

**(R3) 13:25 SANDOWN, 2m 4f 15y**

## **Virgin Bet A Good Bet Novices' Limited Handicap Chase (GBB Race) (Class 3) (5YO plus)**

**EXPERT VIEW:** Rip Wheeler could easily return to form tried in blinkers, with his stable always commanding utmost respect here, but NORN IRON appeals more. Although a little underwhelming at Windsor last time, he seemed to find things happening too quickly on the dry ground and getting back on a deeper surface over a longer trip could unlock improvement, with a tongue-tie also added. Soldierofthestorm should improve on his chase debut, when second at Hereford, but a bigger threat may come from Mon Champion, who looked to be crying out for this trip when up late to win last time. Almost all of his penalty is offset by his rider's claim.

**1-2-3 Selections:**

- 1: NORN IRON (4)
- 2: MON CHAMPION (2)
- 3: SOLDIEROFTHESTORM (3)



EXPERT VIEW

at the races

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1		2224-42	<b>EL GRANJERO</b> (IRE) 22 D BF b g Youmzain - Mexican Sky	7 11 - 10p	R Patrick C Boulbbee- Brooks	125
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**Jockey Colours:** Light blue, black star, black sleeves, light blue stars, light blue cap, black star

**Expert View:** Ran to form when beaten 2l off a 1lb lower mark at Exeter last time. Effective over 2m4f-3m1f on soft and good to soft, unexposed over fences, consistent, and a drop in trip should be fine.  (Forecast 3/1)

### CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nd - 3rd)

Flat Turf: 1 - 0 - 0 - 0	Jumps: 13 - 2 - 7 - 0	All Weather: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0
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### RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
09 Jan 26	Exe 24f Nov Hcp Ch Cls3 8K	Gd-Sft	10-13p	2/6 2 len	Ned Fox (5)	3/1jf	1st Silver Thorn, 2nd <b>EL GRANJERO</b> , 3rd Saint Anapolino midfield, left in second 6th, ridden before 4 out, kept on same pace before last	124
08 Nov 25	Ain 25f Nov Hcp Ch Cls3 8K	Gd-Sft	11-5p	4/6 5 len	R Patrick	10/1	1st Hidden History, 2nd Theatre Man, 3rd Champagne Twist led and disputed, went on from 3rd, headed 7th, 3rd halfway, pushed along in 4th when not fluent 2 out, ridden and no extra when mistake last, kept on one pace run-in	125
16 Apr 25	ffl 20f Hcp Hdl Cls3 8K	Sft	11-6p	4/9 5½ len	Ned Fox (3)	11/4f	1st Bective Abbey, 2nd Ninth Loch, 3rd Letterston Lady chased leaders, not fluent 8th or 2 out, no extra flat	125
10 Mar 25	Str 23f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Gd-Sft	12-2p	2/6 1 len	R Patrick	2/1f	1st Sainte Doctor, 2nd <b>EL GRANJERO</b> , 3rd Korus tracked leaders on inner, pushed along into 2nd approaching last, ridden run-in, kept on, no impression	122
08 Feb 25	Utt 20f Hcp Hdl Cls3 6K	Sft	12-0p	2/5 4½ len	R Patrick	15/8f	1st Burrows Hall, 2nd <b>EL GRANJERO</b> , 3rd Don't Tell Su midfield, ridden and chased leaders before 3 out, kept on approaching last, went 2nd run-in, no match for winner	122
31 Dec 24	Utt 20f Hcp Hdl Cls3 6K	Gd-Sft	11-10p1	2/8 nse	R Patrick	7/2	1st Don Hollow, 2nd <b>EL GRANJERO</b> , 3rd Haarar chased leaders, headway home turn, close 2nd approaching 3 out, went clear of rest in sustained duel with winner from 2 out, ridden before last, stayed on well and every chance run-in, just denied	118

2		2F-6261	<b>MON CHAMPION</b> (FR) (EX7) 5 b g Bathyrhon - Promets Moi	6 11 - 5	DOUBTFUL P F Nicholls	120
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**Jockey Colours:** White, royal blue epaulets, white sleeves, red spots, royal blue cap

**Expert View:** Improved, needed every yard of trip when landing a handicap by a nose off a 7lb lower mark at Hereford last time; effective 2m-2m6f, acts on Hy and GS; interesting prospect; respected under penalty, with this longer trip a plus. 

### CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nd - 3rd)

Flat Turf: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0	Jumps: 13 - 2 - 4 - 1	All Weather: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0
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### RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
26 Jan 26	Hfo 16f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Sft	11-12	1/5 nse	Freddie Gingell	9/2	1st <b>MON CHAMPION</b> , 2nd Hors Jeu, 3rd Royal Mer wore hood to post, took keen hold, disputed lead, headed before 4th, close up 3 out where not fluent, soon pushed along, pressed leader approaching last, kept on well flat, led post	113
29 Dec 25	Nbu 16f Hcp Ch Cls3 12K	Gd-Sft	11-1	6/6 37 len	H Cobden	5/1	1st Old Cowboy, 2nd Pleasington, 3rd Rath Gaul Hill prominent, disputed lead 7th, headed before 9th, ridden and dropped to rear before 4 out, tailed off before 2 out	115
05 Dec 25	San 15f Hcp Ch Cls3 9K	Gd-Sft	11-2	2/5 18 len	H Cobden	8/1	1st Keep Running, 2nd <b>MON CHAMPION</b> , 3rd Krak raced in third, went second 2 out, soon pushed along, kept on one pace, no chance with easy winner	117
09 Nov 25	San 20f Cond Hcp Hdl Cls3 8K	Gd-Sft	11-5	6/6 55 len	Jay Tidball (3)	16/1	1st Glynn Brae, 2nd Akimos, 3rd Paso Doble towards rear, pushed along before 2 out, soon dropped away	122
08 Dec 24	Aut 22f 4y Ch Gd3 94K	Hy	10-5	F/9	L Brechet	14/1	1st Kolokico, 2nd Bon Garcon, 3rd Kentucky Wood	-
24 Nov 24	Aut 22f 4y Ch 37K	Hy	10-10	2/9 12 len	G Meunier	4/1	1st King Conti, 2nd <b>MON CHAMPION</b> , 3rd Kelonia	-

3		8840-12	<b>SOLDIEROFTHESTORM</b> (IRE) 19 D ch g Soldier of Fortune - Fiddlededee	8 11 - 3	Jonjo O'Neill Jr. Jonjo & A J O'Neill	118
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**Jockey Colours:** Black, light blue hoop

**Expert View:** Ran to form on chase debut when second, beaten 4 1/4l off 116 last time and 2lb higher here. Effective at around 2m4f on heavy and good, with more to come over fences. ★★★★☆ (Forecast 6/1)

**CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nds - 3rds)**

Flat Turf: 2 - 0 - 1 - 1	Jumps: 13 - 3 - 1 - 2	All Weather: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0
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**RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY**

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
12 Jan 26	Hfo 21f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Sft	11-10	2/11 4 1/4 len	Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	6/1	1st Rodney, 2nd <b>SOLDIEROFTHESTORM</b> , 3rd Pepe Le Moko not always fluent, held up in rear, mistake 1st, in touch with a circuit to go, headway to chase winner before 3 out, soon ridden, in touch with winner 2 out, soon outpaced	116
28 Dec 25	ctt 19f Hcp Hdl Cls4 4K	Gd	11-13	1/14 1 3/4 len	Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	9/4f	1st <b>SOLDIEROFTHESTORM</b> , 2nd Washatok, 3rd Escort'kheops handy, led home turn before 2 out, ridden before last, ridden and drifted left run-in, always doing enough	109
29 Apr 25	Pun 19f Hcp Hdl 60K	YI	10-5	14/25 23 len	K Brogan	25/1	1st Buy Some Time, 2nd Almuhit, 3rd Master Otis soon settled behind leaders, 8th halfway, ridden and no impression 2 out, no extra before last	109
28 Mar 25	Wth 21f Hcp Hdl Cls4 4K	Gd	11-5	4/13 7 1/4 len	R P McLernon	18/1	1st Blue Hop, 2nd Kulta, 3rd Crazierhandaisy tracked leaders, going well before 3 out, shaken up before 2 out, ridden approaching last where not fluent, ran on towards finish	111
23 Jan 25	Hun 21f Hcp Hdl Cls4 4K	Sft	11-0	8/14 18 len	Benjamin Macey (7)	4/1f	1st Gold For Alec, 2nd Salley Gardens, 3rd Masked Dance mid-division, headway on inside chasing leaders before 4 out, weakened quickly home turn	112
20 Dec 24	Asc 16f Hcp Hdl Cls4 8K	Gd-Sft	10-11	8/18 21 len	Benjamin Macey (10)	16/1	1st King William Rufus, 2nd Fasol, 3rd Typhoon Flyer mid-division, pushed along before 2 out, weakened before last	113

4		2421-23	<b>NORN IRON</b> (IRE) 30 BF br g Soldier of Fortune - Coco Des Champs	8 11 - 1t1	H Cobden Harry Derham	116
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**Jockey Colours:** White and dark blue (quartered), dark blue and white halved sleeves, white cap

**Expert View:** Ran to form when 121 third in a handicap chase at Windsor most recent run; tongue-tie first time; effective 2m-2m2f, acts on soft and good; consistent but needs more. ★★★★★ (Forecast 7/2)

**CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nds - 3rds)**

Flat Turf: 1 - 0 - 0 - 0	Jumps: 8 - 1 - 4 - 2	All Weather: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0
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**RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY**

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
01 Jan 26	Wnd 16f Nov Hcp Ch Cls4 9K	Gd	11-11	3/4 12 len	Brendan Powell	4/7f	1st Koueko, 2nd Bond Broker, 3rd <b>NORN IRON</b> tracked leader, led 8th, pushed along and headed after 4 out, not fluent 3 out, mistake last, no extra	118
11 Dec 25	War 16f Nov Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Sft	11-11	2/9 12 len	Paul O'Brien	15/8f	1st Chuggy, 2nd <b>NORN IRON</b> , 3rd Old Cowboy tracked leader, hit 7th, not fluent 4 out, not pace of winner from 3 out, pushed along before 2 out, kept on, no match	118
21 Apr 25	Plu 16f Mdn Hdl Cls3 9K	Gd	11-6	1/4 19 len	Paul O'Brien	2/11f	1st <b>NORN IRON</b> , 2nd Start Again, 3rd Roman Roy made all, increased tempo home turn, well clear last, easily	118
22 Mar 25	Nbu 19f Nov Hcp Hdl Cls3 11K	Gd	10-12	2/9 nk	Paul O'Brien	15/8f	1st Kalium, 2nd <b>NORN IRON</b> , 3rd Old Cowboy held up towards rear, closed 5th, steadied slightly 7th, not clear run after 3 out, closed 2 out, not much room before last, challenged flat, held towards finish	114
01 Mar 25	Don 17f Hcp Hdl Cls4 6K	Gd-Sft	11-8	4/10 4 len	J J Burke	11/8f	1st Cavern Club, 2nd Bluegrass, 3rd My Noble Lord rear of mid-division, headway on outside 2f out, soon ridden and outpaced, stayed on strongly final 100 yards	114
15 Jan 25	Nbu 16f Hcp Hdl Cls4 6K	Sft	11-1	2/11 3/4 len	Paul O'Brien	7/2jf	1st Bucephalus, 2nd <b>NORN IRON</b> , 3rd Lightningpourovers held up in midfield, travelling smoothly when making headway from 3 out, went second but not fluent 2 out, ridden and every chance when pressed winner run-in, all out but not pace of winner towards finish	107

5		322-263	<b>RISK DE PLUIE</b> (FR) 22 b g No Risk At All - Mangenie	7 11 - 0t	Sam Twiston-Davies Ben Clarke	115
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**Jockey Colours:** black, white braces, yellow sleeves, black stars, yellow cap, white star

**Expert View:** Outpaced, returned to form but looked in need of stiffer test beaten 3 1/4l off this mark at Exeter last time; effective 2m2f-2m6f, acts on S and G; consistent and step back up in trip a plus. ★★★☆☆ (Forecast 5/2)

**CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nds - 3rds)**
**Flat Turf: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0**
**Jumps: 10 - 1 - 3 - 3**
**All Weather: 2 - 0 - 0 - 0**
**RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY**

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
09 Jan 26	Exe 17.5f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Gd-Sft	11-9t	3/11 3¼ len	Toby McCain-Mitchell (5)	10/3f2	1st Bonza Boy, 2nd Royal Mer, 3rd <b>RISK DE PLUIE</b> held up in midfield, in touch 4 out, ridden before 2 out, kept on approaching last, went third near finish, never nearer	115
13 Dec 25	Che 25f Nov Hcp Ch Cls3 13K	Gd-Sft	10-9t	6/8 33 len	Thomas Bellamy	15/2	1st Zertakt, 2nd Holokea, 3rd As The Fella Says led, not fluent 15th, pushed along after 3 out, headed approaching 2 out, ridden and weakening when clambered over last	116
18 Nov 25	Lin 22f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Gd	11-10t	2/10 4¾ len	Rex Dingle	5/1	1st No Tackle, 2nd <b>RISK DE PLUIE</b> , 3rd Realisation led, ridden and joined before 3 out, soon headed, outpaced by winner before last, kept on same pace	116
15 Feb 25	Wcn 16f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Sft	11-11	2/6 10 len	Harry Kimber	5/2f	1st Western General, 2nd <b>RISK DE PLUIE</b> , 3rd Hatos tracked leaders out wide, jumped slowly 6th, went moderate 3rd before 4 out, took 2nd 2 out, no chance with winner	114
01 Jan 25	Exe 19f Nov Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Sft	11-7t	2/5 1¼ len	Rex Dingle	5/2jf	1st Donnacha, 2nd <b>RISK DE PLUIE</b> , 3rd Royal Jewel close up in rear, went 3rd 4 out and pushed along, ridden and tried to press front pair before last, kept on into 2nd run-in, no telling impression on winner	112
06 Dec 24	Exe 17.5f Nov Hcp Ch Cls3 10K	Sft	10-13t	3/7 17 len	Rex Dingle	12/1	1st Billytherealbigred, 2nd Fire Flyer, 3rd <b>RISK DE PLUIE</b> towards rear, mid-division 4th, pushed along before 4 out, ridden out, took modest 3rd before last, never a danger	115

6		66-1234	<b>LYLIAN (FR) 65</b> ch g Tunis - Reine De Mai	5 10 - 11	Freddie Mitchell (3) G & J Moore	118
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**Jockey Colours:** Purple and yellow (quartered), diabolo on sleeves, yellow and purple quartered cap

**Expert View:** Below form when fourth, beaten 34l, in a handicap chase at Lingfield latest. Off a short break; effective over 2m1f-2m6f and suited by cut, a chase winner in France, though this mark may be stiff enough.★☆☆☆☆ (Forecast 10/1)

**CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nds - 3rds)**
**Flat Turf: 1 - 0 - 0 - 1**
**Jumps: 8 - 1 - 1 - 2**
**All Weather: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0**
**RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY**

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
27 Nov 25	Lin 20f Nov Hcp Ch Cls3 6K	Gd	10-9	4/6 34 len	Caoilin Quinn	18/1	1st Noble Park, 2nd Vanderpoel, 3rd Gold In The Rivers prominent, led after 5th, disputed lead from 7th where not fluent, headed after 11th, outpaced by leading pair before 3 out, soon beaten, lost remote third after last	122
01 Nov 25	Asc 19f Nov Hcp Ch Cls3 11K	Gd	10-5	3/3 22 len	Caoilin Quinn	4/1	1st No Questions Asked, 2nd Viroflay, 3rd <b>LYLIAN</b> not always fluent and jumped left at times, disputed 2nd until the 3rd, last after, outpaced 3 out, well beaten 2 out	126
28 Jun 25	Dep 17f 4y Hcp Ch 29K	Sft	11-0	2/5 shd	K Nabet	3/1	1st Kotkidina, 2nd <b>LYLIAN</b> , 3rd Lakadame	-
12 Jun 25	Dep 22f 4y Ch 18K	Sft	10-7	1/8 7 len	K Nabet	17/2	1st <b>LYLIAN</b> , 2nd Labondance, 3rd Le Pretendant	-
04 Jan 25	Pau 17f 4y Hdl 18K	Sft	10-10	6/8 28 len	F Giles	13/2	1st Saint Crystal, 2nd Larzand, 3rd Some Of Them	-
21 Dec 24	Pau 17f 3y Hdl 28K	Hy	10-5	6/8 28 len	Bryony Frost	13/2	1st Emid'io Pepe, 2nd Astrologer, 3rd Vador Du Berlais	-

7		442-11P	<b>RIP WHEELER (IRE) 36 D BF</b> b g Walk In The Park - Dazza	6 10 - 5b1	Caoilin Quinn G & J Moore	106
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**Jockey Colours:** Emerald green, pink seams, sleeves and star on cap

**Expert View:** Scored by 1 1/4l off a 6lb lower mark at Lingfield on his penultimate start but was never travelling when pulled up in a handicap chase latest. Effective over 2m-2m4f on soft and good; could bounce back in blinkers.★☆☆☆☆ (Forecast 6/1)

**CAREER STATS (Starts - Wins - 2nds - 3rds)**
**Flat Turf: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0**
**Jumps: 8 - 2 - 1 - 0**
**All Weather: 0 - 0 - 0 - 0**
**RECENT RACE BY RACE HISTORY**

Date	Race Details	Going	Weight	Res (Dr)	Jockey	SP	1-2-3 Result / Close-up	OR
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26 Dec 25	Wcn 20f Hcp Ch Cls4 5K	Gd-Sft	12-0	PU/6	R T Dunne	9/4f	1st Begin The Luck, 2nd Mutley Crew towards rear, badly hampered 2nd, never in contention, pulled up 2 out	106
27 Nov 25	Lin 20f Hcp Ch Cls5 3K	Gd	12-0	1/6 1¼ len	R T Dunne	8/11f	1st <b>RIP WHEELER</b> , 2nd Highway Hero, 3rd Moor End held up in rear, not fluent 3rd, made headway after 11th, shaken up going best 3 out, pushed along to challenge fast, ridden to lead flat, comfortably	100
11 Nov 25	Hun 20f Nov Hcp Ch Cls5 4K	Gd	11-11	1/8 1½ len	R T Dunne	6/4f	1st <b>RIP WHEELER</b> , 2nd Catchim, 3rd Hawkseye View towards rear, smooth headway from 3 out, travelling well when disputed second 2 out, chased leader last, ridden when led inside final 100 yds, ran on	97
19 Apr 25	Hun 21f Nov Hcp Hdl Cls5 4K	Gd	11-11	2/14 nk	N F Houlihan	4/1f2	1st Casting Aspersions, 2nd <b>RIP WHEELER</b> , 3rd Strolling Along took keen hold, in touch on inner, headway to lead before 2 out, ridden and edged right run-in, headed final strides	95
13 Feb 25	San 16f Cond Hcp Hdl Cls4 5K	Sft	10-6	4/7 14¼ len	Freddie Mitchell	11/2	1st Casa Loupi, 2nd Snapius, 3rd Jackpot D'ainay towards rear, struggling before 3 out, pushed along to make some headway after 2 out, weakened after last	98
24 Jan 25	San 16f Nov Hdl Cls3 5K	Sft	11-4	4/10 31 len	N F Houlihan	50/1	1st Castle Carrock, 2nd Diva Luna, 3rd Kap Vert midfield, ridden and went modest 4th before 2 out, kept on same pace before last	-