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(R6) 20:20 AINTREE, 3m 210y

Smarkets Handicap Chase (Class 2) (5YO plus)

TRIFECTA PLACEPOT QUADPOT

| No | Silk | Form | Horse Details | Age/Wt | Jockey/Trainer | OR |
|----|-------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | | 23/18PF - | VIRGILIO (FR) 34 CD b g Denham Red - Liesse De Marbeuf | 9 11 - 12t | Harry Skelton D Skelton | 145 |
| 2 | | 451F46- | KNOCKGRAFFON (IRE) 30 b g Flemensfirth - Gleaming Spire | 8 11 - 9tp | B Hughes Olly Murphy | 142 |
| 3 | | 644P45- | BALLYALTON (IRE) 35 b g Pierre - Almilto | 11 11 - 5 | T J O'Brien Ian Williams | 138 |
| 4 | | 64300/1- | ANOTHER HERO (IRE) 30 b g Kalanisi - Storm Front | 9 11 - 3 | B J Geraghty Jonjo O'Neill | 136 |
| 5 | | 3/2192F - | MONBEG RIVER (IRE) 28 br g Indian River - So Pretty | 9 11 - 1 | Henry Brooke M Todhunter | 134 |
| 6 | *** **** | 120/07P - | COLMS DREAM (IRE) 20 ch g Beneficial - African Waters | 9 11 - 1ht | J J Burke Karl Thornton | 134 |
| 7 | X | 833441- | WINTER LION (IRE) 30 D ch g Galileo - Hill Of Snow | 8 10 - 7t | P J Brennan F O'Brien | 126 |
| 8 | ; * ;° | 08F7P0- | BEARLY LEGAL (IRE) 34 b g Court Cave - Fair Size | 12 10 - 3t | Sam Twiston-Davies Karl Thornton | 122 |

ATR VERDICT: Virgilio landed this prize last year for the Dan Skelton team and warrants a market check on his second start since a wind operation, while Ballyalton ran well in two competitive handicaps at Cheltenham and at this venue in the spring and is entitled to go well now with his sights lowered. Preference, however, is for WINTER LION, who won on his second start for Fergal O'Brien last time on handicap debut over fences. A 4lb rise looks generous and the eight-year-old can go in again.

Top Tip: WINTER LION (7)

Watch out for: BALLYALTON (3)

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