

## Horses To Follow (Using Proform Speed Figures) – Part 3

### Introduction

Time for the next of my 'Horses to Follow' posts, uncovered during my usual deep dig through the Proform Speed Figures...

If you missed the previous 'To Follow' articles you can get them [HERE>>>](#)

And if you are yet to read my main article on Proform Speed Figures you can get that [HERE>>>](#)

Today I'm heading to **Kempton** and the **Grade 2 Pendil Novices' Chase** that was run on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> of February** (2:27 race)...

**Horse to follow: PEMBROKE** (D Skelton)

As always let's start with looking at how the race panned out on the Proform Speed Figure front...

Draw #	Position	Horse	Pace	PaceForm	Trainer	Jockey	Age	Spd Rat	sLTO	sHA C	sLTO 2	sLTO 3	sLTO 4	DSLR	Weight	Equip	OR	OR HWin
0	3	1 Blow Your Wad (RE)	2	HPPHHHHHP-H	Tom Lacey	Stan Sheppard	6	84	75	75	73	69	0	28	11.2	tpWS	140	135
0	5	2 Tahmuras (FR)	8	HLLRHPPPP-L	Paul Nicholls	Harry Cobden	7	84	69	77	77	60	0	13	11.2	pWS	143	137
0	2	3 Pembroke	4	HPPHHHHHP-P	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	7	77	77	77	72	59	61	34	11.5	fWS	143	135
0	4	4 Soul Icon	4	LLLLPPPLHH-	Keiran Burke	Gavin Sheehan	7	67	78	78	0	0	0	59	11.2	ht	133	125
0	6	PU Arclight	6	HHH/LPPPPP-	Nicky Henderson	Nico de Boynville	5	0	70	76	76	57	0	67	10.10		136	133

The Speed Class Par figure for this contest was **78** and as you can see from the above image the first two home – **BLOW YOUR WAD & TAHMURAS**... both posted a Proform Speed Figure comfortably above par for the level... indeed both horses posted **career best Proform Speed Figures** in this race, suggesting both are two high-class horses firmly on the up and yet to reach their peak. That is an assessment that plenty will have made anyway, but I always like such things to be backed up by the figures, and that is exactly what the Proform Speed Figures did on this occasion.

Third placed finisher, the Dan Skelton trained **PEMBROKE**, was comfortably seen off come the line, with the 7yo strolling home 18L behind the runner-up. Given that the front two battled out a tight finish all the way to the line it's easy to overlook PEMBROKE and just mark him down as being 'outclassed'... which in fairness, he probably was... but this is one of the areas where I find the Proform Speed Figures invaluable... despite finishing well-beaten come the line **he still banged in a Proform Speed Figure of 77, a figure just 1-point below the Speed Class Par for the level**, again suggesting that the front two are two high-class animals and also suggesting that PEMBROKE has run plenty better than the bare form suggests.

If you look back at the winners of the Pendil Chase since 2000 you will see that the figure posted by BLOW YOUR WAD would have been good enough to win all but two of the renewals (the 2020 renewal won by WHO DARES WINS and the 2005 renewal won by LIMERICK BOY)...

Date	Time	Horse	Course	Fin Pos	Speed Rating	SP	S
26/02/2000	14:35	Serenus	Kempton 1	1	65	7/1	
24/02/2001	16:10	Crocadee	Kempton 1	1	74	6/4	
23/02/2002	14:30	Golden Goal	Kempton 1	1	69	7/2	
22/02/2003	13:55	Hand Inn Hand	Kempton 1	1	68	3/1	
28/02/2004	15:30	Calling Brave	Kempton 1	1	80	Evens	
26/02/2005	14:40	Limerick Boy	Kempton 1	1	88	12/1	
24/02/2007	14:35	Natal	Kempton 1	1	82	5/2	
23/02/2008	14:40	Oslot	Kempton 1	1	76	11/2	
21/02/2009	14:35	Herecomesthetruth	Kempton 1	1	71	8/13	
27/02/2010	14:30	The Nightingale	Kempton 1	1	81	4/6	
26/02/2011	14:25	Captain Chris	Kempton 1	1	80	2/5	
25/02/2012	16:10	Cristal Bonus	Kempton 1	1	73	15/8	
23/02/2013	14:40	Grandioso	Kempton 1	1	70	9/4	
22/02/2014	14:40	Balder Succes	Kempton 1	1	84	9/4	
21/02/2015	14:35	Irish Saint	Kempton 1	1	76	Evens	
27/02/2016	14:35	Killala Quay	Kempton 1	1	72	5/1	
25/02/2017	14:25	Frodon	Kempton 1	1	80	8/11	
24/02/2018	13:50	Cyrname	Kempton 1	1	84	2/5	
23/02/2019	13:50	Bags Groove	Kempton 1	1	83	7/4	
22/02/2020	13:15	Who Dares Wins	Kempton 1	1	87	10/1	
27/02/2021	13:50	Tamaroc Du Mathan	Kempton 1	1	77	Evens	
26/02/2022	14:25	Pic D'Orhy	Kempton 1	1	81	3/1	
25/02/2023	14:25	Solo	Kempton 1	1	72	11/4	
24/02/2024	14:27	Blow Your Wad	Kempton 1	1	84	13/8	

Again, further evidence that PEMBROKE has likely just bumped into two very high-class opponents. Furthermore, the figure posted by the Skelton horse would have been good enough to win roughly half of the renewals of the Pendil Chase since 2000...

PEMBROKE doesn't look like he's quite up to G1/G2 level in all fairness and he's likely one for handicaps, with that in mind he's worth keeping on the radar for a handicap assignment in the coming weeks, especially when meeting with conditions somewhere along the lines of...

### NOT G1/G2 level | November to April | NOT Undulating/Very Undulating tracks

...where he holds a form line of...

...11111 (5/5 – all 5 career wins)...

...although I'd still be relatively flexible with him on the conditions front for now.

He's posted Proform Speed Figures in the 70's on his last three starts now and we know from his hurdle starts last season that he *can* run to a mark in the low to middle 80's...

Shortcuts >>		Horse: Pembroke (348550)		Press R for replays when a line of form is selected																
Spd R	Pos	DSL	Off Going	Pace	Date	Equip	Ran	Course	Course Info	OR	Distance	Act Going	GA	Class	New C	Jockey	Classifications	Value		
77	3	43	Soft	P	21/01/2024	tWS	5	Lingfield	Left - Sharp	140	2m	Good	-0.57	A	1	Harry Skelton	Nov-Gr2-Cha	42712.00		
72	1	41	Heavy	P	09/12/2023	tWS3	4	Aintree	Left - Sharp	135	2m 3f 200y	Heavy	-18.87	B	2	Harry Skelton	Cha	20812.00		
59	4	21	Good To Soft	H	29/10/2023	tWS2	5	Aintree	Left - Sharp	135	1m 7f 176y	Soft	-4.57	C	3	Harry Skelton	Hcap-Nov-Cha	8978.00		
61	2	177	Good To Soft	P	08/10/2023	tWS1	3	Uttoxeter	Left - Easy	135	1m 7f 214y	Good To Soft	-1.61	C	3	Harry Skelton	Nov-Cha	6535.00		
83	5	28	Good To Soft	H	14/04/2023	t1	12	Aintree	Left - Sharp	135	2m 103y	Soft	-4.08	A	1	Harry Skelton	Nov-Gr1-Hdle	56270.00		
70	17	48	Soft	H	17/03/2023		24	Cheltenham	Left - Stiff / Undulating	136	2m 179y	Good To Soft	-1.37	A	1	Harry Skelton	Hcap-Hdle	56270.00		
78	2	39	Soft	H	28/01/2023		10	Cheltenham	Left - Stiff / Undulating	136	2m 4f 56y	Good To Soft	-1.22	A	1	Harry Skelton	Nov-Gr2-Hdle	28475.00		
67	1	27	Good To Soft	P	20/12/2022		15	Ludlow	Right - Easy	0	1m 7f 169y	Good To Soft	-3.12	E	4	Harry Skelton	Nov-Hdle	4929.00		
61	1	21	Heavy	P	23/11/2022		8	Wetherby	Left - Galloping	0	2m	Good To Soft	-2.86	E	4	Harry Skelton	Nov-Hdle	4084.00		
62	7	231	Good To Soft	H	02/11/2022		15	Chepstow	Left - Galloping / Undulat	0	2m 11y	Good	1.17	E	4	Harry Skelton	Mdn-Hdle	4901.00		
56	1		Soft	L	16/03/2022		8	Huntingdon	Right - Easy	0	1m 7f 171y	Soft	-5.02	G	5	Bridget Andrews	NHF	2178.00		

...and looking at the above snapshot of his career form we can also see that he's able to act on a range of different going descriptions, meaning he likely won't mind if we get a wet or dry next couple of months.

**PEMBROKE** will probably have been dismissed by plenty after his Pendil effort, but the Proform Speed Figures tell a different story and fully suggest he didn't run all that bad at all in third place, far from it indeed, he actually ran only a fraction below par for the level, and once his attentions are switched to handicap company I'd be confident he can take full advantage of his current mark of OR 143...

**By Ben Aitken**

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Race Trends analysis and horse profiling alongside personally researched systems and angles are my preferred analysis and betting methods

Proform user for over 10-years