



NTF Winter Warmers 2022/23

FREE NTF Guide

***16 Horses that love running and
WINNING in the early and deep-mid-
winter months...***



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Introduction

NTF Winter Warmers, you know the sort... those horses that just love getting out of bed in the deep-mid-winter months and running to the peak of their abilities when the mud is flying whilst we are all wrapped up in our winter coats and dog-walking wellies! Yeah them, that's what a **Winter Warmer** is and this guide highlights **SIXTEEN** such types for you to benefit from, cherrypicked from my own personal **deep reserve of in-depth horse notes**.

But what makes an NTF Winter Warmer?

This Winter Warmers guide concentrates on monthly patterns for individual horses and focuses on those types that excel in the October to January period, a period I personally see as the 'winter months'. In previous incarnations of this guide I've only concentrated on November-December but I wanted to flesh things out a bit this year...

The runners in this guide...

For those of you that have followed me for some time this won't be a completely new concept to you. I've produced many similar free posts/guides like this over the past 12 or so years, highlighting similar types of horses to keep an eye on and to profit from. All horses on the list are here because their form tells me that **they excel in the winter months/early season period** and given their Prime Conditions can be expected to perform at or very near their best. The horses are **taken from a much larger set of personal notes that I constantly update, refine and tweak**, making sure I'm as ahead of the game as I can possibly be. Like all the horses from my own personal notes the runners in this guide will be **highlighted to full NTF Members when they are set to run** under their Prime Conditions and look like we have a chance of profiting from them.

How do you profit from NTF Winter Warmers?

Luckily for you I've done most of the hard work! I've sourced the horses and laid out their **Prime Conditions** for you. All you need to do is keep an eye out for them running, ideally under their Prime Conditions, and then back them accordingly.

What to do now...

Read the guide and get familiar with the runners and their traits. If you use an alerts/tracker tool then enter them in there with my notes attached.

As is always the case with an NTF guide it is entirely up to yourself how you wish to utilise the information and how you add it to your own punting armoury. I would, however, suggest having some sort of each-way cover for the larger priced runners, whether that is with the traditional bookies or indeed on the exchanges in the place markets.

****Note. Sometimes these runners will win out with ideal conditions, without our money down. It happens; we deal with it and move on, that's racing...***

*****Note. It's not always a case of waiting for ALL conditions to be ticked for a horse, you can sometimes be waiting forever for that to happen. If for example 4 of the 5 conditions are ticked it's a case of making a judgement call based on price and how important the missing angle is in conjunction with that days particular race.***

Ben (NTF)

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NUBE NEGRA (D Skelton)

8yo – 26 career starts, 6 wins

Overall NH Form line - 12135/8B36/1122/12/3143-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 1118122141 (6/10)

All other months: B23325633 (0/9)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Jan | Fields of 11 or less | G2 level or below = 111121 (6/7)

Notes: I like this boy, he's got some solid conditions you can apply where he almost always runs his race. Despite being a Spanish bred he doesn't seem to enjoy the sun on his back and the time to catch him very much seems to be the October to January period and away from the top level (0/6 at G1 level) for all he really should have won the 2021 QMCC! (yes, I am talking through my pocket!). Races like the Shloer Chase (Cheltenham) and Desert Orchid Chase (Kempton) look obvious targets for him again this year.

I LIKE TO MOVE IT (N Twiston-Davies)

5yo – 10 career starts, 5 wins

Overall Form line - 1129/111520-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 111115 (5/6)

All other months: 2290 (0/4)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

October – December = 111115 (5/6 – all 5 career wins)

Notes: To be fair to this youngster he wasn't far off winning the Betfair Hurdle at Newbury in February and he ran a decent second in the Listed Bumper at Newbury the February before, so he's far from 'just' a winter type, but his form so far does suggest he's bang at the top of his game in the early part of the season and I'd expect that to continue this season, where he hopefully goes chasing.

RAINYDAY WOMAN (P Nicholls)

7yo – 11 career starts, 5 wins

Overall Form line - 32/110/2111P4-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 12311112P (5/9)

All other months: 05 (0/2)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Nov-Dec | NOT Heavy ground = 1231111 (5/7, 2p – all 5 career wins – yet to run in October)

Notes: Started her Novice Hurdle season in fine form last term, winning 3 on the bounce after coming on for her debut second at Ludlow at the start of November. Her current handicap mark of OR 123 is unlikely to be her limit and she'll be interesting if going down the handicap route, although she would be of just as much interest if going over the larger obstacles also.

PARICOLOR (D Pipe)

6yo – 28 NH career starts, 9 wins

Overall Form line - 72F1138/F56511151041/1522145-3P

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 122511156311F2514 (7/17)

All other months: 8041531PF75 (2/11)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Jan | DSLR 30 or less = 122151115311F (7/13, 3p)

Notes: Connections tried chasing again with this lad but like the first time they sent him over fences things didn't really click... although it's worth factoring in that his chase starts have all come between April – August, so I wouldn't quite be saying he can't make an impact over the larger obstacles just yet, not until they try him in his favoured Winter Warmer months anyway...

FLIC OU VOYOU (P Nicholls)

8yo – 24 career starts, 6 wins

Overall Form line - 4/110/23222/11132532/53132U4-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 21153131311223 (6/14)

All other months: 25023242U4 (0/10)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Dec | C3 or less | Good - Good to Soft = 3131113211 (6/10, 2p - all 6 career wins)

Notes: Safe to say his first season over fences didn't go to plan last year, with just 1 win in a 2-runner race to show from his 6 starts. His jumping wasn't great at times so you'd want that to have improved to be considering him over fences going forward, but he could pick off a lowly handicap off his current mark (OR 133) and a return to Hurdles also wouldn't be a bad thing given his mark in that sphere (OR 135).

GOOD BOY BOBBY (N Twiston-Davies)

9yo – 25 career starts, 10 wins

Overall Form line - 1131/1311/2125/1245432/31217P-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 12111312224115 (7/14)

All other months: 354711312P3 (3/11)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Jan | LH tracks = 1242121311 (6/11, 5p)

Notes: Had an excellent start to the campaign last season, rolling off a form line of 1-2-1 in 3 valuable handicap chases. With that he obviously went up the weights plenty but he starts the season only 2lb above his last winning mark and he could well squeeze in some more decent efforts in his prime months this time round.

AMOOOLA GOLD (D Skelton)

9yo – 23 career starts, 4 wins

Overall Form line - 2/0/25713/3725/11228/1D264384-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 5711113223726 (4/15)

All other months: 25388042 (0/8)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Dec | Listed or below Handicaps | OR 150 or less | Galloping tracks = 21211231 (4/8, 4p)

Notes: An exceptionally consistent horse when he meets with his Prime Conditions. He's starts this season on the very workable mark of OR 143 and connections should be able to find suitable opportunities for him between October & December.

THIRD TIME LUCKI (D Skelton)

7yo – 17 career starts, 8 wins

Overall Form line - 3114/1121464/113123-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 11132111311 (8/11, 2p)

All other months: 424643 (0/6)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

G2 level & below | Oct-Jan = 1111211113 (8/10, 2p – all 8 career wins)

Notes: A bit of an in and out sort of season for this one last term as he switched attentions to the chasing game. He's talented, of that I have no doubt, but I think he falls short of being a proper Grade 1 player and races such as the Haldon Gold Cup and Shloer Chase are probably realistic early season targets for him.

WAR LORD (J Tizzard)

7yo – 18 career starts, 6 wins

Overall Form line - 5/13418/213047/112142-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 12131132401 (5/11)

All other months: 1584472 (1/7)

Prime (Overall) Conditions

Oct-Feb | C2 & below | 2m-2m4f = 1113121431 (6/10, 3p - all 6 wins)

Notes: Generally one to catch on his first two starts in the season, with his Chase & Hurdle form on seasonal starts 1 & 2 returning a form line of 111231. Could yet turn out to be better than 'just' a Class 2 player as well so I'd be flexible on that score...

CASK MATE (N Meade)

9yo – 20 career starts, 4 wins

Overall Form line – (NH) 80/12222/1120/20F- | (Flat) 1-67500

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 11222222 (2/8, 6p)

All other months: 800F06750110 (2/11 – both wins came in September)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Sept-Dec (4/11, 6p)... in Feb-July he is 0/9, 0p

Notes: They've not been scared to pitch this one in at a high level throughout his hurdle career and since he stepped out of novice company he's run in 2 G1's, a G2, the valuable 2m handicap hurdle at the Dublin Racing festival and the County Hurdle at Cheltenham. He's not really up to those levels, however, but if they can find a race with a 10k or less pot (where he is 6111222218) in his prime winter months then he would likely go close.

THE BOSSES OSCAR (G Elliott)

7yo – 20 career starts, 4 wins

Overall Form line - 12125/12226/232PPP-4214

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: P23221121P (3/10)

All other months: 252P642142 (1/10)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Dec | Race worth less than 20k to winner = 2321121 (3/7, 4p)

Notes: Had a bit of a nothing sort of season last year, aborting his chasing career after 5 starts (0/5, 3p) and finishing off with a PU over hurdles in Coral Cup at Cheltenham. There's been a some signs of life since then and he'll be starting this season off a hurdle mark of OR 138 and that's more than workable if they can find him the right races during the winter.

YOUNG BULL (H Whittington)

8yo – 12 career starts, 4 wins

Overall Form line – 315/31112/32/34-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 33312111 (4/8)

All other months: 5324 (0/4)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Dec | DSLR 49 or less = 21111 (4/5, 1p)

Notes: Made his comeback last February off a 456-day injury break and he ran well enough to suggest he's still got winning potential in him. He was dropped 4lbs to OR 126 for his two runs and that's almost certainly a mark he can win from and he's interesting for the season ahead. He does generally need a run to blow away the cobwebs but he has placed on all 3 seasonal debut runs so he should have EW potential (at least) first time up.

DOES HE KNOW (K Bailey)

7yo – 13 career starts, 6 wins

Overall Form line - 22/111085/11210-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 211112120 (5/9)

All other months: 8150 (1/4)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Dec | 2m5f+ | G2 level or below = 2111112 (5/7, 2p)

Notes: Disappointed in the Ultima Handicap at the Cheltenham Festival on his final start of the last campaign but that's a hard race to win off OR 152 (1/45 | 2% S/R for horse rated 152+ in that race) and I think the effort is easily forgivable. It was also his first experience of a large field (all his races had been in fields of 13 or less prior to that and 11/12 of them in fields of 10 or less). There should still, however, be some upside to him this season, especially in the early part of the season.

ENVOI ALLEN (H De Bromhead)

8yo – 18 career starts, 13 wins

Overall Form line – 1111/1111/111F/P1613-3

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 1111116111 (10/11)

All other months: 111F3P3 (3/7)

Prime (Overall) Conditions

Oct-Feb | NOT Punchestown or Cheltenham = 111111111 (10/10)

Notes: He's clearly not quite reached the heights first mooted BUT he has only ever tasted defeat at Cheltenham and Punchestown and he can still very much do a job away from those two tracks... there are still races to be won with him...

ANNUAL INVICTUS (C Gordon)

7yo – 14 career starts, 5 wins

Overall Form line - 25/21114/211P33V-P

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 2211121P513 (5/11)

All other months: 43VP (0/4)

Prime (Winter Warmer) Conditions

Oct-Jan | C3 level or less | DSLR 30 or less = 311111 (5/6)

Notes: Didn't kick on as expected over fences after a promising start but connections can hopefully find him some winning opens during the winter months. He's better with a run under his belt but he has placed on 3 of his 4 seasonal debut runs so he can go well enough first time up.

WHEN YOU'RE READY (JJ O'Neill)

8yo – 14 career starts, 3 wins

Overall Form line – 354/13213/8312PF-

Winter Warmer Form

Oct-Jan: 135342121P (3/10)

All other months: 3F38 (0/4)

Prime (Overall) Conditions

Oct-Jan | Good to Soft or softer | Chase-Hurdles = 21312314 (3/8, 4p)

Notes: Another who's season sort of petered out once turning into the New Year, finishing with a PU at Cheltenham in January and a heavy fall at Chepstow in April. His win at Chepstow at the start of December and then his second at the same track on the 27th of December, however, do both point to there being more still to come from him from his mark of OR 130, and hopefully that will come in the October to January period.

Where to get Prime Condition/Winter Warmer horses...

Naturally, if you have the time, you can source your own. It IS a time consuming process, no doubt about that, but it IS a worthwhile task and it WILL point you towards plenty of winners that the wider betting public are ignoring.

Alternatively you can **hook up to the full NTF members service where I will be highlighting Multiple Handicap Sleepers/Prime Condition horses each and every week.**

The forthcoming NTF service -**the NTF NH 2022/23 service** – will be kicking off in mid-October and you'll be able to sign up for the full membership package **for a discounted price** as a member of the FREE NTF list. **Just keep a close eye on your inboxes for those exclusive sign-up links...**

It's not easy finding the time to pick through the form book and source those horses that have strong patterns to their form figures, patterns that allow us to profit from them when meeting with their **Prime Conditions**. There are so many horses in training it's like picking your way through a thoroughbred handicap minefield! But that's where I come in...

I find the horses for YOU. Then all we need to do is wait for the correct conditions and get the money down!

Cheers and best of punting luck

Ben (NTF)

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