

Friday 8th November

EXETER

12.40 SOUTHWEST RAIL SOLUTIONS NOVICES' HURDLE (3) 2m5f137y (4350 Metres)

RACE 1 **(3) CAPTAIN BELLAMY | (1) SKYJACK HIJACK | (5) JACK BLACK**

1.15 WEST COUNTRY WEEKEND NOVICES' HURDLE (2) 2m161y (3370 Metres)

RACE 2 **(1) SORCELEUR | (2) WELLINGTON ARCH | (3) YHPRUM'S LAW**

1.50 ICL CONSCIOUS OF OUR IMPACT 'FUTURE STARS' SILVER BOWL NOVICES' CHASE (2) 3m54y (4880 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) CAPTAIN TEAGUE | (3) DEAFENING SILENCE | (2) DARING PLAN**

2.25 BETMGM HALDON GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (LIMITED HANDICAP) (Grade 2) (1) 2m1f109y (3520 Metres)

RACE 4 **(4) ETALON | (1) JPR ONE | (2) DJELO**

3.00 ICL, IMPACT FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE 'CHALLENGER' MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2¼m111y (3720 Metres)

RACE 5 **(8) ASIAN SPICE | (2) BRENDAS ASKING | (7) MISS GOLDFIRE**

3.35 HALDON 'CHALLENGER' STAYERS' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 3m54y (4880 Metres)

RACE 6 **(9) COCO MADEMOISELLE | (8) STRIKING A POSE | (2) TIGHTENOURBELTS**

4.10 SOUTHWEST RAIL SOLUTIONS HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2m161y (3370 Metres)

RACE 7 **(9) SUNNINGHILL | (11) FINAL ENTRY | (2) CENTARA**

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**SOUTHWEST RAIL SOLUTIONS NOVICES' HURDLE (3) 4yo+
£15,000 2m5f137y (4350 Metres)**

RACE 1

Going: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 SKYJACK HIJACK (IRE) (8) 99
7-2321111 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Jennie Candlish

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

Very progressive hurdler, completing 4-timer in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Newcastle (23.7f, good) 8 days ago, unchallenged. Has to concede weight all round but warrants plenty of respect nonetheless.

2 A MOMENTS MADNESS (IRE) (23) 95
4 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Warren Greatrex

Paul O'Brien

Has an ordinary pedigree but finished runner-up sole start in Irish points in February and made an encouraging enough stat over hurdles when fourth of 13 in a Wetherby novice (19.7f) 23 days ago. Step up in trip will suit and he's entitled to do better.

3 CAPTAIN BELLAMY (237) (BF) 80
103- 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Very easy winner of sole start in Irish points and it was a similar story on his Rules debut in a Chepstow bumper. Disappointing both starts since but should still make his mark over hurdles.

4 CHECK THE SCORE (IRE) (304) (BF) 80
1/4- 6 11-0 | 69.9kg



Fergal O'Brien

Jonathan Burke

Successful on second of 2 starts in Irish points and made a winning start in bumpers in 17-runner event at Warwick (2m) in April 2023. In need of the experience sent hurdling at Market Rasen 9 months later and is capable of better.

5 JACK BLACK (FR) (272) 100
333- 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Shaped with promise when third both starts in bumpers and again offered plenty of encouragement when filling same spot on Newbury hurdle debut (16.3f) in February. Upped in trip and can improve.

6 SUPER SAINT (FR) (197) (BF) 80
46- 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Paul Nicholls

Lorcan Williams

Cost a bit and produced a promising first effort amid inexperience when fourth in a Taunton bumper in March, not knocked about. Failed to progress at Warwick next time but this longer trip likely to suit now hurdling.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-4 Skyjack Hijack, **7-2** Captain Bellamy, **5-1** Jack Black, **17-2** A Moments Madness, **9-1** Check The Score, **12-1** Super Saint

TIMEFORM VIEW:

CAPTAIN BELLAMY went backwards from an impressive debut success in bumpers, but he retains potential now switching to hurdling and first time up could be the time to catch him. Skyjack Hijack has to concede plenty of weights but he's thriving at present and warrants plenty of respect. Jack Black can build on an encouraging hurdling debut at Newbury 9 months earlier and merits consideration, also.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. CAPTAIN BELLAMY 2. SKYJACK HIJACK 3. JACK BLACK

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Deafening Silence 6-11-0	4-1	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2022	Outlaw Peter 6-11-6	4-7f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	8
2021	Ask Me Early 7-10-12	6-4f	Harry Fry	Sean Bowen	11
2020 ¹	Bobhopeornohope 5-10-12	17-2	Kim Bailey	David Bass	10
2020 ¹	Flash Collonges 5-10-12	10-1	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	9
2019	Cat Tiger 5-10-12	5-6f	Paul Nicholls	Mr David Maxwell (3)	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.15**WEST COUNTRY WEEKEND NOVICES' HURDLE (2) 4yo+
£17,500 2m161y (3370 Metres)**

RACE 2

Going: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	SORCELEUR (FR) (17) (D, BF) 3315-2 4 11-0 69.9kg	t		100
	Paul Nicholls		Harry Cobden	
	Built on previous promise when making all in a Taunton bumper in February. Put up a useful effort when fifth of 18 in Grade 2 event at Aintree in April and seems sure to improve on his opening hurdles effort when second at this venue in a first-time tongue strap 17 days ago. Outstanding claims.			
2	WELLINGTON ARCH (209) 1340- 5 11-0 69.9kg			81
	Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill		Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	
	Followed narrow Worcester bumper debut success with a couple of decent efforts in defeat. Struggled in Grade 2 company at Aintree when last seen during the spring but starts out over hurdles at a realistic level.			
3	YHPRUM'S LAW (IRE) (22) 6-F 5 11-0 69.9kg			75
	Dan Skelton		Harry Skelton	
	Kayf Tara gelding who disappointed on his sole outing in bumpers but was in the process of showing more when falling 2 out on his Carlisle hurdling debut 22 days ago, might have been placed.			
4	KINGSTON JOY (IRE) 5 10-7 66.7kg			70
	Kevin Bishop		Sean Houlihan	
	Modest handicapper on Flat (stays 1½m), respectable effort last time. Left David Simcock's yard for only 6,000 gns in May.			

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-7 Sorceleur, 3-1 Wellington Arch, 13-2 Yhprum's Law, 33-1 Kingston Joy

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SORCELEUR, a progressive bumper performer, seems sure to improve on his opening hurdles effort when second here 17 days ago, so he's a straightforward choice. Wellington Arch is preferred to Yhprum's Law for forecast purposes.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SORCELEUR 2. WELLINGTON ARCH 3. YHPRUM'S LAW

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Insurrection 6-11-0	11-4	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	15
2022	Lallygag 5-11-6	8-13f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	7
2021	Brief Times 5-10-12	6-1	Neil Mulholland	Sam Twiston-Davies	15
2020	Bravemansgame 5-10-12	8-11f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	11
2019	Sporting John 4-10-12	11-4	Philip Hobbs	Barry Geraghty	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.50

RACE 3






ICL CONSCIOUS OF OUR IMPACT 'FUTURE STARS' SILVER BOWL NOVICES' CHASE (2) 4yo+ £40,000 3m54y (4880 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	CAPTAIN TEAGUE (IRE) (238)		100
	13/1210- 6 11-2 70.8kg		
	Paul Nicholls		Harry Cobden
	Third in Champion Bumper and translated all that ability to hurdles last season, winning Persian War at Chepstow and Grade 1 Challow Hurdle at Newbury. Prominent in betting but well held in Albert Bartlett in March but fancied to make his mark on return/chase debut (has had a wind op).		
2	DARING PLAN (IRE) (282)		66
	8723- 6 11-2 70.8kg		
	Susan Gardner		Lucy Gardner
	Maiden Irish pointer who has been campaigned solely at this track, improving on his third start when 3 lengths second of 16 in 18.5f maiden on New Year's Day. Bit better than result sent handicapping over a much longer trip later that month but looks a big outsider on reappearance/chase bow.		
3	DEAFENING SILENCE (IRE) (336) (C)		82
	3/11- 7 11-2 70.8kg		
	Dan Skelton 		Harry Skelton
	Successful on last of 3 starts in points and built on his hurdling debut promise upped markedly in trip after over a year off when landing a 6-runner novice on this card 12 months ago. Progressed again when taking Grade 2 at Sandown 4 weeks later and warrants major respect on return/chase debut.		

3 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-9 Captain Teague, 2-1 Deafening Silence, 50-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Paul Nicholls has won 4 of the previous 6 renewals of this contest and he can enhance that excellent record further with CAPTAIN TEAGUE, who won half of his 4 starts over hurdles last season (including a Grade 1) and looks very much the type to make an impact in novice chases this term. Progressive hurdler Deafening Silence rates as the obvious danger also making his return/chase bow.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. CAPTAIN TEAGUE 2. DEAFENING SILENCE 3. DARING PLAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Stay Away Fay 6-11-2	5-6f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	5
2022	Thyme Hill 8-11-2	1-2f	Philip Hobbs	Tom O'Brien	3
2021	Threeunderthruive 6-11-2	8-11f	Paul Nicholls	A. P. Heskin	4
2020	Enrilo 6-11-1	4-6f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	6
2019	Virginia Chick 7-11-1	14-1	Evan Williams	Isabel Williams	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.25**BETMGM HALDON GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (LIMITED HANDICAP) (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+ £100,000 2m1f109y (3520 Metres)**

RACE 4

Going: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 JPR ONE (IRE) (241) (C) t **98**
15/10317- 7 11-12 | 75.3kg



Joe Tizzard

Brendan Powell

3-time hurdles winner who tasted success twice over fences last term, latterly bagging a Lingfield Gr 2 in January. Weakened out of things when seventh in Arkle at Cheltenham in March but this rates more suitable and record fresh is impressive. Tongue strap on/had wind surgery.

2 DJELO (FR) (209) (C) **99**
8/111F238- 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Venetia Williams

Charlie Deutsch

Won first 3 starts over fences, latterly an Ascot Grade 2 last December. Placed in Golden Miller at Cheltenham prior to a lesser effort in Aintree Grade 1 on final start but he remains low-mileage as a 6-y-o and he commands respect back in handicap/after 6 months off.

3 HELTENHAM (FR) (203) t **97**
1382118F- 7 11-5 | 72.1kg



Dan Skelton

Ciaran Gethings

Improved again last season, the highlight being his victory in the Greatwood Gold Cup at Newbury (2½m, soft) in March. Was travelling well when falling 4 out at Ayr on final start of last season and while jockey bookings suggest that Etalon is the stable No 1, he's not discounted.

4 ETALON (IRE) (209) t **100**
2214/1117- 7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Took his form to a new level sent chasing last season, bringing up the hat-trick with another wide-margin victory in 10-runner Sandown handicap (15.5f) in February. Blunder didn't help his cause upped to Grade 1 level at Aintree in April and he remains the type to do better again this term.

5 SANS BRUIT (FR) (202) (D, BF) h+t **98**
1/7870213- 6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Paul Nicholls

Bryony Frost

Ex-French gelding jumped his rivals into submission from the front in Red Rum handicap at Aintree in April. Ran well to finish third turned out quickly at Ayr later that month and he appeals as the type who has more wins in him this campaign.

6 SCARFACE (IRE) (14) s **98**
3312113-5 7 10-9 | 67.6kg



Joe Tizzard

Harry Cobden

Thrived over fences when cheekpieces went on, winning 3 times around 2½m between January and April. Feasible to think last month's Cheltenham return effort will have brought him on but yard may well hold stronger claims with Jpr One.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Jpr One, 7-2 Djelo, 4-1 Etalon, 13-2 Sans Bruit, 9-1 Scarface, 14-1 Heltenham

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ETALON made giant strides forward following his switch to chasing last season, winning 3 times prior to shaping better than the bare result in Grade 1 company on his final start. Still unexposed and retaining potential for better still, he shades the vote on return, with Jpr One, who boasts a smashing record fresh, and Djelo heading up the dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ETALON 2. JPR ONE 3. DJELO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Elixir de Nutz 9-10-7	13-2	Joe Tizzard	Freddie Gingell (7)	6
2022	Greaneteen 8-11-12	7-2	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	5
2021	Eldorado Allen 7-10-7	9-2	Colin Tizzard	Brendan Powell	6
2020	Greaneteen 6-11-3	15-8f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	10
2019	Janika 6-11-10	5-2f	Nicky Henderson	Daryl Jacob	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.00

RACE 5

ICL, IMPACT FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE 'CHALLENGER' MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-115) £20,000 2¼m111y (3720 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 MIDNIGHT GINGER (126) 87
3251343-3 8 12-0 | 76.2kg



Andrew Martin

James Martin (5lb/2kg)

Reliable hurdler who went in on only her second run over fences in 2m handicap at Chepstow in January, coming from a long way back. Rather in-and-out since, suffering a heavy defeat returned to timber at Newton Abbot in July.

2 BENDAS ASKING (IRE) (30) 100
35/5442-P1 6 11-9 | 73.9kg



Kim Bailey

Tom Bellamy

Promise in bumpers and easily best effort over hurdles when landing 9-runner handicap at Ludlow a month ago, always holding on. 7 lb rise perfectly fair and she represents yard in excellent form.

3 JAMINSKA (FR) (30) 98
21/23F44-6 5 11-5 | 72.1kg



Mrs Jane Williams

David Noonan

Fair winning hurdler who wasn't seen to best effect on last month's return to action, blundering at a crucial stage in what was a slowly-run race. This will reveal more.

4 VERSACE TWENTYONE (IRE) (15) 88
13424 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Sheila Lewis

Sean Houlihan

Won a Roscommon bumper for Gordon Elliott in July but has achieved only modest form when hitting the frame in mares' novice hurdles for this yard. Needs to up her game now handicapping.

5 IT'S EASY (FR) (20) 95
P324243-2 6 11-1 | 70.3kg



Evan Williams

Adam Wedge

Fairly useful maiden chaser in France for David Cottin but just respectable efforts at best for Clive Boulton-Brooks. Down in the weights as a result and sound start for this yard when second at Stratford 3 weeks ago.

6 MICRONORMOUS (IRE) (22) (C) 95
1356/3-356 6 11-0 | 69.9kg s+t



David Pipe

Harry Cobden

Bumper winner who proved she retains her ability after 16 months off when third in maiden at Worcester (23f, good) in September. Unable to match that form twice since, though this trip might be more suitable than 24.7f latest. Cheekpieces back on.

7 MISS GOLDFIRE (IRE) (58) 95
1/8-025 5 10-12 | 68.9kg t



Harry Fry

Lorcan Murtagh

Bumper winner who left her hurdling debut form behind when runner-up in maiden at Worcester in August. Unable to sustain effort when fifth back there (20f, good) last time but she's still one to consider back down in trip on her handicap bow.

8 ASIAN SPICE (29) (C) 95
511840-24 6 10-9 | 67.6kg



Jimmy Frost

Bryony Frost

Landed a brace of 2m course handicaps around this time last year and got back on track when second in 7-runner event at Stratford (16.3f, good) in May. Shaped nicely over C&D last month and she's of major interest.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Bendas Asking, **11-2** Miss Goldfire, **7-1** Asian Spice, **8-1** It's Easy, **17-2** Jaminska, **12-1** Versace Twentyone, **14-1** Micronormous, **14-1** Midnight Ginger

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ASIAN SPICE won twice at this venue last year and with last month's encouraging return under her belt, she's a solid alternative to Bendas Asking, who will doubtless be popular in the betting as a last-time-out winner. Of the rest, Miss Goldfire could improve now handicapping.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ASIAN SPICE 2. BENDAS ASKING 3. MISS GOLDFIRE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Chloe's Court 10-11-4	14-1	Robert Walford	Harry Kimber (3)	7
2022	The Height of Fame 5-10-12	7-2f	Keiran Burke	Gavin Sheehan	15
2021	Martha Brae 6-11-10	15-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	15
2020	Airgead Suas 7-11-8	9-2	Stuart Edmunds	Ciaran Gethings	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.35**HALDON 'CHALLENGER' STAYERS' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £25,000 3m54y (4880 Metres)**

RACE 6

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 BANGERS AND CASH (IRE) (195) (CD)  **97**
01/P83430- 8 11-10 | 74.4kg

Ben Pauling **Kielan Woods**

C&D scorer who largely ran well without winning last term. One to consider on his return for his in-form handler.

2 TIGHTENOURBELTS (IRE) (27) **99**
134P46-36 7 11-9 | 73.9kg



Emma Lavelle

Harry Cobden

Arrives in decent nick over hurdles, sixth of 17 in handicap at Chepstow (19.4f, good to soft) 27 days ago. Can make his presence felt back in this sphere.

3 JEREMY PASS (IRE) (26) (D) t **89**
P2/1P 9 11-8 | 73.5kg



Joseph G. Davies

Mr Charlie Marshall (71b/3kg)

A fairly useful ex-Irish 3m chase winner but he was pulled up in conditions event at Pardubice (34.3f, good) 26 days ago on his yard debut. Tongue strap back on with lots more required.

4 EGBERT (202) (D) v **95**
164/1P12P- 7 11-8 | 73.5kg

Alan King **Tom Cannon**

A dual chase winner at up to 3m last season who was pulled up in Scottish Grand National at Ayr (31.8f, good to soft) final run. Not ruled out back in trip for his return.

5 TEA CLIPPER (IRE) (17) v+t **96**
9223235-4 9 11-7 | 73.0kg



Tom Lacey

Stan Sheppard

Unreliable sort but he posted a creditable fourth of 9 in handicap chase over C&D (good to soft) 17 days ago. Needs to back it up tried in a visor for the 1st time.

6 BEACHCOMBER (FR) (28) **93**
5P41P1-63 6 11-7 | 73.0kg

Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill **Jonjo O'Neill Jr.**

A dual 25f hurdles winner who made an encouraging start in this sphere when third of 9 in handicap chase at Chepstow (23.6f, good to soft) 28 days ago. Can build on it here so one to consider.

7 WISEGUY (IRE) (205) (CD) **96**
2/51466P- 8 11-5 | 72.1kg



Nicky Henderson

Nico de Boinville

C&D winner last November but he signed off for the season when pulled up in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (24f) in April. Yard is going well though so can't be ruled out on his reappearance.

8 STRIKING A POSE (IRE) (17) (C) **96**
P3P11P8-3 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



Joe Tizzard

Brendan Powell

Course winner who resumed with an encouraging third of 13 in handicap hurdle here (23.1f, good to soft) 17 days ago. Very much one to consider now back chasing.

9 COCO MADEMOISELLE (IRE) (42) (BF)  **100**
1/212P12-2 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

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 his debut over fences so he rates a big player off a lenient opening mark.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Coco Mademoiselle, **11-2** Beachcomber, **9-1** Tightenourbelts, **12-1** Wiseguy, **12-1** Tea Clipper, **12-1** Egbert, **14-1** Bangers And Cash, **14-1** Striking A Pose, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A case can be made for a few of these but COCO MADEMOISELLE starts life in handicaps on an attractive mark so looks the way to go. Course-winner Striking A Pose rates the main threat to Dan Skelton's progressive sort, with Tightenourbelts, Beachcomber and Wiseguy all in the mix too in this competitive handicap.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. COCO MADEMOISELLE 2. STRIKING A POSE 3. TIGHTENOURBELTS

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Make Me A Believer 8-11-8	10-1	David Pipe	Jack Tudor	12
2022	Masters Legacy 7-12-0	7-1	Philip Hobbs	Micheal Nolan	11
2021	St Erney 10-10-6	12-1	Jackie du Plessis	Harry Kimber (7)	13
2020	Jersey Bean 7-11-7	11-2jf	Oliver Sherwood	Brendan Powell	18
2019	Orchardstown Cross 8-11-5	5-1jf	Jeremy Scott	Rex Dingle (5)	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.10**SOUTHWEST RAIL SOLUTIONS HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 3yo+
(Rated 0-110) £15,000 2m161y (3370 Metres)**

RACE 7

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good**

A hilly course, galloping in nature. Its right-handed two-mile circuit is laid out in a long oval, with eleven fences and a run-in of around 170 yards. The chase course is on the outside of the hurdles one, but the inside track is often used on the home turn regardless of whether the races are over fences or not. The half-mile home straight is on the rise all the way to the finish and can result in some notably slow-motion finishes, especially on the chase course. Conditions can get extremely testing in midwinter and the exact opposite in drier periods, the course without an artificial watering system.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 **MAGIC SEVEN (IRE) (25)** (D, BF) **94**
4/11FP-075 **6** 12-2 | 77.1kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill  **Jonjo O'Neill Jr.**
Scored a couple of times at Hereford last season but essentially disappointing in handicaps since. Something to prove.


2 **CENTARA (IRE) (198)** (D) **96**
1P/41561- **6** 12-1 | 76.7kg



Paul Nicholls **Harry Cobden**
9/4 and hooded for 1st time, career best when winning 9-runner handicap hurdle at Taunton (19f, good), running on. Off 6 months. Remains with the scope for better based on bumper form.

3 **KING OF THE ROAD (IRE) (183)** (D, BF) **97**
0778911-4 **5** 12-0 | 76.2kg



Ben Pauling  **Kielan Woods**
Latest win in hurdle at Market Rasen in April. Respectable fourth of 13 in handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (19.6f, good, 3/1). Off 6 months. In-form yard should have him tuned up and he may be able to resume progress.


4 **SERGEANT (FR) (22)** (CD) **93**
F254/215R **7** 12-0 | 76.2kg



Anthony Charlton **Tom Cannon**
Resumed winning ways in no uncertain terms at Newton Abbot (16.7f) in August but next effort was tame and he refused to race at Wincanton last time, so seemingly going the wrong way in terms of temperament.

5 **ZODIAC STAR (IRE) (30)** (D) **92**
66142 **4** 11-12 | 75.3kg



Alan King  **Philip Armson (3lb/1kg)**
Winner in hurdle at Stratford in July. 8/1, good second of 9 in handicap hurdle at Ludlow (15.8f, good) 30 days ago, staying on well. Not fully exposed and still seems to be getting better.

6 **IRIS DES ISSARDS (FR) (227)** **96**
42P52- **6** 11-9 | 73.9kg



Kayley Woolacott **Callum Pritchard (7lb/3kg)**
Ex-pointer who is still unexposed as a hurdler and took a forward step when runner-up at Taunton 7 months ago. Will probably need this first outing since, though.

7 **I HAVE A VOICE (IRE) (209)** **89**
3191U/707- **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg



Nigel Hawke **David Noonan**
Won twice in juvenile hurdles last season but has been some way below that level in handicaps and is likely to need this return. Best to look elsewhere.

8 **IMPECUNIOUS (IRE) (10)** **92**
85-237 **5** 11-8 | 73.5kg



Chris Down **Bryan Carver**
Has shown a fair level of form at best over hurdles but doesn't look the most straightforward and recent handicap debut was underwhelming. Others make more appeal.

9 **SUNNINGHILL (33)** **95**
43 **5** 11-8 | 73.5kg



Philip Hobbs & Johnson White  **Micheal Nolan**
Fair form when making the frame in AW minor events on Flat in 2022 and showed something to work on both starts over hurdles, notably when third at Uttoxeter a month ago. Worth a chance to make a winning handicap debut.

10 **JUST GO FOR IT (185)** **94**
P354130-6 **11** 11-7 | 73.0kg



Kevin Bishop **Sean Houlihan**
At the veteran stage and wasn't at her best when last seen 6 months ago. Has left Kevin Bishop and rejoined form yard, but there's a fair bit to prove.

11 **FINAL ENTRY (IRE) (60)** (D, BF) **100**
13 **3** 10-6 | 66.2kg



David Pipe **Tom Bellamy**
Made a winning start over hurdles in a juvenile at Newton Abbot in July and was back on track when third there a couple of months ago. Interesting handicap debutant getting chunks of weight for age.

12 **ALKHATTAAF (513)** **93**
642/68- **6** 10-6 | 66.2kg



Chris Down **Ben French Davis (5lb/2kg)**
Just modest form at best over hurdles and, while still unexposed, he's hard to make a strong case for returning from such a lengthy absence.

13 **POOROLDMACKLEY (IRE) (20)** **86**
799 **5** 10-2 | 64.4kg



Evan Williams **Adam Wedge**
Failed to complete both starts in points and has offered little so far over hurdles. Needs to up his game now switched to handicaps.

13 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Centara, **9-2** Sunninghill, **11-2** Final Entry, **15-2** King of The Road, **10-1** Zodiac Star, **12-1** Iris Des Issards, **14-1** Magic Seven, **22-1** Sergeant, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SUNNINGHILL was fair on the Flat and showed the benefit of his hurdling debut when an encouraging third in a novice at Uttoxeter last time, so he's worth a chance to make a successful early switch to handicaps from a potentially favourable mark. Juvenile Final Entry is an obvious threat and Centara is worthy of interest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SUNNINGHILL 2. FINAL ENTRY 3. CENTARA

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Asian Spice 5-10-13	28-1	Jimmy Frost	Bryony Frost	16
2022	Gerard Mentor 6-11-9	10-3	Kim Bailey	Kai Lenihan (10)	11
2021	Tibbie Dunbar 5-11-10	18-1	Stuart Kittow	Sean Bowen	18
2020	Frankincense 5-11-3	7-2	Chris Down	Harriet Tucker (7)	8
2019	Those Tiger Feet 5-11-9	11-4	Kim Bailey	David Bass	18

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race