

# RUBY'S PICKS

DAY 1

TUESDAY MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>

CHELTENHAM '23



## 1.30PM SUPREME NOVICES' HURDLE, 2M½F (GRADE 1)

High Definition and **FACILE VEGA** had a right buckle at the Dublin Racing Festival until High Definition unseated his rider at half-way and Facile Vega then faded to finish fifth at the end. It was his first defeat and I'm not opposing Facile Vega now.

## 2.10PM ARKLE CHASE, 2M (GRADE 1)

The home team have Jonbon who is unbeaten over fences as is El Fabiolo who heads a strong Irish challenge. The more I look at the pace angle I'm inclined to think **SAINT ROI** Looks a good each-way bet if the others fold on the run in.

## 2.50PM HANDICAP STEEPLE CHASE (3M1F)

The first handicap of the four-day meeting and it's a very competitive puzzle to solve. Irish runners don't have a great record in this race. Venetia Williams' **FANION D'ESTRIVAL** drops to handicap company and is an each-way price.

## 3.30PM CHAMPION HURDLE, 2M½F (GRADE 1)

It looks a match between the unbeaten Constitution Hill and State Man. **CONSTITUTION HILL** will be long odds-on and State Man will follow him home. There's no other real value to be had here.

## 4.10PM MARES' HURDLE, 2M4F (GRADE 1)

Honeysuckle is the star attraction but this is a race Willie Mullins has farmed and **BRANDY LOVE** should improve plenty for her first run of the season at Punchestown a few weeks ago. I like **SHEWEARSITWELL** as an each-way option.

## 4.50PM BOODLES JUVENILE H'CAP H'DLE (2M½F)

Team Mullins hit the post last year when Gaelic Warrior was just denied in this contest and stablemate **TEKAO** in the JP McManus colours can go one better now.

## 5.30PM NATIONAL HUNT CHASE, 3M6F (GRADE 2)

**GAILLARD DU MESNIL** has always kept good company, not least when third in the Grade One Brown Advisory Novices Chase last season. He must have a great chance in the day one finale that Willie Mullins and his son Paddy, have already won twice.



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