

# CHELTENHAM CHEAT SHEET

## PUNDITS' PICKS OF THE DAY

### ST PATRICK'S THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH



1.20PM

#### MARSH NOVICES' CHASE

- MF** This contest is all about **ENVOI ALLEN** but I'm hoping Chatham Street Lad can hit the places or even in the 'Betting Without' Envoi Allen market.
- RW** **ENVOI ALLEN** has his first run for Henry de Bromhead and will be very difficult to beat.
- GB** **ENVOI ALLEN** is unbeaten in his career to date and there's no reason why he should be beaten now.
- FH** He's unbeaten in 11 starts under rules and it would be a huge shock were **ENVOI ALLEN** to lose his unbeaten record now.
- MC** Envoi Allen just has to turn up to win but I'm going to have a few quid on **CHANNY HOUSE** each-way.

1.55PM

#### PERTEMPS HANDICAP HURDLE

- MF** Always a tough test and **STORM ARISING** has as good an each-way chance as any in a wide-open contest.
- RW** **DANDY MAG** beat The Bosses Oscar at Leopardstown and they re-oppose on the same terms. That gives Dandy Mag a good each-way chance.
- GB** Look for an unexposed hurdler on the up and **IMPERIAL ALCAZAR** fits the bill.
- FH** The handicapper hasn't been kind to **THE BOSSES OSCAR** but he still looks sure to play a big part.
- MC** **SOUTHFIELD HARVEST** has only run a couple of times over three miles and they are his best efforts in a light career to date.

2.30PM

#### RYANAIR CHASE

- MF** Min is the reigning champ and beat **SAINT CALVADOS** last year but the runner-up then can turn the tables this time.
- RW** Paul Townend has chosen last year's winner **MIN** and you can see why. Tornado Flyer looks overpriced.
- GB** You can make a case for a few of these but **SAINT CALVADOS** can go one place better than he did last year and win.
- FH** **SAINT CALVADOS** is out to avenge his runner-up finish last year and can go close again at a good price.
- MC** Forgive **MIN** his last run. The defending champion is easily the form choice on his success last year.

3.05PM

#### PADDY POWER STAYERS' HURDLE

- MF** **PAISLEY PARK** should be too good for these now that he seems back to his best. Vinndication could be the value each-way.
- RW** Last year's winner **LISNAGAR OSCAR** has been overlooked. I think he's coming back into form at just the right time and can hit the places at least.
- GB** **PAISLEY PARK** has looked back to his brilliant best this season and can reclaim the crown he lost last year to Lisnagar Oscar.
- FH** I was calling for **VINNDICATION** to switch to this race instead of the Gold Cup and he has a great chance of making that pay off.
- MC** **PAISLEY PARK** to regain his crown. The former champ was back to his best last time when coming home strongly to score at Ascot.

3.40PM

#### PADDY POWER FESTIVAL PLATE

- MF** **THE SHUNTER** looks reasonably well handicapped despite being a little inexperienced over fences compared to hurdles. Happy Diva is an each-way alternative.
- RW** The one that strikes me is **FILS D'OUDAIRIES** based on his run behind Envoi Allen. He looks well treated.
- GB** **FILS D'OUDAIRIES** is swimming in much calmer waters than when fifth in a Grade One to Monkfish last time.
- FH** **THE SHUNTER** is chasing a £100,000 bonus for winning at Kelso. He got a 5lb penalty for that but can go very close under 7lb claimer Jordan Gainford.
- MC** **MISTER WHITAKER** is 2lb lower in the handicap than when third behind Simply the Betts last season.

4.15PM

#### MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE

- MF** **HOOK UP** was not far behind Appreciate It and Ballyadam last time and she gets the vote ahead of Royal Kahala.
- RW** **ROYAL KAHALA** for Peter Fahey looks the safest option in the race but Skyace could out-run her odds.
- GB** **ROSEYS HOLLOW** lowered the colours of Royal Kahala at Fairyhouse in February and is a fast-improving mare who can confirm that form.
- FH** Willie Mullins has won all five renewals of this race and **GLENS OF ANTRIM** has some really solid form and is a good each-way play.
- MC** **ROSEYS HOLLOW** was super tough when going clear to land a Grade 3 at Fairyhouse last time. She could run a huge race again.

4.50PM

#### KIM MUIR HANDICAP CHASE

- MF** **MOUNT IDA** takes a significant step up in trip and is a decent each-way price in what is usually a very trappy handicap.
- RW** **STORM CONTROL** won twice at this track last winter and could still be improving. Ignore his last run on bad ground.
- GB** The veteran **SHANTOU FLYER** has a great course record and his run at Wincanton last time should leave him spot on for this test.
- FH** **DEISE ABA** was fifth in this race last year off the same mark but with more forcing tactics can go even closer under Richard Johnson.
- MC** Despite his age **SHANTOU FLYER** has a great Cheltenham record and he could at least hit the frame for Paul Nicholls and Harry Cobden.