

NATIONAL HUNT JUMPERS TO FOLLOW 2021/2022

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First of all, a big thank you to Blueblood Racing Tipster, Cotswold Racing, Ed Culham Tips, MJ Racing and Rendlesham Racing for all their hard work and maximum effort in making Tipsters Empire what it is today. We continue to grow year upon year and a lot of that growth is obviously down to the excellent profitable tipsters that we have, who not only provide consistent profits but also produce write ups and race previews, of the highest quality, which in turn produce excellent return on investment for members and make the services, what we believe the most enjoyable in the industry.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Ben Jenkins who is our website manager, developer, excel spreadsheet Whiz kid. He makes sure everything runs smoothly and deals with all the techie stuff which makes everything function on a daily basis.

An even bigger thank you goes to Claire Bond and Essence Gayle who are our morning and evening administrators and takes care of all payments, queries, refunds, support on a daily basis. The less fun jobs they are right at the heart of it and make sure customer service is unrivalled in the industry. It allows myself, James Walsh, to direct the www.tipstersempire.co.uk in the right direction along with www.jpwracingtipster.com and www.jpwscoop6.com

We are very much a team at www.tipstersempire.co.uk we all have our important roles to play and although each service is individual, we still have that team vibe, with everyone wanting to see other services do well. It enables us all to thrive, whether than be the tipsters or any of the staff in the office, we all want to see Tipsters Empire as a whole, to grow year upon year.

We have asked each tipster to provide 3 horses to follow each. We could have asked for more, but we are of the opinion, 3 of their best horses for the whole season, will hopefully produce some tidy profit.
In this eBook you will find graded horses to follow and handicap horses to follow.

We hope you enjoy the read and any feedback is obviously very welcome.



Three Horses To Follow

LESSER
Trainer: Richard Phillips
Form figures: 1/111

Lesser was a £50,000 purchase from the Tattersalls Cheltenham January sale in 2020 after winning a point-to-point at Ballycrystal in Ireland by six lengths. The horse he beat that day, Milanford, was placed in Graded company over fences last season, giving Lesser's initial form a strong look to it. Under rules he began with a smooth victory in a bumper at Bangor in December 2020, but then wasn't seen out until the following March, where he routed a weak field in a novice hurdle at Wetherby. He then followed up under a penalty at Kelso in May when making all the running and putting 16 lengths between himself and a rival that is now rated 120 over hurdles. That is impressive form and suggests Richard Phillip's Stowaway gelding could be rated in the 130s already. If that is the case, there's nothing to suggest that Lesser won't be up to competing in Graded company. Gloucestershire based trainer Richard Phillips is no stranger to good horses, but Lesser just could be his best horse since 2003 Grade Two winner La Landiere. He is also likely to be a bigger price than horses hailing from many of the more popular yards. Unbeaten in four career starts, there is still no knowing where this horse's ceiling of ability is, and it will be fascinating to see him return this season.

GASTON PHEBUS
Trainer: Jonjo O'Neill
Form Figures: 3/11

This son of Coastal Path fetched £100,000 at the Tattersalls Cheltenham Festival Sale in March 2020, having finished third in his sole point-to-point at Ballycahane earlier that month. He finished just behind two interesting horses in Docpickedme, now with Harry Whittington, and Patroclus, who won two novice hurdles for Nicky Henderson last season. Gaston Phebus had to be tough to win on his hurdling debut at Carlisle in October 2020 but put in a much more assured display when following up under a penalty to beat a potentially high-class rival in Nicky Richards' Wetlands by over four lengths. He looked to relish the test of the stiff Carlisle finish that day, seeing out every inch of the 2m 3½f trip and on that evidence would clearly benefit from a step up in trip. A tall-framed horse he also has plenty of scope to take to chasing and that might well be his intended discipline if returning this season. The worry is that he hasn't been seen on course for a year now and must have had some issues, however, Jonjo O'Neill's five-year-old is one to watch out closely for when he does return to the racecourse.

BEAR GHYLLS
Trainer: Nicky Martin
Form Figures: 1/1114

Not a horse that is particularly under the radar, but one I think could be significantly better when he begins chasing. Bear Ghylls was a cheap store purchase at only £22,000 from the Tattersalls Ireland June Derby Sale, but this striking son of Arcadio went into many notebooks with a supremely impressive win in his bumper at Warwick in March 2020, when beating a strong rival in Guard Your Dreams by no less than 19 lengths. Despite tending to throw in some awkward leaps when sent hurdling he won twice in novice company, before making light work of an opening handicap mark of 130 at Exeter. Next time he ran with plenty of credit is what was the best novice hurdle at Cheltenham last season – the Ballymore – and it was no disgrace to be beaten by Bob Olinger, Gaillard Du Mesnil and Bravemansgame. Over fences this season, he will need to cut out the errors he got away with over hurdles, and his

success could depend on whether the larger obstacles help to focus his mind, as they often can. If that is the case, then Nicky Martin could have something special on her hands.



Three Horses To Follow

Houka D'Oudairies
Trainer – Gary Moore
Form Figures - 11-2

French import who made her debut at Huntingdon last week. Unfancied at double figure odds, she lead from the start and a mistake a couple out sealed her fate as she was starting to tire. Beaten by what looks another smart prospect from Jonjo, I expect Houka to learn plenty from this and as long as they keep her to races of her own sex, she should soon be winning.

Boothill
Trainer – Harry Fry
Form Figures - 1/1-3

Strongly fancied for the big London Handicap at Ascot in October, Boothill looked to have summered well and was in great condition. Official reports

have the ground as soft, but it looked far quicker to me and with good ground horses battling out many finishes on the day, time will prove it wasn't soft enough for Boothill. He travelled well, but couldn't match the finishing kick of the quicker ground favoured horses. I could well see Fry looking to come back here for some big Christmas pots when the ground is properly soft or worse.

Frero Banbou
Trainer – Venetia WIlliams
Form Figures - 73314-4

Well backed in a race Venetia plots one out for each year, Frero Banbou was another horse scuppered by the forecasters inability to tell us if it will rain or not within a 24 hour period. With everyone expecting biblical downfalls before the race, this horse was heavily backed, only for the sun to shine all day in late October. An early baulk seemed to put Frero off his game and he drifted backwards. Seemingly without much hope, or effort from his jockey, the horse stayed on through beaten horses without any encouragement from the saddle and if he gets a clear run on soft ground in the near future I think he will run a big race.



Three Horses To Follow

I AM MAXIMUS
Trainer: Nicky Henderson
Form Figures – 1

Won a Cheltenham bumper first time out at the backend of October last season and gave the impression he could potentially be high class over hurdles this season given the subsequent exploits of the second place horse, My Drogo, who is unbeaten since and ended up winning a grade one race at the Aintree Festival last season easily. He was slightly on and off the bridle on his sole success, still running green, an indication he has a lot more to offer as he learns his trade but responded nicely when asked for a touch more from the saddle and won more comfortably than the winning margin suggests.

His Sire has already produced the likes of Goshen and Tiger Roll, both of which have performed well at a high level during their careers. He could well end up being one of the leading contenders for one of the grade one novice hurdle races at the Cheltenham Festival this season and has been reported to have schooled very well.

JONBON
Trainer: Nicky Henderson
Form Figures – 11

Another one from the same yard that has the potential to be high class if his breeding is anything to go by, being a full brother to the talented and high class Douvan, a winner of the Supreme hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival back in 2015 and winning again the following year at the festival in the Arkle over fences. His sire also produced Min, who was second in the Supreme Hurdle in the 2018 version to one of the best 2 mile chasers of modern times in the shape of Altior and Min himself became top class over fences, winning a grade one Ryanair at Cheltenham in 2020 plus other multiple grade one wins to his name.

So he is certainly bred for the job, and his legendary punter/owner went to far lengths to secure this horse, costing him £570,000 in the November sales last year, so one of highest purchases ever made for a National hunt Horse, not the highest but still the highest purchase made for one that was bought out of the Point To Point sales. His future will lie over fences one day but he could well take high rank as a hurdler in the interim as his two siblings mentioned both did and he will arguably be campaigned accordingly with the Supreme Novice or Ballymore Hurdle looking the main possibilities if he shows beforehand what connections hope he will turn out to be this season.

Won his Point to Point and bumper race convincingly enough and although those races were more about style over substance, you could argue that was the case with both Min and Douvan when they started their race careers with Willie Mullins.

FLASH COLLONGES
Trainer: Paul Nicholls
Form Figures – 1F2111

Physically has the scope to make a very decent chaser given his size and everything he achieved over hurdles looks to just be a bonus. An imposing sort, who surprisingly learned quite quickly considering he was bought from the Store sales (Horses who have never seen the racetrack before the age of 4 years old and are bred for National Hunt races). He's bred to be very useful over the larger obstacles as his Grandam produced Neptune Collonges, a 16 times winner, three times at the highest level over fences, a fine third in the Cheltenham Gold Cup in 2008 to one of my favourite National Hunt horses Denman, and where he was just pipped for 2nd by the wonderful Kauto Star, arguably one of the best Gold Cups post millennium, neptune Collonges ended his career on a fine note when winning the Grand national.

The selection's sire is Saddle Maker who has produced some very decent chasers such as Bristol De Mai (3 times a winner of the Betfair Chase). This one's forte appears to be about stamina based on breeding, so he will be much more of an interest when he steps up in trip in races of 3miles or more which he has yet to do, so there should be more to come in time and he's in fine hands to getting him to realise his potential one hopes...



Three Horses To Follow

I have picked out three dark horses who I think will win their fair share of races this new season, with all three possibly ending up at the Cheltenham Festival and currently big prices for their potential races. We saw last season the Irish domination and I can't see that changing anytime soon, so no great surprise that my dark horses are all from Irish stables.

MIGHTY BLUE
Trainer: Joseph O'Brien
Form Figures- 4243-6145/0

This mare has been racing predominantly on the flat during her career so far but made a very encouraging start to life over hurdles last season after running respectable races in listed company on the flat. In just her second run over hurdles she ran a cracker in a listed novice hurdle at Thurles, beaten just 3L by a grade 1 runner up. She then bettered that form by running an excellent race at the Cheltenham Festival in the Mares Novices Hurdle (grade 2), finishing 3rd of 15 runners, so has shown plenty of ability over hurdles. She has been kept busy since that run by returning to the flat where she stormed clear to win the Vintage Tipple Stake (listed) by over 7L. She's been running well in group races since. The plan is to return to hurdling this new jumps season and although she remains a maiden from 4 hurdle starts, she's shown lots of ability and judged on flat form, she could be well enough handicapped to win a few races. The target will be for a tilt again at the Mares Novices Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival.

HOLLOW GAMES
Trainer: Gordon Elliot
Form Figures- 1/11-

This gelding has really caught the eye so far and looks set for a big future over hurdles. He absolutely bolted up in an Irish PTP at Turtulla over 3m, winning by 30L before leaving Mary Doyle to join the Elliot yard for £255,000. He's now 2-2 for this stable with both wins coming in bumpers last season. The first win came at Punchestown over 2m where he beat The Banger Doyle by 7L, despite being niggled along from some way out, he picked up impressively and scootered clear to win eased down. He followed up with another comfortable win, this time at Leopardstown over 2m. He beat the Willie Mullins trained Eurotiep by nearly 2L and that horse has come out and really franked the form since, winning both its starts over hurdles. With some decent form behind him and holding a 100% record so far in his career, he's certainly one to follow for this season as he goes hurdling. Gordon Elliot has recently said this gelding schooled well over hurdles and that "We're really looking forward to him". He currently is about 33/1 for the Novices Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival later on in the season.

GENTLEMANSGAME
Trainer: Michael Morris
Form Figures- 1123-2

This gelding looks to have bundles of ability after coming from nowhere really from a yard that's not massively talked about despite training the winner of the Irish Grand National twice (2008 & 2016). He holds very strong form, even from his first ever start in an Irish PTP where he beat Balco Coastal by 5L. That horse went on to go off favourite for a grade 2 bumper on Grand National day at Aintree. He burst onto the scene at Cork on his hurdle debut, bolting up to win by 21L. From then on in, he has failed to win since but has been knocking on the door in top class company since. Just to reel off some of that form since that Cork success, he was runner up behind Gaillard Du Mensil in a Novice hurdle and that horse went on to win the Champion Novice Hurdle (grade 1) at Punchestown. He has also finished behind Galopin Des Champs in a grade 1 at Punchestown in his last run. Let's not forget he's only had 4 runs over hurdles, so there's plenty more to come from him. I thought he was a very interesting one because although he's been running over hurdles and is priced up in a

couple of hurdle races at the Cheltenham Festival, I think he'll be going chasing. His pedigree suggests he'll make an even better chaser than hurdler and he looks the type who'll take well to fences. He's currently about 20/1 for the National Hunt Chase at the Cheltenham Festival.

Resources

NagMe

This is a free horse tracker that will send alerts whenever your chosen horses are racing. Some of our newcomers are so far under the radar that they may not be available straight away, but rest assured they will become available at some point in the near future. Some websites may have them on, but not all are free, as NagMe is.

www.nagme.com

Tipsters Empire Betting Guide

We've created a Betting Guide over at Tipsters Empire that will be added to and expanded over the coming months. This guide covers commonly used betting terms, examples of different bet types, odds conversion techniques and more.

www.tipstersempire.co.uk/betting-guide/

Where to watch Horse Racing

There are multiple places to watch racing these days, AtTheRaces, RacingUK and ITV4, to name but a few. These generally cover almost all racing between them.
www.attheraces.com / www.racingtv.com / www.itv.com/racing

SportingLife has the ability to watch race replays for free, which is a great tool. All you need to do is register a free account, then head over to their results page. www.sportinglife.com/racing/results