

THE PRICE WATCHER BLOG

Welcome to The Price Watcher Blog, where we take a value-led approach to the weekend's televised racing on ITV and aim to identify bets that the market may have overlooked.

This week brings some exciting midweek action. Chester's May Meeting is underway, featuring some strong cards to analyse, with several top-class horses in action, especially those with Classic aspirations. For many ante-post backers, it's a make-or-break meeting.

In this blog, we'll take a look at the six ITV races on Thursday, coming from both Chester and Huntingdon.

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13:30 CHESTER

Dapper Valley makes plenty of appeal in the ITV opener, arriving here on the back of two recent wins.

Previously campaigned in the Middle East, James Owen's recruit has taken well to his current surroundings, getting his head in front on both starts, most recently at Salisbury on Sunday. Connections look keen to strike while the iron is hot.



He carries a 5lb penalty, but that may underestimate him given a higher mark is likely once his new rating kicks in. The booking of Christian Howarth, who takes off a valuable 3lb, only strengthens his case.

If he continues in the same vein, he looks capable of being right in the mix once again.

Selection: [DAPPER VALLEY E/W – 12/1](#)

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13:45 HUNTINGDON

We head over to Huntingdon for this one, where Ice In The Veins looks the value play in the market.

He's tended to race a bit too keenly this season, often doing too much too soon, which has cost him late on. This six-runner contest could set up with plenty of early pace on offer, Pep Talking in particular looks likely to go forward and ensure a strong tempo.

That could play into his hands if he's able to settle better this time. If the Skelton runner can conserve his energy early, the conditions look ideal, both the trip and the ground are in his favour.

Selection: ICE IN THE VEINS – 7/2

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14:05 CHESTER

He debuted on the Rowley Mile on the 15th, which, as we know, can be a stiff and demanding test for a two-year-old first time out.

Things didn't quite go his way either, he found himself on the wrong side of the track, was slow into stride, and had no cover on the stand side. Despite that, he showed enough natural speed to work his way back into contention and get closer to the leaders.

With a sharper break and a more favourable position, ideally getting across and finding some cover, he could take a big step forward here. Chester is another unique test, but if things fall right, he's capable of being right in the mix.

Selection: [JAZZ QUEEN E/W – 17/2](#)

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14:35 CHESTER

After his impressive performance in the Feilden Stakes, Morshdi looks to have had this race firmly in his sights. Despite carrying a penalty, the Dubawi colt shapes like a high-class prospect, and this could be another stepping stone - potentially towards something like the Dante Stakes later on.



Aidan O'Brien saddles Constitution River, who brings great form into the race, but there are still a few question marks. He steps up in trip here and, despite his last two wins, still looks a work in progress with more to learn.

In contrast, Morshdi appears the more polished and race-ready option at this stage. With proven form and a clear progression profile, he sets the standard and looks one of the strongest bets on the card.

Selection: [MORSHDI – 5/2](#)

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15:05 CHESTER

Finding value in the Ormonde Stakes isn't straightforward with Jan Brueghel likely to go off at around even money. However, on his seasonal reappearance, he may be a short-priced favourite worth taking on.

Further down the market, Al Qareem makes plenty of appeal at around 9/1. He's a tough, genuine type who tends to keep finding under pressure, and that attitude can be a real asset around Chester.



With the importance of securing a prominent position on this track, he could gain an early tactical advantage if able to get on or near the front. This is undoubtedly a deeper race, so winning won't be easy, but equally, it would come as no surprise to see him stick on gamely and hit the frame.

Selection: [AL QAREEM E/W – 9/1](#)

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15:40 CHESTER

Caballo Grand looks to offer solid each-way value for Michael Bell. He shaped well on his penultimate start at Wolverhampton, making all and showing plenty of early pace.

His latest run can be forgiven, Newbury's straight track can catch horses out, especially if they race too freely or lose their position early.

Now switching to Chester, everything looks more in his favour. The tight, turning track should suit his front-running style, and crucially, he's drawn in stall 1 - an ideal position to grab the rail and dictate the race from the outset.

If he breaks well, he could be very hard to peg back. At a big price, he makes plenty of appeal as an each-way play, especially with Grosvenor's Each Way Plus on offer.

Selection: [CABALLO GRANDE E/W – 33/1](#)

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Best of luck if you're playing and remember always gamble responsibly!

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