GBI RACING

TIMEFORM 1-2-3

Friday 13th November

CHELTENHAM

1.10	**AIS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (3) 2m5f (4220 Metres)**
RACE 1	**(3) GLANCING JACK | (6) HIGH FIBRE | (17) KENO BLACK**
1.45	**MUCKING BRILLIANT PADDY POWER NOVICES' CHASE (Doctor Fothergill) (Listed) (1) 3m1f (5030 Metres)**
RACE 2	**(3) DERRYHASSEN PADDY | (6) KING'S BUCKS | (5) INTOSOMETHINGGOOD**
2.20	**SHLOER CHASE (Cheltenham) (Grade 2) (1) 1m7f199y (3200 Metres)**
RACE 3	**(1) JONBON | (2) GIDLEIGH PARK | (4) SAINT SEGAL**
2.55	**JILLY COOPER VETERANS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 2½m44y (4060 Metres)**
RACE 4	**(7) TRIPLE TRADE | (2) MAHONS GLORY | (4) THUNDER ROCK**
3.30	**ALBERT BARTLETT NOVICES' HURDLE (Hyde) (Grade 2) (1) 2m5f (4220 Metres)**
RACE 5	**(9) DIVINE DIVA | (2) HITINTHEHEADLINES | (8) FEROCIMO**
4.00	**VALDA ENERGY NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2m87y (3300 Metres)**
RACE 6	**(6) WAY OF STARS | (7) LEXINGTON WOOD | (4) SYTADEL**

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.

1.10 RACE 1

AIS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier)
(3) 3yo+ (Rated 0-125) £20,000 2m5f (4220 Metres)

GBI RACING

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

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Strong**

1 **KALIUM (FR) (272)** (BF) **96**
121151/34- **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg
Mitchell Hunt & Tim Vaughan — ***Richard Upton*** (7lb/3kg)
Irish bumper winner who struck 3 times over hurdles in 2024/25 campaign. Restricted to just 2 outings last season but they were both creditable in-frame efforts. Has gone well fresh.

2 **KHAFRE (FR) (215)** (BF) **94**
74115- **6** 11-12 | 75.3kg
Syd Hosie — ***Josh Williamson***
Fetched £60,000 after winning an Irish point and progressive when landing novice and handicap wins over 19f at Taunton last spring. Below par fifth at Wetherby on final start but could resume his improvement this season.

3 **GLANCING JACK (237)** ★ **100**
1/5212- **5** 11-11 | 74.8kg
Dan Skelton — ***Harry Atkins*** (3lb/1kg)
Low-mileage 5-y-o who made a fine start to his career for Tom Symonds last season. Found a chunk of improvement to split a trio of subsequent winners when second on handicap bow at Newbury (19f, good) in March. Makes obvious appeal having switched to Dan Skelton ahead of reappearance.

4 **NO ORDINARY JOE (IRE) (33)** s+t **88**
50761-065 **10** 11-11 | 74.8kg
Robert Stephens — ***Jack Stenhouse*** (5lb/2kg)
Ended a long losing run at Sandown in April but below par over hurdles since, including at Chepstow last month. Was a creditable second on the Flat at Kempton 18 days ago but he returns to hurdles with a point to prove.

5 **STEP AHEAD (IRE) (35)** (C) t **97**
23/2153-7 **6** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Kim Bailey & Mat Nicholls — ***Aamilah Aswat*** (10lb/5kg)
Expensive bumper recruit who won a course maiden hurdle last season. Off 7 months, shaped as if better for run when seventh of 15 in handicap at Chepstow (19f, good to soft) 35 days ago, not ideally placed. Remains unexposed and he was successful second time out last season.

6 **HIGH FIBRE (IRE) (118)** v **97**
656125-51 **7** 11-9 | 73.9kg
James Owen — ***Toby McCain-Mitchell***
Landed the Summer Hurdle (form worked out well) at Market Rasen on his only hurdle start for James Owen and has remained in form back on the Flat since, including fourth of 29 in the Cesarewitch at Newmarket (2¼m, good to firm) latest. High on the list back hurdling.

7 **DOUBLE OBAN (29)** s **97**
11/9215-52 **6** 11-8 | 73.5kg
Olly Murphy — ***Lewis Saunders*** (3lb/1kg)
Landed a fifth career 2m handicap hurdle success at Leicester (heavy) last December. Off 5 months, good second of 9 in 2m Perth handicap (soft) 4 weeks ago. It's taken a while for connections to step him up in trip but he's often left the impression this sort of test could suit him.

8 **DIAMATISTE (IRE) (236)** **96**
251/43223- **7** 11-8 | 73.5kg
Kayley Woollacott — ***Freddie Mitchell***
Consistent sort with a fine Exeter record, including third of 8 over 23f there when last seen in March. Has run well when fresh before.

9 **OUTMASTER (143)** s **93**
11 **5** 11-7 | 73.0kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Freddie Keighley*** (3lb/1kg)
Point winner who went 2-2 in maiden/novice hurdles at Newton Abbot (both 2¾m, good) at the start of the summer. May have the odd quirk (cheekpieces quickly reached for last time) but brings obvious unexposed potential to this handicap debut.

10 **BOSTON RAJJ (IRE) (21)** (BF) **96**
5345-7522 **8** 11-7 | 73.0kg
Ian O'Connor, Ireland — ***Gearoid Patrick Brouder***
Eleven runs since last win in 2025. Has posted 2 creditable runner-up efforts in handicaps in Ireland since joining current stable but more will be needed to go one better off this British mark.

11 **THAT'S IT PADDY (IRE)** (7lb/3kg ex) **(3)** **96**
6461 **5** 11-7 | 73.0kg
Grace Harris — ***Jude Fernandes*** (5lb/2kg)
Improved form to make a winning start to his handicap career in a 5-runner race at Lingfield (23f, good to firm) on Tuesday. A low-mileage profile provides the hope for better again but he's shouldered with a 7-lb penalty in a much harder race now.

12 **CHUTZPAL (IRE) (50)** b **95**
1130/2 **7** 11-6 | 72.6kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — ***Patrick Michael O'Brien***
Fit from Flat, made a good return to hurdles when second of 15 at Listowel (2½m, good to soft) in September. Each-way claims for his much-respected Irish stable.

13 **LOVELY GINO (FR) (229)** **98**
412/12BFP- **5** 11-6 | 72.6kg
Ben Pauling — ***Elliott England*** (8lb/4kg)
Fairly useful winning hurdler/chaser in France but failed to complete over fences on his final 2 outings there and made an inauspicious start for his new yard when pulled up in Ascot handicap hurdle in March. Would need to see support to consider on return.

14 **HEART OVER HEAD (IRE) (16)** **96**
4731108-7 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Fergal O'Brien — ***Tom Broughton***
Winner of handicaps around 23f at Uttoxeter (heavy) and Market Rasen (good to soft) last winter but lost his form at the end of season and fared no better on Newton Abbot return 16 days ago.

15 **MOON MISSION (30)** **94**
643-015P4 **5** 11-4 | 71.7kg
P. J. Rothwell, Ireland — ***Ross Sugrue*** (10lb/5kg)
Opened his account in novice at Cork (17f) in May but has failed to reproduce that form in handicaps since, including beaten just over 16 lengths when fourth of 13 in Punchestown handicap (2½m, good to soft) last month.

16 **RAZZLE DAZZLE BOY (IRE) (203)** **96**
102/52125- **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Mitchell Hunt & Tim Vaughan — ***Jay Tidball***
Runner-up in 2m Chepstow handicaps either side of his Leicester success (2m, heavy) last winter. Ran poorly back at Chepstow when last seen in April. Stamina to prove back from 6 months off.

17 **KENO BLACK (FR)** (7lb/3kg ex) **(11)** (D) h **99**
6091F-1 **6** 11-3 | 71.2kg
Neil Mulholland — ***Bradley Harris***
Maiden hurdler winner who was effectively making his handicap debut (fell early first attempt) when making a successful reappearance at Plumpton (21f, soft) 11 days ago. Did that with something to spare and respected under a 7-lb penalty for a stable which has tasted recent success in this.

18 **SNATCH A GLANCE (124)** **96**
131F3-343 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Fergal O'Brien — ***Fern O'Brien*** (3lb/1kg)
Bumper/maiden hurdle winner at Ludlow. Shaped with promise to hit the frame in a couple of summer handicaps at Market Rasen/Stratford. Freshened up since a below-par third at Stratford in July. Returns in a hot race.

19 **NORMAN FLETCHER (21)** v **99**
7-725322F **7** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies — ***Jamie Brace***
Shaped as if ready to capitalise on a reduced mark when second at Uttoxeter (2½m) and Newton Abbot (2¾m) in recent months. Hampered and fell first when 7/2 for a 2½m course handicap 3 weeks ago.

20 **ETON MES (IRE) (16)** (D) s **96**
4441135-2 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
David Pipe — ***Rian Corcoran*** (3lb/1kg)
Much improved to win his first 2 handicap hurdles at around 2½m at the beginning of 2026. Further progress when second of 8 on 17f Newton Abbot reappearance in first-time cheekpieces (retained) 16 days ago.

20 DECLARED RUNNERS

1.10 RACE 1

AIS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier)
(3) 3yo+ (Rated 0-125) £20,000 2m5f (4220 Metres)

GBI RACING

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Glancing Jack, **6-1** High Fibre, **7-1** Keno Black, **9-1** Outmaster, **16-1** Double Oban, **16-1** Chutzpal, **22-1** Eton Mes, **25-1** Norman Fletcher, **25-1** Boston Rajj, **25-1** Diamatiste, **28-1** That's It Paddy, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

GLANCING JACK's Newbury handicap debut second in March is strong form and he can make a successful reappearance for new trainer Dan Skelton. High Fibre's excellent start for the James Owen yard includes a Summer Hurdle win at Market Rasen and a fourth in the Cesarewitch at Newmarket last month so he's an obvious threat. Keno Black has a similar profile to his yard's 2024 winner of this and is next on the list ahead of Norman Fletcher and unexposed Paul Nicholls handicap newcomer Outmaster.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GLANCING JACK 2. HIGH FIBRE 3. KENO BLACK

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**A Pai de Nom** 5-11-5	11-2	Dan Skelton	Tristan Durrell (3)	18
2024	**Double Powerful** 5-11-3	3-1f	Neil Mulholland	Dylan Johnston	16
2023	**American Sniper** 5-11-9	16-1	David Pipe	Fergus Gillard	20
2022	**Sweet Will** 5-11-4	8-1	Gavin Patrick Cromwell	K. E. Buckley	18
2021	**Art Approval** 5-11-2	10-3	Fergal O'Brien	Peter Kavanagh (5)	20

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.45 RACE 2

MUCKING BRILLIANT PADDY POWER NOVICES' CHASE (Doctor Fothergill) (Listed) (1) 4yo+ £40,000 3m1f (5030 Metres)

GBI RACING

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

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 **BILL JOYCE (IRE)** (23) **95**
132F/0PP-3 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill — ***Jonjo O'Neill Jr.***
Dual bumper winner who made up into a useful novice hurdler in 2024/25 but looked one with problems in a trio of starts last season, including when bleeding on chase bow. Better signs when third in maiden chase at Worcester on return but remains to be seen whether he's able to build on that.

2 **D ART D ART (FR)** (41) **95**
28/0P90-15 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Thomas Cooper, Ireland — ***Daniel King***
Developed into a useful hurdler during 2024/25 and, having been out of sorts last season, proved revitalised for the switch to fences with a narrow success in beginners event at Wexford in May. Not disgraced in a Grade 3 at Gowran 6 months later but owed proximity to an easy lead.

3 **DERRYHASSEN PADDY (IRE)** (20) t **97**
113/2-3 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore — ***Derek Fox***
Won Irish point/bumper and made positive start over hurdles in 2024/25, scoring twice before excellent third of 20 in Albert Bartlett here. Seen only twice since but offered plenty to work on when third of 6 in a C&D novice 3 weeks ago after almost a year off. A lot better can be expected now.

4 **FOLLOW YOUR LUCK (IRE)** (20) **93**
11-312 **5** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Patrick Neville — ***Brian Hughes***
Winning Irish pointer who won both his starts over hurdles at Sedgefield in February. Fortunate to win a match event at Perth on second chase start but latest C&D second was a career best (finished over a length ahead of the returning Derryhassen Paddy who wasn't seen to best effect).

5 **INTOSOMETHINGGOOD** (7) ★ **100**
5284P1-13 **5** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Four-time winner over hurdles last season, showing improved form to end the campaign with success at Kempton. Held on gamely to make a winning chase debut in 3-runner event at Newton Abbot on return but was let down by jumping in a warmer event at Aintree last week.

6 **KING'S BUCKS (FR)** (18) **98**
2/432P2-2 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — ***D. J. O'Keeffe***
Winning pointer who finished in the frame all 4 completed starts over hurdles, including when third in Grade 2 here. Bettered that form on first attempt over fences when runner-up in a Galway novice on return 18 days ago, jumping soundly up with the pace. Should stay and needs considering.

7 **KINGSTON NARCISSUS (FR)** (14) (BF) s+t **97**
170-12223 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Dan Skelton — ***Harry Skelton***
Ended time with Rebecca Menzies with a clear-cut success on chase bow at Hexham. Better form in defeat for this yard since, unfortunate not to land the Summer Plate (badly hampered 4 out) at Market Rasen before third of 6 in Premier Handicap at Wetherby 2 weeks ago. Stamina to prove up in trip.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Derryhassen Paddy, **10-3** King's Bucks, **7-1** Kingston Narcissus, **17-2** Bill Joyce, **9-1** Intosomethinggood, **9-1** D Art D Art, **14-1** Follow Your Luck

TIMEFORM VIEW:

DERRYHASSEN PADDY has evidently had his problems since his Albert Bartlett third in 2025 but he should come on plenty for his considerate return here and could take some stopping if positive tactics are re-applied. King's Bucks already looks a better chaser than hurdler and is second choice with further progress likely.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. DERRYHASSEN PADDY 2. KING'S BUCKS 3. INTOSOMETHINGGOOD

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**Wade Out** 6-11-4	9-4	Olly Murphy	Sean Bowen	5
2024	**Hyland** 7-11-7	2-1jf	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	4
2023	**Broadway Boy** 5-11-4	9-4jf	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Tom Bellamy	6
2022	**The Real Whacker** 6-11-2	10-1	Patrick Neville	Gavin Sheehan	5
2021	**Threeunderthrufive** 6-11-8	11-4	Paul Nicholls	A. P. Heskin	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.20 RACE 3

SHLOER CHASE (Cheltenham) (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+ £100,000 1m7f199y (3200 Metres)

GBI RACING

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

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 **JONBON (FR) (246)** (CD, BF) s **100**

212/22112- **10** 11-10 | 74.4kg

Nicky Henderson — ***Harry Cobden***

Has remarkably yet to finish out of the top 2 in 28 career starts under Rules, adding a twelfth Grade 1 to his tally at Ascot in February. Made mistakes when second in the Ryanair but sound claims of recording third win in this race (also second 12 months ago).

2 **GIDLEIGH PARK (217)** (C, D) **98**

P12/2P5- **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Harry Fry — ***Bryan Carver***

Stepped up on hurdles form when winning Grade 2 Windsor novice before excellent second in strong renewal of the Manifesto at Aintree next time. Returned with a solid second in Ascot Grade 2 last season but things didn't go as planned on both subsequent outings. Talented but evidently fragile.

3 **MIGHTY BANDIT (IRE) (216)** (D) **92**

0P/21114- **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Warren Greatrex — ***Sean Bowen***

Fairly useful hurdles winner for Gordon Elliott who made an excellent start over fences last season, completing a hat-trick of 2m handicap wins at Doncaster in February. Unable to dominate upped in grade at Aintree in the spring and will likely come up short on return (had breathing operation).

4 **SAINT SEGAL (FR) (30)** (D) t **97**

12122PP-4 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Mrs Jane Williams — ***Ciaran Gethings***

Out of his depth in Grade 1s at the Cheltenham/Aintree Festivals in the spring but had an excellent season otherwise, winning twice (including at Chepstow on return) and runner-up 3 times. Back on track returning in a handicap at Ffos Las last month and entitled to strip fitter for that here.

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-11 Jonbon, **10-3** Gidleigh Park, **6-1** Saint Segal, **6-1** Mighty Bandit

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A typically small field for this year's Shloer Chase and it's hard to get away from JONBON, who bids for a third success in the race and had bottomless ground as an excuse for his below-par second last year. Fragility remains an ongoing problem for Gidleigh Park, but he can provide most resistance if returning on his A-game, with the race-fit Saint Segal taken to fill out third.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. JONBON 2. GIDLEIGH PARK 3. SAINT SEGAL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**L'Eau du Sud** 7-11-7	10-3	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2024	**Jonbon** 8-11-10	1-3f	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	4
2023	**Jonbon** 7-11-10	4-9f	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	4
2022	**Nube Negra** 8-11-10	1-10f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	3
2021	**Nube Negra** 7-11-6	9-4	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	4

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.55 RACE 4

JILLY COOPER VETERANS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 10yo+ (Rated 0-150) £35,000 2½m44y (4060 Metres)

GBI RACING

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

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Strong**

1 **GA LAW (FR) (19)** (CD) s **92**

95PP3/30-5 **10** 12-0 | 76.2kg



Jamie Snowden — ***Isabelle Ryder*** (5lb/2kg)

Runner-up in the Paddy Power Gold Cup at Cheltenham in 2024/25. Raced only twice last season and didn't shape with much encouragement after 10 months off at Market Rasen, but some of his best performances have come around here.

2 **MAHONS GLORY (IRE) (118)** (D) **99**

452164-14 **10** 11-11 | 74.8kg



Dylan Cunha — ***Lee Edwards***

Not entirely straightforward (has given trouble at start/pulled hard) but his record for this yard is hard to fault, adding another win to his tally at Market Rasen in June. Good fourth under top weight in Summer Plate there following month and needs considering back in veterans company.

3 **OUTLAW PETER (IRE) (212)** (D) s+t **97**

95/384213- **10** 11-8 | 73.5kg



Paul Nicholls — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***

Decent strike rate and responded well to first-time headgear when winning 17-runner veterans event (Series Final) at Haydock in April. Ran another solid race just 11 days later there and likely player back at this level on return.

4 **THUNDER ROCK (IRE) (29)** (D) **99**

47/P2110-1 **10** 11-3 | 71.2kg



Olly Murphy — ***Sean Bowen***

Not the same force these days but landed a pair of small-field hunters in the spring and best effort since his peak days when making a winning return back in open company at Perth 4 weeks ago. Needs considering tackling a veterans event for the first time.

5 **COPPERHEAD (229)** (D) s+t **97**

2214/7U13- **12** 11-3 | 71.2kg



Joe Tizzard — ***Freddie Gingell***

Went a long time without a win after landing the 2020 Reynoldstown at Ascot but has proved a revelation in veterans company, scoring for a fourth time at Newbury in February. Needed his comeback run here last season, however.

6 **GLENGOULY (FR) (13)** (CD) s+t **98**

1PPPP-176 **10** 11-2 | 70.8kg



Faye Bramley — ***Ben Jones***

Unreliable chaser who sprang a 33/1 surprise in last season's December Gold Cup over C&D. Pulled up next 4 starts before making all at Uttoxeter in May. All the better for return (over hurdles) when sixth at Ascot and capable of making an impact tackling a veterans event for the first time.

7 **TRIPLE TRADE (19)** (C, D) **100**

13134U6-1 **10** 10-13 | 69.4kg



Joe Tizzard — ***Harry Cobden***

A dual winner last season, including over 2m at this meeting in open company, and made it 2 from 2 in completed starts in veteran events at Market Rasen on return. Likely to make another bold bid.

8 **TIME TO BITE (IRE) (33)** (D) b **97**

32-130223 **11** 10-6 | 66.2kg



Chris Honour — ***Bryan Carver***

Front runner who won a similar event at Fakenham in May but ran poorly in the Summer Cup at Uttoxeter when last seen in this sphere. Arrives here fit after a spell over hurdles (better over fences).

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Outlaw Peter, **4-1** Triple Trade, **5-1** Thunder Rock, **11-2** Glengouly, **8-1** Ga Law, **11-1** Mahons Glory, **16-1** Copperhead, **25-1** Time To Bite

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TRIPLE TRADE won at this meeting last year and is building up a good record in these events, so appeals as the most solid option with his yard still thriving. Mahons Glory and Thunder Rock head the dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TRIPLE TRADE 2. MAHONS GLORY 3. THUNDER ROCK

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.30 RACE 5

ALBERT BARTLETT NOVICES' HURDLE (Hyde) (Grade 2) (1)
4yo+ £80,000 2m5f (4220 Metres)

GBI RACING

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

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 DALLAS STAR (FR) (27) (BF) **100**
12 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Emmet Mullins, Ireland — ***Donagh Meyler***
Very useful stayer on the Flat and recorded a workmanlike success on hurdling debut at Navan (2m) in September. Ran up to a similar level upped in trip/grade when 6 lengths second of 6 at Limerick (21f) 27 days ago and remains capable of better providing he brushes up his jumping.

2 HITINTHEHEADLINES (IRE) (34) **95**
353-1 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Dan Skelton — ***Tristan Durrell***
Easily won sole Irish point. Fair form in bumpers last season and bettered those efforts when making a successful hurdling debut in 19f maiden at Chepstow 34 days ago, suited by increase in trip. That form is proving strong and there's more to come, though Harry Skelton prefers Divine Diva.

3 LION ROSE SIVOLA (FR) (33) (BF) **86**
22-2 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill — ***Jonjo O'Neill Jr.***
£100,000 buy after winning sole start in Irish points and shaped well on both bumper outings, tying up and giving way close home at Kelso in February. Again showed promise when runner-up on last month's Chepstow hurdling debut but has plenty to find up in grade.

4 LOCK STOCK (35) **99**
20/229-113 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Stuart Edmunds — ***Charlie Hammond***
Found improvement when making winning debut for new yard in 2m maiden hurdle at Worcester in September and upped his game further when following up in a well-contested handicap there (2½m) just over a fortnight later. Solid third in Grade 2 Persian War since and that form is working out.

5 LUCK BETWEEN US (IRE) (48) **99**
3607-1211 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
P. J. Rothwell, Ireland — ***D. J. O'Keeffe***
Has developed into a fairly useful hurdler since returning to handicap company this summer, making it 3 wins from his last 4 outings in 14-event at Listowel (2½m) on final outing for Donncha Duggan in September. Well worth a try in this better company.

6 PETERSHAM PLACE (IRE) (29) **91**
1 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Olly Murphy — ***Sean Bowen***
Won 3-runner Irish point on sole outing in that sphere and followed up in 8runner novice hurdle at Perth (2½m, soft) on NH debut 29 days ago, kept up to work after being left it front at the last. Open to progress but could find this test on the sharp side.

7 WOODSTOCK OCTO (IRE) (20) (C) **94**
1 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Kayley Woollacott — ***Ben Jones***
Ocovango gelding who landed a sixth consecutive victory in points in May and proved himself an above-average novice right away when overcoming interference to make a successful hurdling debut in 3m course novice 20 days ago. Upped in grade and shouldn't be taken lightly.

8 FEROCIMO (IRE) (29) **90**
1 **4** 11-1 | 70.3kg
Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Order of St George gelding who was bought for £115,000 after winning his sole outing in Irish points in March and created a fine impression when striding clear on his Rules/hurdling debut at Fontwell (19f) last month (form franked). A good prospect who is interesting hiked in grade.

9 DIVINE DIVA (IRE) (33) **88**
30-1 **5** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Dan Skelton — ***Harry Skelton***
Successful on sole outing in Irish points and made a pleasing start under Rules when third of 12 in listed bumper at Cheltenham last November. Bled in the Nickel Coin at Aintree but was back to looking a bright prospect when scoring on hurdling debut at Chepstow (19f) last month. Better to come.

10 RED ACRES GEORGIE (IRE) (22) (BF) **90**
77-F422 **6** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Anthony Mullins, Ireland — ***Harry Cobden***
A 6-figure purchase after running out an easy winner of second start in points. Showed little in 2 bumpers but showed improved form on third start over hurdles when second of 12 in 2m maiden at Fairyhouse in October. Ran at least as well when filling same spot at Clonmel but this is much tougher.

10 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Divine Diva, **9-2** Ferocimo, **13-2** Dallas Star, **7-1** Woodstock Octo, **15-2** Hitintheheadlines, **8-1** Lock Stock, **14-1** Luck Between Us, **18-1** Petersham Place, **28-1** Red Acres Georgie, **33-1** Lion Rose Sivola

TIMEFORM VIEW:

DIVINE DIVA was back to looking much more the bright prospect she'd appeared when placed in a listed bumper at this meeting last year when scoring in good style on her recent hurdling debut at Chepstow and it looks significant Harry Skelton has chosen her over Hitintheheadlines, who accounted for 4 next-time-out winners on his first go over hurdles at the aforementioned venue. Ferocimo cruised clear in the manner of an above-average novice at Fontwell and is a very interesting contender, too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. DIVINE DIVA 2. HITINTHEHEADLINES 3. FEROCIMO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**No Drama This End** 5-11-2	5-1	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	9
2024	**Potters Charm** 5-11-5	7-4	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	5
2023	**Minella Missile** 5-11-2	22-1	Evan Williams	Adam Wedge	8
2022	**Hermes Allen** 5-11-2	9-4	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	7
2021	**Blazing Khal** 5-11-0	9-2	Charles Byrnes	D. J. McInerney	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.00 RACE 6

VALDA ENERGY NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 3yo+ (Rated 0-125) £20,000 2m87y (3300 Metres)

GBI RACING

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

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than might be expected. Prominent-racers often fare well on the chase course, especially in races up to 3m. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon. Jockeys often steer a wide course in the winter months searching for better ground and this can lead to trouble in-running towards the stand rail in the straight.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 **KING'S SCHOLAR (IRE) (35)** (D) t **93**
4-1124 **5** 12-0 | 76.2kg
Olly Murphy — ***Tom Hutsby*** (10lb/5kg)
Bordering useful on Flat. No match for subsequent Welsh Champion Hurdle winner Pioneer Pete on hat-trick bid at Stratford. Ground perhaps not ideal when well-held fourth at Chepstow latest. Could be worth a chance to resume progress on handicap bow, for all Sean Bowen prefers his stablemate.

2 **FIRST ASCENT (IRE) (50)** (D) s+t **89**
P-542310 **5** 11-13 | 75.7kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — ***Josh Williamson*** (3lb/1kg)
Made all at a good pace when routing a weak field at Kilbeggan (2m) in September. Clearly wasn't 100% on handicap bow later that month before posing little threat in a spin on the Flat last time. Inflated British mark makes life tough, even if getting back on the up under good-value claimer.

3 **CROOKED PATH (IRE) (21)** (D) **96**
62331-313 **4** 11-12 | 75.3kg
James Owen — ***Jonathan Burke***
Consistent sort. Career best when convincing winner at Fontwell (19f). Still at top of his game when 3½ lengths third in a good-quality 2½m handicap here last time. Appeals back off proper mark on just fourth hurdle start for outstanding yard. Return to 2m likely in his favour, too.

4 **SYTADEL (FR) (22)** t **98**
232 **4** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Dan Skelton — ***Harry Skelton***
Very lightly-raced 4-y-o. Fairly useful winner on Flat in France. Shaping up well in 3 hurdle starts for top yard, matching his Flat form when ½-length second on handicap bow at Carlisle (17f). Likely to be held onto for longer by returning Harry Skelton and no surprise if he goes one better.

5 **EBEN ZAABEEL (41)** h+t **94**
0-12 **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg
A. J. Martin, Ireland — ***Daniel King***
Fairly useful on the Flat. Off the mark with fair bit in hand at Downpatrick before again catching the eye when a smooth-travelling second at Fontwell. Last month's spin on the Flat likely a means to an end. Scope to improve further now handicapping, especially as he's in very shrewd hands.

6 **WAY OF STARS (IRE) (34)** (D) t **100**
3210-2 **4** 11-7 | 73.0kg
David Pipe — ***Jack Tudor***
Useful on Flat. Opened his hurdles account at Taunton in March (solid form). In front a tad soon when collared close home in first-time tongue strap at Chepstow (2m, soft) on return. Race again likely to set up perfectly for his smooth-travelling style and yard renowned for targeting this meeting.

7 **LEXINGTON WOOD (FR) (37)** (BF) h **99**
7428-24 **5** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Olly Murphy — ***Sean Bowen***
Expensive Irish bumper recruit (chased home Ballyfad). Tall order on hurdling bow before runner-up in a fair maiden at Perth. Better than he could show when well backed in first-time hood on return at Worcester. This'll suit much better, and he's interesting making a quick switch to handicaps.

8 **MYSTIC ROSE (IRE) (9)** **94**
0-6412 **4** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Patrick Magee, Ireland — ***D. J. O'Keeffe***
Modest Flat handicapper who is progressing over hurdles. Readily justified support to get off the mark at Sligo before length second in a solid-looking novice at Wexford last time. Needs another chunk of improvement to defy her British mark on handicap debut.

9 **BABYKEN (FR) (249)** (D, BF) t **96**
P234- **4** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Fair winner on Flat in France. Improved when only ¾-length behind Way Of Stars at Taunton (16.5f, soft) in February. Presumably wasn't 100% (since had breathing operation) when well behind same rival the following month. Handicap debutant is still unexposed and cannot be discounted if back on song.

10 **TUPPENCE (FR) (40)** (D) h **96**
408/241-1 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore — ***Mr Lucas Murphy*** (7lb/3kg)
Backed at long odds when comprehensive winner of 15-runner handicap at Ayr (2m, soft) in April. Followed up with something to spare when making it 2-2 under this very capable amateur on return at Kelso. Entitled to come on for that, too, and she ought to go well back in a handicap on hat-trick bid.

11 **SHALLOW BOWLES (IRE) (276)** t **89**
4846- **6** 11-0 | 69.9kg
Nick Scholfield — ***Mr Daniel Williams*** (7lb/3kg)
From an above-average jumping family. Showed some promise when hitting the frame in a couple of heavy-ground handicaps for Denis Leahy last season. Since joined an up-and-coming yard, however, her opening mark demands a whole lot more.

12 **BAYMOUNT (IRE) (19)** (BF) **92**
8P-P34214 **5** 11-0 | 69.9kg
Anthony Mullins, Ireland — ***Donagh Meyler***
Exuberant sort. Improved on her previous efforts when making all in mares maiden at Tramore last month. Some mitigation for her disappointment at Wexford (2½m) subsequently. Return to 2m/less testing conditions should suit and certainly respected now sent handicapping by astute Irish stable.

13 **FINAL SURPRISE (IRE) (16)** **97**
755-134 **5** 11-0 | 69.9kg
Alastair Ralph — ***Ciaran Gethings***
Lightly-raced 5-y-o. Ran well both starts since winning on hurdling debut at Uttoxeter in May. Finished 5 lengths fourth of 8 on handicap bow/reappearance (following a breathing operation) at Huntingdon last time. Likely has a handicap in him, though probably in calmer waters.

14 **LIKEWHATYOUSEE (USA) (27)** (D) **97**
2126F4 **4** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill — ***Jonjo O'Neill Jr.***
Progressive on Flat. Set to get back on the up in this sphere when falling on handicap bow (probably booked for third) in a novice final at Worcester (2½m). Possibly not fully over that when below form at Stratford latest. Still merits a second look with her Worcester form working out well.

15 **WHERMYROSEMARYGOES (IRE) (76)** s **92**
12 **5** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Faye Bramley — ***Harry Cobden***
Placed in Irish points before overcoming a big market drift to make a successful hurdling debut in an ordinary Uttoxeter (2m) novice. Headgear now added having flashed her tail more markedly when length second at Cartmel in August. Needs a fair bit more again to defy her opening mark.

16 **OCEAN OF DREAMS (IRE) (21)** **97**
90068-61 **5** 10-12 | 68.9kg
Gary McGill, Ireland — ***Mr O. McGill*** (5lb/2kg)
Once-useful Flat performer. Didn't need to be anywhere near that level when comfortably off the mark in a Sligo handicap (2¼m, soft) last time. A 13 lb higher mark doesn't look insurmountable in the context of his Flat form. Respected, especially if market again speaks in his favour.

17 **KILT (IRE) (34)** (D) h **98**
0-1454618 **5** 10-12 | 68.9kg
P. J. Rothwell, Ireland — ***Ross Sugrue*** (7lb/3kg)
Free-going sort (hood back on here) who was once useful on the Flat. Saw off a couple of next-time-out winners to resume progress/winning ways in taking style at Listowel in September. This'll suit much better than at Fairyhouse last time, and he could outrun his odds for yard that won 2021 renewal.

18 **ADE BOY (IRE) (28)** s+t **98**
1634-23 **5** 10-11 | 68.5kg
Charlie Longsdon — ***Brian Hughes***
Decisive winner of a Navan bumper on debut. Improved on the pick of his maiden form when 3 lengths third on handicap debut at Uttoxeter (2m). Bigger field/stronger pace sure to suit on that evidence and looks on a workable mark for stable among the winners this month.

18 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-2 Eben Zaabeel, **6-1** Crooked Path, **9-1** Sytadel, **10-1** Lexington Wood, **12-1** Way of Stars, **14-1** Ocean of Dreams, **20-1** Tuppence, **20-1** Babyken, **25-1** King's Scholar, **25-1** Whermyrosemarygoes, **33-1** Ade Boy, **33-1** Kilt, **33-1** Likewhatyousee, **33-1** Final Surprise, **33-1** Mystic Rose, **33-1** Baymount, **40-1** bar

4.00 RACE 6

VALDA ENERGY NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 3yo+ (Rated 0-125) £20,000 2m87y (3300 Metres)

GBI RACING

TIMEFORM VIEW:

WAY OF STARS looks to have plenty in his favour in a stacked renewal, and he may well gain compensation for his Chepstow near miss. The main danger could be handicap debutant Lexington Wood, who has plenty of untapped potential, while Dan Skelton's Sytadel is another who is probably well treated. Eben Zaabeel is potentially most interesting of a healthy Irish contingent, his shrewd connections landing a touch in this corresponding race back in 2013.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. WAY OF STARS 2. LEXINGTON WOOD 3. SYTADEL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**French Emperor** 5-11-3	5-1	Nicky Martin	James Bowen	15
2024	**Wreckless Eric** 4-11-10	11-2	Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill	Kielan Woods	15
2023	**Impose Toi** 5-11-12	2-1f	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	17
2022	**Contrapposto** 8-10-12	28-1	R. Donohoe	M. J. M. O'Sullivan (5)	19
2021	**Mc Alpine** 7-11-5	33-1	P. J. Rothwell	J. P. O'Sullivan (5)	18

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race