PUNCHESTOWN

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY APRIL 28TH

HANDICAP HURDLE 2M 4F

3.40PM

4.15PM

4.50PM

5.20PM

5.55PM

6.30PM

7.00PM

7.35PM

This is a really tricky handicap hurdle where the Philip Fenton-trained **Stand Off** looks set to run a big race. He only won by half a length at Fairyhouse but looked value for it.

EBF AUCTION HURDLE SERIES FINAL 2M 4F

Trainer Peter Fahey has a couple of runners and **Born Patriot** is my pick of them. He was a winner of a maiden hurdle at a big price (80/1) at this venue in November and has run creditably since at Thurles, Musselburgh and Navan.

LOUIS FITZGERALD HOTEL HURDLE 2M 4F

The ratings say that Blue Sari could be the one to beat but I haven't given up on **Fighter Allen** yet. I'm hoping the better ground will bring about some more improvement.

GRADE 1 NOVICE HURDLE 3M

Vanillier was very good when winning at Cheltenham but may have gotten a soft lead up front. **Galopin Des Champs** was just as good when beating Imperial Cup winner Langer Dan in the Martin Pipe Handicap Hurdle.

GRADE 1 PUNCHESTOWN GOLD CUP 3M

Kemboy didn't have that hard a race at Cheltenham where the Gold Cup often leaves a mark on horses. He's suited to this flatter track and is a previous winner of this race.

GRADE 1 NH FLAT RACE

A Grade 1 bumper for amateur riders only where Patrick Mullins had a choice to make and he's chosen Cheltenham bumper winner **Sir Gerhard** to beat Kilcruit again. I think he's made the right choice.

GUINNESS H'CAP CHASE 2M 4F

The one that catches my eye is the bottom weight **Tiger Voice**. He was travelling very well at Limerick, where he looked a winner all the way down the hill but just got tired at the second-last fence.

GRADE 3 EBF MARES FLAT RACE 2M

Grangee ran a blinder when sixth to Sir Gerhard and Kilcruit in the Cheltenham bumper. She'll be hard to beat and is my best bet of the day.







