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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[RaceFan](#)

Win Bet - Leicester 14:50 - Northern Beau @ 15/8

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Win Bet - Kelso 16:10 - Mr Mercurial @ 7/2

[Neo Investments](#)

Win Bet - Chelmsford (A.W) 18:30 - Probability @ 9/4

Race In Focus: Stayers' Hurdle - By Ian Hudson

Cheltenham Thursday March 14th 2019 - Three miles for horses aged four and over with 12 hurdles.

Description

The Stayers' Hurdle is the most prestigious long-distance hurdle race in the calendar and is a championship Grade 1 contest. The race was first run in 2012 and in recent years there have been a number of title sponsors. When Ladbrokes sponsored the race it was called the World Hurdle which did not fit the profile of the meeting. The title has reverted back to the stayers' hurdle over the last four years. The race has a history of producing multiple winners and since 2002 nine of the runnings have been shared amongst three horses. All runners carry 11 stone 10 pounds except mares who receive a 7 pounds allowance.

Winners Since 2009

Year	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	SP
2009	Big Buck's	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	4/11F
2010	Big Buck's	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	5/6F
2011	Big Buck's	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	10/11F
2012	Big Buck's	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	5/6F
2013	Solwhit	Paul Carberry	Charles Byrnes	17/2
2014	More Of That	Barry Geraghty	Jonjo O'Neill	15/2
2015	Cole Harden	Gavin Sheehan	Warren Greatrex	14/1
2016	Thistlecrack	Tom Scudamore	Colin Tizzard	Evens F
2017	Nichols Canyon	Ruby Walsh	Willie Mullins	7/4F
2018	Penhill	Paul Townend	Willie Mullins	12/1

Trends

- Big Buck's four wins as the odds-on favourite have weighted the trends.
- The average price of the winner is over 7/2.
- The winners' odds ranged from 4/11 to 14/1.
- Two winners started at double figure odds.
- Six outright favourites prevailed.
- Ruby Walsh rode five winning favourites.
- No horse aged five has won the race.
- Three of the last 10 winners were trained in Ireland.
- 8 of the last 17 winners or runners up ran in the Cleeve Hurdle.
- 12 of the last 20 winners ran in the Long Walk Hurdle.
- 8 of the last 17 winners were bred in France.
- 9 of the last 14 winners won last time out.

Records since 1972

The records are dominated by Big Buck's, the winning most horse in the full history of the race.

Big Buck's won a record four stayers' hurdles from 2009 to 2012.

Leading Jockey - Ruby Walsh with five wins from 2009 to 2017.

Leading Trainers - Paul Nicholls with four winners from 2009 to 2012.

Leading Contenders

Odds correct as at February 13th 2019 and subject to change.

There is no getting away from the credentials that PAISLEY PARK (9/4 with **Ladbrokes**) takes into the race and the horse has the best form by some distance. Until Paisley Park emerged as a leading contender Irish horses dominated the market. SAMCRO (8/1 with **Betfair**) is not a definite runner. PENHILL (13/2 with **William Hill**) won the race last year so is proven over the course and distance. SUPASUNDAE (10/1 with **William Hill**) was well beaten by APPLE'S JADE (14/1 with **Betfair**) at the Dublin Racing Festival but that was over two miles. Former Champion Hurdle winner FAUGHEEN (12/1 with **William Hill**) has winning form over three miles while Apple's Jade will probably be targeted at a different race. BLACK OP (14/1 with **bet365**) was a novice last season and the trends suggest the horse can't win. By a process of elimination and based on ratings Paisley Park cannot be opposed.

Tip: Paisley Park at 9/4 with Ladbrokes.

Next Week's Race

Triumph Hurdle

Previous Tips

Supreme Novices' Hurdle - Tornado Flyer at 16/1 (now 33/1).

Arkle Challenge Trophy - Lalor at 5/1 (now 11/2).

Champion Hurdle - Laurina at 4/1 (now 5/1).

RSA Chase - Topofthegame at 8/1 (now 7/1).

Champion Chase - Altior at 4/7 (now 1/2).

Ryanair Chase - Waiting Patiently 7/1 (now 7/1).

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Mixed Night For Arsenal And Chelsea

New managers at Chelsea and Arsenal have not really had the desired effect and both clubs have dropped out of the Champions League places. However, they do have another route into the competition and that is by winning the Europa League. In the halcyon days under Jose Mourinho and Arsene Wenger playing in the poor relation to the Champions League would be unthinkable but needs must. In fact the Europa League could buy both new bosses some time and the combined price for CHELSEA OR ARSENAL to win the competition is about 3/1 with **Coral**.

Arsenal are away to Bate Borisiv for a match the manager should take seriously. They are not involved in the FA Cup at the weekend so the Europa League is the only chance of a trophy. Unai Emery won three Europa Leagues with Sevilla and is expected to field the first string today. Arsenal won a corresponding match 4-2 away from home in 2017. Bate have not competitively since December and ARSENAL have the form to beat their hosts by at least a goal at 5/4 with **Ladbrokes**.

Chelsea have lost their last four away matches without scoring a goal and a similar outcome against Malmo could see the end of Mourizio Sarri. The hosts have not been beaten at home in 18 matches but most of those fixtures were in the Swedish League. However, they have lost just 2 of 14 fixtures in Europe in Sweden. Chelsea meet Manchester United in the FA Cup on Monday which could be seen as a priority. MALMO can inflict a damaging defeat on the manager at 7/1 with **Coral**.

Thankfully equine flu is now just a bad memory and some trainers who had been in lockdown are now allowed to have runners. Kelso stages two decent races (2.25 and 3.00) but there are only four and two runners in these contests which have odds-on favourites. Clonmel features a Grade 3 novice hurdle over three miles at 2.40 and on ratings MOSKOVITE is the bet at 11/2 with **Ladbrokes**.