

## Cheltenham Trends 2011

In this document I examine 19 of the major Cheltenham races providing stats based on the last ten years of each race.

I hope it helps you pick a few Festival winners.

Best Wishes

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### Tuesday

#### Supreme Novices Hurdle

##### POSITIVE TRENDS

**Recent form:** 8 of the last 10 winners won last time out.

**Previous hurdle form:** The last 10 winners have all come into the race having won at least 50% of all their previous hurdle races

**Trainers:** 7 of the last 10 winners were trained in Ireland.

##### NEGATIVE TRENDS

**Price 25/1+:** 1 win from 100 (loss of £59.00; ROI -59%).

**Running style:** Only 2 winners in the last 10 years have won from racing from well off the pace (eg. midfield / back half of the field) from 114 qualifiers.

##### GENERAL STATS

**Favourites (inc. joints):** 3 wins from 12 (loss of £0.75; ROI -6.5%).

**Finishing positions of favourites:** 3, 1, 1, 1, 13, 5, 3, 2/11/12, 5, 3

**Age:** 4yos have won 0 races from 11 qualifiers (SR 0%); 5yos have won 3 races from 89 qualifiers (SR 3.4%); 6yos have won 5 from 73 qualifiers (SR 6.8%); 7yo+ have won 2 from 30 (SR 6.7%).

**Breeding:** Irish breds have won 7 races from 92 (SR 7.6%), British breds have won 3 from 47 (SR 6.4%) while all other countries have combined for 0 wins from 64.

**Trends Summary:** *The best starting point looks to be recent form with 8 of the last 10 winners having won LTO – this is despite Menorah bucking this trend last year (he had finished 2<sup>nd</sup> LTO). With only 1 winner priced 25/1 or bigger since 2000 it seems best to leave outsiders alone, and in addition you do not want to be backing genuine hold up horses. In terms of breeding it definitely looks best to stick with British and Irish breds. Age wise 6yos and older have had the edge over 4 and 5 year olds.*

4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4	^
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103	

## Irish Independent Arkle Challenge Trophy Chase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners finished 1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> LTO.
<b>Market:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners came from runners 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> in the betting. Focusing on those priced between 7/2 and 9/1, they have provided 9 winners from 34 runners (PROFIT of £35.50; ROI +104.4%).
<b>Chase record:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners had finished 1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> on all completed chase starts.
<b>Race type LTO:</b> All of the last 10 winners raced in a Novice Chase LTO.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Favourites:</b> 1 win from 10 (LOSS of £7.75; ROI -77.5%).
<b>Price 10/1+:</b> 0 winners and 8 placed from 92 qualifiers.
<b>Running style:</b> No horse has made all the running in the last 10 years – a stat that goes back to at least 1988.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 3, 2, 1, F, 7, 7, 2, 3, F, 8
<b>Age:</b> 5yos have won 2 races from 24 qualifiers (SR 8.3%); 6yos have won 1 from 26 qualifiers (SR 3.8%); 7yos have won 5 races from 53 qualifiers (SR 9.4%); 8yos+ have won 2 from 35 (SR 5.7%).

**Trends Summary:** *Look for horses that have finished 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> on every completed start over fences. The runners just behind the market leader (2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> in betting) have been the value providing 9 winners. Indeed all winners have been 9/1 or shorter in price. Favourites have a poor win record with 1 win from 10, and going back to 1992 it stands at 2 from 18. In terms of age, 8 year olds and older tend to struggle, although Sizing Europe was 8 when he won last year. Before that win however, 8yos+ were 1 win from 69 stretching back to 1991.*

4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4	^
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103	

## William Hill Trophy Handicap Steeplechase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Form:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners won at least one of their last six starts.
<b>Market:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners have come from 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> in the betting (PROFIT £19.50; ROI +69.6%).
<b>Position LTO:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners finished in the first three LTO (6 won).
<b>Official rating:</b> All of the last 10 winners were rated between 129 and 143.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 1 win from 14 (LOSS of £8.00; ROI -57.1%).
<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 11 or older provided 0 winners from 30.
<b>Weight:</b> Horses carrying 11st or more have provided 0 winners from 59 qualifiers.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 2/5, 6, 3/11, 8, 9, PU, 2/3/6, 3, 1, 2
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<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>At least one win in the last six runs combined with a lowish weight are the key positive factors here. In terms of negatives it looks best to avoid horses aged 11 or older and/or horses carrying 11st or more. Favourites have a poor recent record too in terms of wins and the long term picture is bleak also with just 3 wins for market leaders since 1969.</i>
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## Stan James Champion Hurdle Challenge Trophy

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners won LTO.
<b>Price:</b> 5 of the 10 winners were priced in double figures.
<b>Course form:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners had previously won or been placed at the Cheltenham Festival (7 had won).
<b>Days since last run:</b> All of the last 10 winners had raced within the last 51 days.
<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 7 or 8 have provided 6 of the last 10 winners.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 5 or younger provided 1 winner from 30; 9yo+ provided just 1 win from 27.
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### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites:</b> 3 wins from 11 (LOSS of £2.22; ROI -20.2%).
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 1, PU, 3, 2, 1/9, 1, 6, 14, 3, 10

**Trends Summary:** *Previous win and placed form at the Festival has been important with the last 9 winners having previously achieved this (7 had won). The only one that had not was Sublimity and he had finished 4<sup>th</sup> in a previous festival. Horses that won LTO not surprisingly do well with 8 of the last 10 winners having won on their previous start. Indeed, going back further, 23 of the last 27 winners had won LTO. All winners have run within the past 2 months, while in general it pays to focus on 7 and 8yos who have provided 60% of the winners from 36% of the total runners.*

## Wednesday - 19<sup>th</sup> Year of the National Hunt Chase Challenge Cup (Amateurs)

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners finished in the first two LTO.
<b>Age:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners were aged 7 or 8.
<b>Price:</b> 4 of the last 8 winners have been priced 25/1 or bigger.
<b>Running style:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners were held up.
<b>LTO race:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners raced in a non handicap Novice Chase LTO.
<b>LTO course:</b> 5 of the last 10 winners raced at a Grade 1 British track LTO (PROFIT £29.00; ROI +45.3%).
<b>Trainers:</b> Jonjo O'Neill has been successful 3 times and Ferdy Murphy twice.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> 6 year olds or younger are 1 win from 35 (LOSS £21.00 ROI -63.6%); 9 year olds or older are 1 win from 44 (LOSS £33.00 ROI -75%).
<b>Position LTO:</b> Horses that finished 3 <sup>rd</sup> or worse LTO have provided just 2 winners from 107.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 1 win from 11.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> PU, 8, 2, 1/4, 5, 3, F, 5, 4, 5
<b>Sex of horse:</b> 13 mares have contested the race with 0 wins. However, they have had 3 placed runs.

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>Recent form is important with the 8 of the last 10 winners finishing first or 2nd LTO, while 7 and 8 year olds have been the most successful age band. Horses that are held up have the best record so "in running" punters take note. Also look for horses that ran in a Novice Chase LTO with preference to any runner that ran at a British Grade 1 track LTO.</i>
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4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4	^
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103	

## Neptune Investment Novices' Hurdle

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners won or finished 2 <sup>nd</sup> LTO (7 won). 9 of the last 10 winners had won at least once in their last two starts.
<b>Market:</b> Top 5 in betting have provided 9 of the last 10 winners.
<b>Last run:</b> All of the last 10 winners had raced within the last 60 days.
<b>Age:</b> All of the last 10 winners were aged 5 or 6.
<b>Race type LTO:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners contested a pattern race LTO.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Market:</b> Horses 6 <sup>th</sup> or bigger in the betting have produced 1 win from 118.
<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 7 or older have provided 0 winners from 35 runners.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 2 wins from 11.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 1, 4, 2, 2, 5/7, 2, 5, 13, 1, 3

**Trends Summary:** *There are some key stats that have held true for much longer than 10 years. For example, going back to 1982 only one horse that finished 3<sup>rd</sup> or worse LTO has gone onto win this race. In addition, 16 of the last 18 winners have come from the top five of the betting. Hence, these two stats will help you create your shortlist, and from there focus on 5 and 6yos. From a negative perspective ignore any horse that is coming off a lay off of longer than 2 months.*

Back	Starting Price	Lay	97.2%
4.9	5	SP	SP
£33	£48	£57	£88 £103

## RSA Chase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> All of the last 10 winners won or finished 2 <sup>nd</sup> LTO (5 won).
<b>Season form:</b> All of the last 10 winners had won during the current season.
<b>Age:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners were aged 7.
<b>Trainers:</b> Both Willie Mullins and Paul Nicholls have saddled 2 winners.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 8 or older have provided 1 winner from 42.
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### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites:</b> 3 wins from 10 (PROFIT of £0.45; ROI +4.5%).
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 4, 5, 5, 3, 2, PU, 1, 1, 1, 5

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>33 of last 36 winners finished 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> LTO so this is the sensible starting point for shortlist purposes. Then make sure that if they finished 2<sup>nd</sup> LTO they have previously won this season. 7yos have an excellent record and demand very close scrutiny. Favourites have won three of the last four renewals, but don't rule out bigger prices as double figure priced runners have won 4 of the last 9 renewals (including winners at 25/1 and 33/1). Finally, although it is difficult to quantify stats wise, traditional National Hunt bred horses have done best in this contest over the years.</i>
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## Queen Mother Champion Chase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners won LTO.
<b>Market:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners have come from the top 2 of the betting.
<b>Festival form:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners had previously won at the Festival.
<b>Days since last run:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners had raced within the last 8 weeks.
<b>Jockeys:</b> 3 wins apiece for Ruby Walsh and Barry Geraghty.
<b>Trainers:</b> Paul Nicholls has won the race 3 times (also won in 1999).

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Price:</b> Horses priced 11/1 or bigger have won 1 from 64 (LOSS £47.00; ROI -73.4%).
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### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites:</b> 4 wins from 10.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 3, 1, 1, U, 1, F, F, 2, 1, 4
<b>Breeding:</b> French bred have won 5 races from 32 qualifiers; Irish bred have won 5 races from 43 qualifiers; all other countries combined have won 0 races from 24.
<b>Age:</b> 5yos have 1 race from 1 qualifier (SR 100%); 6yos have won 2 races from 10 qualifiers (SR 20%); 7yos have won 1 race from 9 qualifiers (SR 11.1%); 8yos have won 3 from 25 qualifiers (SR 12%); 9yos have won 2 from 27 qualifiers (SR 7.4%); 10yo+ have won 1 from 27 qualifiers (SR 3.7%).

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>Last time out winners coupled with a position in the top 2 in the betting is a useful starting point, while previous winning form at the track / Festival has also been very important. In terms of negatives, only one horse has won at 11-1 or bigger in the last 10 years from 64 qualifiers.</i>
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## Coral Cup Hurdle

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners won LTO (6 of the last 8).
<b>Form:</b> All of the last 10 winners had won at least once in their last four starts.
<b>Market:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners have come from the top 6 of the betting.
<b>Age:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners were aged 5 to 7.
<b>Breeding:</b> 5 of the last 10 winners have been French bred. They have provided 50% of the winners from only 19% of the total runners.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Weight:</b> Horses carrying 11st 3lb or more have provided just 1 winner from 58 (LOSS £46.00; ROI -79.3%).
<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 8 or older have won just 1 from 87 (LOSS £76.00; ROI -87.4%).
<b>Course winners:</b> Previous course winners are 1 win from 48.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites:</b> 1 win from 10, but with an average field of 27 this should be no surprise.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 5, 26, 1, 3, 9, F, 16, 18, 10, 12
<b>Trainers:</b> 3 of the last 10 winners were trained in Ireland.

**Trends Summary:** *in a race where the field is invariably close to 30 runners, the use of key trends will help narrow the field down to a much smaller group of horses that statistically have the best chance of winning. It is usually best to concentrate on horses aged 7 or younger with preference to 6 and 7 year olds. LTO winners have a good record considering the competitive nature of the race – they have provided 60% of the winners from just 25% of the total runners. It might be difficult to eventually pinpoint one horse that is a clear trends' pick, but with a big field there is no harm backing 2 or 3 against the field.*

## Weatherbys Championship Bumper

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners won LTO (15 out of last 18).
<b>Trainers:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners have been trained in Ireland (3 by Willie Mullins – he also won the race in 1996, 1997 and 1998).
<b>Market:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners have come from the top 6 of the betting.
<b>Breeding:</b> Irish breds have won 8 out of the last 10 races.
<b>Previous wins:</b> All of the last 10 winners have previously won a bumper with at least 13 runners. 5 had won a bumper with more than 20 runners.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 4 are 1 win from 34. (Going back to 1996 they are 1 win from 53).
<b>Breeding:</b> French breds are 0 wins, 1 placed from 20 runners.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites:</b> 2 wins and 4 placed from 10.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 2, 2, 1, 14, 1, 12, 8, 3, 3, 20

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>a combination of Irish trained Irish bred and a winner LTO and you have a strong candidate for this race. Also look for horses that have previously won a bumper with at least 13 runners. 5yos used to dominate (they won all races from 1996 to 2004), but it is more open these days age wise. Indeed, Cue Card won for the 4yos last year breaking a run of 51 consecutive losers stretching back to 1996.</i>
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4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4	^
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103	

## Thursday Pertemps Handicap Hurdle Final

### POSITIVE TRENDS

**Recent form:** 5 of the last 10 winners won LTO. 50% of the winners may not seem that significant until you realize that LTO winners have provided less than 18% of the total runners. Indeed going back a further five years sees LTO winners providing 10 of the last 16 winners.

**Fitness:** 8 of the last 10 winners had a break of over 30 days since their last run.

**Price:** 8 of the last 10 winners were 10/1 or bigger. Two wins for horses priced 50/1 and 2 placed runners at 66/1.

**Trainers:** Jonjo O' Neill and Nigel Twiston-Davies have both won the race twice in the last 10 years.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

**Favourites/Market:** 1 win from 11 for favourites; 0 wins from 23 for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> favourites (inc. joints).

**Age:** 5 year olds have produced 0 wins from 26; 10 year old and older are 0 from 27.

**Course winners:** Course winners have provided 0 winners from 49.

### GENERAL STATS

**Finishing positions of favourites:** 4, 14, 1, 7, 15, 8, 18, 2/8, 12, 12

**Age:** 5yos see above 6yos have won 3 races from 50 qualifiers (SR 6%); 7yos have won 1 race from 64 qualifiers (SR 1.6%); 8yos have won 2 from 47 qualifiers (SR 4.3%); 9yos have won 4 from 22 qualifiers (SR 18.2%); 10yo+ see above.

**Trends Summary:** *With large fields this race is difficult to trim to a manageable shortlist, but LTO winners deserve close scrutiny. In terms of price don't be afraid to back bigger priced runners as this race tends to be very open. Focus on runners aged 6 to 9 and it seems sensible to avoid previous course winners.*

4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4	^
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103	

## Ladbrokes World Hurdle

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> All of the last 10 finished 1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> LTO.
<b>Market:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners came from the top 3 in the betting.
<b>Price:</b> All of the last 10 winners were priced 8/1 or shorter.
<b>Previous winners:</b> 3 horses have managed to repeat wins in the race.
<b>Last Market Price:</b> Horses priced 11/2 or shorter LTO provided all of the last 10 winners.
<b>Age:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners were aged 6 to 8.
<b>Running style:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners were held up.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 9 or older are 1 from 39; 5yos are 0 from 8.
<b>Trainers:</b> Irish runners are 0 wins from 22.
<b>Breeding:</b> Irish breds have won just 1 race from 55 qualifiers (LOSS £48.50; ROI -88.2%)

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 4 wins from 11 (LOSS of £0.92; ROI -8.3%).
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 6, 1, 1/3, 2, 2, 3, F, 1, 4, 1

***Trends Summary: this race has been market driven in recent years with the highest priced winner being 8/1. Previous market considerations have produced strong trends with horses priced 11/2 or shorter LTO providing all 10 winners. The age bracket to focus on is 6 to 8 year olds, while "in running" punters are better off backing horses that are held up early in the race In terms of negatives, both Irish trainers and Irish bred horses have really struggled in recent years.***

## Festival Plate Chase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Position LTO:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners finished in the first five LTO.
<b>Price:</b> All of the last 10 winners have been priced 12/1 or bigger (4 have been 25/1 or bigger).
<b>Weight:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners carried 10st 9lb or less.
<b>Age:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners have been aged 6 to 9.
<b>Breeding:</b> 5 of the last 10 winners were French bred.
<b>Days since last run:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners had been off the track for between 3 and 6 weeks.
<b>Trainers:</b> Nicky Henderson has been successful twice as has Venetia Williams.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Market:</b> No wins for any horse from the top four of the betting.
<b>Position LTO:</b> Horses that finished 7 <sup>th</sup> or worse LTO have produced 0 wins from 69.
<b>Weight:</b> The top 4 in the weights (inc. joints) have produced 0 winners from 42.
<b>Headgear:</b> Horses wearing any type of headgear (blinkers, visor, cheekpieces, etc) have provided just 1 winner from 50.
<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 10 or older have won 2 races from 58 runners.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 0 wins in the last 10 years and just 1 win since 1981.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 2, 2, U, 2, 4, F, 19, F, 2, 2

**Trends Summary:** *With the Ryanair now in existence, the weight stats are potentially less applicable as the classier runners will generally bypass this race. Having said that, horses near the top of the handicap are still likely to struggle. This race has got several strong looking stats and key stats seem to be – finished in the first five LTO, aged 6 to 9, a double figure price and carrying 10st 9lb or less. Favourites have an awful record with just 1 win in the last 29 renewals, while there have been no wins at all for any runners from the top four of the betting.*

## Fulke Walwyn Kim Muir Challenge Cup Handicap Chase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Price:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners have been 12/1 or bigger (inc. 40/1, 33/1 twice).
<b>Price:</b> 24 of the 40 win and placed horses were priced 16/1 or bigger.
<b>Age:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners have been aged 9.
<b>Market position LTO:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners were favourite or 2 <sup>nd</sup> favourite LTO (PROFIT £26.00; ROI +40.6%).

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 11 or older are 0 wins from 33; 7yo or younger are 1 from 65.
<b>Distance LTO:</b> Horses that ran over less than 3 miles LTO have produced 0 winners from 60.
<b>Sex of horse:</b> 14 mares have contested the race with only 1 being placed (3 <sup>rd</sup> ).
<b>LTO race type:</b> Horses that raced in a non handicap race LTO have provided 0 winners from 44.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 2 wins and 3 placed from 11, which is solid considering the average field size is over 20 (PROFIT £3.00; ROI +27.3%).
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> F, 1, 2, 3, 8, 8/9, 1, UR, 7, 3

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>this is an open race where you should not rule out the chances of big priced horses from a win or placed perspective. Look for horses for that ran over 3 miles or more LTO, and horses that were favourite or second favourite LTO. Age wise 9yos have a good record while 7 and younger / 11 or older have struggled.</i>
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Back	Starting Price	Lay	97.2%
4.9 £33	5 £48	SP	SP
		5.2 £57	5.3 £88
			5.4 £103

## Friday Triumph Hurdle

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners won LTO (other 2 winners finished 2 <sup>nd</sup> LTO).
<b>Market:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners came from the top three in the betting.
<b>Wins:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners have won at least 50% of their career starts over hurdles.
<b>Course LTO:</b> Horses coming from Kempton or Sandown LTO have an excellent record with 6 wins.
<b>Last run:</b> All of the last 10 winners had run within the last 2 months.
<b>Distance LTO:</b> All of the last 10 winners raced at a distance of 2m 1f or less LTO.
<b>Running style:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners raced prominently / up with the pace.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Position LTO:</b> Horses from UK stables that finished 3 <sup>rd</sup> or worse LTO have provided 0 winners from 69 with just 3 placed efforts.
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### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites:</b> 2 wins from 10.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 1, PU, 3, 10, 3, 1, 10, 2, 2, 4

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>This race has some strong positive trends and the horse to look for is a LTO winner, who has won at least 50% of their career starts hurdles. Look also for horses that have had their last race in the past 2 months with preference to those coming from Kempton or Sandown. From a running style perspective, despite a big field it has paid to lie handy and up with the pace.</i>
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Back	Starting Price	Lay	97.2%
4.9 £33	5 £48	SP	SP
		5.2 £57	5.3 £88
			5.4 £103

## County Handicap Hurdle

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 3 wins from 12 qualifiers (PROFIT of £6.50; ROI +54.2%).
<b>Market:</b> 6 wins from 10 for the top 3 in the betting.
<b>Recent form:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners finished in the first three LTO.
<b>Age:</b> 5 of the last 10 winners were aged 5.
<b>Running style:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners were held up in midfield or at the back of field before coming to deliver their challenge late.
<b>LTO course:</b> 5 of the 10 winners raced at Newbury LTO; 4 of them raced in the Totesport Gold Trophy.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Price:</b> Horses priced 25/1 or bigger have provided just 1 winner from 145 qualifiers (LOSS £94.00; ROI -64.8%).
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### GENERAL STATS

<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 1, 13, PU, 1/5, 11, 1/10, 25, 2, 6, 23
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<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>5yos have an excellent record winning 50% of the races from 20% of the total runners. Favourites have also done well considering how competitive the race is and in general the market does hold sway – just 1 win from 145 for horses priced 25/1 or bigger. A good trial seems to be the Totesport Gold Trophy at Newbury as 4 of the last 9 winners ran in the race. For “in running” punters it definitely looks best to back a horse that is held up early.</i>
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4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103

## Totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Favourites:</b> 5 wins from 10 (PROFIT £4.35; ROI +43.5%).
<b>Market:</b> All of the last 10 winners came from the top three in the betting.
<b>Recent form:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners won LTO.
<b>Festival Form:</b> 8 of the last 10 winners had won or been placed at a previous Festival (6 had won).
<b>Age:</b> All of the last 10 winners were aged 7, 8 or 9 (16 of the last 17).
<b>Course LTO:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners came from one of three tracks -Leopardstown, Newbury or Kempton.
<b>King George:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners ran in the King George VI chase the previous December (for 5 of them it was their most recent start).
<b>Official ratings:</b> Horses with an OR of 169 or bigger have produced 8 winners from only 20 qualifiers.
<b>Days since last run:</b> All of the last 10 winners had not raced for at least a month.
<b>Breeding:</b> Irish bred runners have provided 8 of the last 10 winners.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Price:</b> Horses priced 8/1 or bigger have provided 0 winners from 120 runners.
<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 10 or older are 0 wins from 47.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 4, PU, 1, 1, 1, 11, 1, 2, 1, F
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<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>A race stacked with positive trends. Favourites have done well in recent years and the top end market as a whole has dominated the last 10 renewals. All of the last 10 winners came from the top 3 of the betting and were priced 15/2 or shorter. Age wise 7 to 9yos are the group to concentrate on, while a good recent run is a definite plus. Also look for horses that have ran well in a previous Cheltenham Festival. Respect horses that ran in the King George, and another key stat is to look for horses rated 169 or higher. They have provided 80% of the winners from 14% of the runners!</i>
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## Christie's Foxhunter Steeplechase Challenge Cup

### POSITIVE TRENDS

<b>Recent form:</b> 5 of the last 10 winners won LTO.
<b>Favourite LTO:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners were favourite LTO.
<b>Price:</b> 6 of the last 10 winners were priced 14/1 or bigger.
<b>Running style:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners raced prominently or up with the pace.
<b>Fitness:</b> 7 of the last 10 winners had raced within 5 weeks of their most recent run (either under "rules" or in a point to point). The other three winners came back off a break of at least 10 months.
<b>Career:</b> 9 of the last 10 winners had won a race under "rules".

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

<b>Age:</b> Horses aged 11 or older have won 2 races but from 96 qualifiers (LOSS of £64.00; ROI -66.7%).
<b>Sex of horse:</b> Only 10 mares have contested the race in the last 10 years but all have finished unplaced.

### GENERAL STATS

<b>Favourites (inc. joints):</b> 3 wins from 11.
<b>Finishing positions of favourites:</b> 5, PU, 1, PU, 1, PU, 2, PU, 12, 1/BD

<b>Trends Summary:</b> <i>A good starting point is to eliminate horses aged 11 or older. If we go back 20 years, we see that 11yos or older remain on just 2 victories and they generally supply just under 40% of the runners. Last time out winners have a solid record although this was a much stronger stat at the end of the 90s. It is also best to concentrate on horses that have won a race under "rules".</i>
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4.9	5	SP	SP	5.2	5.3	5.4	^
£33	£48			£57	£88	£103	

## Johnny Henderson Grand Annual Steeplechase

### POSITIVE TRENDS

**Market:** 5 of the last 10 winners came from the top two in the betting.

**Price:** 7 of the last 10 winners were priced 8/1 or shorter.

**Weight:** All of the last 10 winners carried 10st 11lb or less.

**Weight:** 8 of the last 10 winners were 10<sup>th</sup> or lower in the weights.

**Official rating:** 9 of the last 10 winners were rated between 129 and 134.

### NEGATIVE TRENDS

**Age:** Horses aged 10 or older are 1 win from 45.

**Breeding:** British bred have provided just 1 winner from 40 qualifiers (LOSS £23.00; ROI -57.5%).

### GENERAL STATS

**Favourites:** 2 wins from 10.

**Finishing positions of favourites:** 1, 2, 5, 1, 14, F, 6, 2, 8, PU

**Trends Summary:** *Horses aged 10 and older can fairly safely be eliminated as just four have made the frame from 45 starters in the last 10 years (1 win, 3 placed). Low weighted horses have done well (10st 11lb or less) as have runners priced in single figures. Horses with an official OR of between 129 and 134 have provided a remarkable 90% of the winners from 44% of the total runners. In terms of breeding British bred runners have generally struggled.*