

Friday 28th November

NEWBURY



12.15

PLAY CORAL "RACING-SUPER-SERIES" 'NATIONAL HUNT' MAIDEN HURDLE (3) 2m69y (3280 Metres)

RACE 1 **(1) ACT OF INNOCENCE | (13) SINNATRA | (6) HARBOUR ISLAND**

12.45

CORAL RACING CLUB NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2m92y (3300 Metres)

RACE 2 **(4) MAMBONUMBERFIVE | (1) BLUEY | (5) SECRET DES DIEUX**

1.15

CORAL "DAILY REWARDS SHAKER" FILLIES' JUVENILE HURDLE (Listed) (1) 2m69y (3280 Metres)

RACE 3 **(10) TRALEE GIRL | (4) HIGHLAND CRYSTAL | (5) KATE O'RILEY**

1.50

CORAL JOHN FRANCOME NOVICES' CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 2m3f187y (3990 Metres)

RACE 4 **(4) NO QUESTIONS ASKED | (5) REGENT'S STROLL | (6) WENDIGO**

2.25

"JOIN CORAL BET £10 GET £50" HANDICAP CHASE (2) 2m3f187y (3990 Metres)

RACE 5 **(4) HELTENHAM | (3) TWINJETS | (7) FILANDERER**

3.00

CORAL LONG DISTANCE HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 3m57y (4880 Metres)

RACE 6 **(6) IMPOSE TOI | (1) STRONG LEADER | (7) TAKE NO CHANCES**

3.35

CORAL "PIPPED-AT-THE-POST" PAYOUTS HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 3m57y (4880 Metres)

RACE 7 **(5) DIAMOND RI | (10) BLUE CARPET | (6) J J MOON**

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.

12.15

RACE 1

**PLAY CORAL "RACING-SUPER-SERIES" 'NATIONAL HUNT'
MAIDEN HURDLE (3) 4yo+ £17,000 2m69y (3280
Metres)****GBI RACING**Going: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)**

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 ACT OF INNOCENCE (IRE) (248) (D) 341- 5 11-4 | 71.7kg



Nicky Henderson

Nico de Boinville

Promising in bumpers, finishing fourth in a course listed event before landing short odds at Taunton in March (final start for Paul Nicholls). Good prospect for hurdling and new stable has a strong record in this race.

2 BERKENSHTAAP (IRE) (13) 538-4 5 11-4 | 71.7kg **81**



Olly Murphy

K. Brogan

Winning Irish pointer but yet to better modest form in 2 bumpers/hurdles under Rules. The type to do better at some point but possibly not until handicapping.

3 CONSTELLATION WALK (IRE) (19) 0-44 5 11-4 | 71.7kg **89** h+t



Harry Fry

Bryan Carver

Fourth in his second bumper and showed fair form when filling the same position on his Sandown hurdle debut 19 days ago. Open to progress.

4 FASHION HUNTER 4 11-4 | 71.7kg



Gary & Josh Moore

Caoilin Quinn

Frontiersman gelding. Dam (h88), lightly raced in bumpers/over hurdles, half-sister to useful hurdler/chaser (stayed 4m) Alfie Spinner. Would need to see market support to consider.

5 GONE COUNTRY (IRE) (25) 4 5 11-4 | 71.7kg **70**



Nick Gifford

James Davies

£68,000 Irish point recruit. 14/1, hindered by a bad mistake when well-held fourth on 2m Plumpton hurdle debut 25 days ago. Considerable improvement will be needed to go close here.

6 HARBOUR ISLAND (FR) (18) (D) 11-2 6 11-4 | 71.7kg **99**



Olly Murphy

Sean Bowen

Unbeaten in 2 bumpers last winter and made an encouraging start to his hurdle career when second of 7 in Carlisle novice (2m, soft) 18 days ago. Should improve and likely to be winning over hurdles soon.

7 IN THE PURPLE (IRE) (13) 87 4 11-4 | 71.7kg **75**



Olly Murphy

Lewis Stones (3lb/1kg)

Big prices and well held in maiden/novice hurdles this month. Looks more one for handicaps down the line.

8 JORAH D'ALMA (FR) (219) 1- 6 11-4 | 71.7kg



Fergal O'Brien

Mr Ben Sutton (5lb/2kg)

Irish point winner in May 2023. It took a while for new connections to get him to the track but it proved worth the wait when coming from off the pace to win a Ludlow bumper in April. Should be up to making presence felt in a race like this now hurdling.

9 NICE ONE ERIC (37) (BF) 4 4 11-4 | 71.7kg



Ben Pauling

Ben Jones

Promise when fourth of 12 in bumper at Worcester (16f, good to soft, 10/3) on debut 37 days ago, not knocked about. Makes hurdles debut.

10 PARK TALK (IRE) (29) 32 5 11-4 | 71.7kg **87**



Harry Derham

Paul O'Brien

Successful on last of 4 starts in Irish points. Better effort in novice hurdles last month when 14 lengths second at Stratford (2m, good to soft) 4 weeks ago. Likely to progress again.

11 RAP SOUL (FR) (23) 7-57 6 11-4 | 71.7kg **35**



Richard Bandey

Rex Dingle

Runner-up in an Irish point but had a breathing operation after and has shown little since in a bumper and 2m maiden hurdles for this yard.

12 SHABRA DIYA (IRE) (34) 54536-647 4 11-4 | 71.7kg **s**



Anthony McCann, Ireland

Paddy Hanlon (5lb/2kg)

Maiden after 8 bumper starts in Ireland so hardly appeals as one likely to make a successful start over hurdles in a warm race like this.

13 SINNATRA (IRE) (22) (D) 14-2 5 11-4 | 71.7kg **100** ★



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Bumper winner for Paul Nicholls last season. 9/2, shaped with plenty of encouragement when second of 11 on C&D hurdle debut (good to soft) for new yard 3 weeks ago. Sure to progress for top yard in flying form.

14 WEST HILL VERDE (FR) (22) 2/98-5 5 11-4 | 71.7kg **84**



Seamus Mullins

Callum Pritchard (5lb/2kg)

Runner-up on the first of 3 bumper starts. Showed a bit of promise when fifth of 11 in C&D maiden on hurdle debut but the reopposing Sinnatra was 15 lengths ahead of him.

15 WINGS ON WHEELS (IRE) (15) 5 6 11-4 | 71.7kg **74** t



Ian Williams

Robert Dunne

Point recruit who is probably more ne for the longer term over hurdles based on his opening Market Rasen fifth a couple of weeks ago.

15 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Sinnatra, 11-4 Harbour Island, 7-2 Act of Innocence, 18-1 Park Talk, 20-1 Jorah D'alma, 22-1 Constellation Walk, 28-1 Nice One Eric, 33-1 West Hill Verde, 66-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Nicky Henderson does well in this race so the suggestion is his new recruit ACT OF INNOCENCE, who showed quite useful form in bumpers last season. The main threat will likely come from Sinnatra and Harbour Island, who also represent powerful stables and were both a promising second on hurdle debut earlier in the month.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ACT OF INNOCENCE 2. SINNATRA 3. HARBOUR ISLAND

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Regent's Stroll 5-11-4	4-11f Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	10
2023	Jeriko du Reponet 4-11-4	4-11f Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	8
2022	Jet Powered 5-11-4	8-13f Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	12
2021	Jonbon 5-11-4	10-11f Nicky Henderson	Aidan Coleman	8
2020	My Drogo 5-11-0	10-3 Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

12.45**CORAL RACING CLUB NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE**
(3) 4yo+ £22,000 2m92y (3300 Metres)

RACE 2

Going: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Even****1 BLUEY (IRE) (40) (D) 97**

1/4121P7-1 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Emma Lavelle

Gavin Sheehan

Bumper/dual hurdle winner who looks to have a bright future over fences judged on his opening success in Kempton novice handicap 6 weeks ago. A 7 lb rise shouldn't prevent a bold bid.

2 MIGHTY BANDIT (IRE) (412) (D) 97

19P/0P- 5 11-8 | 73.5kg



Warren Greatrex

Sam Twiston-Davies

Fairly useful hurdles winner for Gordon Elliott last term (changed hands for €420,000) and reached a similar level on Flat for this yard, winning at Ffos Las in August. Switches to fences on his return to jumps. Yard also runs Koapey.

3 PALACIO (FR) (23) (D) h+t 99

95/13425-1 7 11-8 | 73.5kg



Sam Thomas

Dylan Johnston (3lb/1kg)

Free-going sort who made a successful start to his chasing career in 2m Chepstow novice handicap 23 days ago but he didn't progress over hurdles last season so needs to prove he can build on that.

4 MAMNUMBERFIVE (FR) (20) (D) ★ 100

35/2P17-1 4 11-6 | 72.6kg



Ben Pauling

Ben Jones

Changed hands for €450,000 prior to landing Grade 2 Adonis Juvenile Hurdle at Kempton in February. Struggled in Aintree Grade 1 on final start but quickly back on the up when making a successful chase/handicap debut at the same venue 3 weeks ago. Will go on improving.

5 SECRET DES DIEUX (FR) (30) (D) 96

2/711354-1 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



James Owen

Sean Bowen

Dual hurdle winner who struck at the first time of asking over fences in 4-runner Fakenham novice handicap last month. This is a stronger race but he's in good hands and should have more to come.

6 CAPTAIN BELLAMY (252) (D) 97

103/21d2- 6 11-1 | 70.3kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Bumper winner. First past the post in a course novice hurdle last December (later disqualified after rider found guilty of overusing the whip). Second in a similar race here in March. This former point scorer switches to fences for his handicap debut after 8 months off.

7 KOAPEY (FR) (42) 95

2221-2 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Warren Greatrex

James Bowen

Quickly made up into a fairly useful hurdler last season, signing off with success in 2m Southwell novice in March. Promising 5 lengths second in 2m Uttoxeter handicap on chase debut/reappearance 6 weeks ago. Open to progress.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Mamnumberfive, **7-2** Bluey, **5-1** Secret Des Dieux, **11-2** Palacio, **8-1** Captain Bellamy, **9-1** Koapey, **28-1** Mighty Bandit

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A very useful contest. MAMNUMBERFIVE took really well to fences at Aintree and gets the nod to make light of a 5 lb rise. Bluey and Secret des Dieux are other promising first-time-out chase winners who should have more to offer, while Captain Bellamy has the profile of one likely to go on to better things over fences.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MAMNUMBERFIVE 2. BLUEY 3. SECRET DES DIEUX

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Kalif du Berlais 4-11-6	10-11f Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	10
2023	Djelo 5-11-10	15-8f Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	6
2022	Frere d'Armes 5-10-3	4-1 Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2021	Not Available 6-10-10	14-1 Matt Sheppard	Stan Sheppard	5
2020	Elusive Belle 6-11-6	13-2 Nicky Henderson	Mr Sam Waley-Cohen (3)	8

1.15

RACE 3

CORAL "DAILY REWARDS SHAKER" FILLIES' JUVENILE HURDLE (Listed) (1) 3yo fillies £45,000 2m69y (3280 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)**

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 GOLD CAST (FR) (185) 96
9-41 3 11-5 | 72.1kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Struck at the third time of asking over hurdles in France when seeing off 8 rivals in Auteuil juvenile in May. Joined a leading yard for her British career. Would enter the reckoning if the betting speaks in her favour.

2 GOLDEN FALLS (IRE) (153) h 96
68-12 3 11-3 | 71.2kg



Lucy Wadham

Tom Cannon

First and second in 17f juvenile hurdles at Dieppe in June. Has joined Lucy Wadham ahead of this first outing since. Possibly best watched.

3 BABYCHINO (IRE) 96
3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Alexander Gibbons

James Turner

Showed ability amidst inexperience when runner-up in seller on Falt debut in September. Sold out of Adrian Keatley's yard for 6,000 gns in October. Very much pitched in at the deep end on hurdle debut.

4 HIGHLAND CRYSTAL (IRE) (15) 90
1 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Gordon Elliott, Ireland

**Jordan Colin Gainford**

Crystal Ocean filly who made an impressive winning start to her career in a Punchestown academy hurdle 15 days ago, cruising clear. Useful prospect for a top Irish stable which won this with the very smart Wodhoo in 2023.

5 KATE O'RILEY (13) 94
13 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



James Owen

**Sam Twiston-Davies**

Fairly useful Flat winner who scored with plenty in hand on her Ludlow hurdle debut in October. Bettered that form when 8 lengths third in Cheltenham Grade 2 since. Player for last year's winning yard.

6 MADAME DE LABRUNIE (FR) (61) t 98
5-372F14 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Fergal O'Brien

Jonathan Burke

Fair form over hurdles in France, including a 17.5f Auteuil claiming success in September. Improvement will be needed if she's to make a winning start for the Fergal O'Brien yard here.

7 MYSTICAL MABEL (IRE) (30) 77
F4 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Gary & Josh Moore

Caolin Quinn

Modest form in 3 Flat starts. Looked set for third when falling 2 out on Kempton hurdle debut but could only manage a remote fourth to Zahra Dodville at Fakenham since. Outsider.

8 SOPELANA (15) (D) t 94
63141 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Cian Michael Collins, Ireland

Danny Gilligan

Second hurdle success when proving too strong for 5 rivals in Punchestown juvenile (2m, heavy) 15 days ago. Improvement will be needed if she's to make a significant impact at this higher level, though.

9 TRAD JAZZ (11) (BF) 83
2 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



James Owen

**Sean Bowen**

Fairly useful Flat winner (stays 11f). Turned over at short odds on recent Leicester hurdle debut. Should be capable of better in this sphere but Kate O'Riley might be the stable first string.

10 TRALEE GIRL (IRE) (28) ★ 100
3 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



Dan Skelton

**Harry Skelton**

Fairly useful 3-time Flat winner for Michael Bell and made a promising start to her hurdle career when 5¼ lengths third of 8 to Minella Study in listed Wensleydale at Wetherby (2m, good) 4 weeks ago. Looks sure to progress for top stable.

11 WONDERFUL WONDERFUL (IRE) (99) (BF) 96
1 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



John McConnell, Ireland

Alex Harvey

Fairly useful maiden on Flat and struck at the first time of asking over hurdles in Killarney juvenile in August. Faded into a below-par fourth on AW Flat at Dundalk 14 days ago but that should have put her spot on for this.

12 ZAHRA DODVILLE (FR) (30) (D) 93
36-51 3 11-0 | 69.9kg



James Owen

**Gavin Sheehan**

French recruit who made a winning start for James Owen in 5-runner Fakenham juvenile last month. May do better again for her prolific yard, but the stable's more regular jockeys are on its other runners.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Tralee Girl, **9-2** Highland Crystal, **11-2** Kate O'Riley, **9-1** Gold Cast, **9-1** Trad Jazz, **12-1** Wonderfulwonderful, **14-1** Zahra Dodville, **20-1** Golden Falls, **22-1** Sopelana, **25-1** Madame De Labrunie, **200-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TRALEE GIRL gets the vote to build on her promising hurdle debut third in another listed juvenile at Wetherby last month. Gordon Elliott sent over Wodhoo to land this in 2023 and his easy Punchestown debut scorer Highland Crystal is a likely threat. Kate O'Riley is also shortlisted for last year's winning owner/trainer.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TRALEE GIRL 2. HIGHLAND CRYSTAL 3. KATE O'RILEY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Opec 3-11-0	9-2	James Owen	Sean Bowen	10
2023	Wodhoo 3-11-0	2-5f	Gordon Elliott	J. W. Kennedy	9
2022	Dixon Cove 3-11-0	evsf	Paul Nicholls	Harry Skelton	9
2021	Sea Sessions 3-10-12	8-1	Ross O'Sullivan	Jonathan Burke	9
2020	Talking About You 3-10-12	14-1	Sean Curran	Harry Bannister	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.50**CORAL JOHN FRANCOME NOVICES' CHASE (Grade 2) (1)**
4yo+ £75,000 2m3f187y (3990 Metres)

RACE 4

Going: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)**

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 KING OF KINGSFIELD (IRE) (35) t **98**
554-1131P 7 11-9 | 73.9kg



Gordon Elliott, Ireland

Danny Gilligan

Useful hurdler and similar form over fences, not needing to improve to resume winning ways in a 6-runner Punchestown Grade 3 (18.3f, good to soft) last month. However, he ran no sort of a race at Cheltenham since and looks vulnerable under a penalty.

2 CREST OF FORTUNE (34) (D) **97**
5/122213-2 5 11-4 | 71.7kg



Anthony Honeyball

Sam Twiston-Davies

Bumper winner who landed a maiden/novice over hurdles (at up to 20.5f) before running a screamer on first crack at 3m+ when third in a Grade 1 at Aintree in April. Solid start over fences when runner-up on return back at 2½m in Cheltenham handicap last month and he's open to improvement.

3 KINGSTON PRIDE (IRE) (38) (D) **99**
21/1P1-1 6 11-4 | 71.7kg



Olly Murphy

Sean Bowen

Point/bumper winner who won twice from 3 appearances in maiden/novice hurdles for Nicky Henderson last season. Acquired by new connections for £285,000 in May and perfect start over fences when landing a 3-runner affair at Perth (2½m, heavy), leaving the impression that there's better to come.

4 NO QUESTIONS ASKED (IRE) (27) ★ **100**
6/131210-1 7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Ben Pauling

Ben Jones

Pretty useful 3-time novice hurdle winner last term and this former point winner barely put a foot wrong when making a winning return/chase debut in an Ascot handicap (18.8f, good). Looks sure to progress and he's an appealing candidate for last year's winning yard.

5 REGENT'S STROLL (IRE) (237) (C, D)
11/14212- 6 11-4 | 71.7kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Useful bumper winner and also established himself as a useful hurdler last season, winning 2 of his first 4 starts in this sphere prior to a fine second of 9 in the Grade 1 Mersey Novices' Hurdle at Aintree during the spring. Likely to make a much better chaser and he's a pretty exciting prospect.

6 WENDIGO (FR) (37) (D, BF) **96**
11/21215-2 6 11-4 | 71.7kg



Jamie Snowden

Gavin Sheehan

Useful novice hurdler last term, runner-up in the Challow here in December and also acquitted himself well in the Albert Bartlett at the Cheltenham Festival in March. Just touched off by a subsequent listed winner on chase debut at Worcester (2½m, good to soft) and he's one to consider.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-4 Regent's Stroll, **5-2** Wendigo, **5-1** No Questions Asked, **11-2** Kingston Pride, **12-1** Crest of Fortune, **28-1** King of Kingsfield

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Several potentially very useful novice chasers on show, with NO QUESTIONS ASKED taken to build on his debut success in this sphere at Ascot where he gave weight and a comprehensive beating to an odds-on shot from the Paul Nicholls yard. It's likely that the Nicholls stable will again provide the greatest threat in the shape of Regent's Stroll, who is a very bright chasing prospect. Wendigo is third on the list, but only marginally as both Crest of Fortune and Kingston Pride are also promising.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. NO QUESTIONS ASKED 2. REGENT'S STROLL 3. WENDIGO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	The Jukebox Man 6-11-4	9-4jf	Ben Pauling	Ben Jones	6
2023	Hermes Allen 6-11-4	13-8f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	6
2022	Sebastopol 8-11-9	22-1	Tom Lacey	Stan Sheppard	4
2021	Nassalam 4-10-7	2-1f	Gary Moore	Jamie Moore	4
2020	Caribbean Boy 6-11-1	10-3	Nicky Henderson	Daryl Jacob	3

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.25**"JOIN CORAL BET £10 GET £50" HANDICAP CHASE (2) 4yo+
(Rated 0-150) £55,000 2m3f187y (3990 Metres)**

RACE 5

Going: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)**

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Weak****1 TELEPATHIQUE (26) (D) 92**

21/11211-2 7 12-0 | 76.2kg



Lucy Wadham

Tom Cannon

Boasts excellent strike rate, winning 4 out of 5 starts over fences last term, culminating in an all-the-way Huntingdon success in February. Solid second in a listed chase won by the progressive Paggane (winner again since) on return at Carlisle (2½m, good to soft) and she has to enter calculations.

2 AMERICAN MIKE (IRE) (212) (D) t 96

15/56349-7 8 11-13 | 75.7kg



Olly Murphy

Sean Bowen

Smart chaser on his day for Gordon Elliott, winner of 3m Navan Grade 2 in February 2024. Failed to add to his tally last term, but posted a couple of solid efforts in defeat in strong handicaps and makes debut for new yard on an attractive mark.

3 TWINJETS (IRE) (33) (D) 96

9314/52P-1 8 11-7 | 73.0kg



Paul Nicholls

Harry Cobden

Solid second in C&D handicap last November and perfect start to this season when landing a 7-runner contest at Fontwell (19.5f, good) with the re-opposing Heltenham almost 12 lengths adrift in third. 4 lb rise fair enough and this 8-y-o is firmly in calculations.

4 HELTENHAM (FR) (13) (CD) t 100

4P21-P833 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Back to best when winning in good style at Perth in April and, though not quite in same form since, his last 2 efforts have been creditable. Edging back down the weights (now just 2 lb above mark off which he won at Perth) and will be a danger to all if recent wind up has had the desired effect.

5 WESTERN GENERAL (IRE) (27) t 98

413511P-7 7 11-0 | 69.9kg



Joe Tizzard

Brendan Powell

Very useful on his day but overall record is patchy and he followed 2m wins at Wincanton and Hereford last spring with a poor run at Chepstow final run. Nearer last than first on return at Ascot and likely to come up short once more.

6 MARVEL DE CERISY (FR) (22) (D) t 99

416/6116-2 8 10-12 | 68.9kg



Christian Williams

Jack Tudor

Better than ever at Auteuil last autumn, winning a listed handicap hurdle and handicap chase. Should come on for his reappearance second in 3-runner C&D handicap on debut for new yard this month, but he was comprehensively outpointed by the winner that day and some of the others are more appealing.

7 FILANDERER (31) (D) 99

225/U111-1 9 10-2(10-0) | 64.4kg (63.5kg)



Hughie Morrison

Jonathan Burke

Ended last term on the up over fences, readily completing a hat-trick in 7-runner handicap at Ffos Las (19.4f, good to soft) in April. Picked up where he left off by making it 4 in a row over the same C&D on return last month and he's impossible to rule out, for all that this is tougher.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Twinjets, **4-1** American Mike, **5-1** Filanderer, **11-2** Heltenham, **11-2** Telepathique, **11-1** Western General, **14-1** Marvel De Cerisy

TIMEFORM VIEW:

If HELTENHAM's recent wind operation helps precipitate a return to form he will surely go close off this reduced mark. Indeed, his wide-margin Perth success during the spring was gained off just a 2 lb lower mark and he is now 8 lb better off with Twinjets, compared to when beaten around 12 lengths into third by that rival at Fontwell last month. Twinjets is greatly respected nonetheless and rates the main danger ahead of the progressive Filanderer and American Mike.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. HELTENHAM 2. TWINJETS 3. FILANDERER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Le Patron 6-11-10	12-1	Gary & Josh Moore	Freddie Mitchell (5)	9
2023	Kandoo Kid 7-10-12	6-5f	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	7
2022	Paint The Dream 8-12-0	5-2	Fergal O'Brien	Connor Brace	5
2021	Fanion d'Estruval 6-11-12	2-1f	Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	9
2020	Clondaw Castle 8-11-8	11-2	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.00**CORAL LONG DISTANCE HURDLE (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+
£75,000 3m57y (4880 Metres)**

RACE 6

Going: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)**

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 STRONG LEADER (27) (CD) s **99**
431/1042-1 **8** 11-8 | 73.5kg

Olly Murphy **Sean Bowen**
Smart stayer who landed the Liverpool Hurdle in April 2024 and followed up on his reappearance last term in this very race. Made a winning start this season, too, in a Wetherby Grade 2 (3m, good) and another bold show is on the cards.

2 DODDIETHEGREAT (IRE) (27) (D) s+t **96**
7/5PP21-23 **9** 11-6 | 72.6kg

Nicky Henderson **James Bowen**
Scaled new heights when seeing off stablemate Jeriko du Reponet in the Pertemps Final at the Cheltenham Festival (3m, good to soft) in March. Solid 1½ lengths third to Strong Leader on return at Wetherby, proving that he can mix it in graded company, but Impose Toi appears to be the stable No 1.

3 AHOY SENOR (IRE) (33) (C, D) **73**
62/3PPF5-6 **10** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore **Derek Fox**
Very smart chaser at his best and caught the eye when third on his reappearance last season in the Old Roan at Aintree. Has struggled since, including on return this time round in the same race, but he's 2-2 in this sphere and will be a big threat if the return to hurdles helps rekindle the flame.

4 BOTOX HAS (FR) (222) (D) b **96**
1P5/08337- **9** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Gary & Josh Moore **Caolin Quinn**
Good third in the Cleeve Hurdle at Cheltenham in January, but he was otherwise below par last season and is probably worth taking on back from a 7-month absence.

5 HEWICK (IRE) (27) (D, BF) b **99**
25718-714 **10** 11-2 | 70.8kg

John Joseph Hanlon, Ireland **Paddy Hanlon**
High-class chaser (winner of the 2023 King George at Kempton) and no slouch in this sphere either, as he reiterated with an easy all-the-way success on return at Thurles. The run may have come too soon when well held back over fences at Wetherby and he's likely to bounce back with a bold show.

6 IMPOSE TOI (FR) (20) (C, D) **100**
123/124-21 **7** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Nicky Henderson **Nico de Boinville**
Developed into a mainstay in top handicap hurdles last season and boasts a superbly consistent record. Displayed a good turn of foot when making a winning reappearance at Aintree (24.7f, good) and looks ready for this step up in class. Big player.

7 TAKE NO CHANCES (IRE) (27) **97**
531335-62 **7** 11-1 | 70.3kg

Dan Skelton **Harry Skelton**
Winner of listed race at Wetherby and mares' Grade 2 at Ascot last term. Built on encouraging reappearance in a Chepstow handicap when just touched off by Strong Leader back at Wetherby last time and she should give another good account.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-4 Strong Leader, **5-2** Impose Toi, **11-2** Take No Chances, **7-1** Hewick, **8-1** Dodiethgreat, **22-1** Ahoy Senior, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

IMPOSE TOI has made good strides subsequent to winning a C&D handicap at this meeting 12 months ago and, judged on his reappearance success under a big weight at Aintree, he still appears to be improving. The 7-y-o can take this step up in class in his stride and could yet develop into a candidate for the Stayers' Hurdle in March. Last year's winner Strong Leader got the better of Take No Chances at Wetherby at the beginning of the month and he is the main danger. Hewick also has claims.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. IMPOSE TOI 2. STRONG LEADER 3. TAKE NO CHANCES

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2024	Strong Leader	7-11-8	4-7f	Olly Murphy	Sean Bowen	4
2023	Dashel Drasher	10-11-2	2-1	Jeremy Scott	Rex Dingle	6
2022	Champ	10-11-8	11-8f	Nicky Henderson	Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	5
2021	Thomas Darby	8-11-0	7-1	Olly Murphy	Sean Bowen	6
2020	Thyme Hill	6-11-3	7-2	Philip Hobbs	Richard Johnson	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.35**CORAL "PIPPED-AT-THE-POST" PAYOUTS HANDICAP HURDLE
(3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-135) £40,000 3m57y (4880 Metres)**

RACE 7

GBI RACINGGoing: **Hurdle: Soft (Good to Soft in places; Chase: Good to Soft)**

Left handed, galloping with few undulations. One of the fairest courses in the country, though its galloping nature does suit the big, long-striding type. The chase course is regarded as being fairly stiff, though the casualty rate is no more than average compared to all GB tracks. Leaders are rarely overhauled on the chase run-in for all it often looks as though they might be, especially from the elbow. The ground can vary from chase course to hurdles course, with the latter sometimes more testing.

Pace Information: **Very Weak****1 CLASSIC KING (IRE) (35) 97**

U81U132-4 7 12-0 | 76.2kg



Emma Lavelle

Rex Dingle

Dual 19f hurdles/chase winner last term who signed off with a good second of 10 in handicap hurdle at Kempton (21f, good to soft). Underwent a wind op prior to an encouraging reappearance kept to hurdles at Cheltenham and shapes as though worth a try over this trip. One for the shortlist.

2 THUNDER ROCK (IRE) (231) 98

21P/P4447- 9 11-13 | 75.7kg



Olly Murphy

Sean Bowen

Very smart chaser at best but not at the same level in handful of outings over hurdles last season. Resumes from a 7-month absence on a potentially very handy mark, but it's not hard to have reservations all the same.

3 PUNCTUATION (259) (C) 98

855/430- 8 11-9 | 73.9kg



Nicky Henderson

Nico de Boinville

Five-time hurdles winner for Fergal O'Brien and ended time with that yard with victory in 2m Flat handicap at Goodwood in May 2024. Good third over 21f at Kempton on the second of his 3 starts for new yard last term, but one or two of these look more solid.

4 SAMUEL SPADE (GER) (22) 99

3238157-9 6 11-8 | 73.5kg



Ben Pauling

Ben Jones

Five-time winner over hurdles, including a career best at Ascot (23.5f, good) in February and backed that up with a solid fifth in a competitive handicap at Uttoxeter next time. However, he was tailed off on his reappearance over C&D earlier this month and is opposable on the back of that display.

5 DIAMOND RI (IRE) (590) 100

2142/ 6 11-7 | 73.0kg



Joe Tizzard

Brendan Powell

Easy winner only start in bumpers and confirmed hurdles debut promise when taking a Warwick maiden (19f, soft) in January 2024. Solid second in 20.2f Cheltenham novice in April of that year and, though absent since, he's unexposed and is of strong interest upped in trip for this handicap debut.

6 J J MOON (30) 99

7/136221-1 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



Emma Lavelle

Harry Cobden

Signed off last term by opening his account in an Exeter maiden and, having undergone a wind op in the interim, he raised his game when making a winning handicap debut on return at Newton Abbot (21.6f, soft). Further progress likely now faced with a stiffer test and he's a key player.

7 KEABLE (IRE) (292) (CD) 97

4P/52119- 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



Philip Hobbs & Johnson White

Callum Pritchard (5lb/2kg)

Did the job in good style when getting off the mark in a 21.5f Exeter handicap on New Year's Day. Followed up over this C&D 2 weeks later, but struggled on final run of last season and it could be that he's a shade too high in the weights for now.

8 I'M A LUMBERJACK (218) 99

639/21F31- 6 10-13 | 69.4kg



Alan King

Tom Bellamy

Fairly useful bumper performer who confirmed hurdling debut promise when running out a tidy winner of 11-runner maiden at Warwick (21f, soft) last December. Added to that when landing the odds in a Bangor novice on final start of last season and mark for this handicap debut doesn't look prohibitive.

9 PERMIS DE TUER (FR) (808) 90

1/ 5 10-13 | 69.4kg



Robert Walford

Harry Kimber

Fairly useful form when winning 11-runner listed juvenile hurdles on debut for Noel George & Amanda Zetterholm at Auteuil in September 2023. Completely unexposed, but subsequent absence has to be a major concern ahead of this handicap/stable debut.

10 BLUE CARPET (28) 99

134-21 5 10-11 | 68.5kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Fairly useful bumper winner who built on hurdling debut promise when easily landing the odds in 3-runner novice at Wetherby (19.7f, good). Handed a reasonable mark for this handicap bow and he's in good hands to progress.

11 KRUGER PARK (FR) (17) (C) 97

12/334PP-4 7 10-9 | 67.6kg



Paul Nicholls

Jay Tidball (5lb/2kg)

Progressive switched to handicaps during second-half of 2023/24 season and made the frame twice off higher marks than this last term. However, ended that campaign on a low-key note and reappearance effort at Lingfield wasn't particularly encouraging.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Blue Carpet, **9-2** Diamond Ri, **7-1** J J Moon, **17-2** Classic King, **11-1** Thunder Rock, **12-1** I'm A Lumberjack, **14-1** Keable, **16-1** Punctuation, **22-1** Permis De Tuer, **28-1** Samuel Spade, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

While his wellbeing has to be taken on trust following a 19-month absence, DIAMOND RI ventures into handicap company on a potentially handy mark and both the good form of his yard and the promise of improvement now upped in trip augur well in respect of his prospects here. Blue Carpet is an obvious threat given his profile, while the hat-trick seeking J J Moon and top-weight Classic King are others to consider.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. DIAMOND RI 2. BLUE CARPET 3. J J MOON****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2024	Hermio Aa 7-11-9	17-2	Gary & Josh Moore	Freddie Mitchell (5)	11
2023	Ed Keeper 5-10-13	10-3f	Sam Thomas	Sam Twiston-Davies	12
2022	Abuffalosoldier 5-10-10	13-2	Warren Greatrex	James Bowen	14
2021	Dolphin Square 7-11-4	6-1	Philip Hobbs	Mr David Maxwell (3)	14
2020	Hill Sixteen 7-10-4	11-10f	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race