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Ten to Follow 2022/2023 Jumps Season



Ten to Follow with full write ups
and race conditions



Free

Introduction

Hello and a warm welcome to Cleeve Racing's 2022/23 Jumps Season Ten to Follow.

This guide contains the complete list of the Ten to Follow and we suggest you set them up on a tracker such as <https://www.geegeez.co.uk/reports/tracker/> and get email notifications when they are running. The Geegeez tracker is one of the few trackers that gives you the 5 day declarations.

We want to wish you the best of luck for the coming season and we hope it is a profitable one for us all!

Good luck

The team at Cleeve

Ten to Follow Horses

1. Topofthegame
2. Hillcrest
3. The Glancing Queen
4. Klitschko
5. Stowaway Jess
6. American Mike
7. Queens Gamble
8. Corach Rambler
9. Mighty Potter
10. Camprond



Trainer:- Paul Nicholls

OR: 165 Timeform 150?

Age 10

Owner Chris Giles and Mr & Mrs Parker

A giant of a beast who stands over 17 hands high, he was one of the standout novice chasers of the 2018 season after his victory in the RSA Chase, which built on his reputation as a high-class staying hurdler. He was one of the favourites for the 2019 Gold Cup but an injury to a tendon meant he missed the 20-21 season, and Nicholls also decided to miss the 21-22 season.

Injuries have plagued the promising chaser, but in August this year, Paul Nicholls confirmed all is back on track and he's looking for a big campaign to make up for missing time... and it might culminate in a tilt at the Randox Grand National. And there's no reason why the Gold Cup could not be the plan too.

Quotes of a 100/1 for each race could look very big indeed after Xmas should he recapture his best form. Timeform finished his 2018 campaign with the comment 'capable of better still', and there is no better man than Paul Nicholls to get him back to his best.

From his past record he doesn't appear to handle quick reappearances, and given his injury we just can't see him running on anything quicker than proper soft ground, so maybe the Betfair Chase and Kempton's King George look more appropriate, we could even see Nicholls taking him over to Ireland for a crack at the Ladbrokes Champion Chase, which is predominately run on heavy ground

Race Type: Graded Chases

Preferred Trip: 3 miles, will get 3+ miles

Preferred Ground: G/S, Soft, Heavy



Trainer:- Henry Daly

OR:148 Timeform: 144

Age 7

**Owners:- Exors of the
Late Trevor Hemmings**

Another giant, and one of the talking horses of last year's Cheltenham Festival, he failed to make an impression before being pulled-up in the Albert Bartlett when the world and his dog were on, as strong market support forced him into 9/4 favouritism.

Despite failing on the biggest stage of them all, his previous victories as a staying hurdler promised much, he was unbeaten in 4 races, albeit all were small field affairs.

Timeform posited that his Festival flop might have been down to his previous slog in heavy ground at Haydock, or it might have been the fact that it was the first time he had run in a big field. Whatever it was he patently didn't fire and given Trevor Hemmings was all about high class staying chasers including Many Clouds, Hedgehunter and Balllabrigs, so we can expect him to improve for a fence and to develop into an impressive chaser.

Expect him to be campaigned in fairly small fields and to be stepped up in Class gradually by his plenty-cautious trainer who thinks that Hillcrest "without doubt is the best horse I've ever had" in the conversation come the Cheltenham Festival and the RSA Chase (now The Brown Advisory Chase!) would look an obvious season, for which he is currently quoted at 16/1 biggest.

Race Type: Novice Chases

Preferred Trip: 3 miles, will get 3+ miles

Preferred Ground: G/S, Soft, Heavy

The Glancing Queen



Trainer:- Alan King

Age 8

OR:145 Timeform: 143

**Owners: Digwall, Farrell,
Hornsey and Murray**

The Glancing Queen ran an excellent 5th in the 2019 Festival Bumper, she was only behind Envoi Allen, Blue Sari, Thyme Hill, and Abracadabras, just 6L behind the winner... doesn't make for bad reading does it? Follow that with 2nd to L'Homme Presse in The Dipper, and only beaten by boys again at last year's Festival... you can see why she's never been beaten by her own sex!

We have a question mark as to whether she really stays 2 ½ miles in the highest class, but she's pretty unbeatable against mares and she might have improved/strengthened up so she might get it standing on her head this season! Being by Jeremy, who is a notable stamp for stamina, one would like to think so.

Trainer Alan King has given her glowing reviews saying "she's very smart", and it would make sense if her season target is the Festival Mares Chase which has been run twice and won by a certain Willie Mullins both times.

We think that the Irish mares are making the market for The Glancing Queen... the Mullins trained Allegorie De Vassy is current favourite at a general 5/1 with The Glancing Queen a general 10/1 shot, but Unibet go a standout 20/1 which is a bit of an insult, and it's a working man's price that fully factors in the vagaries of antepost betting, and we have taken some.

Race Type: Graded Mares Chases

Preferred Trip: 2-2 1/2 miles, may get 3 miles

Preferred Ground: All going types



Trainer:- Alan King

Age 4

OR: N/A Timeform:98p

Owners:- JP McManus

Our second pick from the Alan King stable, and this one is owned by JP McManus. The Great Man thought enough of this horse to let it run and win a Bumper in Huntingdon which is a bit unusual for him, preferring to run most of his good NH flat debutantes at Newbury or Cheltenham.

He justified strong market support when he made a debut at Huntingdon late in the season, and he was confidently ridden by Tom Bellamy, waited with in the midfield, then he was asked for an effort coming round the home turn and quickened clear under a hands and heels ride, despite looking quite green. He was put away after this.

Well bred, but bought quite cheaply as a 3-y-0 (£10,000), he's out of the same sire as Constitution Hill and with a trainer who knows how to bring on a novice hurdler from a juvenile, with big things expected

Race Type: Novice Hurdles

Preferred Trip: 2 miles

Preferred Ground: G/S, Soft

Stowaway Jess



Trainer:- Fergal O'Brien

Age 5

OR: N/A Timeform 90+

Owners:- FOB Partnership

Fergal O'Brien has another potential promising syndicate-story by the look of it, Stowaway Jess is a 5-y-o mare out of Universal with a decent looking page, and she looked the part when she made her debut at Southwell in the Spring.

Ridden by the capable apprentice; Liam Harrison who claims 3 she looked to run a bit green, and seemed to have given the second first run in the straight, but when the penny dropped she lengthened and quickened quite impressively to record a smooth success over a horse that already had the benefit of experience and was receiving weight too, and there was a yawning 15L gap back to the 3rd.

Admittedly, it wasn't much of a race on paper, but she can only beat what is in front of her and she'll definitely come on a load for the experience.

It's reported that she is thriving in the new, enhanced facilities the yard has post-merger with Graeme McPherson, it is hoped she can go beyond her dual-bumper winning, half-sister, Book of Intrigue and make an impression on the mares ranks, none more so than one of the Cleeve team, who is a member of the syndicate!

Race Type: Novice Hurdles

Preferred Trip: 2 1/2 miles, should eventually get 3 miles

Preferred Ground: Good to soft

American Mike



Trainer:- Gordon Elliot

Age 5

OR: N/A Timeform: 122

Owners:- Bective Stud

On the ATR Cheltenham Festival preview, Jamie Codd (The Coddfather!) wouldn't hear of defeat for American Mike and made him his banker of the week, a certain Willie Mullins unfortunately got in the way with Facile Vega.

A wide margin, odds-on winner of 2 bumpers in facile manner, he was given an 88 day break to freshen him up ahead of the Festival, but he was pretty much beaten all ends up and looked the 2nd best horse from early in the straight...

It might be that he was feeling the effects of a hard race when he ran a disappointing 3rd when he faced his Cheltenham conqueror, at Punchestown five weeks later, he didn't even finish 2nd, he was 3rd beaten over 15 lengths.

He has plenty of stamina on his page being by a sire out of Jeremy and an Old Vic mare, so he should get at least 2 ½ miles if not 3 miles in time.

Sure to be given an easy introduction to hurdles, before he is stepped up into novice graded company, he's still one to keep a very close eye on as it's hard not to see him rocking up at Cheltenham in one of the two main novice hurdles... most probably the Ballymore, if Facile Vega goes to the Supreme!

Race Type: Novice Hurdles

Preferred Trip: 2, 1/2 miles, should eventually get 3 miles

Preferred Ground: Good, good to soft

Queens Gamble



Trainer:- Oliver Sherwood

Age 4

OR: N/A Timeform: 101+

Owners:- Mr A Frost & Mr E Galvin

Nibbled at in the market, so not unfancied on her debut at Cheltenham in a half-decent Class 2 bumper. And she beat the right horse, with the odds-on favourite Mullenbeg in second, albeit an ever-widening ten lengths! She showed plenty of knee action and even though she seems a good mover, soft ground should hold no fears for her.

She was pretty keen early on, but travelled well throughout the race for Johnny Burke and had the rest of the field off the bridle as they turned into the straight and she just ran away from them, when he was shaken up...

She is a first foal, but the dam was a multiple winner and his page is quite decent. Oliver Sherwood is not known for tilting at windmills, so it will be very interesting to see how he is campaigned this season, she could go over hurdles or stay on the NH Flat.

Where it get's really interesting is when she is matched with the boys, it is especially intriguing whether she sticks to her own sex or mixes it with the boys in 2023.

Race Type: NH Flat or Novice Hurdles (mares?)

Preferred Trip: 2 or 1/2 miles,

Preferred Ground: Good, good to soft, soft?

Corach Rambler



Trainer:- Lucinda Russell

Age 8

OR: 147 Timeform:150

Owners:- The Ramblers

Corach Rambler looks primed to play a part in the top staying chases this year, as a second season novice he fits the profile for the Hennessey and The Gold Cup, even the Grand National (or the Scottish National) is not out of the question! As a novice hurdler he won 2 from 3 so there is obviously some speed there, but it's races over the bigger obstacles and are 3+ miles that seem to be his forte.

He begun last season with what looked to be an obvious sharpener at Perth in a handicap over an inadequate 2 1/2 miles, finishing 3rd to two smart types, and was clearly capable of doing better. He was then strong in the betting when winning at Aintree and went off favourite when following up off a 7lb higher mark at Cheltenham.

He was then stepped up in class and after disappointing, unseated his rider at the 16th at Ascot when favourite for the Reynoldstown, but it was impossible to tell what would have happened as the race had just started in earnest. If his run in the Ultima Handicap at the Festival is anything to go on, he must have gone mighty close!

Up another 6lbs but only carrying 10-2 (well done Ms Russell!) and Derek Fox rode a super race on him. Out the back for most of it he jumped the first couple a bit slowly but was safe (if a bit high) after and never made a semblance of a mistake. He's obviously a bit quirky but fairly flew home to win going away, and the first 3 were well clear of the 4th. He looks like he's still got plenty to come with more experience, and he looks very well handicapped at the moment, so looks well worth keeping a very close eye on.

Race Type: Graded Chases, Graded Handicap Chases

Preferred Trip: 3+ miles

Preferred Ground: seems to go on any ground

Mighty Potter



Trainer:- Gordon Elliot

Age 5

OR:150 Timeform:148

**Owners: Caldwell
Construction**

We still think that The Mighty Potter is somewhat the unfinished article and that the big obstacles and a bit more of a trip might just be the making of him. With 6 runs and 4 wins under his belt, it might seem a bit odd but he's always clumsy at at least one flight in his races. He can also have a bit off an odd head carriage at times, and he seems to stay on well, rather than winning his races with a devastating turn of foot.

He ran placed in the Royal Bond then won the Future Champions at Leopardstown (neither were the strongest we've ever seen), he was pulled up in the Supreme, virtually straight after making a significant blunder at the 3rd last. He then bounced back and won the Champion Novice at Punchestown when a 20/1 shot, it was again, not the strongest race, plus Dysart Dynamo ran no sort of race and the Ballymore winner, Sir Gerhard, disappointed for the second year in a row at Punchestown.

We are definitely expecting him to step up to at least 2 1/2 miles, possibly even 3 miles. We also expect him to get a bit of Cheltenham experience prior to the Festival. If Gordon Elliott, another year on his back, and bigger obstacles can between then make a man of him, he's clearly got an engine, and can make himself felt at the top table of Irish novice chasers.

Camprond



Trainer:- Phillip Hobbs

Age 6

OR: 147 Timeform 145

Owners:- JP McManus

Camprond, the second JP McManus horse in our list, has been masterfully campaigned by Phillip Hobbs since moving to him from France.

He is nothing if not genuine and has never finished out of the first 4 home despite running in some of the hottest handicap hurdles of the season. He finished a good 4th in both the Greatwood Hurdle and the Coral Cup and finished off his season with a good win in a competitive handicap at Punchestown where he turned the tables on a horse that finished in front of him at Cheltenham (Martin Brassil's Fastorslow).

His rating only went up 3lbs during last season and his mark going into the coming season means that Hobbs looks to have something in hand and we can expect to see him adding to his winning tally of seven races, including three on the flat in France.

Hobbs hasn't ruled out giving him a crack over fences but what ever he does given his talent, genuine nature and his shrewd placing we can expect nothing but a bold show.

Race Type: Handicap hurdles, or possibly Novice chases

Preferred Trip: 2 miles, 2 1/2 miles

Preferred Ground: Good to firm, good, g/s, soft