



CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL HANDICAPS

NTF '**CHEAT SHEET**'

**How to navigate the minefields that are
the Cheltenham Festival Handicaps...**

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THE STATS THAT WILL HELP YOU PICK APART THE MINEFIELDS THAT ARE THE 2023 CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL HANDICAPS...

I think it's fair to say that the Handicaps at the Cheltenham Festival are easily some of the toughest races on the entire racing calendar to pull apart!

The 2022 Festival alone produced winners priced at... **40-1, 22-1, 25-1, 28-1 & 50-1**... and big priced winners regularly hit the mark over the four days year upon year...

Put simply the Handicaps at the Cheltenham Festival can be absolute MINEFIELDS!

Despite the big prices regularly landing in the winners enclosure many of them do have plenty in common and **this FREE NTF guide will give you all the vital stats you'll need** to help you compile your own rock hard shortlists when digging in to the (Non-Novice) Handicaps at the 2023 Cheltenham Festival.

The guide has been split into **Hurdle Handicaps** and **Chase Handicaps**... so let's get started...

CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL HANDICAPS: **HURDLES**

There have been 20 (non-novice) Handicap Hurdles at the last five Cheltenham Festivals

The four run at each Festival are...

Coral Cup (Wednesday)

Pertemps Final (Thursday)

County Hurdle (Friday)

Martin Pipe (Friday)

Producing...

20 winners

80 Win & Place Horses

From 478 runners

The Stats...

20 of 20 winners no more than 21 career starts (0/81, 7p those with 22+ career starts)

20/20 10 or less Handicap Hurdle starts (0/45, 4p those with 11+ Handicap Hurdle starts

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18/20 7 or less Handicap Hurdle starts

20/20 Days Since Last Run 18-98 (0/63, 7p out with that range)

20/20 ran over Hurdles Last Time Out (0/49, 4p for those that didn't)

19/20 no more than 14 Hurdle starts (1/70, 5p those with 15+ Hurdle starts - Chtibello (D Skelton) 2019 County Hurdle)

19/20 were aged 5yo-8yo (Aged 9yo+ 1/77, 6p - William Henry (N Henderson) 2019 Coral Cup)

19/20 0-1 previous handicap hurdle wins (2+ Handicap Hurdle wins 1/111, 11p - Third Wind (H Morrison) 2022 Pertemps)

19/20 started their UK/Irish career under NH rules (1/54, 4p for those that started on the Flat-A/W - Mohaayed (D Skelton) 2018 County Hurdle)

Other Stats to note

14/20 were won by an Irish Trained horse

Irish Trained horses are 14/210 | 7% S/R | +£66.94 BFLSP - W&P 47/210 | 22% S/R (bang on expectation)

GB Trained horses are 6/267 | 2% S/R | -£60.95 BFLSP - W&P 33/267 | 12% S/R (51% below expectation)

CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL HANDICAPS: CHASES

There have been 20 (non-novice) Handicap Chases at the last five Cheltenham Festivals

The four run at each Festival are...

Ultima Handicap (Tuesday)

Grand Annual (Wednesday)

Plate Handicap (Thursday)

Kim Muir (Thursday)

Producing...

20 winners

79 Win & Place Horses

From 409 runners

The Stats...

20/20 top 3 finish 1 of last 3 starts (0/70, 9p for those that hadn't recorded a top 3 on 1 of last 3)

20/20 had previously won a race in a field of 11 or more (0/92, 14p for those yet to win a race in a field of 11+)

19/20 completed their race Last Time Out (1/60, 6p for those that failed to complete LTO - Corach Rambler (L Russell) 2022 Ultima)

19/20 had previously run at Grade 1 or Grade 2 level (1/108, 13p for those yet to run at those levels - Chambard (V Williams) 2022 Kim Muir)

18/20 14 or less previous chase starts (2/108 for those with 15 or more Chase starts)

15/20 were ridden by the same jockey that was on board last time out

Others Stats to note

Horses that had previously WON at Grade 1 level are 0/28, 2p

Horses aged 9 or younger and start at an SP of 16/1+ are 0/177 (whilst horses aged 10yo+ that start at 16/1+ are 5/75)

10/20 ran in a Novice or Beginners Chase LTO (DSL R 56 or less) and have produced overall stats at the last five festivals of... 10/56 | 18% S/R | +£95.27 BFLSP - W&P 19/56 | 34% S/R - 82% above exp - horses fitting this profile won 2 of the 4 Handicap Chases in 2022, 2/4 in 2021, 3/4 in 2020, 1/4 in 2019 and 2/4 in 2018

As always there are many ways you can slice and dice the festival races when using **trends and stats** as your starting point. For example I like to dig into **the stats associated with individual races** when pulling together the analysis for my full NTF Members... but the more rounded view of the handicaps highlighted in this guide is also something I like to consider and although it is probably a bit more rough and ready than the individual race approach, it is still a potent and profitable method to attack some of the trickiest races you'll find on the entire racing calendar.

Read [more Cheltenham Analysis on the NTF BLOG](#)

Listen to [more Cheltenham Analysis on The Racing Podblast](#)

Cheers - **Ben (NTF)**

NTF CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL SERVICE



- ✓ In depth Trends Analysis
- ✓ Cheltenham Festival Angles
- ✓ Exhaustive Post-Festival Notes
- ✓ Pace maps/running styles for every race
- ✓ + all the other NTF Members benefits

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