

Saturday 9th November

WINCANTON



12.35 BETMGM EBF 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (3) 1m7f50y (3060 Metres)

RACE 1 **(4) SORCELEUR | (5) STAFF SERGEANT LEN | (2) HOLESHOT**

1.09 BETMGM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2½m35y (4060 Metres)

RACE 2 **(3) TEDLEY | (1) BEAU BALKO | (4) KILLER KANE**

1.45 BETMGM RICHARD BARBER MEMORIAL MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 2m5f82y (4300 Metres)

RACE 3 **(10) LARCHMONT LASS | (11) MERMAIDS CAVE | (2) PRETENDING**

2.23 BOODLES RISING STARS NOVICES' CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 2½m35y (4060 Metres)

RACE 4 **(4) INSURRECTION | (5) SOUL ICON | (3) HANDSTANDS**

2.55 BETMGM ELITE HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 1m7f50y (3060 Metres)

RACE 5 **(3) BRENTFORD HOPE | (1) RUBAUD | (2) ASPIRE TOWER**

3.30 63rd BADGER BEER HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 3m1f30y (5060 Metres)

RACE 6 **(6) THE CHANGING MAN | (9) LORD ACCORD | (2) REMASTERED**

4.05 BETMGM OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (2) 1m7f50y (3060 Metres)

RACE 7 **(4) SWINGIN SAFARI | (2) QUAVISTE | (3) SERGEANT FURY**

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.

12.35**BETMGM EBF 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (3) 4, 5 and 6yo £15,000 1m7f50y (3060 Metres)**

RACE 1

Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 CLINTON LANE (19) 76
0791P-5P1 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Mark Gillard

Fergus Gillard

Yet to better modest form in this sphere but managed to double career tally after 5 months off in 7-runner Plumpton novice (15.9f) 19 days ago. Looks vulnerable under a penalty, however.

2 HOLESHOT (IRE) (34) 78
4 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Tim Vaughan

Alan Johns

Maiden pointer, fell last time (Apr 21). Bred for longer trips and shaped in kind when fourth of 13 in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (15.8f, good to soft) on Rules debut 5 weeks ago. Type to do better further down the line but claims of making the frame nevertheless.

3 ROXHILL (IRE) 72
5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Seamus Mullins

Daniel Sansom (3lb/1kg)

€9,000 3-y-o, Ocovango gelding. Dam unraced. Third on first of 2 starts in point bumpers, unplaced last time (Feb 2024). Betting should prove a useful guide on hurdles debut.

4 SORCELEUR (FR) (18) (BF) 100
3315-2 4 11-0 | 69.9kg t



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

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 18 days ago. Outstanding claims. Engaged 1.15 Exeter Friday.

5 STAFF SERGEANT LEN (GER) (243) 77
P25- 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Anthony Charlton

Ben Jones

Nutan gelding. Brother to fair hurdler Sergeant. Much improved from debut when second in a Fontwell bumper (17.7f) in January. Failed by a long chalk to match that at Stratford (16.3f) in March but no great surprise to see a better showing now hurdling.

6 TILL YOU CAN'T (IRE) (13) 70
558P 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Daisy Hitchins

Mr Robbie David (7lb/3kg)

Pulled up in point and little show in bumpers/maiden hurdles.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-6 Sorceleur, 11-2 Holeshot, 6-1 Staff Sergeant Len, 7-1 Clinton Lane, 22-1 Roxhill, 80-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SORCELEUR stands out on what he achieved in bumpers and following a promising second on return/hurdles debut at Exeter 18 days ago, he looks to have been found an excellent opportunity of going one place better. Staff Sergeant Len on hurdles bow and Holeshot can fill the places.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SORCELEUR 2. STAFF SERGEANT LEN 3. HOLESHOT

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Meatloaf 4-11-0	10-11f Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	9
2022	Hugos New Horse 5-11-0	2-7f Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	4
2021	Knappers Hill 5-11-4	1-10f Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	9
2020	Flic Ou Voyou 6-11-8	1-25f Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	4
2019	Edwardstone 5-10-12	6-1 Alan King	Tom Cannon	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.09**BETMGM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP CHASE (3)
4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £20,000 2½m35y (4060 Metres)**

RACE 2

Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 **BEAU BALKO (FR) (20)** **98**
5/522133-3 6 11-13 | 75.7kg



Paul Nicholls

Ben Bromley (3lb/1kg)

Fairly useful hurdler and ran to similar level when opening his chase account at the fourth attempt at Musselburgh in February. Likely to have won again but for a mistake 2 out at Ayr in April and could well be sharper for his recent return at Kempton. Respected.

2 **DREAMING BLUE (204) (D)** **96**
3/5833311- 7 11-13 | 75.7kg



Anthony Honeyball

Chad Bament (8lb/4kg)

Capitalised on a reduced mark with plenty to spare at Fontwell (17.8f, heavy) in March and followed up back there (21.6f) 3 weeks later. Reappears from an 8 lb higher mark but has gone well fresh before.

3 **TEDLEY (7) (C)** **100**
103-43511 5 11-12 | 75.3kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies

Jamie Brace (3lb/1kg)

Different proposition since switched to chasing, improving again to make it 2 from 2 in this sphere in 7-runner handicap at Wetherby (19.4f, good, 6/4) last week. Nudged up 6 lb but open to further progress.

4 **KILLER KANE (IRE) (20) (D, BF)** **97**
533800-43 9 11-10 | 74.4kg



Joe Tizzard

Callum Pritchard (5lb/2kg)

Showed plenty of ability remains when third of 8 in handicap chase at Kempton (24f, good to soft) 20 days ago. Blinkers on for 1st time and must enter calculations off the same mark.

5 **DUKE OF LUCKLEY (IRE) (17) (D)** **95**
3221-6221 7 11-2 | 70.8kg



Martin Keighley

Daire McConville (5lb/2kg)

Landed a weak 5-runner handicap chase (15/8) at Southwell (15.8f, good) 17 days ago, well ridden. Back up in trip and looks vulnerable in a deeper race here.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Tedley, **11-4** Beau Balko, **11-2** Duke of Luckley, **13-2** Killer Kane, **7-1** Dreaming Blue

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TEDLEY is clearly a different proposition now chasing and this looks a good opportunity to maintain his unbeaten record. Beau Balko could well be sharper for last month's return at Kempton and is second choice.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TEDLEY 2. BEAU BALKO 3. KILLER KANE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Huelgoat 6-11-10	4-1	Paul Nicholls	Freddie Gingell (6)	12
2022	Don Alvaro 6-10-5	7-2jf	Paul Nicholls	Angus Cheleda (3)	8
2021	Kauto The King 7-12-2	5-2f	Colin Tizzard	Harry Kimber (6)	6
2020	Not A Role Model 8-11-12	16-1	Sam Thomas	Jordan Nailor	10
2019	Keep Moving 7-11-5	5-1	Philip Hobbs	Sean Houlihan (3)	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.45

RACE 3

BETMGM RICHARD BARBER MEMORIAL MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 4yo+ fillies and mares £35,000 2m5f82y (4300 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Strong**

- 1 SABRINA (IRE) (182)** (CD) s+t **96**

231/4381-P **9** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Paul Nicholls **Jay Tidball** (5lb/2kg)

Produced a career best refitted with cheekpieces when winning 11-runner C&D handicap in April. Merely added to her patchy record when pulled up at Haydock the following month. Has had wind surgery ahead of reappearance. Cobden on the yard's other runner.
- 2 PRETENDING (IRE) (22)** **98**

F143221-1 **5** 11-8 | 73.5kg

Lucy Wadham **Gavin Sheehan**

Ended last season with a win in a big-field event at Cheltenham (2½m) in April and improved again to score on her Uttoxeter reappearance 22 days ago. Raised another 6 lb but further progress can't be ruled out in her current mood.
- 3 ALL THE GLORY (112)** s **99**

24251-F56 **7** 11-7 | 73.0kg

Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill **Richie McLernon**

Improved when taking the EBF Mares' Final at Newbury (2½m, good to soft) in March. A bit better than the result in a couple of warm handicaps at Market Rasen over the summer and returns from a break with the yard going well. Not discounted.
- 4 SPACE VOYAGE (176)** (D) s+t **99**

1/7357P1-5 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Olly Murphy **Lewis Stones** (3lb/1kg)

Bounced back to form to win a 2½m Perth handicap in April and creditable fifth of 14 at Aintree the following month. Can be competitive if fully primed after 6 months off.
- 5 PORTER IN THE PARK (IRE) (32)** **99**

631-21255 **7** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Emma Lavelle **Joe Anderson** (3lb/1kg)

Pair of wins over 3m+ earlier in the year. Shaped as if better for first outing in 10 weeks when fifth over 25f at Huntingdon last month but this test might be sharper than ideal.
- 6 GOOD LOOK CHARM (FR) (226)** (CD) t **98**

2F/134486- **8** 11-1 | 70.3kg

Anthony Honeyball **Rex Dingle**

Below par when last seen in the spring but a revival can't be ruled out given that she won this race on last year's reappearance, albeit off 8 lb lower.
- 7 GREYVAL (FR) (21)** (BF) **98**

18/664-346 **5** 11-0 | 69.9kg

Fergal O'Brien **Jonathan Burke**

Dual winner in her juvenile season but has drawn a blank since, finishing last of 6 in 2m Stratford handicap last month. Remains to be seen whether a significant step up in trip sparks an upturn in her fortunes.
- 8 THE HEIGHT OF FAME (26)** (CD, BF) s+t **98**

4516-1234 **7** 10-13 | 69.4kg

Keiran Burke **Brendan Powell**

Stuck on 21.5f Newton Abbot reappearance in July. Went close at Worcester the following month but not in the same form the last twice.
- 9 BETHPAGE (IRE) (31)** (D, BF) **96**

6341-1132 **6** 10-12 | 68.9kg

Emma Lavelle **Tom Bellamy**

Progressive mare who completed the hat-trick in good style at Southwell in June. Good efforts in defeat twice since and likely to be in the thick of things again.
- 10 LARCHMONT LASS (IRE) (203)** (CD, BF) h **100**

21/524145- **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg

Paul Nicholls **Harry Cobden**

Useful listed bumper winner and came good over hurdles in a C&D novice in February. Not seen to best effect in a couple of handicaps in the spring and very interesting on this return to action after wind surgery.

- 11 MERMAIDS CAVE (IRE) (11)** **99**

37-111541 **5** 10-10 | 68.0kg

James Owen **Callum Pritchard** (7lb/3kg)

Landed a fourth win since switching to Jame Owen when leading late on over 19.5f at Bangor (heavy) 11 days ago. Just as effective on a sounder surface. Should give another good account.
- 12 STRONG BELLE (21)** **97**

62PF21-P5 **6** 10-7 | 66.7kg

Nigel Twiston-Davies **James Turner** (7lb/3kg)

Bagged 2m mares' maiden at Bangor in February but only fifth of 6 on her completed start in handicaps since. Others are more obvious.
- 13 PURE THEATRE (IRE) (46)** (D, BF) t **96**

1/31363-68 **6** 10-5 | 65.8kg

Anthony Honeyball **Ben Godfrey**

Tasted success twice in mares' hurdles in spring 2023 but has been more miss than hit since. Labouring a long way out switched to fences at Fontwell in September and quickly returns to the smaller obstacles.
- 14 MA BELLE NOIRE (180)** b+t **99**

3/213115-6 **7** 10-5 | 65.8kg

Harry Fry **Bryan Carver**

Improved model over hurdles in the first half of last season. Off 6 months prior to well held on her Hereford chase debut in May and has had another 6-month layoff ahead of this return to hurdles. Might be best watched.

14 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-2 Larchmont Lass, **11-2** Mermaids Cave, **11-2** Pretending, **13-2** Bethpage, **16-1** All The Glory, **16-1** Porter In The Park, **20-1** The Height of Fame, **20-1** Strong Belle, **20-1** Sabrina, **22-1** Space Voyage, **22-1** Greyval, **22-1** Good Look Charm, **33-1** Ma Belle Noire, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Two defeats in the spring shouldn't be taken to suggest LARCHMONT LASS can't do some damage from this sort of mark and she can make a successful return from wind surgery back at the scene of her novice win. Mermaids Cave is yet another who has thrived for the switch to James Owen and is next on the list ahead of Pretending and Bethpage.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LARCHMONT LASS 2. MERMAIDS CAVE 3. PRETENDING

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Good Look Charm	7-10-10	18-1	Anthony Honeyball	Rex Dingle	8
2022	Wynn House	7-11-6	7-2	Alan King	Tom Cannon	5
2021	Wynn House	6-10-7	10-3	Alan King	Tom Cannon	7
2020	The White Mouse	6-10-1	14-1	Lucy Wadham	Richard Johnson	14
2019	Misty Bloom	6-10-3	9-2	Emma Lavelle	Ben Jones (5)	14

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.23**BOODLES RISING STARS NOVICES' CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+
£75,000 2½m35y (4060 Metres)**

RACE 4

Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 BOOMBAWN (IRE) (28) (D) 97
110-13203 7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Useful hurdler who made the perfect start over fences when scoring at Warwick in May. Decent efforts in defeat since, including back from a break when third in listed novice chase at Chepstow (19.5f, good) latest. Not out of things.

2 GLYNN (IRE) (13) (BF) 99
U-3F31112 10 11-4 | 71.7kg



Anthony Honeyball

Rex Dingle

Lightly raced for his age and really got the hang of this game in recent months, completing hat-trick in 4-runner Newton Abbot novice (21f) in September. Posted another solid effort when runner-up in C&D handicap last month but is in n deeper company now.

3 HANDSTANDS (IRE) (241) (D) 97
1116- 5 11-4 | 71.7kg



Ben Pauling

Ben Jones

Won on sole outing in points before landing his first 3 starts (at up to 20.3f) over hurdles for Ben Pauling last term. Limitations exposed in Baring Bingham Novices' at Cheltenham but he's an exciting recruit to this discipline.

4 INSURRECTION (IRE) (28) 97
4/12331-2 7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Dual winner over timber who made an encouraging start over the larger obstacles when second of 5 in listed novice chase at Chepstow (19.4f, good, 9/2) 28 days ago. Likely more to come yet and holds strong claims.

5 SOUL ICON (112) (D) 100
4U3422-22 7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Keiran Burke

**Tom Bellamy**

Multiple winner over hurdles who has progressed steadily in this sphere, producing a career best when close second in Summer Plate at Market Rasen (21.4f, good to firm) in July. Goes well fresh and is not taken lightly here.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Handstands, 3-1 Insurrection, 10-3 Soul Icon, 5-1 Boombawn, 11-1 Glynn

TIMEFORM VIEW:

INSURRECTION bettered his hurdles form at the first time of asking in this sphere at Chepstow last month and it's likely we haven't seen the best of him yet. He is marginally preferred to Soul Icon, who has plenty of chasing experience and only narrowly failed to land a valuable handicap at Market Rasen in the summer. Chase-debutant Handstands is also much respected in an intriguing contest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. INSURRECTION 2. SOUL ICON 3. HANDSTANDS

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Knappers Hill 7-11-4	4-5f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	6
2022	Hang In There 8-11-4	5-1	Emma Lavelle	Tom Bellamy	5
2021	Captain Tom Cat 6-11-2	6-4	Dr Richard Newland	Charlie Hammond	3
2020	Ga Law 4-10-7	2-1	Jamie Snowden	Daryl Jacob	3
2019	Reserve Tank 5-11-2	4-5f	Colin Tizzard	Robbie Power	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.55**BETMGM ELITE HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+ £70,000**
1m7f50y (3060 Metres)

RACE 5

Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 RUBAUD (FR) (20) (CD) 98
1/112456-1 6 11-8 | 73.5kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Made up into a smart hurdler last term, taking a Kempton listed race before following up in this race 3 weeks later. Limitations exposed slightly at a higher level to end the season but he's charting a similar path this term having produced a career best when successful in that Kempton race again.

2 ASPIRE TOWER (IRE) (25) 94
3342F-1 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



Henry de Bromhead, Ireland

D. J. O'Keefe

Well prepared following 8 months off when landing 4-runner minor hurdle at Punchestown last month. That snapped a losing sequence stretching back to 2020 and he'll need to step up on that level of form here.

3 BRENTFORD HOPE (193) (CD) 100
1/613211-2 7 11-2 | 70.8kg t



Harry Derham

Paul O'Brien

Talented on the Flat and enhanced excellent strike rate over hurdles with a brace of handicap wins in March, Even better form when runner-up off top-weight at Punchestown a month later and that makes him a major player.

4 FOREVER WILLIAM (S) 80
P/16-7730P 6 11-2 | 70.8kg s



Dan Skelton

Non Runner

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 both starts since. NON RUNNER.

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-11 Rubaud, 13-8 Brentford Hope, 13-2 Aspire Tower

TIMEFORM VIEW:

BRENTFORD HOPE showed he's still on the up as a hurdler when a cracking second at Punchestown in April and, while he doesn't have the race fitness last year's winner Rubaud has on his side, the 6 lb he receives may prove to be pivotal.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. BRENTFORD HOPE 2. RUBAUD 3. ASPIRE TOWER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Rubaud 5-11-8	1-2f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	4
2022	Knappers Hill 6-11-2	11-8jf	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	4
2021	Sceau Royal 9-11-6	4-5f	Alan King	Daryl Jacob	6
2020	Sceau Royal 8-11-0	4-5f	Alan King	Daryl Jacob	6
2019	Fusil Raffles 4-11-3	4-7f	Nicky Henderson	Daryl Jacob	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race











3.30**63rd BADGER BEER HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 4yo+ £80,000 3m1f30y (5060 Metres)**

RACE 6

Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Even**

1	AL DANCER (FR) (196) 10/13327- 11 12-0 76.2kg	s+t	95
	Sam Thomas Made a winning seasonal reappearance at Chepstow last term and followed that with a series of creditable efforts in defeat. Well held in a Sandown Grade 2 when last seen in April, though, and he looks vulnerable under top-weight here.	Callum Pritchard (71lb/3kg)	
2	REMASTERED (13) (C, D) 21PP/7PP-1 11 11-5 72.1kg	t	95
	David Pipe Last season was a write-off but he's smart on his day and proved that plenty of ability remains when recently scoring here (26.7f, good) on return from a 6-month absence. Remains on a good mark up 5 lb and should make his presence felt.	Tom Bellamy	
3	FORWARD PLAN (IRE) (210) 132/61213- 8 10-12 68.9kg	t	96
	Anthony Honeyball Progressive chaser who raised his game when outpointing Al Dancer in the Coral Trophy at Kempton (3m, soft) in February. Subsequent third in a big Aintree handicap was no backward step and he'll be a threat if fully tuned-up for this.	Ben Godfrey	
4	THE BIG BREAKAWAY (IRE) (272) 2PF/SPP66- 9 10-9 67.6kg		95
	Anthony Charlton Now 13 lb lower compared to when finishing second in the Welsh National at Chepstow in December 2022 but hasn't come close to matching that form in 7 subsequent appearances. Opposable starting out for new yard here following 9 months off.	Ben Jones	
5	RISKINTHEGROUND (IRE) (14) 5-1115133 7 10-8 67.1kg	t	95
	Dan Skelton Much improved over fences since dropped back in trip, bagging his fourth success at Bangor in September. Posted another good effort when third of 11 at Cheltenham (19.8f, good) recently but more needed now upped in trip.	Harry Skelton	
6	THE CHANGING MAN (IRE) (238) (BF) 282/2U442- 7 10-4 65.3kg	t	100
	Joe Tizzard Progressive over hurdles and further step forward when splitting Stay Away Fay and Grey Dawning on chase debut at Exeter last November. Back on the up when second at Uttoxeter (3m, heavy) on final start of last term (since undergone a wind op) and he's a major player in a first-time tongue strap.	Brendan Powell	
7	MOFASA (203) 430/2155P- 8 10-4 65.3kg	t	95
	Paul Nicholls Dual hurdles winner for Michael Scudamore and positive start over fences for this yard last term, building on debut promise in this sphere when landing a 3m Huntingdon handicap last November. Well held in 3 subsequent starts but he is not one to write off.	Harry Cobden	
8	LORD BADDESLEY (IRE) (238) 163/37274- 9 10-3 64.9kg	t	95
	Anthony Honeyball Successful over hurdles/fences at Plumpton in 2022/23. Good second of 8 in a 22.5f Newbury handicap chase last December but just respectable efforts at Kempton next 2 starts. Tongue strap enlisted on this return/debut for new yard.	Rex Dingle	
9	LORD ACCORD (IRE) (23) (CD) 4P56-4311 9 10-2 64.4kg	s+t	98
	Neil Mulholland Rather went off the boil last season but belatedly cashed in on a lower hurdles mark returning from 8 weeks off at Sedgefield in September. Followed up in similarly emphatic fashion back chasing over C&D (good) last month, for which a 5 lb rise looks fair. Key player.	Richie McLernon	
10	GUSTAVIAN (IRE) (215) 7246U343- 9 10-2(9-12) 64.4kg (62.6kg)	t	93
	Anthony Honeyball Sole success over fences to date came in 3-runner affair at Exeter back in February 2023 and he's 4 lb 'wrong' at the weights.	Gavin Sheehan	

10 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 The Changing Man, **4-1** Lord Accord, **11-2** Mofasa, **17-2** Remastered, **9-1** Lord Baddesley, **11-1** Forward Plan, **14-1** Riskintheground, **22-1** Al Dancer, **25-1** Gustavian, **28-1** The Big Breakaway

TIMEFORM VIEW:

THE CHANGING MAN pulled a long way clear of the rest when chasing home one who rather had the run of things at Uttoxeter in March and, likely to do better still in his second season over fences, he gets the nod. The hat-trick seeking Lord Accord is next on the list ahead of Remastered, while Mofasa needs to get back on track but he will be a danger to all if able to do so off this reduced mark.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. THE CHANGING MAN 2. LORD ACCORD 3. REMASTERED****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	Blackjack Magic 8-10-2	5-1	Anthony Honeyball	Rex Dingle	11
2022	Frodon 10-12-0	9-4f	Paul Nicholls	Bryony Frost	11
2021	Rocco 8-10-10	40-1	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Jordan Nailor (3)	13
2020	El Presente 7-11-8	11-1	Kim Bailey	David Bass	13
2019	Give Me A Copper 9-11-1	5-1cf	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.05**BETMGM OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (2) 4 and 5yo
£15,000 1m7f50y (3060 Metres)**

RACE 7

Going: **Good**

Right handed, flat and essentially sharp in character. One of the sharpest tests in the country when the ground is firmer than good, hold-up tactics usually counter-productive, but on very testing going the course can provide a surprisingly thorough test, often resulting in strung-out fields and a low percentage of completions, especially on the hurdles course, perhaps a cause of its fundamentally tight nature ensuring races are well run regardless of conditions, front runners often overdoing things. The fences are stiff and claim plenty of casualties, with the three in the home straight coming so close together that it often proves difficult to come from behind.

Pace Information: **Very Weak****1 LOCK STOCK 83**

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Ben Pauling

Ben Jones

Jack Hobbs gelding. Dam (c127/h104) 2½m-25f hurdle/chase winner. Fifth sole start in point bumpers (Apr 20). Others are more appealing.

2 QUAVISTE (FR) 92

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

€90,000 3-y-o, Authorized gelding. Dam unraced half-sister to smart hurdler (stayed 2½m) Colonel Mustard. One for shortlist on debut given connections.

3 SERGEANT FURY (IRE) 88

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Harry Derham

Paul O'Brien

€20,000 3-y-o, £38,000 4-y-o, Diamond Boy gelding. Dam (h72), ran once over hurdles, half-sister to fairly useful chaser (stayed 3¼m) Tallow For Coal. Won sole start in Irish points (May 12). One to note.

4 SWINGIN SAFARI (IRE) (204) 100

2- 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Once-raced maiden. 4/1, second of 10 in bumper at Ballinrobe (15.8f, soft) on NH debut. Plenty of promise on debut and has left Sam Curling and joined a top British yard since, so he's the one to beat back from 6 months off.

5 THE SAINTED CANARY (IRE) (181) t 88

4-2 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Jeremy Scott

Lorcan Williams

Half-brother to fair chaser Tractor Fred and built on debut when runner-up at Plumpton 6 months ago. May do better again, so hard to rule out. Tongue tied.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:**6-4** Swingin Safari, **10-3** Quaviste, **5-1** The Sainted Canary, **11-2** Sergeant Fury, **16-1** Lock Stock**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

SWINGIN SAFARI has joined a top yard on the back of a debut full of promise and he's taken to open his account at the second attempt. Quaviste is a notable newcomer on paper and Sergeant Fury deserves respect having won a point.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. SWINGIN SAFARI 2. QUAVISTE 3. SERGEANT FURY****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race