

AINTREE DAY 1 CHEAT SHEET

PUNDITS' PICKS OF THE DAY

THURSDAY 8TH APRIL

MICK FITZGERALD



RUBY WALSH



TIMEFORM



FRANK HICKEY



MATT CHAPMAN



1:45PM

SUPER ALLOYS MANIFESTO NOVICES' CHASE

- MF** There are question marks over a few of these but **THE SHUNTER** won well at Cheltenham and is still improving.
- RW** **FUSIL RAFFLES** ran really well in the Marsh Chase and can get his head in front this time.
- TF** A mouth-watering opener in which **HITMAN** is taken to gain a first win at the top level having made a highly-promising start to life over fences.
- FH** **FUSIL RAFFLES** ran a cracker in the Marsh Chase and will take plenty of beating now.
- MC** **ELDORADO ALLEN** has chased Shishkin home the last twice and can carry that form forward to this Grade One over a longer trip.

2:20PM

DOOM BAR ANNIVERSARY JUVENILE HURDLE

- MF** **ADAGIO** was second in the Triumph Hurdle and will not mind the drying ground.
- RW** I'm a fan of **MONMIRAL** who seems to get the job done no matter what the circumstances.
- TF** **MONMIRAL** is one of the most exciting juvenile hurdlers around and made it 4-4 with the minimum of fuss at Haydock in February.
- FH** **MONMIRAL** skipped the Triumph but has looked well above average. He can beat Adagio.
- MC** Monmiral is clearly useful but he'll have to be very good to dispose of **ADAGIO** for David Pipe and Tom Scudamore.

2:50PM

BETWAY BOWL CHASE

- MF** **WAITING PATIENTLY** gets the nod on the back of his second-place finish in the King George VI Chase.
- RW** This race could be run to suit the improving **MISTER FISHER** and the step up in trip will help him too.
- TF** This has an open look to it. **WAITING PATIENTLY** is taken to gain another deserved success at the top level in the hope he is ridden slightly more positively with 3m on this flat track looking ideal.
- FH** **WAITING PATIENTLY** can build on his excellent second in the King George VI at Kempton. Probably best to ignore his last run as Ascot.
- MC** **CLAN DES OBEAUX** really should have too much speed for Native River and too much stamina for **WAITING PATIENTLY**.

3:25PM

BETWAY AINTREE HURDLE

- MF** A lot of these are close on ratings but the 2m 4f trip should really suit **SONG FOR SOMEONE**.
- RW** Aintree should suit **ABACADABRAS** who travels strongly in his races and he could improve over this longer trip.
- TF** Olly Murphy's **BREWIN'UPASTORM** has looked better than ever since reverting to hurdles and it's not out of the question that there could still be more to come from him.
- FH** **JASON THE MILITANT** form looks very solid and this trip could unlock further improvement to keep Rachael Blackmore flying high.
- MC** I'll take an each-way punt on former Champion Hurdler **BUVEUR D'AIR** for Nicky Henderson and Nico de Boinville.

4:05PM

ROSE PATERSON RANDOX FOXHUNTERS' OPEN HUNTERS' CHASE

- MF** **SAMETEGAL** has Aintree experience and his rider Will Biddick is a very experienced amateur jockey.
- RW** **BILLAWAY** is in good form but I wouldn't be certain that dropping back in trip will suit him. I don't know enough about the others.
- TF** **CAT TIGER** impressed when readily scoring at Leicester in March and, given his ability to travel/jump fluently, he's an ideal sort for this test.
- FH** **KILLARO BOY** loves good ground and is an each-way play at a nice price.
- MC** Surely **BILLAWAY** will take all the beating? He stays well and might still have more to come as he's relatively lightly raced.

4:40PM

CLOSE BROTHERS RED RUM HANDICAP CHASE

- MF** **DOSTAL PHIL** is a strong traveller in his races who will love Aintree's flat track.
- RW** **ZANZA** could be over-looked in the market after a luckless effort in the Grand Annual at Cheltenham last time. He has an each-way chance.
- TF** **GETAWAY TRUMP** has been called a few names in his time but it's hard to knock his record over 2m on good ground and he's taken to build on his comfortable Doncaster win last time.
- FH** **GREY DIAMOND** won easily last time and looks set to relish decent ground for trainer-in-form Sam Thomas.
- MC** The Grand Annual fourth **ON THE SLOPES** is very well suited to a big-runner field over the minimum two mile trip. Should give us a good run.

5:15PM

GOFFS UK NICKEL COIN MARES' STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

- MF** **EILEENDOVER** has made a huge impression this season and is looking for her fourth win on the spin. Elle Est Belle was third in the Cheltenham Champion Bumper and rates the danger.
- RW** **EILEENDOVER**. Game over. She's very good.
- TF** Lots of these are open to improvement, but **EILEENDOVER** has looked a very smart filly in going 3-3 in bumpers and Pam Sly's star is fancied to take this step up in class in her stride.
- FH** **EILEENDOVER** is extremely exciting and her form looks rock solid. I will be very disappointed if she can't win again.
- MC** **EILEENDOVER** has impressed with her three victories this year and connections dodged the Cheltenham Champion bumper for a crack at this. That decision can pay off now.

PADDYPOWER. NEWS

WINGING IT SINCE 1988.