

Monday 4th November

# PLUMPTON



**12.58** BOOK PREMIER SUSSEX NATIONAL RACEDAY NOW MARES' MAIDEN HURDLE (Qualifier) (4)  
1m7f195y (3200 Metres)

RACE 1 **(5) METKAYINA | (3) BLUE LAS | (1) BARRABOOL**

**1.28** CHRISTMAS AT PLUMPTON NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (5) 2m3f164y (3970 Metres)

RACE 2 **(3) KALKAS | (1) THEONLYWAYISWESSEX | (7) BALLINOULART**

**1.58** EXTECH CLOUD DEMYSTIFYING I.T NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 2½m114y (4130 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) PRINCE IMPERIAL | (4) JUST LUCKY SIVOLA | (5) SCOTCH ON DA ROCKS**

**2.30** TIE THE KNOT WEDDING CATERING HANDICAP CHASE (3) 3m1f152y (5170 Metres)

RACE 4 **(3) SCAMALLACH LIATH | (2) SACRE COEUR | (4) I SEE YOU WELL**

**3.05** CARE FOR VETERANS CHARITY HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2½m114y (4130 Metres)

RACE 5 **(6) YELLOW STAR | (4) IRISH HILL | (2) ONEMOREFORTHROAD**

**3.40** STRONG FLAVOURS CATERING HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 1m7f195y (3200 Metres)

RACE 6 **(6) CALSHOT SPIT | (5) TWO TO TANGO | (3) NON STOP**

**4.10** WEATHERBYS & BIRDIE CALENDARS HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2½m114y (4130 Metres)

RACE 7 **(1) BATWOMEN | (2) RECODED | (7) HIGHWAY ONE O FIVE**

## 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.

**12.58**

RACE 1

**BOOK PREMIER SUSSEX NATIONAL RACEDAY NOW MARES' MAIDEN HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ fillies and mares £9,099 1m7f195y (3200 Metres)**



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Uncontested**

**1 BARRABOOL (174) 82**  
35-2 4 11-2 | 70.8kg

Harry Derham **Paul O'Brien**  
Just modest form in bumpers despite finishing placed twice but she has transferred to an up-and-coming yard ahead of this hurdles debut.

**2 BASILETTE (IRE) (25) (D) 80**  
1-4 5 11-2 | 70.8kg

Seamus Mullins **Daniel Sansom (3lb/1kg)**  
Doyen filly who only had to run to a modest level to make a winning bumper debut last summer. Similar form and less-than-straightforward maiden on Flat since. Stuck at it for fourth of 9 on hurdles debut last month.

**3 BLUE LAS (194) (D) 94**  
411- 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

Neil Mulholland **Dylan Johnston (3lb/1kg)**  
Bred to stay well but talented enough to win a couple of bumpers despite pulling hard in the spring. Major claims now hurdling in a race lacking depth.

**4 CRAZY MAISIE (IRE) (587) 70**  
0/ 5 11-2 | 70.8kg

Mark Hoad **Marc Goldstein**  
Fair handicapper at best on the Flat but not at that level in recent times and was well held previous hurdles outing in 2023.

**5 METKAYINA (IRE) (207) (D) 100**  
314- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg

Noel Williams **Jonathan Burke**  
Shaped well when third of 16 in bumper at Galway (heavy) on debut on debut and, having left Sam Curling, made an impressive start for this yard when comfortably winning big-field contest at Ludlow. Excellent fourth in Grade 2 company in April and major player on hurdles bow.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-10** Metkayina, **15-8** Blue Las, **8-1** Barrabool, **11-1** Basilette, **150-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

This should rest between bumper-winners METKAYINA and Blue Las with marginal preference for the former given there's slightly more substance to her form in that sphere.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. METKAYINA 2. BLUE LAS 3. BARRABOOL**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>A Tickatkatiming</b>	5-11-2	7-2	Sheena West	Marc Goldstein	12
2022	<b>Mullenbeg</b>	5-11-2	4-6f	Milton Harris	Harry Cobden	8
2021	<b>Blue Bikini</b>	5-11-0	13-2	Fergal O'Brien	Connor Brace	10
2020	<b>Peace Prevails</b>	5-10-12	4-1	Jim Boyle	Robert Dunne	9

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.28

**CHRISTMAS AT PLUMPTON NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (5)  
4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £9,950 2m3f164y (3970 Metres)**

RACE 2



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Weak**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>West Orchard</b>	6-10-6	8-1	Joe Tizzard	Sean Bowen	11
2022	<b>Sublime Heights</b>	6-12-2	10-3	Toby Lawes	James Bowen	7
2021	<b>Dont Be Robin</b>	9-10-10	20-1	Richenda Ford	Richie McLernon	9
2020	<b>Un Beau Roman</b>	12-10-13	18-1	Paul Henderson	Nick Scholfield	8
2019	<b>Shintori</b>	7-12-5	4-1	Jack R. Barber	Nick Scholfield	7

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**1 THEONLYWAYISWESSEX (FR) (32)** **100**  
5/725-3143 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Alan King **Tom Cannon**  
Dual AW winner who opened his account over jumps in 9-runner handicap chase at Stratford (17f) in June. Back to that sort of form when credible third at Southwell (15.8f, good to firm) last month and ought to go well again.

**2 I SHUT THAT D'OR (FR) (13)** **95**  
UPPP3-P70 **6** 11-9 | 73.9kg

Joe Tizzard **Brendan Powell**  
Belied odds of 50/1 when taking a Wincanton novice hurdle in January 2023. However, he hasn't done much right since and offered little on hurdles return at Exeter 13 days ago.

**3 KALKAS (FR) (172) (BF)** **97**  
9/6P462-3 **8** 11-8 | 73.5kg

Billy Aprahamian **K. Brogan**  
Fairly useful chaser at best for Henry de Bromhead during 2021/22. Not at same level these days but ran respectably when third of 4 in handicap chase at Fontwell (17.8f, good) when last seen in May. 2 lb lower now and could be a player on return to action.

**4 NADIM (IRE) (8) (D)** **93**  
7-R330636 **5** 11-7 | 73.0kg

Daisy Hitchins **Mr Robbie David (7lb/3kg)**  
Scored 3 times over hurdles in 2023 and showed some promise, sent chasing for his new yard, when third in Stratford novice handicap (19.5f) last month. Wasn't in same form at Wincanton, latest, however, and others are more appealing.

**5 ONE LAST GLANCE (16)** **97**  
233C23-1 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Tom Gretton **Robert Dunne**  
Belatedly off the mark, back from 7-month absence, when taking 9-runner handicap hurdle (9/2) at Stratford (16.3f, heavy) 16 days ago. Faces different conditions here but is feasibly treated, back over the larger obstacles, and must enter calculations.

**6 CLONDAW ROBIN (IRE) (221)** **94**  
65232F43- **11** 10-2 | 64.4kg

Andy Irvine **Caoilin Quinn (3lb/1kg)**   
Still winless over fences and below best at Fontwell when last seen in March. Reappears off a handy mark but others are more persuasive.

**7 BALLINOULART (IRE) (21)** **98**  
4-3467P43 **6** 10-2(10-0) | 64.4kg (63.5kg)

David Dennis **Finn Lambert (3lb/1kg)**  
Posted best effort for current yard when very good third of 10 in handicap chase at Hereford (20.9f, good) 21 days ago. Finds himself 2 lb out of the weights here but another bold show is on the cards.

**8 DESIGN FLAW (57)** **99**  
000/P-8 **6** 10-2(9-4) | 64.4kg (59.0kg)

Cynthia Woods **Lorcan Murtagh**  
Offered little under various codes in Ireland and well beaten both starts in points prior to a very low-key hurdles return at Fontwell (19.1f) 57 days ago. Cheekpieces reached for but she's got plenty on from well out of the weights on handicap debut in this sphere.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**7-2** Theonlywayiswessex, **7-2** Ballinoulart, **9-2** One Last Glance, **11-2** Kalkas, **10-1** Nadim, **12-1** I Shut That D'or, **12-1** Clondaw Robin, **100-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

KALKAS returns on a fair mark and hails from a yard amongst the winners. He could be the answer in a tricky-looking contest. Theonlywayiswessex and Ballinoulart are feared most.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. KALKAS 2. THEONLYWAYISWESSEX 3. BALLINOULART**

1.58

**EXTECH CLOUD DEMYSTIFYING I.T NOVICES' HURDLE (4)**  
**4yo+ £9,099 2½m114y (4130 Metres)**

RACE 3



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 PRINCE IMPERIAL (USA) (20) (D)** s+t **100**  
 8/330-7131 7 11-12 | 75.3kg

**Olly Murphy** *Beau Morgan (5lb/2kg)*  
 Showed improved form on first run since leaving Harriet Dickin when easily winning 9-runner maiden hurdle at Fontwell in September and he defied a penalty at the second time of asking at Market Rasen 3 weeks ago. Double penalty this time but sure to give it a good go.

**2 BATSMAN (26)** h **71**  
 7 5 11-0 | 69.9kg

**Sara Bradstock** *Tom Bellamy*  
 Jack Hobbs gelding. Dam, lightly raced in bumpers, half-sister to useful hurdler/top-class chaser (Cheltenham Gold Cup winner) Coneygree. Successful on second of 2 starts in point bumpers (Jan 2024) but last of 7 in a bumper and likely needs more time. Hood on switched to hurdling.

**3 DE VEGA'S WARRIOR (IRE) (13)** t **71**  
 05 5 11-0 | 69.9kg

**Henrietta C Knight** *Brendan Powell*  
 A frustrating maiden handicapper on Flat (stays 16.5f) and minor promise only over hurdles last month. Tongue strap applied.

**4 JUST LUCKY SIVOLA (FR) (217)** **82**  
 16- 5 11-0 | 69.9kg

**Paul Nicholls** *Harry Cobden*  
 From a good family and made a successful debut in a Southwell bumper last November. Disappointed under a penalty at Huntingdon but bred to have a future over hurdles and he's in excellent hands.

**5 SCOTCH ON DA ROCKS (IRE) (204)** **75**  
 56- 7 11-0 | 69.9kg

**Warren Greatrex** *Paul O'Brien*  
 £80,000 buy after winning a point in April 2021. Never looked like justifying support making belated Rules debut in a tongue strap at Doncaster in March and again failed to meet expectations a month later. Left Ben Pauling but has the frame for jumping. Has had another breathing op.

**6 COURT ONE (IRE)** **71**  
 4 10-13 | 69.4kg

**Richard Rowe** *Niall Houlihan*  
 €9,000 3-y-o, £20,000 4-y-o, first foal: dam unraced half-sister to fair hurdle winner/fair chaser (stayed 2¾m) Our Friend. Unseated rider sole start in Irish points (Apr 14).

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**4-6** Prince Imperial, **3-1** Just Lucky Sivola, **9-1** Scotch On Da Rocks, **33-1** Batsman, **33-1** Court One, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

PRINCE IMPERIAL has a double penalty to shoulder but he can call upon plenty of experience over obstacles and that may prove to be decisive. Just Lucky Sivola is in the right hands now hurdling and he should be a factor.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. PRINCE IMPERIAL 2. JUST LUCKY SIVOLA 3. SCOTCH ON DA ROCKS**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>Emailandy</b> 5-11-0	7-1	Paul Nicholls	Bryony Frost	11
2022	<b>Scarface</b> 5-11-0	1-4f	Joe Tizzard	Brendan Powell	6
2021	<b>Royal Pretender</b> 5-11-5	2-9f	Alan King	Tom Cannon	6
2020	<b>Blame The Game</b> 5-10-12	3-1	Chris Gordon	Tom Cannon	7

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**2.30**

**TIE THE KNOT WEDDING CATERING HANDICAP CHASE (3)  
4yo+ (Rated 0-125) £22,350 3m1f152y (5170 Metres)**

RACE 4



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Weak**

**1 BOLDMERE (240) 96**

7121/PAPP- 11 12-0 | 76.2kg

Alex Hales

*Kielan Woods*



Winner of 3m veterans' events at Doncaster and Fakenham during the early part of 2023 but he offered little in a handful of appearances last season.

**2 SACRE COEUR (FR) (26) (C) 100**

32-630462 8 11-13 | 75.7kg

Dan Skelton

*Tristan Durrell (31b/1kg)*



Three-time chase winner last season who returned to form when runner-up at Ludlow (23.8f, good) 26 days ago. Remains on an attractive mark and she's a major player.

**3 SCAMALLACH LIATH (IRE) (275) (BF) 98**

3322/127- 7 11-13 | 75.7kg

Harry Derham

*Paul O'Brien*



Showed plenty over hurdles, placed all 4 starts for Oliver Sherwood during 2022/23 and winner of an Ascot novices' handicap (24.4f, good) on debut for Harry Derham last November. Came up short in Sandown Grade 3 Sandown handicap when last seen in February but sights lowered for this chasing bow.

**4 I SEE YOU WELL (FR) (204) (CD) 99**

265U6226- 11 11-6 | 72.6kg

Seamus Mullins

*Micheal Nolan*



Something of a course specialist, winning 5 times over C&D, and he was second in this race off a 6 lb higher mark 12 months ago. Rather hit-and-miss since, though, and he looks vulnerable for win purposes.

**5 WHYDAH GALLY (201) 98**

P3/164148- 8 11-2 | 70.8kg

Joe Tizzard

*Brendan Powell*



Hit the target twice in handicaps chases at Lingfield last season, latterly demonstrating strong stamina reserves with a success over 29f in February. However, he merely underlined the fact that he's not one to bank on by following that with a couple of low-key performances.

**6 SUBLIME HEIGHTS (IRE) (31) (CD) 96**

2/P06261-P 8 11-2 | 70.8kg

Toby Lawes

*K. Brogan*



Three of his 4 chase wins have been gained here, registering first success away from this venue when landing a 3-runner Chepstow handicap (23.6f, soft) in April. No show on his reappearance at Fontwell, though, and, like last season, he may need a few runs before coming to the boil.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**6-5** Scamallach Liath, **10-3** Sacre Coeur, **8-1** I See You Well, **17-2** Whydah Gally, **12-1** Sublime Heights, **18-1** Boldmere

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

SCAMALLACH LIATH could finish only mid-field when sent off favourite for a Grade 3 Sandown handicap on the final start of a light campaign last season, but he now makes his chase debut in much calmer waters and this Irish point winner appeals as the type to make his mark over fences. Sacre Coeur is the clear main danger ahead of veteran course regular I See You Well.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. SCAMALLACH LIATH 2. SACRE COEUR 3. I SEE YOU WELL**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023 **Blade Runner** 7-11-5 11-2 Chris Gordon Rex Dingle 12

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.05**

**CARE FOR VETERANS CHARITY HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 3yo+ (Rated 0-140) £23,825 2½m114y (4130 Metres)**

RACE 5



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Weak**

**1 MARK OF GOLD (191) (C, D) 98**

17/54F10P- 7 12-0 | 76.2kg

Gary & Josh Moore

**Rob Hargreaves (71b/3kg)**

Won 21f Kempton handicap in February. Arrives fit from the Flat (respectable third at Goodwood last month) and capable of playing a part.



**2 ONEMOREFORTHROAD (24) v 99**

51-269323 9 11-3 | 71.2kg

Neil King

**Jack Quinlan**

A dual chaser winner who has run with credit back hurdling at Newton Abbot and Chepstow this autumn. First-time visor replaces regular cheekpieces. Likely to be in the shake-up again.



**3 ENTHUSED (IRE) (10) (C) b 99**

1P-915148 7 10-12 | 68.9kg

James Owen

**Tom Bellamy**

Most likeable sort who gained a sixth hurdle success when seeing off 7 rivals over 2m here in September. Not in the same form twice since but it's possible a change of headgear (first-time blinkers for visor) will perk him back up. Also up in trip.



**4 IRISH HILL (GER) (23) s 90**

4729532-P 6 10-12 | 68.9kg

Paul Nicholls

**Harry Cobden**

Won 3 on the bounce during 2022/23 campaign and recorded plenty of creditable efforts in defeat last season. Ran no sort of race in the Silver Trophy last season but well treated if bouncing back in a change of headgear (cheekpieces he wore once at the start of his career replace blinkers).



**5 FOREVER WILLIAM (23) (CD) s 99**

2P/16-7730 6 10-7 | 66.7kg

Dan Skelton

**Miss Heidi Palin (71b/3kg)**

Three-time winner for Alan King. Stepped up on his low-key debut for this yard when third of 8 in Newton Abbot handicap (21.5f, good) in September. Well held in the Silver Trophy at Chepstow since but should make more of an impact back in a less-competitive scenario.



**6 YELLOW STAR (FR) (23) b 100**

31474-4 4 10-5 | 65.8kg

Gary & Josh Moore

**Niall Houlihan**

Fairly useful form at best on the Flat and similar form in this sphere, successful in a 2m Lingfield novice (soft) in February. Creditable fourth of 11 in 2m Chepstow handicap on reappearance and the longer trip this afternoon promises to play to his strengths.



**7 GODOT (IRE) (204) (CD) s 97**

73615274- 7 10-2(9-9) | 64.4kg (61.2kg)

Andy Irvine

**Caolin Quinn (31b/1kg)**

C&D winner who was also successful over fences here in January. Below par when last seen in the spring and best watched back hurdling from 7 lb out of the handicap.



7 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-4** Onemorefortheroad, **3-1** Yellow Star, **4-1** Irish Hill, **9-1** Forever William, **10-1** Enthused, **11-1** Mark of Gold, **20-1** Godot

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

YELLOW STAR could prove suited by this increased test of stamina and is preferred to Irish Hill, who ran a stinker in the Silver Trophy but is well treated if a change of headgear and a return to calmer waters sparks a revival. Onemorefortheroad has run well back hurdling this autumn and should also feature.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. YELLOW STAR 2. IRISH HILL 3. ONEMOREFORTHROAD**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>Forever William</b>	5-10-13	14-1	Alan King	Tom Cannon	8
2022	<b>Lord Baddesley</b>	7-11-6	11-8f	Chris Gordon	Harry Cobden	6
2021	<b>Champagne Well</b>	8-11-3	20-1	Fergal O'Brien	Connor Brace	11
2020	<b>Amour de Nuit</b>	8-11-12	8-1	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	6
2019	<b>Dan McGrue</b>	7-11-10	13-2	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	9

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.40**

**STRONG FLAVOURS CATERING HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 3yo+ (Rated 0-120) £11,450 1m7f195y (3200 Metres)**

RACE 6



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 SHARED (29) (D, BF) 97**  
03/139P-43 5 12-0 | 76.2kg

Harry Derham **Paul O'Brien**  
Improved when taking a 2m Chepstow handicap on reappearance last season, and ended that campaign with a creditable effort at Warwick. His tendency to race lazily was in evidence on return this time round at Kelso last month, though, and he's likely to find one or two too good.

**2 AGGAGIO (FR) (18) (D) 90**  
61531/2F-7 6 11-10 | 74.4kg

Gary & Josh Moore **Caoilin Quinn (3lb/1kg)**  
Likeable dual-purpose performer who enhanced his good strike rate with a pair of hurdle victories during early 2023 and held form well on Flat thereafter. However, he ran poorly on the level back from a break in September and again failed to fire back in this sphere recently.

**3 NON STOP (FR) (284) (D) 98**  
3174/5234- 5 11-4 | 71.7kg

Joe Tizzard **Brendan Powell**  
The second of his 4 runs over fences last season was encouraging, finishing runner-up in a 2¼m Taunton handicap on the occasion in question. Interesting returned to hurdles (2-5 in this sphere) for the yard that saddled the winner of this race in 2023.

**4 INFERNO SACREE (FR) (148) (CD) 98**  
043P30-76 6 11-3 | 71.2kg

Nigel Hawke **Lorcan Murtagh**  
Enjoyed a most productive spell when winning 5 times from 6 starts in the first half of 2023, with 3 of those wins gained here. Largely struggled since, though, and others make more appeal on this occasion.

**5 TWO TO TANGO (18) 100**  
35/32P-53 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

Emma Lavelle **Joe Anderson (3lb/1kg)**  
Lightly-raced maiden who showed fair form in pair of maiden hurdles last winter. Back on track when third in a 10-runner Wincanton handicap (15.2f, good) 18 days ago and he is high on the shortlist off the same mark here.

**6 CALSHOT SPIT (IRE) (41) (BF) 99**  
0-3421 4 11-2 | 70.8kg

Sheena West **Marc Goldstein**  
Found only a well-handicapped rival too strong in 2m handicap at Stratford in August and, having scored on the Flat next time, he narrowly prevailed back in this sphere at Fontwell towards the end of September. Ground was probably against him returned to the level since and he remains of interest.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-4** Two To Tango, **3-1** Calshot Spit, **7-2** Shared, **13-2** Non Stop, **8-1** Inferno Sacree, **16-1** Aggagio

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

It's probably best to overlook CALSHOT SPIT's heavy defeat on the Flat last month, as he simply didn't appear to handle the testing conditions. He was at the top of his game prior to that and, with the ground more suitable back hurdling here, the 4-y-o is taken to deliver. Two To Tango took a step back in the right direction at Wincanton recently and he is second choice ahead of Non Stop and Shared.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. CALSHOT SPIT 2. TWO TO TANGO 3. NON STOP**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>West End Boy</b> 5-10-7	8-13f	Joe Tizzard	Freddie Gingell (7)	7
2022	<b>Caramelised</b> 4-12-0	9-4f	Alan King	Gavin Sheehan	7
2021	<b>King's Proctor</b> 6-10-7	5-1	Milton Harris	Mitchell Bastyan (3)	7
2020	<b>The Twisler</b> 8-11-4	6-1	Neil Mulholland	Harry Reed (3)	10
2019	<b>Poucor</b> 4-11-1	6-1	Mick Channon	Marc Goldstein	6

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race



**4.10**

**WEATHERBYS & BIRDIE CALENDARS HANDICAP HURDLE (4)  
3yo+ (Rated 0-110) £11,450 2½m114y (4130 Metres)**

RACE 7



Going: **Good**

Left handed, tight and undulating. Despite the undulations, it's essentially a course which favours handy sorts thanks to the sharp turns. Races on the hurdles course often begin in earnest early on the final circuit, the complexion changing quickly at this point. Ranks surprisingly highly for proportion of casualties on the chase course, especially as the average field size is low, this figure probably reflective of the low standard of horses rather than the stiffness of the fences, though the first in the back straight falls away and has long since been tricky. Beware those horses who stick to the inside on the hurdles track when the ground is testing, better going often found by racing wide.

Pace Information: **Even**

**1 BATWOMEN (IRE) (31) t 94**

75/52-21 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

Neil Mulholland

**Brendan Powell**

Career best when winning 9-runner handicap hurdle at Fontwell (19.1f, good to soft, 7/1) 31 days ago by 2½ lengths from Ted's Friend. Progressive mare who is well worth a chance to go in again.

**2 RECODED (IRE) (27) (BF) t 94**

3/320-2 6 11-12 | 75.3kg

Harry Derham

**Paul O'Brien**

Fairly useful form when placed in a pair of bumpers. Yet to match that over hurdles but this is just his second outing for a shrewd stable and his opening mark is potentially lenient.

**3 PONCHO (FR) (155) (C) 99**

3216F/F7-4 6 11-12 | 75.3kg

Gary & Josh Moore

**Niall Houlihan**

Course novice winner in January 2023 but has yet to make an impact in handicaps. Ran well on the Flat last time but jumping is a concern in this sphere.

**4 TED'S FRIEND (IRE) (31) (CD) s+t 95**

413/50-P42 8 11-10 | 74.4kg

Fergal O'Brien

**Max Kendrick**

C&D winner. 13/2, creditable 2½ lengths second of 9 to Batwomen in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (19.1f, good to soft) 31 days ago. Has slipped in the weights and looks to be building up to something.

**5 BASHFUL BOY (IRE) (32) s 97**

4604-7044 8 11-7 | 73.0kg

David Pipe

**Jack Tudor**

Fair handicap hurdler who ran well in the Cesarewitch last time and returns to this sphere on an appealing mark. Respected.

**6 EDE'IFFS ROCK (21) (D) 97**

233315-44 6 11-4 | 71.7kg

Bill Turner

**Harry Kimber**

Consistent sort who opened her account after a frustrating run of placed efforts in 13-runner handicap at Leicester (20.5f, heavy) in January. Arrives on the back of a creditable effort at Hereford, so could get involved.

**7 HIGHWAY ONE O FIVE (IRE) (41) s 98**

6495625-3 5 11-1 | 70.3kg

Chris Gordon

**Rex Dingle**

In good order towards the end of last season and should strip fitter for his return at Fontwell. Looks a player with cheekpieces tried for the first time.

**8 MACARI (125) (C) ★ 100**

637217-P4 4 10-13 | 69.4kg

Sheena West

**Marc Goldstein**

Much improved when winning here in April and returned to form at Stratford in July. Arrives on the back of success on the Flat, so well worthy of consideration.

**9 BIRDMAN BOB (IRE) (14) (C) s 97**

U22U2P6-8 7 10-10 | 68.0kg

Andy Irvine

**Caolin Quinn (3lb/1kg)**

Course winner who ended last season in form and is likely to strip fitter for his return here, so not ruled out back up in trip.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

7-2 Batwomen, 4-1 Recoded, 15-2 Ted's Friend, 8-1 Highway One O Five, 17-2 Bashful Boy, 9-1 Macari, 14-1 Ede'iffs Rock, 16-1 Birdman Bob, 22-1 Poncho

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

BATWOMEN left previous efforts behind when seeing off Ted's Friend to make a successful handicap debut at Fontwell last time and, with more to come, she's worth a chance to go in again. Recoded is an obvious danger and Highway One O Five is of interest in first-time headgear.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. BATWOMEN 2. RECODED 3. HIGHWAY ONE O FIVE

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>Baddesley</b> 8-11-8	11-2	Chris Gordon	Freddie Gordon (5)	11
2022	<b>Warranty</b> 5-12-0	10-3	Gary Moore	Caolin Quinn (7)	10
2021	<b>Neverbeen To Paris</b> 6-11-13	10-3	Pat Murphy	Bryony Frost	12
2020 <sup>I</sup>	<b>Nocturnal Myth</b> 7-11-1	11-4	Anthony Honeyball	Rex Dingle (3)	7
2020 <sup>II</sup>	<b>Midnight Glance</b> 5-11-2	11-2	Alan King	Tom Bellamy	9
2019	<b>Two Sams</b> 6-10-4	11-8f	Jeremy Scott	Nick Scholfield	11

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race