

**1.30** BALLYMORE NOVICES' HURDLE (Baring Bingham) (Grade 1) (1) 2m5f (4220 Metres)

RACE 1 **(2) BATTLEOVERDOYEN (IRE) | (7) CHAMP (IRE) | (8) CITY ISLAND (IRE)**

**2.10** RSA INSURANCE NOVICES' CHASE (Grade 1) (1) 3m80y (4900 Metres)

RACE 2 **(10) TOPOFTHEGAME (IRE) | (2) DELTA WORK (FR) | (8) SANTINI**

**2.50** CORAL CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade 3) (1) 2m5f (4220 Metres)

RACE 3 **(22) URADEL (GER) | (13) BRIO CONTI (FR) | (4) SCARPETA (FR)**

**3.30** BETWAY QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE (Grade 1) (1) 1m7f199y (3200 Metres)

RACE 4 **(1) ALTIOR (IRE) | (5) MIN (FR) | (3) GOD'S OWN (IRE)**

**4.10** GLENFARCLAS CHASE (CROSS COUNTRY) (2) 3¾m37y (6070 Metres)

RACE 5 **(13) TIGER ROLL (IRE) | (15) URGENT DE GREGAINE (FR) | (10) JOSIES ORDERS (IRE)**

**4.50** BOODLES JUVENILE HANDICAP HURDLE (Fred Winter) (Grade 3) (1) 2m87y (3300 Metres)

RACE 6 **(3) BAND OF OUTLAWS (IRE) | (17) LETHAL STEPS | (16) CIEL DE NEIGE (FR)**


**5.30** WEATHERBYS CHAMPION BUMPER (STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT) (Grade 1) (1) 2m87y (3300 Metres)

RACE 7 **(3) ENVOI ALLEN (FR) | (13) BLUE SARI (FR) | (7) METICULOUS (IRE)**

## 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

BALLYMORE NOVICES' HURDLE (Baring Bingham) (Grade 1) (1) 4yo+ £125,000 2m5f (4220 Metres)



Going: **Soft**

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	<b>ASK DILLON (IRE) (19)</b> (BF) 22512 6 11-7   73.0kg	90
	Fergal O'Brien Created a good impression when winning first start over hurdles at Ascot (21.6f) in December. Followed that with a solid effort in defeat at Exeter but this represents a big step up in class.	Sean Bowen
2	<b>BATTLEOVERDOYEN (IRE) (66)</b> 111 6 11-7   73.0kg	98
	Gordon Elliott, Ireland Winner of sole start between the flags and made it 3-3 under Rules when landing a Naas Grade 1 (2½m) in January. This assignment is tougher but yard won this last year and he's potentially very smart.	J. W. Kennedy
3	<b>BEAKSTOWN (IRE) (60)</b> (D) 2-121 6 11-7   73.0kg	96
	Dan Skelton Scopey sort who has created a good impression since switched to hurdles, winner of Warwick Grade 2 when last seen in January. Remains open to improvement but this demands a sizeable step forward.	Harry Skelton
4	<b>BREWIN'UPASTORM (IRE) (46)</b> (BF) 14-14f 6 11-7   73.0kg	97
	Olly Murphy Not beaten far behind Champ in the Challow Hurdle at Newbury, and probably would've emerged on top had he not exited at the last in a Grade 2 here (20.2f) last time. Not ruled out by any means.	Richard Johnson
5	<b>BRIGHT FORECAST (IRE) (53)</b> 112 5 11-7   73.0kg	93
	Ben Pauling Big-field Newbury maiden hurdle winner on Rules debut and improved since, following up in a Leicester novice prior to finishing second in Grade 2 company at Haydock. Not without each-way hope.	Nico de Boinville
6	<b>CASTLEBAWN WEST (IRE) (74)</b> 41-21 6 11-7   73.0kg	89
	W. P. Mullins, Ireland Bumper winner who made a bright start to hurdles career when runner-up at Clonmel. Duly went one better at Leopardstown (2½m) next time but Ruby Walsh prefers Easy Game on this occasion.	P. Townend
7	<b>CHAMP (IRE) (74)</b> (D) 12/2-1111 7 11-7   73.0kg	100
	Nicky Henderson Cosy winner of what looked a competitive handicap on return at Newbury (20.5f) in December. Duly followed up in a Grade 1 over the same C&D later that month and he possesses considerable potential.	Barry Geraghty
8	<b>CITY ISLAND (IRE) (32)</b> 2-11d11 6 11-7   73.0kg	94
	Martin Brassil, Ireland First past the post all 3 hurdle starts, notably beating dual subsequent winner Dallas des Pictons in Leopardstown handicap (2m) on Boxing Day. This is a big step up in class but he's very promising.	M. P. Walsh
9	<b>DUNVEGAN (FR) (39)</b> 221621-10 6 11-7   73.0kg	88
	P. A. Fahy, Ireland Looked good when opening hurdles account on return at Fairyhouse (2½m) in December. Reportedly found to be amiss post-race when well held in a Leopardstown Grade 1 next time.	D. J. Mullins
10	<b>EASY GAME (FR) (87)</b> 4-112311 5 11-7   73.0kg	94
	W. P. Mullins, Ireland Made it 4-6 in this sphere when landing a Grade 2 at Navan (2½m) on latest start in December. More on his plate here but he's clearly talented and should make his presence felt.	R. Walsh

11	<b>GALVIN (IRE) (35)</b> 11111 5 11-7   73.0kg	96
	Gordon Elliott, Ireland Dual bumper winner who maintained unbeaten record when landing a 2m Ayr novice last month. Pitched into far deeper waters now but has done everything asked of him so far and should stay this trip.	Davy Russell
12	<b>JARVEYS PLATE (IRE) (46)</b> (C) 1-3213 6 11-7   73.0kg	92
	Fergal O'Brien Perth bumper winner who confirmed previous hurdling promise when running away with a listed event here (20.2f) in January. However, limitations seemingly exposed in Grade 2 back here next time.	Paddy Brennan
13	<b>NOTEBOOK (GER) (20)</b> 2212 6 11-7   73.0kg	88
	Henry de Bromhead, Ireland Point winner who opened Rules account at third attempt in 2m Tramore maiden hurdle on New Year's Day. Further progress when runner-up in Thurles Grade 3 since but this is much tougher.	Rachael Blackmore
14	<b>SAMS PROFILE (66)</b> 3-122 5 11-7   73.0kg	91
	M. F. Morris, Ireland Winner of big-field Cork maiden on return/hurdles debut in November. Improved form in defeat in graded company since, latterly making Battleoverdoyen work hard at Naas, and he's an each-way player.	B. J. Cooper
15	<b>SEDDON (IRE) (53)</b> (BF) 10-1333 6 11-7   73.0kg	92
	Tom George Hasn't done much wrong since switched to hurdles, twice placed in graded company prior to making the frame in competitive 19.2f Ascot handicap. Probably biting off more than he can chew here, though.	Noel Fehily
16	<b>VALDIEU (FR) (38)</b> 2-3222117 6 11-7   73.0kg	91
	Noel Meade, Ireland Good form in bumpers and made bright start to hurdles career when striking at Naas in January. Struggled in a Grade 1 at Leopardstown next time, though, and may again find the competition too hot.	Sean Flanagan

16 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Champ, 7-2 Battleoverdoyen, 17-2 Brewin'upastorm, 10-1 City Island, 14-1 Beakstown, 16-1 Sams Profile, 22-1 Galvin, 25-1 Bright Forecast, 28-1 Easy Game, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

It wasn't a particularly strong Grade 1 that BATTLEOVERDOYEN landed at Naas but there's plenty to like about how much he's done so soon in his development, and there's good reason to believe that he has more to offer. Gordon Elliott's charge gets the nod ahead of another highly promising novice in Champ, while City Island and Brewin'upastorm are others to consider.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. BATTLEOVERDOYEN (IRE) 2. CHAMP (IRE) 3. CITY ISLAND (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:						
2018	<b>Samcro</b>	6-11-7	8-11f	Gordon Elliott	J. W. Kennedy	14
2017	<b>Willoughby Court</b>	6-11-7	14-1	Ben Pauling	David Bass	15
2016	<b>Yorkhill</b>	6-11-7	3-1	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	11
2015	<b>Windsor Park</b>	6-11-7	9-2	D. K. Weld	Davy Russell	10
2014	<b>Faugheen</b>	6-11-7	6-4f	W. P. Mullins	R. Walsh	15

SMART STATS:

3 W. P. Mullins's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 2 runners saddles: **EASY GAME**)

£12.71 Olly Murphy's profit to a £1 level stake when having only one runner on the card (hurdles) (saddles: **BREWIN'UPASTORM**)











£33.12 Ben Pauling's profit to a £1 level stake when having only one runner on the card (hurdles) (saddles: **BRIGHT FORECAST**)

2.10

RACE 2

RSA INSURANCE NOVICES' CHASE (Grade 1) (1) 5yo+  
£175,000 3m80y (4900 Metres)



Going: <b>Soft</b>				
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: <b>Even</b>				
1	<b>COUNT MERIBEL (82)</b> (C)	93		
	1265P-114 7 11-4   71.7kg Nigel Twiston-Davies Won first 2 starts over fences (second of which was at this course) but had limitations exposed at Ascot last time and faces another stiff task here.		<b>Mark Grant</b>	
2	<b>DELTA WORK (FR) (74)</b> (C, D)	100	h+t	★
	24312-111 6 11-4   71.7kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland Won Pertemps at last year's Festival and already bettered that form in 3 starts in this sphere, completing hat-trick when taking Grade 1 at Leopardstown in December. Has potential for better yet.		<b>Davy Russell</b>	
3	<b>DROVERS LANE (IRE) (88)</b> (C)	95		
	41121711 7 11-4   71.7kg Rebecca Curtis Progressive sort who has taken 3 of his 4 starts over fences, latest at this venue (20.6f) in December. May be capable of better yet and is well worth his place in this field. Has had wind operation.		<b>Sean Bowen</b>	
4	<b>MISTER MALARKY (25)</b>	95		
	7320-1311 6 11-4   71.7kg Colin Tizzard Likeable type who has progressed with each start over fences, latest when landing Reynoldstown Novices' Chase at Ascot last month. This is tougher, but he remains unexposed as a stayer.		<b>Robbie Power</b>	
5	<b>MORTAL (IRE) (38)</b>	93	t	
	4F226-126 7 11-4   71.7kg Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland Won Fairyhouse maiden on chasing bow in December and ran creditably in Leopardstown Grade 1 events both starts since. Has something to find on form with principles here, though.		<b>Rachael Blackmore</b>	
6	<b>NOW MCGINTY (IRE) (25)</b>	92	s	
	112-2U212 8 11-4   71.7kg Stuart Edmunds Off the mark over fences at Chepstow in January and posted fine second to Mister Malarky at Ascot since. Should give another good account, but will need to find improvement to play a part here.		<b>Tom O'Brien</b>	
7	<b>ON THE BLIND SIDE (IRE) (44)</b> (C, D)	93	s	
	1116-41 7 11-4   71.7kg Nicky Henderson Smart hurdler who left his chase debut effort well behind when taking 7-runner novice event at Kempton in January. May have more to offer yet and has to enter calculations.		<b>Noel Fehily</b>	
8	<b>SANTINI (77)</b> (C, D, BF)	98		
	1131-13 7 11-4   71.7kg Nicky Henderson Smart performer over hurdles who has taken well to fences, scoring at Newbury before creditable third in Kauto Star Chase at Kempton over Xmas. This stiffer test will suit and he must be respected.		<b>Nico de Boinville</b>	
9	<b>THE WORLDS END (IRE) (77)</b> (C, D)	94	s	✓
	4474-1316 8 11-4   71.7kg Tom George Emphatic winner of a novice chase here in December and likely unsuited by track when well beaten at Kempton next time. However, percentage call is to look elsewhere. Wears first-time cheekpieces.		<b>Paddy Brennan</b>	
10	<b>TOPOFTHEGAME (IRE) (77)</b>	97	t	
	42/F412-22 7 11-4   71.7kg Paul Nicholls Quickly matched smart hurdling form (just denied in last year's Coral Cup) when second in Kauto Star Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day. Should be plenty more to come and is a big player.		<b>Harry Cobden</b>	

11	<b>TOP VILLE BEN (IRE) (25)</b> (D, BF)	h	92
	1PF8F-115 7 11-4   71.7kg Philip Kirby Jumped soundly under positive tactics when taking first 2 starts over fences, but was below that level when last of 5 to Mister Malarky at Ascot latest and has a bit to prove now.		<b>Sean Quinlan</b>
12	<b>DRINKS INTERVAL (74)</b> (D)	t	94
	21211F23 7 10-11   68.5kg Colin Tizzard Three-time winner over fences but was disappointing at Doncaster when last seen in December and looks up against in this company.		<b>Richard Johnson</b>

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**  
9-4 Delta Work, 4-1 Topofthegame, 9-2 Santini, 12-1 On The Blind Side, 16-1 Mister Malarky, 20-1 Drovers Lane, 22-1 Mortal, 28-1 The Worlds End, 33-1 Now Mcginty, 40-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**  
TOPOFTHEGAME has shaped really well on both starts over fences, looking all over the winner until inexperience seemingly got the better of him at Kempton last time. Further improvement looks assured and he can land the spoils. Delta Work has barely put a foot wrong since switched to the larger obstacles and is feared most, whilst Santini will appreciate the recent rain and is also respected.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**  
1. TOPOFTHEGAME (IRE) 2. DELTA WORK (FR) 3. SANTINI

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:			
2018	Presenting Percy	7-11-4	5-2f Patrick G. Kelly Davy Russell 10
2017	Might Bite	8-11-4	7-2f Nicky Henderson Nico de Boinville 12
2016	Blaklion	7-11-4	8-1 Nigel Twiston-Davies Ryan Hatch 8
2015	Don Poli	6-11-4	13-8f W. P. Mullins B. J. Cooper 8
2014	O'Faolains Boy	7-11-4	12-1 Rebecca Curtis Barry Geraghty 15

SMART STATS:	
2	Nicky Henderson's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 2 runners saddles: <b>SANTINI</b> )
£57.50	Rebecca Curtis's profit to a £1 level stake with only one runner on the card (chases) (saddles: <b>DROVERS LANE</b> )
20%	Nicky Henderson's strike rate with chasers running between 19f and up to 3m (saddles: <b>SANTINI and ON THE BLIND SIDE</b> )

2.50

RACE 3















**CORAL CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade 3) (1) 4yo+ £100,000 2m5f (4220 Metres)**


















Going: **Soft**

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	<b>WICKLOW BRAVE (45)</b> (C)	98
	2-213F472 10 11-12   75.3kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland  Previous Festival winner who went through purple patch on Flat and over hurdles last summer. Not been in same form in recent starts, though, and makes limited appeal.	<b>Mr P. W. Mullins</b>
2	<b>VISION DES FLOS (FR) (17)</b>	98
	2-U235231 6 11-11   74.8kg Colin Tizzard Back on the scoreboard when landing National Spirit Hurdle at Fontwell (19.2f) 17 days ago. Looks fairly treated on switch to handicapping and is one to consider.	<b>Robbie Power</b>
3	<b>WILLIAM HENRY (IRE) (77)</b> (C, D)	98
	121/P144-P 9 11-10   74.4kg Nicky Henderson Good fourth in this event 12 months ago but lightly raced since and offered little on sole start this term. Has had wind operation.	<b>Nico de Boinville</b>
4	<b>SCARPETA (FR) (72)</b> (BF)	95
	3143P-13 6 11-10   74.4kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland  Ready winner at Clonmel in December and ran creditably at Punchestown thereafter. Fine fourth at last year's Festival and is interesting on switch to handicapping. Wears first-time cheekpieces.	<b>D. E. Mullins</b>
5	<b>FARCLAS (FR) (25)</b> (C)	97
	2215-6F55 5 11-10   74.4kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland Won last year's Triumph Hurdle but hasn't been able to trouble the judge since and ran no sort of race at Gowran last time. Makes handicap debut.	<b>Davy Russell</b>
6	<b>KILLULTAGH VIC (IRE) (25)</b> (CD)	98
	1FP5-P534 10 11-9   73.9kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland  Hasn't totally convinced over fences but proved he still has plenty to offer in this sphere when third in Galmoy Hurdle in January. Previous winner at Festival so warrants plenty of respect.	<b>P. Townend</b>
7	<b>LIL ROCKERFELLER (USA) (17)</b> (C, D)	98
	2-111U353 8 11-9   73.9kg Neil King  Scored on Flat before completing a hat-trick over fences in the autumn. Respectable third behind Vision Des Flos over timber at Fontwell last month and returns to handicapping off a workable mark.	<b>Bryony Frost</b>
8	<b>DIAMOND CAUCHOIS (FR) (321)</b> (D)	97
	01/313126- 8 11-9   73.9kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland Won 2 of his 6 starts last season, including Grade 2 at Navan. Not seen since below-par sixth at Punchestown 10 months ago but returns on a fair mark and is worth a second look in the market.	<b>Noel Fehily</b>
9	<b>CRACKING SMART (FR) (24)</b>	98
	21/1122-63 7 11-9   73.9kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland Stepped up from reappearance when third to Tiger Roll in Boyne Hurdle at Navan (21f) 24 days ago. Likely capable of better yet and merits consideration on handicap debut.	<b>J. W. Kennedy</b>
10	<b>MONBEG THEATRE (IRE) (77)</b> (C, D)	95
	231-11342 10 11-7   73.0kg Jamie Snowden Likeable sort who completed a hat-trick at Wetherby in October. Upped game further when second at Wincanton over Xmas and can be expected to give his all once more. Has had wind operation.	<b>Page Fuller (3lb/1kg)</b>





11	<b>BLEU BERRY (FR) (48)</b> (CD)	99
	15/0143-07 8 11-7   73.0kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland  Narrow winner (off 5 lb lower) of this contest 12 months ago and shaped better than distance beaten in Galmoy Hurdle on return in January. Could be a player again.	<b>D. J. Mullins</b>
12	<b>BALLYANDY (25)</b> (C, BF)	98
	14P-3P413 8 11-7   73.0kg Nigel Twiston-Davies Bumper winner here in 2016 who's performed well over hurdles in recent starts, latest when 4 lengths third of 10 to Brio Conti at Ascot (19.3f) 25 days ago. Others look better treated, though.	<b>Sam Twiston-Davies</b>
13	<b>BRIO CONTI (FR) (25)</b> (D)	95
	28115/1-P1 8 11-5   72.1kg Paul Nicholls  Lightly raced in last 2 years but looked better than ever when narrowly taking 10-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (19.3f) last month. 5 lb rise fair and is a big player.	<b>Harry Cobden</b>
14	<b>DANCING ON MY OWN (IRE) (38)</b>	92
	5234 5 11-4   71.7kg Henry de Bromhead, Ireland Found improvement when fourth in Grade 1 at Leopardstown last month. Remains with potential for better on handicap bow, but may find this fiercely competitive event something of a culture shock.	<b>Rachael Blackmore</b>
15	<b>BURBANK (IRE) (50)</b> (BF)	96
	42/06379-2 7 11-0   69.9kg Nicky Henderson Useful hurdler who acquitted himself well when seventh in this contest last season. Disappointed twice since, however, and it's easy enough to look elsewhere.	<b>Jeremiah McGrath</b>
16	<b>CANARDIER (FR) (138)</b> (CD)	94
	1/35-12331 7 11-0   69.9kg Dermot Anthony McLoughlin, Ireland Back to winning ways when taking 8-runner novice hurdle over C&D in October. This event the likely target since and could have more to offer on handicap debut.	<b>Robert Dunne</b>
17	<b>APPLE'S SHAKIRA (FR) (95)</b> (C, BF)	99
	111143-P 5 10-13   69.4kg Nicky Henderson Won first 4 races prior to finishing beaten favourite in last year's Triumph Hurdle. Ran no sort of race on sole start this term and plenty to prove at present.	<b>Barry Geraghty</b>
18	<b>KNIGHT IN DUBAI (IRE) (74)</b> (D)	98
	51340-F2 6 10-12   68.9kg Dan Skelton Found improvement, on handicap debut, when just denied at Newbury (20.5f) in December. 4 lb rise fair and merits consideration.	<b>Harry Skelton</b>
19	<b>HIGHEST SUN (FR) (18)</b>	95
	1-3421 5 10-12   68.9kg Colin Tizzard Off the mark for this yard in ready fashion at Chepstow (16f) last month and should appreciate this stiffer test of stamina. Each-way player.	<b>Tom O'Brien</b>
20	<b>TULLY EAST (IRE) (39)</b> (C)	95
	P/463-8000 9 10-11   68.5kg Alan Fleming, Ireland Not scored since landing Close Brothers Novice Chase in 2017 and hasn't done enough in recent starts over hurdles to suggest his turn is near again.	<b>Donagh Meyler</b>
21	<b>ERAGON DE CHANAY (FR) (25)</b> (D)	98
	72-P13731 5 10-11   68.5kg Gary Moore Back to winning ways when landing a gamble at Wincanton last month. 5 lb rise fair and ran well at last year's Festival so could make his presence felt here.	<b>Joshua Moore</b>
22	<b>URADEL (GER) (39)</b> (BF)	100
	117-85 8 10-10   68.0kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland  Useful dual-purpose performer who posted solid fifth on return to hurdling at Leopardstown (16f) last month. Return to this longer trip should suit and is one for the shortlist.	<b>R. Walsh</b>

2.50

RACE 3

**CORAL CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (Grade 3) (1) 4yo+ £100,000 2m5f (4220 Metres)**



23	 <b>ERICK LE ROUGE (FR) (18)</b> (D) 4452-1111 5 10-10   68.0kg Mrs Jane Williams <i>Chester Williams (71b/3kg)</i> Much improved this term, extending his unbeaten run to 4 when taking Kempton handicap last month. His battling qualities will hold him in good stead here and he should make his presence felt again.	96
24	 <b>CALIE DU MESNIL (FR) (38)</b> (D) 1132P2 7 10-8   67.1kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland <i>Katie O'Farrell (51b/2kg)</i> Posted much improved form when just held in handicap at Leopardstown (24f) last month. Likely has more to give yet and stable took this contest last year. First time tongue-strap added.	96
25	 <b>OSCAR KNIGHT (IRE) (21)</b> 02B3-8P67 10 10-6   66.2kg Thomas Mullins, Ireland <i>M. P. Walsh</i> Yet to trouble the judge in 4 outings this term and only looks averagely treated at present.	98
26	 <b>JOKE DANCER (18)</b> 6215115-1 6 10-5   65.8kg Sue Smith <i>Danny Cook</i> Proved better than ever, on return from 11 months off, when winning 7-runner handicap at Newcastle (16.4f) 18 days ago. Well worth a crack at this longer trip and not out of things.	98

26 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**  
**15-2** Uradel, **14-1** Brio Conti, **18-1** Cracking Smart, **18-1** Canardier, **20-1** Farclas, **20-1** Diamond Cauchois, **20-1** Erick Le Rouge, **22-1** Vision Des Flos, **22-1** Knight In Dubai, **22-1** Scarpeta, **22-1** Highest Sun, **25-1** Killultagh Vic, **25-1** Ballyandy, **25-1** Calie Du Mesnil, **28-1** Bleu Berry, **28-1** Wicklow Brave, **28-1** Tully East, **33-1** Apple's Shakira, **33-1** Eragon De Chanay, **33-1** Lil Rockerfeller, **33-1** Joke Dancer, **33-1** Burbank, **33-1** Dancing On My Own, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**  
URADEL is still unexposed over hurdles and caught the eye when a staying-on fifth over a shorter trip at Leopardstown last time. The choice of Ruby Walsh, he is taken to land a typically competitive renewal of this contest. Brio Conti is also low-mileage and is feared most after his Ascot victory last time, whilst Scarpeta, Erick Le Rouge and Highest Sun also hold appeal.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**  
**1. URADEL (GER) 2. BRIO CONTI (FR) 3. SCARPETA (FR)**

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:				
2018	<b>Bleu Berry</b> 7-11-2	20-1	W. P. Mullins	M. P. Walsh 26
2017	<b>Supasundae</b> 7-11-4	16-1	Mrs J. Harrington	Robbie Power 25
2016	<b>Diamond King</b> 8-11-3	12-1	Gordon Elliott	Davy Russell 26
2015	<b>Aux Ptits Soins</b> 5-10-7	9-1	Paul Nicholls	Sam Twiston-Davies 25
2014	<b>Whisper</b> 6-11-11	14-1	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville (5) 28

SMART STATS:	
2	Nicky Henderson's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 3 runners saddles: <b>APPLE'S SHAKIRA</b> )
2	Gordon Elliott's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 3 runners saddles: <b>CRACKING SMART</b> )
£92.17	Neil King's profit to a £1 level stake when having only one runner on the card (hurdles) (saddles: <b>LIL ROCKERFELLER</b> )



3.30

RACE 4

BETWAY QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE (Grade 1) (1)  
5yo+ £400,000 1m7f199y (3200 Metres)



Going: **Soft**

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	<b>ALTIOR (IRE) (53)</b> (CD) 11/111-111 9 11-10   74.4kg Nicky Henderson <i>Nico de Boinville</i> Outstanding performer who is unbeaten in 17 starts over hurdles/fences, including wins at the last 3 Festivals. Had 7 lengths to spare over Min in this race 12 months ago and can't oppose.		100
2	<b>CASTLEGRACE PADDY (IRE) (39)</b> (D) 15/115-14F 8 11-10   74.4kg P. A. Fahy, Ireland <i>Davy Russell</i> Career best when winning Cork Grade 2 on reappearance in December and similar form when fourth in Leopardstown Grade 1 over Christmas. Fell early back at Leopardstown since.		89
3	<b>GOD'S OWN (IRE) (94)</b> (D) 53/6333-12 11 11-10   74.4kg Tom George <i>Paddy Brennan</i> Rolled back the years to notch second Haldon Gold Cup win on reappearance in November and fine second in Peterborough a month later. Kept fresh since and has twice reached the frame in this.		90
4	<b>HELL'S KITCHEN (81)</b> 3/2U1P-71 8 11-10   74.4kg Harry Fry <i>Barry Geraghty</i> Hasn't been seen that often over the years but he's highly talented, with his latest Ascot handicap success particularly strong form. Should be up to making his presence felt at this higher level.	h+t	90
5	<b>MIN (FR) (39)</b> (D) 11d1224-11 8 11-10   74.4kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland <i>R. Walsh</i> Dual Grade 1 winner in Ireland this winter, but beaten 7 lengths by Altior in the 2016 Supreme and in this race last year. Should go well but likely to find his old rival too strong again.		95
6	<b>ORDINARY WORLD (IRE) (39)</b> (D) 3457-4232 9 11-10   74.4kg Henry de Bromhead, Ireland <i>Rachael Blackmore</i> Smart chaser who has run up to his best in Grade 1 events at Leopardstown on his last 2 starts but he'll surely come up short again (well-held fifth in this 12 months ago).		87
7	<b>POLITOLOGUE (FR) (25)</b> (D) 11241-144 8 11-10   74.4kg Paul Nicholls <i>Harry Cobden</i> Pair of Grade 1 wins in excellent 2017/18 campaign. Defeated Charbel on return in 21f Ascot Grade 2 but not at his best when remote fourth in King George and Ascot Chase since. Hood refitted.	h+t	92
8	<b>SAINT CALVADOS (FR) (39)</b> (D) 6/1114-133 6 11-10   74.4kg Harry Whittington <i>Gavin Sheehan</i> Front-runner who made a winning return in Naas Grade 3 in November. However, no match for Altior in Tingle Creek and again came up short at the highest level last time. Cheekpieces on first time.	s	89
9	<b>SCEAU ROYAL (FR) (25)</b> (CD, BF) 12111-142 7 11-10   74.4kg Alan King <i>Daryl Jacob</i> Won 4 of 5 starts as a novice. Further progress when landing the Shloer here on return but put in his place by Altior in Tingle Creek. Warmed up for this with a second back hurdling at Wincanton.		90

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-5 Altior, 6-1 Min, 18-1 Sceau Royal, 22-1 Politologue, 28-1 Saint Calvados, 50-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

Impossible to see past the outstanding ALTIOR who continues to carry all before him and can stretch his unbeaten record over jumps to 18. Last year's runner-up Min is the one most likely to follow him home again. God's Own, who has a decent record at this meeting, is as good as ever at the age of 11 and may prove best of the remainder.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ALTIOR (IRE) 2. MIN (FR) 3. GOD'S OWN (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2018	Altior	8-11-10	evsf	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	9
2017	Special Tiara	10-11-10	11-1	Henry de Bromhead	Noel Fehily	10
2016	Sprinter Sacre	10-11-10	5-1	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boinville	10
2015	Dodging Bullets	7-11-10	9-2	Paul Nicholls	Sam Twiston-Davies	9
2014	Sire de Grugy	8-11-10	11-4f	Gary Moore	Jamie Moore	11

SMART STATS:

4 Nicky Henderson's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (saddles: ALTIOR)

2 Paul Nicholls's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (saddles: POLITOLOGUE)

2 Henry de Bromhead's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (saddles: ORDINARY WORLD)

4.10

RACE 5

GLENFARCLAS CHASE (CROSS COUNTRY) (2) 5yo+ £65,000











3¼m37y (6070 Metres)









Going: **Soft**

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		<b>AMAZING COMEDY (FR) (59)</b> 5272214U 9 11-4   71.7kg David Cottin, France Consistent chaser who excelled himself on both previous goes over this C&D (shaped well here in December). Unseated rider the following month.	b+t	89	<i>Jonathan Plouganou</i>
2		<b>AUBUSSON (FR) (94) (C)</b> 20-52457P 10 11-4   71.7kg Mrs Jane Williams On a long losing run over both sets of obstacles and hard to make a case for having been pulled up over fences when last seen at Kelso 3 months ago.		84	<i>Chester Williams</i>
3		<b>AUVERGNAT (FR) (76)</b> F141-3001 9 11-4   71.7kg Enda Bolger, Ireland Arrives here in top form having landed the Paddy Power Chase at Leopardstown just after Christmas. Has filled fourth spot in this the last 2 years and might have to settle for minor honours again.	b	95	<i>D. J. McInerney</i>
4		<b>BALLYCASEY (IRE) (31)</b> 5336-3450 12 11-4   71.7kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland One-time classy chaser who made an encouraging start in this sphere when fifth (behind Josies Orders) here in December before finishing lame at Punchestown on latest outing. Not completely ruled out.		91	<i>Mr P. W. Mullins</i>
5		<b>BLESS THE WINGS (IRE) (24) (CD)</b> 1FP34-566 14 11-4   71.7kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland C&D winner who has done enough to suggest he still retains plenty of ability this season, though it's asking a lot of him to overhaul his stablemate if that one is on his game.	s	93	<i>Davy Russell</i>
6		<b>DEVILS BRIDE (IRE) (31)</b> 00-940959 12 11-4   71.7kg Henry de Bromhead, Ireland Should come on for his return at Punchestown last month but he's been below his best for some time, so it's asking a lot for him to get competitive in this.	t	72	<i>Rachael Blackmore</i>
7		<b>FACT OF THE MATTER (IRE) (89) (CD)</b> 9-4422F21 9 11-4   71.7kg Jamie Snowden Has found a new lease of life since switched to this discipline, finishing with a flourish to get up by a narrow margin over this C&D 3 months ago. Since undergone a breathing operation.	s+t	87	<i>Gavin Sheehan</i>
8		<b>HURRICANE DARWIN (IRE) (31)</b> 1104P2-F2 9 11-4   71.7kg Alan Fleming, Ireland Arrives on the back of an excellent second to Josies Orders at Punchestown a month ago but didn't appear to get the trip in this event last term.		86	<i>Donagh Meyler</i>
9		<b>JAROB (45)</b> 0-734P435 12 11-4   71.7kg Gearoid O'Loughlin, Ireland Useful chaser who made a pleasing start in this sphere when third over C&D in December. Has demonstrated his well-being subsequently but needs improvement if he's to make an impact here.		87	<i>Mark Enright</i>
10		<b>JOSIES ORDERS (IRE) (31) (CD)</b> 6P21-0131 11 11-4   71.7kg Enda Bolger, Ireland Rarely runs a bad race in Cross-Country events these days, for all he wasn't on his game in this last year. Generally boasts an excellent C&D record and arrives in good form, so he's one to note.	b	93	<i>M. P. Walsh</i>

11		<b>KINGSWELL THEATRE (453) (CD)</b> 3P0107/14- 10 11-4   71.7kg Michael Scudamore Jumped superbly when scoring in a C&D handicap in November 2017, followed by a creditable fourth here. Big run is a possible despite a 15-month absence (has also undergone a breathing operation).	s	87	<i>Tom Scudamore</i>
12		<b>TEA FOR TWO (53)</b> 3P76-P36P 10 11-4   71.7kg Mrs Jane Williams High-class chaser at his best but signs of decline since third in last season's King George. Seemed amiss last time but not completely out of this if sweetened up back from a break.		93	<i>Lizzie Kelly</i>
13		<b>TIGER ROLL (IRE) (24) (CD)</b> P/2P511-41 9 11-4   71.7kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland Took this before Grand National glory last season and arguably better than ever now based on his easy success in what appeared to be a prep' run over hurdles in February. Really difficult to oppose.	b+t	100	<i>Keith Donoghue</i>
14		<b>ULTRAGOLD (FR) (60)</b> 92P01-435 11 11-4   71.7kg Colin Tizzard Dual Topham winner who ran another blinder over the National fences when third in the Becher in December. Not discredited next time and has the right style (bold jumper) for this sort of test.	t	94	<i>Harry Cobden</i>
15		<b>URGENT DE GREGAINE (FR) (144) (CD)</b> 7351/232-P 11 11-4   71.7kg Emmanuel Clayeux, France Underperformed when last seen in October but has displayed a liking for this track on multiple occasions and is bound to have been well readied for another tilt (second last year) at this big prize.	s+t	94	<i>Felix de Giles</i>
16		<b>VYTA DU ROC (FR) (76) (C)</b> P52/501-PP 10 11-4   71.7kg Nicky Henderson Won a big handicap here on New Year's Day last year so, while he's looked one with problems so far this term, the ability is there if his shrewd handler can get him back on the right path.		91	<i>Daryl Jacob</i>

16 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-4 Tiger Roll, 10-1 Auvergnat, 11-1 Josies Orders, 14-1 Ultragold, 14-1 Urgent De Gregaine, 20-1 Tea For Two, 28-1 Ballycasey, 28-1 Fact of The Matter, 33-1 Vyta Du Roc, 33-1 Kingswell Theatre, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TIGER ROLL looked as good if not better than ever when breezing through to win a Grade 2 over hurdles at Navan last month, a run that was almost certainly intended as a prep' for this. It's hard to oppose him as he bids for back-to-back victories in this before going to defend his crown in the Grand National. Last year's runner-up, Urgent de Gregaine, is a danger, along with Josies Orders.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TIGER ROLL (IRE) 2. URGENT DE GREGAINE (FR) 3. JOSIES ORDERS (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2018	<b>Tiger Roll</b> 8-11-4	7-1	Gordon Elliott	Keith Donoghue	16
2017	<b>Cause of Causes</b> 9-11-4	4-1	Gordon Elliott	Mr J. J. Codd	16
2016	<b>Josies Orders</b> 8-11-4	15-8f	Enda Bolger	Miss N. Carberry	16
2015	<b>Rivage d'Or</b> 10-10-10	16-1	A. J. Martin	Davy Russell	16
2014	<b>Balthazar King</b> 10-11-12	4-1	Philip Hobbs	Richard Johnson	16

SMART STATS:

2 Gordon Elliott's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 2 runners saddles: **TIGER ROLL**)

2 Enda Bolger's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 2 runners saddles: **AUVERGNAT**)

21% W. P. Mullins's strike rate in spring (saddles: **BALLYCASEY**)

4.50

RACE 6











**BOODLES JUVENILE HANDICAP HURDLE (Fred Winter)**  
**(Grade 3) (1) 4yo £80,000 2m87y (3300 Metres)**















Going: **Soft**

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	<b>TORPILLO (FR) (25)</b> (D)	h	92
	<b>Nigel Twiston-Davies</b> Successful sole start in France and wide-margin winner of Sandown juvenile hurdles for this yard. However, disappointing at Haydock last month and on a stiff-looking mark for this handicap debut.	<b>Daryl Jacob</b>	
2	<b>FINE BRUNELLO (FR) (46)</b>		93
	<b>Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland</b> French bumper winner who shaped well when fourth of 17 in Limerick maiden hurdle won by stablemate Band of Outlaws at Boxing Day. Runner-up in Grade 2 company here next time and may do better still.	<b>Barry Geraghty</b>	
3	<b>BAND OF OUTLAWS (IRE) (32)</b> (D)		99
	<b>Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland</b> Useful performer on the Flat and made it 2-3 in this sphere with an impressive display at Naas (2m) last month. Probably has more to offer now handicapping and he's high on the shortlist.	<b>J. J. Slevin</b>	
4	<b>CRACKER FACTORY (88)</b> (D, BF)	s	98
	<b>Alan King</b> Has won 4 times over hurdles this season and was a good second in Grade 2 over C&D in November. His run on the Flat 3 weeks ago should have left him spot on for this. First-time cheekpieces.	<b>Sam Twiston-Davies</b>	
5	<b>CHIEF JUSTICE (38)</b> (D)	t	97
	<b>Gordon Elliott, Ireland</b> Notched fourth success in this sphere when getting on top close home in Fairyhouse Grade 3 in December. Not seen to best effect last time and has since undergone wind surgery,	<b>Keith Donoghue</b>	
6	<b>NATURELLE (FR) (40)</b>		91
	<b>Alain Couetil, France</b> Winner of 2 of her 4 hurdles starts in France, including a listed event at Pau (17.4f) last month. Form isn't easy to assess in the context of this race and handicapper hasn't taken any chances.	<b>Alexis Poirier</b>	
7	<b>GOT TRUMPED (38)</b> (D)		97
	<b>Mrs J. Harrington, Ireland</b> Confirmed abundant hurdles debut promise when landing a 20-runner Punchestown event in November. Hasn't really progressed since, though, and improvement needed off what looks a stiff mark.	<b>Robbie Power</b>	
8	<b>FANFAN DU SEUIL (FR) (88)</b> (D)	★	100
	<b>Tom George</b> Debut winner in France and opened account for new connections at Exeter in November. Lost little caste in defeat when runner-up on the other course here (16.8f) next time and further progress likely.	<b>Paddy Brennan</b>	
9	<b>BEAT THE JUDGE (IRE) (18)</b> (D)		96
	<b>Gary Moore</b> Sprang a surprise when making a successful hurdles debut at Kempton (2m) in December. Acquitted himself well when runner-up in the Adonis over that C&D last time but improvement needed off this mark.	<b>Joshua Moore</b>	
10	<b>OUR POWER (IRE) (46)</b> (D)		94
	<b>Alan King</b> Couldn't live with Fanfan du Seuil at Exeter in November but improved when scoring decisively at Newbury the following month. Not disgraced in a Grade 2 here latest and he's an each-way player.	<b>Tom Cannon</b>	

11	<b>FOX PRO (FR) (103)</b> (D)		85
	<b>Mrs Jane Williams</b> Confirmed debut promise when landing a Compiègne juvenile hurdle in November. However, finished out with the washing at Auteuil subsequently and his opening mark doesn't look generous.	<b>Lizzie Kelly (31lb/1kg)</b>	
12	<b>COKO BEACH (FR) (32)</b>		91
	<b>Gordon Elliott, Ireland</b> Winner of sole start in France and stepped up on low-key Irish debut when 8 lengths third to Band of Outlaws at Naas (2m). Unlikely that a 5 lb pull will be enough to see him reverse those placings.	<b>J. W. Kennedy</b>	
13	<b>PRABENI (21)</b> (D)	t	96
	<b>Charlie Mann</b> Above-average Flat performer for William Haggas and made it 2-3 in this sphere when landing a Doncaster novice (16.6f) last month. Much more on his plate here but he's not short of potential.	<b>Jeremiah McGrath</b>	
14	<b>ZIZANEUR (FR) (12)</b> (D)		94
	<b>Philip Hobbs</b> Fairly useful hurdler who was successful in France last summer. Runner-up in juvenile hurdles at Ludlow and Newbury since crossing the Channel but this demands significant improvement.	<b>Mr David Maxwell (51lb/2kg)</b>	
15	<b>DOGON (25)</b>	t	95
	<b>Paul Nicholls</b> Fairly useful hurdler/chaser in France. Bettered inauspicious British debut when second at Wincanton and yard boasts a good record in this race. Tongue strap applied.	<b>Harry Cobden</b>	
16	<b>CIEL DE NEIGE (FR) (196)</b>		95
	<b>W. P. Mullins, Ireland</b> Well held on third and final start for Guy Chere last year, but had shaped well both runs prior to that and, having joined a powerful yard, it'll be interesting to see what the market has to say.	<b>R. Walsh</b>	
17	<b>LETHAL STEPS (31)</b>	s	99
	<b>Gordon Elliott, Ireland</b> Useful Flat winner and has shown plenty in trio of big-field maiden hurdles, third of 20 when upped to 2½m at Punchestown latest. Drop back in trip a plus now handicapping and cheekpieces added.	<b>Davy Russell</b>	
18	<b>STAR MAX (GER) (25)</b> (D)		98
	<b>Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland</b> Useful Flat winner who has improved with each of his 3 starts in this sphere, off the mark in 2m Gowran maiden last month. Likely to do better still but presumably isn't the stable first-string here.	<b>Rachael Blackmore</b>	
19	<b>OI THE CLUBB OI'S (88)</b>		98
	<b>Ian Williams</b> Fair Flat winner and placed all 3 starts over hurdles, improving when third in a Doncaster Grade 2 (16.6f) last time. Should pick up a race before long but others preferred this time.	<b>Tom O'Brien</b>	
20	<b>LA SORELITA (FR) (31)</b> (D)	t	93
	<b>W. P. Mullins, Ireland</b> Winner on debut in France last year but fair to say that she hasn't measured up to expectations in 3 starts for Willie Mullins. Improvement needed now pitched into a handicap. Tongue strap applied.	<b>P. Townend</b>	
21	<b>PRAECEPS (IRE) (18)</b> (D)	b	95
	<b>Alan King</b> Fairly useful on the Flat and has taken well to hurdles, off the mark at second attempt at Market Rasen last month. Not disgraced in Kempton Grade 2 since and he's in with an each-way shout.	<b>Wayne Hutchinson</b>	
22	<b>KING D'ARGENT (FR) (97)</b> (D)	t	97
	<b>Dan Skelton</b> Fairly useful maiden on the Flat for Ger Lyons and made successful hurdles debut at Wetherby in October. Solid enough efforts in defeat since but more needed on first start following wind surgery.	<b>Harry Skelton</b>	



4.50

RACE 6

**BOODLES JUVENILE HANDICAP HURDLE (Fred Winter)**  
**(Grade 3) (1) 4yo £80,000 2m87y (3300 Metres)**



**BETTING FORECAST:**

**13-2** Band of Outlaws, **8-1** Lethal Steps, **10-1** Fine Brunello, **16-1** Chief Justice, **16-1** Ciel De Neige, **20-1** Star Max, **20-1** Our Power, **22-1** Fanfan Du Seuil, **22-1** Got Trumped, **22-1** Prabeni, **25-1** Beat The Judge, **25-1** Praecepts, **25-1** Dogon, **28-1** La Sorelita, **28-1** Torpillo, **28-1** Coko Beach, **33-1** Oi The Clubb Oi's, **33-1** Cracker Factory, **33-1** King D'argent, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

A case can be made for plenty of these but the one who appeals most is BAND OF OUTLAWS. He travelled notably well when landing a Naas novice in good style last time and is likely to go on improving. Lethal Steps could be the pick of the Gordon Elliott trio, while Willie Mullins' Ciel de Neige is one to note in the betting and Fanfan du Seuil also needs considering.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. BAND OF OUTLAWS (IRE) 2. LETHAL STEPS 3. CIEL DE NEIGE (FR)**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2018	<b>Veneer of Charm</b> 4-11-0	33-1	Gordon Elliott	J.W.Kennedy	22
2017	<b>Flying Tiger</b> 4-11-5	33-1	Nick Williams	Richard Johnson	22
2016	<b>Diego du Charmil</b> 4-11-1	13-2	Paul Nicholls	Sam Twiston-Davies	22
2015	<b>Qualando</b> 4-11-0	25-1	Paul Nicholls	Nick Scholfield	22
2014	<b>Hawk High</b> 4-11-1	33-1	Tim Easterby	Brian Hughes	24

**SMART STATS:**

- 2** Gordon Elliott's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (amongst 3 runners saddles: **LETHAL STEPS**)
- 3** Paul Nicholls's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (saddles: **DOGON**)
- £24.11** W. P. Mullins's profit to a £1 level stake with hurdlers running after a break (saddles: **CIEL DE NEIGE**)

5.30

RACE 7











**WEATHERBYS CHAMPION BUMPER (STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT) (Grade 1) (1) 4, 5 and 6yo £75,000 2m87y (3300 Metres)**







Going: **Soft**

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: **Extreme**

1	<b>ABACADABRAS (FR) (39)</b> (D)	95
	1R 5 11-5   72.1kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland <i>Ms L. O'Neill</i> Off the mark readily at Gowran on debut. In the process of laying down a challenge to Envoi Allen before running out at Leopardstown last month, so looks a player if kept on a straight path.	
2	<b>ASK FOR GLORY (IRE) (76)</b> (D)	97
	1 5 11-5   72.1kg Paul Nicholls <i>Harry Cobden</i> £280,000 buy after winning an Irish point and could hardly have been more impressive when making all at Chepstow in December, looking a powerful galloper. Lacks the experience of some, however.	
3	<b>ENVOI ALLEN (FR) (39)</b> (D)	100
	111 5 11-5   72.1kg Gordon Elliott, Ireland <i>Mr J. J. Codd</i> Unbeaten in 4 outings (including a point), and not hard pressed to gain Grade 2 success at Leopardstown last month. Smooth preparation and a good deal of experience will count for plenty here.	
4	<b>FLIC OU VOYOU (FR) (77)</b>	95
	4-11 5 11-5   72.1kg Paul Nicholls <i>Sam Twiston-Davies</i> Much improved from debut to land both outings at Wincanton this term, his latest effort boosted by the second and fourth since, so not ruled out for all this is a marked step up in grade.	
5	<b>JELSKI (GER) (58)</b>	86
	51 5 11-5   72.1kg Nigel Twiston-Davies <i>Jamie Bargary</i> Fifth in a strong race at Ascot on debut before opening his account in comfortable fashion at Ffos Las a couple of months ago. Up against it at this level, though.	
6	<b>MASTER DEBONAIR (115)</b> (CD)	97
	121 5 11-5   72.1kg Colin Tizzard <i>Robbie Power</i> Has improved with each run and took his record to 2 from 3 when landing a C&D listed event in November. Not seen since, though, and looks vulnerable in this company.	
7	<b>METICULOUS (IRE) (39)</b>	96
	142 5 11-5   72.1kg Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland <i>Donnacha O'Brien</i> Yet to add to his debut success but caught the eye with his finishing effort from further back than ideal when runner-up to Envoi Allen at Leopardstown last time. Turning the tables isn't beyond him.	t
8	<b>SEMPO (IRE) (34)</b> (D)	94
	431 5 11-5   72.1kg Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland <i>Mr Derek O'Connor</i> Has improved a chunk with each run and barely came off the bridle when landing a gamble at Thurles a month ago, so dangerous to rule out with the potential for even more progress for his top yard.	t
9	<b>SOME DETAIL (IRE) (18)</b> (D)	86
	231 5 11-5   72.1kg Nigel Hawke <i>Sean Bowen</i> Maiden Irish pointer who confirmed previous encouragement to get off the mark at Chepstow recently, but looks a little out of his depth here.	
10	<b>THOR DE CERISY (FR) (82)</b>	90
	18 5 11-5   72.1kg Michael Scudamore <i>Brendan Powell</i> Failed to build on an impressive winning debut at Ffos Las when down the field in listed race at Ascot, so it's unlikely he's going to get involved upped further in grade. Hood fitted.	h

11	<b>THYME HILL (115)</b> (D)	97
	12 5 11-5   72.1kg Philip Hobbs <i>Richard Johnson</i> Easy winner on debut before putting up an excellent effort in second to Master Debonair in a listed event here in November. Slight concern he's been absent since, though.	
12	<b>THE GLANCING QUEEN (IRE) (82)</b> (CD)	99
	13 5 10-12   68.9kg Alan King <i>Wayne Hutchinson</i> Picked up for £80,000 after winning on Irish point debut and impressive when sweeping to the front in a listed bumper here on debut. Limitations exposed to some degree when third at Ascot since.	
13	<b>BLUE SARI (FR) (48)</b> (D)	98
	1 4 10-11   68.5kg W. P. Mullins, Ireland <i>Barry Geraghty</i> Picked up by J. P. McManus after storming clear from a well-fancied Joseph O'Brien representative at Gowran on debut and, while that form hasn't been franked to this point, he's got lots of scope.	
14	<b>CASCOVA (IRE) (71)</b> (BF)	85
	12 4 10-11   68.5kg Martyn Meade <i>Noel Fehily</i> Flat bred who made the perfect start at Huntingdon before a good second to Glory And Fortune here in December. Not certain to benefit from the longer trip, particularly with the emphasis on stamina.	

14 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**  
10-3 Envoi Allen, 4-1 Blue Sari, 17-2 Meticulous, 10-1 Ask For Glory, 12-1 Abacadabras, 16-1 Master Debonair, 16-1 Sempo, 18-1 The Glancing Queen, 22-1 Thyme Hill, 22-1 Flic Ou Voyou, 40-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**  
ENVOI ALLEN is not only the pick on form, but he's got an experience edge on the bulk of his rivals, so this exciting prospect can take his unbeaten record to 5 (won a point easily). There is of course stiff opposition from the likes of Meticulous, who wasn't far behind the selection at Leopardstown last time, and runaway debut-scorer Blue Sari.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**  
1. ENVOI ALLEN (FR) 2. BLUE SARI (FR) 3. METICULOUS (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:			
2018	Relegate 5-10-12	25-1 W. P. Mullins	Ms K. Walsh 23
2017	Fayonagh 6-10-12	7-1 Gordon Elliott	Mr J. J. Codd 22
2016	Ballyandy 5-11-5	5-1 Nigel Twiston-Davies	Sam Twiston-Davies 23
2015	Moon Racer 6-11-5	9-2f David Pipe	Tom Scudamore 23
2014	Silver Concorde 6-11-5	16-1 D. K. Weld	Robbie McNamara 22

**SMART STATS:**  
3 W. P. Mullins's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (saddles: **BLUE SARI**)  
24% Gordon Elliott's strike rate with horses running in 2m to 2m1f bumpers (saddles: **ENVOI ALLEN and ABACADABRAS**)  
25% Paul Nicholls's strike rate with horses running in 2m to 2m1f bumpers (saddles: **ASK FOR GLORY and FLIC OU VOYOU**)