



Saturday 25th January

DONCASTER


12.20 LIVESCORE BET FILLIES' JUVENILE HURDLE (Listed) (1) 2m128y (3340 Metres)

 RACE 1 **(2) BELFRINA | (6) MORNING AIR | (5) MATWANA**
12.55 DOWNLOAD THE RACEDAY READY APP NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2m7f214y (4820 Metres)

 RACE 2 **(4) GRAND ALBERT | (1) THOMAS MOR | (6) PRESIDENT SCOTTIE**
1.30 VIRGIN BET EVERY SATURDAY MONEY BACK HANDICAP CHASE (2) 2m78y (3290 Metres)

 RACE 3 **(1) NELLS SON | (6) STORMIN CROSSGALES | (2) CALICO**
2.05 PERTEMPS NETWORK RIVER DON NOVICES' HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 3m84y (4900 Metres)

 RACE 4 **(1) WESTERN KNIGHT | (5) MA SHANTOU | (4) JIG'S FORGE**
2.40 VIRGIN BET YORKSHIRE ROSE MARES' HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 3m84y (4900 Metres)

 RACE 5 **(2) KATEIRA | (1) JETARA | (3) WYENOT**
3.15 VIRGIN BET GREAT YORKSHIRE HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 2m7f214y (4820 Metres)

 RACE 6 **(6) THE CHANGING MAN | (3) TIGHTENOURBELTS | (5) FORWARD PLAN**
3.50 DONCASTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 2m3f88y (3900 Metres)

 RACE 7 **(2) PUNCTUATION | (4) TO CHASE A DREAM | (5) CLASSIC KING**

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.

12.20

RACE 1










LIVESCORE BET FILLIES' JUVENILE HURDLE (Listed) (1) 4yo fillies £40,000 2m128y (3340 Metres)



Going: Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)

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

Pace Information: Weak

1		ANALIESE	4	11-0	69.9kg				<i>Shane Quinlan</i>	
Mel Rowley £18,000 3-y-o, Harzand filly. Dam, 1½m-1¾m winner, half-sister to useful hurdler/ fairly useful chaser in France (17f-19f winner) Angel's Share. Tricky assignment for a hurdling newcomer.										
2		BELFRINA (IRE) (27) (BF)	2F	4	11-0	69.9kg			100	<i>Jack Tudor</i>
David Pipe Fairly useful form on Flat (stays 1¼m) and shaped well when second on hurdling debut (form was boosted on Thursday). Unseated next time but makes plenty of appeal.										
3		BLUE MOON LADY (38)	1	4	11-0	69.9kg				<i>Charlie Price</i>
Robbie Llewellyn Made perfect start to her career in 6-runner contest at Ludlow four weeks ago. Penalty to carry but a likely player with improvement forthcoming.										
4		INSPIRE HOPE (IRE) (27) (D)	2124U3	4	11-0	69.9kg				<i>Brian Hughes</i>
Rebecca Menzies Won a juvenile hurdle for Joseph O'Brien in July. Respectable efforts so far for new yard but there are others with more potential.										
5		MATWANA (FR) (27) (CD)	241	4	11-0	69.9kg				<i>Paul O'Brien</i>
Harry Derham Confirmed previous promise when won 8-runner juvenile hurdle at this C&D (good to soft) 27 days ago, running on. May have more to offer, so count be discounted.										
6		MORNING AIR (FR) (55)	1	4	11-0	69.9kg				<i>Ned Fox</i>
Venetia Williams Fairly useful Flat winner in the mud in France and made a successful hurdle debut at Leicester 35 days ago in the style of one who could have plenty more to offer. Sure to leave bare form behind.										
7		NANCY P (IRE)		4	11-0	69.9kg				<i>Niall Houlihan</i>
Gary & Josh Moore Fair handicapper on Flat (stays 1½m), won once in 2024, well held on stable debut last time. Not a likely type on hurdling debut.										

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-4 Belfrina, 7-2 Matwana, 4-1 Morning Air, 10-1 Inspire Hope, 10-1 Blue Moon Lady, 28-1 Analiese, 33-1 Nancy P

TIMEFORM VIEW:

BELFRINA's form received a boost from Melon on Thursday and she's fancied to get off the mark here for all that Morning Air looked highly promising first time over hurdles. Matwana is also of interest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. BELFRINA 2. MORNING AIR 3. MATWANA

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:						
2024	Wodhooh	4-11-5	1-2f	Gordon Elliott	M. P. Walsh	10
2023	Greyval	4-11-0	11-4	Fergal O'Brien	Paddy Brennan	9
2022	Six Feet Apart	4-10-12	6-1	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	J. J. Slevin	6
2021	Her Indoors	4-10-12	11-2	Alan King	A. P. Heskin	7
2020	Fantastic Ms Fox	4-10-12	5-1	Noel Williams	Leighton Aspell	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

12.55

RACE 2










DOWNLOAD THE RACEDAY READY APP NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 5yo+ £25,000 2m7f214y (4820 Metres)



Going: **Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)**

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

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	THOMAS MOR (IRE) (30) (D)	11P15/1	8	11-10	74.4kg			99
	Philip Hobbs & Johnson White 	<i>Sean Houlihan</i> First run since leaving David Pipe when 12/1, career best when winning 10-runner handicap hurdle at Wincanton (24.7f, soft) 30 days ago, staying on well. Stable is going well and looks the sort to take to chasing.						
2	ROCK MY WAY (IRE) (28) (CD)	56232-314	7	11-0	69.9kg	s+t		98
	Joe Tizzard	<i>Brendan Powell</i> Grade 2 winner over hurdles in 2023 who was placed all 3 starts over fences earlier this year for Syd Hosie. Stepped up on reappearance/stable debut when landing 3-runner handicap chase here in November and not disgraced when fourth at Newbury last time. Has switched yards again and deserves respect						
3	WHAT PATH (FR) (20) (D)	40-033338	8	10-12	68.9kg	t		93
	Keiran Burke	<i>James Bowen</i> Useful hurdler. Ridden too aggressively on chase bow/final start for Willie Mullins. Decent effort sole start for Sophie Leech when third in maiden chase at Galway in August but hasn't fired yet for current yard.						
4	GRAND ALBERT (IRE) (29) (D)	23212-31	7	10-10	68.0kg			97
	Donald McCain	<i>Brian Hughes</i> Winning Irish pointer who improved with each start over hurdles last term and built on an encouraging chasing debut when scoring cosily at Wetherby last time. Makes most appeal.						
5	WEVEALLBEENCAUGHT (IRE) (29)	2660-32P5	8	10-8	67.1kg	s		100
	Nigel Twiston-Davies 	<i>Tom Bellamy</i> Useful hurdler/chaser for Nigel Twiston-Davies. Fantastic start in novices at Worcester and Cheltenham (handicap) for Christian Williams in the autumn and was back on track when fifth at Kempton last time. Has rejoined former yard and isn't without hope.						
6	PRESIDENT SCOTTIE (IRE) (23) (D, BF)	3/32114-23	7	10-5	65.8kg			97
	Nicky Richards	<i>Danny McMenamin</i> Ended last term on the up over hurdles, including a 20.5f win at Ayr. Two promising runs over fences to date and may have more to offer.						

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Grand Albert, 3-1 Thomas Mor, 4-1 President Scottie, 6-1 Rock My Way, 15-2 Weveallbeencaught, 22-1 What Path

TIMEFORM VIEW:

GRAND ALBERT has taken well to chasing and looks open to further improvement, so he's preferred to Thomas Mor, who was successful over hurdles last time. A bigger effort from President Scottie can't be ruled out, so he's also considered.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GRAND ALBERT 2. THOMAS MOR 3. PRESIDENT SCOTTIE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024 **Egbert** 7-10-6 7-1 Alan King Tom Cannon 7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.30

RACE 3












VIRGIN BET EVERY SATURDAY MONEY BACK HANDICAP CHASE (2) 5yo+ (Rated 0-150) £50,000 2m78y (3290 Metres)



Going: **Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)**

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

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	NELLS SON (48) (D)	s	99
	134217-11 10 12-0 76.2kg Nicky Richards Better than ever at present and followed up his win in Carlisle graduation event with 2m1f handicap success at Kelso last month. Up another 5 lb but that form has been franked so he's a big player.		Danny McMenamin
2	CALICO (GER) (69) (CD)	s+t  	100
	24204-P13 9 11-7 73.0kg Dan Skelton  C&D winner but he turned in a poor effort when a remote third of 4 in handicap chase at Cheltenham (15.9f, good to soft) 69 days ago. The sort to bounce back with cheekpieces refitted.		Harry Skelton
3	GENERAL MEDRANO (IRE) (38) (D, BF)		98
	25437-214 8 11-6 72.6kg Emma Lavelle  Resumed winning ways at Newbury (2m) in November but he beat only one in 5-runner handicap chase there 38 days ago. Needs to get back on track.		Ben Jones
4	THIRD TIME LUCKI (IRE) (42) (CD)	t	93
	463149/26 10 11-3 71.2kg Fergal O'Brien A smart chaser at his best for Dan Skelton in 2022/23. Joined present connections for £190,000 and runner-up in 4-runner handicap at Cheltenham (15.9f) in November only to disappoint when last of 6 there following month. Has it to prove now.		J. Hogan (3lb/1kg)
5	HERBIERS (FR) (30) (C, D)	s+t	91
	55214/2-P5 8 10-7 66.7kg Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero Useful handicap hurdler/chaser but lightly raced in recent seasons. Yet to fire in two runs this term after 19 months off so others appeal more on this occasion.		Toby Wynne (3lb/1kg)
6	STORMIN CROSSGALES (IRE) (24) (CD)		98
	12544411 8 10-5 65.8kg Charles & Adam Pogson Arrives on a hat-trick after scoring over C&D and in 4-runner handicap chase at Southwell (20.4f) 24 days ago. Up another 5 lb but he can go well again.		Richard Patrick
7	PETIT TONNERRE (FR) (56) (D)	s	99
	507-79266 7 10-4 65.3kg Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill It's now 17 runs since his last win in 2022 and he came in only sixth of 9 to General Medrano in handicap chase at Newbury (16.4f, good to soft) 56 days ago. Cheekpieces go back on with more required.		Richie McLernon

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Calico, 3-1 Nells Son, 9-2 General Medrano, 11-2 Stormin Crossgales, 10-1 Petit Tonnerre, 16-1 Third Time Lucki, 18-1 Herbiers

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Nicky Richards' NELLS SON comes here at the top of his game and is fancied to make it 3-3 this term at the chief expense of fellow hat-trick seeker Stormin Crossgales. C&D winner Calico could also have a say if bouncing back from a poor Cheltenham third last out.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. NELLS SON 2. STORMIN CROSSGALES 3. CALICO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Gabriel's Getaway 7-9-9	12-1	Anthony Honeyball	Ben Godfrey (3)	10
2023	Malystic 9-12-0	12-1	Peter Niven	Danny McMenamin	11
2022	Funambule Sivola 7-11-12	5-4f	Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	7
2021	Ibleo 8-11-12	6-5f	Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	5
2020	Western Miller 9-10-11	16-1	Charlie Longsdon	Paul O'Brien (3)	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.05

RACE 4

PERTEMPS NETWORK RIVER DON NOVICES' HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 5yo+ £75,000 3m84y (4900 Metres)



Going: Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)

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

Pace Information: Weak

- 1

WESTERN KNIGHT (IRE) (42)
2/7-112 6 11-3 | 71.2kg
Joe Tizzard
Overcame inexperience to win novice hurdles at Uttoxeter and Ascot before an excellent second of 6 in Grade 2 novice at Cheltenham (3m) last month. Has more to offer and merits serious consideration.

Brendan Powell

95
- 2

FRISBY (IRE) (28)
2-3 7 11-0 | 69.9kg
Patrick Neville
Successful on sole outing in points and shaped well after 10 months off when a debut third of 10 in 2m3f Catterick novice hurdle four weeks ago. This is much tougher but he's sure to build on that initial effort.

Brian Hughes

84
- 3

GAMESTERS GUY (55)
131-21 6 11-0 | 69.9kg
Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero
Useful bumper scorer who has made a highly promising start in this sphere, very easily landing 12-runner novice at Carlisle (19.3f, soft) last month. This demands more but he's a major player nonetheless. First preference Cheltenham 4.10 Saturday.

Toby Wynne

100
- 4

JIG'S FORGE (IRE) (66)
1 6 11-0 | 69.9kg
Ben Pauling
Winning Irish pointer who made a successful start in this sphere in 12-runner novice at Ffos Las (20f, heavy) 66 days ago. Can build on that, especially now stepped up in trip. Considered.

Ben Jones

94
- 5

MA SHANTOU (IRE) (41)
310-211 6 11-0 | 69.9kg
Emma Lavelle
Progressive sort who bids for a hat-trick after landing novice hurdles (around 2m4f) at Warwick and Windsor this winter. Open to further improvement now stepped up to 3m. In the mix.

Rex Dingle

96
- 6

MOON ROCKET (IRE) (24) (C, D)
11 5 11-0 | 69.9kg
Kim Bailey & Mat Nicholls
Bought for £92,000 after easily getting off the mark in Irish points and he has looked a useful prospect in bagging a maiden here in November and 3m novice at Southwell 24 days ago. Can't be discounted with more progress on the cards.

Tom Bellamy

95
- 7

YELLOW CAR (IRE) (42)
12153 7 11-0 | 69.9kg
David Killahena & Graeme McPherson
Point winner who looked quite useful when winning 2 of his first 3 starts over hurdles at Newton Abbot and Fontwell. Posted a good third of 6 in Grade 2 at Cheltenham (3m) last time so can't be dismissed.

Nick Slatter

95
- 8

SUNSET HILL (IRE) (24)
65212 6 10-7 | 66.7kg
Susan Corbett
Improving type who opened her hurdling account in 2m5f novice at Kelso in December before posting an excellent second of 7 in 2m4f Southwell handicap 24 days ago. This is tougher but she can't be ruled out on her first go over 3m.

Nathan Moscrop

95

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:
3-1 Western Knight, 7-2 Ma Shantou, 9-2 Moon Rocket, 5-1 Gamesters Guy, 8-1 Jig's Forge, 18-1 Yellow Car, 22-1 Sunset Hill, 66-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:
None of these can be ruled out in a cracking River Don but the vote goes to WESTERN KNIGHT who still looked a work in progress when an excellent second in a Cheltenham Grade 2 last time out and can quickly resume winning ways here. Ma Shantou could emerge as the chief threat on his first go over 3m, although Jig's Force, Yellow Car, Moon Rocket and Gamesters Guy all need factoring in too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:
1. WESTERN KNIGHT 2. MA SHANTOU 3. JIG'S FORGE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Kerryhill	6-11-0	7-1	Ruth Jefferson	Brian Hughes	10
2023	Maximilian	7-11-0	13-2	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	10
2022	Mahler Mission	6-10-12	11-2	John McConnell	James Bowen	7
2021	The Cob	7-10-12	25-1	Ben Pauling	Daryl Jacob	12
2020	Ramses de Teillee	8-11-1	6-1	David Pipe	Tom Scudamore	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.40

RACE 5







VIRGIN BET YORKSHIRE ROSE MARES' HURDLE (Grade 2) (1)
4yo+ fillies and mares £60,000 3m84y (4900 Metres)



Going: **Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)**

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

Pace Information: **Weak**

1	JETARA (IRE) (27)	s	99
	1133-2153 7 11-6 72.6kg Mrs J. Harrington, Ireland		<i>James Bowen</i>
	Useful mare who added to her tally in mares' listed hurdle on return in October and followed up on Flat at the Curragh (12f) a month later. Weakened tamely next time but confirmed she's back in form when third in Leopardstown Grade 3 4 weeks ago. Respected up in trip with cheekpieces enlisted.		
2	KATEIRA (35)	★	100
	2/3241-315 8 11-6 72.6kg Dan Skelton		<i>Harry Skelton</i>
	Good winner of big field Aintree handicap on final start last season and stepped up on her reappearance effort in November when winning 5-runner listed mares' hurdle at Kempton (21f) later that month. Far from disgraced when fifth in Grade 1 Long Walk latest and lead claims back against her own sex.		
3	WYENOT (42) (CD)		92
	11P13-141 6 11-6 72.6kg Henry Daly		<i>David Bass</i>
	Progressive mare with a good strike rate, her fifth success from 8 hurdle runs coming in C&D listed event 6 weeks ago, jumping well and drawing clear before 2 out. Looks sure to give another good account of herself.		
4	PINOT ROUGE (IRE) (23) (CD)	s	88
	314-36P4 7 11-4 71.7kg Susan Corbett		<i>Nathan Moscrop</i>
	Point winner who took well to hurdling last season, winning C&D listed novice before a good fourth in Aintree Grade 1. Not without promise on 2 of her 3 starts over fences late last year and she ran well when fourth on handicap hurdle debut at Ayr (24.3f) 23 days ago. Still, this tougher.		
5	DELLA CASA LUNGA (IRE) (29) (D)	s+t	98
	2811-P621 7 11-2 70.8kg Clive Boulton		<i>Richard Patrick</i>
	Better than ever all of a sudden, finishing second behind Kateira in a Kempton listed race before scoring readily (on back of a wind op) in a handicap there 8 days ago. Likely she'll need to pull out even more if she's to get the better of her old rival here, though.		
6	SALSADA (IRE) (30)	s	90
	0-U662P11 8 11-2 70.8kg Brian Ellison		<i>Danny McMenamin</i>
	Useful Flat winner who has put it all together in winning back-to-back Sedgefield handicaps (at 19.8f) in recent months. Clearly right at the top of her game at present but she has plenty on her plate now stepped up markedly in class.		

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Kateira, 11-4 Jetara, 7-2 Wyenot, 15-2 Della Casa Lunga, 33-1 Salsada, 33-1 Pinot Rouge

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A winner at Kempton in November, KATEIRA ran another solid race when fifth in the Long Walk at Ascot on her latest outing 5 weeks ago and she looks to hold prime claims of getting back to winning ways returned to calmer waters. Irish-raider Jetara and Wyenot can give Dan Skelton's mare most to think about.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. KATEIRA 2. JETARA 3. WYENOT

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.15

RACE 6
















VIRGIN BET GREAT YORKSHIRE HANDICAP CHASE (PREMIER HANDICAP) (1) 5yo+ £100,000 2m7f214y (4820 Metres)













Going: **Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)**

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

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1	RAFFLE TICKET (43) (C)			95
	1F621P-1P 11 12-0 76.2kg Mel Rowley <i>Shane Quinlan (3lb/1kg)</i> Low mileage 11-y-o who looked better than ever when landing a Aintree handicap in May. Never involved at Cheltenham since, however, and opposable off top weight.			
2	ARIZONA CARDINAL (43) (D)	t		96
	1PP111-P8 9 11-12 75.3kg Stuart Edmunds <i>Ciaran Gethings</i> Admirable sort who signed off last term with victory in Topham Handicap Chase at Aintree. Looked rusty when pulled up at Chepstow on October's return and fared better on first go in a cross country at Cheltenham. Does look high enough in the handicap, though.			
3	TIGHTENOURBELTS (IRE) (38) (D)			97
	4P46-3611 8 11-11 74.8kg Emma Lavelle  <i>Rex Dingle</i> Failed to kick on over fences last season but seems to have got his act together now, impressing with his jumping when winning at Exeter and Ludlow last 2 starts. Worth a shot in a valuable event like this.			
4	SURE TOUCH (42)			97
	23111-158 9 11-10 74.4kg Olly Murphy  <i>James Bowen</i> Had a productive 2022 over hurdles, winning 4 times, and further progress over fences last season, completing 4-timer in Summer Plate at Market Rasen. Winning run came to an end in Grand Sefton at Aintree, however, and struggled at Cheltenham last month.			
5	FORWARD PLAN (IRE) (42) (CD)	t		97
	2/61213-43 9 11-9 73.9kg Anthony Honeyball <i>Chad Bament (10lb/5kg)</i> Likeable chaser who only just failed in this last season. Follows the exact same route this time around (much better for return when good third over C&D 6 weeks ago) and another very bold show could be on the way.			
6	THE CHANGING MAN (IRE) (35)	t		100
	2U442-F22 8 11-8 73.5kg Joe Tizzard <i>Brendan Powell</i> Progressive over hurdles but mixed record over fences last season. However, back to best when runner-up in Rehearsal Chase (behind Frero Banbou) at Newcastle and Silver Cup at Ascot last 2 starts and should go well again.			
7	FAMOUS BRIDGE (IRE) (35) (D, BF)	s		97
	411PU4-23 9 11-7 73.0kg Nicky Richards <i>Sean Quinlan</i> Dual winner at Haydock last season before respectable fourth in Ultima Handicap at Cheltenham in March. Decent placed efforts both starts this term but did disappoint in this 12 months ago. Headgear applied.			
8	FRERO BANBOU (FR) (29) (BF)			99
	2P66P-612 10 11-6 72.6kg Venetia Williams <i>Ned Fox (3lb/1kg)</i> Took advantage of reduced mark in Rehearsal Chase at Newcastle (by 1¼ lengths from The Changing Man), jumping well over the longest trip he's faced. Beaten only by an unexposed one at Kempton since and remains unexposed at this distance. Player.			
9	SINE NOMINE (30) (D)			95
	31/2111-UF 9 11-4 71.7kg Fiona Needham <i>Brian Hughes</i> Confirmed herself one of the best hunters around when landing the Festival Challenge Cup at Cheltenham Festival (26.3f, heavy) last season. Let down by jumping both starts this term but remains an interesting runner with Brian Hughes taking over.			
10	YOUNG BUSTER (IRE) (91) (BF)	s+t		99
	4/1113P-25 9 11-3 71.2kg Fergal O'Brien <i>J. Hogan (3lb/1kg)</i> Much improved sent chasing last term, completing hat-trick in a handicap at Kelso (22.3f) over a year ago. Just respectable efforts both starts this term 5 months apart but has been eased 1 lb. Not taken lightly.			

11	BOWTOGREATNESS (IRE) (24)	s	97
	530-651P3 9 11-2 70.8kg Ben Pauling Took advantage of career-low mark when finally off the mark over fences at Newbury, jumping boldly at the head of affairs. Added to patchy record when running poorly at Newcastle 3 weeks later but didn't run too badly at Cheltenham on New Year's Day. Headgear now applied.	Ben Jones	
12	ERNE RIVER (IRE) (27) (CD)	b	89
	P15P-PPU4 10 11-2 70.8kg Nick Kent Responded well to first-time headgear when scoring over C&D 13 months ago before good fifth in this off 6 lb higher following month. Struggled over fences since but did at least show he retains ability back hurdling here last month. On a workable mark if building on that.	Tom Broughton (5lb/2kg)	
13	DOCPICKEDME (IRE) (42) (C, D)	s+t	96
	71PP-6632 9 11-0 69.9kg Richard Hobson Not the most consistent but ran best race for a while when close second of 14 to Charlie Uberalles over C&D 6 weeks ago and another good-value claimer takes over.	Charlie Maggs (5lb/2kg)	
14	IDALKO BIHOUE (FR) (26)		97
	P5/F165-85 7 10-13 69.4kg Nigel Twiston-Davies  Lightly raced since opening account over fences at Cheltenham and hindered by jumping errors when well-held in Grand Sefton at Aintree on return. However, ran better at Haydock since and return to further could suit. Yard has good record in this (3 wins, notably Young Hustler and Beau).	Tom Bellamy	
15	SNIPE (IRE) (83) (D, BF)		97
	152127-22 8 10-13 69.4kg Dan Skelton  Took well to fences last term, winning handicaps around 3m at Southwell and Aintree. Solid runner-up efforts both starts this season, beaten only by a subsequent winner at Carlisle last time, so warrants respect.	Harry Skelton	
16	CHARLIE UBERALLES (42) (CD)	s	96
	6-2175421 9 10-12 68.9kg Dianne Sayer Ran a cracker when placed in this last year at huge odds and arrives at the top of his game having held off Docpickedme by a neck over C&D 6 weeks ago. Can give another good account.	Danny McMenamin	
17	WALKING ON AIR (IRE) (38)	t	94
	159/2P-P63 8 10-10 68.0kg Gary Brown Dual-winning hurdler for Nicky Henderson and posted a career best when runner-up on chase debut at Newbury last December off much higher mark. Disappointing since, though, offering little in 3 starts for present connections.	Richie McLernon	

17 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-2 The Changing Man, 7-1 Forward Plan, 11-1 Idalko Bihoue, 11-1 Tightenourbelts, 12-1 Frero Banbou, 14-1 Snipe, 16-1 Bowt greatness, 16-1 Sine Nomine, 18-1 Young Buster, 20-1 Famous Bridge, 20-1 Charlie Uberalles, 22-1 Arizona Cardinal, 25-1 Docpickedme, 25-1 Erne River, 33-1 Sure Touch, 33-1 Walking On Air, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

It's surely just a matter of time before THE CHANGING MAN opens his account over fences and this could be it after excellent runner-up efforts in similar events at Newcastle and Ascot. This is typically competitive, though, with hat-trick seeking Tightenourbelts and last year's runner-up Forward Plan heading the dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. THE CHANGING MAN 2. TIGHTENOURBELTS 3. FORWARD PLAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:				
2024	Annual Invictus 9-11-3	16-1	Chris Gordon	Freddie Gordon (5)
2023	Cooper's Cross 8-10-6	16-1	Stuart Coltherd	Sam Coltherd
2022	Windsor Avenue 10-11-1	40-1	Brian Ellison	Sean Quinlan
2021	Takingrisks 12-11-2	40-1	Nicky Richards	Sean Quinlan
2020	Ok Corral 10-11-12	9-1	Nicky Henderson	Mr D. O'Connor

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.50

RACE 7












DONCASTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE
HANDICAP HURDLE (2) 4yo+ (Rated 0-145) £30,000
2m3f88y (3900 Metres)



Going: Chase: Good to Soft (Good in places), Hurdles: Good to Soft (Soft in places)

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

Pace Information: Strong

1		HOMME PUBLIC (FR) (43) (CD) 1217-6851 8 12-0 76.2kg Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero Multiple winner over fences last season, including a Grade 2 win. Lost his way over fences at his season but capitalised on falling mark over hurdles when winning over C&D last month (2-2 here including fences). 4 lb hike makes life tougher but much respected.	s+t		96
2		PUNCTUATION (329) 114P1/855- 8 11-7 73.0kg Nicky Henderson 7-time winner for Fergal O'Brien, 5 times in this sphere but also decent on the Flat (landed a handicap at Goodwood when last seen in May). Handicapper has given him a chance after a few quieter runs over hurdles and he looks to have leading claims on debut for his excellent and in-form yard.	t		100
3		COLOURS ON CANVAS (FR) (94) (D) 4/18211P-1 6 11-4 71.7kg Jim & Suzi Best Landed a double at Plumpton last spring and below-par on final run of last season and first run of this term, he bounced back to land a 5-runner handicap at Fontwell (19.1f, soft, wore first-time visor), making all and enhancing record to 3 wins from last 4 in this sphere. Can be competitive again.	v		96
4		TO CHASE A DREAM (43) (CD) 22221-114 6 11-3 71.2kg Paul Collins C&D winner landed a pair of 17f Carlisle handicaps this season and enhanced his reputation when fourth of 14 in a handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (16.8f, good to soft) 43 days ago, having been held up in a race where winner was given too much rope from the front. Leading contender now up in trip.			97
5		CLASSIC KING (IRE) (42) (C, D) 22F2-U81U 7 11-0 69.9kg Emma Lavelle Fairly useful novice hurdler last season and scored over fences here in November before unseating early on latest start. Often threatened to deliver more than he did over hurdles and no surprise if there's a race to be won with him back in this sphere with yard in great form at present.			97
6		THE LORD MAID (IRE) (65) 5311-2 7 11-0 69.9kg Tom Lacey Made a successful hurdles debut in maiden at Clonmel in February (for Josh Halley) and followed up for new yard in 20.5f Southwell novice in April. Solid return from 7 months off when second in 6-runner mares' handicap at Warwick (21f, soft) and she's still low mileage.			95
7		YOUR HONOR (IRE) (25) 75619P0-7 6 10-11 68.5kg James A. Nash, Ireland Quiet couple of runs this year (Flat and hurdles) and likely building up his fitness. Should be no excuses on that front today and worth keeping an eye on this Irish raider in the betting having been well-backed the last twice he's collected.			95
8		BOLD REACTION (FR) (24) 26/220-353 8 10-2(9-13) 64.4kg (63.0kg) Charles & Adam Pogson Bumper winner who was fair over hurdles for Nicky Henderson but hasn't set the world alight on three starts for new yard over fences and he looks up against it here back over hurdles from 3 lb out of the handicap.	s		92

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Punctuation, 7-2 To Chase A Dream, 6-1 Homme Public, 15-2 Colours On Canvas, 8-1 The Lord Maid, 9-1 Classic King, 18-1 Your Honor, 33-1 Bold Reaction

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Nicky Henderson could hardly have his string in better shape and PUNCTUATION can make a winning start for new connections having been given a chance by the handicapper following a few quieter runs in this sphere last season. To Chase A Dream wasn't ideally placed when fourth at Cheltenham last month and he should benefit from stepping up in trip, while Classic King always looked fairly useful over hurdles and he can run well back over the smaller obstacles with his yard among the winners.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PUNCTUATION 2. TO CHASE A DREAM 3. CLASSIC KING

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024 Geromino 8-11-1 13-2 Donald McCain Charlie Maggs (10) 13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race