

Saturday 2nd November

ASCOT

12.55 GRUNDON WASTE MANAGEMENT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (4)
2m3f58y (3880 Metres)

RACE 1 **(7) HELL HOUND | (3) BALLYTECHNO | (2) KATATE DORI**

1.30 ASCOT UNDERWRITING NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2¼m175y (3780 Metres)

RACE 2 **(5) LEADER IN THE PARK | (1) SAMARRIVE | (3) BHALOO**

2.05 BYRNE GROUP HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 2m167y (3370 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) MASTER CHEWY | (4) MATTERHORN | (7) MARTATOR**

2.35 GL EVENTS NOVICES' HURDLE (3) 1m7f152y (3160 Metres)

RACE 4 **(7) TRIPOLI FLYER | (1) ILLEGAL D'AINAY | (3) CLAP OF THUNDER**

3.15 LAVAZZA HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 1m7f152y (3160 Metres)

RACE 5 **(8) SECRET SQUIRREL | (3) FIERCELY PROUD | (11) BREAK MY SOUL**

3.45 SODEXO LIVE! GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 2m7f180y (4790 Metres)

RACE 6 **(1) CHIANTI CLASSICO | (9) HIGHSTAKESPLAYER | (5) OUR POWER**

4.20 ASCOT ROUND TABLE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (2) 1m7f152y (3160 Metres)

RACE 7 **(1) DRACO MALFOY | (2) ETERNAL ANGEL | (5) KAJIKIA**

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.

12.55

GRUNDON WASTE MANAGEMENT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 3yo+ (Rated 0-120) £15,650 2m3f58y (3880 Metres)

RACE 1



Going: **Good**


Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**


1 DON'T TELL SU (IRE) (197) 99
51/23212- 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **Paul Nicholls** *Freddie Gingell (31b/1kg)*
Bumper winner. Bright start over hurdles last season, completing simple task in a Wincanton maiden (15.2f) in March. Signed off with a solid second of 9 on handicap debut at Ayr (20.5f) in April and he commands respect for his top yard after 6 months off.


2 KATATE DORI (FR) (195) s+t ★ 100
421/83333- 6 11-8 | 73.5kg

 **Sam Thomas** *Dylan Johnston (31b/1kg)*
Bumper winner during early 2023 who reached a fair level over hurdles last term, creditable third with cheekpieces enlisted in 11-runner handicap at Wincanton (21.3f) during the spring. Stable have made a bright start to the campaign but he will need to jump better on seasonal bow.


3 BALLYTECHNO (IRE) (25) (D) 95
8/4721 5 11-6 | 72.6kg

 **James Owen** *C. M. Hogan (51b/2kg)*
Showed minor promise in bumpers and different proposition sent hurdling for new yard, confirming promise of his Worcester second when opening his account in a Huntingdon maiden 919.6f) 25 days ago. Remains with plenty of potential now handicapping.


4 PATANITA (IRE) (194) 93
1/34- 6 11-6 | 72.6kg

 **Georgina Nicholls** *Gearoid Harney (31b/1kg)*
Won a point bumper and a bumper under Rules in spring 2022. Encouraging effort after 22 months off when third on hurdles bow at Huntingdon (19.6f) in March but took a backward step when well-beaten fourth of 6 in novice at Kempton (21f) in April. Opening mark demands progress on return.


5 GENTLEMAN'S RELISH (IRE) (180) 97
0/1PP-3 5 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Nicky Henderson** *Freddie Gordon (31b/1kg)*
Fairly useful bumper winner who was pulled up first 2 starts in maiden hurdles but much more like it following an absence when third of 8 in a Kempton maiden (21f) in May. Remains with potential now handicapping for top stable.


6 TIME IN THE SUN (IRE) (191) (BF) 94
8/2402F4- 5 11-4 | 71.7kg

 **Henry Daly** *Alice Stevens*
Left previous efforts over hurdles behind when second on qualifying run in 14-runner mares' novice at Wincanton (21.3f, soft) in February. Looked held when falling later that month and again below form when well held fourth in mares' maiden at Perth in April. Others preferred on return.

7 HELL HOUND (IRE) (29) t 98
01-13 5 11-3 | 71.2kg

 **Neil Mulholland** *Callum Pritchard (71b/3kg)*
Won second of 2 starts in bumpers in April and followed up on hurdles bow at Southwell (20.4f) in June. Returned with an encouraging third under a penalty in a Fontwell novice (17.7f) 4 weeks ago, and that ought to have put him spot on for first crack at handicaps from an appealing mark.


8 NACHTGEIST (IRE) (25) 98
6325-2 4 10-11 | 68.5kg

 **Gary & Josh Moore** *Freddie Mitchell*
Useful at best on Flat and he comes here having produced his best effort yet over timber when second of 8 in handicap at Huntingdon (19.6f) 25 days ago, bad mistake last not helping his cause. Remains low mileage in this sphere but this is tougher.


9 EASTER ICON (64) 94
6U-891 5 10-7 | 66.7kg

 **Gary Brown** *Isabelle Ryder (101b/5kg)*
Fair handicapper on the Flat and left his qualifying form over hurdles well behind when landing 12-runner handicap at Fontwell (21.7f) in August. Good chance there's more to come judged on that display but this is a much deeper contest.

10 STAR OF AFFINITY (IRE) (23) t 98
5/50F43-P1 5 10-6 | 66.2kg

 **Joe Tizzard** *Caolin Quinn*
Had previously shaped like more of a staying type but showed benefit of wind surgery/application of a tongue strap after 5 months off when winning 18-runner handicap at Exeter (16.7f) 23 days ago. Feasible to think he can do better still back up in trip.

11 RUBIES OR GOLD (IRE) (39) 95

6378569 5 10-3 | 64.9kg
 **Christian Williams** *James Turner (31b/1kg)*
Placed on the second of 2 starts in Irish bumpers (for Mags Mullins). Showed some promise on qualifying runs over hurdles but no immediate impact for switch to handicaps kept to around 2m last month. This stiffer test ought to suit at least.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-2 Don't Tell Su, **6-1** Katate Dori, **7-1** Hell Hound, **7-1** Ballytechno, **8-1** Star of Affinity, **8-1** Gentleman's Relish, **11-1** Nachtgeist, **11-1** Easter Icon, **14-1** Time In The Sun, **22-1** Patanita, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

With his hurdles debut success back in the summer having been well advertised by the runner-up since, HELL HOUND produced a promising comeback run over a trip likely to prove short of his optimum at Fontwell 4 weeks ago. Starting out in handicaps from a very appealing mark, he earns the vote ahead of another improving sort in the shape of Ballytechno. Katate Dori, on seasonal bow, Gentleman's Relish and Don't Tell Su are just a trio of others worthy of a second look.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. HELL HOUND 2. BALLYTECHNO 3. KATATE DORI

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Rebel Intentions 6-10-3	16-1	Emma Lavelle	Joe Anderson	11
2022	Dream In The Park 5-11-6	6-4f	Emma Lavelle	J. R. Wildman (10)	6
2021	Lossiemouth 6-11-11	12-1	Tom Lacey	Thomas Daggrell (7)	8
2020	College Oak 5-11-7	9-2f	Jamie Snowden	Page Fuller (3)	9
2020	Fifty Ball 5-11-6	11-4f	Gary Moore	Niall Houlihan (6)	11
2019	Mason Jar 5-11-13	11-4f	Dr Richard Newland	C. M. Leonard (10)	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.30

ASCOT UNDERWRITING NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE
(3) 4yo+ £20,000 2¼m175y (3780 Metres)

RACE 2



Going: **Good**

Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

- | | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | <p>SAMARRIVE (FR) (344)
 F333/2- 7 11-10 74.4kg
 Paul Nicholls</p> <p><i>Smart winning hurdler who was making a promising chasing start before falling in this race 2 years ago. Seen out only once last season but it was a good second over C&D 11 months ago. Can go well fresh and on a decent mark.</i></p> |
100 | Lorcan Williams |
| 2 | <p>WHAT PATH (FR) (93)
 24340-033 7 11-9 73.9kg
 Keiran Burke</p> <p><i>Useful hurdler. Ridden too aggressively on chase bow/final start for W. P. Mullins. Decent effort sole start for Sophie Leech when third in maiden chase at Galway in August. Mark looks plenty high enough back in a handicap, however.</i></p> | t
89 | Gavin Sheehan |
| 3 | <p>BHALOO (IRE) (175)
 1/3141-2 6 11-0 69.9kg
 Nicky Henderson</p> <p><i>Progressive over hurdles and significant he's sent chasing this soon. Likely to go well.</i></p> | 90 | Nico de Boinville |
| 4 | <p>BAD (FR) (189) (D)
 06/323200- 5 10-7 66.7kg
 Ben Pauling </p> <p><i>Winner in France. Placed in 4 handicap hurdles last season, though ended the campaign with a couple of poor runs.</i></p> | 86 | Kielan Woods |
| 5 | <p>LEADER IN THE PARK (IRE) (199)
 2614- 6 10-5 65.8kg
 Ben Pauling </p> <p><i>Cost £250,000 from points and, well backed, he confirmed himself a good prospect when ready winner of a Doncaster maiden hurdle (19.4f, heavy) in February. Decent fourth in better race at Cheltenham final start and type to do even better over fences.</i></p> | 92 | Ben Jones |

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Samarrive, **10-3** Bhaloo, **10-3** Leader In The Park, **8-1** What Path, **8-1** Bad

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Expensive winning pointer LEADER IN THE PARK looks the type to do even better over hurdles so could be on a nice mark starting out in this sphere. Samarrive has been off the track since a good second over C&D 11 months ago but he can go well fresh so rates the main threat.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LEADER IN THE PARK 2. SAMARRIVE 3. BHALOO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Sir Psycho 7-11-8	12-1	Harry Derham	Paul O'Brien	9
2022	Gowel Road 6-10-8	9-2	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	4
2021	Nassalam 4-10-12	3-1f	Gary Moore	Jamie Moore	7
2020	Sully d'Oc Aa 6-10-8	9-2	Anthony Honeyball	Richie McLernon	8
2019	Doctor Dex 6-10-8	9-2f	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.05

BYRNE GROUP HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1)
4yo+ £100,000 2m167y (3370 Metres)

RACE 3



Going: **Good**

Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Even**

- 1**

MASTER CHEWY (IRE) (203)
 8/12214F2- 7 12-0 | 76.2kg
 Nigel Twiston-Davies **Tom Bellamy**
 Much improved switching to chasing last season, winning twice and signing off with an excellent head second to Found A Fifty in Maghull Novices' Chase at Aintree. Expected to be bang there on his return for a yard among the winners.

100
- 2**

UNCLE PHIL (IRE) (147) (D)
 161315-0P 7 11-9 | 73.9kg
 W. P. Mullins, Ireland **P. Townend**
 A three-time chase scorer last term but he's been off since pulled up in handicap chase at Punchestown (16.2f) in June. Hood goes back on and no surprise to see this Irish raider bounce back.

h+t **97**
- 3**

MALYSTIC (27) (D)
 01/67P33-2 10 11-9 | 73.9kg
 Peter Niven **Jonathan Burke**
 Winless since 2022/23 but he got right back on track when runner-up in 2m1f Kelso handicap chase 27 days ago. Possibilities.

96
- 4**

MATTERHORN (FR) (72) (D, BF)
 27P-1111P 6 11-7 | 73.0kg
 Paul Nicholls **Nico de Boenville**
 Won his first 4 starts in handicap chases this season but made a bad early error when pulled up in 2m handicap at Newton Abbot last time. He's well worth another chance.

t **98**
- 5**

MADARA (FR) (234) (D)
 F/82U6119- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
 Keiran Burke **Gavin Sheehan**
 Much improved for Sophie Leach last term, scoring at Cheltenham and Leopardstown. Off 7 months but he's no forlorn hope for his new handler.

s+t **97**
- 6**

SAINT SEGAL (FR) (21) (D)
 4/3F2U36-4 6 10-9 | 67.6kg
 Mrs Jane Williams **David Noonan**
 On a losing run but he wasn't disgraced on the back of a wind op when fourth of 10 in handicap chase at Chepstow (19.4f, good) 21 days ago. Needs to build on it.

t **99**
- 7**

MARTATOR (FR) (189) (CD)
 33223111- 7 10-8 | 67.1kg
 Venetia Williams **Charlie Deutsch**
 Ended last season firmly on the up when completing his hat-trick at Sandown (20f) in April. This C&D winner must enter calculations on his seasonal return.

s **98**
- 8**

KOTMASK (FR) (189) (D)
 1F411F34- 6 10-3 | 64.9kg
 Gary & Josh Moore **Caoilin Quinn (3lb/1kg)**
 A three-time scorer over fences last term but he turned in a lacklustre display when fourth of 9 to Martator at Sandown (20f) final run. Still needs considering with his yard going well though.

98
- 9**

ISSAR D'AIRY (FR) (194) (D)
 2P1/31155- 6 10-2(10-0) | 64.4kg (63.5kg)
 Gary & Josh Moore **Freddie Mitchell (5lb/2kg)**
 Landed back-to-back 2m handicaps at Newbury last winter and not disgraced when fifth in 2m2f Kempton handicap final run. No forlorn hope on his reappearance.

99
- 10**

FRERE D'ARMES (FR) (13) (D)
 6P34-8832 7 10-2(9-13) | 64.4kg (63.0kg)
 Dan Skelton **Miss Heidi Palin (7lb/3kg)**
 It's now 13 runs since his last win in 2022 but he recorded a good second of 6 in handicap chase at Kempton (18f) 13 days ago. Not ruled out despite being 3 lb "wrong" in the weights.

96

TIMEFORM VIEW:

MASTER CHEWY enjoyed an excellent first season over fences and is fancied to capitalise on an attractive mark back in handicap company on his return. Matterhorn is worth forgiving his blip at Newton Abbot last time and could emerge as the chief threat, although Martator, Uncle Phil and Frere D'Armes can all make their presence felt too in this cracking handicap.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MASTER CHEWY 2. MATTERHORN 3. MARTATOR

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023 Boothill 8-11-5	7-2f Harry Fry	Jonathan Burke	9
2022 Thyme White 6-11-6	9-1 Paul Nicholls	Lorcan Williams	8
2021 Monsieur Lecoq 7-10-9	11-1 Mrs Jane Williams	Ciaran Gethings	10
2020 Amoola Gold 7-10-8	9-2 Dan Skelton	Bridget Andrews	7
2019 Diego du Charmil 7-11-12	13-2 Paul Nicholls	Lorcan Williams (3)	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

10 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Master Chewy, **5-1** Saint Segal, **13-2** Martator, **15-2** Frere D'armes, **8-1** Madara, **12-1** Uncle Phil, **16-1** Matterhorn, **18-1** Issar D'airy, **18-1** Kotmask, **22-1** Malystic

2.35**GL EVENTS NOVICES' HURDLE (3) 4yo+ £15,000**
1m7f152y (3160 Metres)

RACE 4

Going: **Good**

Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 ILLEGAL D'AINAY (FR) (174) (D) 96
U1 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



Chris Gordon **Freddie Gordon (51b/2kg)**
Runner-up both starts in Irish points in spring 2023. Got no further than the first (had took strong hold) on his Uttoxeter hurdles debut in May but looked a fairly good prospect when scoring readily at Plumpton (15.9f) only 8 days later. Yard struggling at present but he's open to improvement.

2 BEYLERBEYI 88
4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Ian Williams **Charlie Todd**
Dam half-sister to smart hurdler (stayed 21f) Sea Lord. Fairly useful handicapper on Flat (stays 9.5f), successful 4 times in 2024, including at Wolverhampton last time. Interesting recruit to hurdling.

3 CLAP OF THUNDER (IRE) (22) (BF) 97
3252-4 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies **Sam Twiston-Davies**
Placed on 3 of 4 starts in bumpers and possibly paid for having first stab at closing down the runaway winner on his Chepstow hurdling debut (2m) 22 days ago. Entitled to do better.

4 KINGSTON BRESIL (75) 87
64 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Lawney Hill **Mrs Izzie Hill (71b/3kg)**
Runner-up sole start in points and both bumper efforts certainly not devoid of promise but is probably one for later on.

5 TACKLETOMMYWOOWOO (IRE) (45) 88
33 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Samuel Drinkwater **Robert Dunne**
Clearly signs of ability when placed both starts in bumpers (fair form) but faces a fairly stiff task on hurdle debut.

6 THE RON DO RON (203) 88
444- 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Gary & Josh Moore **Niall Houlihan**
Better effort in bumpers when fourth of 9 at Kempton on debut in February and also shaped with some promise when filling same spot in a juvenile hurdle at Chepstow in April. Should do better somewhere down the line.

7 TRIPOLI FLYER (IRE) (203) (D) 100
512- 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Fergal O'Brien **Jonathan Burke**
Left bumper debut form well behind when scoring comfortably in a valuable event at Lingfield in January. Progressed again when beaten only by a stablemate in 18-runner Grade 2 at Aintree on final outing and looks a leading prospect for novice hurdles.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-6 Tripoli Flyer, **11-2** Illegal D'ainay, **15-2** Clap of Thunder, **12-1** Beylerbeyi, **20-1** The Ron Do Ron, **25-1** Tackletommywoowoo, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TRIPOLI FLYER progressed with each run in bumpers last season, culminating with an excellent second in a Grade 2 at Aintree on final outing, and looks a novice hurdler to follow. Illegal d'Ainay and Clap of Thunder are fancied to battle it out for minor honours.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TRIPOLI FLYER 2. ILLEGAL D'AINAY 3. CLAP OF THUNDER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Jango Baie 4-11-0	6-5f	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	12
2022	Leave of Absence 5-11-0	8-11f	Chris Gordon	Tom Cannon	10
2021	Kandoo Kid 5-10-12	11-1	Paul Nicholls	Lorcan Williams (3)	10
2020	Captain Morgs 4-10-12	7-4f	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	10
2019	Ecco 4-11-4	11-10f	Paul Nicholls	Bryony Frost	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.15

LAVAZZA HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 3yo+ £60,000
1m7f152y (3160 Metres)

RACE 5




Going: **Good**


Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**



1 OUR CHAMP (IRE) (35) (D) t **96**
 1553713-6 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **Chris Gordon** **Freddie Gordon (51lb/2kg)**
 Likeable sort who did well last spring. Ought to be sharper for his Market Rasen reappearance 5 weeks ago but there isn't much margin for error in his mark.



2 STONER'S CHOICE (558) (C, D) **93**
 143321/ **9** 11-13 | 75.7kg

 **Fergal O'Brien** **Max Kendrick**
 Successful over fences at fences and hurdles at Kempton in 2022/23 but has an 18-month absence to overcome. A watching brief has to be the percentage call after such a long layoff.


3 FIERCELY PROUD (IRE) (189) **96**
 100/11327- **5** 11-12 | 75.3kg

 **Ben Pauling**  **Ben Jones**
 Dual bumper scorer who was a useful novice hurdler last season. Low mileage 5-y-o who has the potential for better again this season.


4 STREAM OF STARS (29) (D) **98**
 11 **9** 11-11 | 74.8kg

 **Nigel Twiston-Davies**  **Sam Twiston-Davies**
 Has enhanced his good hurdle strike-rate with a pair of Fontwell handicap wins this autumn. More on his plate in this deeper race but it wouldn't be any surprise to see him improve again.


5 AFADIL (FR) (21) (D) s  **100**
 331534-08 **5** 11-10 | 74.4kg

 **Paul Nicholls** **Freddie Gingell (31lb/1kg)**
 Displayed nice turn of foot when landing a Musselburgh handicap in February and followed that with a series of creditable efforts in good-quality handicaps. Looked rusty back from 5 months off in the Silver Trophy at Chepstow 3 weeks ago and should be sharper now.

6 TINTINTIN (FR) (17) (D) t **96**
 2/01511-35 **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg

 **Fergal O'Brien** **Jonathan Burke**
 Made good strides forward last season, typically proving strong at the finish to land a big-field handicap at Cheltenham in April. Good third in the Swinton at Haydock in May and he should come on for a recent outing at Sedgefield.

7 RIGHTSHOTOM (GER) (546) **96**
 264/1- **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg

 **Joe Tizzard** **Brendan Powell**
 Looked promising in spring 2023 but hasn't been seen since a Cork maiden win in May of that year (final start for Thomas Mullins). His new yard is among the winners and it'll be interesting to see what the betting makes of him on this handicap debut after 18 months off.


8 SECRET SQUIRREL (189) (D, BF) **97**
 11/12215- **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg

 **Hughie Morrison** **David Bass**
 Landed a pair of 2m novice hurdle wins last season and had Fiercely Proud a couple of places behind him when fifth of 20 in Sandown handicap on final start. Appeals as one likely to go on to better things this term.


9 TAPLEY (12) (D) **95**
 342134-21 **7** 11-9 | 73.9kg

 **Suzy Smith** **Elizabeth Gale (71lb/3kg)**
 Fine second in the Swinton at Haydock in May and returned to gain a handicap hurdle win number three at Plumpton (2m, soft) 12 days ago. Respected up 6 lb.


10 FIRE FLYER (IRE) (189) (C, D) **97**
 17/2211P0- **6** 11-9 | 73.9kg

 **Paul Nicholls** **Lorcan Williams**
 Won a pair of novice hurdles in February. Disappointed in a couple of Sandown handicap hurdles in the spring but no surprise were he to bounce back to form with a bang after wind surgery.

11 BREAK MY SOUL (IRE) (170) (D) **97**
 3231-1 **5** 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Nicky Henderson** **Nico de Boinville**
 Fetched £290,000 after landing sole start in Irish points and it clicked for her over hurdles in the spring, making all in maiden/novice events at Chepstow and Fontwell. Unexposed sort from a leading stable.

12 ENDLESS ESCAPE (IRE) (198) (D) **94**
 17/542223- **8** 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Ben Clarke** **Tom Bellamy**
 Four-time hurdle winner who underwhelmed over fences at the start of last season but got back on track with a trio of placed efforts in handicap hurdles in the spring. Should be competitive if ready to roll after 6 months off.

13 JOUR D'EVASION (FR) (202) (D) t **97**
 334221P3- **5** 10-9 | 67.6kg

 **Henry Daly** **Charlie Deutsch**
 Fair novice hurdle winner last season. Switches to handicap company for the first time on his reappearance. Looks on a competitive mark if ready to roll.

13 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-1 Secret Squirrel, **7-1** Fiercely Proud, **7-1** Rightsotom, **8-1** Stream of Stars, **12-1** Jour D'evasion, **12-1** Break My Soul, **12-1** Fire Flyer, **12-1** Tapley, **14-1** Our Champ, **16-1** Tintintin, **18-1** Stoner's Choice, **22-1** Endless Escape, **25-1** Afadil

TIMEFORM VIEW:

The suggestion in an interesting handicap is SECRET SQUIRREL, who has the profile of one likely to do better again this season. Fiercely Proud and Break My Soul are other 5-y-os with few miles on the clock, while Tapley is respected on the back of his recent Plumpton success.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SECRET SQUIRREL 2. FIERCELY PROUD 3. BREAK MY SOUL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Knickerbockerglory	7-11-2	10-1	Dan Skelton	Tristan Durrell (5)	12
2022	Highway One O Two	7-11-11	15-2	Chris Gordon	Gavin Sheehan	10
2021	Soaring Glory	6-11-11	5-1	Jonjo O'Neill	Tom Scudamore	14
2020	Kid Commando	6-11-4	11-4f	Anthony Honeyball	Aidan Coleman	8
2019	Gumball	5-11-6	11-2	Philip Hobbs	Ben Jones (5)	15

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.45

SODEXO LIVE! GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 4yo+ £100,000 2m7f180y (4790 Metres)

RACE 6




Going: **Good**

Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Strong**


1 CHIANTI CLASSICO (IRE) (204) (CD) t 99
 11P/11214- 7 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **Kim Bailey** *Tom Bellamy*
 Quickly developed into a smart chaser last term, gaining his third win in the Ultima Handicap at Cheltenham. Signed off with a very good fourth in Mildmay Novices' Chase at Aintree (25f) and big shout on his return with more to come.


2 TWO FOR GOLD (IRE) (209) (CD) s+t 97
 01/2P9P26- 11 11-13 | 75.7kg

 **Kim Bailey** *Ciaran Gethings*
 Unreliable type who came in last of 6 in handicap chase at Carlisle (24.5f) in April. Since undergone breathing surgery so this C&D winner is no forlorn hope.


3 SOLO (FR) (224) t 96
 1221P/226- 8 11-9 | 73.9kg

 **Paul Nicholls** *Lorcan Williams*
 A dual 2m4f chase winner in 2022/23 but off for 7 months since coming in last of 6 in handicap chase at Newbury (19.8f). Has won when fresh though so he's one to consider on the back of a wind op.


4 KITTY'S LIGHT (21) (D) t 94
 4705759-6 8 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Christian Williams** *Nick Scholfield*
 Scottish National hero in 2022/23 and an excellent fifth in Grand National last term. Went without his usual headgear when a well-held sixth at Chepstow (3m) on his return and could again find trip on the sharp side here.


5 OUR POWER (IRE) (336) (CD) s 100
 110/7F- 9 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Sam Thomas** *Dylan Johnston (3lb/1kg)*
 Took this in 2022 but he's been lightly raced since and off for 11 months since falling 14th in Coral Gold Cup at Newbury (26f). Still can't be discounted though off a lenient mark.


6 AMIRITE (IRE) (38) t 98
 3P/455-290 8 11-4 | 71.7kg

 **Henry de Bromhead, Ireland** *M. P. O'Connor (3lb/1kg)*
 On a long losing run and he came in only twelfth of 17 in handicap chase at Listowel (23.8f) 38 days ago. This Irish raider needs to take a big step forward.


7 FLEGMATIK (FR) (21) (D) t 98
 23142P-77 9 11-1 | 70.3kg

 **Dan Skelton** *Tristan Durrell (3lb/1kg)*
 Ended a near 2-year losing run when scoring at Kempton (24f) in January. Given a considerate return when seventh in 2m4f Chepstow handicap last month so he's no forlorn hope.


8 NEON MOON (IRE) (21) (D) b+t 97
 145551-31 8 10-12 | 68.9kg

 **David Pipe** *Jack Tudor*
 Not proved the most reliable but he advanced his form on the back of wind surgery when landing 11-runner handicap chase at Chepstow (23.6f) 21 days ago. Needs to reproduce it now off a 4 lb higher mark.

9 HIGHSTAKESPLAYER (IRE) (194) (D) 98
 11/1P1- 8 10-11 | 68.5kg

 **Tom Lacey** *Stan Sheppard*
 Likeable sort who made it 4-5 over fences in 3m handicap chase at Kempton in April. Up 5 lb but he's very much one to consider on his reappearance.

10 MYLESFROMWICKLOW (IRE) (18) t 98
 12451-232 7 10-7 | 66.7kg

 **Dan Skelton** *Kielan Woods*
 Has taken his form up a notch this season, second of 6 in handicap chase at Market Rasen (21.4f) 18 days ago. Ought to be in the shake-up once more nudged up 1 lb.

11 HIDDEN DEPTHS (IRE) (18) (D) s+t 97
 2414-1411 9 10-5 | 65.8kg

 **Neil Mulholland** *Sam Twiston-Davies*
 Dual-purpose performer who bids for a hat-trick after wins at Perth and Market Rasen of late. Up 3 lb but he comes into the reckoning again.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Chianti Classico, **7-1** Mylesfromwicklow, **15-2** Amirite, **15-2** Neon Moon, **10-1** Highstakesplayer, **10-1** Hidden Depths, **11-1** Our Power, **14-1** Solo, **18-1** Two For Gold, **28-1** Flegmatik, **33-1** Kitty's Light

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Lots with chances but Ultima hero CHIANTI CLASSICO begins his second season as a chaser on an attractive mark and with better to come from Kim Bailey's highly progressive sort he looks very much the way to go. Highstakesplayer boasts an impressive strike rate over fences and heads the list of dangers, although the lightly-raced Our Power is also weighted to have a say and in-form duo Hidden Depths and Mylesfromwicklow need factoring in too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. CHIANTI CLASSICO 2. HIGHSTAKESPLAYER 3. OUR POWER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Victorino 5-10-12	20-1	Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	11
2022	Our Power 7-11-2	11-2	Sam Thomas	Charlie Deutsch	13
2021	Larry 8-9-13	9-1	Gary Moore	Jamie Moore	14
2020	Regal Encore 12-10-10	14-1	Anthony Honeyball	Richie McLernon	14
2019	Vinndication 6-11-0	2-1f	Kim Bailey	David Bass	16

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.20

ASCOT ROUND TABLE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (2) 4 and 5yo £15,000 1m7f152y (3160 Metres)

RACE 7



Going: **Good**

Right handed, galloping. Jumps course reopened in 2006/7 after major redevelopment work and, whilst the course drains faster than used to be the case, underfoot conditions can still get gruelling. Rather surprisingly, however, the chase course has one of the lowest non-completion records in the country in recent seasons.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 DRACO MALFOY (IRE) 94
4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Kim Bailey *Tom Bellamy*
€58,000 3-y-o, €140,000 4-y-o, Harzand gelding. Dam (h93), maiden hurdler (stayed 2½m), half-sister to high-class hurdler (2m-19f winner) lktitaf. Successful on second of 2 outings in Irish points (Apr 28). Definite player.

2 ETERNAL ANGEL (FR) 97
4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nicky Henderson *Nico de Boinville*
€140,000 3-y-o, Authorized gelding. Half-brother to fairly useful hurdler Eternal Army and a winning jumper in USA. Dam maiden on Flat. Trainer's newcomers command respect.

3 FLIMSY NOSEBAG (IRE) (191) 75
7- 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nick Gifford *James Davies*
Only a glimmer of promise in bumper at Warwick 6 months ago and is probably more one for the longer term.

4 HURRICANE PAT (IRE) 92
4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Gary & Josh Moore *Niall Houlihan*
€40,000 4-y-o, Kalanisi gelding. Dam unraced half-sister to Auronzo (2m-2¼m hurdle/chase winner in Italy) out of prolific Italian jumps winner Fedian. Runner-up both starts in Irish points in spring 2024.

5 KAJIKIA (FR) h ★ 100
4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Paul Nicholls *Jay Tidball*
€120,000 3-y-o, It's Gino gelding. Dam 17f French hurdle winner. One for shortlist on debut given connections. Wears hood.

6 OAKLEY'S WAY (IRE) (221) (BF) 95
3F- 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Anthony Honeyball *Sam Twiston-Davies*
Promising third of 9 in bumper at Wincanton (15.2f, heavy, 15/8) on NH debut in December, running green. Hampered and fell next time but remains with potential after 7 months off.

7 SANTORINI GREY (IRE) 91
4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Suzy Smith *Gavin Sheehan*
€5,000 3-y-o, Ocovango gelding. Dam placed in points, out of winning hurdler over 2¾m/3m Miss Plum. Likely to need further and he's not an obvious sort on paper.

8 YOUDECIDE (IRE) 94
4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Ben Pauling *Ben Jones*
€28,000 3-y-o, €90,000 4-y-o, Mahler gelding. Closely related to Doonbeg Don. Won only start in Irish points (Feb 2024). Interesting Rules newcomer for stable that has a solid start to the campaign.

9 MISS IRELAND (IRE) (55) s 99
1 5 10-13 | 69.4kg



Lydia Richards *Marc Goldstein*
Pulled up both starts in points but proved an entirely different proposition when landing a 6-runner Fontwell bumper 55 days ago. Went in snatches that day, however, and this should prove tougher.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-2 Kajikia, **5-1** Miss Ireland, **5-1** Eternal Angel, **11-2** Draco Malfoy, **7-1** Oakley's Way, **7-1** Youdecide, **14-1** Hurricane Pat, **22-1** Santorini Grey, **80-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

DRACO MALFOY fetched six figures after landing the second of his two starts in points and his in-form stable should have him well forward for this first go under Rules, so he takes preference over Eternal Angel and Kajikia, who both represent top yards. Youdecide is another interesting point recruit.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. DRACO MALFOY 2. ETERNAL ANGEL 3. KAJIKIA

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Celtic Dino 4-11-2	7-2f	Sam Thomas	Sam Twiston-Davies	11
2022	Fire Flyer 4-11-1	7-2	Paul Nicholls	Lorcan Williams	12
2021	Estacas 4-10-13	3-1f	Andreas Wohler	Jamie Moore	9
2020	Marble Sands 4-11-0	20-1	Graeme McPherson	Lilly Pinchin (7)	9
2019	Where's Tom 4-11-0	25-1	Michael Madgwick	Marc Goldstein	16

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race