

Hereford 2nd August Preview

by Paul Simmons

1st race – Maiden, 3yrs old & upwards, 7 furlongs

A competitive maiden with several leading contenders lining up. Bill Smith's French recruit **Djalk** was an impressive 2nd to the smart looking Inshaad over this trip at Exeter on his UK debut. The main danger to Djalk is Billoube who has been a good 2nd on both his starts to quality juvenile Hidalgo over this trip and then behind Marsak at this course over 9f. The Debator ran well last time out when 3rd to Pavots Dreamboy over 6f at Exeter.

2nd race – Open Handicap (TBs and AA) 0-175 over 1 mile 1 furlong

Kings Cavalier won well at this course over 1m6f beating Exclusive Air and he looks capable of following up again. Ela Figura has place claims and chased home Take The Plunge that day and was 4th to Son Of Sophie over 9f at Exeter last time out. Cloudcatcher is slowly coming to hand and was 4th to the selection at Hereford last time out.

3rd race – Handicap 0-65 over 2 miles

Course and distance winner **Debrett** should follow up if in the mood and the trip and track will suit. Main dangers are Blu By You who was 4th behind him that day and Notid who was 3rd. Both will appreciate the distance and will be staying on at the end.

4th race – Open Anglo/PBA Handicap over 1 mile 1 furlong

Curupanna is making hay in these events this year. She scooted home at Fontwell over 12f and beat Madrison again over 9f at Exeter and looks on course for a hatrick. Madrison is capable of winning and was giving the selection 4lbs last time but looks set for place claims again. La Perruche is a smart stayer and should chase them home.

5th race – Juvenile Conditions Stakes (3 & 4 yr olds) over 1 mile 1 furlong

Falak looks a class act beating two subsequent winners on his UK debut over 12f at Fontwell and then slamming a class field in the 1m Dubai Day handicap. He looks set for a dazzling career and can take this en route to group glory. Ejaabi won his maiden well at Huntingdon over 10f and chased home Falak for a decent 2nd on Dubai Day but may struggle to usurp him here on level weights. Falak's stablemate, Mu'Azzaz, ran an eye catching race when 3rd on his racecourse debut in the Group 1 UK Derby.

6th race – Open Handicap (TBs & AA) over 1 mile 6 furlongs

Son Of Sophie is running at the top of his game this season and won well last time out at Exeter over 9f beating Megabond and previously won over this trip at Nottingham. He stands a good chance of taking this for a treble. ARO's 2007 TB champion Fraternity ran well on his debut when 2nd to Take The Plunge at this track over 7f. This is more his trip and he could cause an upset. Megabond has won 3 races around 6f and showed his versatility when short head 2nd to Son Of Sophie at Exeter over 9f and he should go close again.

7th race – Handicap 0-75 over 1 mile 4 furlongs

A fairly open handicap with several in with a chance. **Few and Far** is a decent mare going the right from the Bill Smith yard, she was solid staying on 4th behind Marsak over 9f at this course last time and she could open her account here. Remaal has been struggling over shorter trips this term but has been placed over 6f including when third to Edjalie. She was last to Muhal at this track over 7f and the step up in trip could see improvement. Al Mamoon is tough old handicapper but has yet to prove he stays this far, but he was 3rd to Muhal over 7f here before a poor run on Dubai Day. He could go close.

8th race – Handicap 0-50 over 1 mile 1 furlong

Shereik made an eye catching seasonal debut at Exeter when running Anganate Safinat to within half a length over 8f and she deserves to lose her maiden tag here in this company. Anganate Safinat ran a confident race to win over 8f last time out and is quite consistent this season, he should get a place. Benny The Dip was third to Raihan over 7f at this track and has strong place claims.