

Hexham Trendsetters Guide ~ Thursday 12th March

Previous race trends (2016-25) can often help provide a short-list of potential winners in the current year's races. The percentage figure after the race details is the favourite's 'strike rate' in the race for the last ten years. Trainers who have won the race before are also highlighted if they had an entry at the final declaration stage.

In handicap races, horses that have won before off the same/higher rating are flagged as 'well handicapped'.

In the last five seasons some key statistics are:

Leading Jockey – S Quinlan – 43 wins from 241 rides

Leading Trainer – Lucinda Russell – 26 wins from 174 runners

1.05 – 2m Maiden Hurdle – Fav 66%: New race in 2023. All three were 5th or better LTO and had odds of 7/1 or shorter. Trainer to watch: Lucinda Russell (1 win).

1.42 – 2m Novices Limited H/cap Hurdle: New race in 2024. Both winners to date were 5th or better on their last completed race; were aged 7yo; had odds of 4/1 or shorter. Well handicapped: *Blended Stealth*.

2.22 – 2m 4f H/cap Chase – Fav 28%: New race in 2018 with all winners to date having odds of 9/1 or shorter. Five of the seven winners had finished either 1st/2nd LTO. Trainer to watch: S England & S Forster (1 win). Well handicapped: *Fortunefavorsbold & Cave Hill*.

3.02 – 4m H/cap Chase – Fav 11%: New race in 2016 with Lucinda Russell winning three times to date (latest win 2023). Only three of the nine past winners came from the front two in the betting and apart from a 20/1 winner all others were 9/1 or shorter. The last eight winners all finished 6th or better on their last completed race. All nine winners carried a weight of 10st 13lbs to 11st 12lbs. 2024 winner *Breeze Of Wind* again holds an entry and is now 8lbs higher in the handicap ratings. Trainer to watch: Stuart Coltherd (1 win). Well handicapped: *Planned Paradise & Shighness*.

3.42 – 2m 4f Handicap Hurdle: New race in 2026.

4.22 – 3m H/cap Chase – Fav 0%: New race in 2023. The three past winners had all finished 2nd or 3rd on at least one of their last two races. *Gibberwell* won the race last year and is now 2lbs higher in the handicap ratings. Trainer to watch: J T Coulson (1 win). Well handicapped: *Court At Slip, Raceview Road, Ex S'elance*.

5.00 – 2m 7f (Conditional Jockeys) H/cap Hurdle: New race in 2025. Well handicapped: *Shoeshine Boy, Colonial Empire, Pure Sirloin*.

Information also available at www.northernracingclub.com – click on the Hexham Trends tab.

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