

12.35 6 HORSES CHALLENGE AT BET365 NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (3) 2m (3220 Metres)

 RACE 1 **(1) MINELLA HOLLOW | (2) LOOPY MAG | (4) MEASURE OF A MAN**
1.10 POSITION PAYOUT AT BET365 HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2m3f85y (3900 Metres)

 RACE 2 **(1) PALAMON | (5) TANKING ALONG | (6) KAHAVARI**
1.45 BET365 MONTAGU MARES' HURDLE (Listed) (1) 2m (3220 Metres)

 RACE 3 **(2) KATEIRA | (3) LA CONQUIERE | (5) WATAMU**
2.18 BET365 HURDLE (West Yorkshire) (Grade 2) (1) 3m26y (4850 Metres)

 RACE 4 **(4) TAKE NO CHANCES | (1) STRONG LEADER | (3) PAGGANE**
2.55 BET365 CHARLIE HALL CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 3m45y (4870 Metres)

 RACE 5 **(4) PIC D'ORHY | (5) THE REAL WHACKER | (6) TWINJETS**
3.30 EACH WAY EXTRA AT BET365 HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2m (3220 Metres)

 RACE 6 **(2) RACE TO BASE | (3) KLITSCHKO | (1) FILIBUSTERING**
4.03 BET365 HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 3m45y (4870 Metres)

 RACE 7 **(4) SLEDGEHAMMER | (2) PADDY O'MAHLER | (1) UPFORDEBATE**
KEY TO SYMBOLS
 **Top Rated:** The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.

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

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

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

12.35

RACE 1

6 HORSES CHALLENGE AT BET365 NOVICES' HURDLE
(Qualifier) (3) 4yo+ £16,500 2m (3220 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	MINELLA HOLLOW (IRE) (28) (D)	★	100
	114/43-413 6 11-6 72.6kg		
	John Nallen, Ireland	Harry Skelton	
Dual bumper winner who put his experience to good use to get off the mark over hurdles at Killarney (2m) in August. Found life tougher when third of 6 in Grade 3 company latest but very much the one to beat back in calmer waters.			
2	LOOPY MAG (FR)		77
	5 11-0 69.9kg		
	Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith	Danny McMenamin	
€46,000 3-y-o, £21,000 5-y-o, Kapgarde gelding. Half-brother to 2 winners, including 19f hurdle winner in France Hermine Mag. Off mark in Irish points at second attempt in April and presumably the choice of Danny McMenamin.			
3	ST MICHAEL'S WELL (IRE)		73
	6 11-0 69.9kg		
	Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith	Jamie Hamilton	
£14,000 6-y-o, Diamond Boy gelding. Brother to fair hurdle winner/chaser Hardy Diamond, and half-brother to modest chaser Mistymal. Off mark in Irish points at third attempt in April but Loopy Mag is seemingly the stable first string on jockey bookings.			
4	MEASURE OF A MAN (IRE)		76
	4 10-13 69.4kg		
	Ruth Jefferson	Brian Hughes	
£31,000 4-y-o, Sholokhov gelding. Dam, fairly useful 3m hurdle/chase winner, is a sister to useful hurdler/chaser (stayed 25f) Ten Ten. Runner-up on second of 2 starts in Irish points in April and worthy of consideration now going hurdling, for all that he may require longer trips in due course.			
5	SOME GOOD MEN GONE (FR)		72
	4 10-13 69.4kg		
	Jessica Bedi	Conor O'Farrell	
Fair maiden on Flat for A. Slattery (stays 10.5f) but hasn't offered any encouragement on either start this year and looks best watched on this switch to hurdling.			
6	VENEZUELAN (IRE) (27)	s	75
	2 4 10-13 69.4kg		
	Gary Hanmer	Sean Bowen	
Hasn't been at his fairly useful best on the Flat since joining his present yard but made quite an encouraging debut over hurdles with cheekpieces refitted when second of 8 in 2m maiden at Uttoxeter recently. A big step forward required to trouble standard-setter Minella Hollow, though.			

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-6 Minella Hollow, 13-2 Loopy Mag, 15-2 Measure of A Man, 8-1 Venezuelan, 16-1 St Michael's Well, 28-1 Some Good Men Gone

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Irish raider MINELLA HOLLOW sets a good standard back in calmer waters and is taken to defy a penalty. Of the opposition, Loopy Mag is an Irish-point winner who is presumably the choice of Danny McMenamin and needs a close look in the betting on his Rules debut for a yard starting to hit a bit of form, while Measure Of A Man is another to note.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MINELLA HOLLOW 2. LOOPY MAG 3. MEASURE OF A MAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:				
2025	Cave Bridge 5-11-6	4-1	Harry Derham	Harry Cobden 7
2024	Roadlesstravelled 5-11-6	4-5f	Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill	Jonjo O'Neill Jr. 6
2022	Ukantango 5-11-6	6-5f	Ollly Murphy	Aidan Coleman 11
2021	Harbour Lake 5-10-12	9-1	Alan King	Tom Cannon 13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.10

RACE 2

POSITION PAYOUT AT BET365 HANDICAP CHASE (3) 4yo+
(Rated 0-125) £20,000 2m3f85y (3900 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	 PALAMON (IRE) (12) (BF) 63-553512 6 11-8 73.5kg Dan Skelton Hasn't looked straightforward on occasions but right back to his best of late, an easy winner at Southwell before second of 5 in handicap chase at Plumpton (2½m, good) 12 days ago when twice impeded. Very much one to consider nudged up 2 lb in a change of headgear.	b+t	 100
2	 LADRONNE (FR) (200) (CD) 61241252- 12 11-5 72.1kg Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith Managed to win 4 handicaps over fences since February 2025 despite his advancing years. Runner-up both chase starts in 2026 but needed the run in last season's renewal and this trip is on the sharp side.	t	95
3	 GERYVILLE (FR) (203) (CD) 5/5265135- 10 11-5 72.1kg Micky Hammond & Becky Smith Not the easiest to predict but he's a Wetherby regular, winning for the third time in January. Solid third here in March but he checked out tamely the following month.	b	97
4	 MARTY MCFLY (IRE) (16) (D) 741111P-8 8 11-4 71.7kg Sandy Thomson Thriving when completing chase 4-timer with fairly useful effort at Carlisle in March and was likely over the top at Ayr the following month. Heavy defeat over hurdles 16 days ago will have served a purpose ahead of return to chasing but yard quiet.	s+t	99
5	 TANKING ALONG (IRE) (16) 163-22511 7 11-3 71.2kg Patrick Neville Enthusiastic front runner who helped contribute to excellent start to the season for the stable when winning twice this autumn. 8 lb rise in a better race asks a different question but he's clearly in excellent order	s+t	96
6	 KAHAVARI (FR) (189) (D) U6425221- 6 11-3 71.2kg Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero Fair 19f winner over hurdles in France. Gained a deserved first chasing success (second 3 times previously) for present yard in 4-runner handicap chase at Sandown (2½m, good to firm) in April. Off since and yard yet to get going but Cobden is an interesting booking.	t	95
7	 KOUKEO (FR) (16) 8/11375P-4 6 11-2 70.8kg Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill Returned from 8 months off to bag a pair of 2m handicap chases at Windsor and Haydock in January. His form tailed off after and needed to see more on recent reappearance (albeit poorly placed as race unfolded) to seriously consider him.		97
8	 WILLIAM CODY (177) (D) 34/32322-4 9 11-2 70.8kg Pam Sly Lightly raced in recent times but have to go back to 2024 for his last win. Was placed all 5 starts last season prior to a lesser run at Huntingdon and he's becoming a regular in this race (second in 2023 and fourth in 2024).		96

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Palamon, 7-2 Tanking Along, 7-1 Geryville, 7-1 Kahavari, 9-1 Ladronne, 11-1 Marty Mcfly, 12-1 William Cody, 14-1 Koukeo

TIMEFORM VIEW:

PALAMON would surely have followed up with a clear passage at Plumpton recently so a 2 lb rise looks within range. Tanking Along is an uncomplicated sort who is fit and in form so he's on the shortlist, with Kahavari also of some interest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PALAMON 2. TANKING ALONG 3. KAHAVARI

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Pep Talking 7-10-5	13-2	Billy Aprahamian	Gavin Sheehan	8
2024	Tedley 5-11-8	6-4f	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Jamie Brace (7)	7
2023	The Edgar Wallace 8-12-0	9-2jf	Kim Bailey	Gavin Sheehan	13
2022	Ladronne 8-10-13	11-4f	Tjade Collier	Sean Quinlan	7
2021	Geryville 5-10-11	40-1	Micky Hammond	Alain Cawley	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.45

RACE 3

BET365 MONTAGU MARES' HURDLE (Listed) (1) 4yo+ fillies and mares £30,000 2m (3220 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	OOH BETTY (IRE) (196) (D) 03/000193- 8 11-6 72.6kg  Ben Clarke Ben Jones Likeable type who won a Grade 2 mares' event at Ascot last season before running respectably in both the County Hurdle and the Scottish Champion Hurdle. She has won on reappearance previously, however, this looks no easy task giving weight away to the classier Kateira.	t	92
2	KATEIRA (22) (CD) 2/143896-0 9 11-4 71.7kg  Dan Skelton Harry Skelton Very useful mare. Capitalised on a good opportunity to win this corresponding race 12 months ago (sole rival amiss). Finished the season in form with a more-than-credible sixth in the BetMGM Cup at Cheltenham. Has a recent pipe-opener under her belt this time and can follow up last year's success.		100
3	LA CONQUIERE (FR) (204) (D) 22/11206- 7 11-2 70.8kg  Jamie Snowden Gavin Sheehan Useful in bumpers. Beat Charisma Cat in a Newbury listed novice to make it 2-2 over hurdles prior to ½-length second to Ooh Betty in Grade 2 at Ascot. She's at least weighted to reverse that form, provided she's back on song following a couple of lesser runs in deeper company at Cheltenham/Aintree.		95
4	ST IRENE (IRE) (233) (D) 1630/2110- 6 11-2 70.8kg  Nick Scholfield Jack Quinlan Fair bumper performer. Underlined a promising start to her hurdling career when completing a double in a listed novice at Taunton over Christmas. Off since being outclassed in the Grade 2 Dawn Run at the Cheltenham Festival, and she may again find this too competitive.		87
5	WATAMU (14) (D) 1/4513P1-1 5 11-0 69.9kg  Emma Lavelle Harry Cobden On the up when third in a strong novice at Market Rasen in February. Finished season with a confidence-boosting win (hard held) at Stratford (2m) before following up in impressive fashion in a handicap over the same C&D on return. Looks a useful prospect but this demands much more again.		92

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-4 Kateira, 3-1 La Conquiere, 6-1 Watamu, 6-1 Ooh Betty, 16-1 St Irene

TIMEFORM VIEW:

KATEIRA had the race left at her mercy when successful in this corresponding event 12 months ago. She should follow up on merit this time around, with La Conquiere the pick of the remainder on last year's early-season form.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. KATEIRA 2. LA CONQUIERE 3. WATAMU

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Kateira	8-11-4	2-1	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	2
2024	Take No Chances	6-11-0	7-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2023	You Wear It Well	6-11-3	2-1	Jamie Snowden	Gavin Sheehan	6
2022	Molly Ollys Wishes	8-11-6	15-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	5
2021	Molly Ollys Wishes	7-11-2	3-1f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.18

RACE 4

BET365 HURDLE (West Yorkshire) (Grade 2) (1) 4yo+
£62,500 3m26y (4850 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	STRONG LEADER (203) (CD)	s	99
	042/1226P- 9 11-6 72.6kg Olly Murphy  Sean Bowen Tends to go well fresh and well prepared to win this a year ago, staying on to lead close home. Runner-up in Grade 1 company at Ascot following month but flopped both starts after in 2026, latterly on the back of a breathing operation in April. Penalty to carry but this could be time to catch him.		
2	LAVIDA ADIVA (IRE) (203) (D)		95
	2/3414327- 7 10-9 67.6kg Ruth Jefferson Brian Hughes Consistent mare who resumed winning ways in 3m listed hurdle at Doncaster in December. Produced a career best with the hood quickly discarded on her return to a handicap when runner-up in Pertemps Final before shaping better than result in a Grade 1 at Aintree.		
3	PAGGANE (268) (D)		95
	12/221135- 7 10-9 67.6kg Faye Bramley Harry Cobden Previously in the care of Willie Mullins and fine start over jumps for current yard last season, going close in a valuable Chepstow handicap hurdle prior to bagging listed events over fences at Carlisle and Market Rasen. Added to tally from handy Flat mark in September.		
4	TAKE NO CHANCES (IRE) (21) (C)	  100	
	5/623342-0 8 10-9 67.6kg Dan Skelton Harry Skelton Very useful mare. Finished an eye-catching sixth on last season's reappearance and subsequently enjoyed a cracking campaign in graded staying hurdles, finishing 7 lengths second in the Liverpool hurdle at Aintree (25f). No impact in the Silver Trophy this time but should run much closer to form.		

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

6-4 Strong Leader, 13-8 Take No Chances, 7-1 Lavida Adiva, 7-1 Paggane

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TAKE NO CHANCES and Strong Leader finished first and second in this a year ago and they may well come to the fore again. The latter was a neck too strong that day but the former is slightly better off at the weights, which just tilts the scales.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TAKE NO CHANCES 2. STRONG LEADER 3. PAGGANE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Strong Leader 8-11-8	15-8	Olly Murphy	Sean Bowen	5
2024	Beacon Edge 10-11-2	9-4	Gordon Elliott	Danny Gilligan	4
2023	Botox Has 7-11-6	15-2	Gary Moore	Caoilin Quinn	6
2022	Proschema 7-11-2	9-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2021	Indefatigable 8-10-7	5-1	Paul Webber	Daryl Jacob	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.55

RACE 5

BET365 CHARLIE HALL CHASE (Grade 2) (1) 5yo+ £100,000
3m45y (4870 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Even**

1	HITMAN (FR) (204) 22P7/13PF- 10 11-8 73.5kg Paul Nicholls Ended losing run in the Old Roan at Aintree on reappearance last season. However, failed to kick on from that in 3 subsequent starts and this trip likely to stretch him in this company on return.	s+t	91	Freddie Gingell
2	RISKINTHEGROUND (IRE) (17) (D) 4901-2136 9 11-8 73.5kg Dan Skelton Smart handicap chaser who shaped as if needing the run returning from a career-high mark at Ffos Las recently but likely to come up short at this level.	t	88	Robert Dunne
3	HANDSTANDS (IRE) (235) (D) 111P/243P- 7 11-4 71.7kg Ben Pauling Developed into a smart chaser as a novice, winning all 3 completed starts, notably Grade 1 at Sandown. However, had been found wanting in the latter stages first 3 starts last season before cutting out alarmingly quickly in first-time headgear/handicap bow at Cheltenham Festival on final start.		94	Ben Jones
4	PIC D'ORHY (FR) (205) 11P/2323- 11 11-4 71.7kg Dan Skelton Veteran high-class chaser who won a second Grade 1 Ascot Chase early last year. Looked as good as ever when second in this (on return) before finding only Jonbon too strong when bidding for a third Ascot Chase last season. Should prove hard to beat starting out for Skelton.	t	100	Harry Skelton
5	THE REAL WHACKER (IRE) (38) (CD) 54/256P-31 10 11-4 71.7kg Patrick Neville Won this in 2024 but largely found life tough after, including when last in this 12 months ago. However, confirmed promise of his summer run when making all off 149 at Perth last month, jumping well in different headgear (blinkers). Fully entitled to another crack at this with his yard flying.	b+t	96	Brian Hughes
6	TWINJETS (IRE) (197) (D) 2P/11UP21- 9 11-4 71.7kg Paul Nicholls Front runner who proved better than ever last season, scoring at Fontwell (on return) and Newbury in the autumn before ending the campaign with another win at Ayr in the spring. Worth a shot at this but a career best is likely required back up in trip.		94	Harry Cobden

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

6-4 Pic D'orhy, 7-2 Handstands, 11-2 The Real Whacker, 6-1 Twinjets, 11-1 Hitman, 33-1 Riskintheground

TIMEFORM VIEW:

PIC D'ORHY has an excellent record fresh and was beaten only by another high-class sort in this last year, so he should take plenty of beating on his first run for the champion trainer. Former winner The Real Whacker has looked rejuvenated for his red-hot yard so is next best.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PIC D'ORHY 2. THE REAL WHACKER 3. TWINJETS

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:					
2025	Djelo 7-11-10	11-4	Venetia Williams	Charlie Deutsch	5
2024	The Real Whacker 8-11-4	5-1	Patrick Neville	Brian Hughes	6
2023	Gentlemansgame 7-11-2	7-2	M. F. Morris	D. J. O'Keeffe	4
2022	Bravemansgame 7-11-5	2-1	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	5
2021	Fusil Raffles 6-11-0	10-3	Nicky Henderson	Daryl Jacob	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.30

RACE 6

EACH WAY EXTRA AT BET365 HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 3yo+
(Rated 0-130) £17,500 2m (3220 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	FILIBUSTERING (22) (D)	t	99
	6851-1138 5 12-0 76.2kg Harry Derham Strong-travelling type. Landed a third successive hurdle success in emphatic fashion at Cartmel in late-June. Set plenty to do when third at Perth prior to finishing well-held eighth of 17 in Welsh Champion Hurdle latest. Respected back in calmer waters, even with yard not firing on all cylinders.		Harry Skelton
2	RACE TO BASE (IRE) (189) (D)	t	100
	21/5134P2- 6 11-7 73.0kg Nick Scholfield Fairly useful 2m novice winner. Pulled up in Sandown EBF Final on handicap debut, however, all the better for a breathing operation when runner-up to a useful one there (2m) in April. Hardly looks exposed on third start for very capable yard and should have a big say if ready to roll.		Jack Quinlan
3	KLITSCHKO (13) (D)	t	99
	5335U1-42 8 11-2 70.8kg Lucinda Hughes Capitalised on a reduced mark in good fashion when landing a second 2m Sedgfield win in March. Back to his best with a run under his belt when 6½-length second over the same C&D last time. This probably isn't his ideal set-up, but Brian Hughes knows him well (can flatter to deceive).		Brian Hughes
4	BANDERAS (IRE) (15)	t	97
	5/318-5176 6 10-13 69.4kg Sam England Resumed progress over hurdles when winning a 2½m Hexham handicap in May. Yard generally going well, so a bit disconcerting that he's been well beaten both starts since returning from a break (lost a shoe on both occasions).		Jonathan England

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Race To Base, 11-4 Klitschko, 11-4 Filibustering, 10-1 Banderas

TIMEFORM VIEW:

RACE TO BASE is the least exposed of the quartet and may well make a winning reappearance. Klitschko and Filibustering have race fitness in the bank, and both look credible dangers in a race that's likely to be very tactical (no obvious pace on paper).

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. RACE TO BASE 2. KLITSCHKO 3. FILIBUSTERING

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Saligo Bay	7-10-6	2-1f	Sam England	Jonathan England	7
2024	Williethbuilder	5-11-13	13-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2022	Parisencore	6-11-8	6-4f	Nicky Richards	Danny McMenamin	7
2021	Saint Arvans	7-10-9	4-1	Maurice Barnes	Callum Bewley	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.03

RACE 7

BET365 HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-120) £16,500 3m45y (4870 Metres)



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

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1	UPFORDEBATE (IRE) (27) (D)	s+t	98
	115538-11 7 12-0 76.2kg Patrick Neville <i>Brian Hughes</i> Building up an excellent strike rate over fences, resuming progress when adding to his tally at Perth and Kelso (on the nod) both starts this season. Must be respected with yard in red-hot form.		
2	PADDY O'MAHLER (IRE) (223) (C, D)	s	 100
	45/22112F- 8 12-0 76.2kg Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith <i>Danny McMenamin</i> Much improved switched to fences last season, making it back-to-back wins when knuckling down well at Haydock. Posted a career best when rallying second at Catterick in February but didn't get very far at Carlisle the following month. Yard won last year's renewal with one making its reappearance.		
3	SLANEY OPERA (IRE) (15) (D)	t	 97
	3-435F231 8 11-2 70.8kg John Wainwright <i>Jamie Hamilton</i> Already with his fifth yard but he didn't have to improve off a career-low mark to make a winning start for this stable at Uttoxeter 2 weeks ago after 3 months off. This tougher but could have more to offer for new trainer.		
4	SLEDGEHAMMER (IRE) (21) (D)		99
	5P6-64F1 6 10-8 67.1kg Adrian Keatley <i>Sean Bowen</i> Had looked very limited in Ireland but proved a different proposition on his debut for a very good yard after 3 months off when landing a gamble with a bit up his sleeve at Hexham 3 weeks ago. Looks capable of defying a 6 lb rise with yard continuing in excellent heart.		

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-4 Sledgehammer, 5-2 Upfordebate, 3-1 Paddy O'mahler, 9-2 Slaney Opera

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Claims can be made for all 4 but SLEDGEHAMMER looks the obvious one after landing a gamble in good style for new connections at Hexham 3 weeks ago. Paddy O'Mahler is second choice.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SLEDGEHAMMER 2. PADDY O'MAHLER 3. UPFORDEBATE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Konfusion	7-11-9	5-2	Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith	Gavin Sheehan	8
2024	Itso Fury	7-11-13	10-3f	Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill	Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	9
2023	Not Sure	7-11-9	15-2	Kerry Lee	Richard Patrick	9
2022	Tango Boy	9-11-6	6-1	Neil Mulholland	Tom Scudamore	10
2021	Soyouthinksoagain	6-11-12	11-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race