GBI RACING

TIMEFORM 1-2-3

Friday 27th November

MUSSELBURGH

11.50	**WATCH ON RACING TV JUVENILE MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 1m7f124y (3130 Metres)**
RACE 1	**(2) ELM CREEK | (3) GUEVARA | (7) SHUSHI**
12.20	**MUSSELBURGH RACECOURSE PREMIUM ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP HANDICAP CHASE (5) 2½m68y (4090 Metres)**
RACE 2	**(3) FLASH DU PISTOLET | (5) NEVERSHEDATEAR | (1) HUMBLE JUMBLE**
12.50	**PROTECH NETWORK SOLUTIONS LTD MAIDEN HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 1m7f124y (3130 Metres)**
RACE 3	**(4) NOVAK | (6) HUNTERS SPRING | (7) OOR WISH**
1.25	**100% RACING TV PROFITS BACK TO RACING MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2m3f171y (3980 Metres)**
RACE 4	**(5) GINTIME | (1) IAMYOUARE | (2) SNOWROCCO**
2.00	**MUSSELBURGH RACECOURSE 2027 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 1m7f182y (3180 Metres)**
RACE 5	**(5) MASTERFIELD | (4) LARISTOTE | (1) MAGNOLIA**
2.32	**EDINBURGH RUGBY 1872 CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 1m7f124y (3130 Metres)**
RACE 6	**(5) SCOTS POET | (4) NOBOTHERATALL | (6) GEMINI MAN**
3.07	**RACING TV CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2m3f171y (3980 Metres)**
RACE 7	**(4) WALK ON SON | (7) LILLISTAR | (3) BEAT THE RETREAT**

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.

11.50 RACE 1

WATCH ON RACING TV JUVENILE MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 3yo £10,000 1m7f124y (3130 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **AL QATEM** (24) **70**

7 **3** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Barry Murtagh — ***Lorcan Murtagh***

Bred to be useful but showed little in 2 Flat maidens for Saeed bin Suroor in June. Gave the impression he could lack the stamina in this discipline at Sedgefield on hurdling debut.

2 **ELM CREEK (IRE)** (7) s **100**

33 **3** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Rebecca Menzies — ***Shane Fitzgerald***

Modest maiden on the Flat and has finished third both starts over hurdles, stepping up markedly on debut effort in this sphere last time. Sets a solid standard on those with experience.

3 **GUEVARA (GER)** **95**

3 11-2 | 70.8kg

Adam Nicol — ***Brian Hughes***

Useful Flat performer when trained in Germany by Peter Schiergen, winning on debut and later finishing second in a listed race at Dusseldorf in May. Well beaten in Deutsches Derby at Hamburg when last seen in July. He's a very interesting runner for this yard on Flat form.

4 **NORTHERN MAN (GER)** h **85**

3 11-2 | 70.8kg

N. W. Alexander — ***Bruce Lynn***

Fair maiden on the Flat who raced 4 times for Sascha Smrczek, finishing third of 7 in maiden at Dortmund when last seen in May. The hood is added and market best guide on hurdles bow.

5 **PHANTOM SHADOW (FR)** **84**

3 11-2 | 70.8kg

Ewan Whillans — ***Craig Nichol***

Fair handicapper on Flat who got off the mark on stable debut over 1¼m at Redcar in July. Has a Flat pedigree and is hard to recommend with too much confidence in this sphere.

6 **ROYAL BARONESS** (59) h **70**

U **3** 10-9 | 67.6kg

R. Mike Smith — ***Ben Smith*** (7lb/3kg)

Poor maiden at up to 1m on the Flat and looked a handful before unseating her rider 3 out on hurdling debut. The hood now goes on. Easy to look elsewhere.

7 **SHUSHI** (24) **92**

7 **3** 10-9 | 67.6kg

Padraig Roche, Ireland — ***Sean Quinlan***

Fair maiden on the Flat for Andrew Balding. Off 4 months and shaped as if better for run when mid-field on hurdling debut at Fairyhouse 24 days ago. Should improve on that initial outing in this sphere.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Elm Creek, **5-2** Guevara, **7-2** Shushi, **10-1** Northern Man, **16-1** Phantom Shadow, **150-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ELM CREEK has shown enough in 2 hurdles starts to land a race of this nature. Guevara may prove the biggest danger on the back of his Flat form, with Irish raider Shushi the type to improve on her recent debut in this sphere.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ELM CREEK 2. GUEVARA 3. SHUSHI

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**Bruce Banner** 3-11-2	33-1	Rebecca Menzies	Nathan Moscrop	8
2024	**Melinda** 3-10-9	3-1	Lucinda Russell	Alan Doyle (5)	8
2023	**Rory The Cat** 3-11-2	7-2	Lucinda Russell	Derek Fox	5
2022	**Silver Vision** 3-10-9	66-1	Stuart Coltherd	Derek Fox	5
2021	**Collingham** 3-10-12	8-11f	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

12.20 RACE 2

MUSSELBURGH RACECOURSE PREMIUM ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP HANDICAP CHASE (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100)
£8,000 2½m68y (4090 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **HUMBLE JUMBLE (IRE) (22)** **47**

19/0373P-4 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore — ***Patrick Wadge***

Placed twice in novice hurdles last season but has made little impact in 2 handicap starts, though possibly needed the run on chasing debut at Newcastle 22 days ago. This point winner is the type to make a chaser and can take a step forward.

2 **CARCACI CASTLE (IRE) (21)** s **93**

3PF/572P-5 **10** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Sandy Thomson — ***Oakley Brown*** (5lb/2kg)

Unreliable type who hasn't won in over 2 years. Probably needed the run after a 9-month absence at Hexham 3 weeks ago and may still need this. Steps back up in trip with cheekpieces refitted.

3 **FLASH DU PISTOLET (IRE) (21)** (D) s+t **100**

P/52572-54 **8** 11-13 | 75.7kg

Stuart Coltherd — ***Sean Quinlan***

Dual chase winner. Entitled to be sharper for the run when making the frame at Hexham 3 weeks ago. Significantly back up in trip and is certainly one to note pitched back into a 0-100.

4 **TOO COOL FORSHRULE (IRE) (34)** (D) **94**

653U1PU-P **7** 11-11 | 74.8kg

Jackie Stephen — ***Brian Hughes***

Registered a third chase success at Sedgefield in February but has failed to complete last 3 outings, finishing lame at Kelso last month. Has a bit to prove now.

5 **NEVERSHEDATEAR (IRE) (28)** (D) **96**

577U25-41 **5** 11-6 | 72.6kg

Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero — ***Charlie Maggs***

Turned in a couple of creditable efforts over hurdles but took her form up a notch when winning at Uttoxeter on chasing debut 4 weeks ago, despite jumping a little sketchily. The hood is now discarded and she's likely to progress further if polishing up on her jumping technique.

6 **HUIT REFLETS (FR) (24)** v **97**

5-9426764 **9** 10-8 | 67.1kg

Mark Walford — ***Jamie Hamilton***

Dual winner over fences last season but just the one notable effort so far this campaign. Others more appealing.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-10 Nevershedatear, **6-1** Flash Du Pistolet, **7-1** Huit Reflets, **15-2** Too Cool Forshrule, **9-1** Carcaci Castle, **12-1** Humble Jumble

TIMEFORM VIEW:

FLASH DU PISTOLET has gradually edged back down to his last winning mark and can end his losing run with a recent outing behind him. Chasing debut winner Nevershedatear should go close in her attempt to follow up, whilst Humble Jumble isn't one to completely rule out.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. FLASH DU PISTOLET 2. NEVERSHEDATEAR 3. HUMBLE JUMBLE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**O'Faolains Glory** 8-11-13	9-2	Susan Corbett	Conor Rabbitt (5)	8
2024	**Okavango Delta** 8-11-12	4-1f	Paul Robson	Craig Nichol	8
2022	**Hold Onto The Line** 5-11-10	11-4	James Ewart	Brian Hughes	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

12.50 RACE 3

PROTECH NETWORK SOLUTIONS LTD MAIDEN HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ £10,000 1m7f124y (3130 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **BATTLE OF ARSUF (IRE)** (27) **71**

6 **4** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Donald McCain — ***Toby Wynne***

Stoutly-bred type who made the frame on his only outing in Irish points. Didn't see out his race (possibly amiss) on hurdling debut at Ayr last month. Presumably one down the line given Brian Hughes looks elsewhere.

2 **BRAND NEW MAN (IRE)** **70**

4 11-4 | 71.7kg

Jean McGregor — ***Jack Power*** (5lb/2kg)

€34,000 3-y-o, Kamsin gelding. Half-brother to 3 winners, including Stayers' Hurdle winner Home By The Lee and dual bumper winner/fair 2m hurdle winner Beautiful Citi. Little impact in 2 Irish points and bred to need time/distance under Rules.

3 **FALCON NINE** s **71**

6 11-4 | 71.7kg

Iain Jardine — ***Jamie Hamilton***

Ulysses gelding. Fair winner on the Flat (best up to 1¼m). In change of headgear for hurdling debut and is likely one later on in this sphere.

4 **NOVAK (FR)** (181) ★ **100**

3/22-6 **4** 11-4 | 71.7kg

Olly Murphy — ***Brian Hughes***

Well-related French recruit who placed on 3 of 4 starts for N. George & A. Zetterholm at Auteuil. Sets a fairly useful standard on return from 6 months away and should be hard to beat for excellent new connections.

5 **TEE AITCH AYE (IRE)** **72**

5 11-4 | 71.7kg

Iain Jardine — ***Sean Quinlan***

Fascinating Rock gelding. Fair middle-distance handicapper on the Flat. One of 2 hurdling debutants for yard and another who'll probably be campaigned for the longer term.

6 **HUNTERS SPRING** (31) **76**

2/443U-P34 **5** 10-11 | 68.5kg

Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore — ***Patrick Wadge***

Bumper winner who has placed in novices at Kelso/Perth this year. Well held in a stronger race than she need contest on handicap bow at Newcastle (17f) last time. Back in maiden company and may prove best of the rest behind Novak.

7 **OOR WISH (IRE)** (34) **74**

4464-73 **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg

N. W. Alexander — ***Bruce Lynn***

Fared better than previously over hurdles when 5¾ lengths third at Kelso (2m) on return. Well positioned in a steadily-run race that day and set to fight it out for placed honours with Hunters Spring here.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

8-13 Novak, **6-1** Hunters Spring, **9-1** Oor Wish, **16-1** Tee Aitch Aye, **20-1** Falcon Nine, **25-1** Battle of Arsuf, **33-1** Brand New Man

TIMEFORM VIEW:

An excellent opportunity for NOVAK to make a winning start for Olly Murphy. Hunters Spring gets the nod over Oor Wish for the forecast.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. NOVAK 2. HUNTERS SPRING 3. OOR WISH

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**Chanonry**		**Point**		5-10-11
	3-1		Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore	Patrick Wadge	14
2024	**Wise Eagle** 7-11-4	1-3f	Adam Nicol	Craig Nichol	8
2022	**General Officer** 5-11-7	1-5f	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.25 RACE 4

100% RACING TV PROFITS BACK TO RACING MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 3yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-120) £10,000 2m3f171y (3980 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 **IAMYOUARE (IRE) (31)** (D) s **99**

51-3F2211 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg



Donald McCain — ***Brian Hughes***

Followed up her Southwell novice win courtesy of a sound-jumping performance from the front in Bangor handicap (2½m) last time. Addition of Brian Hughes a major plus given the likely tactical nature of this race, and no surprise if she makes it 3-3 in cheekpieces.

2 **SNOWROCCO (IRE) (21)** (C) t **97**

2/911405-2 **7** 11-11 | 74.8kg



Adam Nicol — ***Ryan Mania***

On the up for capable yard when completing a 3m handicap double here in January. Confirmed she's every bit as good when 2¼ lengths second in steadily-run race on return at Hexham (2½m), clearly more forward than her SP (14/1) suggested. Others look better off at the weights here, though.

3 **AUDACIOUS ANNIE (218)** (D) s **98**

11/662547- **7** 11-9 | 73.9kg



Eloise Quayle — ***Non Runner***

Fair maiden/novice hurdle winner. Standout effort in handicaps when length second in a better event at Warwick this time last year. Didn't look 100% at start of this year for Jamie Snowden and may take a run or 2 for new yard to figure her out.

4 **A CHARA (20)** s **96**

42-35 **5** 11-8 | 73.5kg



Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero — ***Toby Wynne***

Irish point winner. Matched the pick of her maiden form when beaten 10 lengths in better race for the grade on handicap bow at Uttoxeter (23f). May be found out for speed back down in trip, even with first-time cheekpieces added.

5 **GINTIME (IRE) (24)** (BF) ★ **100**

44/41958-3 **6** 10-12 | 68.9kg



Nicky Richards — ***Ella McGarry*** (10lb/5kg)

Solid form when 7¾ lengths fifth in a Go North Final handicap at Kelso in March. Wasn't disgraced when 13½ lengths third on return at Sedgefield (17f) and is bred to be suited by this longer trip. Interesting off slipping mark for claimer who doubled her tally under Rules earlier this month.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Gintime, **5-2** Iamyouare, **4-1** Snowrocco, **8-1** Audacious Annie, **12-1** A Chara

TIMEFORM VIEW:

GINTIME makes plenty of appeal at the weights, and she can deny Iamyouare a third win on the bounce.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GINTIME 2. IAMYOUARE 3. SNOWROCCO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**Kientzheim** 5-12-0	14-1	Ben Haslam	Richie McLernon	7
2024	**All The Glory** 7-12-0	3-1f	Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill	Benjamin Macey (10)	10
2023	**Autumn Return** 6-12-0	5-6f	Ruth Jefferson	Brian Hughes	6
2022	**Half Shot** 8-12-0	7-4f	Iain Jardine	Conor O'Farrell	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.00 RACE 5

MUSSELBURGH RACECOURSE 2027 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-110) £9,000 1m7f182y (3180 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Uncontested**

1 **MAGNOLIA (FR) (43)** (D) t **95**

5602-3433 **7** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Micky Hammond & Becky Smith — ***Craig Nichol***

Back-to-back 2m hurdles winner at Kelso last season and has run well when third both starts on return this autumn. Is making her first chasing start in Britain with the cheekpieces discarded and has to be on the shortlist in current form.

2 **SCRIABIN (FR) (81)** (D) t ★ **100**

523-42185 **6** 11-12 | 75.3kg

Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore — ***Patrick Wadge***

Off the mark in 2m maiden at Perth in July but hasn't been in the same form on last 2 starts back in handicap company. Has had some respite from the handicapper ahead of chasing debut.

3 **ASK A SAINTE (21)** (D) ★ **100**

412P4733 **6** 11-7 | 73.0kg

Lizzie Quinlan — ***Sean Quinlan***

Fair hurdler who won 2m handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter in June and has matched that level since over fences, travelling better than usual when third at Hexham on stable debut next time. Can give another good account without troubling principals.

4 **LARISTOTE (FR) (31)** t **94**

3743-5 **5** 11-3 | 71.2kg

Donald McCain — ***Brian Hughes***

Held every chance when falling at the last sole outing in Irish points and positives to draw from 4 runs under Rules last season. Made an encouraging start chasing when fifth on handicap debut at Bangor last month, when behind Masterfield, and looks sure to improve on that.

5 **MASTERFIELD (FR) (31)** t **98**

453F-33 **4** 10-12 | 68.9kg

Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero — ***Toby Wynne***

Not disgraced in bumpers and showed a bit over hurdles. Matched the pick of his hurdling form when beaten 1¼ lengths third to Air Apparent at Bangor on chasing/handicap debut last month. Had Laristote behind then and can take all the beating here.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

85-40 Masterfield, **10-3** Magnolia, **10-3** Laristote, **7-1** Scriabin, **15-2** Ask A Sainte

TIMEFORM VIEW:

This could well turn into a tactical race but the vote goes to 4-y-o MASTERFIELD who recently made an encouraging chasing debut at Bangor and looks the type to build on that. Laristote finished behind the selection last time and can chase him home.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MASTERFIELD 2. LARISTOTE 3. MAGNOLIA

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**Nathan Wells** 6-11-2	15-2	Andrew Hamilton	Conor Rabbitt (5)	8
2024	**Chapel Green** 7-12-0	8-1	Lucinda Russell	Alan Doyle (5)	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.32 RACE 6 — EDINBURGH RUGBY 1872 CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 3yo+ (Rated 0-110) £8,000 1m7f124y (3130 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **SAINT POLO (FR) (41)** s+t **98**
3-7111331 **6** 12-1 | 76.7kg
Susan Corbett — *Nathan Moscrop*
Quirky sort who completed a hat-trick for Jennie Candlish in August. Resumed winning ways in a run-of-the-mill Market Rasen handicap on debut for Jack Jones last month. Capable new yard 0-10 with stable debutants over the last 12 months.

2 **SHOOTING (FR) (43)** t **89**
93/13P-P **4** 12-0 | 76.2kg
N. W. Alexander — *Bruce Lynn*
Fairly useful Flat performer/fair winning juvenile hurdler in France. Something to prove having pulled up in couple of starts 12 months apart for present yard.

3 **BRUCE BANNER (IRE) (18)** (CD) **98**
1P-2 **4** 11-6 | 72.6kg
Rebecca Menzies — *Shane Fitzgerald*
Surprise C&D winner on hurdling debut at this corresponding fixture 12 months ago. Fit from the Flat when 1¼ lengths behind Nobotheratall on handicap bow at Carlisle (17f) latest. No sure thing to reverse that form (2 lb better off) given reopposing rival could dictate.

4 **NOBOTHERATALL (IRE) (18)** **99**
12479841 **6** 11-6 | 72.6kg
Tristan Davidson — *Harry Reed*
Enthusiastic sort. Benefited from return to right-handed track when capitalising on reduced mark at Carlisle (17f). A 4 lb rise hardly looks insurmountable, especially in a race where he ought to get the run of things.

5 **SCOTS POET (34)** (CD) b+t **100**
211U2541 **10** 11-5 | 72.1kg
Ewan Whillans — *Craig Nichol*
C&D-winning veteran who has hardly run a bad race since the addition of blinkers. Notched a fourth success of 2026 in typical smooth-travelling style at Kelso (2m) last time. Can defy a 3 lb rise if he settles in a potentially tactical race.

6 **GEMINI MAN (IRE) (202)** **98**
1269326-P **8** 11-2 | 70.8kg
Iain Jardine — *Brian Hughes*
Excuses both hurdle runs since going close in a strong race for the grade over C&D last December. Fine record on the Flat since, including runner-up finish here earlier this month. Has to be respected with Brian Hughes back aboard (2 wins 3 places in 5 rides for yard this season).

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Scots Poet, **7-2** Nobotheratall, **4-1** Gemini Man, **9-2** Saint Polo, **5-1** Bruce Banner, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SCOTS POET looks the percentage call as he bids for win number 5 this year. Front-running Nobotheratall is the main threat in a tricky 6-runner handicap, with Gemini Man very much respected on his course form from last winter.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SCOTS POET 2. NOBOTHERATALL 3. GEMINI MAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**City of Diamonds** 5-12-0	6-1	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	9
2024	**Heart Above** 6-10-6	11-8f	Dianne Sayer	Henry Brooke	10
2023	**Cuban Cigar** 5-11-11	17-2	Lucinda Russell	Alan Doyle (5)	9
2022	**Sonning** 4-12-0	10-3f	Danny Brooke	Henry Brooke	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.07 RACE 7

RACING TV CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5)
4yo+ (Rated 0-105) £7,000 2m3f171y (3980 Metres)

GBI RACING

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

A right-handed oval track a little over a mile and a quarter in extent, almost flat with sharp bends, favouring handy types as opposed to gallopers, especially as it's a quick-draining course that tends to produce less testing ground than most tracks in midwinter. A polytrack strip was installed on the bend running away from the stands towards the end of 2012 in order to protect ground which tended to get worn and bare due to overuse. The two-mile start is on a spur on the last bend. There are eight fences (four in each straight) to a circuit and, whilst not stiff, they do claim more casualties than might be expected, a lot of the handicaps catering for low-graders.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **PRESENTANDCORRECT (IRE) (22)** t **97**
638-3223 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg
Rebecca Menzies — ***Charlie Maggs***
Fair sort who has proved consistent over hurdles. Finished 6¼ lengths third in first-time tongue strap on handicap bow at Newcastle (2½m) latest. Drops into what's effectively a 0-100, but he may again be vulnerable to pacier types over this trip.

2 **EVENWOOD SONOFAGUN (IRE) (20)** (C) s+t **96**
76-126784 **8** 11-9 | 73.9kg
Lizzie Quinlan — ***Alice Stevens***
Narrowly denied a quick-fire Cartmel double for the second consecutive season in May (sole other win came here). Back in similar form when 6 lengths fourth at Kelso (21f) on second start back from a break latest. Ought to remain competitive in similar company here.

3 **BEAT THE RETREAT (IRE) (16)** (CD) v+t ☑ **98**
81014-P34 **7** 10-11 | 68.5kg
N. W. Alexander — ***Dominic Hislop*** (8lb/4kg)
Doubled his tally for the season with something to spare in 5-runner C&D handicap (soft) in February. Has returned in good heart with in-frame finishes at Perth/Ayr. Now back on his latest winning mark and should make a bold bid for a third C&D success.

4 **WALK ON SON (IRE) (38)** t ★ **100**
4P98-4PU4 **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg
Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore — ***Jack Power***
Hit-and-miss maiden. Fared better than for a while when 5 lengths fourth at Hexham (2m) on what was effectively his comeback, likely to have placed with a cleaner jump at the last. Return to 2½m no issue and he's becoming dangerously well handicapped.

5 **NATIONAL QUESTION (IRE) (31)** (D) s **95**
251516-58 **6** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Adam Nicol — ***Oakley Brown***
Has popped up with handicap wins each of previous 2 seasons, latterly a solid race for the grade at Carlisle (17f). Still 2 lb above that mark following pipe-opener at Newcastle last month and would be ideally suited by more pace in the race.

6 **LONE STAR (20)** (CD) s+t ☑ **96**
54374647 **9** 10-9 | 67.6kg
Philip Kirby — ***Oscar Palmer*** (3lb/1kg)
C&D winner whose losing sequence stretches back to May 2025 (not always the heartiest under pressure). Didn't look in the form to capitalise on slipping mark when down the field at Kelso (21f) last time.

7 **LILLISTAR (28)** **99**
42FP5-331 **6** 10-6 | 66.2kg
Micky Hammond & Becky Smith — ***Joshua Thompson*** (3lb/1kg)
Plenty of creditable placed form prior to her breakthrough success under this good-value claimer at Wetherby (21f) last time. A 3 lb rise could be lenient (idled late on) and expected to go close now up and running.

8 **ON THE BUBBLE (20)** **92**
18F/5P0 **5** 10-2(9-12) | 64.4kg (62.6kg)
Gary Rutherford — ***Conor Rabbitt***
Inconsistent mare. Showed a bit in a solid race on first hurdling start for present yard at Kelso, at least proving she's capable of outrunning long odds. Races from 4 lb out of the weights following pair of poor runs since, though.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-3 Lillistar, **7-2** Beat The Retreat, **9-2** Walk On Son, **13-2** National Question, **8-1** Presentandcorrect, **10-1** Evenwood Sonofagun, **16-1** Lone Star, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

WALK ON SON has fallen to an attractive mark and may just deny Lillistar a follow-up success. Two-time C&D winner Beat The Retreat also needs a close look in a competitive finale.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. WALK ON SON 2. LILLISTAR 3. BEAT THE RETREAT

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	**Speed Davis** 7-11-11	7-2	Donald McCain	Charlie Maggs (3)	11
2024	**Theirshegoes** 7-11-7	3-1f	Sandy Thomson	Lewis Dobb (6)	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race