

A Nag-Nag-Nag Publication

2010 CHELTENHAM 'TRIUMPH HURDLE' TRENDS GUIDE

FEATURING:

**STATISTICS, TRENDS, IN-DEPTH RACE ANALYSIS, HORSE PROFILES
AND INCLUDING
THE EXCLUSIVE NAG3 RATINGS**



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Please email me at festivaltrends@aol.com

WELCOME

This is a FREE sample download taken from the forthcoming Nag-Nag-Nag Publication,

2010 CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL TRENDS GUIDE.

In it you will find all the stats, trends, race trial history, big race analysis and exclusive Nag ratings that will be available in the full version of the Cheltenham Guide due out on 1st March 2010.

All 26 races due to be run at this years Festival will be covered in this exact same, comprehensive style which, hopefully, will give you all the information you need to find this years winners.

For each and every race you will find;

RACE CONDITIONS - Distance, race class and age restrictions

RACE HISTORY - A few lines on past winners and losers

RECENT TRENDS - Stats. from previous years to help find a similar type of horse

TRENDS TABLE - How the major fancies fit these trends

PAST WINNERS - The winners of the previous races from 1999-2009

FAVOURITES DATA - How the favourites performed. How fancied the winners were.

TRAINERS RECORDS - Top trainers records with their previous runners in the race

PACE STATISTICS - The type of running style for the previous placed horses

AVERAGE JOE - The stats that shape the average race winner

THE RANGE - The top and bottom range for the last 10 winners

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN - Where the win & placed horses were bred.

RACE TRIALS - The races previous winners contested before Cheltenham

HORSE PROFILES - How the principles have performed under the race conditions.

NAG RATINGS - Exclusive ratings for each horse (out of 100)

and most importantly

THE SELECTIONS - The most likely Trends winner and the Nag Ratings selections.

If you have any questions please email me at festivaltrends@aol.com

The 2010 Cheltenham Festival Trends Guide will be available for just £19.95 from the 1st March at

<http://www.festivaltrends.co.uk/>

Updates will be available FREE to all subscribers throughout March with the final ratings and Nag Selections available the week commencing Monday 15th March.

I hope you enjoy reading through the preview guide and find something of use.

Good luck,
Gavin Priestley.

SPECIAL RACING POST OFFER: Use the BONUS code **5FD3D** for a 5% discount

TRIUMPH HURDLE

2 M 1F, GRADE 1, 4YO ONLY

RACE HISTORY

The last few years have seen a reduction in the number of runners participating due mainly to the introduction of the Fred Winter Novice Handicap. This hasn't resulted in a dip in the class of winners as the main protagonists still target the Triumph Hurdle but it has ensured that the more fancied horses do well with no hard luck stories or major shocks occurring in the last 5 runnings. 2007 winner Katchit was the first runner since Kribensis, in 1988, to go on to Champion Hurdle success but last years Triumph Hurdle winner Zaynar will be very well fancied to notch another success for the 5yo's if lining up for this years hurdling blue riband event.

RECENT TRENDS

Killer stat: 15 of the last 16 winners had won at least two races

Age

- All of the last 10 winners had made their hurdling debut by 10th January
- 9 of the last 10 winners made their debut from 26th October onwards

Betting

- The last 4 Triumph Hurdles have been won by a horse from the top 3 in the betting
- 11 of the last 16 winners came from the top 4 in the betting

Class

- Only 1 of the last 11 winners had won a Graded hurdle race before Mid-January
- 4 winners won the Grade 2 Adonis Hurdle at Kempton while the other 6 had yet to win above Class 3.

Distance

- All of the last 10 winners had won over 2m or 2m 1f
- None of the last 10 winners had won over further than 2m 2f

Previous runs

- The last 12 winners all finished 1st or 2nd on their last run
- 13 of the last 15 winners won their last start
- All of the last 11 winners had between 2 and 6 runs over hurdles
- All of the last 11 winners had their prep run between 19 & 55 days prior.
- 10 of the last 11 winners had won at least 50% of all their hurdle races

Interesting Fact: No winner has run in a Handicap Hurdle prior to the Triumph for 36 years.

Interesting Fact 2: Since 1997 the 2000 winner Snow Drop was the only winning filly from 25 who tried

Interesting Fact 3: There has been no once-raced winner in the past 26 years

Interesting Fact 4: Only 2 of the past 11 winners had been undefeated over hurdles

HOW THE LEADING FANCIES FIT THE TOP TRENDS

	2-6 hurdle runs	1 st or 2 nd last time out	Won 50% of hurdle races	Won 2 hurdle races	Made debut Oct 26-Jan 10	Won at Cl. 3 but no higher
Mille Chief*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carlito Brigante	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Secant Star	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Alaivan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Advisor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pittoni	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Westlin Winds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Me Voici	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Notus De La Tour	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
According	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Pistolet Noir	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Olofi	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Baccalaureate	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Super Kenny	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Orzare	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bothy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ascendant	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Barizan	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Anak	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Barwell Bridge	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Diktalina	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Last Years Winner (at time of race)						
Zaynar	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

* RUNNING IN THE ADONIS HURDLE, KEMPTON, SATURDAY FEB. 27TH

TRAINER RECORDS (Since 1998)

(RUNNERS – WINS - PLACED)

A. KING	10	2	3
P. NICHOLLS	8	1	1
N. HENDERSON	14	2	3
W. MULLINS	11	1	3
P. HOBBS	8	2	2
N. MEADE	7	0	0
N. TWISTON-DAVIES	3	0	0
F. DOUMEN	7	1	0
JJ. O'NEILL	5	1	1
H. JOHNSON	3	0	1
V. WILLIAMS	6	0	1

1999 – 2009 PAST WINNERS

Year	Form	Horse	Hurdle Runs	Age	Weight	Odds	Trainer
2009	11	ZAYNAR	2	4	11-00	11/2	N. HENDERSON
2008	12	CELESTIAL HALO	2	4	11-00	5/1	P. NICHOLLS
2007	12111	KATCHIT	6	4	11-00	11/2	A. KING
2006	811	DETROIT CITY	3	4	11-00	7/2F	P. HOBBS
2005	111	PENZANCE	3	4	11-00	9/1	A. KING
2004	331	MADE IN JAPAN	3	4	11-00	20/1	P. HOBBS
2003	1B41	SPECTROSCOPE	4	4	11-00	20/1	JJ O'NEILL
2002	71211d	SCOLARDY	5	4	11-00	16/1	W. MULLINS
2001		ABANDONED MEETING (FOOT AND MOUTH)					
2000	21141	SNOW DROP	6	4	11-00	7/1F	F. DOUMEN
1999	3111	KATARINO	5	4	11-00	11/4F	N. HENDERSON

HOW THE FAVOURITES FARED

Favourites finishing position: 1-1-A-P-3-0-3-1-0-2-2 **To £1 Level Stake:** +£6.25

Position of winner in market: 1-1-A-8-11-12-4-1-2-2-3

PACE IN THE RACE – HOW THE FIRST FOUR FINISHERS RACED

LED	3	RACED PROMINENT	20
MID-DIVISION	4	HELP UP IN REAR	13

AVERAGE JOE – THE AVERAGE PROFILE OF THE WINNER

AGE	WEIGHT	POSITION LAST TIME	RUNS THAT SEASON	DAYS SINCE LAST RUN	NUMBER OF CAREER RUNS	ODDS
4	11 – 00	1	4	33	4	9 – 1

THE RANGE – SMALLEST & LARGEST FIGURE FOR LAST 10 RUNNINGS

AGE	4 – 4	No. OF HURDLE RUNS	2 – 6
WEIGHT	11-00 – 11-00	DAYS SINCE LAST RUN	19-55
LAST RUN	1 – 2	ODDS	11/4 – 20/1

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

	(RUNNERS	WINNERS	PLACED	% WIN & PLACE)	
				to No. of Runners /	to No. of Places (40)
GB Bred	47	1	4	10.6%	12.5%
Irish Bred	92	4	17	22.8%	52.5%
French Bred	56	3	5	14.3%	20%
German Bred	11	0	3	27.3%	7.5%
Other	18	2	1	16.7%	7.5%

RECORD OF IRISH TRAINED RUNNERS

63 Runners 1 Winner 8 Places (-£46.00)

KEY TRIALS

Adonis Juvenile Novice Hurdle. Kempton. February 27th

4 winners from the last decade used this race for their prep run making this one of the best trial races of all the Championship events at Cheltenham. Penzance, Spectroscope, Snow Drop and Katarino all won the Adonis before going on to Triumph Hurdle Glory. Since 1998 Adonis winners have finished 11P201F

Toteplacepot Juvenile Novice Hurdle. Sandown. February 6th

Both Upgrade and Made in Japan ran in and won this Novice Hurdle before recording their Cheltenham success next time out. Crack Away Jack won it 2 years ago before winning the 4yo Fred Winter Handicap at the Festival.

This years renewal saw the eagerly anticipated debut of the the pre race Triumph Hurdle ante-post 2nd favourite, **According**, but his followers new their fate as soon as the field turned for home as he was quickly outpaced and came home a well beaten and tailed off last of 6 finishers. Any dreams of Cheltenham glory with that one are now completely extinguished. With 2nd favourite **Rajamand** also running poorly it was left to previous easy Folkestone scorer **Diktalina** to take the honours from a staying on **Anak**. **Diktalina** was quite impressive here, especially as she was carrying a penalty, but with fillies having such a poor record in the Triumph connections will probably opt for the Fred Winter Handicap earlier in the week. If she were to line up for the Triumph though she should run well at a big price. Runner up **Anak** was outpaced turning for home but stayed on again to run very well under a double penalty. He looks in need of a longer trip although the usual fast pace of the Triumph should ensure his stamina comes into play in that race.

Leopardstown Grade 2 Juvenile Hurdle. February 7th

Just the 6 runners and a win for the odds on favourite **Pittoni** who like in his previous races did just enough to grind out success. The form of this 2 ½ length success from **Cross Appeal** doesn't appear as good as that of the other top Irish contender Carlito Brigante, who had slammed that rival by 24 lengths, but he is now unbeaten in three starts and given his style of running it's difficult to tell just how good he is.

Musselburgh Scottish Triumph Hurdle February 7th

A class 2 race which saw a good field compete for some decent prize money. **Baccalaureate** was out to prove his last run, when lowering the colours of Pistolet Noir at 100/1, was no fluke but judging him on all other form including this run it's difficult to put it down to anything else. The fairly decent flat handicapper **Ascendant** had made a pleasing debut over hurdles at the course last month but this step up in class proved beyond him and after a terrible mistake at the 2nd hurdle he came home a very distant 6th of 7th runners. Which left the front two in the betting to fight out the finish with previous easy Grade 2 winner **Carlito Brigante** landing the spoils by 6 lengths from **Ultimate** (who was also receiving 3lb from the winner.) This looked another step forward for the Irish trained horse who is now 3 wins from 4 runs including two at this Scottish course. Completely unconsidered in the betting in his 3 previous starts he has the look of an improving juvenile hurdler and should give a good account of himself at Cheltenham.

LAST YEARS WINNER HAD HIS LAST RUN PRIOR TO CHELTENHAM IN THE....

Ascot Execution Novices Hurdle. January 17th

This years race was won by the Paul Nicholls trained runner **Advisor**. Sent off the 10/11 favourite he had little difficulty following up his previous win, and defying a penalty, when comfortably winning by 3 lengths from another last time out winner, **Barwell Bridge**. With 6 lengths back to the 3rd horse the form looks good but it's worth noting that Barwell Bridge has since been beaten again.

APPLYING THE TRENDS

At present there are 77 horses declared for the Triumph hurdle but with all of the last 10 winners having made their debut by January 10th I think it's safe to remove those making their racecourse appearance after this date.....

20 down 57 to go

If we remove those who haven't won at least 50% of all hurdle runs and any out of the top 2 in their last run.....

we now have 20 left

For the time being I'll take out the once-raced / won runners (they may yet run in a trial).....

which loses 5 more

Next to go are those who have had more than 6 runs or made their debut before 10th Oct....

and then those that had won above class 3 (except the Adonis) before the Triumph as they don't tend to fare that well....

Leaving - Advisor, Alaivan, Bothy, Diktalina, Mille Chief, Orzare, Secant Star and Westlin Winds.

Having only won around Taunton and Bangor I don't think Bothy has the class to win a Triumph, Diktalina looks set to run in the Fred Winter while Alaivan, impressive as he was last time out, has it all to do to reverse form with Carlito Brigante on their running at Leopardstown over Christmas. Secant Star will have to brush up his jumping if he is to survive the fast pace that the Triumph is always run at and he wouldn't be for me. Orzare is 3 from 3 but he hasn't beaten much and has quite a bit to find to with the principles.

Three remain and all seem to have a great chance on the trends. The race that **Advisor** won last time out has been a very decent pointer to the Triumph in recent seasons and he looks to be Nicholl's no. 1 hope now after the defeat of Pistolet Noir. He has an obvious chance and the 14/1 looks big. Mille Chief has been well touted for this race for some time now and has been sent off at odds on for all three of his runs so far. He's unlucky not to be unbeaten over hurdles as he was brought down on his debut when all set to win. His hardest race so far was at Kempton over Christmas when he took full advantage of the 7lb he received from Westlin Winds to grind out a 2¼ length victory. With 32 lengths back to the third horse and another 45 lengths back to future Cheltenham winner Baccalaureate this looks fantastic form and this race is where I think the value lies. Not with the winner though but with the runner-up, Westlin Winds. He had won 2 hurdle races in fine style before lining up against Mille Chief and his previous run had seen him defeat both Anak and Diktalina by 9 lengths and 15 lengths respectively. With the form of that run receiving a tremendous boost in Sandown's Juvenile hurdle I'm hopeful that racing off level weights in the Triumph will enable him to reverse those Kempton placing. 20/1 (William Hill) looks a very good price to me and at this stage I make the....

THE ANTE-POST TRENDS SELECTION: WESTLIN' WINDS (20/1 William Hill)

NAG RATINGS

ADVISOR	81
MILLE CHIEF	80
SECANT STAR	79
CARLITO BRIGANTE	78
ORZARE	78

33/1 winner anyone?

Last year I made this same offer to all my readers and gave the Triumph Hurdle Trends Guide away completely FREE. We tipped Walkon in that particular guide and although he ran very well, he just couldn't do enough to peg back the winner Zaynar and finished a gallant runner-up.

BUT...

for those readers who took advantage of the full 26 race guide, available for just £19.95, it proved to be one of the shrewdest investments of the 2008/09 National Hunt Season.

Fully, 10 days before the Festival started I made available to all subscribers an Ante-Post sheet for a few of the Cheltenham Handicap's run at the meeting. In it I wrote.....

Something Wells has the look of a perfect trends horse and has also had a recent run just like the last 11 winners. His trainer won the race in 2007 and from her other 7 runners managed 4 placings. At 33/1..... this looks a very nice ante-post wager.

If that wasn't clear enough advice, on the day of the race itself in the Daily Update sheet I reaffirmed my liking for this horse with the following statement....

'We here at Nag3 HQ strongly fancy Something Wells today in the 4.00. Ladbrokes go 33/1 about the Venetia Williams trained 8-y-o and he is recommended as our best handicap each way bet of the meeting.'

Result? Something Wells won at 33/1 beating his more fancied stablemate into 2nd place.

'best handicap each-way bet of the meeting'.....When was the last time you were that confident of a 33/1 outsider running at Cheltenham?

I think you'll agree that this is completely unambiguous tipping leaving you in no doubt as to which horse(s) we fancy. We give 1 (sometimes 2) horses that we think are the likeliest trends winners and then the top 5 rated horses according to our exclusive Nag Rating system with the top rated runner clearly identified.....No ifs or buts, just clearly marked trends selections.

But hey, if you don't want to blindly bet someone else's fancies then that's fine too. There's enough information contained in these guides to more than make them worth the money.

I hope you have enjoyed looking through this race sample of what our guides have to offer and whatever you decide to do, I'd like to wish you the very best of luck!

Gavin Priestley.

P.S. You can get more information about our many winning selections and our trends service plus read some testimonials from happy subscribers at...

<http://www.festivaltrends.co.uk/>