

# BADLY DRAWN HORSES

2nd June - 4th June



## CATTERICK - 2nd June

### 725 - C4 Handicap

#### Draw/Pace Bias...

Always a positive to be drawn low and on the front end over the Catterick 5f on quick ground and so it proved here, with the winner - GLORY FIGHTER - breaking from stall 2 (stall 1 was a N/R) and leading all the way...

#### Badly Drawn Horse to note...

##### **LE BEAU GARCON (M Easterby)**

Drawn in stall 6 of 7 (after N/R taken into account) and was slowly away after rider removed hood late, two things that are going to make getting competitive over 5f at Catterick nigh on impossible. With that in mind his 3.8L third is plenty better than the bare form suggests and the way he finished suggested he had plenty in the tank and is currently sitting on a winnable mark (ran off 78 and down to 77 for the run). He's yet to win in 7 handicap starts but he started his handicap career with a 0.75L 2nd off 81 and then ran a decent 7th (of 19) in a valuable C2 Newmarket handicap off 86, so it would be disappointing if he isn't able to take advantage of his current mark of OR 77 sooner rather than later.

#### Prime Conditions for **LE BEAU GARCON**...

Still early enough days for the 4yo but **5f, Good to Firm and C4 level or less (form of 311)** look good for him (although happy to remain flexible for now)...

## EPSOM - 3rd June

### 320 - Dash Handicap

#### Draw/Pace Bias...

I'm not as convinced as some that the slow opening of certain stalls in the high part of the draw had as much an impact as has been reported elsewhere. It's a bit like V.A.R; in slow motion it looks terrible but in real time it's barely noticeable and ultimately made not as much difference to the outcome as has been reported, especially not when you consider how the pace was likely to play out anyway. Pre-race I had pretty much all the pace coming from the low to middle stalls and had most of the those drawn high looking to sit just off the pace/held up. The stalls issue wasn't ideal, obviously, but I can't change what happened so I'll analyse the outcome in as normal manner as I can. Again, I had all the pace coming mainly low and that's exactly how it played out, with those drawn **4-2-1-7** setting the early fractions, which set it up perfectly for NAVELLO to swoop from off the pace from stall 5. The high numbers were always going to be at a pace advantage but one from up high did out run his poor draw...

#### Badly Drawn Horse to note...

##### **ANGLE LAND (R Cowell)**

Broke from stall 17 and was the only one from a double figure draw to finish in the first 8, the stall positions of the first 8 home being... 5-7-2-8-4-**17**-9-1. The 4yo did break very well from his draw, bang on terms with lower horses in fact, but Hayley Turner seemed keen to keep a grip on him and not allow him to keep blasting away, which was odd as he had a clear shot at the perceived 'golden highway' on the near side. I have a suspicion, however, that he wasn't handling the track all that well and Turner was doing all she could to try and keep him balanced. For a 4yo he's had a hell of a lot of racing (this was his 30th start) but he could still have improvement to come (his Proform Speed figures for this season do suggest that could be the case) and he's definitely the BDH to take from this race...

##### **Prime Conditions for ANGLE LAND...**

Flexible for now...

## EPSOM - 3rd June

### 355 - Lester Piggott Handicap

#### Draw/Pace Bias...

The low numbers were the call here in this 13-runner field, with the first 4 home being drawn in stalls 4-3-6-5. Anything right out the back also struggled to land a blow...

#### Badly Drawn Horse to note...

##### **PROMOTER (R Beckett)**

Broke from stall 13 of 13 and was parked wide throughout. Of the four that were out the back as the field started turning for home he was the only one that made any sort of telling forward move, despite the fact he seemed to be struggling to handle the cambering nature of the Epsom straight...

##### **Prime Conditions for PROMOTER...**

Still early days for the 3yo as this was only his 5th career start and only his second dip into handicap company. Based on his 5th in the G3 Horace Hill Stakes at Newbury last season, however, I'd be confident that his current mark of 89 underplays the ceiling of his abilities. The 4 that finished ahead of him in the Horace Hill are currently rated 107-103-95-92 and the 4 that finished behind him are currently rated 99-87-100-88 and I'd be shocked if Beckett couldn't get PROMOTER winning off 89. I also noticed a bit of a niche mini angle for Ralph Beckett with his 3yo's that ran in an Epsom Handicap last time out (LTO)...

**R Beckett | 3yos | 1m+ C2-C4 Handicaps | May-Sept | Ran in an Epsom Hcp LTO**

**(since 2014) 6/16 | 38% S/R | +£20.29 - W&P 10/16 | 63% S/R**

...even if PROMOTER doesn't add to those stats next time out he's still one to keep on the radar going forward this summer.

## EPSOM - 3rd June

### 505 - JRA Tokyo Trophy Handicap

#### Draw/Pace Bias...

It paid to be drawn wide in this with the first 3 home drawn in stalls 10-14-11. It was also an advantage to be held up off the pace and make your move late and out wide, the 1st, 2nd & 4th all came down the outside in the closing stages...

#### Badly Drawn Horse to note...

##### **MANY A STAR (P & O Cole)**

Broke from stall 2 and was sitting just off the pace-setter (Night On Earth - Stall 1) in the early to middle part of the race. It has been a tricky race to win from the bottom 3, with only 1 of the last 15 breaking from that part of the draw, so with hindsight he was up against it here...

#### Prime Conditions for **MANY A STAR**...

Straight 6f | Good or quicker | May-Sept | OR 87 or less = 1811213  
(4/7, 2p - all 4 career wins)

## NOTTINGHAM - 4th June

### 515 - C6 Handicap

#### Draw/Pace Bias...

Winner - Grandfather Tom - broke well from stall 7 (of 9) and grabbed the near side rail from the off and was able to make use of the rail pretty much from pillar to post...

#### Badly Drawn Horse to note...

##### **LATIN FIVE (P Midgley)**

Broke from stall 1 and ended up making his challenge down the middle and half the track width away from the winner. He's a horse that likes to be produced as late as he can be but this race just didn't pan out in a manner that would allow that to happen...

#### Prime Conditions for **LATIN FIVE**...

Straight 5f Handicaps | June-August | OR 70 or less = (since with P Midgley) 2951311 (3/7, 4p - all 3 wins since with Midgley)

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