

Thursday 19th March

NEWCASTLE



5.25 MIDNITE ARE UPPING THE BETTING GAME HANDICAP (6) 1¼m42y (2050 Metres)

RACE 1 **(4) PRINCE ACHILLE | (2) MAO SHANG WONG | (5) DINGWALL**

6.00 MIDNITE: BUILT FOR 2026 NOT 2006 RESTRICTED MAIDEN STAKES (4) 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 2 **(3) MINNIE IDOL | (4) ARGY BHAJI | (1) FARANDAWAY**

6.30 MIDNITE, BUILDING THE FUTURE OF BETTING HANDICAP (2) 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 3 **(6) STRATUSNINE | (3) FAST TRACK HARRY**

7.00 WIN £250,000 WITH BETMGM'S GOLDEN GOALS MAIDEN STAKES (4) 7f14y (1420 Metres)

RACE 4 **(4) INISHBEG | (3) INFINITE DREAM | (5) MIDSUMMER STORM**

7.30 MIDNITE AIN'T YOUR GRANDAD'S BOOKIE HANDICAP (4) 5f (1010 Metres)

RACE 5 **(6) BLUE LAKOTA | (3) ALONDRA | (7) JUAN LES PINS**

8.00 BET £10 GET £40 WITH BETMGM CLASSIFIED STAKES (6) 7f14y (1420 Metres)

RACE 6 **(11) WOODRAFF | (3) I CAN BOOGY | (2) ESQUE ELEGANCE**

8.30 READ MEG NICHOLLS' BLOG AT betmgm.co.uk HANDICAP (6) 7f14y (1420 Metres)

RACE 7 **(8) TRUCIAL PEARL | (4) CONTAINER EXPRESS | (5) MONK'S HILL**

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.

5.25**MIDNITE ARE UPPING THE BETTING GAME HANDICAP (6)
4yo+ (Rated 0-65) £9,000 1¼m42y (2050 Metres)**

RACE 1

GBI RACINGGoing: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **Favours High** Pace Information: **Weak**

1 7 GOLSPIE (IRE) (7) (CD, BF) s **95**
6-2556524 6 9-9 | 61.2kg



Patrick Morris *David Nolan*
C&D winner in December and generally held form well since, left with too much to do over further here last week.

2 6 MAO SHANG WONG (IRE) (14) ★ **100**
052-8347 4 9-9 | 61.2kg



David O'Meara *Daniel Tudhope*
Consistent rather than progressive and was poorly placed over C&D 2 weeks ago. Mark has eased again and needs considering down in class.

3 3 RIYADH GEM (IRE) (61) s **93**
0255003-8 4 9-8 | 60.8kg



Faye Bramley *Charles Bishop*
Inconsistent performer who has posted just one decent effort for her current yard this winter. Drops in class back from a break.

4 2 PRINCE ACHILLE (19) (CD) **99**
65124-457 7 9-8 | 60.8kg



Jedd O'Keefe *Jack Garritty*
Gained another win over C&D (last 5 wins have come here) in November and went close to following up there later that month. Disappointed at Southwell last time but shaped well here prior to that so worth another chance back at this venue.

5 8 DINGWALL (9) (D, BF) h **98**
111d23-622 5 9-7 | 60.3kg



Iain Jardine *Lewis Edmunds*
Not the easiest of rides (can miss the break/race freely) but was a back-to-back winner at Wolverhampton in the autumn and has held form well since, going close there last 2 starts. Player.

6 1 STAR CAST (5lb/2kg ex) (8) (CD) **95**
7490-1371 4 9-7 | 60.3kg



Gemma Tutty *Joanna Mason*
Capitalised on drop in the weights when getting off the mark over C&D in January and wasted no time getting back to form when scoring over same C&D last week. Respected under a penalty.

7 9 HASHTAGNOTIONS (IRE) (96) (C) s **98**
13125226- 4 9-2 | 58.1kg



Richard Fahey *Oisin James Orr*
Found run of good form coming to a halt at Wolverhampton when last seen in December. Type to bounce back but remains on a career-high mark.

8 4 DARING LEADER (IRE) (189) (CD) **93**
37283121- 5 9-0 | 57.2kg



Christopher Kellett *Jason Hart*
Ended last season in top form, notching second win in C&D handicap final start, seen to good effect having built an early advantage. Hit with a 9 lb rise, however, and entitled to need this after 6 months off.

9 5 TORONTO RAPTOR (FR) (34) b **93**
306650-87 5 8-4 | 52.6kg



Liam Bailey  *Hollie Doyle*
Maiden after 18 starts and arrives here out of form.

10 10 WATH COURT (146) t **85**
86689900- 6 8-4(8-3) | 52.6kg (52.2kg)



Philip Kirby *Aiden Brookes*
Long-standing maiden who ended time with Brian Rothwell out of sorts.

BETTING FORECAST:

5-1 Star Cast, **11-2** Dingwall, **13-2** Mao Shang Wong, **7-1** Golspie, **8-1** Prince Achille, **8-1** Daring Leader, **10-1** Hashtagnotions, **12-1** Riyadh Gem, **33-1** Toronto Raptor, **33-1** Wath Court

TIMEFORM VIEW:

PRINCE ACHILLE is worth another chance to confirm previous promise back at his favoured venue. Mao Shang Wong rates a serious threat down in class off a career-low mark, with the in-form Dingwall completing the shortlist.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PRINCE ACHILLE 2. MAO SHANG WONG 3. DINGWALL

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

6.00

MIDNITE: BUILT FOR 2026 NOT 2006 RESTRICTED MAIDEN STAKES (4) 3, 4 and 5yo £10,000 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 2



Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Even**


1 2 FARANDAWAY (IRE) (9) 94
3037-4432 4 10-0 | 63.5kg

 **Grant Tuer** *Oliver Stammers*
Remains a maiden following 16 attempts but proving consistent, placed again when second in handicap at Southwell 9 days ago. Unlikely to be far away back in a maiden.


2 1 TEDDY SHAW (23) 85
78 5 10-0 | 63.5kg

 **Ruth Carr** *James Sullivan*
Held back by inexperience in C&D maidens last month and looks one for later on.


3 8 MINNIE IDOL (23) 100 
2 4 9-9 | 61.2kg

 **John Ryan** *Connor Planas (3lb/1kg)*
Due Diligence filly. Half-sister to useful 5f (including at 2 yrs) winner Beautiful Diamond. Unconsidered in the betting on belated debut but showed plenty to work on when second over C&D for John Butler last month and this looks a good opportunity to go one better.


4 7 ARGY BHAJI (147) 91
33- 3 9-3 | 58.5kg

 **James Fanshawe** *Daniel Muscutt*
Ardad colt showed plenty of ability when close third at Kempton on debut in October. Only third at Chelmsford later that month but form looks better now than it did at the time. Considered.

5 11 NOBLE GENTLEMAN (IRE) (43) 84
9 3 9-3 | 58.5kg

 **Richard Fahey** *Oisin James Orr*
Made an unpromising start to career when ninth of 10 in maiden at this C&D 6 weeks ago.

6 5 SHIMMERING SPIRIT (IRE) (14) 79
44 3 9-3 | 58.5kg

 **Nigel Tinkler** *Faye McManoman*
Failed to build on debut fourth when coming in last of 4 in 1m novice here 2 weeks ago. Down in trip.


7 4 VEGA STORM (IRE) 87
3 9-3 | 58.5kg

 **Richard Fahey** *Harry Russell*
€31,000 foal, €25,000 yearling, Lucky Vega gelding. Half-brother to winner abroad by Zoffany. Dam 7f/1m winner out of useful 1½m winner Livia Galilei. Yard 0-17 with 3-y-o newcomers last 12 months.


8 10 BEST BELIEVE 85
3 9-1 | 57.6kg

 **Gemma Tutty** *Connor Beasley*
4,000 gns foal, €3,000 yearling, €6,000 2-y-o, Ubettabelieveit gelding. Half-brother to 11.4f/1½m winner Shield of Honour and 6.5f winner Betty Noir. Dam 5f winner. Rare 3-y-o debutant for yard.

9 9 GO TEEJAY (294) 75
0- 3 9-1 | 57.6kg

 **Craig Lidster** *Sam James*
Showed only greenness in in novice at Carlisle in May.

10 3 SUPREMISSY (IRE) (171) 79
00- 3 8-12 | 56.2kg

 **Iain Jardine** *Mohammed Lyes Tabti (5lb/2kg)*
Failed to beat a rival on debut before stumbled and unseated rider soon after start in maiden.

11 6 THE WIND AND SUN 86
3 8-10 | 55.3kg

 **Julie Camacho** *Rowan Scott*
11,000 gns foal, Ardad filly. Half-sister to several winners, including useful winner up to 1¼m Sanitiser and 1m winner Star Child. Dam 8.3f winner who stayed 1½m. Yard 1-8 with 3-y-o newcomers last 12 months.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Minnie Idol, **11-4** Argy Bhaji, **9-2** Farandaway, **14-1** The Wind And Sun, **16-1** Vega Storm, **33-1** Teddy Shaw, **33-1** Best Believe, **33-1** Noble Gentleman, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A good opportunity for MINNIE IDOL to go one better having chased home a subsequent winner over C&D on debut last month. Argy Bhaji looks good enough to win one of these given what he showed in a couple of starts in the autumn so is the obvious threat. Farandaway can place again.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MINNIE IDOL 2. ARGY BHAJI 3. FARANDAWAY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Lorna B 3-8-12	28-1	Seb Spencer	Dale Swift	8
2024	Run Boy Run 3-9-3	1-2f	Richard Spencer	Jason Hart	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

6.30**MIDNITE, BUILDING THE FUTURE OF BETTING HANDICAP (2)**
4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £25,200 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 3

GBI RACINGGoing: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Strong**

1 5 BEAUTY DESTINY (AUS) (340) (D) 78
3112/1110- 7 9-11 | 62.1kg



Edward Bethell

Callum Rodriguez

Multiple winner in Hong Kong for F. C. Lor, including 3 times in early-2025, last of 10 at Sha Tin when last seen. Hard to know what to expect on AW debut with headgear and tongue strap removed, but new yard boasts a good record with new recruits, so the market is likely to prove the best guide.

2 3 ALBASHEER (IRE) (26) (CD) b 96
024754/3-9 8 9-6 | 59.9kg



Archie Watson

Hollie Doyle

Smart handicapper at best, won 3 times in 2024, including twice at this course. Third of 10 over C&D sole outing in 2025 but looked very rusty on return from 14-month absence at Chelmsford in February. Should strip fitter and well handicapped if retaining all of his ability.

3 7 FAST TRACK HARRY (20) (D) t 95
15/1270-1 4 9-4 | 59.0kg



Clive Cox

Rob Hornby

Has good record fresh and justified sustained support when making winning AW debut at Lingfield in February after 6 months off. His form tailed off after a similarly positive start in 2025, but a 3 lb rise looks fair and he's not yet fully exposed.

4 2 HEAVENLY HEATHER (41) (CD) 93
86221-152 5 9-3 | 58.5kg



Tracy Waggott

Barry McHugh

Course-specialist who boasts 3 wins at the track between 5f-7f, including twice this winter. Better than ever when second of 14 over 5f here last month. Return to 6f no issue, but 4 lb rise for latest effort pushes her to mark 10 lb higher than her last winning one.

5 6 WE NEVER STOP (IRE) (36) (CD) s 96
190004-79 5 9-1 | 57.6kg



Kevin Ryan

Shane Gray

Won twice in 2025, including a valuable handicap over C&D last April. Has struggled to repeat that form since and, whilst that is reflected in his mark, there was very little encouragement to be gleaned from his run at Kempton last month.

6 9 STRATUSNINE (IRE) (36) (D) ★ 100
212/912-U5 4 9-0 | 57.2kg



Hugo Palmer

Jason Hart

Won at Wolverhampton in December and then shaped best when second over 7f there later in the month. Excuses on both outings since, unseating his rider at Lingfield in January and poorly drawn at Kempton last time. He's likely to find this scenario far more favourable.

7 8 PADDY'S DAY (IRE) (41) (C, D) t 97
80561-433 6 8-13 | 56.7kg



Nigel Tinkler

Alex Jary (3lb/1kg)

Prolific course winner, who registered his seventh success here in December. Has remained in form since, but return to 6f not an obvious move and looks to be in the handicapper's grip at present. Wears first-time tongue strap.

8 4 WILLIAM DEWHIRST (IRE) (371) (CD) 94
2/1116132- 6 8-5 | 53.1kg



Ben Haslam

Andrew Mullen

Won 6 times at this track last winter. Good efforts here last 2 starts: Stable in good form and back down to last winning mark, but will need to be fully primed if he's to win this after a 371-day layoff.

9 1 GOLDEN REDEMPTION (USA) (180) (D, BF) 99
58733123- 4 8-5 | 53.1kg



Andrew Balding

Non Runner

Won maiden at Newbury in 2025 prior to posting 2 good placed efforts in handicaps at same track and at Newmarket. Off 180 days, but he'll be better suited than most by the stiff 6f. NON RUNNER.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-3 Stratusnine, **7-2** Fast Track Harry, **7-1** William Dewhirst, **7-1** Heavenly Heather, **15-2** Paddy's Day, **8-1** Albasheer, **14-1** Beauty Destiny, **25-1** We Never Stop

TIMEFORM VIEW:

STRATUSNINE was compromised by a wide draw when fifth at Kempton last time but is better judged on his December Wolverhampton win so he looks the answer. Fast Track Harry is an unexposed 4-y-o with the scope to rate higher, so heads the dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. STRATUSNINE 2. FAST TRACK HARRY****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

7.00**WIN £250,000 WITH BETMGM'S GOLDEN GOALS MAIDEN STAKES (4) 3yo+ £10,000 7f14y (1420 Metres)****RACE 4****GBI RACING**Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.


Draw: **Against Low** Pace Information: **Even**

1 11 EL PINTO (167) 78
52/576- 4 10-2 | 64.4kg
Christopher Kellett *Andrew Mullen*
Has been disappointing in recent runs, sixth of 8 in a novice at Southwell (11/1) in October. Hard to fancy on return from 167-day absence.



2 1 ANTIQUE BLUE (IRE) (216) 66
39- 3 9-1 | 57.6kg
Ruth Carr *James Sullivan*
Showed promise when third of 4 on debut in cheekpieces at Wolverhampton for Andrew Balding in June. Well beaten starting out for Ruth Carr 2 months later and not seen since.



3 6 INFINITE DREAM (193) 95
54- 3 9-1 | 57.6kg
Andrew Balding  *P. J. McDonald*
Lightly-raced colt who improved on his second start when fourth of 9 in a maiden that worked out well at York (4/1) last September, not helped by interference. Represents leading yard and is one to take seriously.



4 7 INISHBEG (IRE) (176) (BF) 100
82- 3 9-1 | 57.6kg
Kevin Ryan *Kevin Stott*
A £500,000 buy who took a step forward when runner-up of 6 to useful sort in a novice at Redcar (11/8) last September. Off since but looks capable of better as a 3-y-o and sets the standard.



5 8 MIDSUMMER STORM (IRE) (23) 81
4 3 9-1 | 57.6kg
K. R. Burke *James Doyle*
A €550,000 purchase who showed inexperience on debut when fourth of 10 (16/5) in a 1m novice at this track 23 days ago, looking clueless off the bridle but not knocked about. Should improve for the experience.



6 12 ROUSHAM h 80
3 9-1 | 57.6kg
Nigel Tinkler *Alex Jary (31b/1kg)*
Bobby's Kitten gelding who is a half-brother to 3 winners and out of high-class Soviet Song, a five-time Group 1 winner. Interesting on breeding but stable not renowned for debutant success. Hood on.



7 9 TIGER'S NEST (FR) (134) 80
3- 3 9-1 | 57.6kg
James Fanshawe *Daniel Muscutt*
Half-brother to smart winners up to 8.5f and showed promise when third of 9 in a 7f novice at Kempton (11/2) last November, slowly away but keeping on well. Can build on that now.



8 4 ALWAYS PERFECT (IRE) t 80
3 8-10 | 55.3kg
Charlie Fellowes *Harry Davies*
€27,000 yearling, €77,000 2-y-o. Sioux Nation filly. Betting may provide guide to expectations first time up fitted with tongue tie.



9 3 EVA THE DEEVA 80
3 8-10 | 55.3kg
Nigel Tinkler *Faye McManoman*
Territories filly making her debut. Unlikely to make appeal this side of handicaps.



10 10 MAYBE SOON (IRE) (43) 78
44 3 8-10 | 55.3kg
Tom Tate *Andrew Elliott*
Fourth of 10 in a maiden at this track (12/1) in February, shaping with promise despite race not run to suit and still looking rough around the edges. Steps up in trip today, but ultimately may prove of more interest in handicaps after another outing.



11 2 PROJECT KINSMAN (USA) (166) 64
98- 3 8-10 | 55.3kg
Philip Kirby *Cam Hardie*
Offered little in minor event/maiden at this track last year.



12 5 TOO DARN SPICY (14) 88
3 3 8-10 | 55.3kg
Richard Fahey *Warren Fentiman (31b/1kg)*
Third of 4 in a novice at Newcastle over 1m (28/1) on debut 14 days ago, offering something to work on amidst greenness but this drop in trip unlikely to help.



12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Inishbeg, **4-1** Infinite Dream, **7-1** Midsummer Storm, **8-1** Too Darn Spicy, **9-1** Tiger's Nest, **11-1** Always Perfect, **16-1** Rousham, **22-1** Maybe Soon, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

INISHBEG is a £500,000 purchase who took a big step forward when runner-up behind a useful sort at Redcar last September and is selected to get off the mark. Infinite Dream improved on his second start at York despite interference and should have more to offer for his top yard, while Midsummer Storm can come on for recent debut.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. INISHBEG 2. INFINITE DREAM 3. MIDSUMMER STORM

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

7.30**MIDNITE AIN'T YOUR GRANDAD'S BOOKIE HANDICAP (4)**
4yo+ (Rated 0-85) £9,500 5f (1010 Metres)

RACE 5

Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Weak**

1 3 SECRET GUEST (27) (C, D) 94
50838-620 **6** 9-9 | 61.2kg



Bryan Smart

Paul Mulrennan

Without a win since last May and tried 7f on last 2 starts, finishing runner-up in January before failing to settle when last of 12 at Southwell 27 days ago. Drop back to 5f should be no hindrance.

2 2 THE BELL CONDUCTOR (IRE) (5) (CD) 85
7706500-66 **9** 9-8 | 60.8kg



Ivan Furtado

Jason Hart

C&D winner but on the downgrade for current yard and came last of 6 at Southwell 5 days ago. Needs first-time visor to spark a resurgence.

3 5 ALONDRA (10) (D) 95
0533-1125 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg



Scott Dixon

Kieran O'Neill

Largely on the up since joining current yard, winning twice at Wolverhampton in February before proving keener than ideal when fifth of 7 at same track 10 days ago. Could well bounce back.

4 6 VENTURA EXPRESS (56) (D) 98
0022350-6 **9** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Paul Midgley

David Nolan

Sixth of 8 over C&D (18/1) in January on return from 4-month break, shaping as if better for the run and not given a hard time. 7 lb below last winning mark now and is entitled to improve with that outing under his belt.

5 7 EMERALD HARMONY (IRE) (169) (D) 96
64440323- **5** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Paul Midgley

Barry McHugh

Third of 10 in a handicap at Bellewstown (6/1) last October. Off since and makes her all-weather debut starting out for a new yard. Betting may guide.

6 4 BLUE LAKOTA (IRE) (23) (CD) 95
8617-2163 **4** 9-1 | 57.6kg



Kevin Ryan

Kevin Stott

Adding consistency to his game and was a winner here in January. His third at this track 23 days ago is working out especially well and he holds strong claims back down to 5f.

7 1 JUAN LES PINS (7) 100
589-33002 **9** 8-13 | 56.7kg



Michael Appleby

Harry Davies

Returned to form when second of 11 in a handicap over 6f here 7 days ago. Weighted to be in the mix once more but hasn't won in 30 runs. Back down in trip to 5f.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Blue Lakota, **7-2** Alondra, **9-2** Juan Les Pins, **11-2** Ventura Express, **9-1** Secret Guest, **12-1** Emerald Harmony, **16-1** The Bell Conductor

TIMEFORM VIEW:

BLUE LAKOTA boasts the strongest recent form when third to a couple of next-time-out winners here on latest start so is fancied to come out on top back at 5f. Alondra can be in the mix if settling better than last time, while Juan Les Pins returned to form here last week and is well treated if things drop his way.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. BLUE LAKOTA 2. ALONDRA 3. JUAN LES PINS

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Above 8-9-8	4-1f	Robert Cowell	Billy Loughnane	11
2024	Phoenix Star 8-9-7	9-2	Jessica Macey	Jonny Peate (3)	8
2023	Elzaal 5-9-7	10-3f	Paul Midgley	Graham Lee	13
2022	Joshua R 5-8-9	6-1	Helen Cuthbert	Joe Fanning	11
2021 ¹	Harry's Ridge 6-8-12	7-2	Eric Alston	Jason Hart	9
2021 ¹¹	True Hero 5-9-3	5-4f	David Brown	Kevin Stott	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

8.00**BET £10 GET £40 WITH BETMGM CLASSIFIED STAKES (6)
4yo+ (Rated 0-50) £6,000 7f14y (1420 Metres)****RACE 6****GBI RACING**Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **Against Low** Pace Information: **Even**

1 11 CHRIS'S MATE (37) (CD) h 91
649/457-15 5 9-9 | 61.2kg



Gary Harrison

Rowan Scott

Off the mark in minor event over C&D in January, before racing too freely back up in trip when fifth of 6 over 1m here last month. Could fare better returned to this shorter distance.

2 12 ESQUE ELEGANCE (IRE) (14) (BF) v 94
688-43226 4 9-9 | 61.2kg



Stephen Hanlon

Lauren Young (5lb/2kg)

Yet to win but placed at this course on first 3 starts for current yard. Run best excused when sixth of 9 in minor event here (1m) 2 weeks ago, facing competition for the lead, so she's capable of a bold bid with visor applied.

3 4 I CAN BOOGY (28) (C,D) 99
50454-125 4 9-9 | 61.2kg



Nigel Tinkler

Alex Jary (3lb/1kg)

Making first start in a 0-50 event, successful at this course (1m) on return last month. Runner-up here next time, before finding it tougher back in a handicap when fifth of 9 on latest outing 28 days ago. Respected back at this level.

4 8 LAURA'S BREEZE (IRE) (9) (D) 88
2209-4260 6 9-9 | 61.2kg



Liam Bailey

**Billy Garritty**

Went close to ending her long losing run when edged out on the line in 6f minor event at this course last month. Excuses next time, but ran poorly when eleventh of 12 at Southwell 9 days ago.

5 1 MARCELLO SI (23) (CD) b 81
5350-8745 8 9-9 | 61.2kg



Michael Dods

Connor Beasley

All 3 wins at this venue (2 over C&D) back in 2024. One of this year's better efforts when fifth of 8 in minor event at Southwell 23 days ago, setting a strong pace, but task is now to back up his latest run.

6 6 PEBBLE DASH (IRE) (28) 81
84765-964 4 9-9 | 61.2kg



Gary Harrison

Barry McHugh

Remains a maiden. However, dropped into 0-50 company he took a step back in the right direction when 1/2-length fourth of 9 in minor event at this course (6f) 28 days ago.

7 9 SAFIO'S PRINCESS (15) 9
856/5080-6 5 9-9 | 61.2kg



Simon Whitaker

Lewis Edmunds

Little promise in her 8 starts so far, returning from 12-month absence when sixth of 7 in minor event at Southwell (1m) 15 days ago.

8 10 SPIRIT OF BOWLAND (15) (CD, BF) b 88
8474-3353 7 9-9 | 61.2kg



Tony Culhane & Stella Barclay

Paul Mulrennan

Dual course winner whose most recent success came in a 1m handicap at Southwell last spring. Placed in minor events 3 of his last 4 starts whilst not reaching the same level, third of 9 at Southwell 15 days ago.

9 7 STARSHOT (IRE) (14) (CD) t 85
13753-842 6 9-9 | 61.2kg



Lawrence Mullaney

S. B. Kirrane

Sole success came in minor event over C&D last summer. Ran well when second of 9 over 1m here a fortnight ago, though needs things to drop right given his usual hold-up style nowadays.

10 3 TOP GUN TINA (14) 82
670-54465 6 9-9 | 61.2kg



David Thompson

Andrew Mullen

Finally off the mark in handicap at Carlisle last summer. Hasn't kicked on since, though, fifth of 9 in minor event at this course (1m) on latest outing 2 weeks ago.

11 2 WOODRAFF (5) (CD, BF) v 100
36224122 5 9-9 | 61.2kg



Ruth Carr

★ 100**James Sullivan**

Solid record at this level, successful over 1m here on first outing of the month. Runner-up both starts since, finding an in-form rival too strong at Southwell 5 days ago, and he's a major player with visor replacing blinkers.

12 5 YORKSTONE (15) (D) s 93
7654-9642 6 9-9 | 61.2kg



Michael & David Easterby

Lewis Chalkley (7lb/3kg)

Has been working his way back to form in minor events this year, catching the eye with how he went through the race when second of 9 at Southwell 15 days ago, the winner scoring again next time. Cheekpieces on first time.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Woodraff, 11-2 I Can Boogy, 8-1 Esque Elegance, 8-1 Starshot, 9-1 Yorkstone, 9-1 Chris's Mate, 11-1 Spirit of Bowland, 16-1 Pebble Dash, 18-1 Marcello Si, 22-1 Laura's Breeze, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

WOODRAFF has yet to finish out of the frame in classified events, gaining a second course success earlier in the month, so he is taken to resume winning ways back at this venue. I Can Boogy ran well in this grade on her first 2 starts of the year and is feared most, ahead of Esque Elegance.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. WOODRAFF 2. I CAN BOOGY 3. ESQUE ELEGANCE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Copper Mountain	6-9-9	22-1	Michael & David Easterby	Joanna Mason	12
2024	Drakeholes	5-9-2	2-1f	Alison Hamilton	Paul Mulrennan	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

8.30**READ MEG NICHOLLS' BLOG AT betmgm.co.uk HANDICAP (6) 3yo (Rated 0-55) £6,000 7f14y (1420 Metres)****RACE 7****GBI RACING**Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **Against Low** Pace Information: **Weak**

1 2 PANTHERE NOIR (14) **87**
4433753-8 **3** 9-9 | 61.2kg



Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore

Daniel Tudhope

Remains a maiden and hasn't really threatened since finishing third in a Musselburgh maiden in September, though admittedly didn't get much room to open up late on when eighth of 12 in handicap (18/1) at this C&D 14 days ago. Blinkers on 1st time.

2 4 HAMISH LEEK (22) **93**
978-75 **3** 9-5 | 59.4kg



James Horton

P. J. McDonald

Stepped up on handicap debut when fifth of 11 at Kempton (7f) 3 weeks ago, making late headway. Blinkers sported there are retained and he's respected having eased 2 lb.

3 7 FICKLE MCSELFISH (33) **77**
99-745 **3** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Tony Coyle & Kaine Wood

David Nolan

Yet to better poor form and was slowly away when fifth of 8 in handicap (28/1) at this course (8f) 33 days ago. Cheekpieces go on first time.

4 1 CONTAINER EXPRESS (8) (C) **94**
4514-5534 **3** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Philip Kirby

Aiden Brookes

Winner of a C&D nursery in November and has recaptured some form here of late, running respectably when fourth in a 10-runner race over 6f here last week.

5 6 MONK'S HILL (IRE) (36) **93**
638-47 **3** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Ivan Furtado

Jason Hart

Some encouragement when fourth at Southwell on return/handicap debut in January (1m) but below that level kept to that trip when seventh of 12 in handicap at Kempton (8f) 36 days ago. Drop to 7f at least looks a positive move.

6 5 RUNNINMAN (IRE) (8) **86**
6633-3687 **3** 9-3 | 58.5kg



Stephen Hanlon

Conor Whiteley (7lb/3kg)

Ran near his best in first-time blinkers when seventh of 10 in handicap at this course (6f) 8 days ago but more will be needed if he's to get off the mark.

7 3 SPARTACUS WARRIOR (142) **89**
98452063- **3** 9-2 | 58.1kg



Tony Coyle & Kaine Wood

Barry McHugh

Placed in nurseries at Beverley and Leicester last season. Returns from 5-month break in first-time cheekpieces.

8 10 TRUCIAL PEARL (7) **100**
0659-442 **3** 9-1 | 57.6kg



Michael & David Easterby

Joanna Mason

Benefited from the step up to 7f and produced her best effort when a fast-finishing second at Chelmsford last week. Looks the one to beat from unchanged mark.

9 8 WHAT A TAHOO (IRE) (37) **89**
87-94 **3** 9-0(8-13) | 57.2kg (56.7kg)



Richard Fahey

Cam Hardie

Very much learning in maidens/novices and showed more when fourth of 12 on handicap debut (6f) at this course last month. Up in trip this time.

10 9 RUPERT RITZIK (IRE) (176) **67**
0089- **3** 9-0(8-13) | 57.2kg (56.7kg)



Nigel Tinkler

Faye McManoman

Well held in varied events last season. Makes all-weather debut after 6 months off.

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Trucial Pearl, **6-1** Container Express, **7-1** Hamish Leek, **9-1** What A Tahoo, **11-1** Spartacus Warrior, **12-1** Monk's Hill, **12-1** Runninman, **14-1** Panthere Noir, **33-1** Fickle Mcselfish, **100-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TRUCIAL PEARL only just failed to reel in the winner at Chelmsford last week and is fancied to go one place better from an unchanged mark. Container Express arrives after 2 creditable efforts at the track and can pose the biggest threat, whilst it wouldn't be a surprise to see more from Monk's Hill now dropping to 7f.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. TRUCIAL PEARL 2. CONTAINER EXPRESS 3. MONK'S HILL****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**2025 **Miakoda** 3-9-6 6-1 James Owen Kieran Shoemark 12**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

10 DECLARED RUNNERS