

Thursday 5th February

# DONCASTER



**12.40** VIRGIN BET CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 3m84y (4900 Metres)

RACE 1 **(7) CALL YOUR BLUFF | (2) YOU DID | (8) HARLEY'S PRIDE**

**1.15** VIRGIN BET EBF JUNIOR 'NATIONAL HUNT' HURDLE (4) 2m128y (3340 Metres)

RACE 2 **(2) MUSTANG DU BREUIL | (1) MILOU DU CHENET | (7) PIPPIN'S LEGEND**

**1.50** VIRGIN BET EVERY SATURDAY MONEY BACK MAIDEN HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2m128y (3340 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) COUNT OF VENDOME | (8) STANNERS GLEN | (12) KING ESOTERIC**

**2.25** VIRGIN BET DAILY PRICE BOOSTS HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2m3f88y (3900 Metres)

RACE 4 **(2) I'M A LUMBERJACK | (6) SMOKERINGINTHEDARK | (1) STORMING GEORGE**

**3.00** VIRGIN BET NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 2m7f214y (4820 Metres)

RACE 5 **(1) MUMFORD'S MAGIC | (2) KALHANDRION | (3) KADJAR DES MOTTES**

**3.35** VIRGIN BET HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 2½m115y (4130 Metres)

RACE 6 **(5) ANOTHER FINE MESS | (8) EMPTY NEST | (2) BUSTY BOY**

**4.10** VIRGIN BET MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2m3f88y (3900 Metres)

RACE 7 **(3) SCAVENGERS REIGN | (1) LETS GO TO VEGAS | (5) I AM THE MOON**

## 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****VIRGIN BET CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-95) £6,150**  
**3m84y (4900 Metres)**

RACE 1

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

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Very Weak****1 NEW INVENTION (IRE) (47)** s+t **90**

4-0P8 6 11-12 | 75.3kg

Oliver Greenall &amp; Josh Guerriero

**Tristan Durrell**

Ran with promise at Newcastle on hurdles bow in February but failed to progress in a trio of outings since, including on handicap bow at Hereford last time. Cheekpieces on first time.

**2 YOU DID (IRE) (14)** s **96**

85561216 6 11-11 | 74.8kg

Brian Ellison

**Charlie Maggs**

Has benefited from his stamina being brought more into play, getting off the mark in handicap at Hexham (20.1f) in October and proving determined when doubling his tally at Musselburgh (23.8f) in December. Not in same form at Wetherby latest but must be respected here. Cheekpieces on first time.

**3 CASTANEA BREEZE (IRE) (40)** (BF) s **100**

63354-412 6 11-10 | 74.4kg

Lucy Wadham

**Non Runner**

NON RUNNER.

**4 FOX COTTAGE (25)** s **98**

575-342P 6 11-5 | 72.1kg

Seamus Mullins

**Daniel Sansom**

Finished closer than on previous starts when second in 3-runner handicap at Leicester (20.5f) in December but failed to build on that at Fontwell since and others appeal more. Cheekpieces on first time.

**5 PEARL SMOKE (16)** s+t **89**

7-6366P 5 11-5 | 72.1kg

Oliver Greenall &amp; Josh Guerriero

**Nathan Andrews (10lb/5kg)**

Little impact in maiden/novice hurdles and similar story on switch to handicapping at Leicester last month. Now tried in cheekpieces for first time.

**6 JEWEL EYED JUDY (25)** **97**

8/65PP-14P 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

Nigel &amp; Willy Twiston-Davies

**James Turner (3lb/1kg)**

Had shown decidedly little prior to opening her account in a weak handicap hurdle at Leicester (20.5f) in November and has gone the wrong way in a couple of outings since.

**7 CALL YOUR BLUFF (47)** t **99**

7305-783 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

Emma Lavelle

**Cameron Johnstone-Baker (10lb/5kg)**

Bounced back to best form, under this pilot, when good third of 11 in handicap hurdle at Hereford (25.5f, soft) 47 days ago. 1 lb lower now and could be the way to go.

**8 HARLEY'S PRIDE (IRE) (22)** **58**

46-689 6 11-1 | 70.3kg

David Pipe

**Rian Corcoran (8lb/4kg)**

Modest form in 2 bumpers last season and no show in a trio of novice hurdle outings more recently. However, sent handicapping upped in trip off a lowly mark and is worth monitoring in the market.

**9 KILNACARRA (IRE) (71)** v+t **95**

5PP 9 11-0 | 69.9kg

Jessica Bedi

**Conor Rabbitt (3lb/1kg)**

Modest at form at best in Ireland in 2021 and no show in 3 comeback outings for new yard after a huge absence. Has had a breathing operation, wears first-time visor.

**10 FANCY NANCY PANTS (14)** s **97**

4640-P43P 6 10-5 | 65.8kg

Philip Kirby

**Luke Scott**

Bred to stay well and, having slipped in the weights, showed more than previously when third in Wetherby handicap (24.1f) in December. Couldn't back that up at same course last time, however, and her overall profile is off-putting.

10 DECLARED RUNNERS

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

CALL YOUR BLUFF ran well under his young pilot at Hereford 7 weeks ago and looks the way to go in a thin contest. You Did is respected, while Harley's Pride is interesting now going handicapping up in trip for David Pipe.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:****1. CALL YOUR BLUFF 2. YOU DID 3. HARLEY'S PRIDE****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**9-4** Call Your Bluff, **7-2** You Did, **13-2** Harley's Pride, **9-1** Fox Cottage, **9-1** Fancy Nancy Pants, **11-1** Jewel Eyed Judy, **20-1** New Invention, **33-1** Pearl Smoke, **300-1** bar

**1.15****VIRGIN BET EBF JUNIOR 'NATIONAL HUNT' HURDLE (4) 4yo  
£11,000 2m128y (3340 Metres)**

RACE 2

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

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Even**

**1 MILOU DU CHENET (FR) (63) (D) 96**  
11 4 11-10 | 74.4kg



Warren Greatrex **Brian Hughes**  
Comfortably made all in juvenile hurdle at Bangor (16.7f) on debut in November and followed up in similar fashion at Wincanton (15.2f, soft) last time. This is tougher but he remains open to improvement.

**2 MUSTANG DU BREUIL (FR) (105) 100**  
1 4 11-7 | 73.0kg



Nicky Henderson **James Bowen**  
Promising individual who landed 13-runner juvenile hurdle (44/1) at Auteuil (17.9f, soft) on debut 105 days ago. Since joined Nicky Henderson and must be of interest here.

**3 COTTON SOCKS (61) (BF) h 88**  
23 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Lucy Wadham **Non Runner**  
NON RUNNER.

**4 DUC DE ROHAN (IRE) 87**  
4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Dan Skelton **Tristan Durrell**  
Siyouni gelding. Half-brother to 1m-9.7f winner in France Vcte de Jodelet. Dam French 1¼m winner. Trainer's newcomers command respect.

**5 MOLLY'S LAD (35) 88**  
25 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Fergal O'Brien **Fern O'Brien (5lb/2kg)**  
Strong in the betting and made a promising start to his career when second at Aintree in November and backed that up when fifth of 16 in listed bumper (5/1) at Cheltenham (16.8f, good) 35 days ago, sticking to task. Worth monitoring in market on hurdles debut.

**6 PINK 'N PURPLE (IRE) (22) 75**  
656 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Seamus Mullins **Daniel Sansom (3lb/1kg)**  
Signs of only minor promise in a bumper and brace of hurdles starts and looks a longer-term prospect.

**7 PIPPIN'S LEGEND (37) 86**  
43 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Charlie Longsdon **Tom Bellamy**  
Showed promise on bumper debut and offered something to work on when third of 6 in juvenile at Haydock (15.6f, good) on hurdles bow 37 days ago, running green. Tongue strap on first time. Should progress.

**8 THE GRAYSTER (IRE) (37) 84**  
25 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Dr Richard Newland & Jamie Insole **Luke Scott (3lb/1kg)**  
Ran with credit on debut here in November but failed to improve on that at Haydock the following month and looks up against it here.

**9 CAPLA RESDEV (36) 79**  
48 4 10-7 | 66.7kg



Michael & David Easterby **Jamie Hamilton**  
Showed some promise in bumper here in November but finished well beaten at Uttoxeter since and is best watched on switch to hurdling.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**7-4** Mustang Du Breuil, **5-2** Milou Du Chenet, **7-1** Molly's Lad, **8-1** Duc De Rohan, **12-1** Pippin's Legend, **18-1** The Grayster, **66-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

MUSTANG DU BREUIL sets the standard on his French form and looks a likely improver for his new yard. He can land the spoils. Milou du Chenet and Pippin's Legend may provide the chief threat.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. MUSTANG DU BREUIL 2. MILOU DU CHENET 3. PIPPIN'S LEGEND**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023 **Sarsons Risk** 4-11-0 7-2jf B. F. Brookhouse Robert Dunne 11  
2022 **Thunder Ahead** 4-10-12 16-1 Alan King Sean Quinlan 12

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race


**1.50**

RACE 3


**VIRGIN BET EVERY SATURDAY MONEY BACK MAIDEN HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ £10,000 2m128y (3340 Metres)****GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft (Soft in places)**

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Weak**

**1** **COUNT OF VENDOME (IRE) (85)** (D)  **100**  
131-2 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Donald McCain**  **Brian Hughes**  
Dual bumper winner from 3 starts who should have made a successful hurdling debut/return at Bangor (16.7f, heavy) 3 months ago, 3 lengths ahead and in control when losing all momentum last (traded 1.01 in-running). Fancied to make amends with improvement on the cards.

**2** **DIFFERENT DRUM (14)** (D) **70**  
9 **5** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Louise Allan** **Jamie Hamilton**  
Modest performer on Flat who offered only very limited encouragement tried hurdling at Huntingdon a fortnight ago. Can only be watched.

**3** **LUCKIE DEVIL (IRE) (23)** h **70**  
2-4P **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Nicky Richards** **Callum Bewley**  
Runner-up in Newcastle bumper last March (travelled well but no match for now useful winner) and possible excuses for weak finish at Kelso next time (got loose beforehand). However, he showed nothing fitted with a hood on hurdling bow/return at Ayr recently so looks an easy swerve.

**4** **MADE ALL (21)** t **70**  
70 **5** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Sam England** **Jonathan England**  
Fair three-time winner on the Flat last year who is seemingly being brought along with handicaps in mind in this sphere.

**5** **NOT AT THAT PRICE (21)** **85**  
44-26 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Charlie Longsdon** **James Bowen**  
Fair form when fourth in a couple of bumpers last spring and, following 6 months off, again ran well from the front when second of 10 at Uttoxeter (15.8f, soft) in October. Little encouragement to glean from his hurdling bow at Ludlow last month and now drops back in trip.

**6** **PRINCE OF CLOVA (98)** **85**  
5 **5** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Peter Niven** **Peter Kavanagh**  
Hung left and carried his tail awkwardly when fifth of 6 in bumper at Newcastle (16.9f, good) on debut in October. More needed on his hurdles debut.

**7** **RIBBLE RIVER (IRE)** **85**  
5 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Lizzie Quinlan** **Sean Quinlan**  
Fair handicapper on Flat (stays 1½m), successful penultimate start and again ran well when last seen in September. Makes hurdles bow for a new yard and probably one for later on.

**8** **STANNERS GLEN (IRE) (56)** (BF) t **98**  
13 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg



**Harry Fry**  **Bryan Carver**  
Point winner who made a successful bumper debut at Tipperary for Robert Tyner last May. Popular in the market but held back by inexperience on yard/hurdling bow (sold for £78,000) on return at Taunton 8 weeks ago (tongue tied and had wind op) but seems sure to do better with that under his belt.

**9** **VICTORS SPIRIT (SAF) (28)** **85**  
22F **5** 11-1 | 70.3kg



**Neil King** **Jack Quinlan**  
Shaped with plenty of promise in 2 bumpers last summer. Tailed off in an AW maiden at Wolverhampton in December and would have done little better had he completed on hurdling debut at Taunton last month.

**10** **ANNIE MCGRATH (IRE) (16)** **70**  
5P **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg



**L J Morgan** **Ross Chapman**  
Ran out sole start in points and little to shout about in a couple of maiden hurdles in recent weeks.


**11** **UPTOWN LASS (IRE) (95)** **79**  
836-4 **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg



**Nick Kent** **Charlie Hammond**  
Little promise in bumpers for Nicky Henderson but showed a bit sent hurdling after 6 months off when fourth of 6 in novice at Huntingdon (19.6f, good) in November. Needs to build on that after a break.

**12** **KING ESOTERIC** **99**  
4 10-6 | 66.2kg



**Dan Skelton**  **Tristan Durrell**  
Fair form when fifth in newcomers race at Saint-Cloud last spring, only outing on Flat. Interesting recruit for the powerful Dan Skelton yard (gets handy 4-y-o allowance) and market support would look significant on return/hurdles bow.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

2-1 Count of Vendome, 9-4 King Esoteric, 5-2 Stanners Glen, 33-1 Ribble River, 40-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

Only a handful of these make any serious appeal, COUNT OF VENDOME getting the nod to go one better than on hurdling debut having snatched defeat from the jaws of victory late at Bangor in November. Stanners Glen was held back by inexperience when sent off a well-backed favourite at Taunton 8 weeks ago, but he looks most threatening here, with Dan Skelton's once-raced French Flat recruit King Esoteric completing the shortlist.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. COUNT OF VENDOME 2. STANNERS GLEN 3. KING ESOTERIC

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**2.25****VIRGIN BET DAILY PRICE BOOSTS HANDICAP HURDLE (3)  
4yo+ (Rated 0-140) £10,700 2m3f88y (3900 Metres)**

RACE 4

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

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1** **STORMING GEORGE (IRE) (41)** (C) **96**  
15-316 **6** 11-8 | 73.5kg



Neil King

**Jack Quinlan**

Useful in bumpers. Won novice hurdle impressively here in late November but proved a let down when tailed-off sixth of 6 in Grade 1 hurdle at Aintree (17/2) 41 days ago. Handicap debut and could be worth another chance up in trip.

**2** **I'M A LUMBERJACK (38)** (D) **100**  
9/21F31-52 **7** 11-6 | 72.6kg



Alan King

**Tom Bellamy**

Won a novice hurdle last April and stepped forward from reappearance when second of 12 in handicap at Newbury (5/1) 38 days ago in first-time hood, travelling smoothly and challenging 2 out before unable to quicken late. On a fair mark and looks capable of resuming winning ways despite 3 lb rise.

**3** **GEROMINO (FR) (37)** (CD) **99**  
2U1190/4-4 **10** 11-6 | 72.6kg



Donald McCain

**Charlie Maggs (5lb/2kg)**

Won twice at this course in 2023/24, including at this C&D off 5 lb higher. Showed a good chunk of ability remains on return from 20 months off when fourth of 8 in handicap hurdle at Haydock (8/1) 37 days ago. One to consider back up in trip.

**4** **BLUEGRASS (IRE) (28)** **99**  
216-17383 **7** 11-5 | 72.1kg



Stuart Edmunds

**Charlie Hammond**

Won a thin handicap hurdle last October after a breathing operation but has been inconsistent since, most recently third of 10 at Taunton (28/1) 28 days ago staying on from off the pace. Second has won since but needs to build on that improved effort.

**5** **HUFFIN AN A PUFFIN (IRE) (685)** **99**  
1/ **7** 11-3 | 71.2kg



Lucy Wadham

**Tom Cannon**

Won on hurdling debut at Newbury nearly 2 years ago, overcoming greenness to get up on the line by a short-head. First run for new yard/handicap debut here following lengthy absence and open to improvement if fit enough.

**6** **SMOKERINGINTHEDARK (IRE) (35)** (D) **99**  
143-272 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nicky Richards

**Callum Bewley**

Disappointed when favourite on soft ground at Wetherby on return from 7 months off in November but bounced back when second of 9 in handicap at Musselburgh (11/2) 35 days ago. That was a career-best and he remains lightly-raced.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**7-2** I'm A Lumberjack, **4-1** Smokeringinthedark, **9-2** Huffin An A Puffin, **11-2** Storming George, **6-1** Geromino, **13-2** Bluegrass

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

I'M A LUMBERJACK appeals most despite a 3 lb rise, having travelled smoothly in his first-time hood at Newbury 38 days ago. He's on a fair mark and can take this, while Smokeringinthedark bounced back returned to better ground at Musselburgh last time and looks a danger. It's too soon to dismiss Storming George now switched to handicaps over a longer trip.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. I'M A LUMBERJACK 2. SMOKERINGINTHEDARK 3. STORMING GEORGE**

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.00****VIRGIN BET NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4)  
5yo+ (Rated 0-120) £8,900 2m7f214y (4820 Metres)**

RACE 5

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

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 MUMFORD'S MAGIC (IRE) (36) 99**  
33248/27-2 8 11-12 | 75.3kg



Dan Skelton

**Tristan Durrell**

Posted career best, back from 14-month absence, when good second of 10 in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (20f, soft) 36 days ago. 2 lb rise fair and he is entitled to build on that.

**2 KALHANDRION (FR) (13) (BF) t ★ 100**  
4P658-132 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Richard Hobson

**Charlie Maggs (5lb/2kg)**

Improved for the switch to chasing this term, scoring on debut at Huntingdon (19.9f) before creditable placed efforts at Uttoxeter and in C&D handicap (soft) 13 days ago. Likely contender.

**3 KADJAR DES MOTTES (FR) (45) 95**  
63334-4F4 6 11-8 | 73.5kg



Donald McCain

**Theo Gillard**

Point winner who has posted fair form under Rules, including when fourth in Musselburgh handicap (20.3f, good to soft) in December. May benefit from this longer trip.

**4 FLEMENSTIDE (IRE) (1090) 98**  
11 11-7 | 73.0kg



Thomas Faulkner

**Callum Bewley**

Made a successful hurdles debut in Ascot novice (21.5f) in November 2021. Very lightly raced since for Paul Nicholls and make his yard/chasing bow here with plenty to prove after nearly 3 years off.

**5 HALPHA SOLEIL (FR) (57) s 92**  
220-28575 9 11-2 | 70.8kg



Micky Hammond

**Brian Hughes**

Bumper/hurdles winner but yet to score over fences and arrives out of sorts. Had wind operation. Hard to fancy.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-8** Kalhandrion, **6-4** Mumford's Magic, **11-2** Kadjar Des Mottes, **22-1** Halpha Soleil, **66-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

MUMFORD'S MAGIC made an encouraging return from a lengthy absence at Uttoxeter on New Year's Eve and can open his account here. Kalhandrion has made a solid start to his chasing career and looks the obvious danger.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. MUMFORD'S MAGIC 2. KALHANDRION 3. KADJAR DES MOTTES**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>My Bad Lucy</b> 7-11-3	15-2	Nick Gifford	James Davies	7
2022	<b>Lough Salt</b> 11-10-2	66-1	Peter Winks	John Kington	13

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.35****VIRGIN BET HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 5yo+ (Rated 0-120) £8,900 2½m115y (4130 Metres)**

RACE 6

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

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Weak****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>Heroique de Maulde</b>	6-11-6	11-8f	James Ewart	Brian Hughes	5
2022	<b>The Unit</b>	11-11-7	7-2	Alan King	Brian Hughes	6

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**1 GENTLEMAN BILL (IRE) (41) (C) s 98**

11206-353 8 12-2 | 77.1kg

Oliver Greenall &amp; Josh Guerriero

**Craig Nichol**

Bumper/dual 2m hurdler winner who made an encouraging start over fences at Aintree in October and got back on track, in first-time cheekpieces, when creditable third of 9 in handicap chase (6/1) at Wetherby (19.4f, soft) 41 days ago. Respected.

**2 BUSTY BOY (IRE) (85) s 98**

2P6222-23 9 11-12 | 75.3kg

Daragh Bourke

**Callum Bewley**

Winless since scoring at Kelso back in October 2023 but he has rarely finished out of the frame since. Near best form when third of 10 in handicap chase at Ayr (24.1f, soft, 6/1) in November and looks worth a try in cheekpieces.

**3 THE WINSLOW BOY (24) 99**

49/310P-3P 7 11-6 | 72.6kg

Tom Symonds

**Ben Poste**

Failed to build on winning a Chepstow novice hurdle last season but back on track sent chasing when third there (16.1f) in November. Latest run best excused (slithered on landing half way) and can make presence felt.

**4 WILLIAM OF YORK (41) (C, D) s+t 91**

3111/P-PP6 10 11-4 | 71.7kg

Rebecca Menzies

**Ross Chapman**

Completed a hat-trick at Carlisle in April 2024 but raced only 4 times since, pulling up on first 3 occasions. Better signs at Wetherby latest, however, and he is 8 lb below his last winning mark.

**5 ANOTHER FINE MESS (IRE) (40) h 98**

476/4F1-51 7 11-2 | 70.8kg

Jeremy Scott

**Bryan Carver**

Found improvement when winning 13-runner handicap hurdle at Chepstow (16.1f, good to firm) 40 days ago. Interesting that connections have decided to go chasing now and he remains fairly treated. Can go well if stamina holds out.

**6 CLONAKILTY (IRE) (12) (D) s+t 92**

16/P432-0P 9 11-1 | 70.3kg

Lizzie Quinlan

**Sean Quinlan**

A fairly useful 2m4f chase scorer for Olly Murphy but he has offered little in either start for new yard this term.

**7 CUBAN COURT (IRE) (19) (C) s+t 96**

3311-4616 8 10-10 | 68.0kg

Neil King

**Jack Quinlan**

Three-time winner over hurdles last season who got off the mark at the first time of asking in this sphere when scoring at this course (16.4f) in December. Not in same form at Taunton since but can't be ruled out.

**8 EMPTY NEST (IRE) (21) (D) t ★ 100**

12316-752 8 10-3 | 64.9kg

Mark Walford

**Jamie Hamilton**

Won 2 chases over this sort of trip last season and returned to form when good second of 9 in handicap chase (6/1) at Newcastle (20.1f, good to soft) 21 days ago. Shortlisted.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**3-1** Empty Nest, **10-3** Another Fine Mess, **5-1** Busty Boy, **7-1** Gentleman Bill, **9-1** Cuban Court, **10-1** The Winslow Boy, **16-1** William of York, **66-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

ANOTHER FINE MESS has few miles on the clock and produced a career best when scoring over hurdles at Chepstow in December. Upped in trip he may have more to offer yet and is taken to make a successful debut over the larger obstacles here. Empty Nest and Busty Boy could be the dangers.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. ANOTHER FINE MESS 2. EMPTY NEST 3. BUSTY BOY**

**4.10**

RACE 7

**VIRGIN BET MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 4yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-110) £7,700 2m3f88y (3900 Metres)**Going: **Good to Soft (Soft in places)**

Left handed, essentially flat and most galloping in nature. It's an extremely well-draining course, underfoot conditions often less testing than at many other courses in midwinter. Surprisingly for such a galloping track, plenty of chases are well run, though the opposite tends to be true of races on the hurdles course, things often starting in earnest only approaching the third last.

Pace Information: **Weak**

**1 LETS GO TO VEGAS (IRE) (35) 99**  
P352/14 8 11-7 | 73.0kg



Alastair Ralph

**Ciaran Gethings**

Won handicap at Haydock in December on return from 22 months off and probably remains in form despite never threatening when fourth of 8 in handicap hurdle at Windsor (9/2) 35 days ago, ridden from further back. Trip on the sharp side but respected.

**2 OCTOBER HILL (IRE) (19) 95**  
9332343 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



David Pipe

**Rian Corcoran (71b/3kg)**

Has run well on both starts since leaving Colin Bowe's yard, third of 13 in maiden hurdle at Taunton (22/1) 19 days ago, staying on. Makes handicap debut and should be suited by this mares' event.

**3 SCAVENGERS REIGN (IRE) (41) (D) 100**  
33-2U31 6 11-5 | 72.1kg



James Owen

**Alex Chadwick (31b/1kg)**

Showed promise in novice hurdles earlier this season, including when third at this course. Won a 14-runner maiden hurdle at Wetherby (11/10 fav) 41 days ago, confirming that promise and still sprinting at the line. More to come again now handicapping.

**4 PURE SEDUCTION (IRE) (533) 95**  
81- 6 11-3 | 71.2kg



Fergal O'Brien

**Ben Sutton (51b/2kg)**

Won on hurdling debut in maiden company at Worcester (7/1) 533 days ago, beating 9 rivals. Handicap debut after lengthy absence and steps up in trip.

**5 I AM THE MOON (21) (D) 98**  
412443-U6 7 11-3 | 71.2kg



Nigel &amp; Willy Twiston-Davies

**James Turner (51b/2kg)**

Hasn't taken to chasing in 2 runs this winter, sixth of 12 in handicap chase at Ludlow (7/1) 21 days ago, left behind early in straight. Returns to hurdles where she showed better form last season (won at Warwick over this trip).

**6 ROCK ON CASSIE (IRE) (36) 99**  
P 10 11-2 | 70.8kg



Richard Armson

**Philip Armson (31b/1kg)**

Left Gordon Elliott/off nearly 3 years before showing nothing when pulled up in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (80/1) 36 days ago, broke blood vessel/suffered irregular heartbeat. Plenty to prove.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-10** Scavengers Reign, **4-1** Lets Go To Vegas, **13-2** I Am The Moon, **17-2** Pure Seduction, **9-1** October Hill, **200-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

SCAVENGERS REIGN confirmed the promise of her earlier novice hurdle efforts when winning a 14-runner maiden at Wetherby 41 days ago, still sprinting at the line, and looks the one to beat on her handicap debut. The danger could be Lets Go To Vegas, who probably remains in form despite her Windsor fourth and is respected for all this trip may be on the sharp side.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. SCAVENGERS REIGN 2. LETS GO TO VEGAS 3. I AM THE MOON**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023 **Queens Rock** 6-11-9 7-4f Nicky Henderson Nico de Boinville 6  
2022 **Stop Talking** 10-11-2 33-1 Jennie Candlish Sean Quinlan 9

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race