gavin Patrick Cromwell	Keith Donoghue	12
2022	Dame du Soir 9-10-3	8-1	David Bridgwater	Lilly Pinchin (3)	10
2021	Vienna Court 6-11-12	12-1	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	11
2020	Madera Mist 6-9-9	33-1	Tim Vaughan	Alan Johns	11
2019	Zara Hope 8-10-9	5-2f	D. J. Jeffreys	Kielan Woods	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.50

RACE 4

NYETIMBER DECEMBER GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Premier Handicap) (1) 4yo+ £125,000 2½m127y (4140 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Strong**

1 STAGE STAR (IRE) (48) (CD, BF) **98**
1115/1P5-4 8 12-0 | 76.2kg



Paul Nicholls **Harry Cobden**
Won Grade 1 Golden Miller at 2023 Festival and took form up another notch with victory in Paddy Power Gold Cup at Cheltenham on return last season. Not in same form since though not disgraced in Old Roan at Aintree on return.

2 GA LAW (FR) (28) (CD) **99**
P/671P2-22 8 11-8 | 73.5kg



Jamie Snowden **Gavin Sheehan**
Twice a winner in premier handicaps here in recent seasons and good runner-up efforts both starts this term, including when 4½ lengths second to Il Ridoto in Paddy Power Gold Cup. Can make presence felt again.

3 LE PATRON (FR) (15) **98**
30/1114P-1 6 11-5 | 72.1kg



Gary & Josh Moore **Freddie Mitchell (51b/2kg)**
Won first 3 starts over fences last term, taking Grade 1 Henry VIII Novices' Chase at Sandown. Well held next 2 starts but back with a bang in handicap at Newbury 2 weeks ago, jumping superbly under this rider. Needs considering.

4 FUGITIF (FR) (28) (CD) **98**
25/413PP-5 9 11-2 | 70.8kg



Richard Hobson **Sean Bowen**
Narrowly beat Il Ridoto in this last year off 1 lb higher. Ended season out of form but sure signs of a revival when fifth in Paddy Power Gold Cup on return so big run now expected.

5 IL RIDOTO (FR) (28) (CD) **98**
32308P-51 7 11-1 | 70.3kg



Paul Nicholls **Freddie Gingell (31b/1kg)**
Likeable sort who was just denied by Fugitif in this last year off 6 lb lower. All the better for return when winning Paddy Power Gold Cup here by 4½ lengths from Ga Law but career-high mark to defy now.

6 SURE TOUCH (35) (D) **97**
2/23111-15 8 10-8 | 67.1kg



Olly Murphy **K. Brogan**
Had a productive 2022 over hurdles, winning 4 times, and further progress over fences last season, completing 4-timer in Summer Plate at Market Rasen. Winning run came to an end in Grand Sefton at Aintree and others look better treated now.

7 IN EXCELSIS DEO (FR) (28) (CD) **97**
2/32U51-PU 6 10-8 | 67.1kg



Harry Fry **Bryan Carver**
Career best when winning the Silver Trophy over C&D in April. However, let down by jumping both starts since, including in Paddy Power Gold Cup here on return.

8 MADARA (FR) (28) (C) **98**
2U6119-84 5 10-6 | 66.2kg



Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**
Much improved for Sophie Leach last term, winning good 2m handicaps here and at Leopardstown. Lacklustre display on Ascot reappearance (only run for Kieran Burke) but back to best starting out for this yard when fourth in Paddy Power Gold Cup here, finishing with running left. More to come.

9 GEMIRANDE (FR) (22) (D) **99**
2122d/550-1 8 10-2 | 64.4kg



Venetia Williams **Charlie Deutsch**
Better than ever when making a winning return at Ascot 3 weeks ago, storming clear. Career-high mark to deal with now but he's respected.

10 GUARD YOUR DREAMS (27) (C) **98**
5400-143 8 10-2 | 64.4kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies **Sam Twiston-Davies**
Smart hurdler at his best who, in line with yard's fine form made a successful return/chase debut in novices' handicap at Warwick (20f) in October. Similar form when hitting the frame in similar events next 2 starts but up against it tackling open company now.

11 GRANDEUR D'AME (FR) (63)
15/514UP-1 8 10-2 | 64.4kg



Alan King **Brendan Powell**
Enhanced good record fresh when scoring at Chepstow on return. Respectable fourth in this last year off this mark so in the mix.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

6-1 Madara, 6-1 Fugitif, 7-1 Grandeur D'ame, 7-1 Stage Star, 15-2 Ga Law, 9-1 Il Ridoto, 12-1 In Excelsis Deo, 14-1 Gemirande, 14-1 Le Patron, 22-1 Guard Your Dreams, 28-1 Sure Touch

TIMEFORM VIEW:

FUGITIF won this last year off 1 lb lower and another big run is on the cards after his encouraging comeback in the Paddy Power Gold Cup. Madara caught the eye starting out for this yard in the same race and rates a big threat, while Le Patron looks back on the upgrade after his dominant reappearance win at Newbury.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. FUGITIF 2. MADARA 3. LE PATRON

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Fugitif 8-11-3	13-2	Richard Hobson	Gavin Sheehan	12
2021	Coole Cody 10-10-12	12-1	Evan Williams	Adam Wedge	13
2020	Chatham Street Lad 8-10-10	16-1	Michael Winters	D. J. O'Keeffe	17
2019	Warthog 7-10-3	7-1	David Pipe	David Noonan	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race










2.25**BETMGM HANDICAP CHASE (2) 4yo+ £40,000 2m62y
(3280 Metres)**

RACE 5

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	MASTER CHEWY (IRE) (7) (D)	 	100
	2214F2-4F 7 12-0 76.2kg		
	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	
	Made into a very smart chaser last term when winning twice at 2m and signing off with a smashing second in Aintree Grade 1. Resumed with a good fourth in handicap at Ascot and whilst he fell halfway in last week's Tingle Creek, he's of interest back in calmer waters.		
2	LIBBERTY HUNTER (245) (CD)		98
	315/F1123- 8 11-4 71.7kg		
	Evan Williams	Harry Cobden	
	Progressive sort who won 2m handicap chases at Wincanton/over C&D around the turn of the year. Good placed efforts on final 2 starts, latterly when third in Maghull Novices' Chase at Aintree in April. Could do better again this term given his low-mileage profile in this sphere.		
3	THIRD TIME LUCKI (IRE) (27) (CD)	t	98
	463149/2 9 11-2 70.8kg		
	Fergal O'Brien	Jonathan Burke	
	A smart chaser at his best for Dan Skelton in 2022/23 who joined present connections for £190,000 and shaped as if retaining plenty of ability after a lengthy absence when second in 4-runner handicap here (15.9f) 4 weeks ago. On a good mark if building on that.		
4	ETALON (IRE) (14) (D)		99
	14/1117-59 7 10-11 68.5kg		
	Dan Skelton 	Harry Skelton	
	Rapid improver sent chasing last term, winning first 3 starts before shaping better than bare result in Aintree Grade 1 on final start. Not at best in pair of starts since returning this autumn, beaten some way out when last of 9 in handicap at Newbury (16.4f) a fortnight ago.		
5	ISSAR D'AIRY (FR) (14) (D, BF)	s	98
	1/31155-24 6 10-4 65.3kg		
	Gary & Josh Moore	Freddie Mitchell (5lb/2kg)	
	Dual winner at Newbury last winter who posted a solid second on return to action at Ascot (16.7f) and not seen to best effect when fourth of 9 in handicap back at Newbury (16.4f) 2 weeks ago. Cheekpieces reached for now and he's worth a second look.		
6	TRIPLE TRADE (21) (CD)	s	95
	131585-64 8 10-4 65.3kg		
	Joe Tizzard	Brendan Powell	
	Successful twice in 2023/24, including here. Good fifth in Red Rum at Aintree final start and seemingly regaining full fitness in pair of starts this winter, fourth of 8 in handicap chase at Ascot (16.8f, good to soft) 21 days ago. Handicapper is steadily easing his grip.		

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Libberty Hunter, **11-4** Master Chewy, **9-2** Issar D'airy, **15-2** Third Time Lucki, **8-1** Triple Trade, **12-1** Etalon

TIMEFORM VIEW:

MASTER CHEWY needs to dispel a spill in last week's Tingle Creek but his overall profile over fences is very much a positive one and Nigel Twiston-Davies' 7-y-o looks a lead protagonist returned to handicap company. Libberty Hunter had an excellent first season over larger obstacles and it's feasible to think he can step forward again given his low-mileage profile. Issar d'Airy is another fancied to feature.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MASTER CHEWY 2. LIBBERTY HUNTER 3. ISSAR D'AIRY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Madara 4-10-2	9-1	Sophie Leech	Harry Cobden	7
2021	Editeur du Gite 7-11-7	3-1jf	Gary Moore	Niall Houlihan (5)	8
2020	Sky Pirate 7-10-1	4-1	Jonjo O'Neill	Tom Scudamore	9
2019	Northern Beau 6-9-11	12-1	Michael Scudamore	Brendan Powell	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race



3.00**ALBERT BARTLETT NOVICES' HURDLE (Bristol) (Grade 2) (1)**
4yo+ £55,000 2m7f213y (4820 Metres)

RACE 6

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	JET BLUE (FR) (38)	98
	70313-312 5 11-5 72.1kg	
	David Cottin, France	James Reveley
	Useful hurdler in France, winning then second over 2¼m at Auteuil this autumn for Hugo Merienne. Steps up significantly in trip on this first outing for David Cottin.	
2	SKYJACK HIJACK (IRE) (14) (D)	100
	32111111 6 11-3 71.2kg	
	Jennie Candlish	Sean Quinlan
	Very progressive front-running hurdler who readily completed a 6-timer in 2¾m novice at Newcastle a fortnight ago. This is his toughest assignment yet but his fluent jumping should continue to hold him in good stead.	
3	WESTERN KNIGHT (IRE) (21)	95
	2/7-11 5 11-3 71.2kg	
	Joe Tizzard	Brendan Powell
	Second in the first of 2 bumper starts and winning of novices at Uttoxeter (2½m) and Ascot (21.5f) since switching to hurdles. Looks capable of better again and unlikely to give up his unbeaten hurdle record without a fight.	
4	ABOUTDAMNTIME (IRE) (25)	91
	1 5 11-0 69.9kg	
	Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero	Craig Nichol
	£50,000 Irish point recruit who made a successful start to his hurdle career in 2½m Carlisle maiden last month. The third gave the form a bit of a boost when scoring comfortably at Kelso last weekend. Open to improvement.	
5	CLONDAW GENERAL (IRE) (59)	94
	1 5 11-0 69.9kg	
	Kim Bailey	Jonathan Burke
	£150,000 purchase on the back of Irish point success and followed up in 4-runner novice hurdle at Worcester (23f) on Rules debut in October, forging clear after the last. Looks a useful stayer in the marking.	
6	STOP LOSS (IRE) (631)	
	4/ 6 11-0 69.9kg	
	Fergal O'Brien	Max Kendrick
	Needed the experience when fourth in a Hereford bumper in March 2023. Absent since and very much pitched in at the deep end on hurdle debut.	
7	YELLOW CAR (IRE) (14) (BF)	97
	1215 6 11-0 69.9kg	
	David Killahena & Graeme McPherson	Nick Slatter
	Point winner who looked quite useful when winning 2 of his first 3 starts over hurdles but needs to shrug off a disappointing run in a Doncaster handicap 2 weeks ago. Up in trip.	

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-4 Skyjack Hijack, **7-2** Clondaw General, **4-1** Western Knight, **5-1** Jet Blue, **14-1** Aboutdamntime, **16-1** Yellow Car, **150-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SKYJACK HIJACK has progressed at such a rate of knots that he may be able to take the step up to Graded level in his stride. Western Knight and Clondaw General might be the pair to give Jennie Candlish's fluent-jumping front-runner most to do.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SKYJACK HIJACK 2. WESTERN KNIGHT 3. CLONDAW GENERAL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Shanagh Bob 5-11-0	15-8f	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	10
2021	Blazing Khal 5-11-3	evsf	Charles Byrnes	D. J. McInerney	6
2020	Make Good 5-10-12	12-1	John McConnell	Richard Johnson	8
2019	Redford Road 5-10-12	14-1	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Jamie Bargary	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.35

BETMGM MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 4yo+ fillies and mares £30,000 2½m56y (4070 Metres)

RACE 7





Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Strong**

1 TAKE NO CHANCES (IRE) (14) 98
P21-14315 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

 Dan Skelton  **Harry Skelton**
Useful mare who bagged a 2m Wetherby listed race at the beginning of November. Found the Grade 1 Fighting Fifth at Newcastle too hot for her a fortnight ago but she's much respected back in a handicap. Yard won the race last year.

2 SWEET FANTASY (42) h 92
11-4 5 11-7 | 73.0kg

 James Owen  **Harry Cobden**
Useful Flat performer who won pair of 2m mares' novice hurdles earlier in year. Too fresh back from a break when 2¼ lengths fourth to Take No Chances in Wetherby listed back hurdling 6 weeks ago. Fitted with a hood now going up in trip. Her mark demands improvement but no shock were she to find it.


3 WODHOOH (FR) (322) 97
11111- 4 11-7 | 73.0kg

 Gordon Elliott, Ireland **Danny Gilligan (31b/1kg)**
5-5 in juvenile hurdles for Gordon Elliott last season, including fillies' listed events at Newbury and Doncaster. Not seen for 10 months but still much respected now stepping up in trip for her handicap debut.


4 GEORGI GIRL (IRE) (23) 98
3421106-1 5 11-6 | 72.6kg

 Philip Hobbs & Johnson White  **Ben Jones**
Back on the up with a 21f Warwick handicap success on reappearance 23 days ago, seeing off The Lord Maid by 2¾ lengths with Masked Dance back in third. Should remain very competitive up 5 lb.



5 LUNAR DISCOVERY (41) 95
2d0/1122P-5 7 11-1 | 70.3kg

 James Moffatt **Charlotte Jones**
Dual bumper winner who also won a pair of novice hurdles last season. Ran up to the pick of her hurdles form when 12¾ lengths fifth of 6 in Carlisle listed chase on reappearance. Makes handicap debut back hurdling.



6 HOLLY (FR) (19) 99
5142-0462 7 10-13 | 69.4kg

 Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill **Jonjo O'Neill Jr.**
Fairly useful hurdler. Has run below that level over fences in recent months but feasibly treated back over the smaller obstacles having finished a close second off this mark at Plumpton last spring.


7 PRETENDING (IRE) (35) (CD, BF) 97
143221-15 5 10-13 | 69.4kg

 Lucy Wadham  **Gavin Sheehan**
Ended last season with win in big field over C&D in April and improved again to score on her 2½m Uttoxeter reappearance in October. Possibly went for home a bit too soon (also bad mistake 2 out) when fifth at Wincanton last month and that defeat shouldn't be taken to suggest this mark is beyond her.


8 ENDLESS ESCAPE (IRE) (42) (D) s+t 99
7/542223-5 8 10-12 | 68.9kg

 Ben Clarke  **Harry Kimber**
Four-time hurdle winner who underwhelmed over fences at the start of last season but back on track with trio of placed efforts in handicap hurdles in the spring. Went without her usual cheekpieces and tongue tie when a respectable fifth on Ascot reappearance and the headgear is back in place now.


9 ROYALE MARGAUX (FR) (21) t 99
82543-472 6 10-11 | 68.5kg

 Tom Symonds **Ben Poste**
Prolific in France but 0-12 for this yard. However, her latest second of 8 in a 3m Ascot handicap hurdle was creditable and her stable continues in form.

10 JOYEUSE (FR) (22) ★ 100
1/1-3 5 10-10 | 68.0kg

 Nicky Henderson **Nico de Boinville**
A half-sister to Champion Hurdle winner Epatante who a French bumper and 16.5f Taunton maiden hurdle on her first 2 starts. Met with defeat for the first time on 2m Ascot reappearance 3 weeks ago but still shaped nicely in third and very much unexposed now handicapping up in trip.


11 MASKED DANCE (FR) (23) (D) 97
U/221P4-13 6 10-7 | 66.7kg

 Mel Rowley **Charlie Deutsch**
Second handicap success when seeing off 13 rivals at Aintree (2½m) in May. Only a respectable 10¾ lengths third to Georgi Girl at Warwick (21f, soft) 6 months later but she's entitled to come on for the outing.

12 MOLTO BENE (IRE) (22) (D) t 96
5P313-1 5 10-7 | 66.7kg

 Charlie Longsdon **Lilly Pinchin**
Improved again when making it 2-3 in handicaps when seeing off 16 rivals on her 19.5f Chepstow reappearance 3 weeks ago, holding on in determined fashion. Further progress can't be discounted.

13 GREYVAL (FR) (35) 98
8/664-3463 5 10-5 | 65.8kg

 Fergal O'Brien **Jonathan Burke**
Dual winner in her juvenile season but has drawn a blank since. Latest Wincanton third of 12 creditable but that wait for a next win may go on a bit longer.

13 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Joyeuse, 15-2 Take No Chances, 8-1 Pretending, 9-1 Georgi Girl, 12-1 Sweet Fantasy, 14-1 Holly, 14-1 Wodhooh, 14-1 Molto Bene, 18-1 Greyval, 20-1 Endless Escape, 22-1 Royale Margaux, 28-1 Masked Dance, 33-1 Lunar Discovery

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Although the Fighting Fifth was too much for TAKE NO CHANCES she's flourished in general over hurdles in the last year or so and can make light of top weight back in a handicap. Unexposed Nicky Henderson handicap debutante Joyeuse is a potentially dangerous opponent, while C&D scorer Pretending shaped better than the result at Wincanton last time and trainer Lucy Wadham has a good recent record in this race.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TAKE NO CHANCES 2. JOYEUSE 3. PRETENDING

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Nurse Susan 6-10-10	11-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	10
2021	Martello Sky 5-11-7	10-3	Lucy Wadham	Aidan Coleman	9
2020	The White Mouse 6-10-5	10-3	Lucy Wadham	Bryony Frost	8
2019	Dame de Compagnie 6-11-7	2-1f	Nicky Henderson	Barry Geraghty	16

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race