







(R7) 15:40 ASCOT, 2m 7f 180y

Sodexo Gold Cup Handicap Chase (Grade 3) (Class 1) (4YO plus)

No	Silk	Form	Horse Details	Age/Wt	Jockey/Trainer	OR
1		1/23242-	BLACK CORTON (FR) 252 CD BF br g Laverock - Pour Le Meilleur	9 11 - 12t	Bryony Frost P F Nicholls	161
2		7P/UP3 7-	MIGHT BITE (IRE) 234 D b g Scorpion - Knotted Midge	11 11 - 3	Nico de Boinville N J Henderson	152
3		2/06P1P -	MISTER MALARKY 235 CD ch g Malinas - Priscilla	7 11 - 2p	T Scudamore C L Tizzard	151
4		334/P12 -	WALK IN THE MILL (FR) 274 CD b g Walk In The Park - Libre amour	10 11 - 1	James Best Robert Walford	150
5		1P/3313 -	COMMANCHE RED (IRE) 252 BF ch g Mahler - Auntie Bob	7 11 - 1	Tom Cannon C Gordon	150
6		P0/1532 -	VALTOR (FR) 259 CD b g Ut*nidor - Jossca	11 11 - 1	Aidan Coleman N J Henderson	150
7		2BP085/ -	BLAKLION 623 D b g Kayf Tara - Franciscaine	11 11 - 0	Bridget Andrews D Skelton	149
8		082P13- -	REGAL ENCORE (IRE) 259 CD b g King's Theatre - Go On Eileen	12 10 - 10t	R P McLernon A J Honeyball	145
9		130/P46 -	ADRIEN DU PONT (FR) 252 C D b g Califet - Santariyka	8 10 - 9t	Bryan Carver (5) P F Nicholls	144
10		6/41469- -	FLYING ANGEL (IRE) 233 C gr g Arcadio - Gypsy Kelly	9 10 - 7v	Thomas Bellamy N A Twiston-Davies	142
11		4/18450- -	MILITARIAN 233 CD b g Kayf Tara - Mille Et Une	10 10 - 4	Shane Quinlan (5) Andrew J Martin	139
12		641/1P- 0	TOWNSHEND (GER) 38 CD b g Lord Of England - Trikolore	9 10 - 4t	Jamie Neild (7) N A Twiston-Davies	139
13		134344- -	WHATMORE 235 b g Schiaparelli - Polymiss	8 10 - 3	R Johnson H D Daly	138
14		71/3P14 -	DJANGO DJANGO (FR) 241 D BF gr g Viox Du Nord - Lady Jannina	7 10 - 2	Nick Scholfield Jonjo O'Neill	137

ATR VERDICT: BLACK CORTON enjoyed a consistent last season despite not getting his head in front placing in three big handicaps, including in this contest 12 months ago when third to Vinndication, and carried top weight on each occasion. The nine-year-old faces a stiff task once again but a wind operation might eke out some improvement and a bold display is expected with the trainer/jockey combination hoping for similar to last Saturday after Frodon's victory at Cheltenham. Commanche Red is open to further improvement on just his fifth outing over fences and his nine-length beating of Simply The Betts at Kempton on Boxing Day reads particularly well. Whatmore, who was last seen finishing fourth at the Cheltenham Festival, is respected along with Valtor, who boasts a decent record at the track, and course specialist Regal Encore, who also received wind surgery over the summer.

Top Tip: BLACK CORTON (1)
Watch out for: COMMANCHE RED (5)