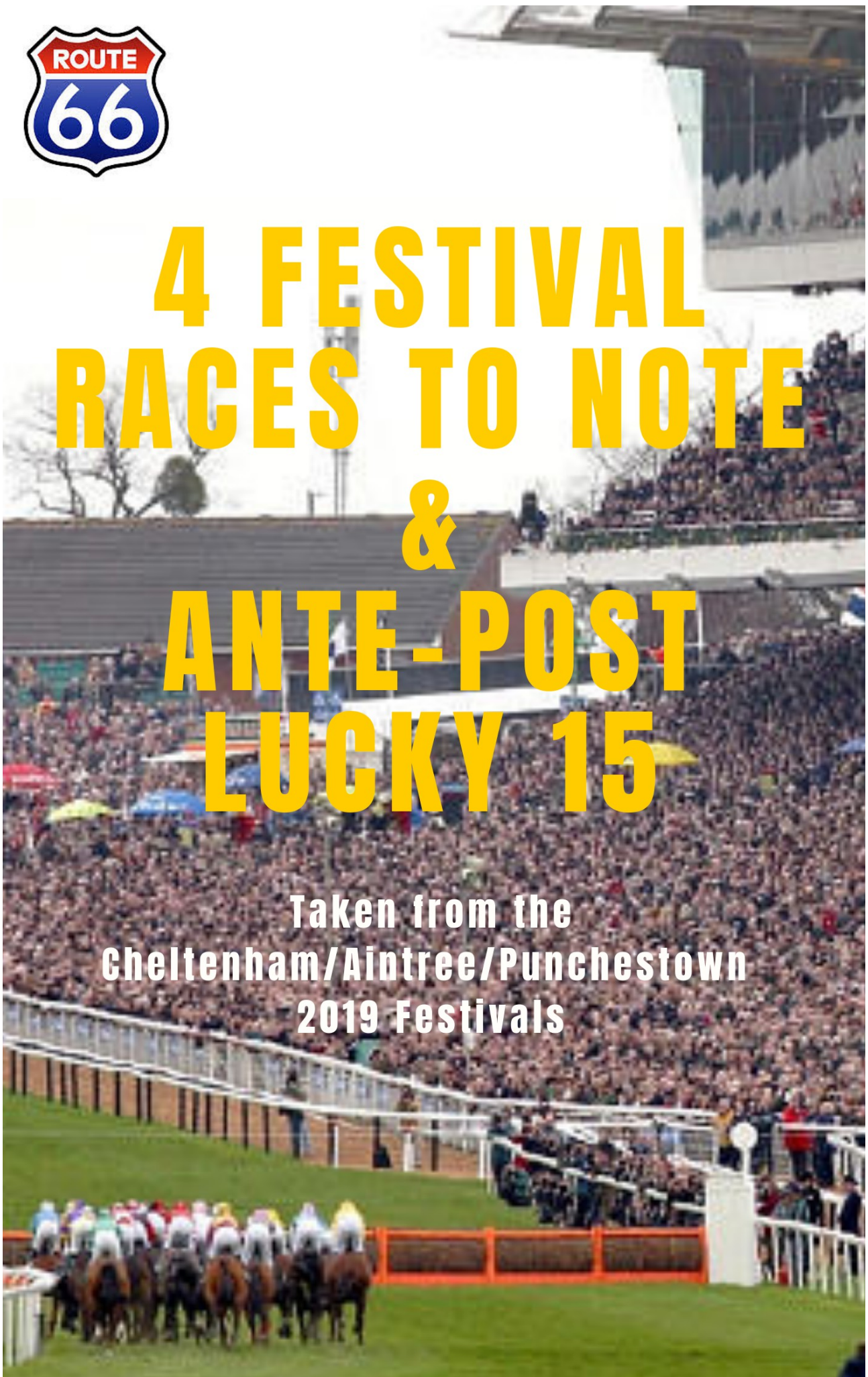




4 FESTIVAL RACES TO NOTE & ANTE-POST LUCKY 15

**Taken from the
Cheltenham/Aintree/Punchestown
2019 Festivals**



SUPREME NOVICES HURDLE (CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL)

TUESDAY – 2M½F HURDLE (4yo+)

RESULTS: 2011 – 2019

YEAR	FORM	WINNER	HURDLE RUNS	ODDS	TRAINER	AGE	WEIGHT	RATING
2019	P324P-11	Klassical Dream	7	6/1	Mullins, W P	5	11-7	154
2018	12231	Summerville Boy	4	9/1	George, T	6	11-7	150
2017	11RR6	Labaik	5	25/1	G. Elliot	6	11-7	144
2016	-61111	Altior (IRE)	4	4/1	Henderson, N J	6	11-7	155
2015	2111	Douvan (FR)	4	2/1	Mullins, W P	5	11-7	155
2014	22-111	Vautour (FR)	5	7/2	Mullins, W P	5	11-7	155
2013	11-1231	Champagne Fever (IRE)	4	5/1	Mullins, W P	6	11-7	148
2012	0-2111	Cinders And Ashes	4	10/1	McCain Jnr, D	5	11-7	142
2011	2-F311	Al Ferof (FR)	5	10/1	Nicholls, P F	6	11-7	142

RACE AS A POINTER TO THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL:

The Supreme Novices Hurdle is an excellent guide to the following year's Cheltenham Festival...

The 2018 Supreme looked a decent renewal at the time but things didn't really pan out as expected over the next 12 months for the winner Summerville Boy. The runner up Kalashnikov unseated rider in the 2019 Arkle but went on to win the Grade 1 Novice at Aintree over 2m4f the following month. The third Menghli Khan was third again at the following years Festival in the JLT Chase with Lostintranslation one place ahead of him in that race having only been 7th in the Supreme. The 12th home Us and Them came back to run a good second at 14/1 in the 2019 Arkle

Dodgepot Labaik didn't run at all last Season, along with quite a lot of the also rans, but runner up Melon gave Buveur D'Air a lot to think about in the Champion Hurdle when only going down by a neck. 7th home Elgin was the only other runner from the race to make it back to Cheltenham when running a respectable 5th in the Champion Hurdle.

Altior took the 2016 Supreme Novices Hurdle and came back the following year to win the Arkle as the 1-4 favourite although he was helped by the fall of Charbel (5th in the Supreme) two fences from home. 3rd home in the Supreme, Buveur D'Air started the 2016-2017 Season over fences but reverted to hurdles in February and went on to win the Champion Hurdle at 5/1. Petit Mouchoir was third in that race having run 8th in the Supreme the year before. Supasundae was 7th in the Supreme in 2016 but won the 2017 Coral Cup handicap at 16/1. Bellshill could only manage 13th in the Supreme but was third in the 2017 RSA Chase.

The 2015 winner Douvan came back the following year to win the Arkle Trophy. Sizing John was 3rd and 2nd in the same two races but won the Gold Cup in 2017 while Supreme runner up Shaneshill was also runner up the following year when going close in the RSA Novice Chase. L'Ami Serge was 4th here then 3rd the following year in the JLT Novices Chase.

In 2014 Vautour beat Josses Hill with the winner coming back the next year to win the JLT Novices Chase and the runner up running third in the Arkle. Wicklow Brave could only manage 6th but went on to win at 25/1 in the 2015 County Hurdle. 10th home Valseur Lido ran 3rd in the JLT Chase. The 2013 running of the Supreme Novices was a particularly strong renewal with Champagne Fever beating My Tent or Yours and Jezki. The winner would go on to finish second in the Arkle while Jezki went on to win the Champion Hurdle the following year where he beat My Tent Or Yours (runner up in 2016 as well). Of the also-rans, Cause Of Causes was 7th but went on to finish 2nd in the Kim Muir the following year and won the 4 miler the year after. Dodging Bullets only managed 9th here in 2013 and 4th in the 2014 Arkle but won the 2015 Queen Mother Chase.

With the possible exception of the ill-fated runner up Darlan the 2012 renewal was in contrast very poor with just 13th home Colour Squadron managing any subsequent Cheltenham form when finishing 5th in the 2013 Novice H'Cap Chase and runner up in the 2014 Byrne Group Plate. The 2011 winner Al Ferrof was 4th in the Arkle in 2012 and 5th and 4th in the RyanAir in 2014/16 but the real stars from this race finished 3rd and 4th. Third home Sprinter Sacre would go on to win the Arkle the following year and the Queen Mother in both 2013 & 2016. The fourth home Cue Card was second to Sprinter Sacre in the Arkle but won the RyanAir in 2013.

2011 – 2018 RUNNER STATS

RUNNERS COMING BACK TO THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL THE FOLLOWING YEAR

	Runners	Winners	Strike Rate	Profit/Loss	Places
2018	7	0	0.00%	-7	3
2017	2	0	0.00%	-2	1
2016	10	3	30.00%	14.25	2
2015	8	1	12.50%	-6.75	3
2014	9	2	22.22%	19.5	2
2013	6	1	16.67%	4	3
2012	6	0	0.00%	-6	0
2011	4	1	25.00%	-2.27	1
Totals	52	8	15.38%	13.73	15

Winners record at the following Cheltenham Festival: **4 – P – 2 – 1 – 1 – 1 – DNR - DNR**

Finishing position in the Supreme of subsequent Festival winners: **3 / – / 3 / 1-6 / 1 / 1-3-7 / - / -**

2019 HORSES TO NOTE

They bet 9/2 the field in the 2019 Supreme in what looked an average renewal but we got a winner who looks far superior to his 2 mile hurdle rivals and is sure to go on to better things....

Klassical Dream left his French form well behind when transferring to Willie Mullins and ran out a ready 4½ length winner here from Olly Murphy's two outsiders Thomas Darby and Itchy Feet. The 4yo Fakir D'oudairies (subsequently runner up in both Aintree and Punchestown 4yo Grade 1's) ran on to snatch fourth from the outpaced Felix Desjy (who would go on to win the Novice at Aintree with Itchy Feet 4th).

Klassical Dream then went on to beat Felix Desjy in the Grade 1 novice at the Punchestown Festival giving a very solid look to his form while those behind him at Cheltenham have work to do to get anywhere near Willie Mullin's latest star hurdler.

2019 RACE ANTE POST GUIDE

Klassical Dream looks about the only one to take from the race and although he is quoted in the Novice Chase events for next March it looks to be the Champion Hurdle that connections are eyeing up. He looks top class and can make the transition from Novice to Champion Hurdler.

Felix Desjy receives quotes of around 16/1 for the Arkle but those odds make limited appeal.

JLT NOVICE CHASE (CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL)

THURSDAY – 2M4F CHASE (5yo+)

RESULTS: 2011 – 2019

YEAR	FORM	WINNER	CHASE RUNS	ODDS	TRAINER	AGE	WEIGHT	RATING
2019	7-5121	Defi Du Seuil	4	3/1	Hobbs, P	6	11-4	151
2018	-11211	Shattered Love	5	4/1	Elliott, G	7	10-11	144
2017	11-411	Yorkhill	2	6/4f	Mullins, W P	7	11-4	155
2016	117-11F	Black Hercules (IRE)	3	4/1	Mullins, W P	7	11-4	152
2015	11-1121	Vautour (FR)	3	6/4	Mullins, W P	6	11-4	154
2014	-11321	Taquin Du Seuil (FR)	5	7/1	ONeill, Jonjo	7	11-4	147
2013	-21241	Benefficient (IRE)	5	20/1	Martin, A J	7	11-4	147
2012	/11-111	Sir Des Champs (FR)	3	3/1	Mullins, W P	6	11-4	148

RACE AS A POINTER TO THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL:

Usually a cracking trial for the RyanAir Chase with three of the last 5 winners of that race having finished first or second in the previous years JLT Novice Chase...

Shattered Love beat Terrefort in the 2018 race but they were both well beaten at the following year's Festival. The fourth Kemboy was well fancied for the 2019 Gold Cup but didn't get past the first fence at Cheltenham. He made amends for that error by winning the Grade 1 Chase's at both Aintree and Punchestown

Yorkhill beat Top Notch in the 2017 renewal and looked sure to go on to much better things. That wasn't to be as Yorkhill turned into a right old dodgepot and has flopped badly in his last 6 races over hurdles, fences, various distances and different ground conditions. Top Notch disappointed in his Cheltenham trial race so missed the Festival but bounced back to win a Grade 2 at Sandown at the end of the Season. 4th home Politologue won a number of Graded chases throughout 2017-2018 but was only 4th in the Champion Chase before winning the Grade 1 at Aintree from Min. But the race managed to keep up it's excellent record of producing Cheltenham Festival winners when faller Balko Des Flos came back to win the RyanAir chase at 8/1

2016 winner Black Hercules didn't make it to Cheltenham the following year but the runner up, Bristol De Mai, ran a respectable 7th in the Gold Cup for a 6yo. Third home L'Ami Serge reverted to hurdles and was a neck runner up in the County Hurdle at 25/1.

The 2015 winner Vautour came back the following year to become the first Irish winner of the Ryanair Chase with stablemate Valseur Lido finishing second having been third in the JLT. Outsider Tango De Juilley could only manage 6th but in 2016 was runner up in the Plate Handicap at 33/1.

It was the 2014 runner up Uxizandre that arguably did best of that years bunch when coming back to win the RyanAir chase at 16/1 the following year although race faller Djakadam went on to finish second in the next two Gold Cups.

Dynaste suffered a shock defeat in 2013 when only second to Benefficient but came back the following year to set the record straight with victory in the RyanAir Chase. The fourth Module ran third in the 2014 Queen Mother and the 6th came back to run 5th in the Plate Handicap.

Sir Des Champs won the Martin Pipe Hurdle in 2011 before taking the 2012 JLT but just failed to make it three consecutive wins at the Festival when finishing runner up to Bobs Worth in the Gold Cup. For Non Stop was third here and then third in the following year's RyanAir Chase.

2012 – 2018 RUNNER STATS

RUNNERS COMING BACK TO THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL THE FOLLOWING YEAR

	Runners	Winners	Strike Rate	Profit/Loss	Places
2018	7	0	0.00%	-7	0
2017	3	1	33.33%	6	0
2016	4	0	0.00%	-4	1
2015	5	1	20.00%	-3	2
2014	5	1	20.00%	12	1
2013	6	1	16.67%	-2	1
2012	6	0	0.00%	-6	2
Totals	36	4	11.11%	-4	7

Winners record at the following Cheltenham Festival: **2 - P - 9 - 1 – DNR – P - 9**

Finishing position in the JLT of subsequent Cheltenham winners: **- / 2 / 2 / 1 / - / F / -**

2019 HORSES TO NOTE

After a disappointing Season for the class of 2018 we'll be looking for this years renewal to provide us with a much needed boost for this race.

We may just get it as both the first and second look pretty smart and have a bit of 'history' having raced against each other three times over fences (current score Defi Du Seuil 2 Lostintranslation 1).

The third Menghli Khan ran well but has had his limitations subsequently and having been beaten in handicap company off 154 last time out looks unlikely at the moment to prove a Graded Festival winner.

The fourth Kildisart appreciated the step up to 3m1f when winning a Grade 3 handicap at Aintree on his next start by 5 lengths and looks sure to continue his progress at staying distances. The 5th Real Steel also won a handicap last time out doing it by 6 ½ lengths and gaining a new rating of 158

Voix De Reve unseated rider here but beat Real Steel by over 5 lengths next time out in a Fairyhouse Grade 1. He ran no race at all next time out when well beaten in 4th behind Chacun Pour Soi in the Grade 1 Chase at Punchestown (Defi Du Seuil was second).

2019 RACE ANTE POST GUIDE

Defi Du Seuil receives quotes of 16/1 for the Champion Chase, 8/1 for the RyanAir and 40/1 for the Gold Cup. **Lostintranslation** is a top priced 16/1 for the RyanAir and 14/1 for the Gold Cup.

Kildisart is a tempting 50/1 for the Gold Cup where 2018 JLT 4th **Kemboy** is the 13/2 favourite and **Real Steel** 33/1 (also 33/1 for the RyanAir).

SEFTON NOVICES HURDLE (AINTREE FESTIVAL)

FRIDAY – 3M½F HURDLE (4yo+)

RESULTS: 2011 – 2019

YEAR	FORM	WINNER	HURDLE RUNS	ODDS	TRAINER	AGE	WEIGHT	RATING
2019	2-11112	Champ	6	9/4f	Henderson, N	7	11-4	152
2018	113	Santini	3	6/4f	Henderson, N	6	11-4	150
2017	-3111F	The Worlds End	5	3/1	George, T	6	11-4	149
2016	11	Ballyoptic (IRE)	2	9/1	Twiston-Davies,	6	11-4	138
2015	-51715	Thistlecrack	4	25/1	Tizzard, C L	7	11-4	135
2014	26-12	Beat That (IRE)	2	6/1	Henderson, N J	6	11-4	142
2013	5-11111	At Fishers Cross (IRE)	7	11/8	Curtis, Miss R	6	11-4	152
2012	-41F14	Lovcen (GER)	5	8/1	King, A	7	11-4	142
2011	172F3	Saint Are (FR)	7	33/1	Vaughan, Tim	5	11-4	129

RACE AS A POINTER TO THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL:

If you're looking for Cheltenham Festival winners then this is the one race you really need to take notice of. It has provided two World Hurdle winners along with a Pertemps Hurdle winner, Mares Hurdle winner, 4 Mile NH Chase winner and 2 Ryanair Chase winners over the last 6 years. This includes looking back to the previous years running as well as four horses from this race have come back two years later to become Cheltenham Festival winners (2 of the 4 were off the track for the following Season)....

Santini won here in 2018 and went on to run a half length second in the RSA at the following year's Cheltenham Festival. The runner up Roksana went on to win the Mares Hurdle at 10/1 at the next Cheltenham Festival thanks to Benie Des Dieux's unlucky fall at the last. The third home Tower Bridge was runner up in the Close Brothers Novice Chase h'cap.

2017 winner The Worlds End struggled throughout the Season to recapture his novice form but ran well enough in 7th in that seasons Stayers Hurdle. 7th home Elegant Escape ran third in the RSA

2016 winner Ballyoptic never really made it as a Graded Hurdler in his first Season outside of Novice company. He managed a couple of okay runs on the run up to the Festival but pulled up in the Stayers Hurdle at Cheltenham. Runner up Bellshill managed a decent third in the RSA Chase while the third was a decent fourth in the Kim Muir as a novice chaser.

Thistlecrack caused a bit of a shock when scoring in 2015 but proved it was no fluke when taking the World Hurdle in 2015. 3rd place finisher Our Kaempfer was 5th in the Pertemps Hurdle, 4th home Backlion went on to take the 2016 RSA Novice Chase and race faller Alpha Des Obeaux finished second in the World Hurdle. Out the back and pulling up that year was One For Arthur who would come back two years later to win the Grand National.

The 2014 renewal was another cracker with the runner up Cole Harden taking the World Hurdle the following year at 14/1.

At Fishers Cross won in 2013 and was third and 4th in the 2014/15 World Hurdle while the 5th home Uxizandre was second in the 2014 JLT Novice Chase and winner of the 2015 Ryanair.

Things didn't really work out well for Lovcen after he won here in 2011 but runner up Fingal Bay came back after a year off the track to win the 2014 Pertemps Hurdle. Nagpur was 9th but finished second at the 2013 Cheltenham Festival in the Coral Cup at 33/1.

Again it was the 2011 runner up who did best of the first two when Cantlow went on to finish 3rd at 33/1 in the Pertemps Hurdle at the following year's Cheltenham Festival. Back In Focus finished 8th here but after spending 2012 on the sidelines returned to take the 2013 4 mile NH Chase. The 10th home For Non Stop would go on to finish 3rd in both the JLT and RyanAir Chases at the next two Cheltenham Festivals

2011 – 2019 RUNNER STATS

RUNNERS COMPETING AT CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL THE FOLLOWING YEAR

	Runners	Winners	Strike Rate	Profit/Loss	Places
2018	3	1	33.33%	8	2
2017	5	0	0.00%	-5	1
2016	7	0	0.00%	-7	2
2015	8	2	25.00%	3	1
2014	4	1	25.00%	11	0
2013	5	0	0.00%	-5	2
2012	7	0	0.00%	-7	1
2011	4	0	0.00%	-4	2
Totals	43	4	9.30%	-6	11

Winners record at the following Cheltenham Festival: **0 - DNR - 3 - DNR - 1 – P – 7 - 2**

Finishing position in the Sefton of subsequent Cheltenham winners: **- / - / - / 2 / 1-4 / - / - 2**

2019 HORSES TO NOTE

Champ was a little outpaced in the closing stages of the Ballymore Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival but bounced back nicely to win by 3 lengths here at Aintree from the previously unbeaten **Emitom**. Both look decent staying novices who should be worth following this Season.

The third **Lisnagar Oscar** weakened out of it on the run in but had shown decent form throughout the Season including running 5th in the Albert Bartlett on his previous run.

Most of those running down the field had found the step up from novice to Graded class beyond them and will no doubt be sent over fences or be contesting handicaps at the start of this Season.

Disappointment of the race was Gordon Elliot's **Dallas Des Pictons** who had been touched off at Cheltenham having been the subject of a big gamble. Something looked amiss here and he'll be worth noting in top handicap company this year with the Pertemps Final looking the ideal target.

2019 RACE ANTE POST GUIDE

Champ earns quotes of 16/1 for the Stayers Hurdle but more appealing is the 10/1 about his chances for the RSA while **Emitom** is 33/1 for the stayers.

Dallas Des Pictons is 33/1 for the RSA but I'd rather wait for the Pertemps market to become available before backing him.

CHAMPION NOVICE HURDLE (PUNCHESTOWN FESTIVAL)

TUESDAY – 2M HURDLE (4yo+)

RESULTS: 2012 – 2019

YEAR	FORM	WINNER	HURDLE RUNS	ODDS	TRAINER	AGE	WEIGHT	RATING
2019	324P-111	Klassical Dream	8	8/13f	Mullins, W P	5	11-12	157
2018	4-12U2	Draconian	4	25/1	Mullins, W P	5	11-12	136
2017	1125	Cilaos Emery	3	8/1	Mullins, W P	5	11-12	142
2016	212213-	Dont Touch It (IRE)	4	16/1	Harrington, Mrs J	6	11-12	139
2015	21111-	Douvan (FR)	5	1/6	Mullins, W P	5	11-12	160
2014	11111	Faugheen (IRE)	4	1/2	Mullins, W P	6	11-12	155
2013	-11113	Jezki (IRE)	5	2/1	Harrington, Mrs J	5	11-12	153
2012	012011	Alderwood (IRE)	14	5/2	Mullins, Thomas	8	11-12	143

RACE AS A POINTER TO THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL:

An absolute cracker of a race with regard to pointers for the following years Cheltenham Festival as all 4 winners from 2012-2015 went on to record a victory at the big meeting in March. Those 4 wins include two in the Champion Hurdle...

Draconian was a shock winner in 2018 but we didn't get to see how good he was last Season as injury forced him to sit it out. The third Menghli Khan was also third in the JLT while the fourth was also 4th when favourite for the County Hurdle. The fifth Cartwright was 6th in the Martin Pipe Handicap

Cilaos Emery beat Melon in 2017 but wasn't seen out after getting beat in a Grade 1 Hurdle at the end of December. Melon however ran in the 2018 Champion Hurdle going down by just a neck to Buveur D'air and in the process upholding the great record this race has of providing decent hurdlers.

The 2016 winner was another not to make it to Cheltenham the following year but four of the 6 runners did. The runner up, Petit Mouchoir, upheld the excellent record this race has in the Champion Hurdle when finishing third. Yorkhill was well beaten as the 4/9 favourite here but got his act together in 2017 and won the JLT Chase at the Cheltenham Festival. Charbel was 5th here and was still in with a big chance when coming down in the Arkle two fences from home.

In 2015 Douvan beat Sizing John. They both embarked on a chasing career after running here and went on to finish 1-2 in the Arkle Trophy at the 2016 Cheltenham Festival.

The 2014 winner Faugheen remained over hurdles and went on to win the Champion Hurdle as an odds on favourite in 2015. The runner up Valseur Lido finished 3rd in the JLT Chase in 2015 and second in the 2016 Ryanair both times finishing behind Vautour. Wicklow Brave fell here but won the 2015 County Hurdle at 25/1!

Jezki won in 2013 and was another to follow up in the Champion Hurdle at the following year's Cheltenham Festival. Beaten favourite Champagne Fever went chasing and was just denied into second in the 2014 Arkle.

The 2012 winner Alderwood was another to try his hand over fences and recorded a victory at the following year's Cheltenham Festival in the Grand Annual Handicap as a well supported 3/1 fav.

2012 – 2018 RUNNER STATS

RUNNERS COMPETING AT CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL THE FOLLOWING YEAR

	Runners	Winners	Strike Rate	Profit/Loss	Places
2018	8	0	0.00%	-8	2
2017	1	0	0.00%	-1	1
2016	4	1	25.00%	-1.5	1
2015	2	1	50.00%	-0.75	1
2014	4	2	50.00%	23.8	1
2013	5	1	20.00%	5	1
2012	2	1	50.00%	2	0
Totals	26	6	23.07%	19.55	7

Winners record at the following Cheltenham Festival: **1 – 1 – 1 - 1 – DNR – DNR - DNR**

Finishing position in the Champion Novice of subsequent Cheltenham winners: **1 / 1 / 1-F / 1 / 4**

2018 HORSES TO NOTE

Willie Mullins had 4 of the 6 runners in 2019 including the odds on winner **Klassical Dream** who was following up his Supreme Novice Hurdle win at Cheltenham and in the process confirmed form with the Supreme 5th **Felix Desijny** who had won the Grade 1 Hurdle at Aintree.

Mullins also had the third **Mister Blue Sky**, who had won a Grade 2 on his previous start but was no match here for the front two, and distant fourth **Quick Grabim** who was a Grade 1 hurdle winner the previous December but hadn't run since. The last named has since ran down the field in a French Grade 2 Hurdle and is struggling to recapture his earlier hurdles form for Willie Mullins.

Nicky Henderson ran the unbeaten novice **Champagne Platinum** who was making a big step up in class having previously won a class 4 Newbury Novice Hurdle 4 months before. He was well beaten here but may prove more effective in handicap company or over fences.

The other Mullins runner **Aramon** finished a very long last which was a big disappointment as he had run the winner to a head (giving a 1lb) when they had met at the Dublin Racing Festival in early February. He went from there to finish 6th in the Supreme and 2nd to Felix Desijny at Aintree and obviously hasn't progressed anywhere near as much as his stablemate.

2019 RACE ANTE POST GUIDE

The winner stamped himself as the number 1 novice and ended the Season unbeaten in 4 hurdle starts for Willie Mullins (3 at Grade 1 level). All roads now lead to the Champion Hurdle.

Felix Desijny is 16/1 for the Arkle. Aramon, Quick Grabim and Champagne Platinum also receive quotes for that race all around the 25/1 mark.

2020 CHELTENHAM ANTE-POST RECOMMENDATIONS

The first Bet in the Route 66 Ante-Post Portfolio for 2019-2020

BETTING • SLIP • FOR BETTING ON ALL EVENTS	
Stake & Selection	Time & Meeting
THE GOLD CUP	
KILDISART 50/1	
1/4pt EW	
All bets subject to rules	
TOTAL STAKE	1/2 Point

Ante-Post Lucky 15 for the 2020 Cheltenham Festival

BETTING • SLIP • FOR BETTING ON ALL EVENTS	
Stake & Selection	Time & Meeting
CHAMPION HURDLE	
- KLASSICAL DREAM 7/2	
RSA CHASE	
- CHAMP 10/1	
RYANAIR CHASE	
- DEFI DU SEUIL 8/1	
GOLD CUP	
- KEMBOY 6/1	