

Tuesday 11th November

HEREFORD



1.00 BETWRIGHT BET THE WRIGHT WAY EBF 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4)
2m53y (3270 Metres)

RACE 1 **(8) RACE TO BASE | (1) BEGGAR'S NAP | (5) HEY BUDDY**

1.35 BETWRIGHT BANGERS N'CASH FILLIES' JUVENILE HURDLE (4) 2m53y (3270 Metres)

RACE 2 **(5) LOVE SONNET | (4) GHOST DANCING | (2) ONLY ONE BLUE**

2.10 BEATWRIGHT: BEAT THE WRIGHT WAY MARES' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 3m1f44y (5070 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) PRESENTING A QUEEN | (4) KIT'S COTY | (3) FOLLOWANGO**

2.45 PAUL FERGUSON'S JUMPERS TO FOLLOW HANDICAP CHASE (4) 2½m194y (4200 Metres)

RACE 4 **(2) JACKPOT CASH | (8) TRAPISTA | (3) NOBLE PARK**

3.20 BETWRIGHT SAFER GAMBLING HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2m5f163y (4370 Metres)

RACE 5 **(1) LUNAR POWER | (5) ON THE GO | (3) OF COURSE YOU CAN**

3.55 HEREFORD QUARRIES HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2m53y (3270 Metres)

RACE 6 **(8) GRAECIA | (2) GRANPA GER | (9) BAIKAL**

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.

1.00

RACE 1

BETWRIGHT BET THE WRIGHT WAY EBF 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4, 5 and 6yo £7,700 2m53y (3270 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Hereford's right-handed circuit of about a mile and a half is almost square and has nine fences, of which the first after the winning post is taken on a turn. The home turn, which is on falling ground, is pretty sharp but the other bends are easy. Races have a tendency to be well run and the ground can get very testing in midwinter. The course restarted racing in October 2016 after a four-year hiatus.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 BEGGAR'S NAP (IRE) (175) h 81
2 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Dan Horsford **Brendan Powell**
9/2, encouraging start to his career when second of 8 in Southwell bumper in May. Has a hood added now hurdling after 6 months off. Should be up to making his presence felt.

2 EL ARCO (IRE) (12) 60
7-70 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Harriet Dickin **Bradley Harris (3lb/1kg)**
Well held in bumper/2 novice hurdles.

3 GET IN ORDER (IRE) (25) 72
5 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Henry Oliver **Lee Edwards**
Third in Irish point in April. Late headway for fifth on 2m Uttoxeter hurdle debut (good to soft) 25 days ago. May not see the best of him until he tackles longer trips.

4 GUARDAMI ANCORA (FR) (12) 60
0 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Evan Williams **Conor Ring**
150/1, badly in need of experience when well beaten in Stratford novice hurdle on debut 12 days ago. Needs to have come on a lot in a short time.

5 HEY BUDDY (IRE) (27) 72
5-29 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Fergal O'Brien **Jonathan Burke**
Fair form in bumpers in the spring, finishing runner-up on the second occasion. Well beaten on last month's Worcester hurdle debut after a break but he's surely better than that.

6 IDAHO BRIDGE (IRE) (12) h 72
669-F9 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Philip Hobbs & Johnson White **Sean Houlihan**
Modest form in bumpers and well held on completed start in novice hurdles last month. More one for handicaps after this.

7 LORD CAUVILLIERE (FR) (19) (D) 74
125 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Sheila Lewis **James Bowen**
Point bumper winner in April and followed up in ready fashion in a Stratford bumper on his Rules debut in May. Narrowly denied under a penalty at Bangor in June. That made last month's remote fifth on Ludlow hurdle debut disappointing but he should be capable of better in this sphere.

8 RACE TO BASE (IRE) (37) (C, D) ★ 100
421-5 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies **Sam Twiston-Davies**
Point winner who landed a course bumper in April. His Uttoxeter hurdle debut fifth 5 weeks ago came in a race which has thrown up winners and this looks a decent opening for him.

9 SKITTLES BE LUCKY (20) 65
P 4 10-7 | 66.7kg



Sam Allwood **Toby Wynne**
300/1 when pulled up in Worcester novice hurdle on debut 3 weeks ago.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-6 Race To Base, **7-2** Beggar's Nap, **12-1** Lord Cauvilliere, **22-1** Get In Order, **22-1** Idaho Bridge, **22-1** Hey Buddy, **250-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

RACE TO BASE made his hurdle debut in a race which has worked out well and can add to April's course bumper success. Bumper runner-up Beggar's Nap looks the obvious threat unless the betting hints that Hey Buddy is likely to leave last month's hurdle debut effort well behind.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. RACE TO BASE 2. BEGGAR'S NAP 3. HEY BUDDY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	D'jo Dela Barriere 5-11-0	6-4f	Evan Williams	Adam Wedge	6
2023	Favour And Fortune 5-11-0	8-15f	Alan King	Tom Cannon	9
2022	Parramount 6-11-0	5-6f	Charlie Longsdon	Aidan Coleman	16
2021	Le Chiffre d'Or 5-10-12	1-3f	Paul Nicholls	Bryony Frost	4
2020	Getaweaapon 5-10-5	10-11f	Kim Bailey	David Bass	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.35

BETWRIGHT BANGERS N'CASH FILLIES' JUVENILE HURDLE
(4) 3yo fillies £7,700 2m53y (3270 Metres)

RACE 2



Going: **Good**

Hereford's right-handed circuit of about a mile and a half is almost square and has nine fences, of which the first after the winning post is taken on a turn. The home turn, which is on falling ground, is pretty sharp but the other bends are easy. Races have a tendency to be well run and the ground can get very testing in midwinter. The course restarted racing in October 2016 after a four-year hiatus.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 AFRICA CHARM (IRE) (36) (D) 88
 1 3 11-7 | 73.0kg

Henry Oliver **Lee Edwards**
 Modest 1m maiden on the level for Richard Hannon. Proved up to making a winning hurdle debut at Stratford 5 weeks ago but it was a weak race and more will be needed to defy a penalty.

2 ONLY ONE BLUE (IRE) (23) s 97
 1 3 11-7 | 73.0kg

Max Comley **Tom Broughton (5lb/2kg)**
 Fair maiden on Flat for Richard Hannon and made a successful hurdle debut for new connections at Sedgfield (17f, good) last month, rallying to lead again towards the finish in first-time cheekpieces (retained).

3 EMILY REBECCA s 85
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

Bernard Llewellyn **Joshua Bryan**
 Fair on Flat (stays 1½m) for Richard Hannon. Sold for 2,000 gns in October. The betting should guide now hurdling in first-time cheekpieces.

4 GHOST DANCING 92
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

Alan King **Tom Bellamy**
 First foal of a Flat/hurdle winner for this yard. Alan King is traditionally strong in juvenile hurdles so she has to enter the reckoning on debut, particularly if the betting vibes are strong.

5 LOVE SONNET (IRE) (34) ★ 100
 2 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

Tim Vaughan **James Davies**
 Progressive 2-time scorer on the Flat in Ireland and can win races over hurdles judged on last month's opening second at Ludlow. Looks sure to progress and the one to beat.

6 OASIS SUNRISE (IRE) (7) 84
 37 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

Grace Harris **Conor Ring**
 Modest on Flat (stays 1m). Similar level when 14 lengths third (Love Sonnet 10 lengths ahead in second) on Ludlow hurdle debut. Failed to build on that when only seventh at Warwick last week.

7 PRAYING FOR TIME (IRE) 85
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

Chris Down **Sean Houlihan**
 Regressive on the Flat for 3 different yards. A watching brief is advised now hurdling.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Love Sonnet, 5-2 Only One Blue, 9-2 Ghost Dancing, 9-1 Africa Charm, 20-1 Emily Rebecca, 25-1 Praying For Time, 33-1 Oasis Sunrise

TIMEFORM VIEW:

This looks a good chance for LOVE SONNET to build on her promising hurdle debut second at Ludlow, although Alan King newcomer Ghost Dancing would rate a danger if the betting speaks in her favour. Sedgfield winner Only One Blue may prove best of the rest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LOVE SONNET 2. GHOST DANCING 3. ONLY ONE BLUE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024 **Midnight Exit** 3-11-7 5-4f N. George & A. Zetterholm M. J. M. O'Sullivan 4

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.10

RACE 3

BEATWRIGHT: BEAT THE WRIGHT WAY MARES' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 4yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-120) £8,900 3m1f44y (5070 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Hereford's right-handed circuit of about a mile and a half is almost square and has nine fences, of which the first after the winning post is taken on a turn. The home turn, which is on falling ground, is pretty sharp but the other bends are easy. Races have a tendency to be well run and the ground can get very testing in midwinter. The course restarted racing in October 2016 after a four-year hiatus.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	PRESENTING A QUEEN (572)	b		100
	32236/ 8 12-0 76.2kg			
	Anthony Honeyball		Sam Twiston-Davies	
	Fairly useful handicap chaser for Chris Gordon in 2023/24 season, including runner-up over C&D. Has a 19-month absence to overcome but Anthony Honeyball has his team in flying form and she might be worth chancing in first-time blinkers.			
2	KOSASIEMPRE (FR) (32)			94
	2312P43-7 7 11-9 73.9kg			
	Stuart Edmunds		Charlie Hammond	
	Dual hurdles winner who made a successful chase debut in handicap at Leicester (23f, soft) last December. Similar form when reaching the frame 3 times later in the campaign and entitled to be sharper for last month's Chepstow reappearance.			
3	FOLLOWANGO (IRE) (12)			94
	U325224-2 7 11-7 73.0kg			
	Evan Williams		Isabel Williams	
	Bumper winner who was runner-up for a seventh time over fences on her Stratford reappearance 12 days ago. Creditable fourth at Ffos Las in April on her completed start over fences.			
4	KIT'S COTY (IRE) (19) (C)			98
	P/336586-1 7 11-0 69.9kg			
	Emma Lavelle		Jonathan Burke	
	Went the wrong way last season but back on track after wind surgery when striking on 3m Ludlow reappearance 19 days ago. Only nudged up 2 lb so a bold show looks assured if showing up in similar form.			
5	EMBERSCOMBE (IRE) (139)			74
	98P/2PP-5P 8 10-2(9-1) 64.4kg (57.6kg)			
	Joe Tickle		Ben Godfrey	
	Poor maiden hurdler/chaser who looks booked for another struggle from 15 lb out of the handicap.			

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Kit's Coty, **7-2** Kosasiempre, **4-1** Presenting A Queen, **4-1** Followango, **28-1** Emberscombe

TIMEFORM VIEW:

With the Anthony Honeyball stable going so well it might be worth chancing PRESENTING A QUEEN to make light of her long absence. Last month's Ludlow scorer Kit's Coty looks the obvious danger.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PRESENTING A QUEEN 2. KIT'S COTY 3. FOLLOWANGO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Getbazoutofhere	8-10-8	3-1	Tom Gretton	David Noonan	4
2023	Shirocco's Dream	8-11-12	9-2	Joe Tizzard	Harry Cobden	8
2022	Do You Think	6-11-1	11-2	Emma Lavelle	Tom Bellamy	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.45

PAUL FERGUSON'S JUMPERS TO FOLLOW HANDICAP CHASE (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-110) £8,900 2½m194y (4200 Metres)

RACE 4



Going: **Good**

Hereford's right-handed circuit of about a mile and a half is almost square and has nine fences, of which the first after the winning post is taken on a turn. The home turn, which is on falling ground, is pretty sharp but the other bends are easy. Races have a tendency to be well run and the ground can get very testing in midwinter. The course restarted racing in October 2016 after a four-year hiatus.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 DELPOTRO (FR) (42) (BF) h+t 96
4P32-1P12 5 12-0 | 76.2kg

Charlie Longsdon *Daire McConville (71b/3kg)*
Free-going front runner saves his best for Segdefield, seeing out a longer trip under an energy-conserving ride when winning there last month (19.3f) and running as well as ever when second at the track (16.4f) last time. Back up in trip/away from his favourite track here but respected nonetheless.

2 JACKPOT CASH (FR) (11) (D, BF) h ★ 100
2311-21U6 6 11-13 | 75.7kg

James Owen *Sam Twiston-Davies*
Has thrived following a switch to this yard, scoring for fourth time (over hurdles/fences) in 2m5f chase at Sedgfield in May. Shaped as if still in good form on a couple of starts following a break and could be poised to resume winning ways back over fences.

3 NOBLE PARK (IRE) (196) 97
860U22-0 6 11-12 | 75.3kg

Nicky Henderson *Nico de Boinville*
Lightly raced maiden shaped well on handicap debut when 5½ lengths second to Almuhit (form franked subsequently) but underperformed in a valuable Punchestown handicap (19.4f) subsequently. Stoutly bred and may have more to offer now sent chasing by top yard.

4 IMAC WOOD (FR) (118) (CD) t 96
66136P-55 7 11-12 | 75.3kg

Deborah Cole *James Bowen*
C&D winner wasn't beaten far when fifth in a 2½m handicap at Uttoxeter in July (had won the race the previous year) but has been absent since. James Bowen aboard for the first time and has the form to be competitive if ready to roll on reappearance.

5 MIX OF CLOVER (24) (D) s 98
1F-327361 11 11-10 | 74.4kg

Alastair Ralph *Tom Broughton (51b/2kg)*
Inconsistent veteran was twice a winner last year and bounce back to justify support when winning a 5-runner handicap chase at Stratford (20.9f, good) 24 days ago, capitalising on a reduced mark. Up 4 lb here and not guaranteed to be in the same form.

6 THE MAGUS (IRE) (32) 97
5421-0 5 11-8 | 73.5kg

Evan Williams *Conor Ring*
Low-mileage 5-y-o made a winning handicap hurdle debut at Chepstow (19.5f) last season but looked rusty over the same C&D on his return last month. Quickly sent chasing (bred to suit) and market should guide expectations on first start over fences.

7 MAHLER MOON (IRE) (31) s+t 95
3534315-P 7 11-4 | 71.7kg

Fergal O'Brien *Jonathan Burke*
Has multiple breathing operations. Let down by his jumping on second start over fences over C&D last season but did break his duck in a Newbury handicap hurdle in March. Needed the run on reappearance last month but remains to be seen if he's closer to form returned to fences with headgear back on.

8 TRAPISTA (FR) (19) (C) s 99
3-24U7433 8 10-12 | 68.9kg

Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill *Jonjo O'Neill Jr.*
Course winner posted some creditable efforts earlier in the season following a spell in the doldrums but not in the same form over a longer trip at Ludlow (23.8f) last time, finishing a well held third of 5. Still on a workable mark if first-time cheekpieces have the desired effect.

9 DARK SOLDIER (IRE) (473) 97
886- 6 10-3 | 64.9kg

Sheila Lewis *Sean Houlihan*
Runner-up in a maiden point in March 2024 (unplaced other 5 starts) but well beaten at long odds on his 3 runs under Rules (all over hurdles), showing a bit more on qualifying run at Uttoxeter in July. Upped in trip for chase debut but hard to confident unless market speaks in his favour.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Jackpot Cash, 4-1 Delpotro, 11-2 Mix of Clover, 11-2 Noble Park, 8-1 Trapista, 10-1 Imac Wood, 16-1 Mahler Moon, 20-1 The Magus, 50-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

JACKPOT CASH has already won four times since joining James Owen and arrives in better heart than his last couple of form figures suggest. He can resume winning ways back over fences, with course winner Trapista feared most from a handy mark, if first-time cheekpieces have the desired effect. Noble Park is an interesting chase debutant for a top yard if the betting indicates he's fit enough to do himself justice.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. JACKPOT CASH 2. TRAPISTA 3. NOBLE PARK

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Moodofthemoment	7-11-6	2-1	Matt Sheppard	Stan Sheppard	5
2023	School Days Over	6-11-6	9-2	Fergal O'Brien	Paddy Brennan	7
2022	Highstakesplayer	6-11-8	3-1	Tom Lacey	Stan Sheppard	6
2021	Scene Not Herd	6-11-0	9-2	Charlie Longsdon	Jonathan Burke	5
2020	Oscar Robertson	6-11-6	3-1	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.20

BETWRIGHT SAFER GAMBLING HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-110) £7,700 2m5f163y (4370 Metres)

RACE 5



Going: **Good**

Hereford's right-handed circuit of about a mile and a half is almost square and has nine fences, of which the first after the winning post is taken on a turn. The home turn, which is on falling ground, is pretty sharp but the other bends are easy. Races have a tendency to be well run and the ground can get very testing in midwinter. The course restarted racing in October 2016 after a four-year hiatus.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 LUNAR POWER (IRE) (23) s **100**

8PP6/50F-2 **7** 12-2 | 77.1kg

James Owen

Nathan Howie (31b/1kg)



Not the force of old but showed plenty of ability remains when second of 6 in handicap hurdle at Kempton (21f, good to firm) 23 days ago, albeit no match for winner. Player off same mark.

2 WOODYTHEWOODPECKER (IRE) (177) **96**

45P94-3 **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg

Evan Williams

Conor Ring



Lightly-raced sort who looked a little awkward when third of 5 in novice hurdle at Stratford (22f, good) in May, jumping ponderously. Into a handicap now and will need to be more fluent on that score.

3 OF COURSE YOU CAN (34) (D) s+t **98**

3270-3091 **7** 11-8 | 73.5kg

Neil Mulholland

Harriet Tucker (71b/3kg)



Bounced back to best to win 7-runner handicap hurdle (for second year running) at Ludlow (21.2f, good to firm) 34 days ago, staying on to lead final 100 yds. Respected up 4 lb.

4 MAN OF THE SEA (IRE) (24) s+t **97**

22-432436 **9** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Neil Mulholland

Richie McLernon



Added to his tally on the Flat at Bath in August but turned in a lacklustre display there next time and fared little better back hurdling at Stratford last month.

5 ON THE GO (35) **99**

F684-33 **5** 10-9 | 67.6kg

Charlie Longsdon

Daire McConville (71b/3kg)



Posted another creditable effort when third of 8 in handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (19.6f, good to firm) 35 days ago. Should remain competitive.

6 IZZY'S GREY (IRE) (178) t **95**

5/45032-PP **6** 10-9 | 67.6kg

Belinda Clarke

Lee Edwards



Maiden who was placed in a pair of Bangor handicap in the spring but has been pulled up on his last 2 outings, including in a first-time strap when said to have made a noise at Bangor on most recent outing. Has had a breathing operation since.

7 INCHAGOILL LADY (IRE) (160) s+t **97**

334PP1-56 **9** 10-2 | 64.4kg

Kevin Pickard

Lewis Saunders (51b/2kg)



Underwent breathing surgery before getting off the mark in 3m handicap hurdle at Taunton in April and backed it up with a solid fifth at Newton Abbot. Failed to see her race out at latter track last time and now drops back in trip. Has had another breathing operation.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Of Course You Can, **10-3** On The Go, **4-1** Lunar Power, **8-1** Inchagoill Lady, **9-1** Woodythewoodpecker, **12-1** Man of The Sea, **20-1** Izzy's Grey

TIMEFORM VIEW:

LUNAR POWER is seemingly not the force of old, but he showed enough behind a younger and far less exposed rival at Kempton last month to be of interest again from his current mark. On The Go is a low-mileage sort who ought to remain competitive, with Ludlow-scorer Of Course You Can also respected.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LUNAR POWER 2. ON THE GO 3. OF COURSE YOU CAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024 **Greenways** 5-9-13 3-1f Tom Symonds Ben Poste 10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.55

HEREFORD QUARRIES HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 3yo+ (Rated 0-105) £6,150 2m53y (3270 Metres)

RACE 6



Going: **Good**

Hereford's right-handed circuit of about a mile and a half is almost square and has nine fences, of which the first after the winning post is taken on a turn. The home turn, which is on falling ground, is pretty sharp but the other bends are easy. Races have a tendency to be well run and the ground can get very testing in midwinter. The course restarted racing in October 2016 after a four-year hiatus.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 RENOIR (36) (CD) s+t **99**
2241-4354 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

Ben Clarke *Toby McCain-Mitchell (51b/2kg)*
12f Flat winner who got off the mark over hurdles over C&D in March and shaped a clear second best when third at Stratford in May. Flying too high on reappearance at Plumpton but again ran below form back down in grade at aforementioned track last time. Bit to prove in a first-time tongue strap.

2 GRANPA GER (IRE) (37) **95**
500-20322 7 12-0 | 76.2kg

Belinda Clarke *Lee Edwards*
Long-standing maiden who again ran well on first run since leaving Anthony Mullins when splitting 2 subsequent winners in a maiden hurdle at Uttoxeter (15.8f, good to soft) 37 days ago. In the mix with a repeat.

3 ACROSS EARTH (IRE) (215) **95**
234- 4 11-11 | 74.8kg

Gary & Josh Moore *Freddie Mitchell (51b/2kg)*
Fairly useful Flat winner who was a shade disappointing making the switch to handicaps in this sphere over C&D in April but it's still early days with him over hurdles.

4 EL GAVILAN (FR) (20) t **86**
4952325-P 4 11-10 | 74.4kg

Clive Boulbee-Brooks *Richard Patrick*
Fair form over hurdles in France. A bit below that level in Britain last season and shapes as if amiss on last month's return at Worcester, folding tamely leaving back straight.

5 COGITAL (26) (D) **96**
5 10 11-10 | 74.4kg

Bernard Llewellyn *Jay Tidball (51b/2kg)*
Has seemingly going off the boil on the Flat and offered little returned to hurdling in handicap won by Baikal at Ffos Las (15.8f, good, 40/1) 26 days ago.

6 ONE COOL DREAMER (IRE) (143) s **95**
42 4 11-6 | 72.6kg

Alan King *Tom Bellamy*
Fairly useful handicapper on Flat (stays 1¼m), posted a creditable fourth at Kempton last month. Ran below that level when in the frame both starts over hurdles this summer but could well do better now venturing into handicaps.

7 FOLLOWING CHAPTER (265) **85**
954- 5 11-3 | 71.2kg

Alastair Ralph *Jonathan Burke*
Made little impact in a trio of starts over hurdles last season. More realistic chance now handicapping but will likely be of more interest over longer trips in due course.

8 GRAECIA (IRE) (23) (D) h+t ★ **100**
4P3P-4412 4 11-2 | 70.8kg

Charlie Longsdon *Daire McConville (71b/3kg)*
A fair Flat winner who is progressing over hurdles, cosily landing 2m Worcester handicap in September before finding only one too good from a 7 lb higher mark at Kempton (2m). Remains of firm interest.

9 BAIKAL (14) (D) s **98**
06-411513 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

Grace Harris *Conor Ring*
Has really found his feet of late, right back to his best when notching a third win from his last 4 starts in this sphere at Ffos Las (15.8f) in October. Ran at least as well in defeat from a 4 lb higher mark back there 12 days later and ought to remain competitive.

10 GLORIOUS LION (11) **98**
F43250/P 5 10-12 | 68.9kg

Sarah-Jayne Davies *Shane Fenelon (51b/2kg)*
Failed to go on from a promising start in juvenile hurdles for Harry Derham in early 2024 and showed nothing returning for a new yard after 18 months off at Uttoxeter recently. Easily passed over.

11 CAWTHORNE BANKER (IRE) (24) (D,BF) s **98**
99P21316d 7 10-12 | 68.9kg

Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill *Jonjo O'Neill Jr.*
Bagged a second success this autumn when seeing off 6 rivals at Uttoxeter in October. Probably found race coming too soon when well held at Stratford only 24 hrs later (subsequently disqualified after jockey failed to weigh in). Could bounce back.

12 SILK BIRD (184) **93**
64-F 5 10-7 | 66.7kg

Max Young *Charlie Hammond*
Fair at best on the Flat (stays 1¼m) but disappointing in that sphere for current yard and has made no impact on all 3 starts over hurdles. Into handicaps now and hard to fancy.

13 LADY WILHELMINA (FR) (36) **98**
33776 3 10-6 | 66.2kg

Nick Scholfield *Richie McLernon*
Showed fair form when third on hurdle debut in France in May but well below that level since, including in 2 runs for Dominic Ffrench Davis. Has work to do now setting out for another new stable.

14 GALACTIC GLOW (IRE) (202) s **93**
8/839P424- 8 10-2(9-11) | 64.4kg (62.1kg)

Joe Tickle *Ben Godfrey*
Yet to win in this sphere but made the frame in a couple of Taunton handicaps last spring and has added to his tally on the Flat this summer. Not ruled out despite being 5 lb out of the weights.

14 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Graecia, 13-2 Baikal, 13-2 Granpa Ger, 17-2 Cawthorne Banker, 9-1 One Cool Dreamer, 11-1 Renoir, 12-1 Across Earth, 16-1 Galactic Glow, 25-1 Following Chapter, 33-1 Silk Bird, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

GRAECIA is going the right way as a hurdler now and should be suited by the return to a bigger-field handicap which promises to be run at a true pace, so she remains of firm interest. Granpa Ger is a long-standing maiden but split 2 subsequent winners on his first start for his current yard in a maiden at Uttoxeter last month, with the in-form Baikal completing the shortlist.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GRAECIA 2. GRANPA GER 3. BAIKAL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Jazz King 8-12-0	13-8f	Alastair Ralph	Murray Dodd (7)	6
2023	East End Girl 6-11-6	9-2cf	Alastair Ralph	Jonathan Burke	11
2022	Maxcel 5-11-11	5-1	Mel Rowley	Harry Cobden	13
2021	Yauthym 5-11-11	7-2	Fergal O'Brien	Liam Harrison (3)	13
2020 ^l	Drewmain Legend 8-11-10	13-2	Ali Stronge	Richard Johnson	13
2020 ^l	Sehayli 7-9-12	10-1	Johnny Farrelly	Mitchell Bastyan (5)	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race