

Sunday 27th October

AINTREE



12.40 BARRIE WELLS TRUST BOX4KIDS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (3)
3m149y (4960 Metres)

RACE 1 **(8) SKYJACK HIJACK | (2) LIHYAN | (6) CHRIS COOL**

1.15 JASON SALLEH MEMORIAL NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 1m7f176y (3180 Metres)

RACE 2 **(5) IMPERIAL SAINT | (4) GOODWIN | (7) MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE**

1.50 VIRGIN BET OLD ROAN LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 2m3f200y (4010 Metres)

RACE 3 **(2) STAGE STAR | (4) MINELLA DRAMA | (1) AHOY SENOR**

2.25 VIRGIN BET VIEUX LION ROUGE VETERANS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 3m210y (5020 Metres)

RACE 4 **(5) TORN AND FRAYED | (6) COPPERHEAD | (3) CAP DU NORD**

3.00 VIRGIN BET EVERY SATURDAY MONEY BACK MAIDEN HURDLE (3) 2½m (4020 Metres)

RACE 5 **(3) TAKT DE TOUQUES | (2) SUNRAY SHADOW | (1) EMIYN**

3.35 VIRGIN BET DAILY EXTRA PLACES HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 2½m (4020 Metres)

RACE 6 **(9) LONG DRAW | (2) KAMSINAS | (7) LAVIDA ADIVA**

4.08 RACING TV MARES' OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (2) 2m209y (3410 Metres)

RACE 7 **(6) CLAIM DU BRIZAIS | (5) SIOG GEAL | (7) KAPABILITY**

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

BARRIE WELLS TRUST BOX4KIDS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £18,000 3m149y (4960 Metres)

RACE 1




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

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.


Pace Information: **Very Weak**

- 1**




IDEM (FR) (31) (BF) **95**
 2/114F5-12 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg
 Lucinda Russell *Patrick Wadge (31b/1kg)*
 Posted a career best when readily landing 15-runner handicap hurdle at Kelso in May and backed up that improvement shown returning from 5 months off when runner-up at Perth (3m, soft), an error at the second last probably crucial. Can go well again up 3 lb. Engaged 2.55 Cheltenham Saturday.

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- 2**




LIHYAN (IRE) (21) **99**
 24-186511 **6** 11-12 | 75.3kg
 Rebecca Menzies *Aaron Anderson*
 Enjoying a good campaign, following up from Worcester (23f) with another improved performance to take Uttoxeter contest under this rider 3 weeks ago, doing well to come from last to first in a falsely-run race. Got to be respected in hat-trick bid.

h
- 3**




BRIDGE NORTH (IRE) (185) **99**
 F/PP4PF3U- **8** 11-11 | 74.8kg
 Henry Daly *Alice Stevens*
 Went off the rails over fences but went with much more zest after the fitting of a visor/return to hurdling before taking a late fall at Doncaster (3m) in February when looking set to win. Failed to complete once again at Perth when last seen and clearly risky on return.

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- 4**




INVICTUS WORLD (FR) (71) **96**
 17/414U-3F **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
 Gerald Stephen Quinn, Ireland *Dylan Johnston*
 Downpatrick maiden hurdle winner last season and ran well after 9 months off, especially as he was checked when coming with a threatening effort, at Hexham in June. Fell at Perth 2 months later and following a similar absence has stamina to prove up in class now.

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- 5**




CITY DERBY (IRE) (31) **96**
 84-211113 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg
 Lizzie Quinlan *Peter Kavanagh (31b/1kg)*
 Completed a Cartmel 4-timer in staying handicaps this summer and ran at least as well in defeat when third at Perth (Idem second) last month. Clearly needs to pull out a bit more from current mark.

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- 6**




CHRIS COOL (186) (D) **99**
 U6/123313- **8** 11-1 | 70.3kg
 Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero *Toby Wynne (31b/1kg)*
 Generally solid record over hurdles and got back on the up when seeing off an unexposed rival (pair clear) at Huntingdon (25f) in April. Good third at Ludlow final start and respected on return having won first time up last season.


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- 7**



POLISH (62) (D) **93**
 2273P2-PP **9** 11-1 | 70.3kg
 James Moffatt *Leah Noreci (101b/5kg)*
 Placed in a 3m Southwell hunter in March, but fell at Cheltenham next time and having left Fergal O'Brien went with no encouragement back handicapping at Cartmel 9 weeks ago. Hard to fancy back hurdling.

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- 8**



SKYJACK HIJACK (IRE) (31) **100**
 7-23211 **6** 11-0 | 69.9kg
 Jennie Candlish  *William Shanahan*
 Progressing well for forcing tactics, following up his Cartmel win with a clear-cut success in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Perth (3m, soft) 4 weeks ago, drawing clear from 2 out. This is a step up in class after a 10 lb rise but he looks sure to go well again.

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TIMEFORM VIEW:

SKYJACK HIJACK and Lihyan are chasing hat-tricks and look the pair to focus on, with Jennie Candlish's lightly-raced hurdler selected. He took a big step forward when making all at Perth last month, that performance suggesting there is even better to come. Lihyan has more miles on the clock but has built up a good strike rate since the spring and can go well again. The returning Chris Cool is another to consider.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SKYJACK HIJACK 2. LIHYAN 3. CHRIS COOL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Equinus 5-11-3	5-2f	Nigel Twiston-Davies	James Turner (10)	11
2022	Honor Grey 7-11-7	9-1	Ben Pauling	Luca Morgan (3)	13
2021	Uno Mas 7-10-0	11-4f	Christian Williams	Ellis Collier (10)	14
2020	Dell' Arca 11-11-10	6-1	David Pipe	Fergus Gillard (6)	9
2019	Same Circus 8-11-2	40-1	Donald McCain	Theo Gillard (8)	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Lihyan, **9-2** Skyjack Hijack, **5-1** Idem, **11-2** Chris Cool, **8-1** Invictus World, **17-2** City Derby, **14-1** Bridge North, **33-1** Polish

1.15

RACE 2

JASON SALLEH MEMORIAL NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £20,000 1m7f176y (3180 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Good (Good to Soft in places)**

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 DENSORTH (IRE) (198) (D) **97**
15211P/1P- **7** 11-9 | 73.9kg t

**Ben Pauling** **Ben Jones**

Bumper winner who made light of an 11-month absence when adding a third hurdles victory to his tally at Doncaster (16.6f, heavy) in March. Pulled at the Grand National meeting on final start in April but goes chasing on return with his yard going very nicely. One to note.

2 PARISENORE (FR) (48) (D) **98**
227-51923 **8** 11-9 | 73.9kg

**Nicky Richards** **Danny McMenamin**

Did the job well when opening chase account at Perth (2½m, good to firm) in June and arrives here on the back of a couple of solid placed efforts over the same C&D. Fact he's fit and in form ought to county for plenty here.

3 PETIT TONNERRE (FR) (119) **96**
244507-79 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg

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

Useful hurdler at his best who didn't convince with his jumping tried chasing last season. Largely below his best over hurdles subsequently, latterly at Cartmel in June but returns to chasing potentially very well treated if he's improved in the jumping department.

4 GOODWIN (IRE) (218) (D) **100**
31/2131- **6** 11-3 | 71.2kg ★

**Chris Gordon** **Rex Dingle**

Fairly useful bumper winner who quickly reached a similar level in novice hurdles, again displaying a good attitude to make it 2 wins from 4 starts at Newbury (16.3f) in March. Boasts a positive profile now handicapping over fences and interesting if the market spoke in his favour.

5 IMPERIAL SAINT (FR) (188) (D) **99**
12331- **6** 11-3 | 71.2kg

**Philip Hobbs & Johnson White** **Micheal Nolan**

£40,000 purchase after an Irish point win. Followed up on 2m Ludlow hurdle debut for new yard in November and having made frame next 3 starts, he improved for the step up in trip when landing 10-runner Ffos Las handicap (20f) in April. Good prospect now chasing.

6 HIDALGO DE L'ISLE (FR) (41) **96**
5/124-3012 **7** 11-2 | 70.8kg

**Donald McCain** **Brian Hughes**

Dual hurdles winner who showed improved form to make a winning chase debut at Newton Abbot (16.3f) in August and he matched that level when runner-up at Worcester (16.5f) 6 weeks ago. This looks tougher but he's going the right way.

7 MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE (IRE) (14) (D, BF) **98**
11499P-1U **7** 11-2 | 70.8kg

**Nigel Twiston-Davies** **Tom Bellamy**

Fairly useful handicap hurdler around 2m and fine start over fences back from 6 months off when scoring at Stratford (17f) in September. Looked set to play a hand in finish when unseating 3 out at Ffos Las (2m, soft) 2 weeks ago and respected for stable in great order.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Goodwin, 9-2 Imperial Saint, 5-1 Parisenore, 11-2 Moveit Like Minnie, 13-2 Densworth, 7-1 Hidalgo De L'isle, 8-1 Petit Tonnerre

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A steadily improving sort over hurdles, IMPERIAL SAINT has the hallmarks of one who will make up in to an even better chaser this season (former point winner) so could be worth siding with on seasonal bow before market clues. Goodwin looked a likeable straightforward type himself over hurdles and is another to note on return. Fit and in-form pair Moveit Like Minnie and Parisenore are others to consider.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. IMPERIAL SAINT 2. GOODWIN 3. MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023 **Master Chewy** 6-10-10 2-1 Nigel Twiston-Davies Sam Twiston-Davies 5

SMART STATS:

23% Nigel Twiston-Davies's strike rate with chasers at up to 2m3f (saddles: **MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE**)

22% Nicky Richards's strike rate in early season (saddles: **PARISENORE**)

21% Chris Gordon's strike rate with chasers at up to 2m3f (saddles: **GOODWIN**)

1.50

**VIRGIN BET OLD ROAN LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 2)
(1) 4yo+ £80,000 2m3f200y (4010 Metres)**







RACE 3



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

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.

Pace Information: **Even**

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | 
AHOY SENOR (IRE) (199) (C) 98
F2/PP4362- 9 11-12 75.3kg
Lucinda Russell <i>Derek Fox</i>
Top-class chaser on his day with a fine record here (Grade 1 winner over hurdles/fences) and ended last term with an excellent ½-length second of 7 in Bowl Chase at this course (25f, soft, 17/2). Record fresh not great but still warrants plenty of respect. |
| 2 | 
STAGE STAR (IRE) (227) (D) 100
21115/1P5- 8 11-6 72.6kg
Paul Nicholls <i>Harry Cobden</i>
Won Grade 1 Golden Miller at 2023 Festival and took form up another notch with victory in Paddy Power Gold Cup at Cheltenham on return last season. Can't have been right when pulled up there on New Year's Day before not disgraced in Ryanair final start. Goes well fresh so big run expected. |
| 3 | 
HITMAN (FR) (183) (D, BF) 99
236/09283- 8 11-0 69.9kg
Paul Nicholls <i>Freddie Gingell</i> (3lb/1kg)
Failed to deliver last season but starts the new campaign off a fair mark and went close in this on his comeback 2 years ago. |
| 4 | 
MINELLA DRAMA (IRE) (198) (D) 98
113/2372P- 9 10-6(10-5) 66.2kg (65.8kg)
Donald McCain <i>Brian Hughes</i>
Smart performer who returned with a good second in this 12 months ago. Just the one decent effort after but this may be the time to catch him. (1 lb out of the handicap). |
| 5 | 
UNEXPECTED PARTY (FR) (199) (D) 98
3/155491P- 9 10-6(10-3) 66.2kg (64.9kg)
Dan Skelton  <i>Harry Skelton</i>
Emerged with credit against some of the top-flight British novices of 2022/23 and bounced back to best when landing Grand Annual Chase at Cheltenham last season. Might have found Red Rum coming too soon here final start and not taken lightly despite being 3 lb out of the handicap. |

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-8 Stage Star, **4-1** Minella Drama, **9-2** Ahoy Senior, **11-2** Hitman, **16-1** Unexpected Party

TIMEFORM VIEW:

STAGE STAR was an impressive winner of the Paddy Power Gold Cup at Cheltenham on his comeback run last season and this looks another good starting point for him. Minella Drama was a good second in this last year off a higher mark so may emerge as the biggest threat.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. STAGE STAR 2. MINELLA DRAMA 3. AHOY SENOR

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Jetoile 8-11-0	25-1	Ryan Potter	Daryl Jacob	11
2022	Riders On the Storm 9-10-3	16-1	Richard Hobson	Brian Hughes	8
2021	Allmankind 5-11-10	9-4f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	8
2020	Nuts Well 9-11-10	18-1	Ann Hamilton	Danny McMenamin (3)	12
2019	Forest Bihan 8-10-4	9-2	Brian Ellison	Brian Hughes	5

SMART STATS:

- 2** Paul Nicholls's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 2 runners saddles: **STAGE STAR**)
- 22%** Paul Nicholls's strike rate with chasers at up to 2m3f (saddles: **STAGE STAR and HITMAN**)
- 21%** Paul Nicholls's strike rate in early season (saddles: **STAGE STAR and HITMAN**)

2.25

RACE 4

VIRGIN BET VIEUX LION ROUGE VETERANS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 10yo+ (Rated 0-150) £35,000 3m210y (5020 Metres)



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

SMART STATS:

£18.33 Evan Williams's profit to a £1 level stake with only one runner on the card (chases) (saddles: **DIOL KER**)

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 RAPPER (183) (D) **95**
 SP/P4P2F0- **10** 12-0 | 76.2kg v



Henry Daly **Stan Sheppard**
 Three-time winner over fences but wasn't the most consistent last term and only 17th of 20 in handicap chase (40/1) at Sandown (28.7f, good) final run. Needs to hit the ground running on his seasonal return.

2 FORTESCUE (183) **95**
 50/427220- **10** 11-12 | 75.3kg b



Henry Daly **Hugh Nugent (31b/1kg)**
 Temperamental sort who came in 16th of 20 in handicap chase (50/1) at Sandown (28.7f, good) 6 months ago. It's now 12 runs since his last win in 2022.

3 CAP DU NORD (FR) (86) **93**
 60961-310 **11** 11-4 | 71.7kg



Christian Williams **Nick Scholfield**
 Resumed winning ways at Perth in July and badly hampered 5 out when eleventh of 20 in handicap chase at Galway (22.5f, soft) 86 days ago. Not ruled out.

4 DIOL KER (FR) (16) (D) **91**
 U8760P-7P **10** 11-4 | 71.7kg



Evan Williams **Adam Wedge**
 A useful chaser for Gordon Elliott but he was pulled up on his yard debut at Chepstow 16 days ago. Needs to take a big step forward.

5 TORN AND FRAYED (FR) (193) **100**
 F65604- **10** 11-3 | 71.2kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies **Finn Lambert (31b/1kg)**
 Winless last season but he signed off with a solid fourth of 12 in handicap chase at Cheltenham (20.6f, good) 6 months ago. Yard among the winners so he's a player off a reduced mark.

6 COPPERHEAD (16) (D) **95**
 633344-11 **10** 10-13 | 69.4kg s+t



Joe Tizzard **Freddie Gingell (31b/1kg)**
 Off 5 months before landing handicap chase at Chepstow (23.6f, good to soft) 16 days ago. Back up 5 lb but he's not taken lightly in his hat-trick bid.

7 FIVE STAR GETAWAY (IRE) (583) (BF) **97**
 45026/ **10** 10-9 | 67.6kg



Christian Williams **Harry Cobden**
 Winless since 2021 and off for 19 months since a below-par sixth of 8 in handicap chase at Newbury (22.4f). Has his fitness to prove.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Copperhead, **5-1** Torn And Frayed, **7-1** Five Star Getaway, **9-1** Cap Du Nord, **10-1** Rapper, **10-1** Fortescue, **14-1** Diol Ker

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TORN AND FRAYED hails from an in-form yard and resumes on an attractive mark so looks the way to go here. Joe Tizzard also has his string in great nick and his Copperhead rates the obvious threat in his hat-trick bid, with Cap du Nord appealing as the pick of the remainder for minor honours.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TORN AND FRAYED 2. COPPERHEAD 3. CAP DU NORD

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Celebre d'Allen 11-11-1	3-1f	Philip Hobbs & Johnson White	Elizabeth Gale (10)	11
2022	Dingo Dollar 10-11-12	12-1	Sandy Thomson	Conor O'Farrell	11
2021	Wishing And Hoping 11-11-2	11-4	Mel Rowley	Alex Edwards (3)	7
2020	Minellacelebration 10-11-3	15-2	Katy Price	Ben Poste	12
2019	Burtons Well 10-11-1	11-2	Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	7

3.00

VIRGIN BET EVERY SATURDAY MONEY BACK MAIDEN HURDLE (3) 4yo+ £15,000 2½m (4020 Metres)

RACE 5



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

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be the case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

SMART STATS:

2 Dan Skelton's number of winners in past 9 runnings. (saddles: **SUNRAY SHADOW**)

1 EMIYN (FR) 89
7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Declan Carroll **Robert Dunne**
Useful stayer at his best on the Flat. His last 2 runs in that sphere have been disappointing but he definitely has the ability to play a part if taking to this new discipline.

2 SUNRAY SHADOW (24) (BF) 98
13 5 11-4 | 71.7kg



Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**
Warwick bumper winner in May who shaped promisingly when third of 11 in a 2m novice hurdle there 5 months later. Looks sure to improve, particularly now stepping up in trip.

3 TAKT DE TOUQUES (FR) (126) 100
1-11 5 11-4 | 71.7kg



Gerald Stephen Quinn, Ireland **Mr N. McParlan (3lb/1kg)**
Winning pointer who looked a good prospect when completing a bumper-hat-trick between April and June. Taken to keep his winning run going now switching to hurdles.

4 CHIEF SUNDAY (FR) (32) 86
78-4 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies **Finn Lambert (3lb/1kg)**
Down the field in 2 Warwick bumpers in the spring. Offered more when fourth of 6 in 2m Perth novice hurdle on last month's reappearance but he'll need to improve on that form to trouble a couple of these rivals.

5 LENNIE GODBER (218) 75
60- 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Steph Cameron **Tom Bellamy**
No show in 2 bumpers for Nigel Twiston-Davies in March and big outsider now hurdling for new stable after 7 months off.

6 ROCKCHOEUR (FR) (26) 86
253-33 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Donald McCain **Brian Hughes**
Placed in bumpers (for Nigel Twiston-Davies) and maiden/novice hurdles but his form is little better than modest.

7 SMALL TOWN HERO (IRE) (14) 79
0-5 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Christian Williams **Nick Scholfield**
Point winner who failed to figure in a Grade 2 bumper here in the spring. Hinted at ability when a well-held fifth on his Ffos Las hurdle debut a fortnight ago but he's probably more one for the longer term.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-4 Takt De Touques, **2-1** Sunray Shadow, **6-1** Emiyn, **10-1** Rockchoeur, **12-1** Chief Sunday, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TAKT DE TOUQUES created a good impression when winning 3 bumpers earlier in the year and is narrowly preferred to Dan Skelton's Sunray Shadow. Emiyn could also have a part to play if translating anything like his Flat ability to hurdles.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TAKT DE TOUQUES 2. SUNRAY SHADOW 3. EMIYN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Inthewaterside 5-11-4	4-7f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	11
2022	Mahons Glory 6-11-4	14-1	Dr Richard Newland	Charlie Hammond	8
2021	Gelino Bello 5-11-2	11-8f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	12
2020	Real Stone 5-11-0	50-1	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	7
2019	Imperial Alcazar 5-11-0	13-8f	Fergal O'Brien	Paddy Brennan	13

3.35

VIRGIN BET DAILY EXTRA PLACES HANDICAP HURDLE (2)
4yo+ £35,000 2½m (4020 Metres)

RACE 6




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

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.

Pace Information: **Weak**


1 CRUZ CONTROL (FR) (176) (C, D) **88**
 512511-4 **7** 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **Tom Lacey** *Stan Sheppard*
 Ended last term with 3m chase win here and resumed with an encouraging fourth of 12 in handicap chase at Punchestown (24.5f, soft) 176 days ago, doing too much too soon. Much respected back in this sphere. Engaged Cheltenham 2.55 Saturday.


2 KAMSINAS (FR) (193) **96**
 3/1216010- **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg

 **Fergal O'Brien** *Jonathan Burke*
 A three-time winner last term, going in over 21f at Kempton in March. Very much one to consider on his return for his in-form handler.

3 BALLYGEARY (IRE) (121) (D, BF) **96**
 12578-316 **7** 11-3 | 71.2kg

 **Donald McCain** *Brian Hughes*
 Resumed winning ways at Market Rasen but only sixth of 8 in handicap hurdle at Bangor (19.6f, good) later in June. Needs to bounce back after a break.

4 HURRICANE ALI (IRE) (64) (C) **97**
 5525-2633 **8** 11-3 | 71.2kg

 **James Moffatt** *Charlotte Jones*
 Course winner who recorded a respectable third of 8 in handicap hurdle at Cartmel (25.4f, soft) 64 days ago. Down in trip. It's now 15 runs since his last win in 2022 though.


5 BOWENPARK (IRE) (253) **98**
 1144/1F2P- **6** 11-1 | 70.3kg

 **Henry Daly** *Harry Cobden*
 Unreliable sort who wasn't seen out after being pulled up in Prestige Novices' Hurdle at Haydock (24.3f, heavy) 8 months ago. Has won when fresh though so can't be discounted on his handicap hurdle debut.


6 ARQOOB (IRE) (183) **97**
 1533528P- **6** 10-12 | 68.9kg

 **Lucy Wadham** *Gavin Sheehan*
 A fairly useful 2m winner but cheekpieces on for 1st time when pulled up in handicap hurdle at Sandown (19.8f, good) in April. Needs to hit the ground running on his reappearance.


7 LAVIDA ADIVA (IRE) (192) **94**
 321332- **5** 10-10 | 68.0kg

 **Ruth Jefferson** *Jamie Hamilton*
 Winning pointer who landed 2m Catterick novice in December. Kept his form well after so he's one to consider on his return with few miles still on the clock.

8 GOT GREY (FR) (23) (BF) **95**
 74-441126 **5** 10-10 | 68.0kg

 **Dan Skelton** *Harry Skelton*
 A big improver for his new yard, winning 2m handicaps at Stratford and Bangor. Possibly found run coming too quickly when sixth of 7 in handicap hurdle at Hexham (16.2f, good) 23 days ago. Well worth another chance.

9 LONG DRAW (IRE) (24) (D, BF) **100**
 344-122 **5** 10-9 | 67.6kg

 **Olly Murphy** *Sean Bowen*
 £60,000 Irish point recruit who was very much on the up since switched to handicaps last term, winning at Ffos Las and signing off with an excellent clear second at Warwick (21f). Big shout on his return.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Long Draw, **7-2** Kamsinas, **8-1** Ballygeary, **11-1** Got Grey, **11-1** LavidA Adiva, **12-1** Bowenspark, **12-1** Cruz Control, **14-1** Hurricane Ali, **16-1** Arqoob

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Olly Murphy's LONG DRAW ended last term with a fine second at Warwick and looks weighted to return in style here. The reappearing Kamsinas scored three times last season and rates the main danger with his yard going well, while LavidA Adiva and Got Grey both warrant plenty of respect too in this useful handicap.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LONG DRAW 2. KAMSINAS 3. LAVIDA ADIVA

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Crambo 6-11-9	11-8f	Fergal O'Brien	Connor Brace	8
2022	Peking Rose 7-11-0	5-2f	Fergal O'Brien	Paddy Brennan	11
2021	Mackelduff 5-10-3	11-2	Olly Murphy	Aidan Coleman	7
2020	Jacamar 5-9-11	6-1	Milton Harris	Paddy Brennan	14
2019	Stoney Mountain 6-11-11	4-5f	Henry Daly	Richard Johnson	5

SMART STATS:

2 Fergal O'Brien's number of winners in past 9 runnings. (saddles: **KAMSINAS**)
45% Sean Bowen's strike rate on hurdling favourites (rides: **LONG DRAW**)
22% Tom Lacey's strike rate with handicap hurdling debutants (saddles: **CRUZ CONTROL**)

4.08

RACING TV MARES' OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (2) 4 and 5yo £15,000 2m209y (3410 Metres)

RACE 7



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

The Grand National course is triangular with its apex (at the Canal Turn) the furthest point from the stands. Inside is the Mildmay course which has birch fences. A major feature of the Mildmay course is its sharpness, though the fences are stiff and it's a tough jumping test. The Grand National is run over two complete circuits taking in sixteen spruce fences first time around and fourteen the second. Alterations to the fences in recent times have had the effect of making it a less severe test of jumping than used to be the case. Since 2013, the run to the first fence in the Grand National was reduced in a bid to also improve safety, resulting in the overall race distance shortening from the usual 4½m, though the run-in is still 494 yards long and includes an elbow.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 BENNYS JENNY (IRE) 92
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Stuart Coltherd **Sam Coltherd**
Easy point winner in Ireland from successful jumps family. £37,000 buy for new connections and worth a second look in the betting.

2 BLACKSAMSSENORITA (192) 93
30- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Joe Tizzard **Freddie Gingell**
Promise when third on her Taunton debut in March but found life tougher in a deeper race at Cheltenham the following month. Probably vulnerable for win purposes on return.

3 LOWLANDS (IRE) (34) 92
45 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nicky Richards **Danny McMenamin**
Has shown a fair level of ability in bumpers at Uttoxeter and Sedgfield but more will be needed here.

4 MYFAVOURITESISTER (IRE) (185) 79
55- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Patrick Neville **Henry Brooke**
From the family of yard's star jumper The Real Whacker but didn't achieve enough in 2 bumpers in the spring to fancy her chances here.

5 SIOG GEAL (IRE) 97
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Fergal O'Brien **Jonathan Burke**
£80,000 buy after winning her sole outing in Irish points in February. Joined a stable with a good bumper record and a prominent showing is on the cards.

6 CLAIM DU BRIZAIS (FR) 100
4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**
Cost £130,000 after finishing second in an Irish point in February. Likely type for top stable.

7 KAPABILITY (FR) 96
4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Anthony Honeyball **Harry Cobden**
Authorized filly. Dam, lightly raced on Flat/over jumps in France, half-sister to 17f French hurdle winner Joker d'Airy. Harry Cobden booked for a stable with a healthy bumper strike-rate. Would very much enter the reckoning if the betting vibes are strong.

8 LETS MINGLE (IRE) 93
4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Lucinda Russell **Derek Fox**
Picked up for £85,000 after winning an Irish point in April. It'll be interesting to see what the market makes of her.

9 POLKAFACE (IRE) 91
4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Ben Case **Jack Quinlan**
£28,000 Vadamos filly. Half-sister to numerous winners, including smart 2m hurdler Cockney Sparrow and fairly useful hurdler Dino Mite. Makes some appeal on breeding but the stable is only 1-38 in bumpers in the last 5 seasons.

10 QUEENOFTHEJUKEBOX (IRE) 92
4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Noel Williams **Gavin Sheehan**
Second on Irish point debut in March and sold for £45,000 the following month. Sports a tongue-tie on rules debut. Same ownership as Claim du Brizais and the betting should guide.

11 SPRINGTIME LEGEND (160) 93
4 4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Neil Mulholland **Sean Bowen**
8/1, fourth of 11 in bumper at Newton Abbot (17f, good to firm) on debut in May. Will need to step up on that form but her stable has been going well.

12 VIENNA PEARL (IRE) 79
4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Andrew Crook **Joe Williamson**
£27,000 Mahler filly. The stable is 0-22 in bumpers in the last 5 seasons so a watching brief is advised.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Claim Du Brizais, **5-1** Siog Geal, **6-1** Kapability, **10-1** Blacksamssenorita, **10-1** Lets Mingle, **11-1** Springtime Legend, **16-1** Lowlands, **18-1** Bennys Jenny, **18-1** Queenofthejukebox, **25-1** Polkaface, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

CLAIM DU BRIZAIS had a subsequent hurdle winner well behind her in third when runner-up in an Irish point in February and is taken to make a winning start for Dan Skelton. Fellow Irish point recruit Siog Geal has also joined a leading yard with a good bumper record and is second choice ahead of Anthony Honeyball's Kapability before any betting clues are known.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. CLAIM DU BRIZAIS 2. SIOG GEAL 3. KAPABILITY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Sunset Marquesa 4-11-1	12-1	Joe Tizzard	Harry Cobden	11
2022	Credrojava 5-11-0	15-8f	Harry Fry	Jonathan Burke	10
2021	Lady Excalibur 4-11-1	5-1	Alan Jones	Harry Cobden	18
2020	Elle Est Belle 4-10-12	7-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2019	White Hart Lady 5-10-12	4-1	Harry Fry	Sean Bowen	13

SMART STATS:

39% Harry Skelton's strike rate on favourites in bumpers (rides: **CLAIM DU BRIZAIS**)