

Saturday 10th October

HEXHAM



1.43

PROJECT RUGBY COMMUNITY MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 2½m28y (4050 Metres)

RACE 1

(1) FINISK PRIDE | (3) PRESENTANDCORRECT | (2) NORTHERN MILAN

2.20

HITZ NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2m48y (3260 Metres)

RACE 2

(1) BOGHA BAISTE | (8) DARK TIDE RISING | (5) HOURMAN

3.05

TACKLING INSIGHTS HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2m7f63y (4680 Metres)

RACE 3

(5) MEDIEVAL GOLD | (6) REBEL TRIBESMAN | (4) HEATHER HONEY

3.45

CAST NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2½m15y (4040 Metres)

RACE 4

(3) PASSING DIAMOND | (1) TIDDESLEY WOOD | (4) PASSENGERONTHESHIP

4.20

BLAYDON RACES HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (5) 1m7f133y (3140 Metres)

RACE 5

(6) ATHAIR MOR | (3) PROSPECT HOUSE | (4) LANGTON WOLD

4.55

TYNEDALE RFC COMMUNITY RUGBY HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 3m41y (4870 Metres)

RACE 6

(2) GETAWAY VIC | (7) JETEYE | (8) RIBEYE

5.30

CLUBS OF NORTHUMBERLAND OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (4) 2m48y (3260 Metres)

RACE 7

(1) I'VE GOT A FRIEND | (6) THE GLOVES ARE OFF | (7) PETHER'S DAISY

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.

1.43

RACE 1

PROJECT RUGBY COMMUNITY MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 4yo+
£10,000 2½m28y (4050 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	FINISK PRIDE (IRE) (175)	96
	25- 5 11-4 71.7kg Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore Point scorer who is bred to stay long distances so all the more encouraging he produced a promising debut second in a bumper at Ayr in January, unlucky to bump into one but beating the rest comprehensively. Again shaped like a stayer over same C&D 3 months later and he's up in trip for hurdles bow.	Derek Fox
2	NORTHERN MILAN (IRE) (175)	84
	0- 5 11-4 71.7kg Adrian Keatley €18,000 3-y-o, Shirocco gelding. Dam, ran twice over hurdles, half-sister to fair hurdler/fairly useful chaser (stayed 27f) Lord Getaway. In frame both starts in points but never looked like justifying support in a bumper for C.W.J.Farrell in April. Cheekpieces on for hurdling debut.	Oakley Brown (5lb/2kg)
3	PRESENTANDCORRECT (IRE) (128)	100
	638-32 6 11-4 71.7kg Rebecca Menzies Matched the pick of his (fair) bumper form when third of 10 in a Cartmel (2¾m) novice on hurdles bow in May, doing best of those held up. Outclassed by a Skelton inmate at Uttoxeter soon after but it was another sound effort and he sets the standard.	Nathan Moscrop

3 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-10 Presentandcorrect, 6-4 Finisk Pride, 11-2 Northern Milan

TIMEFORM VIEW:

FINISK PRIDE shaped like a stayer while displaying plenty of ability in a pair of Ayr bumpers and upped in trip on hurdling debut, he can master the standard-setting Presentandcorrect.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. FINISK PRIDE 2. PRESENTANDCORRECT 3. NORTHERN MILAN

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.20

RACE 2

HITZ NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ £10,000
2m48y (3260 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1



BOGHA BAISTE (IRE) (33)
5d7P334-44 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
Lizzie Quinlan
Shaping well over hurdles, including on handicap bow at Perth last time. Has since had a breathing operation and has a good chance on these terms.

91

Sean Quinlan

2



CIRCLE OF STEEL (FR) (210)
66- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore
Much better effort in bumpers when mid-field at Newcastle in March.

84

Patrick Wadge

3



GET ON SON (IRE) (287)
0- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith
£11,000 3-y-o, Getaway gelding. Dam (h106), bumper winner, closely related to useful hurdler/smart chaser (stayed 25f) Gallant Oscar and useful hurdler (stayed 3¼m) J'ai Froid. Dropped away in a Wetherby bumper last Christmas.

81

Peter Kavanagh

4



HAPPY HARRISON (95)
7/0-59 6 11-2 | 70.8kg
Gary Hanmer
Well beaten in bumpers/2 hurdles. Needs to learn to settle/jump better if he's to have a future in this sphere.

60

Brian Hughes

5



HOURLMAN (FR) (199)
46763- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore
Showed some promise when fourth in a course bumper a year ago and easily best effort over hurdles when third of 13 in maiden here (2½m, heavy) when last seen in March. Drop back in trip not sure to suit, though.

91

Derek Fox

6



MHORDART (210)
678- 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
Chris Grant
Big prices and comfortably held in 3 Newcastle bumpers last season.

79

Danny McMenamin

7



ROCK ARMOUR (IRE) (31)
53 5 11-2 | 70.8kg
David Thompson
Barely modest sort nowadays on Flat and ran to a similar level on second start over hurdles when a remote third of 5 at Sedgefield last month.

83

Joshua Thompson (5lb/2kg)

8



DARK TIDE RISING (IRE) (8) (D)
312 4 11-1 | 70.3kg
Tom George
Fourth in an Irish point. Gifted a clear lead when a wide-margin winner of a bumper at Worcester. Made an encouraging debut over hurdles when a close second over C&D last week, clear of rest. Strong claims.

100

J. Hogan

9



ARGENTUM (IRE) (206)
9- 4 10-8 | 67.1kg
George Bewley
Has struggled on the Flat this year and she didn't show much first time out over hurdles at Huntingdon in March. Has left Matt Crawley.

70

Jonathon Bewley

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:
6-4 Dark Tide Rising, 7-2 Bogha Baiste, 7-2 Hourman, 12-1 Circle of Steel, 18-1 Rock Armour, 33-1 Get On Son, 50-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:
BOGHA BAISTE shades the vote over Dark Tide Rising in a very winnable novice. Hourman is best of the others.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:
1. BOGHA BAISTE 2. DARK TIDE RISING 3. HOURLMAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:
2025 l m p e r f e c t l y p e r f e c t
5-11-25-6f Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore Derek Fox 8
2024 Battle Born Lad 5-11-2 11-2 Mark Walford Jamie Hamilton 14
2023 Choose A Copper 5-11-2 2-5f Lucinda Russell Derek Fox 10
2022 She's A Saint 5-10-7 5-4f Dan Skelton Tristan Durrell (5) 6
2021 It's Good To Laugh 4-11-4 8-13f Jennie Candlish Sean Quinlan 8

SMART STATS:
No Smart Stats available for this race

3.05

RACE 3

TACKLING INSIGHTS HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £15,250 2m7f63y (4680 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	LIHYAN (IRE) (147) (D)	h	96
	3332917-4 8 12-0 76.2kg		
	Rebecca Menzies	William Maggs (3lb/1kg)	
	Strong-travelling sort (can carry head awkwardly). Delivered late to land 6-runner handicap at Newbury in March. Typically ran with credit in Class 2 handicaps thereafter, however, a muddling pace would be far from ideal on first start for 5 months.		
2	SHALLOW RIVER (IRE) (40) (D)		89
	81/6357 10 11-9 73.9kg		
	Dave Roberts	Lee Edwards	
	Veteran hasn't stood much racing since winning on second start for Olly Murphy at Carlisle (25f, soft) in 2024. More miss than hit since returning from a significant absence and hard to be confident of a full-scale revival on stable debut.		
3	IMPERIAL MERLIN (IRE) (40)	s	96
	42745P1-4 9 11-9 73.9kg		
	John & Sean Quinn	Sean Quinlan	
	Career-best success in refitted cheekpieces at Wetherby in March. Looked in fine condition (can go well fresh) prior to an encouraging return at Cartmel in late-August, travelling smoothly before weakening into well-held fourth. Should at least be competitive off 1 lb lower.		
4	HEATHER HONEY (189) (D)		95
	13613315- 7 11-7 73.0kg		
	Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith	Peter Kavanagh	
	Reliable mare who registered a fifth career win dropped into Class 4 company at Haydock in March. Confirmed that improvement when beaten 6¼ lengths in a better race there (3m) subsequently. Has to be respected returning to slightly calmer waters.		
5	MEDIEVAL GOLD (16)	s+t	100
	4/2132-794 6 11-0 69.9kg		
	Patrick Neville	Brian Hughes	
	Best effort for current yard when runner-up (clear of subsequent winner) at Catterick (19f) in late-February. Bounced back to form when 6¼ length fourth at Perth (3m) last time. May capitalise on handy mark, with confidence even higher if some rain arrives. Yard 8 winners from last 14 jumps runners.		
6	REBEL TRIBESMAN (IRE) (22) (BF)		95
	122-1213 5 11-0 69.9kg		
	Jamie Snowden	Jonathan Burke	
	Bumper/maiden hurdle winner who beat a couple of subsequent winners to score on handicap debut. Unable to justify favouritism when third (jumped sketchily) at Newton Abbot (2¾m) since. Still unexposed as a stayer and sole runner for southern yard with 40% strike rate here in past 5 seasons.		

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-4 Rebel Tribesman, 7-2 Medieval Gold, 9-2 Imperial Merlin, 11-2 Heather Honey, 9-1 Lihyan, 16-1 Shallow River

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Hopefully some rain arrives for MEDIEVAL GOLD, who's well treated on his best form and looked back on song at Perth last time. Rebel Tribesman makes a 600-mile round trip for a yard with an excellent course record and has to be feared.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MEDIEVAL GOLD 2. REBEL TRIBESMAN 3. HEATHER HONEY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:					
2025	Roger Pol 7-11-12	evsf	Jamie Snowden	Isabelle Ryder (7)	5
2024	Shoeshine Boy 8-10-4	9-2	Donald Whillans	Murray Dodd (7)	8
2023	Our Sam 7-11-6	5-2jf	James Moffatt	Charlotte Jones (3)	5
2022	Tiger Jet 6-10-12	85-40f	Brian Ellison	Henry Brooke	7
2021	Justatanner 10-11-8	5-2f	Tristan Davidson	Harry Reed	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.45

RACE 4

CAST NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 4yo+
£16,500 2½m15y (4040 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	TIDDESLEY WOOD (210) (D)		99
	36/31341- 6 11-10 74.4kg Adrian Keatley <i>Brian Hughes</i> Capped a promising novice hurdle season with a useful victory at Kempton (21f) on final start for Fergal O'Brien in March. Type to do well over fences and looks an interesting big-money purchase (£160,000) for a yard that is still going well (40% strike rate so far in 2026/27).		
2	BALLYKINLAR (IRE) (119) (D)	t	86
	143207-03 7 11-7 73.0kg Mickey Bowen <i>James Bowen</i> Fairly useful sort. Shaped well in competitive handicaps at Cheltenham/Aintree on his first 2 starts for present yard. Given a considerate introduction to chasing at Uttoxeter (2m) in June, finishing well-held third over an inadequate trip. Should be capable of better back up in distance.		
3	PASSING DIAMOND (IRE) (42) (C, D)		100
	633-11311 6 11-6 72.6kg Ben Haslam <i>Richie McLernon</i> Improving 6-y-o. Scored twice over hurdles here (including over this trip) at the start of the season. Since taken to fences like a duck to water, making it 2-2 over fences with another enthusiastic all-the-way win at Cartmel (17f). Looks capable of making it a hat-trick.		
4	PASSENGERONTHESHIP (IRE) (11) (CD)	s+t 	99
	11115722 7 10-5(10-4) 65.8kg (65.3kg) Sam England  <i>Jonathan England</i> Rattled off a quick-fire 5-timer in May/June (4 wins here, including 3 over C&D). Confirmed himself back in form (again flattered by proximity to the winner) when 1½-length second in small-field chase at Sedgefield (21f). Type that could benefit from cheekpieces, too.		

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-4 Passing Diamond, 5-2 Tiddesley Wood, 4-1 Passengerontheship, 9-2 Ballykinlar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

PASSING DIAMOND has made a fine start to his career over fences and has leading claims to make it a hat-trick. Interesting chasing debutant Tiddesley Wood is feared most, in a race where it's hard to rule out any of the quartet.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PASSING DIAMOND 2. TIDDESLEY WOOD 3. PASSENGERONTHESHIP

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	I Am Max	7-10-5	5-1	Sandy Thomson	Craig Nichol	5
2024	Choose A Copper	6-10-9	7-2	Lucinda Russell	Derek Fox	7
2023	Universal Folly	8-11-10	3-1	Nicky Richards	Sean Quinlan	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.20

RACE 5

BLAYDON RACES HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (5) 4yo+
(Rated 0-100) £10,000 1m7f133y (3140 Metres)



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1	ACHILLE DES ROCs (FR) (26) (D)	v	96
	155/P-PP14 7 12-0 76.2kg		
	L J Morgan	Danny McMenamin	
	Dual winner over hurdles in 2024. Pulled up on first 3 starts this year but bounced back with a bang when off the mark over fences at Cartmel in late-August, justifying support. Soon done with at Sedgfield since but that form is working out.		
2	JET RENEGADE (IRE) (16)		98
	367-547P 5 11-12 75.3kg		
	Andrew Wilson	Callum Bewley	
	Has shown ability in bumpers/hurdles/Flat maidens in Ireland but ran badly on yard/handicap debut at Perth last month. Plenty to prove now chasing (in frame once from 3 starts in points).		
3	PROSPECT HOUSE (IRE) (7lb/3kg ex) (6) (D)	v	95
	3231-4331 8 11-11 74.8kg		
	Peter Niven	William Maggs (3lb/1kg)	
	Ended last season with 2m success at Catterick in December. Better than ever this time around, resuming winning ways at Utttoxeter last week, a bare 2m ideal. Must be respected under a penalty.		
4	LANGTON WOLD (IRE) (11)	s+t	100
	064322/54 7 11-9 73.9kg		
	Brian Ellison	Oakley Brown (5lb/2kg)	
	Flat winner who has yet to score over jumps, though he has had only 2 starts over fences, a good second at Catterick on the last of them in December 2024. Back to form over hurdles recently and yard recently ended 7-month drought with its jumpers.		
5	MR LINCOLN (42)	s	98
	8772-3427 6 11-9 73.9kg		
	Iain Jardine	Sean Quinlan	
	Still retains plenty of ability on the Flat. However, he finds wins hard to come by, including over hurdles. Headgear applied for chase debut.		
6	ATHAIR MOR (IRE) (243) (BF)	t	98
	464/6222- 7 11-9 73.9kg		
	Ewan Whillans	Craig Nichol	
	Took well to fences last season, finishing runner-up around 2½m on his last 4 starts. Has had another breathing operation since leaving Paul Robson and it is interesting that his new yard drops him back in trip.		
7	TREATY BOY (IRE) (220) (D)	t	94
	FB264354- 9 11-1 70.3kg		
	Stuart Coltherd	Derek Fox	
	Twice a winner at Catterick. Last season was a washout but at least starts the new campaign off a career-low mark.		

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Prospect House, 4-1 Athair Mor, 4-1 Achille Des Rocs, 13-2 Langton Wold, 8-1 Mr Lincoln, 9-1 Treaty Boy, 33-1 Jet Renegade

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ATHAIR MOR did well over fences last season and can make a winning start for an in-form yard. Prospect House is an obvious threat under a penalty after his stylish win at Utttoxeter last week, while Langton Wold looks interesting back over fences.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ATHAIR MOR 2. PROSPECT HOUSE 3. LANGTON WOLD

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:				
2025	We Got Your Back 7-11-3	15-2	L J Morgan	Brian Hughes 7
2024	Caldwell 7-12-0	9-2jf	Jennie Candlish	Sean Quinlan 10
2023	Bandit d'Ainay 12-10-5	17-2	Micky Hammond	Brian Hughes 6
2022	Rocco Storm 7-10-9	15-2	Danny Brooke	Henry Brooke 6
2021	Graystown 9-11-7	10-3f	Stuart Coltherd	Sam Coltherd 8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.55

RACE 6

TYNEDALE RFC COMMUNITY RUGBY HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-115) £12,850 3m41y (4870 Metres)



Going: Good			
Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.			
Pace Information: Even			
1	WAL BUCK'S (FR) (199) 35/442144- 7 12-0 76.2kg Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore Found race falling apart making all in a first-time visor at Kelso (3¼m, heavy) in February. Back to form when fourth under similar conditions here (4m, heavy) the following month. May not find this enough of a test on reappearance.	v	98 <i>Derek Fox</i>
2	GETAWAY VIC (IRE) (43) 121/42231 7 12-0 76.2kg Mickey Bowen Irish point winner. Didn't kick on as a hurdler following a good spell in bumpers. Left chasing debut form well behind to land a Sedgfield handicap that's worked out well (reopposing Jeteve won since) latest. Open to further improvement and Hexham's testing latter stages should suit him well.	s	100 <i>James Bowen</i>
3	JET LEGS (IRE) (154) (C, D, BF) 13/36664-5 9 11-12 75.3kg Martin Todhunter Made all to land course handicap off 3 lb higher in March 2025. Overly aggressive tactics/sloppy jumping contributed to a run of below-par efforts last season, though did shape better than the result when last seen here in May.		93 <i>Ryan Mania</i>
4	NO REGRETS (IRE) (33) (CD) 36248-123 12 11-12 75.3kg Nicky Richards Veteran who finished runner-up in this corresponding race last year. Jumped well to go one better here in May and entitled to be competitive if sharper for his return (from 3 months off) at Perth last time.		97 <i>Danny McMenamin</i>
5	LOULOU MADRIK (FR) (189) 8423452- 5 11-11 74.8kg Mark Walford Lightly-raced 5-y-o. Made quite hard work of matching his fair hurdle form when runner-up in novice race on chasing debut at Carlisle (3m) in April. Still relatively unexposed, though will need to be much sharper returning from 6 months away in refitted tongue strap.	s+t	98 <i>Jamie Hamilton</i>
6	DINONS (FR) (8) (C, D) 323U-3875 13 11-4 71.7kg Brian Ellison Veteran course winner. Again didn't shape as though ready to capitalise on a tumbling mark when 4½ lengths fifth of 6 over hurdles here (2½m) last time. Return to further probably a blessing and at least has Brian Hughes at the helm for his first spin over fences in over 2 years.	s	95 <i>Brian Hughes</i>
7	JETEYE (IRE) (26) (C) 36-143121 9 11-3 71.2kg Sam England As good as ever over hurdles this spring/summer. Continued to thrive over fences more recently, chasing home Getaway Vic prior to making it 2 wins from last 3 handicap chase starts in good style at Sedgfield (3¼m). Now only 1 lb better off with Getaway Vic and may again be thwarted by that rival.	b+t	99 <i>Jonathan England</i>
8	RIBEYE (14) (CD) 27P6-P424 11 10-11 68.5kg Peter Atkinson Veteran who is 2 lb lower than when winning last year's renewal of this race. Had looked back to something like his best prior to a slightly lesser effort at Market Rasen latest (beaten 18¼ lengths).		98 <i>Callum Bewley</i>
9	SLEDGEHAMMER (IRE) (84) 5P6-64F 6 10-2 64.4kg Adrian Keatley Point winner. First form under Rules when 11 lengths fourth at Wexford prior to falling on final start for C. W. J. Farrell at Market Rasen (17f) in July. Has a fair bit of improvement to find on return to much longer trip, for all he's joined a very capable new yard.		93 <i>Charlie Maggs</i>

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-2 Getaway Vic, 4-1 Jeteve, 7-1 No Regrets, 9-1 Ribeye, 10-1 Wal Buck's, 10-1 Loulou Madrik, 12-1 Sledgehammer, 14-1 Dinons, 16-1 Jet Legs

5.30

RACE 7

CLUBS OF NORTHUMBERLAND OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT
(4) 4 and 5yo £6,500 2m48y (3260 Metres)



Going: **Good**

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Insufficient Data**

1	I'VE GOT A FRIEND (IRE) (48) (D)		100
	1 Gary Hanmer	5 11-9 73.9kg	Brian Hughes
Idaho gelding. Dam unraced sister to useful hurdler/smart chaser Emily Gray. Runner-up in small-field maiden on completed start in points in March. Rather fortunate to have held off 2 who had met trouble when making all in Worcester bumper but still showed plenty. Can put experience to good use.			
2	CLEAR THE WAY (IRE)		80
	5 Jane Walton	5 11-2 70.8kg	Peter Kavanagh
£28,000 5-y-o, Getaway gelding. Half-brother to numerous winners, including fair hurdler/chaser Fortune favours bold, stays 3¼m, and Djac de Larchamp. Dam maiden on Flat (stayed 1½m). Made frame once from 4 starts in Irish points, fell last time (Apr 2026).			
3	LASER DES MOTTES (FR)		82
	5 Stuart Coltherd	5 11-2 70.8kg	Derek Fox
Montmartre gelding. Half-brother to fairly useful hurdler/fair chaser Falbala des Mottes and fair hurdler Jibril des Mottes. Dam, 11.5f winner, half-sister to smart hurdler (2m-17f winner) Ronaldo des Mottes.			
4	OUR CLIVE (IRE)		81
	5 George Bewley	5 11-2 70.8kg	Jonathon Bewley
Mizzou gelding. Half-brother to poor chaser Lynsey Larue. Dam, ran twice on Flat, half-sister to bumper winner/fairly useful hurdler (stayed 25f) Hunters Belt.			
5	BIG VIK		83
	4 Brian Ellison	4 11-1 70.3kg	Craig Nichol
Cityscape gelding. Brother to 11.4f-1¼m winner King Viktor. Dam, 2m hurdle winner, also 6f 2-y-o winner who stayed 1½m on Flat, half-sister to useful hurdler (2m winner) Red Moloney. Has already had a breathing operation.			
6	THE GLOVES ARE OFF (IRE)		84
	4 C. W. J. Farrell, Ireland	4 11-1 70.3kg	R. A. Doyle
€20,000 3-y-o, Getaway gelding. Half-brother to fairly useful hurdler Thirsty Work, stayed 2½m, and bumper winner Walk of The Roses. Dam unraced sister to top-class hurdler/very smart chaser (stayed 3¼m) More of That. Placed on completed start in Irish points (Mar 2026).			
7	PETHER'S DAISY		82
	4 Ewan Whillans	4 10-8 67.1kg	Callum Bewley
Pether's Moon filly. Half-sister to bumper winner/useful hurdler Midnight Tour and bumper winner Miss Fleming. Dam unraced half-sister to useful hurdler/chaser (stayed 3m) Locksmith.			

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

6-5 I've Got A Friend, 7-1 The Gloves Are Off, 15-2 Big Vik, 9-1 Pether's Daisy, 9-1 Laser Des Mottes, 11-1 Our Clive, 16-1 Clear The Way

TIMEFORM VIEW:

I'VE GOT A FRIEND looks set for a decent future under Rules for all he was fortunate to win first-time out at Worcester, and there's a good chance he'll have the run of things again up against newcomers. The market should offer clues regarding the others, with Irish-raider The Gloves Are Off a tentative second choice.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. I'VE GOT A FRIEND 2. THE GLOVES ARE OFF 3. PETHER'S DAISY

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Tony Joe 5-11-2	11-2	Tom Ellis	Jack Andrews (3)	5
2024	Lost Frequencies 5-11-2	5-1	Stuart Coltherd	Sam Coltherd	9
2023	Will Knott 4-11-1	85-40	Stuart Coltherd	Sam Coltherd	8
2022	Rolling River 4-11-1	10-1	Oliver Signy	Gavin Sheehan	8
2021	Fiadh 5-10-7	9-2	Chris Grant	Oakley Brown (5)	9