



WINTER MILLION FESTIVAL

BETTING GUIDE
SATURDAY 20 JANUARY



LINGFIELD
PARK
RESORT

This weekend sees the return of the annual Winter Million meeting. With fantastic prize money on offer, we are sure to have some fantastic betting heats for punters, notably the BetMGM Winter Oaks Fillies' Handicap worth £100,000.

RACE 1

The Best Racing
Odds Guaranteed At
BETMGM Handicap
Stakes 7f1y

PRIZE MONEY
£15,000

RACE 2

The Boost Your Acca
At BETMGM Handicap
Stakes 6f1y

PRIZE MONEY
£15,000

RACE 3

The Boost Your Acca-
Fenwa With BetUK
Handicap Stakes 1m4f

PRIZE MONEY
£15,000

RACE 4

The Bet £10 Get £40
At BETMGM Handicap
Stakes 1m1y

PRIZE MONEY
£35,000

RACE 5

The Build Your Acca
With BetUK Handicap
Stakes 5f6y

PRIZE MONEY
£50,000

RACE 6

The BETMGM Winter
Oaks Fillies' Handicap
Stakes 1m2f 1y

PRIZE MONEY
£100,000

RACE 7

The BetUK. It's Where
The UK Bets Handicap
Stakes 1m7f 169y

PRIZE MONEY
£12,000

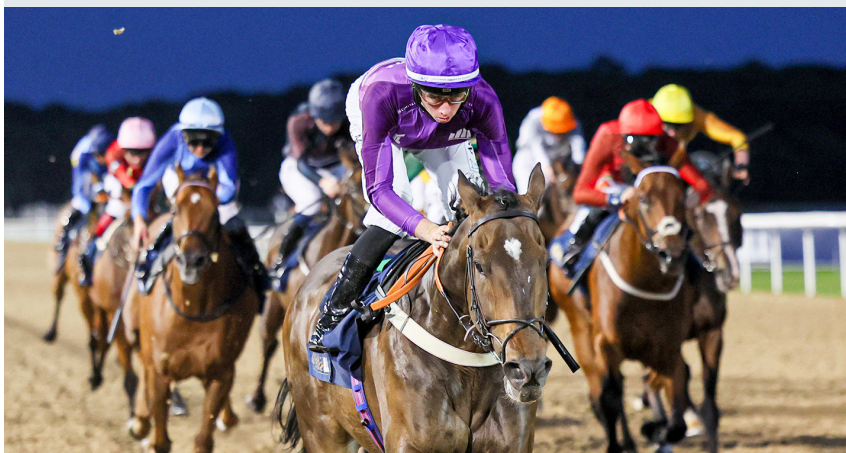


XI

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JOCKEYS TO WATCH



ALL WEATHER JOCKEY STANDINGS

WINS

Rossa Ryan

44

Billy Loughnane

34

Jack Mitchell

32

Last five years, correct as of 19/01/2024

TRAINERS TO WATCH



ALL WEATHER TRAINER STANDINGS

WINS

Roger Varian

25

Michael Appleby

23

John & Thady Gosden

22

Last five years, correct as of 19/01/2024

EXPERT TIPS

FROM SIMON MAPLETOFT

Sky Sports Racing and attheraces.com's All-Weather expert gives his analysis and selections for Saturday.



Simon's Selections

2.00 Forca Timao 2.35 Bergerac 3.10 Oh So Grand (Nap)

Hannon Holds Key To Mile Feature.

Richard Hannon could hold the key to the Bet £10 Get £40 At BetMGM Handicap (2.00) at Lingfield with both **Talis Evolvere** and **FORCA TIMAO**.

The former stuck to his guns to tough out a victory over 1m at Kempton last time - his second win of the winter - and will be a popular choice off just a 2lb higher mark with Ryan Moore in the saddle.

However, Forca Timao may just prove the value alternative after finishing a clear second to the useful Storm Catcher over 10f at Lingfield in November. The drop back to 1m should suit this lightly raced four-year-old who has leading jockey Rossa Ryan for company.

Bergerac To Solve Sprint Riddle...

The merits of **BERGERAC'S** win at Southwell have been well advertised and he can complete an All-Weather hat-trick in the Class 2 Build Your Acca With BetUK Handicap (2.35) at Lingfield.

Kevin Ryan's sprinter showed the speed and resolve to cut down Hiya Maite, who went on to win next time by over five lengths.

This sharp track presents him with a different test but trailblazers **Clearpoint**, **Bedford Flyer** and **One Night Stand** should keep this honest enough for him to deliver another telling finish.

The race should also be run to suit Roger Teal's Kempton Park scorer **Chipstead** and **Alligator Alley**, who are closely matched on recent Wolverhampton form and should be doing their best work at the death.

Grand Stands Out In Winter Oaks!

There's no doubting how impressive **OH SO GRAND (Nap)** was in winning a fillies' handicap at Lingfield Park last month and she can follow up over course and distance in the £100,000 BetMGM Winter Oaks (3.10) on Saturday.

Hold up tactics suited this well-bred half-sister to Fillies' Mile winner Hibaayeb who ran the final furlong in just 10.71 secs to supplement her winning return to the All-Weather at Newcastle in October.

Her electric turn of foot will be hard to repel under Jack Mitchell, who is two from two on the daughter of Postponed, and she can enhance her growing reputation off just a 4lb higher mark - again at the expense of the re-opposing Queen Regent.

John and Thady Gosden reach for the cheekpieces for the first time but even though she idled in front last time, their filly is 0-4 in handicaps and had no answer to the more progressive Oh So Grand's turbo-charged finish.

Eye-Catchers

Pagliacci: Keep an eye on Sir Mark Prescott's gelding, who is now qualified for a handicap mark after finishing a close second in an extended 1m Wolverhampton maiden on Tuesday. This son of Gleneagles will be of interest over a similar trip, or possibly further.

Rosy Affair: George Boughey's filly cost 115,000 gns as a yearling but only saw the track for the first time at Lingfield this week. She did well to chase down the more experienced favourite in a 5f novice with the 80-rated Jenni behind. The race will bring her on and something similar should be at her mercy.

Reclaim Victory: This mare has no secrets and isn't easy to win with but had a near miss at Newcastle in midweek, she looks ready to strike again soon. She's on a winnable mark and in-form trainer Brian Ellison can place her to win for the fourth time.

Alfa Kellenic: I was thrilled to see this filly break here duck at the third attempt in a 6f Newcastle maiden on Wednesday. Owned by a syndicate headed by myself and former champion jockey Paul Hanagan, she looks a lovely prospect for handicaps in due course. The daughter of Havana Grey still has a considerable frame to fill and may run again on the All-Weather before being prepared for a turf campaign.

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GUIDE TO THE WINTER OAKS FILLIES HANDICAP BY LUKE ELDER

Sky Sports Racing's **Luke Elder** gives his verdict on every runner for Saturdays feature contest



Oh so Grand

Jack Mitchell | Simon & Ed Crisford

Simon & Ed Crisford once again have a key runner in this race after landing the prize in 2023 with the classy Al Agaila. Stablemate Oh So Grand has taken the same route to this contest by winning the Trial over course and distance in December. She beat Queen Regent that day who also lines up here by a cosy length and a quarter, finishing fast and late down the outside, however, faces a four-pound swing at the weights with that rival. While I don't see that form being reversed, I do feel that we may see her best over a mile and a half and she has more to prove today in a stronger field, but remains the one to beat.



Miss Bluebelle

Trevor Whelan | Marcus Tregoning

There are plenty of improving types in this race which is to be expected, but none have progressed faster than Miss Bluebelle. Her latest run at Wolverhampton was undoubtedly a career best, when brushing aside three recent winners off a 7-pound lower mark. The draw has also been kind to her as stall two is an ideal starting point to attack, which is advantageous for a forward going horse. There are however risks attached, the main one being her free going style. Connections have reached for a hood to counter that trait, which has seen her win three times from seven attempts since the addition. She remains unraced in this grade of Class Two, but has earned her place and must be respected



Queen Regent

Robert Havlin | John & Thady Gosden

John & Thady Gosden saddle their first runner in this race with Queen Regent, who was mentioned in passing when talking about Oh So Grand. She got a perfect trip along the inside rail when second to that rival in the Trial for this race. While she appears comfortably held on that form, connections have applied a set of cheek pieces to bring out further improvement and she is four pounds better off at the weights with Oh So Grand. That still may not be enough and a place may be the best she can hope for.



Behind The Scenes

Rossa Ryan | James Tate

James Tate's sole runner has been on her travels recently leading to good efforts in defeat at Dundalk in Ireland and Deauville in France. Both of those runs seemed a step too far in Listed company, so has her sights lowered back in a Handicap. Her most recent handicap effort came in October when second to a progressive rival, but this race still demands more from her current mark of 87. One potential positive is the step up in trip, which on paper may not necessarily be what she wants but she has finished strongly over a mile, giving the thought that this trip is worth a go.



Twirling

Ryan Moore | Simon & Ed Crisford

One of the least exposed horses in the race comes in the form of Simon & Ed Crisford's second string runner, Twirling. Despite tasting defeat on her most recent run, she remains of interest with a step up in trip looking sure to suit. All four runs so far have come over a mile, and in three of them she has made the running which may not have been the plan. Importantly, there are other pace angles in this contest which should mean that Twirling won't have to lead and will get a nice trip into this race and be competitive. One final factor is the addition of Ryan Moore, who is yet to partner Twirling, but would be a positive for any horse.



Dayzee

Joshua Bryan | Barry Brennan

Dayzee may already be in her third yard despite only having seven runs, but she boasts a level of consistency which makes her a player in this race. She was most recently seen when making her debut for Barry Brennan with a narrow defeat while still beating Twirling by a head. That race developed into a sprint which will have benefitted Dayzee more than the larger framed Twirling, this task will demand something different. She is entitled to improve for that run which came after a break of 162 days and I would once again expect her to be ridden forward, a tactic that saw her to victory at Salisbury in June. This class of race will need improvement, but she has a live each way chance for a yard that had a rare first time out winner on Thursday.



Storymaker

Tommie Jakes | George Boughey

If you were to travel back in time to the start of December and tell George Boughey that his 65 rated filly Storymaker would have a leading chance in the Winter Oaks, you may have been met with a funny look. You would also have paid for a few Christmas presents as she has now won four straight races and finds herself fifteen pounds higher in the handicap. It isn't just Storymaker that is improving. Rider Tommie Jakes has partnered her on the last three outings and can once again claim a valuable seven pounds. However, she is unraced in a grade higher than a Grade Four, but nobody could begrudge her a chance at a big Saturday prize. Also, her one try at this trip ended in defeat, but she is a much improved horse compared to that stage of her career. My heart will be cheering on Storymaker, but my head says that this will be a step too far.



Eleanor Cross

David Probert | Andrew Balding

Andrew Balding's representative is the least experienced horse in this race with only three career starts, she is also the only horse without a win to her name. In each of her runs to date she has encountered classy rivals who have earned ratings capable of making them top weight in this race. On those efforts, a mark of 75 may lead to her being well treated, but this is a very tricky spot to make a handicap debut, and this is the shortest break she has had between runs so far. With everything considered, she is by far the most interesting contender and must be monitored in the market.

VERDICT

Team Crisford have a very strong chance to take this race again, but it's Twirling that I'm taking to come out on top. As mentioned there looks to be plenty of pace in this race which will give Ryan Moore take a lead into the race over this longer trip. Watch for her stablemate Oh So Grand staying on late in the day, her best is still to come, and Eleanor Cross is a big priced runner that can't be ignored on an adventurous handicap debut.

1st Twirling 2nd Oh So Grand 3rd Eleanor Cross

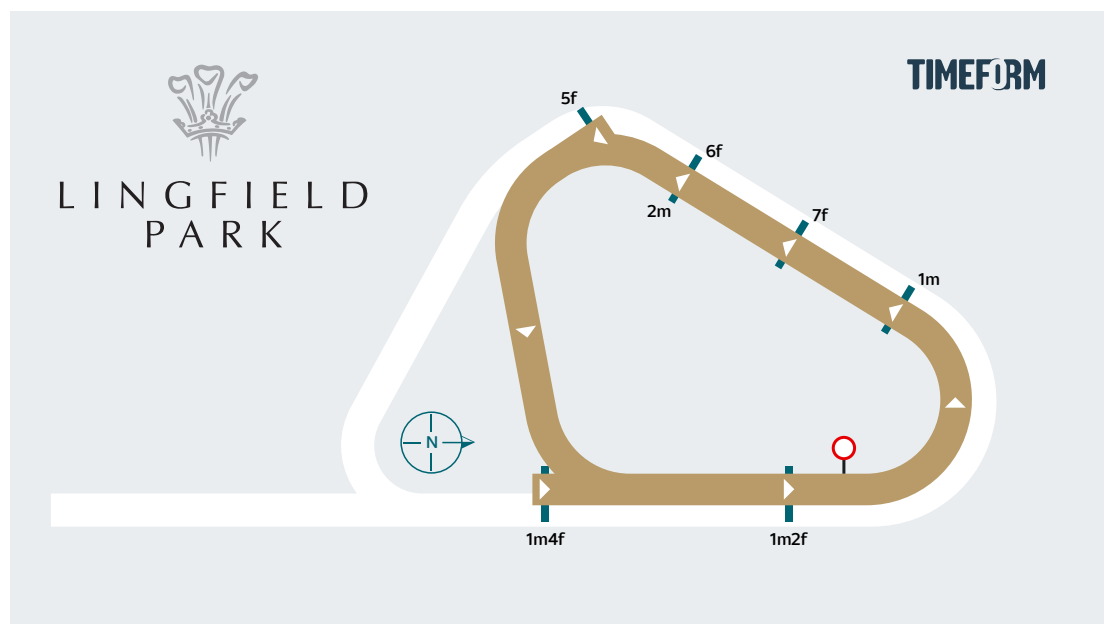
TIMEFORM TIPS

RACE 1	1st	GRENHAM BAY (11)
	2nd	THAPA VC (5)
	3rd	SEE YOU BOY (3)
RACE 2	1st	FIRE DEMON (3)
	2nd	PHOTOSYNTHESIS (5)
	3rd	BULLDOG DRUMMOND (1)
RACE 3	1st	AMAZING (5)
	2nd	GEARING'S POINT (11)
	3rd	RAINTOWN (9)
RACE 4	1st	AL RUFAA (7)
	2nd	TROPEZ POWER (2)
	3rd	TALIS EVOLVERE (4)
RACE 5	1st	ALLIGATOR ALLEY (4)
	2nd	DIOMED SPIRIT (8)
	3rd	BERGERAC (3)
RACE 6	1st	OH SO GRAND (1)
	2nd	STORYMAKER (7)
	3rd	MISS BLUEBELLE (2)
RACE 7	1st	TWO PAST EIGHT (3)
	2nd	LE ROUGE CHINOIS (7)
	3rd	SMART CHAMPION (4)

GUIDE TO LINGFIELD PARK

By Classic-winning jockey and Sky Sports Racing presenter Jason Weaver

“ Lingfield’s 1m 2f all-weather start is a tough one, very draw-dependent. The same is true of the 5f and 6f starts. I always think it’s a track that lends itself to riding in the ‘third wave’. In races over 1m, for example, the first wave will go with maybe 5f left, round the initial turn, while the second wave will kick into the home straight. The third wave usually attacks at the 1f pole and often comes out best. You don’t want to be way out of your ground, but patience can pay. ”



Lingfield’s left-handed all-weather track is laid out inside the turf track and, measuring just less than a mile and a quarter round, is essentially sharp in nature. This, along with how the races often pan out ensures that stamina is rarely at a premium and strong-travelling types with a turn of foot are often favoured. For nearly half its length, the round course is flat, then rising to the summit of a slight hill after which there is a downhill turn to the straight. Lingfield replaced the original equitrack surface with polytrack in 2001. This was relaid in October 2012.

