

Thursday 13th November

SEDGEFIELD



12.50 CANINE PREMIER FLEX PLUS JOINT SUPPLEMENT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5)
2m178y (3380 Metres)

RACE 1 **(6) TANKING ALONG | (9) AWAY SHE GOES | (10) ASCENSION DAY**

1.24 MICHAEL WATSON CIVILS & GROUNDWORKS JUVENILE HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2m178y (3380 Metres)

RACE 2 **(3) LUNAR ORBIT | (2) LIGHTS GO DOWN | (4) STARDROP**

1.59 FAIRLIGHT STUDIOS NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (5) 2m77y (3290 Metres)

RACE 3 **(7) FORMEL PARK | (2) INDEPENDENT JIMMY | (3) CONQUER THE BREEZE**

2.34 SPRAYCLADUK NE LTD MARES' MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 2m3f188y (3990 Metres)

RACE 4 **(2) BLUE TOPAZ | (3) LA ZOUBIDA | (4) ROSES ALL THE WAY**

3.09 RESOLVE GROUP UK HANDICAP CHASE (5) 3¼m59y (5280 Metres)

RACE 5 **(3) UPFORDEBATE | (5) EMOTIONAL ROLLER | (2) SKYHILL**

3.40 THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK MICHAEL NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2m3f188y (3990 Metres)

RACE 6 **(6) DEVON SKIES | (8) LILLISTAR | (2) BALALLY PARK**

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.

12.50

RACE 1

**CANINE PREMIER FLEX PLUS JOINT SUPPLEMENT
CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 3yo+
(Rated 0-100) £6,150 2m178y (3380 Metres)**



Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. In theory, an uphill finish should dictate that plenty of races change complexion late in the day but, in practice, that isn't the case, the run-in being short on both courses and plenty of those in front having a tendency to pick up again when challenged.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 **EXPELLIARMUS (IRE) (117)** s **94**

374/7-67 5 12-0 | 76.2kg



Ben Haslam

Fern O'Brien

Fair maiden on the Flat for Joseph O'Brien and ran her best race over hurdles on handicap debut with cheekpieces fitted on final run for that yard last December. Well held both starts for Ben Haslam, but she's dangerous to discount now eased in class off this reduced mark.

2 **BODYGROOVE (208)** s **95**

2P/61U5- 5 11-12 | 75.3kg



Micky Hammond

Joshua Thompson (6lb/3kg)

Fair Flat winner who made a successful handicap hurdle debut at Wetherby in March. Largely below par since, but there were more encouraging signs back from a 3-month break on the level in first-time cheekpieces (retained) at Catterick recently and he's just 2 lb above that winning Wetherby mark.

3 **CLEAN GETAWAY (IRE) (27) (CD)** s **94**

5-2P67422 8 11-6 | 72.6kg



Philip Kirby

Joe Williamson

Had a prolific spell over hurdles/chases at this course around this time last year, winning 4 on the spin. Returned to form when second in a handicap hurdle back here on penultimate start, but he was brushed aside at Fakenham next time and there are more appealing options in this line-up.

4 **DUDLEY'S BAR (IRE) (7)** t **95**

578/4 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



Paula Smith

Peter Kavanagh

Ten-race maiden on the Flat and while he wasn't disgraced back from 2 years off when fourth on handicap debut in this sphere over C&D last week, he remains opposable for win purposes.

5 **BERRY EDGE (IRE) (184)** **73**

5-56 7 11-2 | 70.8kg



David Thompson

Ellis Collier

Multiple winner on the Flat, but will need to leave his maiden/novice form well behind if he's to make an impact now handicapping in this sphere.

6 **TANKING ALONG (IRE) (23)** s+t **100**

P/34F55-62 6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Patrick Neville

Paddy Hanlon

Well-backed when finding just one too good in first-time cheekpieces/tongue strap (both retained here) in a Perth handicap (16.2f, heavy) on seasonal reappearance last month. Remains on a workable mark up 2 lb and this 6-y-o can be expected to make a bold bid to go one better.

7 **SASSIFIED (IRE) (26) (D)** b **90**

28-312355 7 11-1 | 70.3kg



James Owen

Alex Chadwick

Multiple winner over timber for Philip Hobbs & Johnson White, recording latest success at Newton Abbot (16.8f, soft) in June. Well held both starts for present yard (latterly on the Flat), but it's likely that James Owen will find the key to him before long.

8 **JOTO (249)** t **93**

645053- 5 10-10 | 68.0kg



John Dawson

William Maggs

Made the frame on second of 2 starts in bumpers and wasn't disgraced when third on handicap bow at Carlisle (17f, good to soft) in March. 3 lb lower on this seasonal reappearance/debut for new yard, but she'll need to improve in order to play a leading role.

9 **AWAY SHE GOES (IRE) (158)** s **95**

P9964-133 6 10-9 | 67.6kg



Paul Robson

Edward Austin

Improved for switch to front-running tactics when off the mark at Kelso (16.2f, good) during the spring. Followed that with a couple of solid efforts in defeat, most recently when third of 14 at Perth in June, and she's a strong each-way contender.

10 **ASCENSION DAY (IRE) (14)** s+t **96**

P-8P7P8P6 8 10-7 | 66.7kg



Ben Haslam

Benjamin Macey (3lb/1kg)

Runner-up 3 times on the bounce over hurdles in first half of 2024 for Shaun Lycett. Largely out of sorts since, but recent Newcastle sixth in the handicap won by National Question proved that there is still ability there and he continues to edge down the weights.

11 **NATIONAL QUESTION (IRE) (14) (D)** s **95**

072124-51 5 10-6 | 66.2kg



Adam Nicol



Charlie Maggs

Won at Hexham last November and resumed winning ways back from a break at Newcastle (17f, good) a fortnight ago. Recent winning form is at a premium in this race, so he scores highly in that regard, but this 4 lb higher mark demands another personal best.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-3 Tanking Along, **13-2** National Question, **7-1** Away She Goes, **8-1** Ascension Day, **10-1** Bodygroove, **12-1** Clean Getaway, **12-1** Sassified, **14-1** Joto, **16-1** Expelliarmus, **20-1** Dudley's Bar, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TANKING ALONG lived up to his name for much of the journey before being outbattled in the closing stages when finding just one too strong at Perth. This sharp track should prove ideal (the forecast better ground may also be helpful) and he earns the vote. Away She Goes will be a threat if ready to roll following a break, while Ascension Day took a step back in the right direction in the Newcastle handicap won by National Question recently and he is also interesting.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TANKING ALONG 2. AWAY SHE GOES 3. ASCENSION DAY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Suitably Surprised 5-10-2	6-5f	Sam England	Charlie Maggs (3)	8
2023	El Jefe 6-10-7	6-4f	Andrew Hamilton	Conor Rabbitt	8
2021 ¹	Major Snugfit 5-9-12	10-3f	Rebecca Menzies	Nathan Moscrop	10
2021 ¹¹	Wilhelm Vonvenster 7-11-2	33-1	Nicky Richards	Mark Galligan (8)	8
2020 ⁰	Hot Gossip 6-10-2	4-1	Dianne Sayer	Danny McMenamin	10
2020 ⁰	Ivors Involvement 8-10-2	100-1	Tina Jackson	Stephen Mulqueen	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.24

RACE 2

MICHAEL WATSON CIVILS & GROUNDWORKS JUVENILE HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 3yo £7,700 2m178y (3380 Metres)



Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. In theory, an uphill finish should dictate that plenty of races change complexion late in the day but, in practice, that isn't the case, the run-in being short on both courses and plenty of those in front having a tendency to pick up again when challenged.

Pace Information: **Uncontested**

1 GENBU (13) t **83**

33331P 3 11-7 | 73.0kg



Sam England

Charlie Maggs (5lb/2kg)

Best Flat form came over 7f, but has proven his stamina for this game and opened hurdles account at Wetherby (2m, good to firm) last month. Out of his depth in a listed race over the same C&D since and while his sights are lowered here, he looks vulnerable under a penalty.

2 LIGHTS GO DOWN

3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Michael & David Easterby

Jamie Hamilton

Fair maiden handicapper at up to 1½m on the Flat. Wasn't knocked about when fourth in a 7-runner handicap at Catterick on latest start last month and he's worth a second look now hurdling.

3 LUNAR ORBIT (IRE) (18) h **100**

2P3 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Warren Greatrex

James Bowen

Half-brother to fairly useful French hurdler/chaser Bernardo Bellotto. Fairly useful maiden on the Flat and placed both completed start in this sphere, most recently finishing third in a 5-runner affair at Fontwell (17.7f, good). Since undergone a wind op and he's the one to beat.

4 STARDROP (9) h+t **98**

226 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



James Owen

Alex Chadwick (3lb/1kg)

Fairly useful Flat winner and runner-up first 2 starts in juvenile hurdles. Wasn't seen to best effect in first-time tongue strap (over jumps; retained here) at Warwick (2m, good) recently and should make his presence felt.

5 THAT LUCAS FELLA (IRE) (BF)

3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Iain Jardine

Sean Quinlan

Modest maiden handicapper on Flat (stays 1¼m), creditable fourth at Newcastle when last seen in September. Will need to improve for the switch to hurdles in order to make a winning debut in this sphere.

6 TOBY TWO SCOOPS (29) b **70**

3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Micky Hammond

Brian Hughes

Modest maiden handicapper on Flat (stays 2m) and beaten 12 lengths when third to Genbu on hurdles debut at Wetherby. Opposable.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Lunar Orbit, **5-2** Stardrop, **7-1** Genbu, **17-2** Lights Go Down, **14-1** That Lucas Fella, **16-1** Toby Two Scoops

TIMEFORM VIEW:

This represents a good opportunity for LUNAR ORBIT, who put his disappointing Chepstow effort behind him when third at Fontwell recently and will prove hard to beat if the subsequent wind operation has the desired effect. Lights Go Down showed ability on the level and he could be the one to follow the selection home, granted a clean round of jumping on his debut in this sphere. Stardrop also enters calculations.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LUNAR ORBIT 2. LIGHTS GO DOWN 3. STARDROP

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Mill Street 3-11-0	5-2f	Ben Pauling	Ben Jones	8
2023	Feach Amach 3-10-7	33-1	Nigel Hawke	Lorcan Murtagh	8
2022	Jipekaa Machin 3-11-0	8-13f	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	7
2021	Monjules 3-10-12	5-1	John Norton	Callum Bewley	6
2020	Le Magnifique 3-10-12	18-1	Keith Dalglish	Billy Garrity (5)	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.59

FAIRLIGHT STUDIOS NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier)
(5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £6,150 2m77y (3290 Metres)

RACE 3



Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. In theory, an uphill finish should dictate that plenty of races change complexion late in the day but, in practice, that isn't the case, the run-in being short on both courses and plenty of those in front having a tendency to pick up again when challenged.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 BELLE MONTROSE (IRE) (15) (D) s+t **97**
 73-831414 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

Samuel Drinkwater **Benjamin Macey** (71b/3kg)
 Maiden hurdler who has taken well to larger obstacles, winning 2 of her first 3 starts in this sphere. However, she failed to fire at Fakenham last time and now tried in cheekpieces.

2 INDEPENDENT JIMMY (30) (BF) s **100**
 39-422123 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

Donald McCain **Charlie Maggs** (51b/2kg)
 Deservedly opened account when making all for a narrow success in a Bangor handicap hurdle in September. Solid start over fences with a good second at Worcester later that month and, though he folded tamely when third at Market Rasen (19.2f, good) last time, this drop back in trip should help.

3 CONQUER THE BREEZE (IRE) (6) t **96**
 P32-32124 6 11-4 | 71.7kg

Maurice Barnes **Charlie Price** (31b/1kg)
 Proved consistent this year and belatedly opened account at Hexham (15.6f, good to soft) in June. Should come on for his spin over that C&D recently, which was his first run for 4 months, and he will be a threat granted an assured round of jumping.

4 PLATENIUM (FR) (14) t **91**
 79-654143 6 10-13 | 69.4kg

Sam England **Jonathan England**
 Heading back in the right direction for this yard, shedding his maiden tag in 2m Uttoxeter handicap hurdle in October. Another good effort in that sphere at Newcastle last time, but he didn't jump particularly well when fourth on chase debut at Hexham on his penultimate start.

5 BELLE NA BANN (IRE) (7) (D) t **99**
 902757P-7 9 10-6 | 66.2kg

Micky Hammond **Alice Stevens** (51b/2kg)
 Largely out of sorts last season and recent reappearance over 21.2f at this course was hardly inspiring.

6 BLENDED STEALTH (5) (D) b **57**
 81625965 8 10-5 | 65.8kg

Lizzie Quinlan **Peter Kavanagh**
 Refitting of cheekpieces and a more positive ride worked the oracle when finally opening his account at Hexham in May. However, he hasn't shown much in a handful of appearances since returning from a break in September and first-time blinkers now replace cheekpieces.

7 FORMEL PARK (7) s **99**
 70P3-208F 5 10-2(10-1) | 64.4kg (64.0kg)

Evan Williams **Conor Ring**
 Failed to progress over hurdles, but appeared to be on her way to a winning chase debut when departing 2 out on debut in this sphere at Ludlow (2m, good to soft) last week. Had jumped well prior to that fall and she may well gain compensation here.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Independent Jimmy, **11-4** Formel Park, **11-2** Conquer The Breeze, **7-1** Platenium, **8-1** Belle Montrose, **33-1** Blended Stealth, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Provided that her second-last fence departure at Ludlow last week hasn't left a mark, FORMEL PARK could be the answer. She delivered an otherwise competent round of jumping on that occasion and shades preference ahead of Independent Jimmy, who should benefit from this drop back in trip and the refitting of cheekpieces may also help. Conquer The Breeze is also entitled to respect.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. FORMEL PARK 2. INDEPENDENT JIMMY 3. CONQUER THE BREEZE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024 **Natural Ability** 6-11-12 3-1 Chris Grant Danny McMenamin 7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.34

SPRAYCLADUK NE LTD MARES' MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 4yo+ fillies and mares £7,700 2m3f188y (3990 Metres)

RACE 4




Going: **Good to Soft**


Left handed, undulating. In theory, an uphill finish should dictate that plenty of races change complexion late in the day but, in practice, that isn't the case, the run-in being short on both courses and plenty of those in front having a tendency to pick up again when challenged.

Pace Information: **Weak**


1 A PLEASANT SUPRISE (IRE) 90
6 11-4 | 71.7kg

 Patrick Neville *Paddy Hanlon (5lb/2kg)*
Mahler mare. Dam, of little account, closely related to fairly useful hurdler/chaser (stays 3½m) Ballyegan Hero. Winning Irish pointer who finished last of 7 finishers last time (Mar 2025) and she's passed over on Rules debut unless market vibes indicate otherwise.

2 BLUE TOPAZ (25) (C) 100
41 5 11-4 | 71.7kg t 

 Fergal O'Brien *James Bowen*
Point scorer (off mark at fourth attempt) who made a sound start when fourth on bumper debut at Uttoxeter (15.8f) in July. Improved following wind surgery/fitted with a tongue strap when readily off the mark in a 5-runner bumper here (16.8f) 25 days ago and well worth considering now hurdling.


3 LA ZOUBIDA (FR) (224) 98
210- 5 11-4 | 71.7kg

 Nicky Richards *Sean Quinlan*
Authorized mare who confirmed debut promise when off the mark in a Market Rasen bumper (16.6f) back in February. Found Grade 2 company too much at Aintree when last seen in April but she's an interesting hurdles newcomer for a yard very much amongst the winners.


4 ROSES ALL THE WAY (IRE) (224) 99
2230- 6 11-4 | 71.7kg

 Donald McCain *Brian Hughes*
Second on sole start between the flags and fairly useful form when placed first 3 starts in bumpers last term (including at listed level). Well-beaten in Aintree Grade 2 final outing but very much bred to have a future in this sphere and she's another to note returning from 7 months off.

5 TANTIVY VAVOOM (IRE) 93
5 11-4 | 71.7kg

 Ruth Jefferson *Jamie Hamilton*
Order of St George mare. Dam ran twice in bumpers, half-sister to useful hurdler/smart staying chaser (placed in Grand National) Double Seven. Successful on first of 2 starts in Irish points, pulled up last time (May 2025). Worth a market check on Rules debut but likely to need more time/distance.


6 A CHARA 94
4 11-3 | 71.2kg

 Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero *Toby Wynne*
€25,000 3-y-o, £70,000 4-y-o, Gentlewave filly. Dam, fair 19f hurdle winner, half-sister to smart hurdler/useful chaser (winner up to 23f) Movewiththetimes. Off mark in Irish points at second attempt (Mar 2025) and interesting if there's confidence behind her in the betting.


7 BEEP BEEP BECKY (IRE) 93
4 11-3 | 71.2kg

 Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero *Robert Dunne*
£35,000 4-y-o, Feel Like Dancing filly. Half-sister to Dynamite Dan. Dam unraced. Runner-up sole start in Irish points (Mar 2025) and the betting can point the way on Rules/hurdles bow.

8 DILLY'S GUNNER (295) 91
25- 4 11-3 | 71.2kg

 Michael & David Easterby *Patrick Wadge*
Dartmouth filly who produced a promising first effort amidst greenness when second of 9 in bumper at this track in December, keeping on after shuffled back home turn. Possibly unsuited by firmer conditions when mid-field at Catterick the following month and now sent hurdling.

9 GIRL OF GOLD (IRE) (43) 95
554-2 4 11-3 | 71.2kg

 James Owen *Ben Bromley (5lb/2kg)*
Didn't offer much in a trio of bumper starts for Harry Derham and similar story on the Flat upon joining James Owen this summer. Did show aptitude tried hurdling when runner-up in a Warwick maiden (21f) 6 weeks back but surprise where she not vulnerable again to a few of the hurdles debutantes here.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Blue Topaz, **4-1** Roses All The Way, **9-2** La Zoubida, **7-1** Girl of Gold, **9-1** A Chara, **12-1** Tantivy Vavoom, **12-1** Beep Beep Becky, **20-1** Dilly's Gunner, **33-1** A Pleasant Surprise

TIMEFORM VIEW:

BLUE TOPAZ showed improved form on the back of wind surgery/fitting of a tongue strap when readily off the mark in a course bumper 6 weeks ago and she's narrowly selected to continue the good work now hurdling under James Bowen. Fellow hurdles newcomers La Zoubida and Roses All The Way both showed plenty themselves in bumpers and also command a second look. A Chara, successful in points at the second also requires a market check.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. BLUE TOPAZ 2. LA ZOUBIDA 3. ROSES ALL THE WAY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Reel Rosie 5-11-4	10-3	Jennie Candlish	Sean Quinlan	7
2023	Let's Go Joe 5-11-4	7-2	Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero	Henry Brooke	10
2021	Bold Endeavour 5-11-4	11-8f	L J Morgan	Adam Wedge	9
2020	African Dance 5-11-0	evsf	Olly Murphy	Aidan Coleman	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.09

RESOLVE GROUP UK HANDICAP CHASE (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-105) £6,150 3¼m59y (5280 Metres)

RACE 5



Going: **Good to Soft**

SMART STATS:

Left handed, undulating. In theory, an uphill finish should dictate that plenty of races change complexion late in the day but, in practice, that isn't the case, the run-in being short on both courses and plenty of those in front having a tendency to pick up again when challenged.

No Smart Stats available for this race

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 COOPER'S CROSS (IRE) (39) (C) 87

PPPPP/785 10 12-0 | 76.2kg



Stuart Coltherd

Ross Chapman

Veteran chaser who has fallen a long way down the weights since his prime, almost certainly beaten by more than a lack of fitness after 3 months off when fifth of 6 in handicap chase at Kelso (26.2f, good) 39 days ago, finding little. Likely best watched despite tumbling mark/further ease in class.

2 SKYHILL (IRE) (262) (CD) t ✓ 97

54584/14U- 12 11-7 | 73.0kg



Alison Hamilton

Jamie Hamilton

Veteran C&D winner who ended a very light 2024/25 campaign in a lull, tailed off when unseating last at Ayr in February. However, worth noting he was successful on his respective reappearance last term so a revival certainly not ruled out back from 8 months off.

3 UPFORDEBATE (IRE) (41) (BF) t ★ 100

16P6-511P 6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Patrick Neville

Brian Hughes

Started really well in this sphere, supplementing breakthrough Hexham success in August in 8-runner contest at Perth (23.8f) a month later. Jumping lacked same fluency when pulled up at first-named venue 6 weeks ago but no surprise to see him bounce back.

4 BALLYLINCH (IRE) (25) (C) s+t ✓ 91

312541/2-4 8 11-1 | 70.3kg



Micky Hammond

Conor O'Farrell

Dual scorer over fences during 2023/24 (at up to 27f) but he didn't show enough short-term promise following an 18-month lay-off (also tongue tied) when distant fourth of 5 in a C&D handicap chase 25 days ago. Cheekpieces go back on now but would need to see confidence behind him in the betting.

5 EMOTIONAL ROLLER (IRE) (235) (BF) 99

22P51325- 7 11-0 | 69.9kg



Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith

Peter Kavanagh

Gained his breakthrough win at Catterick in January and continued in good form thereafter, fitted with cheekpieces (left off here) when fifth at Carlisle (24.5f) in March. Longest trip he's faced to date expected to suit if ready to roll following 7 months off.

6 HALFWAY HOUSE LAD (12) t 97

3112-U2P4 6 10-5 | 65.8kg



Maurice Barnes

Charlie Price (3lb/1kg)

Won back-to-back handicaps over fences in March and showed benefit of a recent run when fourth of 12 in handicap chase at Ayr (24.1f, soft, 10/1) 12 days ago. Fact he's yet to defy this sort of mark is a slight concern but he's respected nevertheless as an in-form sort.

7 WEST LAWN (19) 93

3/45P5P-56 9 10-2(10-1) | 64.4kg (64.0kg)



James Walton

Harry Reed

Dual hurdles winner who has also scored twice in points. However, she remains a maiden in chases and failed to come on for her reappearance run when sixth of 8 in handicap chase at Kelso (23.4f) 19 days ago, jumping tentatively and never on terms. Best watched.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Upfordebate, **3-1** Emotional Roller, **11-2** Halfway House Lad, **13-2** Skyhill, **15-2** Ballylinch, **11-1** Cooper's Cross, **33-1** West Lawn

TIMEFORM VIEW:

UPFORDEBATE's fluency in the jumping department wasn't all it could have been when pulled up at Hexham 6 weeks ago, yet he'd previously looked one to keep on side at this sort of level, registering back-to-back victories at around 3m and he's afforded another chance to get back on the up. The returning Emotional Roller rates next best over the longest trip he's faced. Skyhill and Halfway House Lad complete the shortlist.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. UPFORDEBATE 2. EMOTIONAL ROLLER 3. SKYHILL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Old Page 7-9-10	14-1	David Thompson	Ellis Collier (7)	5
2023	Largy Nights 9-11-4	3-1	Charlie Longsdon	Lilly Pinchin (3)	6
2021	Regaby 6-10-12	5-1	Ian Williams	Charlie Todd (3)	9
2020	For Jim 8-11-0	10-3	Jennie Candlish	Sean Quinlan	11

3.40

RACE 6

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK MICHAEL NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 3yo+ (Rated 0-95) £6,150 2m3f188y (3990 Metres)




Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, undulating. In theory, an uphill finish should dictate that plenty of races change complexion late in the day but, in practice, that isn't the case, the run-in being short on both courses and plenty of those in front having a tendency to pick up again when challenged.

Pace Information: **Weak**


1 VAMPIRE SLAYER (IRE) (23) s **97**
8/68856-5 5 11-12 | 75.3kg

 **Daragh Bourke** *Callum Bewley*
Still yet to get his head in front but runner-up twice on the Flat this year. Back over hurdles, possibly unsuited by conditions when fifth of 12 in handicap at Perth (16.2f, heavy) 23 days ago. Cheekpieces on for first time over jumps.


2 BALALLY PARK (IRE) (12) s+t **96**
4-96262U3 6 11-7 | 73.0kg

 **Rebecca Menzies** *Ross Chapman*
Remains a maiden but, having unseated rider on chasing debut, bounced back to form over hurdles when third of 11 in handicap at Ayr (16f, soft) 12 days ago. Capable of getting involved back down in grade returned to this longer trip.


3 SEEYAINTHESUNINN (13) **94**
789655-P 5 11-6 | 72.1kg

 **Micky Hammond** *Conor O'Farrell*
Down the field in bumpers and has fared little better over hurdles, returning from 6 months off when pulled up on handicap debut at Wetherby (21.2f, good) 13 days ago. Needs to leave previous form behind on the back of his recent run.


4 NEWPORT (30) s **99**
9P-945540 5 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Iain Jardine** *Sean Quinlan*
Long-standing maiden but has made the frame twice in handicap hurdles this season. However, found run of good form coming to a halt when thirteenth of 20 at Punchestown (20f, good to soft) a month ago. First run for yard after leaving Eoin Doyle.


5 KILNACARRA (IRE) (63) t **93**
5 8 11-5 | 72.1kg

 **Jessica Bedi** *Joshua Thompson (7lb/3kg)*
Modest at form at best in Ireland in 2021. After nearly 4 years off ahead of first run since leaving Mrs Prunella Dobbs, tailed off in 5-runner maiden hurdle at Uttoxeter (23.3f, good) in September. Tongue strap applied for handicap debut.

6 DEVON SKIES (7lb/3kg ex) (7) (C) ★ **100**
4234PP-P1 6 11-4 | 71.7kg

 **Philip Kirby** *Joe Williamson (3lb/1kg)*
Pulled up first 3 starts in handicaps, but switched to front-running tactics she proved a different proposition when winning 10-runner contest at this course (21.2f, good to soft) a week ago. Scored easily last time and can make another bold bid under a penalty.

7 NO MORE BOLERO (76) s **97**
556/8256-4 6 11-1 | 70.3kg

 **James Owen** *Alex Chadwick (3lb/1kg)*
Useful on the Flat in Germany, though only modest over hurdles so far. Made the frame at Fontwell on first hurdles start for current yard in August, but has followed an encouraging run on the Flat with 2 poor efforts. Yard capable of getting one back to form, though.


8 LILLISTAR (13) **95**
587/732-23 5 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Micky Hammond** *Brian Hughes*
Runner-up twice over C&D in the spring and, having opened her account on the Flat, again ran well when third of 12 in handicap at Wetherby (21.2f, good) 13 days ago. Enters calculations back at this venue.


9 FAIRLY FULLING (IRE) (14) (BF) t **96**
4805P7-47 7 10-9 | 67.6kg

 **Susan Corbett** *Nathan Moscrop*
Not much promise for Jane Walton last term but, having attracted support, showed more on seasonal/stable debut when fourth of 11 handicap at this course (16.8f, good to firm) in September. However, wasn't in the same form at Newcastle last time. Tongue strap back on.


10 SMART BUCKS (27) **97**
6457P6-6P 5 10-7 | 66.7kg

 **Philip Kirby** *Miss Natasha Cookson (7lb/3kg)*
After 6 months off, bettered previous efforts over hurdles when sixth of 12 on handicap debut at this C&D in September. Went backwards from that run, though, when pulled up at Fakenham (20f, good) last month.

11 THE GEORDIE GINGE (IRE) (36) b **88**
64247-069 7 10-6 | 66.2kg

 **Hannah McMahon** *Benjamin Macey (7lb/3kg)*
Without a win in 16 starts over hurdles and form has gone the wrong way, faring no better in first-time blinkers when well held in handicap at this course (16.8f, good to firm) last time. Looks to be up against it.

12 MR GLOBALIST (IRE) (49) s **95**
02-P55655 6 10-5(10-4) | 65.8kg (65.3kg)

 **Lizzie Quinlan** *Peter Kavanagh*
Second in a course novice (16.8f) in March but hasn't kicked on since. Has shown a bit of promise last 2 starts, left with a lot to do when fifth of 9 in handicap at Perth (20.2f, good to soft) in September, though he's still looking for a first success.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Devon Skies, **5-1** Lillistar, **7-1** Balally Park, **11-1** No More Bolero, **11-1** Fairly Fulling, **12-1** Newport, **14-1** Vampire Slayer, **18-1** Mr Globalist, **25-1** Seeayinthesuninn, **28-1** Kilnacarra, **33-1** Smart Bucks, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

DEVON SKIES showed much improved form when making all at this course last week and, now 3 lb well-in under a penalty, she looks to hold leading claims of providing her trainer with a third consecutive win in this race. Lillistar arrives in good form and could be the main danger having run well here in the spring, ahead of Balally Park.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. DEVON SKIES 2. LILLISTAR 3. BALALLY PARK

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Clean Getaway 7-10-10	10-11f Philip Kirby	Joe Williamson (3)	12
2023	Special Rate 6-12-1	5-4f Philip Kirby	Ross Chapman	8
2021	Just Call Me Al 8-11-5	3-1 Gillian Boanas	Sean Quinlan	7
2020	Floating Rock 5-11-12	9-4f Mark Walford	Aidan Coleman	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race