GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

TIMEFORM 1-2-3

Thursday 15th March

CHELTENHAM

1.30	JLT NOVICES' CHASE (Golden Miller) (Grade 1) (1) 2m3f198y (4000 Metres)
RACE 1	(4) INVITATION ONLY (IRE) | (9) TERREFORT (FR) | (10) SHATTERED LOVE (IRE)
2.10	PERTEMPS NETWORK FINAL HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade 3) (1) 2m7f213y (4820 Metres)
RACE 2	(21) GLENLOE (IRE) | (13) DELTA WORK (FR) | (2) WHO DARES WINS (IRE)
2.50	RYANAIR CHASE (Festival Trophy) (Grade 1) (1) 2½m166y (4180 Metres)
RACE 3	(7) UN DE SCEAUX (FR) | (3) CUE CARD | (2) CLOUDY DREAM (IRE)
3.30	SUN BETS STAYERS' HURDLE (Grade 1) (1) 2m7f213y (4820 Metres)
RACE 4	(7) SAM SPINNER | (13) YANWORTH | (8) SUPASUNDAE
4.10	BROWN ADVISORY & MERRIEBELLE STABLE PLATE HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 3) (1) 2½m166y (4180 Metres)
RACE 5	(4) TULLY EAST (IRE) | (3) LAST GOODBYE (IRE) | (6) THE STORYTELLER (IRE)
4.50	TRULL HOUSE STUD MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE (Dawn Run) (Grade 2) (1) 2m179y (3380 Metres)
RACE 6	(2) LAURINA (FR) | (3) MARIA'S BENEFIT (IRE) | (9) DAME DE COMPAGNIE (FR)
5.30	FULKE WALWYN KIM MUIR CHALLENGE CUP AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 3¼m (5230 Metres)
RACE 7	(4) MALL DINI (IRE) | (1) PENDRA (IRE) | (11) SQUOUATEUR (FR)

KEY TO SYMBOLS

Top Rated: The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.

Horses For Courses: A suitable track for the horse, compared to its lifetime record on similar courses as defined by Timeform's course data.

Jockey Uplift: The engaged rider has a notably higher Timeform Jockey Ranking than those who've ridden the horse on its most recent starts

Trainer Form: A hot trainer to follow, based on Timeform ratings-related measurements looking at the recent performance of runners.

1.30 — RACE 1

JLT NOVICES' CHASE (Golden Miller) (Grade 1) (1) 5yo+ £150,000 2m3f198y (4000 Metres)

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Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 BENATAR (IRE) (83) (D) **97**
1424-111 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Gary Moore — *Jamie Moore*
Impressive turn of foot in well-contested novice handicap chase at Ascot and took record to 3 from 3 in this sphere when narrowly seeing off Finian's Oscar back at that venue (21f). More to come.

2 BIGMARTRE (FR) (47) (BF) **97**
3/1860-112 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Harry Whittington — *Harry Bannister*
Thrived since switched to fences this season, winning novice handicaps at Ludlow and Newbury before going down all guns blazing to Duke of Navan at Doncaster. Bold jumper, but stamina will be tested.

3 FINIAN'S OSCAR (IRE) (47) (CD, BF) s+t **99**
112-1132P **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Colin Tizzard — *Robbie Power*
Looked set for the top following novice campaign over hurdles. Beaten favourite in Henry VIII and then let down by jumping when second to Benatar. Amiss here in the Cleeve and cheekpieces now added.

4 INVITATION ONLY (IRE) (39) (D) ★ **100**
1136-F113 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — *R. Walsh*
Fell on chase bow but has recovered in fine style, winning Navan maiden and Punchestown Grade 3. Close third to Monalee in Flogas last month is rock-solid form and good chance he can do better, too.

5 KEMBOY (FR) (47) **94**
1257-21 **6** 11-4 | 71.7kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — *P. Townend*
Useful hurdler (fifth in the Neptune at last year's Festival) and quickly reached a similar level over fences, landing Fairyhouse maiden in good style. This is a big step up but he's in top hands.

6 MODUS (34) (C, D) **97**
7165-11F1 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Paul Nicholls — *Barry Geraghty*
Three from 4 over fences this term, making most of another good opportunity in 4-runner graduation event at Kempton last time (allowed to dictate). This a different ask but has scope on hurdles form.

7 SNOW FALCON (IRE) (39) (D) **97**
2538-2315 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Noel Meade, Ireland — *Sean Flanagan*
Smart hurdler who got off the mark over fences at Leopardstown in December, ultimately left with a simple task and won hard held. Has work to do with Invitation Only on their recent clash

8 WEST APPROACH (40) b **93**
3PP-13135 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Colin Tizzard — *Tom Scudamore*
Useful hurdler who was highly tried on occasions. Maiden/novice winner over fences, but record over the larger obstacles is already patchy and this looks too tough. First-time blinkers.

9 TERREFORT (FR) (40) (D) **99**
26-131311 **5** 11-3 | 71.2kg
Nicky Henderson — *Daryl Jacob*
Maintained perfect record in Britain when winning Scilly Isles Novices' Chase at Sandown (by neck from Cyrname) last month. That race has been a reasonable trial in the past and he's promising.

10 SHATTERED LOVE (IRE) (76) t **99**
107-11211 **7** 10-11 | 68.5kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — *J. W. Kennedy*
Took advantage of Monalee's fall when winning Neville Hotels Novices' Chase in December. Kept fresh for this can boast a likeable profile as she bids to become the first mare to win this race.

10 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Invitation Only, **4-1** Terrefort, **7-1** Modus, **8-1** Finian's Oscar, **9-1** Shattered Love, **9-1** Benatar, **16-1** Bigmartre, **22-1** Snow Falcon, **22-1** Kemboy, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

No stand-out performer in this Grade 1, but INVITATION ONLY's close-up third in the Flogas Chase appeals as being the best form on offer, and with improvement on the cards too, he can provide Willie Mullins with a fourth success in a row in this race. Terrefort has made a faultless start to life with Nicky Henderson and is feared most, ahead of the mare Shattered Love.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. INVITATION ONLY (IRE) 2. TERREFORT (FR) 3. SHATTERED LOVE (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Yorkhill** 7-11-4	6-4f	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	8
2016	**Black Hercules** 7-11-4	4-1cf	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	9
2015	**Vautour** 6-11-4	6-4f	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	8
2014	**Taquin du Seuil** 7-11-4	7-1	Jonjo O'Neill	A. P. McCoy	12
2013	**Benefficient** 7-11-4	20-1	A. J. Martin	B. J. Cooper	13

2.10 RACE 2

PERTEMPS NETWORK FINAL HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade 3)
(1) 5yo+ £100,000 2m7f213y (4820 Metres)

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Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 THOMAS CAMPBELL (47) (CD) b **95**
5547-1156 **6** 11-12 | 75.3kg
Nicky Henderson — ***James Bowen*** (3lb/1kg)
Suited by step up in trip when scoring over C&D on return and followed up here 3 weeks later. Come up short in graded company since and will need high-class effort to defy top weight. Blinkers added.

2 WHO DARES WINS (IRE) (122) **97**
0/4U1033-3 **6** 11-6 | 72.6kg
Alan King — ***Wayne Hutchinson***
Third in Coral Cup last year. Winner of decent handicap on Flat at Newmarket in September and creditable third back hurdling at Kempton in November. Unexposed as a stayer over hurdles. Respected.

3 BOITE (IRE) (26) **96**
15803-21F **8** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Warren Greatrex — ***Gavin Sheehan***
Back to winning ways after a wind operation in 19f Taunton handicap in January, coming clear unchallenged. Still going well when fell 3 out in Haydock Grade 2 since.

4 MINE NOW (IRE) (77) (D) **98**
210-42281 **10** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Peter Fahey, Ireland — ***Mr Richard Deegan*** (5lb/2kg)
Better than ever when landing big-field handicap at Leopardstown over Christmas by a short head from the reopposing A Great View. Consistent sort who is likely to give another good account.

5 SHANTOU BOB (IRE) (26) (D) b+t ✓ **98**
215-84206 **10** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Warren Greatrex — ***Thomas Greatrex*** (7lb/3kg)
Winner in mud at Chepstow (3m) last season. Back on song when second there in January but hasn't been in the same form twice since.

6 DELL' ARCA (IRE) (20) (C, D) b+t **96**
2441P756 **9** 11-2 | 70.8kg
David Pipe — ***Michael Heard*** (5lb/2kg)
As good as ever when a clear-cut winner of a 3m handicap hurdle at Newbury in November but struggled since. Bounce back called for.

7 LOUIS' VAC POUCH (IRE) (124) h **98**
641F11-61 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Philip Hobbs — ***Richard Johnson***
Progressive, winning final 3 completed starts last term and all better for reappearance when seeing off Forza Milan at Aintree in November. Fully 13 lb higher now but could have more to offer.

8 SYKES (IRE) (61) (D) ✓ **96**
6F45-4122 **9** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Nicky Martin — ***Matt Griffiths***
Multiple winner for Philip Hobbs and done even better for new yard winning at Ffos Las in November and good second last 2 starts. Likely to give it his all again.

9 LOVENORMONEY (IRE) (32) (D) v **97**
4313-6171 **7** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Warren Greatrex — ***Andrew Tinkler***
All the better for return when scoring convincingly at Chepstow (3m, heavy) in December and back from a lesser effort over C&D when winning at Exeter (heavy) last month. Visor replaces cheekpieces.

10 WAIT FOR ME (FR) (79) h+t **98**
091-21F43 **8** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Philip Hobbs — ***Tom O'Brien***
Useful hurdler who had to work hard to land the odds on chase debut at Worcester in September. Things didn't go to plan over fences subsequently but better signs back hurdling at Wincanton latest.

11 PRIME VENTURE (IRE) (40) (D) **95**
2342-2140 **7** 10-12 | 68.9kg
Evan Williams — ***Adam Wedge***
Ran well in some strong handicap hurdles last term and continued good work when scoring at Ffos Las (heavy) in November. Caught the eye at Warwick next time and caught too far back at Sandown since.

12 SORT IT OUT (IRE) (22) **99**
04/0-65883 **9** 10-12 | 68.9kg
Edward P. Harty, Ireland — ***Mark Walsh***
Struggled over fences initially this season but back on track over hurdles when third of 13 at Punchestown (3m) last month. Second in the County at this meeting in 2015. Another who could go well.

13 DELTA WORK (FR) (22) h+t **98**
1-2133243 **5** 10-10 | 68.0kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — ***Davy Russell***
Improved when reaching the frame in 3m handicaps at Leopardstown and Punchestown last month. Unexposed sort who could easily have more to offer for top trainer/jockey combination.

14 THEO'S CHARM (IRE) (26) **98**
30-33B922 **8** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Nick Gifford — ***Tom Cannon***
Back on track returned to hurdling when placed on last 2 starts, going down only narrowly at Haydock latterly. Showed up well for a long way in this race 12 months ago.

15 TAJ BADALANDABAD (IRE) (40) (D) v+t **95**
141/9-7P10 **8** 10-9 | 67.6kg
David Pipe — ***Tom Scudamore***
Dual winner around 3m in 2016 and back on track in this headgear combination when scoring at Huntingdon in January. Well held in stronger race at Sandown since, though.

16 WHATAKNIGHT (73) (D) t **98**
26-037278 **9** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Harry Fry — ***Noel Fehily***
Useful sort who found only one too good at Newbury (3m) in November, but has run poorly on last 2 starts.

17 FORZA MILAN (IRE) (104) t **99**
6221-622 **6** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Jonjo O'Neill — ***Killian Moore*** (3lb/1kg)
Improved when runner-up over 3m at Aintree (soft) and Newbury on last 2 starts, chasing home The Organist latterly. Kept fresh for this since. Interesting in first-time tongue tie.

18 THE MIGHTY DON (IRE) (19) **96**
219-78222 **6** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Nick Gifford — ***Leighton Aspell***
Been in good heart in handicaps, runner-up for the third start in succession at Kempton (21f) last time. Needs to pull out more to take this, though.

19 PROTEK DES FLOS (FR) (48) (C, BF) **99**
12/440-P13 **6** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Nicky Henderson — ***Aidan Coleman***
Back on song when resuming winning ways at Wincanton (21f) on Boxing Day, but not in the same form when third over 25f at Huntingdon in January and Geraghty looks elsewhere.

20 KANSAS CITY CHIEF (IRE) (18) (D, BF) s **96**
8-2755122 **9** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Neil Mulholland — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Landed a gamble at Doncaster in January and better form in defeat on both starts since. This more competitive but is going right way for this yard.

21 GLENLOE (IRE) (77) **99**
7/6515-223 **7** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — ***Barry Geraghty***
Good placed efforts in trio of competitive handicaps in November/December and kept fresh for this since. The pick of Geraghty from the McManus quartet and sure to go well.

22 DADSINTROUBLE (IRE) (32) **98**
1193-F4U5 **8** 10-7 | 66.7kg
Tim Vaughan — ***Alan Johns***
Didn't take to fences first 3 starts this term but better signs back hurdling when fifth at Exeter last month, travelling well before getting tired on very testing ground.

2.10 RACE 2

PERTEMPS NETWORK FINAL HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade 3)
(1) 5yo+ £100,000 2m7f213y (4820 Metres)

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23 **CONNETABLE (FR)** (19) b **97**
6-8052438 **6** 10-7 | 66.7kg
Paul Nicholls *Harry Cobden*
Largely in good form this season but drawn a blank and bit of a surprise if he gets his head back in front here.

24 **A GREAT VIEW (IRE)** (39) s **100**
518P-6425 **7** 10-6 | 66.2kg
Denis W. Cullen, Ireland *Jody McGarvey*
Suited by the step up to 3m when close second at Leopardstown over Christmas. Caught the eye making good late headway there in cheekpieces (retained) since. One for the shortlist.

RESERVES

25 **ARTHUR'S GIFT (IRE)** (26) (CD) **96**
42111444 **7** 10-6 | 66.2kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies *Reserve*
Completed a quick-fire hat-trick at up to 3m at the end of last year. Creditable efforts in defeat since but will need to pull out more to defy this mark. RESERVE.

26 **KRIS SPIN (IRE)** (40) (D) **96**
35F-51260 **10** 10-4 | 65.3kg
Kerry Lee *Reserve*
Back on song when scoring on heavy going at Ayr in November prior to chasing home an unexposed type at Uttoxeter. Not disgraced in stronger company last twice but likely up against it again. RESERVE.

24 DECLARED RUNNERS (2 RESERVES)

BETTING FORECAST:

9-1 Glenloe, **11-1** Who Dares Wins, **12-1** Sort It Out, **12-1** Louis' Vac Pouch, **14-1** Delta Work, **16-1** Forza Milan, **20-1** A Great View, **20-1** Mine Now, **20-1** Boite, **20-1** Kansas City Chief, **25-1** Protek Des Flos, **25-1** Lovenormoney, **25-1** The Mighty Don, **28-1** Wait For Me, **28-1** Theo's Charm, **28-1** Thomas Campbell, **28-1** Prime Venture, **33-1** Dadsintrouble, **33-1** Sykes, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

GLENLOE was behind the same owner's A Great View when third at Leopardstown over Christmas but this has presumably been the plan all along and it looks significant that Barry Geraghty sides with him now. The other Gordon Elliott runner Delta Work has plenty going for him too, while Who Dares Wins, the unexposed Forza Milan and Louis' Vac Pouch look best of the British runners.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GLENLOE (IRE) 2. DELTA WORK (FR) 3. WHO DARES WINS (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Presenting Percy** 6-11-11	11-1	Patrick G. Kelly	Davy Russell	24
2016	**Mall Dini** 6-10-11	14-1	Patrick G. Kelly	Davy Russell	24
2015	**Call The Cops** 6-10-12	9-1	Nicky Henderson	Andrew Tinkler	23
2014	**Fingal Bay** 8-11-12	9-2f	Philip Hobbs	Richard Johnson	23
2013	**Holywell** 6-11-4	25-1	Jonjo O'Neill	Richie McLernon	24

2.50 RACE 3

RYANAIR CHASE (Festival Trophy) (Grade 1) (1) 5yo+ £350,000 2½m166y (4180 Metres)

GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 BALKO DES FLOS (FR) (77) **94**
33F3-1232 **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — ***Davy Russell***
Excelled himself when second to Road To Respect in Leopardstown Grade 1 over Christmas but that does stand a fair way in advance of his other efforts so needs to prove it wasn't a one-off.

2 CLOUDY DREAM (IRE) (33) (D) **91**
2221-2222 **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Ruth Jefferson — ***Brian Hughes***
Runner-up in Arkle during excellent novice campaign. Good efforts in defeat this term and will be suited by drop to this trip having been stretched by 3m last twice. Should go well.

3 CUE CARD (26) (CD) t **96**
121F2-F22 **12** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Colin Tizzard — ***Paddy Brennan***
Counts a 2013 win in this among his 8 Grade 1 chase successes of an outstanding career. Showed there's still plenty of life in his 12-y-o legs when making bold bid from front in Ascot Chase latest.

4 DOUVAN (FR) (365) (C, BF) **100**
111/11117- **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland
Outstanding performer at his best but unbeaten run for this yard ended with a tame run in Champion Chase 12 months ago and hasn't been seen since. Declared to run in Champion Chase on Wednesday.

5 FRODON (FR) (26) (CD) t **93**
15-323213 **6** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Prolific as a novice and back to winning ways when posting a high-class effort to defy top weight in valuable handicap over C&D (heavy) in January. Fair third (Cue Card second) in Ascot Chase since.

6 SUB LIEUTENANT (IRE) (95) t **93**
13222-353 **9** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — ***Sean Flanagan***
High-class chaser who chased home Un De Sceaux in this 12 months ago. Back to somewhere approaching his best when third to Sizing John in John Durkan in December.

7 UN DE SCEAUX (FR) (54) (CD) **96**
161112-11 **10** 11-10 | 74.4kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — ***R. Walsh***
Top-class chaser who took this 12 months ago and has looked every bit as good ever when winning both starts this term (Ascot Grade 1 latterly). Hard to beat again.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-8 Un De Sceaux, **7-2** Douvan, **6-1** Cue Card, **10-1** Balko Des Flos, **12-1** Cloudy Dream, **18-1** Frodon, **20-1** Sub Lieutenant

TIMEFORM VIEW:

It's very hard to get away from UN DE SCEAUX who saw off the reopposing Sub Lieutenant in this last year and has looked every bit as good as ever when winning both starts this term. 2013 winner Cue Card showed he's still a force to be reckoned with when second in the Ascot Chase and won't go down without a fight if turning up in similar form, while Cloudy Dream will be suited by the drop in trip.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. UN DE SCEAUX (FR) 2. CUE CARD 3. CLOUDY DREAM (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Un de Sceaux** 9-11-10	7-4f	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	8
2016	**Vautour** 7-11-10	evsf	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	15
2015	**Uxizandre** 7-11-10	16-1	Alan King	A. P. McCoy	14
2014	**Dynaste** 8-11-10	3-1f	David Pipe	Tom Scudamore	11
2013	**Cue Card** 7-11-10	7-2	Colin Tizzard	Joe Tizzard	8

3.30 RACE 4

SUN BETS STAYERS' HURDLE (Grade 1) (1) 4yo+ £338,380
2m7f213y (4820 Metres)

GBI RACING
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Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 BACARDYS (FR) (77) (BF) **96**
3F11P1-3F **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — ***R. Walsh***
Smart bumper performer who added 3 hurdling wins in 2016/17 (had a clear excuse for his Neptune run). Made inauspicious start to chasing career so return to timber a wise move and 3m will suit, too.

2 DONNA'S DIAMOND (IRE) (26) (D) **89**
1P44/U4-11 **9** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Chris Grant — ***Callum Bewley***
Very effective in the mud and took form up a couple of notches when landing back-to-back contests at Haydock (22.8f) this winter, latterly in Grade 2 company. This a totally different examination.

3 L'AMI SERGE (IRE) (47) (BF) h **97**
251-21223 **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Nicky Henderson — ***Daryl Jacob***
Quirky sort but coaxed home to land Grade 1 Grande Course de Haies d'Auteuil. Acquitted himself well since, second to Sam Spinner in the Long Walk, but no obvious reason why he'll reverse that form.

4 LIL ROCKERFELLER (USA) (18) (BF) s **97**
2420-3162 **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Neil King — ***Trevor Whelan***
Tough gelding who produced career best when second to Nichols Canyon in this race 12 months ago. Yet to reproduce that form in 4 starts this term, though, even when winning a Grade 2 at Ascot.

5 OLD GUARD (18) (C) **92**
7-7131541 **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Harry Cobden***
Enhanced an already-productive season with a Grade 2 success at Fontwell last month (19.2f), seeing off Lil Rockerfeller in determined fashion. Thorough test at 3m may find him out.

6 PENHILL (323) (CD, BF) **95**
61114112- **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — ***P. Townend***
Smart hurdler who enjoyed productive season in 2016/17, 6 wins including the Albert Bartlett over C&D. Absent since the following month when second at Punchestown, but couldn't be in better hands.

7 SAM SPINNER (82) (D) **99**
2/1211-211 **6** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Jedd O'Keeffe — ***Joe Colliver***
Rapidly developed into a high-class hurdler this term, most impressive when winning 16-runner handicap at Haydock and took step up in class in his stride to follow up in Long Walk. Tough and genuine.

8 SUPASUNDAE (40) (C) **98**
12412-321 **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Mrs J. Harrington, Ireland — ***Robbie Power***
Landed Coral Cup (21.1f) here a year ago and high-class form when also winning 2m Irish Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown last month. He's versatile, but a thorough 3m will push him to the limit.

9 THE NEW ONE (IRE) (54) (C) **98**
534-14221 **10** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Popular veteran who has looked as good as ever in 5 starts this term, winning Welsh Champion Hurdle and Champion Hurdle Trial at Haydock for fourth time in a row. Belated first crack at 3m.

10 THE WORLDS END (IRE) (47) **92**
111F1-844 **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Tom George — ***A. P. Heskin***
Won 4 times in 2016/17, including Sefton Novices' Hurdle at Aintree, and was also travelling strongly when falling 2 out in Albert Bartlett won by Penhill over C&D. Limitations perhaps exposed since.

11 UNOWHATIMEANHARRY (82) (CD, BF) t ✓ **96**
11131-123 **10** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Harry Fry — ***Noel Fehily***
Had a mighty 2016/17, winning 4 times, albeit he could manage only third in this race having been heavily supported. Essentially beaten on merit trying to defend his Long Walk crown in December.

12 WHOLESTONE (IRE) (47) (CD) ✓ **95**
113-42612 **7** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — ***Aidan Coleman***
Relkeel Hurdle winner from Agrapart in January, and ran at least as well when second to that rival in the Cleeve Hurdle over C&D last time. Likely to give his running, but big personal best needed.

13 YANWORTH (73) (C) **99**
117d1-1F21 **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Alan King — ***Barry Geraghty***
High-class hurdler, but it hasn't been plain sailing over fences this season, despite winning twice. Fine strike rate in this sphere (8 wins from 10 starts) and could still have more to offer at 3m.

14 APPLE'S JADE (FR) (2) (C, D, BF) t ★ **100**
1211-1113 **6** 11-3 | 71.2kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — ***J. W. Kennedy***
Very smart mare, completing 5-timer in Grade 1 Christmas Hurdle at Leopardstown in December. Didn't look an easy ride when failing to land the odds in the Mares' Hurdle on Tuesday. Doubtful runner.

15 AUGUSTA KATE (49) **93**
1F615-642 **7** 11-3 | 71.2kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — ***D. J. Mullins***
Smart mare who won Irish Stallion Farms EBF Mares Novices' Hurdle Championship Final at Fairyhouse. Improved again when second to Presenting Percy in Grade 2 at Gowran Park but faces an uphill task.

16 COLIN'S SISTER (47) (D) ✓ **94**
1115-1433 **7** 11-3 | 71.2kg
Fergal O'Brien — ***Paddy Brennan***
Resumed progress when winning West Yorkshire Hurdle on return at Wetherby in November (Wholestone second). Beaten fair and square by that rival the last twice, so looks right up against it.

17 LET'S DANCE (FR) (49) (C, BF) s **93**
11124-F15 **6** 11-3 | 71.2kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — ***D. E. Mullins***
Dawn Run Mares' Novices' Hurdle one of 5 wins in 2016/17. Also landed Grade 3 mares' event at Leopardstown in December, but didn't seem to stay 3m latest and cheekpieces now applied.

17 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-2 Sam Spinner, **6-1** Yanworth, **13-2** Supasundae, **10-1** Apple's Jade, **10-1** Bacardys, **11-1** Unowhatimeanharry, **12-1** The New One, **14-1** L'ami Serge, **14-1** Penhill, **18-1** Wholestone, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SAM SPINNER has to be one of the most progressive hurdlers around, showing a tremendous attitude to see off L'Ami Serge in the Long Walk Hurdle, and he could well become the dominant force in this division (6-y-o, after all). Yanworth and Supasundae occupied the first 2 spots in the Liverpool Hurdle in April and perhaps head the opposition, in that order.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SAM SPINNER 2. YANWORTH 3. SUPASUNDAE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Nichols Canyon** 7-11-10	10-1	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	12
2016	**Thistlecrack** 8-11-10	evsf	Colin Tizzard	Tom Scudamore	12
2015	**Cole Harden** 6-11-10	14-1	Warren Greatrex	Gavin Sheehan	16
2014	**More of That** 6-11-10	15-2	Jonjo O'Neill	Barry Geraghty	10
2013	**Solwhit** 9-11-10	17-2	Charles Byrnes	Paul Carberry	13

4.10 RACE 5

BROWN ADVISORY & MERRIEBELLE STABLE PLATE HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 3) (1) 5yo+ £110,000 2½m166y (4180 Metres)

GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 VILLAGE VIC (IRE) (131) (CD) **88**
0/2320P-FP **11** 11-12 | 75.3kg
Philip Hobbs — ***Richard Johnson***
Dual big handicap winner here during 2015/16 but struggled at last 2 Festivals, including in this race last year. Undergone wind surgery since latest start in November and needs to bounce back.

2 GO CONQUER (IRE) (19) **98**
2250-11F5 **9** 11-7 | 73.0kg
Jonjo O'Neill — ***Aidan Coleman***
Further progress when landing the Sodexo Gold Cup at Ascot (3m) in November. However, judged on latest effort at Kempton he may well be in the handicapper's grip for now.

3 LAST GOODBYE (IRE) (39) (D) b+t ★ **100**
026157-01 **7** 11-6 | 72.6kg
Miss Elizabeth Doyle, Ireland — ***Sean Flanagan***
Seemingly aided by this headgear combination when landing a similarly valuable handicap at Leopardstown (21f, soft) last month. 14 lb higher now but this 7-y-o still possesses potential.

4 TULLY EAST (IRE) (40) (CD) **98**
1621P-463 **8** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Alan Fleming, Ireland — ***Denis O'Regan***
Winner of the Close Brothers at the 2017 Festival and warmed up for this with a creditable effort over an inadequate trip at Leopardstown (17f, soft) last month. Very much one to consider.

5 BALLYBOLLEY (IRE) (61) t **98**
1-3F91356 **9** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — ***Daryl Jacob***
Produced a career best when taking a valuable event at Market Rasen (21.4f) in September. Far from disgraced when third at Aintree next time but put in his place the last twice and others preferred.

6 THE STORYTELLER (IRE) (39) (D) **99**
F211-2137 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — ***Davy Russell***
Made winning chase debut at Fairyhouse (21f) in December prior to finishing third in Punchestown Grade 3. Came up short at the highest level last time but very much of interest now handicapping.

7 OLDGRANGEWOOD (104) t **97**
B11P3-331 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Dan Skelton — ***Harry Skelton***
Made it 4-8 over fences, and produced a career-best in the process, when landing a Newbury handicap (19.8f, good) on latest start in December. Only gone up 2 lb but this is a tougher assignment.

8 VICONTE DU NOYER (FR) (73) (C, D) t **97**
10PP2-70P **9** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Colin Tizzard — ***Robbie Power***
Made first start for Colin Tizzard a winning one in Grade 3 handicap here (3m3f) last season. However, more miss than hit subsequently and needs to bounce back following a wind operation in January.

9 TRAFFIC FLUIDE (FR) (26) v **95**
6632-4575 **8** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Gary Moore — ***Joshua Moore***
Smart chaser on his day and could go well at a price back in a handicap, with his mark on the slide following a string of heavy defeats in Grade 1 company.

10 MERCIAN PRINCE (IRE) (40) (D) **98**
1F43-3811 **7** 11-1 | 70.3kg
Amy Murphy — ***Jack Quinlan***
Better than ever of late, landing decent handicap chases at Kempton and Wetherby the last twice. Career-high mark to defy and up in class, but he's certainly not without each-way hope.

11 QUITE BY CHANCE (40) (D) b+t **96**
6F0P-235P **9** 11-0 | 69.9kg
Colin Tizzard — ***Paddy Brennan***
Good placed efforts at Ascot first 2 starts this term and latest run at Sandown can be overlooked (badly hampered early on and never recovered). Still, others look stronger on this occasion.

12 ROMAIN DE SENAM (FR) (89) (D) h+t **98**
5752-1155 **6** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Sam Twiston-Davies***
Useful hurdler and already a better chaser following victories at Chepstow and Stratford in October. Found life in tougher in big handicaps here the last twice and recent rain not in his favour.

13 MOVEWITHTHETIMES (IRE) (89) (BF) **96**
1/1512-423 **7** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Barry Geraghty***
Smart hurdler who clearly has an aptitude for this game judged on efforts in novice events here earlier in the season. Better expected now pitched into a handicap in this sphere.

14 ULTRAGOLD (FR) (47) (D) t **95**
6791-392P **10** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Colin Tizzard — ***Harry Cobden***
Ended last season on a high, landing the Topham at Aintree in April. Good second back over the National fences there in December but well held over this C&D subsequently and looks vulnerable.

15 DRUMCLIFF (IRE) (33) t **98**
225B-0114 **7** 10-12 | 68.9kg
Harry Fry — ***Niall Madden***
Winner of first 2 starts in this sphere and no surprise that he struggled in the Kingmaker at Warwick last time. May well resume progress back up in trip/returned to handicap company here.

16 KING'S SOCKS (FR) (34) **96**
2122/152-3 **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg
David Pipe — ***Tom Scudamore***
Some very good form to his name over hurdles/fences in France. Not knocked about when returning from a long layoff on debut for David Pipe at Kempton and yard has won this 3 times since 2010.

17 POUGNE BOBBI (FR) (48) **98**
2/5157-451 **7** 10-11 | 68.5kg
Nicky Henderson — ***Jeremiah McGrath***
Notched second victory over fences with a thoroughly decisive display at Huntingdon (19.9f, soft). Now 7 lb higher in a much deeper race, so improvement will be needed.

18 MIDNIGHT SHOT (138) (C, D) **95**
P-1110513 **8** 10-11 | 68.5kg
Charlie Longsdon — ***Jonathan Burke***
Useful hurdler who landed 4 of his first half-a-dozen starts over fences last year. Far from disgraced here when last seen in October but career best needed by some way if he's to take this.

19 KING'S ODYSSEY (IRE) (47) (CD) **96**
1/3F30-333 **9** 10-10 | 68.0kg
Evan Williams — ***Adam Wedge***
Successful over C&D in January 2016 and decent efforts in handicaps here won by Guitar Pete and Frodon the last twice. Recent rain will help but others boast stronger credentials.

20 GUITAR PETE (IRE) (54) (CD) **97**
0222191U **8** 10-10 | 68.0kg
Nicky Richards — ***Ryan Day*** (3lb/1kg)
Displayed a willing attitude when bagging a big C&D prize in December. Unseated rider too far out to say how he might have fared at Ascot next time but, in any case, he looks vulnerable off this mark.

21 WILLIE BOY (IRE) (104) (BF) **96**
335F1-16 **7** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Venetia Williams — ***B. J. Cooper***
Further progress when gamely accounting for 9 rivals on return at Newbury (19.8f) in November. However, only sixth behind Oldgrangewood over the same C&D next time, so clearly has work to do.

22 BALLYALTON (IRE) (61) (CD) s **99**
2F15/644P **11** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Ian Williams — ***Tom O'Brien***
Winner of the Close Brothers off a 2 lb higher mark in 2016. Shaped as though amiss at Kempton last time, but made the frame in couple of valuable handicaps here prior to that and he's not ruled out.

4.10 RACE 5

BROWN ADVISORY & MERRIEBELLE STABLE PLATE HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 3) (1) 5yo+ £110,000 2½m166y (4180 Metres)

GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

23 **SHANAHAN'S TURN (IRE)** (118) t **96**
01740/70-8 **10** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Colin Tizzard ***Paul O'Brien*** (5lb/2kg)
Completely misfired on debut for new yard here in November, but since undergone a wind operation and is now 5 lb lower compared to when landing the 2015 Galway Plate.

24 **SPLASH OF GINGE** (26) (CD) **96**
500-417P8 **10** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies ***Jamie Bargary*** (3lb/1kg)
Not the most reliable but has landed a few valuable prizes in his time, including the BetVictor Chase here in November. Well held all 3 starts since, though, and it's easy enough to look elsewhere.

RESERVES

25 **KILCREA VALE (IRE)** (54) **99**
2158-2362 **8** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Nicky Henderson ***Reserve***
Dual novice chase winner last term and arrives here on the back of a solid effort in defeat at Ascot (21f, heavy). Live each-way claims off the same mark here if he makes the cut. RESERVE.

26 **PLAISIR D'AMOUR (FR)** (117) (CD) **96**
4/P11315-P **6** 10-7 | 66.7kg
Venetia Williams ***Reserve***
Won 2m handicaps at Wetherby and Newbury, and listed mares' novice handicap here last season. Ran no sort of a race on return in November, though, and bit to prove now. RESERVE.

24 DECLARED RUNNERS (2 RESERVES)

BETTING FORECAST:

9-1 Tully East, **9-1** King's Socks, **10-1** Movewiththetimes, **12-1** The Storyteller, **14-1** Last Goodbye, **16-1** Romain De Senam, **18-1** Ballyalton, **22-1** Drumcliff, **22-1** Mercian Prince, **25-1** Go Conquer, **25-1** Pougne Bobbi, **25-1** Guitar Pete, **25-1** Oldgrangewood, **28-1** King's Odyssey, **28-1** Willie Boy, **33-1** Ballybolley, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TULLY EAST did the job well when landing the Close Brothers at this meeting 12 months ago. His preparation has been very similar this time round and, with conditions no problem, Alan Fleming's charge is taken to deliver the goods once again. Fellow Irish raiders Last Goodbye and The Storyteller are live dangers, while Movewiththetimes enters calculations and King's Socks is also of interest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TULLY EAST (IRE) 2. LAST GOODBYE (IRE) 3. THE STORYTELLER (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Road To Respect** 6-10-13	14-1	Noel Meade	B. J. Cooper	24
2016	**Empire of Dirt** 9-10-11	16-1	Colm A. Murphy	B. J. Cooper	22
2015	**Darna** 9-10-11	33-1	Kim Bailey	David Bass	23
2014	**Ballynagour** 8-10-9	12-1	David Pipe	Tom Scudamore	23
2013	**Carrickboy** 9-10-5	50-1	Venetia Williams	Liam Treadwell	22

4.50 RACE 6

TRULL HOUSE STUD MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE (Dawn Run) (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+ fillies and mares £90,000 2m179y (3380 Metres)

GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 CAP SOLEIL (FR) (82) (C, D) **94**
111-121 **5** 11-7 | 73.0kg
Fergal O'Brien — *Paddy Brennan*
Triple-bumper winner (including course listed race) who made it 2-3 over hurdles when edging out Angels Antics in 19f Haydock listed event (heavy) in December. Freshened up since. More to come.

2 LAURINA (FR) (47) ★ **100**
F2-11 **5** 11-7 | 73.0kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — *R. Walsh*
French recruit who landed a Tramore maiden on stable debut in December and looked an outstanding candidate for this race when sauntering clear in Fairyhouse Grade 3 in January. Hard to see past her.

3 MARIA'S BENEFIT (IRE) (47) (D) **98**
10-211111 **6** 11-7 | 73.0kg
Stuart Edmunds — *Ciaran Gethings*
Extremely progressive, completing 5-timer in Doncaster Grade 2 latest with another relentless front-running display. Harder to dominate field of this size but likely to give it good shot all the same.

4 DAWN SHADOW (IRE) (47) (D) **90**
45121333 **6** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Mrs D. A. Love, Ireland — *Rachael Blackmore*
Pretty useful hurdler but 19 lengths to make up on Laurina from latest Fairyhouse run. Place probably the best she can hope for.

5 ANGELS ANTICS (68) **90**
231424 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — *Sam Twiston-Davies*
Pushed Cap Soleil close in Haydock listed race before Christmas but not in anything like the same form when remote last of 4 at Sandown since. Even a return to her best unlikely to be enough.

6 CHAMPAYNE LADY (IRE) (29) t **83**
3/86-18021 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Alan Fleming, Ireland — *Denis O'Regan*
Fair hurdler. Won 10-runner novice at Fairyhouse (2m, heavy) 29 days ago, but surely out of her depth in this company.

7 COUNTISTER (FR) (40) (D) **94**
31211-211 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Nicky Henderson — *Mark Walsh*
Won 5 bumpers in France and had loads to spare when winning 2m Doncaster novice on second start for this yard. Not so impressive at Sandown since but remains a good prospect.

8 CUT THE MUSTARD (FR) (22) **88**
131-851 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — *Noel Fehily*
Left first 2 efforts over hurdles behind when 6-length winner of Punchestown maiden (heavy) last month. This demands a lot more but she's surely capable of better.

9 DAME DE COMPAGNIE (FR) (26) (BF) h **97**
1/322-152 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Nicky Henderson — *Barry Geraghty*
Bumper winner in France who ran out an impressive winner of a Uttoxeter maiden hurdle on British debut in November. Disappointed here next time but back on track when close second at Ascot since.

10 ELLIE MAC (IRE) (39) **86**
P710 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — *Mr Daniel Holden*
Fair form when off the mark at the third time of asking in 2m Leopardstown maiden in December but well held in handicap there since. Hard to fancy.

11 HIGH SCHOOL DAYS (USA) (61) **94**
22331114 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — *Davy Russell*
Three-time winner this term but limitations seemingly exposed when beaten 16¾ lengths into fourth behind Getabird in Punchestown Grade 2 latest.

12 PIETRALUNGA (FR) (63) (D) t **90**
1 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — *D. J. Mullins*
Successful sole Flat start in France and dug deep under pressure to make winning start over hurdles at Clonmel in January. Likely capable of leaving that bare form well behind. Tongue tie added.

13 ROUERGATE (FR) (25) (D) **83**
2-53F1 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Venetia Williams — *Aidan Coleman*
Going the right way, getting off the mark in 17f Market Rasen novice (soft) last month, but this a huge jump in class.

14 SALSARETTA (FR) (537) **95**
392- **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
W. P. Mullins, Ireland — *P. Townend*
Useful form over hurdles in France in 2016. Very interesting that her outstanding trainer is prepared to pitch her in at this level on return to action.

15 SPICE GIRL (42) (D) t **85**
8-111161 **5** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Martin Keighley — *Richard Johnson*
Completed a hat-trick of bumper wins at Uttoxeter in July and 2-3 over hurdles since, albeit her form is a long way short of the required standard here.

15 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

8-11 Laurina, **17-2** Maria's Benefit, **16-1** Salsaretta, **18-1** Dame De Compagnie, **18-1** Countister, **20-1** Cap Soleil, **28-1** Cut The Mustard, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Willie Mullins has won both previous runnings of this race and has a strong chance of the hat-trick courtesy of LAURINA who looked yet another top-class mare for the stable when barely breaking sweat at Fairyhouse. The likeable front-runner Maria's Benefit looks sure make a bold bid, with the shortlist completed by the Nicky Henderson pair Dame de Compagnie and Countister.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LAURINA (FR) 2. MARIA'S BENEFIT (IRE) 3. DAME DE COMPAGNIE (FR)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Let's Dance** 5-11-7	11-8f	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	16
2016	**Limini** 5-11-7	8-11f	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	16

5.30 RACE 7

FULKE WALWYN KIM MUIR CHALLENGE CUP AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 5yo+ (Rated 0-145)
£70,000 3¼m (5230 Metres)

GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

Going: **Heavy (Soft in places)**

Left handed, undulating. Stiff fences that place a premium on sound jumping. The last half mile is uphill, although the lead changes hands on the run-in less frequently than expected. Horses who race prominently often fare well on the chase course, especially in shorter-distance races. On the New Course, the hurdles track has just two flights in the last six furlongs, resulting in more emphasis on stamina; large-field races over two miles often go to hold-up horses, as there can be a tendency to go for home too soon.

Pace Information: **Strong**

1 PENDRA (IRE) (364) b **99**
150/2- **10** 11-12 | 75.3kg
Charlie Longsdon — ***Mr Derek O'Connor***
Ran another screamer at the Cheltenham Festival when runner-up in this 12 months ago fitted with blinkers. Clearly goes well fresh and races off the same mark this year.

2 ACTINPIECES (56) **97**
13F-12841 **7** 11-12 | 75.3kg
Pam Sly — ***Miss Gina Andrews***
In top form over fences, hardly putting a foot wrong when winning 7-runner handicap at Fakenham (23.8f, soft) last time. This a whole lot tougher, but trip shouldn't be a worry.

3 WILD WEST WIND (IRE) (26) t **96**
22/113-1FR **9** 11-11 | 74.8kg
Tom George — ***Mr Noel George*** (5lb/2kg)
Made it 3 wins in 4 starts over fences on return in December. Going with zest when falling in Welsh National, but refused 2 out in Grand National Trial at Haydock last time, folding dramatically.

4 MALL DINI (IRE) (61) (C) b+t **98**
33235-545 **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Patrick G. Kelly, Ireland — ***Mr P. W. Mullins***
Won Pertemps Final at the Festival in 2016. Was given plenty to do when a 3-length fifth in this race last season and looks to have been campaigned with this target in mind (first-time blinkers now).

5 DOUBLE ROSS (IRE) (68) (C) **98**
P/153-4UP8 **12** 11-10 | 74.4kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — ***Mr Zac Baker***
Veteran who was a good fourth on return to action at Chepstow in October. Failed to complete next 2 starts, but was spared a hard race when well held last time.

6 FINAL NUDGE (IRE) (40) ✓ **98**
311F6-235 **9** 11-10 | 74.4kg
David Dennis — ***Mr Barry O'Neill***
3-time chase winner who got back on the up when close second in Badger Beer (25.1f) on return. Good third in Welsh National next time and respectable fifth at Sandown last month. Each-way chance.

7 TINTERN THEATRE (IRE) (19) **97**
1-2F4U1U0 **7** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — ***Mr Jordan Nailor*** (5lb/2kg)
Dual hurdles winner who readily opened chase account at Kempton in December. Possibly found race coming too soon when well beaten in Betdaq at same course last time. Still relatively early days.

8 MISSED APPROACH (IRE) (40) (BF) b **99**
3U28-P632 **8** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Warren Greatrex — ***Mr N. McParlan***
Fine second in National Hunt Chase at the Festival last season and best effort this campaign when runner-up at Musselburgh (32.8f) last time. Has had win operation since. Good each-way chance.

9 SUGAR BARON (IRE) (96) (BF) b ✓ **97**
1F36U7-22 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Nicky Henderson — ***Ms K. Walsh***
Poor strike rate over fences not helped by sketchy jumping, but was sixth in this race last year and returns for another crack on the back of 2 solid efforts.

10 BRAQUEUR D'OR (FR) (89) (BF) **97**
13221342 **7** 11-4 | 71.7kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Mr William Biddick***
Vast improver for this yard, and jumped superbly to notch third handicap win of season at Ludlow (3m) in October. Largely consistent since and likely to continue in form.

11 SQUOUATEUR (FR) (40) (BF) t **97**
78P2U-630 **7** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Gordon Elliott, Ireland — ***Mr J. J. Codd***
Unseated in this last year, but produced a career best when third in Paddy Power over Christmas. Well held over inadequate test back there last time but may yet do better in this sphere. Had wind op.

12 VERY FIRST TIME (49) (BF) **97**
9882-F112 **6** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Tim Easterby — ***Mr William Easterby*** (3lb/1kg)
Already a better chaser than hurdler having won 2 of his 4 starts this season. Runner-up at Kelso (21.6f, heavy) last time, needing stiffer test.

13 THE YOUNG MASTER (38) (C, BF) s **97**
06F9-U63P **9** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Neil Mulholland — ***Mr Sam Waley-Cohen***
Respectable sixth in the Ultima at the Festival last season but has been let down by his jumping since. Too well handicapped to ignore if all the better for his recent wind operation.

14 AUBUSSON (FR) (27) (C) **97**
8604-3722 **9** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Nick Williams — ***Mr Chester Williams*** (3lb/1kg)
Not won for a long time, but confirmed his return to form when runner-up in handicap at Sandown (24.2f, heavy) last month. Seems best on soft ground.

15 MARINERO (IRE) (202) **89**
P-247U345 **9** 11-1 | 70.3kg
David Christie, Ireland — ***Mr David Maxwell*** (3lb/1kg)
Useful chaser who ended time with Henry de Bromhead out of form. Sold out of yard for £54,000 in September. Hard to make a case for.

16 HERON HEIGHTS (IRE) (39) (C) t **89**
16P3-0B00 **9** 11-1 | 70.3kg
Henry de Bromhead, Ireland — ***Mr Liam Quinlan*** (5lb/2kg)
Won novice chase here in October 2016. Little impact this season, though probably needed the run after 6 months off on latest outing.

17 PRESSURIZE (IRE) (33) **96**
151/4P-1P5 **12** 11-0 | 69.9kg
Venetia Williams — ***Miss Lucy Turner*** (7lb/3kg)
Lightly-raced sort who got back on track after 10 months off to score at Chepstow (19.5f) in January. However, ran poorly last 2 outings

18 BAND OF BLOOD (IRE) (22) b ★ **100**
753854/11 **10** 11-0 | 69.9kg
Dr Richard Newland — ***Mr James King***
Rather expensive to follow in 2015/16 but has returned this season as good as ever, winning both starts. Remains on a workable mark judged on previous form so has to be respected.

19 ARCTIC GOLD (IRE) (47) **97**
33-722F28 **7** 10-13 | 69.4kg
Nigel Twiston-Davies — ***Miss Lilly Pinchin*** (7lb/3kg)
Five times a winner over hurdles and better form over fences this season despite some clumsy jumping. Better than the result when well held here last time but unproven beyond 3m.

20 CAPTAIN BUCK'S (FR) (22) (BF) s+t **96**
41-203322 **6** 10-8 | 67.1kg
Paul Nicholls — ***Mr Lorcan Williams*** (5lb/2kg)
Running respectably in this sphere, but not for the first time squandered a good opportunity when second at Ludlow (23.8f) last month.

21 MILLANISI BOY (57) s **97**
3F426-P12 **9** 10-7 | 66.7kg
Kayley Woollacott — ***Mr Michael Legg***
All the better for return when winning at Chepstow in December and arguably value for a bit extra still when second at Newbury last time. Up in trip.

22 RACING PULSE (IRE) (7) **96**
6P0-PP888 **9** 10-0(9-12) | 63.5kg (62.6kg)
Turlough O'Connor, Ireland — ***Non Runner***
NON RUNNER.

5.30 RACE 7

FULKE WALWYN KIM MUIR CHALLENGE CUP AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP CHASE (2) 5yo+ (Rated 0-145)
£70,000 3¼m (5230 Metres)

GBI RACING
BRITISH AND IRISH RACING

23 **WEST WIZARD (FR) (20)** t **90**
026P6543 **9** 10-0(9-8) | 63.5kg (60.8kg)
Sophie Leech ***Miss A. B. O'Connor*** (3lb/1kg)
Potentially well handicapped now but faces a very stiff task from out of the weights here.

23 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-1 Squouateur, **8-1** Mall Dini, **12-1** Pendra, **14-1** Band of Blood, **14-1** Missed Approach, **14-1** Sugar Baron, **14-1** The Young Master, **20-1** Braqueur D'or, **20-1** Tintern Theatre, **22-1** Final Nudge, **22-1** Aubusson, **22-1** Wild West Wind, **25-1** Actinpieces, **28-1** Millanisi Boy, **28-1** Captain Buck's, **33-1** Arctic Gold, **33-1** Very First Time, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

MALL DINI is yet to break his duck over fences, but he ran very well in this race last year, despite being given plenty to do. He rates a solid proposition in first-time blinkers. However, Pendra, Squouateur and Band of Blood all merit strong consideration.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MALL DINI (IRE) 2. PENDRA (IRE) 3. SQUOUATEUR (FR)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2017	**Domesday Book** 7-11-4	40-1	Stuart Edmunds	Miss Gina Andrews	24
2016	**Cause of Causes** 8-11-9	9-2	Gordon Elliott	Mr J. J. Codd	22
2015	**The Package** 12-11-4	9-1	David Pipe	Mr J. J. Codd	24
2014	**Spring Heeled** 7-11-6	12-1	J. Culloty	Robbie McNamara	23
2013	**Same Difference** 7-11-7	16-1	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Ryan Hatch (7)	24