

CHELTENHAM – FESTIVAL TRENDS 2022 - FRIDAY

Past race trends can often help punters draw up a short list of horses to follow in the current year's races. The records below cover the last 10 years (2012-21) with the figure in brackets after the race name being the favourite's strike rate in the race. As Irish trained horses are frequently targeted for this meeting the past record of these runners is also highlighted for all races. A full 10-year result table is also included for the feature race of the day.

(GR 1) 2M 1F JCB TRIUMPH HURDLE (4yo) (30%): 6/10 winners were trained in Ireland. 6/10 winners had won their prep race with the others finishing 4th or better LTO and no winner had fallen in the current season. All also last ran 18-48 days earlier. N Henderson & G Elliott are the leading trainers with 2 wins since 2012. 7/10 winners had odds of 10/1 or shorter. 8/10 winners had run 3 times or less in the current season (others both had 6+ runs).

(GR 3) 2M 1F 'MCCOY CONTRACTORS' COUNTY HURDLE (10%): Another good race for the Irish trainers with 6/10 wins (three from Willie Mullins). The top UK trainer is now Dan Skelton with three wins since 2016. 7yo have a poor record with the last winner in 2003. In the weights 8/10 winners carried 11st 4lb or less. 8/10 winners were 3rd or better LTO.

(GR 1) 3M 'ALBERT BARTLETT' NOVICES' HURDLE (10%): 6/10 Irish trained winners, with two from Willie Mullins yard. 9/10 winners were 3rd or better on last outing (including five winners) with 7/10 being backed at odds of 11/1 or greater (11/1, 14/1 (twice), 16/1, 33/1 (twice) & 50/1. The preferred age group is 6yo with 6/10 wins in total. 9/10 winners had run at least four times in the current season.

(GR 1) 3M 2F 'BOODLES' CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP (30%): 6/10 Irish trained winners since 2012 – all in the last eight years. The favourite's record has gradually improved after a number of surprise winners in the late 90's and indeed all but two of the winners in last decade were at odds of 9/1 or shorter. A 1st place on their last run was seen with 8/10 past winners. 8yo have fared the best in the last decade with 6/10 wins. All winners were rested at least 33 days before winning here. Willie Mullins is the leading trainer on two wins (both with *Al Boum Photo*).

Year	Form	Horse + Days since last run	Age/Weight	Jockey	Odds	Trainer	Field
2012	13-P031	Synchronised (79)	9 11 10	A McCoy	8/1	J O'Neill	14
2013	1/1321-1	Bobs Worth (104)	8 11 10	B Geraghty	11/4F	N Henderson	9
2014	231-006	Lord Windermere (33)	8 11 10	D N Russell	20/1	J Cullotty (Ire)	13
2015	113/111	Coneygree (34)	8 11 10	N de Boinville	7/1	M Bradstock	17
2016	1-111F1	Don Cossack (64)	9 11 10	B Cooper	9/4F	G Elliott (Ire)	10
2017	23-3211	Sizing John (33)	7-11-10	R M Power	7/1	Mrs J Harrington (Ire)	13
2018	21113-1	Native River (34)	8 11 10	R Johnson	5/1	C Tizzard	15
2019	F2F1R-1	Al Boum Photo (73)	7 11 10	P Townend	12/1	W Mullins (Ire)	16
2020	1R/11-21	Al Boum Photo (72)	8 11 10	P Townend	10/3F	W Mullins (Ire)	12
2021	12-11F4	Minella Indo (40)	8 11 10	J Kennedy	9/1	H De Bromhead (Ire)	12

3M 2F ST JAMES' PLACE FOXHUNTERS CHASE (30%): Irish trainers have sent out 6/10 winners since 2012. 9/10 winners had last raced 20-53 days earlier (excluding point to point races). Winner's ages range from 7yrs to 11yrs with 10/11yo winning the last seven renewals. P Nicholls, R Sweeney & E Bolger are joint top trainers with 2 wins each (all trained dual winners in *Pacha Du Polder*, *Salsify* & *On The Fringe*). In the betting 6/10 winners had odds of 15/2 or shorter with the others easy to back at 16/1 (twice), 25/1 & 66/1.

(GR 2) 'MRS PADDY POWER' MARES CHASE OVER 2M 4F: New race in 2021 won by the Willie Mullins trained *Colreevy*.

2M 4.5F MARTIN PIPE (CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS) H'CAP HURDLE (0%): 6/10 Irish trained winners with Willie Mullins training three of them. All ten winners finished 6th or better on their last race with 8/10 aged 5/6yo (others both 7yo). 8/10 past winners carried a weight of 11st 6lbs or more. All ten were rested between 22-77 days before winning here, including three winners which last ran 22 days earlier at Clonmel/Thurles, finishing 3rd or better.

And so, we reach the end of another festival – with Aintree/Punchestown providing one last hurrah before most top national hunt horses are put away for the summer and planning for the 2023 festival starts!

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