



(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
Jockey Colours: Dark blue, royal blue stars, halved sleeves, white cap Timeform says: <i>Classy chaser who was third in this race off 2 lb higher last year. Chased Mister Malarky home over 3m at Kempton when last seen in February (since undergone wind surgery) and bold show anticipated.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 8.00)				Notes:		
2		7P/UP3 7-	MIGHT BITE (IRE) 234 D b g Scorpion - Knotted Midge	11 11 - 3	Nico de Boinville N J Henderson	152
Jockey Colours: Light blue and yellow check, orange and black hooped sleeves and cap Timeform says: <i>Top-notch chaser in his pomp, winner of two Grade 1s and finished second in 2018 Gold Cup. Looked a shadow of his former self last season, though, and probably worth taking on. Yard also runs Valtor.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 21.00)				Notes:		
3		2/06P1P -	MISTER MALARKY 235 CD ch g Malinas - Priscilla	7 11 - 2p	T Scudamore C L Tizzard	151
Jockey Colours: Purple, pink stars, purple sleeves, purple cap, pink star Timeform says: <i>Back to his best when seeing off Black Corton in a 14-runner Grade 3 Kempton handicap in February. However, ended last season on a downer and he was well held in this race 12 months ago.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 11.00)				Notes:		
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
Jockey Colours: Dark blue, white stripe and sleeves Timeform says: <i>Excels over Aintree's Grand National fences, winner of Becher Chase for the second consecutive season last December. Needs a clear personal-best here off this career-high mark.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 23.00)				Notes:		
5		1P/3313 -	COMMANCHE RED (IRE) 252 BF ch g Mahler - Auntie Bob	7 11 - 1	Tom Cannon C Gordon	150
Jockey Colours: Light blue, large royal blue spots, royal blue cap, light blue spots Timeform says: <i>Useful hurdles winner who made it third time lucky over fences at Kempton (20.5f) on Boxing Day. Below par in a Grade 2 novice there since, but remains unexposed in this sphere and needs considering.</i> ★★★★★ (Forecast 6.00)				Notes:		
6		P0/1532 -	VALTOR (FR) 259 CD b g Ut*nidor - Jossca	11 11 - 1	Aidan Coleman N J Henderson	150
Jockey Colours: Emerald green, dark green sleeves, dark green and emerald green quartered cap Timeform says: <i>Landed a big pot here in 2018 and ended light campaign last season by finishing second in a quality C&D handicap off this mark. One to consider.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 13.00)				Notes:		
7		2BP085/ -	BLAKLION 623 D b g Kayf Tara - Franciscaine	11 11 - 0	Bridget Andrews D Skelton	149
Jockey Colours: Black, silver disc Timeform says: <i>Very smart chaser who landed the Becher Chase at Aintree off 4 lb higher mark in December 2017. However, missed the whole of last season and wellbeing to prove on this debut for new yard.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 26.00)				Notes:		

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
Jockey Colours: Emerald green, yellow hoops, white cap Timeform says: <i>Not the most reliable but goes very well here, runner-up in this race last year before notching a third C&D success in December. Record when fresh doesn't augur well, though. Has undergone a wind op.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 12.00)				Notes:		
9		130/P46 -	ADRIEN DU PONT (FR) 252 C D b g Califet - Santariyka	8 10 - 9t	Bryan Carver (5) P F Nicholls	144
Jockey Colours: Royal blue, pink hoops, armlets and cap Timeform says: <i>Pulled up on his reappearance in this race last season. Ended campaign with a decent effort, finishing sixth in the Kempton handicap won by Mister Malarky, but others are more convincing overall.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 15.00)				Notes:		
10		6/41469- -	FLYING ANGEL (IRE) 233 C gr g Arcadio - Gypsy Kelly	9 10 - 7v	Thomas Bellamy N A Twiston-Davies	142
Jockey Colours: Dark green, yellow collar, yellow cuffs & cap, dark green spot on cap Timeform says: <i>Very capable performer when on-song, as he demonstrated when landing a 21f handicap chase here off 2 lb lower last November. Below par thereafter, though, and he's not the easiest to catch right.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 29.00)				Notes:		
11		4/18450- -	MILITARIAN 233 CD b g Kayf Tara - Mille Et Une	10 10 - 4	Shane Quinlan (5) Andrew J Martin	139
Jockey Colours: White, black chevron, black sleeves, white diamonds, quartered cap Timeform says: <i>Sprang a surprise (50/1) when making a winning return over this C&D last season, but failed to land a meaningful blow in 4 subsequent starts.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 34.00)				Notes:		
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
Jockey Colours: Royal blue, red star, diablo on sleeves and star on cap Timeform says: <i>Useful chaser for Willie Mullins and did the job well when scoring over C&D back from a 9-month break in January. However, showed nothing on reappearance this time round in a Perth handicap hurdle.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 17.00)				Notes:		
13		134344- -	WHATMORE 235 b g Schiaparelli - Polymiss	8 10 - 3	R Johnson H D Daly	138
Jockey Colours: Royal blue, white sleeves, red cap Timeform says: <i>Winning start over fences at Market Rasen in May 2019. Didn't do much wrong last season, creditable fourth off this mark at the Cheltenham Festival on latest start in March, and he's shortlisted.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 7.50)				Notes:		
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
Jockey Colours: Red, emerald green cross of lorraine and sleeves Timeform says: <i>Better than ever when opening chase account in 23.4f Newbury handicap in January. However, jumping lacked fluency at Catterick since and there'll be no margin for error back from 8 months off here.</i> ★★★★☆ (Forecast 19.00)				Notes:		

TIMEFORM VIEW: Though disappointing in a Grade 2 Kempton novice in February, COMMANCHE RED looked very good indeed when brushing aside subsequent Cheltenham Festival winner Simply The Betts in a handicap there on Boxing Day. He remains with potential in this sphere and gets the nod ahead of Valtor, who is 2-3 at Ascot and resumes on a workable mark. Whatmore and the admirable Black Corton are others to consider.

Timeform 1-2-3:

1: COMMANCHE RED (5)

2: VALTOR (6)

3: WHATMORE (13)

TIMEFORM



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