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Mamlook aiming for big double

Mamlook goes for a big staying handicap double when he bids to follow up his Chester Cup success in the John Smith's Northumberland Plate at Newcastle.

The six-year-old has gone up 4lb for his narrow win over Tastahil on the Roodee in May, but trainer David Pipe is still optimistic of a big run.

"It was a great performance in the Chester Cup. He'll like the ground and the trip. He's fairly quick for a two-miler and the draw, 10, is OK," said the Nicholashayne handler.

"He went up a few pounds for winning the Chester Cup, but hopefully he'll have a good each-way chance."

Alan Swinbank expects his two runners, Merchant Of Dubai and Stanstill, to be competitive, but he fears the well-backed Deauville Flyer.

The North Yorkshire trainer said: "Tim Easterby's horse will take some beating.

"Stanstill is very well, but it's a competitive contest. Merchant Of Dubai could do with a bit of cut in the ground, so we could do with a shower of rain for him. I think we will be competitive, but to win is a big ask."

Drunken Sailor takes a big step up in trip after finishing third in a Listed race over 10 furlongs at Goodwood last time.

The gelding was successful in a maiden hurdle over two miles when trained in Ireland but has been running in middle-distance races since moving to Luca Cumani, including winning two events in Dubai during the spring.

The trainer said: "We'll just have to see if he stays or not - we're going up from a mile and a quarter to two miles. He is quite high in the handicap, but he is very well and his prep race at Goodwood went well."

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