Kerry National - NTF Trends Analysis

This has been a strong race on the trends front and the following trends would have found you 13 of the last 15 winners and 28 of the 60 placed horses...

15/15 1-7 starts in current season 15/15 no more than 4 Chase wins 15/15 DSLR 48 or less 15/15 at least 4lbs higher than last win 15/15 1-12 previous handicap chase runs 15/15 ran over 2m-3m LTO 14/15 aged 6yo-9yo

14/15 11-37 career starts

...applied to this year's entrants narrows the field to the following...

DOCTOR DUFFY - MORTAL - ASK NILE - MOYHENNA - DEMI PLIE (reserve)

...looking closer...

DOCTOR DUFFY (BYRNES - BROUDER) - CP runner

Been in fine form since switching to fences this summer, winning the last two including the Mayo National at Ballinrobe last time out. 2 from 2 since visor applied (wears it here) and Kevin Brouder gets on well with the horse (form of 210011).

MORTAL (J O'BRIEN - O BROWN) - HU runner

Low strike-rate so far in career (3 from 16) but did fire in a career best effort last time out when winning over 2m5f at Killarney.

ASK NILE (NEVILLE - S O'KEEFFE) - CP/HU runner

Another with a below average overall S/R (2/30) but ran a sound race behind Doctor Duffy in Mayo National LTO and does get a 9lb swing in the weights with that one here.

MOYHENNA (HOGAN - MEYLER) - CP runner

Should come on plenty for run over Hurdles at Ballinrobe at start of month (that was first run for 169 days and is 0/5 off breaks of 121+ days).

DEMI PLIE (ROCHE – MISS A O'CONNOR) – FR/CP runner

One of only 2 CD winners in the field and still looks relatively unexposed over fences. Good overall form at the track (2621) and good form over 2m6f+ trips (2113). Interesting runner if gets in.

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Conclusion...

Looks it's usually tricky affair...but we should expect no less from the race!!

Of the Race Trends shortlist the one that actually interests me the most is **DEMI PLIE** (C Roche), although the mare does need at least one to drop out to be able to take her place in the line-up. She ticks plenty of boxes (away from the Race Trends) and she should be able to pop along on the front end easily enough, sitting just behind the front-runner KUPATANA.

DOCTOR DUFFY (C Roche) currently shares favouritism for this but he is one of the 'form' races in the race, coming in off the back of two victories, and his ability to stay and travel smoothly will see him well in this contest. He makes plenty of appeal.

Out with the trends the other three shortlisters probably have a couple of question marks to answer although **MORTAL** certainly looks worth another try at a staying trip like this and the record of his young pilot Oakley Brown when riding for Joseph O'Brien (on horses with an SP of 14-1 or less) does catch the eye...10/21 | 48% S/R | +£52.89 BFLSP – W&P 13/21 | 62% S/R.

