

Intro

Hello there and thank you for reading this month's article. I have decided to split it into two parts, starting with a 'trainer in focus' piece that takes a closer look at Charlie Appleby. As I type a couple of these angles have thrown up winners already and with any luck they will pay their way. I then move onto the York Ebor meeting and highlight a handful of trainers of interest that with any luck it will pay to keep an eye on in the latter part of August.

As always I hope you find it a useful and interesting read.
Let's crack on...

Trainer In Focus

Charlie Appleby... every now and then I like to look at a 'trainer in focus' and see if there are any micro angles/systems that we should be taking note of. This time I have decided to look at Charlie Appleby and as I type I have no idea what I am about to find- that is the exciting part.

There is no real method to my madness this time, if there ever is. I generally play in handicaps and have noted on numerous occasions, especially at big meetings/races, that he likes to fire in the odd decent priced winner. He has access to well-bred stock and is now firmly established. I want to see if there is a 'way in' with his handicap runners.

His transformation with 2 year olds is also well known. They used to be backwards, rarely ready first time up and take a while to get going. Now he is very adept at readying a horse to win first time up or on it's next start. I suspect the market may have adjusted for this now, but there is only one way to find out.

Let's get cracking and with any luck we can find a gem or two to monitor in the weeks ahead and into next season.

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Firstly, his overall record...

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	P/L(Ptc)	A/E
ALL	2056	436	21.21	-259.96	929	45.18	-12.64	-33.56	39.59	0.9
2017	201	50	24.88	31.27	106	52.74	15.56	69.2	43.63	1.04
2016	336	71	21.13	-11.94	163	48.51	-3.55	35.26	37.8	0.89
2015	664	152	22.89	-150.13	309	46.54	-22.61	-106.93	-13.59	0.89
2014	551	103	18.69	-112.11	233	42.29	-20.35	-64.49	8.16	0.87
2013	304	60	19.74	-17.05	118	38.82	-5.61	33.41	-36.42	0.88

The first thing to note is that it is a decent set of data to attack and that he is clearly a very good trainer. An average 21% win SR is very good over that time as is the place %.

2 Year Olds

Before I highlight any micro angles it's worth noting a clear change in tactics. The table below gives a clear indication that he now readies horses to win *first time out, aged 2...*

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	261	40	15.33	-51.03	89	34.1	-19.55	-24.41	-26.45	0.88
2017	21	11	52.38	18.98	15	71.43	90.38	22.15	5.36	1.78
2016	44	10	22.73	-9.39	20	45.45	-21.34	-6.51	1.04	0.91
2015	71	5	7.04	-48.75	16	22.54	-68.66	-47.34	-27.44	0.48
2014	81	8	9.88	-24.25	24	29.63	-29.94	-24.53	-2.92	0.71
2013	44	6	13.64	12.38	14	31.82	28.14	31.83	-2.5	0.9

The last two years have seen a marked increase in win % and place %. It would suggest that he has changed how he trains but that he may also now be sent more precocious types.

1st Time Out 2 Year Olds... (2016/17)

- All winners have been 5/1 or shorter SP: 21/53,32 places, +28 BFSP
 - Bigger than 5/1 SP: 0/12,3p

5/1 or shorter SP...

There are a couple of tracks worth noting...

- Newmarket (both tracks): 8/18,12p, +19
- Ascot: 2/2, +4
- Goodwood: 2/2, +8

A look at 'distance' and it is clear that 5/6 furlongs is the place to focus...

- 5/6 furlongs: 15/22,17 p, +35
 - No odds cap: 15/25,19 p, +32 (inc 1 of the 3 bigger priced placed horses)
- 7f+ : 6/31,15p, -7

Those are the main pointers for his first time out 2 year olds. Of interest is that his profit and actual/expected figures are much better in 2017. It would suggest these types are still underestimated, even more so over 5 and 6 furlongs. When the money is down, take note.

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Handicappers

His overall handicap stats, all handicappers, both on turf and 'on the sand' (all-weather)

Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Races	Race%	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
772	169	21.89	-55.69	340	724	23.34	32.05	55.03	0.95

We have something to work with there, let's do some digging...

Flat Turf

Micro 1

- Flat Turf
- 3yo+ Handicaps
- 10-12f
- Class 2 +3

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	54	17	31.48	45.74	23	42.59	50	68.03	8.9	1.55
2017	3	1	33.33	18	1	33.33	3	31.25	2.75	1.49
2016	12	3	25	3.38	8	66.67	11	5.15	12.28	1.41
2015	10	5	50	12.86	5	50	10	14.84	0.65	2.09
2014	15	3	20	-0.25	3	20	14	1.02	-9	0.9
2013	14	5	35.71	11.75	6	42.86	12	15.79	2.22	2.02

Notes:

These figures look decent for this type and with any luck there may be a few more winners lurking during the remainder of the season.

Appleby has had one winner sent off bigger than 13/2 within this angle. Those 'qualifiers' (7/1+) are 1/18,4 places, +3 (SP) , + 16 BFSP. That winner was at this year's Royal Ascot. It does mean that those priced 13/2 or shorter SP are: 16/36,19 places, +52

Looking at field size... those running in races with 9 or fewer opponents: 15/35,18 places, +46

Micro 2

- Flat Turf
- Handicaps (exc 3 YO Only handicaps)
- Class 2
- NOT moving down in distance by 1f or more
- 2 or more career wins
- Any odds

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	86	21	24.42	77.08	38	44.19	84	118.08	46.99	1.79
2017	6	4	66.67	28.5	4	66.67	6	41.82	6.1	3.6
2016	29	6	20.69	30	12	41.38	27	48.01	18.86	1.7
2015	21	4	19.05	3.83	8	38.1	21	6.56	6.36	1.29
2014	18	3	16.67	2.5	8	44.44	18	5.78	13.01	1.58
2013	12	4	33.33	12.25	6	50	12	15.91	2.65	1.94

Notes:

All winners priced 20/1 or shorter SP, 0/6,2 places at bigger prices. Those include two seconds at 33/1.

Going back to the base set of stats (exc the final three criteria)...

Down 1 furlong or more from last run: 0/30,6p

0-1 career win: 3/35, 10p, -21

Clearly having a bit of winning experience is no bad thing in this type of race and those moving down in trip don't appear to improve for doing so. Appleby clearly knows when to move them up in distance.

The Betfair place profit is decent enough also (second column from right)

Fingers crossed he can keep repeating these stats in C2 handicaps. You would expect a levelling off for 2017 at some point but with any luck he can add a couple more decent priced winners this season.

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Tracks

I thought it may be worth looking to see if there were any turf tracks where should focus. Newmarket (Rowley) does stand out somewhat and there is an interesting micro angle below...

Newmarket (Rowley)

152 bets / 35 wins / 66 places / 23% sr / +91 BFSP / AE 1.24

Micro 3

- Newmarket (Rowley)
- 8f or further
- Maidens/Handicaps/Handicap Nursery
- Any odds

	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
ALL	49	19	38.78	56.08	28	57.14	46	65.62	26.55	2.05
2017	9	4	44.44	9.25	5	55.56	9	9.52	6.11	2.38
2016	13	6	46.15	11.73	8	61.54	13	12.57	4.31	1.93
2015	9	4	44.44	8.1	6	66.67	9	8.61	6.21	2.11
2014	12	3	25	13.5	5	41.67	10	17.31	6.52	2.07
2013	6	2	33.33	13.5	4	66.67	5	17.61	3.41	1.77

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The All-Weather

As I start to wind down this 'trainer in focus' article I thought it would be good to look at Appleby's record 'on the sand'. This may help you flat fans get through the winter months!

Race Type	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	A/E
Non-Handicap	59	23	38.98	10.46	34	57.63	56	16.77	1.62	1.03
Maiden	326	74	22.7	-52.92	170	52.15	281	-23.26	10.31	0.84
Novices	5	2	40	-2.33	2	40	5	-2.31	-2.85	0.75
Handicap	200	67	33.5	22.8	106	53	189	43.63	6.01	1.09
Handicap Nursery	52	14	26.92	-12.35	26	50	52	-10.84	-0.93	0.97

If we just focus on ‘handicaps’, excluding nursery handicaps, and have a look at a breakdown by track...

Track	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	P/L(BF)	A/E
Chelmsford City	29	6	20.69	-11.71	14	48.28	29	-9.77	0.62
Kempton	59	18	30.51	8.73	27	45.76	54	12.89	1.15
Lingfield	47	16	34.04	6.35	26	55.32	46	10.05	1.13
Newcastle	4	2	50	14.91	2	50	3	17.97	1.39
Southwell	3	1	33.33	-1	1	33.33	3	-0.96	0.94
Wolverhampton	58	24	41.38	5.52	36	62.07	54	13.44	1.24

Again, it is the class 2 handicappers that may be worth some attention...

- 41 bets / 15 wins / 23 places / 37% sr / +30 BFSP / AE 1.23

Another approach would be to look at his experienced yet more lightly races runners- specifically those handicaps that had 3-10 career runs to their name...

- 159 bets / 57 wins / 88 places / 36% sr / +62 BFSP / AE 1.2
 - And within this angle just focussing on those that ran at Newmarket (either course) or Kempton Last Time Out: 16/37,20p, +55 BFSP

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That’s all for this look at Charlie Appleby. Hopefully you found something of interest there and a few of the angles will point us all to some decent winners and profit moving forward.

York Ebor Meeting

What follows is a brief look at those trainers we may wish to keep onside at York’s Ebor Meeting at the end of August.

As always these are best treated as ‘starting points’ and to help with your usual approach to race analysis. With any luck these pointers throw up a few nice priced winners and help you come out in front.

Let's get to trainers and there is only one place to start...

William Haggas

56 bets / 14 wins / 25 places / +56 BFSP / AE 1.67

Positives

- 6f: 6/15,9p, +27
- 2YO Only races: 8/20, 12p, +30
- 3YO Only races: 3/9,4p, +13
- Horse Age 2 or 3: 13/41,20p, +62
- 9/2 or shorter SP: 9/17,12p, +23
- Colts + Fillies: 13/39,20p, +64
- Horse had 2 career wins: 7/14,9p, +54
- Horse had 0 runs at distance before: 5/11,8, +21
- OR 7-12lb higher than last win: 5/10,6p, +48

Kevin Ryan

82 bets / 8 wins / 18 places / +5 BFSP / AE 1.19

Positives

- 7/1 or shorter SP: 5/13,6p, +22
 - 8/1-16/1: 3/35,9p,+6
 - 20/1+ : 0/34,3p
- 16/1 < SP –
 - Non-handicaps: 5/26,9p, +29
 - 2 year olds: 5/16,6p, +39
 - 1 run career: 3/4,4p, +33
 - Up 3/4/5 classes from last run: 4/8,5p, +34
 - 1 run at York previously: 3/13,6p, +13
 - 1 run this season: 3/5,4p, +31
 - Ran at Goodwood LTO: 3/12,6p, +23
 - Ran at York LTO: 3/12,7p, +9
 - Won LTO: 5/15,8p, +36

David O'Meara

71 bets / 7 wins / 17 places / +17 BFSP / AE 1.22

Positives

- 8/1 or shorter SP
 - 6/22,11p, +25
- 3yo+ race, Age 3-6, 8/1<
 - 6/17,9 p, +30
- 7f-9f, 25/1< : 6/29, 10 p, +49
 - 0-2 track runs: 6/18,8p, +60

Luca Cumani

32 bets / 5 wins / 14 places / +51 / AE 1.29

Positives

- 7f: 2/2, +56 (both in 2YO only races)
- Class 2: 4/20, 10 p, +60

Saeed Bin Suroor

32 bets / 5 wins / 11 places / +5 BFSP / AE 1.32

Positives

- 15/2 or shorter SP: 4/11, 5p, +13
- Class 2: 4/19, 6p, +13

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Happy punting,

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