

Saturday 2nd November

WETHERBY



12.40 6 HORSES CHALLENGE AT bet365 NOVICES' HURDLE (3) 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 1 **(1) ROADLESSTRAVELLED | (5) MARLACOO | (6) THE GRAFTER**

1.15 BET BOOST AT bet365 HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2m3f85y (3900 Metres)

RACE 2 **(4) TEDLEY | (5) WILLIAM CODY | (2) KING'S THRESHOLD**

1.50 bet365 MARES' HURDLE (Listed) (1) 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) LUCCIA | (5) SWEET FANTASY | (4) ROYAL EAGLE**

2.22 bet365 HURDLE (West Yorkshire) (Grade 2) (1) 3m26y (4850 Metres)

RACE 4 **(7) KATEIRA | (4) SANDOR CLEGANE | (3) BEACON EDGE**

2.58 bet365 CHARLIE HALL CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 3m45y (4870 Metres)

RACE 5 **(2) GREY DAWNING | (3) BRAVEMANSGAME | (4) CONFLATED**

3.32 NEVER ORDINARY AT bet365 HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 6 **(3) WILLIETHEBUILDER | (5) GOBLET OF FIRE | (1) SPIRITS BAY**

4.08 bet365 HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 3m45y (4870 Metres)

RACE 7 **(3) ITSO FURY | (1) GERYVILLE | (7) TOPOFTHECOTSWOLDS**

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.

12.40**6 HORSES CHALLENGE AT bet365 NOVICES' HURDLE (3)
4yo+ £15,000 2m (3220 Metres)**

RACE 1

Going: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 ROADLESSTRAVELLED (IRE) (18) **100**
1 5 11-6 | 72.6kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

Cost a pretty penny on the back of his rout in an Irish point in May 2023 and, a standout in terms of physical scope, belied his long absence as well as market weakness to follow up on his Market Rasen hurdling debut (16.6f) 18 days ago. Sure to progress and win more races.

2 SAMWISE (IRE) (27) (D) **97**
473/1 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



Susan Corbett

Nathan Moscrop

In the frame twice in bumpers and belied a 20-month absence to make a successful hurdling debut in 9-runner novice (16.2f) at Kelso 27 days ago, edging ahead line. More needed in a deeper race under a penalty.

3 GRANDAD'S CAP (IRE)
4 11-0 | 69.9kg



L J Morgan

Adam Wedge

Mahler gelding. Dam, maiden pointer, half-sister to useful hurdler (stayed 3¼m) No Hassle Hoff. Every chance and going well when fell 4 out sole start in Irish points in April. Sets out under Rules for a yard struggling at present, however.

4 KNOW THE GAME (IRE) (153) (D) **94**
F2/4062-06 8 11-0 | 69.9kg



Micky Hammond

Brian Hughes

Fair chaser who was runner-up in a Limerick handicap in April. Well held last 2 starts, though, including back over hurdles last time. Has left Tom Dreaper.

5 MARLACOO (IRE) (30) **99**
13 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Tom Lacey

Sean Bowen

Cheap purchase but got off to a winning start in clear-cut fashion in a Down Royal bumper in May. Changed hands for £85,000 soon after and made a promising start to hurdling career when third in 2m novice at Warwick last month. Hood on for 1st time and seems likely to improve.

6 THE GRAFTER (IRE) (27) **96**
54-3 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Sam England

Jonathan England

Showed some promise in a pair of bumpers for Sam Allwood and shaped even better sent hurdling in a first-time tongue strap after 8 months off when third of 12 at Uttoxeter (15.8f) 27 days ago, a late error costing him second. Should improve.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Roadlesstravelled, **11-4** Marlacoo, **5-1** The Grafter, **6-1** Samwise, **10-1** Grandad's Cap, **25-1** Know The Game

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ROADLESSTRAVELLED created a good impression when making a winning hurdling debut at Market Rasen 18 days ago and, with the timefigure supporting his performance, he's fancied to improve and defy a penalty at the first time of asking. Marlacoo and The Grafter are other likely improvers, and they are considered the main threats.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ROADLESSTRAVELLED 2. MARLACOO 3. THE GRAFTER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2022	Ukantango 5-11-6	6-5f	Olly Murphy	Aidan Coleman	11
2021	Harbour Lake 5-10-12	9-1	Alan King	Tom Cannon	13
2020	Third Time Lucki 5-11-4	2-7f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	13
2019	Proschema 4-11-0	5-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.15**BET BOOST AT bet365 HANDICAP CHASE (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-125) £20,000 2m3f85y (3900 Metres)**

RACE 2

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 ARTHUR'S QUAY (IRE) (17) (D) t **95**
411P-4P67 10 12-0 | 76.2kg



Ben Haslam

Richie McLernon

Winner of back-to-back handicaps during second half of last year. Lightly raced and largely below form since, seventh of 8 in handicap chase at this C&D (good to soft) 17 days ago.

2 KING'S THRESHOLD (IRE) (194) (BF) **97**
1/4423214- 7 11-13 | 75.7kg



Emma Lavelle

Harry Cobden

Fairly useful hurdler who has improved over fences, taking well-contested 21f Ascot handicap in March. Let down by jumping at Kempton following month but that was possibly a one-off.

3 CHOOSE THE NEWS (IRE) (182) (BF) **98**
13/231-2 7 11-13 | 75.7kg



Mark Walford

Jamie Hamilton

Point/hurdles winner who has made a bright start over fences, showing a likeable attitude when opening his account at Newcastle (20f, heavy) in April. Looked ready for further when second at Hexham following month.

4 TEDLEY (15) s  **100**
2103-4351 5 11-8 | 73.5kg

Nigel Twiston-Davies **Jamie Brace (7lb/3kg)**

Hurdles winner who improved right away switched to fences back from a break when making a winning chase bow at Uttoxeter 2 weeks ago, coping with the demands of such a strongly-run race encouragingly well. Big shout if this doesn't come too soon.

5 WILLIAM CODY (206) (D) **99**
F/2224212- 7 11-5 | 72.1kg



Pam Sly

Paul O'Brien

Deservedly resumed winning ways when landing a 4-runner handicap at Leicester (2½m, heavy) in March. Couldn't live with the front runner at Market Rasen the following month but he pulled well clear of the rest that day and is worth considering off an unchanged mark.

6 FUSAIN (FR) (409) (D) s+t **95**
241133/43- 9 11-4 | 71.7kg



Patrick Neville

Brian Hughes

Opened chase account in a match at Newcastle and followed up in a 3-runner novice at Catterick. Excuses since but returning from a long absence here.

7 IMPERIAL BEDE (FR) (108) **98**
1F42-4476 6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

French bumper/hurdles winner who ran out a ready winner on chase debut at Southwell (20.4f) in February. Yet to build on that, however, and last 2 starts were poor.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Tedley, **7-2** King's Threshold, **4-1** Choosethenews, **6-1** William Cody, **16-1** Arthur's Quay, **16-1** Fusain, **20-1** Imperial Bede

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TEDLEY looked a natural when making a winning debut over fences on his comeback at Uttoxeter 2 weeks ago and is fancied to follow up if this doesn't come too soon. William Cody is a solid alternative, with King's Threshold best of the others.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TEDLEY 2. WILLIAM CODY 3. KING'S THRESHOLD

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	The Edgar Wallace 8-12-0	9-2jf	Kim Bailey	Gavin Sheehan	13
2022	Ladronne 8-10-13	11-4f	Tjade Collier	Sean Quinlan	7
2021	Geryville 5-10-11	40-1	Micky Hammond	Alain Cawley	11
2020	Minella For Me 10-11-7	9-1	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	11
2019	Kapparry 6-11-4	3-1f	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.50**bet365 MARES' HURDLE (Listed) (1) 4yo+ fillies and mares £30,000 2m (3220 Metres)**

RACE 3

Going: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **LUCCIA (205)** (D)   **100**
143/23134- **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg



Nicky Henderson

James Bowen

Won the valuable Betfair Exchange Trophy (Handicap) at Ascot (2m) last Christmas and excellent efforts when reaching the frame in the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham and the Aintree hurdle in the spring. Should prove hard to beat.

2 **CARRIGEEN KAMPALA (IRE) (13)** (D) **87**
21-71FF26 **6** 11-0 | 69.9kg



Fergal O'Brien

J. Hogan

Scored at Newton Abbot in June and tongue tied when an improved second of 8 in handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m, good to soft) in September. Limitations seemingly exposed in Kempton listed race last time, though.

3 **RHYME SCHEME (IRE) (57)** **56**
F/57-P4798 **7** 11-0 | 69.9kg



Peter Winks

James Best

Regressive on the Flat and poor form over hurdles. Huge outsider.

4 **ROYAL EAGLE (IRE) (14)** (D) **95**
106-04302 **6** 11-0 | 69.9kg



Gordon Elliott, Ireland

Danny Gilligan

Useful hurdler who arrives on the back of a near miss in a listed event at Limerick a fortnight ago. Looked well suited by the step up in trip but she does have plenty of 2m form over hurdles, including third in a Galway handicap in July.

5 **SWEET FANTASY (241)** (D) **89**
11- **5** 11-0 | 69.9kg



James Owen

Harry Cobden

Useful Flat performer who won a pair of 2m mares' novice hurdles earlier in the year. Should go well for a stable which operated at a 38% strike-rate over jumps last month.

6 **TAKE NO CHANCES (IRE) (21)** **96**
12P21-143 **6** 11-0 | 69.9kg

Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**

Winner of back-to-back staying handicaps at Warwick and Uttoxeter during the spring. Back from a break with an excellent third of 17 in the Silver Trophy at Chepstow (19.5f) last month. Shorter trip now but could still be the one to give Luccia most to do.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

evens Luccia, **7-2** Take No Chances, **11-2** Royal Eagle, **9-1** Sweet Fantasy, **20-1** Carrigeen Kampala, **250-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

LUCCIA sets a clear standard on her Grade 1 efforts in the spring and is likely to prove a tough nut to crack. The James Owen-trained Sweet Fantasy might be the one to give her most to do as the drop back to 2m may not be ideal for Royal Eagle and Take No Chances.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LUCCIA 2. SWEET FANTASY 3. ROYAL EAGLE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	You Wear It Well 6-11-3	2-1	Jamie Snowden	Gavin Sheehan	6
2022	Molly Olllys Wishes 8-11-6	15-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	5
2021	Molly Olllys Wishes 7-11-2	3-1f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	7
2020	Mrs Hyde 7-11-0	6-1	Brian Ellison	Daryl Jacob	7
2019	Lady Buttons 9-11-4	2-1	Philip Kirby	Adam Nicol	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.22**bet365 HURDLE (West Yorkshire) (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+
£60,000 3m26y (4850 Metres)**

RACE 4

Going: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 DASHIEL DRASHER (203) (D) 97
26/313487- 11 11-8 | 73.5kg



Jeremy Scott

Rex Dingle

Tough and likeable sort who shaped as if needing the run on return in this last season before winning the Long Distance Hurdle at Newbury. Well held in the Stayers' and Liverpool Hurdles final 2 starts and may come on for this once again.

2 ALLMANKIND (17) h+t 95
700/33 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



James Owen

Harry Cobden

Smart hurdler and high-class chaser during his time with Dan Skelton. Missed 20 months but fair bit of ability remains judged on his 2 efforts in handicaps this term. Now back up markedly in grade over longest trip he's tackled.

3 BEACON EDGE (IRE) (7) 99
296-21245 10 11-2 | 70.8kg



Gordon Elliott, Ireland

Danny Gilligan

Seen to maximum effect when scoring at Ballinrobe in May but has held his form since, no extra only late on in well-contested 3m Cheltenham handicap last week. Place claims.

4 SANDOR CLEGANE (IRE) (186) s+t 96
331/4224-4 7 11-2 | 70.8kg



Paul Nolan, Ireland

S. F. O'Keefe

Third in the 2023 Albert Bartlett and smart form over fences last term without winning. Won't want for stamina and interesting back hurdling on return in new headgear.

5 THUNDER ROCK (IRE) (205) (C) 90
362/1P21P- 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



Olly Murphy

Sean Bowen

Smart chaser who won a novice hurdle here 3 years back. Good record fresh which bodes well for him now returning over the smaller obstacles and certainly has the class to be involved.

6 TWIG (203) (D) 90
12/112025- 9 11-2 | 70.8kg



Ben Pauling

Beau Morgan

Did really well back chasing last season, winning the Summer Cup at Uttoxeter and second in the Ultima at Cheltenham. Shaped as if still in good form at Aintree when last seen, though he was subsequently reported to be showing signs of post-race ataxia. Good record fresh and returns hurdling.

7 KATEIRA (204) ★ 100
1112/3241- 7 10-13 | 69.4kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Enhanced good record at Aintree when signing off for last season with success in valuable 20f handicap hurdle. Disappointed here on her return 12 months ago but that remains her only defeat first time up and lots going for her on these terms if she stays in a race her yard have previous in.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-3 Kateira, **7-2** Sandor Clegane, **11-2** Dashed Drasher, **6-1** Beacon Edge, **13-2** Thunder Rock, **7-1** Twig, **25-1** Allmankind

TIMEFORM VIEW:

KATEIRA has strong claims on these terms if she stays and is taken to give her yard a third win in the last 5 renewals. Irish challengers Sandor Clegane and Beacon Edge are solid dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. KATEIRA 2. SANDOR CLEGANE 3. BEACON EDGE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Botox Has	7-11-6	15-2	Gary Moore	Caoilin Quinn	6
2022	Proschema	7-11-2	9-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2021	Indefatigable	8-10-7	5-1	Paul Webber	Daryl Jacob	8
2020	Roksana	8-10-7	13-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	8
2019	The Worlds End	8-11-0	7-2	Tom George	A. P. Heskin	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.58**bet365 CHARLIE HALL CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 5yo+ £100,000
3m45y (4870 Metres)**

RACE 5

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Even****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

1 FRENCH DYNAMITE (FR) (17) s+t **87**
34-247021 9 11-8 | 73.5kg



M. F. Morris, Ireland

Sean Flanagan

Smart Irish chaser who ended a lengthy losing run in Grade 3 chase at Punchestown (23.2f) 17 days ago by 2¼ lengths from Minella Indo. This is a very difficult ask, however.

2 GREY DAWNING (IRE) (205) (C, D, BF) **96**
1F/312113- 7 11-7 | 73.0kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Took really well to fences last term, bagging his third win in Grade 1 Turners Chase at the Cheltenham Festival and posting a solid third in Manifesto Novices Chase at Aintree (19.9f) final run. Player with more to offer back up in trip.

3 BRAVEMANSGAME (FR) (205) (CD) **98**
123/22256- 9 11-4 | 71.7kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Took this in 2022 but he went winless and didn't operate at his best last term, tried in cheekpieces on his final run when only sixth of seven in Bowl Chase at Aintree. Returns after a wind op now and has a good record fresh so he can't be discounted.

4 CONFLATED (IRE) (17) (D, BF) s **100**
53U032-6U 10 11-4 | 71.7kg



Gordon Elliott, Ireland

Danny Gilligan

High-class Irish chaser but he unseated his rider at the first in Grade 3 chase at Punchestown (23.2f) 17 days ago. Winless since 2022 but he holds solid form claims.

5 HANG IN THERE (IRE) (66) **95**
1152-2132 10 11-4 | 71.7kg



Emma Lavelle

Joe Anderson

Very smart chaser who scored at Uttoxeter in June and posted a good second of 6 in handicap chase at Worcester (23f) 66 days ago. This demands a clear personal best, though.

6 SAM BROWN (189) (D) t **92**
P5145126- 12 11-4 | 71.7kg



Anthony Honeyball

Rex Dingle

Smart veteran chaser who scored twice last season in 3m handicaps at Warwick and Ascot. Signed off with a creditable sixth of 20 in Bet365 at Sandown. Place possibilities, especially if the rains come.

7 THE REAL WHACKER (IRE) (38) (D) t **95**
11/P42P5-U 8 11-4 | 71.7kg



Patrick Neville

Brian Hughes

Winner of the Brown Advisory Novices' Chase at the 2023 Cheltenham Festival. Came up short at the top level last season and unseated his rider at the 10th in Kerry National at Listowel on his return. No forlorn hope.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

85-40 Bravemansgame, **85-40** Grey Dawning, **7-1** Conflated, **9-1** French Dynamite, **10-1** The Real Whacker, **18-1** Hang In There, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Dan Skelton's Turners Chase hero GREY DAWNING enjoyed a fine first season over fences and with further progress on the cards on his seasonal return he is fancied to claim his biggest prize yet. Bravemansgame took this event in 2022 and although he didn't hit the same heights last term he has a good record fresh and could emerge as the main danger on the back of breathing surgery. Irish challenger Conflated is on a lengthy losing sequence but also has the form to have a say.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GREY DAWNING 2. BRAVEMANSGAME 3. CONFLATED

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Gentlemansgame 7-11-2	7-2	M. F. Morris	D. J. O'Keeffe	4
2022	Bravemansgame 7-11-5	2-1	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	5
2021	Fusil Raffles 6-11-0	10-3	Nicky Henderson	Daryl Jacob	7
2020	Cyrname 8-11-6	3-1	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	10
2019	Ballyoptic 9-11-0	11-4	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	7

3.32**NEVER ORDINARY AT bet365 HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 3yo+
(Rated 0-140) £17,500 2m (3220 Metres)**

RACE 6

Going: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

1 SPIRITS BAY (224) (D) 97
131/2F115- 6 12-0 | 76.2kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies **Jordan Naylor**
Useful dual bumper who justified cramped odds in an Exeter novice (16.7f) in February and followed up from a lenient opening mark on handicap debut at that venue a month later. Seemed to find step up to 19f taxing his stamina later that month and respected back at 2m on seasonal bow.

2 ALNILAM (FR) (169) (D) h 96
4171-9 5 11-13 | 75.7kg



Olly Murphy **Sean Bowen**
Fairly useful winner on the Flat who doubled his hurdles tally on yard debut at Kelso (18.1f) in April. Raced freely and dropped away when ninth of 12 in handicap hurdle at Aintree (20f) in May but fitting of a hood can help on return and he's still lightly raced at 2m.

3 WILLIETHEBUILDER (IRE) (17) (D, BF) 99
52/14506-2 5 11-13 | 75.7kg



Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**
Novice campaign somewhat stalled following a promising start but off 8 months/following wind surgery, he got firmly back on track when just failing to land 6-runner C&D handicap 17 days ago. Very much one to be interested in with the prospect of more to come.

4 SALSADA (IRE) (29) s 98
0330-U662 7 11-3 | 71.2kg



Brian Ellison **Harry Cobden**
Useful Flat winner who showed benefit of a spin on Flat when second of 7 in handicap hurdle at Hexham (16.2f) 4 weeks ago, edged out on line. Nudged up just 1 lb and booking of Cobden a plus but she wouldn't be certain to be in same form here.

5 GOBLET OF FIRE (10) (D) 100
414-41 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nicky Henderson **James Bowen**
Most progressive on Flat for this yard and got back on the up in this sphere when comfortably landing 9-runner handicap hurdle at Southwell (15.8f, good) 10 days ago. Another meriting serious respect from 6 lb higher mark.

6 PIECEDERESISTANCE (IRE) (15) h 98
32/2 6 10-7 | 66.7kg



Micky Hammond **Brian Hughes**
Exploits rather up and down on Flat this summer but matched previous hurdles best when 9 lengths second of 8 in a Fakenham novice (2m) 15 days ago. Switch to handicaps in his favour now but others appeal more for win purposes.

7 V TWELVE (IRE) (16) (CD, BF) 99
U2/52561-3 5 10-4 | 65.3kg



Martin Todhunter **William Maggs (5lb/2kg)**
Successful over C&D in March and went in again under positive ride on Flat at Hamilton (11f) in July. Placed all 3 starts under both codes subsequently and his rider takes off a handy 5 lb here.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Williethewriter, **3-1** Goblet of Fire, **9-2** Spirits Bay, **8-1** Salsada, **10-1** V Twelve, **12-1** Alnilam, **14-1** Piecderesistance

TIMEFORM VIEW:

WILLIETHEBUILDER was firmly back on track after 8 months off/following wind surgery when narrowly denied in a C&D handicap 17 days ago and with further progress on the cards, he could well be the answer here. Southwell scorer Goblet of Fire is another improving sort and he's feared, along with the returning Spirits Bay.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. WILLIETHEBUILDER 2. GOBLET OF FIRE 3. SPIRITS BAY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2022	Parisencore 6-11-8	6-4f	Nicky Richards	Danny McMenamin	7
2021	Saint Arvans 7-10-9	4-1	Maurice Barnes	Callum Bewley	10
2020	Fransham 6-11-7	5-2jf	Pam Sly	Kielan Woods	9
2019	Fransham 5-11-4	17-2	Pam Sly	Kielan Woods	12

4.08

bet365 HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-120) £15,000 3m45y (4870 Metres)

RACE 7



Going: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 GERYVILLE (FR) (190) (C) **99**
34/4P5312- 8 12-0 | 76.2kg

Micky Hammond *Brian Hughes*
Course winner. Latest win in chase at Carlisle in March. 7/2, creditable second of 6 in handicap chase at Perth (23.8f, soft). Off 6 months. Definite claims if he's fully tuned up for this return.

2 GOLD LINK (FR) (18) **98**
132313P-6 8 12-0 | 76.2kg

Emma Lavelle *Adam Wedge*
Opened chase account at Stratford last summer and resumed winning ways over 2½m at Huntingdon a year ago. Probably needed his return at Market Rasen but needs to prove he retains all his ability.

3 ITSO FURY (IRE) (24) t **96**
P135-4462 7 11-13 | 75.7kg

Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill *Jonjo O'Neill Jr.*
Useful handicap hurdler. Bettered previous chase efforts when second in handicap at Ludlow last time. On an appealing mark and stable appears to be turning a corner, so he's worth taking a chance on.

4 CAPTAIN QUINT (IRE) (27) s **98**
U2/8217-66 8 11-12 | 75.3kg

Paul Robson *Ryan Mania*
Cheekpieces on when regaining the winning thread in a 7-runner Musselburgh handicap (23.6f, soft) in February. Has struggled since but may come on for his debut for this yard (left Rose Dobbin) at Kelso last month. Cheekpieces go back on.

5 HARJO (IRE) (30) **100**
P/431P2P-P 7 11-11 | 74.8kg

Charlie Longsdon *Sean Bowen*
Ready winner on second chase start at Wincanton last December. Let down by his jumping subsequently and was no better for a return to hurdling at Warwick a month ago.

6 TASTE THE FEAR (IRE) (47) (D) b **97**
R3631-1F9 9 11-11 | 74.8kg

Dr Richard Newland & Jamie Insole *Luke Scott (5lb/2kg)*
Winner of back-to-back handicap chases at Southwell (both over 24.3f) during the spring. Fell 5 out when bidding for the hat-trick over the same C&D penultimate start and should strip fitter for latest effort over hurdles. Not dismissed.

7 TOPOFTHECOTSWOLDS (IRE) (24) s **95**
642363-43 10 11-9 | 73.9kg

Nigel Twiston-Davies *Mr Toby McCain-Mitchell (7lb/3kg)*
Well handicapped and took a firm step back in the right direction for his in-form yard when third at Ludlow last time. Obvious player if he can build on that.

8 ROLL WITH IT (IRE) (22) s **97**
P-5313129 8 11-8 | 73.5kg

Peter & Michael Bowen *James Bowen*
Improved model for new yard this season, running out a 10-length winner at Worcester in September. Produced another solid effort when second from his inflated mark at Warwick next time but found run of good form coming to an end at Chepstow on latest.

9 JAR DU DESERT (FR) (196) **95**
24/104436- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg

Nick Kent *Tom Broughton (5lb/2kg)*
Showed fairly useful form over hurdles for Tom George prior to making a successful chasing debut in a 4-y-o event at Auteuil for N. George & A. Zetterholm in May. However, not at that level over hurdles/fences for present yard.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Itso Fury, **3-1** Geryville, **6-1** Topofthecotswolds, **17-2** Taste The Fear, **11-1** Roll With It, **16-1** Harjo, **22-1** Captain Quint, **22-1** Jar Du Desert, **25-1** Gold Link

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ITSO FURY made a positive step when runner-up at Ludlow on his latest outing and he's well treated on hurdling exploits, so he gets the marginal vote over Geryville, who was in good order when last seen 6 months ago. Topofthecotswolds is another one to consider.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ITSO FURY 2. GERYVILLE 3. TOPOFTHECOTSWOLDS

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Not Sure 7-11-9	15-2	Kerry Lee	Richard Patrick	9
2022	Tango Boy 9-11-6	6-1	Neil Mulholland	Tom Scudamore	10
2021	Soyouthinksoagain 6-11-12	11-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	9
2020	Hear No Evil 8-11-7	16-1	Noel C. Kelly	Sean Bowen	12
2019	Late Romantic 9-12-0	5-1	Oliver Greenall	Paddy Brennan	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race