NARROWING THE FIELD
RACE TRENDS ANALYSIS

CHELTENHAM PADDY POWER GOLD CUP MEETING

FEATURING...

- ✅ IN-DEPTH RACE TRENDS ANALYSIS
- ✅ PACE ANALYSIS
- ✅ PC HORSES
- ✅ TRAINER TRENDS
- ✅ AND MORE!

SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

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1:25 Cheltenham

Novices' Ltd Handicap Chase – Class 3 (4yo+) 2m4f

Race Trends…

This only the 5th renewal of the race as a Handicap, so not yet ready for Race Trends analysis... so I'll delve into it using my other analysis methods...

Trainer notes/Jockey notes/Horse notes/General pointers...

SPECTACULARSUNRISE Fell at the last when 2L up over 2m4f at the October meeting LTO and qualifies on the following angle I have plugged in... **Chelt Nov Meeting | 0-6 runs in NH code | 1-3 seasonal starts | Same or up no more than 1.5f in trip | ran at Chelt Oct Meeting LTO = (since 2020) 18/53 | 34% S/R | +£72.18 – W&P 28/53 | 53% S/R – 65% above exp**... Horse holds solid form at C3 level or below in Sept to Feb period**... F1211341 (4/8, 2p – all 4 career wins)**... Twiston-Davies holds solid stats with similar types in Novice Hcp Chases in November... **NTD | C3-C4 Novice Hcp Chases in November | 6yo-7yo | Top-rated or no more than 10lbs below | Same or down in class | SP <10/1 = 15/39, 5p | +£32.88 – 59% above exp**...

POURQUOI PAS PAPA Paul Nicholls holds solid stats in Cheltenham Novice Chase Hcps... **P Nicholls | Cheltenham Novice Chase Hcps | 5-11 career starts | DSLR 21-90 | SP <10/1 = 9/19 | 47% S/R | +£23.24 – W&P 11/19 | 58% S/R – 119% above exp**... POURQUOI PAS PAPA meets those stats here...

CRYSTAL ISLAND 2 from 2 over Hurdles last season and Nicky Henderson holds solid stats with similar Chase debutants... **N Henderson | Hcp chases over 2m1f+ | Oct-Jan | 4yo-7yo making chase debut | DSLR >150 = (since 2016) 19/61 | 31% S/R | +£44.22 – W&P 26/61 | 43% S/R – 34% above exp**... Nicky Henderson holds solid stats with similar types in Novice Hcp Chases in November... **N Henderson | C3 Novice Hcp Chases in November | 2m3f-3m | 0-3 career wins | SP 10/1 or less = (since 2014) 12/25, 4p | +£42.77 – 88% above exp...**

FOUR SPRINGS winner on Chase debut LTO and 2nd boosted the form by winning next time out... Ben Pauling holds some strong stats with his chasers on second chase start that WON LTO... **B Pauling | Chases over 3m or shorter | Horse on 2nd chase start | SP 5/1 or less | WON LTO = 14/27 | 52% S/R | +£12.71 – W&P 17/27 | 63% S/R – 28% above exp**...

THE GRAY GHOST comfortable winner at Ascot LTO and goes well under these conditions... **C3 or lower | 2m1f-2m4.5f | G/S or quicker | DSLR 75 or less = 112117 (4/6, 1p – all 4 career wins)**...

TURNDLIGHTSDOWNLOW Un-seated at last LTO over 3m1f at Cheltenham October meeting when still in with a chance... Martin Keighley holds some solid stats in similar types of races to this at this stage of the season... **M Keighley | Novice Hcp Chases in November | 6-18 career starts | 0-5 chase starts = 10/23 | 43% S/R | +£74.08 – W&P 13/23 | 57% S/R – E/W = +£84.10 | 212% above exp**...

My play(s)...

SPECTACULARSUNRISE (NTD) fell with race at his mercy LTO but the Twiston-Davies yard have been remarkably profitable to follow worth LTO Fallers with a similar profile... **NTD | C2-C5 Hcps | Oct-Feb | 5yo-9yo | DSLR 16+ | FELL LTO = 23/72 | 32% S/R | +£137.11 – W&P 34/72 | 47% S/R – E/W = +£143.90 | 106% above exp**...

FOUR SPRINGS (B Pauling) should appreciate this step up to 2m4.5f and he looks like he's entered the chasing game on a very workable mark...

2:00 Cheltenham

Weatherite Handicap Chase – Class 3 (4yo+) 2m

Race Trends…

This was dropped down to a Class 3 Hcp last season, so need to just tread carefully with the Race Trends... although looking at the last 10 renewals gives us the following...

1 10/10 aged 6yo-9yo

2 10/10 0 wins in current season

3 10/10 2-5 previous career wins

4 10/10 4-10 starts last 365-days

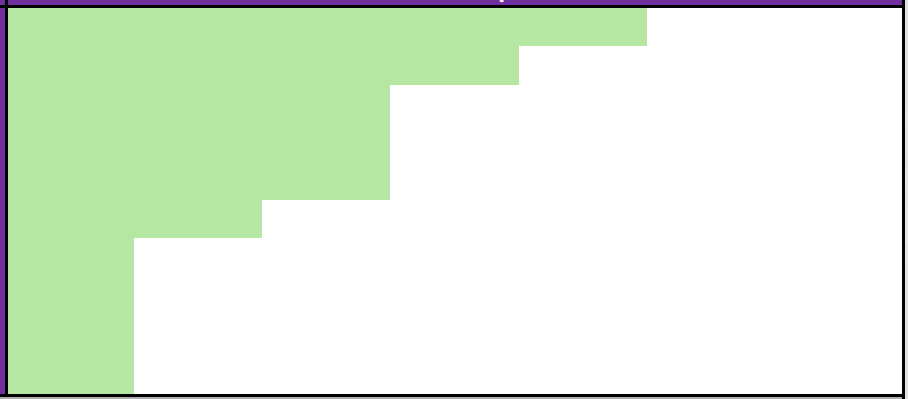
5 10/10 ran in a 2m-2m4f Chase LTO

...for a trends shortlist of...

SHAKEYATAILFEATHER

Pace thoughts…

Pace: No real blast away front-runner in this field but **CLASSIC MAESTRO** can go from the front and I suspect he'll be the one to lead the field along in the early stages of this handicap chase...

Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
CLASSIC MAESTRO	CP/FR	
LARZAC	CP	
JONY R	CP/HU	
PUTAPOUNDINTHEJAR	CP/HU	
AUTHOCELTIC	CP/HU	
HIGHLANDS LEGACY	HU/CP	
BOOTHILL	HU	
TOUR OVALIE	HU	
FEMME MAGNIFIQUE	HU	
SHAKEYATAILFEATHER	HU	
Pace: Probable solo leader/possible slow early pace		
Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-2| CP-4| HU-6		

Trainer notes/Jockey notes/Horse notes/General pointers...

NOTHING OF NOTE FOR THIS RACE...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts…

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

SHAKEYATAILFEATHER ground should be ideal for him, with all 4 of his wins coming on Good ground... gets his PC to shoot for here... **Chase/Hurdle on LH tracks | C2 or lower | Fields of <11 | Good ground = 111421 (4/6 – all 4 career wins)**...

Thoughts on others...

LARZAC heads straight into open handicap company for his chase debut here... offspring of his sire do hold solid stats on chase debut under similar conditions... **No Risk At All aged <9yo | Chase debut | Fields of <12 = (since 2021) 20/62 | 32% S/R | +£89.02 – W&P 32/62 | 52% S/R – 30% above exp**... Harry Cobden also a positive in the saddle under these conditions... **H Cobden | Cheltenham Chases over 2m-2m5f | Nov-March | 4yo-8yo's = 13/34 | 38% S/R | +£64.11 – W&P 21/34 | 62% S/R – E/W = +£67.37 | 84% above exp**...

TOUR OVALIE goes well under these conditions... **2m-2m1f | Field of <12 | DSLR <31 = 7/14, 4p – all 7 career wins**...

My play(s)...

SHAKEYATAILFEATHER (D Skelton) picks herself as the only qualifier on the trends and the fact she also gets her Prime Conditions to shoot for...

LARZAC (F Bramley) thrown into open handicap company for his chase debut but these types can get the job done under these types of conditions, especially recently... **IRE & FR bred geldings making chase debut | Open (Non-Novice) Hcp Chase over <3m1f | Sept-Apr | Horse with 1-3 career wins | 1st or 2nd LTO (beaten <5L) = (since 2022) 37/112 | 33% S/R | +£111.96 – W&P 57/112 | 51% S/R – 36% above exp**...

2:35 Cheltenham

Oddschecker Hcp Chase – Class 1 (4yo+) 3m3.5f

Race Trends…

A trickier race on the Race Trends than it used to be... but the following should give us a decent shortlist to work with...

1 **12/12 0-1 runs in current season**

2 **12/12 14-25 previous career starts**

3 **12/12 top 2 finish 1 of last 5 starts**

4 **12/12 top 3 finish 1 of last 3 starts**

5 **11/12 previously won at C2 level+**

...for a trends shortlist of...

RESPLENDENT GREY

ASK BREWSTER

Pace thoughts…

Pace: **ASK BREWSTER** looks the one that will most want to try and take the early lead... but **MONBEG GENIUS & DOUBLE POWERFUL** also like to be on or near the pace and there's a chance of a contested lead in this... between them they should ensure a strong enough early pace...

Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
ASK BREWSTER	FR	
MONBEG GENIUS	FR/CP	
DOUBLE POWERFUL	FR/CP	
HOLOKEA	CP	
RESPLENDENT GREY	CP	
U CANT BE SERIOUS	CP	
GUARD THE MOON	HU/CP	
KING OF ANSWERS	HU/CP	
HAVAILA	HU	

Pace: Probable contested early pace/possible solo leader

Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-2| CP-4| HU-6

Trainer notes/Jockey notes/Horse notes/General pointers...

NEIL MULHOLLAND holds solid stats in similar types of races at Cheltenham... **N Mulholland | Cheltenham Hcp Chases (NOT at the Cheltenham Festival) | 5yo-9yo | between 2lbs & 12lbs lower than top-rated = 11/29 | 38% S/R | +£60.59 – W&P 17/29 | 59% S/R – E/W = +£68.06 – 201% above exp**... **DOUBLE POWERFUL** meets those stats here...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts…

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

RESPLENDENT GREY tends to go well on seasonal debut... 1121 (3/4, 1p)... still 8lbs above his last and highest winning handicap mark, so possible query there...

ASK BREWSTER 2 from 2 over the Cheltenham fences, an unbeaten 3 from 3 off breaks of >90-days (excluding career debut run) and unbeaten in 5 starts under the following... **2m7.5f – 3m4f | NOT Heavy | DSLR 16+ = 11111 (5/5 – 5 of 6 career wins)**... which are conditions he meets with here...

Thoughts on others...

DOUBLE POWERFUL still unexposed over fences after 4 chase starts... comfortable winner at Fontwell LTO and meets the following Mulholland LTO winner angle... **N Mulholland | Cheltenham April-Dec | 4yo-9yo | DSLR 21+ | WON LTO = 10/25 | 40% S/R | +£55.05 – W&P 19/25 | 76% S/R – E/W = +£63.92 – 140% above exp**... Horse goes well under these conditions... **Hcps in March-Nov = 7/13, 5p – all 7 career wins**...

U CANT BE SERIOUS unexposed as a chaser after 5 chase starts... goes well under these conditions... **G/S+ | Fields of <11 | Nov-Dec = 9111 (3/4 – all 3 career wins)**...

My play(s)...

ASK BREWSTER (Mrs C Williams) plenty in this one's favour here and with a liking for the track, conditions in his favour, stamina in the tank and the chance of a solo lead, he could prove hard to catch out front...

3:10 Cheltenham

Greatwood Handicap Hurdle – Class 1 (3yo+) 2m0.5f

Race Trends…

A solid handicap on the Race Trends and I've used the following for this year's renewal...

1 **12/12 aged 4yo-7yo**

2 **12/12 3-12 previous Hurdle starts**

3 **12/12 at least 3lbs higher than last winning mark**

4 **12/12 1-4 previous Hurdle wins**

5 **12/12 won or placed 1 of last 3 starts**

6 **12/12 previously run at Class 1 level**

7 **12/12 top 2 finish 1 of last 3 starts**

8 **11/12 0-3 previous handicap hurdle starts**

9 **11/12 4-22 previous career starts**

...for a trends table of...

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Tot
IDAHO SUN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
CAPTAIN HUGO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
LET IT RAIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
RACE TO BASE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
DAY TRADER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9
THE KEMBLE BREWERY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	8
PIONEER PETE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	8
HARRY LOWES	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	8
MISTER URSUS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	8
TENNESSEE TANGO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	8
THE HARDEST GEEZER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	8
SERIOUS CHALLENGE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	7
IBERICO LORD	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	6
BURDETT ROAD	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	6
GIVE IT TO ME OJ	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	6
HELNWEIN	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	6
THE MIGHTY CELT	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	6
MORNING MAYHEM	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	4
LISTENTOYOURHEART	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	4
KNICKERBOCKERGLORY	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	3

...and a trends shortlist of...

IDAHO SUN

CAPTAIN HUGO

LET IT RAIN

RACE TO BASE

DAY TRADER

Pace thoughts…

Pace: **THE KEMBLE BREWERY** looks the most likely pace angle in this, with **PIONEER PETE** also likely to be right up there in the early stages... between them they should set a solid early gallop in the handicap...

Horse	Run Style	Pace Map
THE KEMBLE BREWERY	FR	
PIONEER PETE	FR/CP	
IDAHO SUN	CP	
BURDETT ROAD	CP	
KNICKERBOCKERGLORY	CP	
MORNING MAYHEM	CP	
TENNESSEE TANGO	CP	
RACE TO BASE	CP	
HELNWEIN	CP/HU	
CAPTAIN HUGO	HU/CP	
LET IT RAIN	HU/CP	
HARRY LOWES	HU/CP	
THE HARDEST GEEZER	HU/CP	
DAY TRADER	HU/CP	
IBERICO LORD	HU	
GIVE IT TO ME OJ	HU	
SERIOUS CHALLENGE	HU	
THE MIGHTY CELT	HU	
MISTER URSUS	HU	
LISTENTOYOURHEART	HU	

Pace: Possible solo leader/possible dual leaders

Running style of previous 12 winners: FR-3| CP-1| HU-8

Trainer notes/Jockey notes/Horse notes/General pointers...

PHILLIP HOBBS has won this 4 times and had 2 others place from his 24 runners (since 2002)... all his winners were... **aged 4yo-8yo | 0-1 seasonal starts | 1+ win or place at track | DSLR 21+**... for race form of... **118011F (4/7)**... **THE HARDEST GEEZER** meets those stats here...

Conclusion/Current Thoughts…

Thoughts on Trend Toppers...

~~IDAHO SUN~~ *3 from 3 in his first season over hurdles last season, last seen landing the G1 Formby Hurdle at Aintree in December in comfortable fashion... 5 wins from 6 in career, his only defeat coming when 6th (of 17) in the 2025 Champion Bumper at Cheltenham Festival...* ***NON-RUNNER***

CAPTAIN HUGO still unexposed in handicaps after 3 previous Hcp Hurdle starts (form of 126 – 1/3, 1p)... **potentially at his best on LH tracks on G/S or quicker ground... 61111 (4/5 – all 4 career wins)**... conditions he gets here...

LET IT RAIN winner of a C3 Hcp Hurdle at Stratford when last seen in March... 4/7, 2p in career to date, only disappointment came when PU on Heavy Ground in WH Hurdle at Newbury in Feb... this only 4th Hcp Hurdle start and likely more still to come from current mark of OR 130...

RACE TO BASE both wins to date have come on Good, so ground should be to his liking... should come on for seasonal debut run LTO at Wetherby (0/3, 0p on seasonal debut)... goes well under these conditions... **G/S+ | 1st or 2nd run of season = 112 (2/3, 1p – both career wins)**...

DAY TRADER Irish raider who's last 4 starts have come on the flat... well-beaten on all 3 handicap hurdle starts to date...

Thoughts on others...

HELNWEIN 2nd in this last year off 1lb lower mark and gets his PC to shoot for here... **Hurdle/Bumper | fields of 9+ | OR 130 or less = 22712115 (3/8, 3p - all 3 career wins)**... seasonal debut form of... **4221 (1/4, 3p – excluding career debut run)**...

My play(s)...

LET IT RAIN (D Skelton) should have more to come this season in handicaps and looks a big player in this...

RACE TO BASE (N Scholfield) looks interesting at decent prices and the 1st time CP's also catch the eye, based on the following sire stats... **Vadamos 6yo-7yo offspring wearing 1st time CPs or Visor | Chase/Hurdle over <2m6f | DSLR 60 or less = 7/11 | +£65.17**...

CAPTAIN HUGO (P Hobbs/J White) is one I also want to cover... Hobbs indicated that this race was his early season plan and they may well have left something to work on at Chepstow LTO, with this race in mind...



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