Storming George Lands Top Novices’ Shock at Aintree

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Summary

Storming George’s Aintree success is a brilliant example of what can be achieved through patience, consistency and a genuine commitment to the horse.

A first Grade One for Neil King — and a moment that reflects not just one race, but years of hard work behind the scenes.

Congratulations to Neil, his team, and all connections on a thoroughly deserved success.



A breakthrough moment at Aintree

There are few moments in racing that capture the reality of years of work quite like a first Grade One victory. At Aintree, Storming George delivered exactly that — a powerful, late-finishing performance to land the Top Novices' Hurdle and provide trainer Neil King with a landmark success.

In a race that unfolded at a searching pace, Storming George was not the most obvious winner turning for home. Yet under a well-judged ride from Jack Quinlan, he found more when it mattered — staying on strongly to win by two and three-quarter lengths.

For King, it was a result that spoke volumes beyond the race itself:

"It's years and years of hard work… we do it day in and day out for the love of horses. It's fantastic."

A journey years in the making

Storming George’s story reflects the kind of steady, long-term approach that defines many successful racing yards.

Bought as a store and developed over time, his progression hasn’t been without its challenges. Earlier runs this season didn’t quite go to plan, but the belief in his ability never wavered.

That patience paid off at Aintree.

King reflected on the journey:

“We bought this horse unraced and made him ourselves and that makes it more special… I knew he was better than a handicapper and I was keen to come here for this.”

It’s a sentiment that resonates across the industry — results like this are rarely instant. They are built over seasons, not weeks.

A team effort behind the scenes

Success at this level is never down to one moment alone. It reflects the combined effort of a whole team — from the yard staff managing horses day in, day out, to the owners supporting the journey.

Storming George’s performance was also a testament to his attitude and durability, qualities that are nurtured through consistent, thoughtful management over time.

Neil King has been a valued and long-standing SPILLERS customer, and it’s always rewarding to see that commitment to detail and care recognised on the biggest stage.

In busy racing yards, consistency is everything. From routine to feeding, it’s the small, repeated details that help horses stay well, maintain condition, and give their best when it matters.

Looking ahead

With novice chasing now on the horizon, Storming George looks set for an exciting next chapter.

Connections across the field echoed similar plans for their horses, with several likely to step up over fences next season — a natural progression following strong novice hurdling campaigns.

For Neil King and his team, however, this Aintree victory will stand as a milestone moment — a reward for years of dedication, resilience and belief.

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