

Issue 414

Thursday 28th March 2019

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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

Early Odds

Win Bet - Wolverhampton (A.W) 14:20 - French Twist @ 11/2

The Master Plan

Win Bet - Warwick 16:20 - Risk A Fine @ 13/8

Lucky 7 Naps

Win Bet - Wolverhampton (A.W) 16:30 - Mawakib @ 15/8

Race In Focus: Grand National

- By Ian Hudson

Aintree, Saturday April 6th 2019 - Four miles and about two furlongs chase for horses aged seven and over with 30 fences.

Description

The Grand National was first run in 1839 and only World War 1 took the race from Aintree and only World War 2 meant the race was not held from 1941 to 1945. The race is arguably the most famous of any kind in the world and there is a huge global audience. The size and appearance of the fences are unique features and the race distance makes it a test of stamina but also jumping.

The fences have been modified in recent years to prevent fallers and fatalities which have dogged the race over the years. There is now more concern for animal welfare but the Grand National has moved with the times. The fences are now more forgiving and there is more after race care for the horses. Despite the changes the intrinsic challenge of the race for man and horse still exists.

Winners Since 1999

| Year | Horse | Jockey | Trainer | SP |
|------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------|
| 2009 | Mon Mome | Liam Treadwell | Venetia Williams | 100/1 |
| 2010 | Don't Push It | Tony McCoy | Jonjo O'Neill | 25/1 |
| 2011 | Ballabriggs | Jason Maguire | Donald McCain Jnr | 14/1 |
| 2012 | Neptune Collonges | Daryl Jacob | Paul Nicholls | 33/1 |
| 2013 | Auroras Encore | Ryan Mania | Sue Smith | 66/1 |
| 2014 | Pineau De Re | Leighton Aspell | Dr R Newland | 25/1 |
| 2015 | Many Clouds | Leighton Aspell | Oliver Sherwood | 25/1 |
| 2016 | Rule The World | David Mullins | Mouse Morris | 33/1 |
| 2017 | One For Arthur | Derek Fox | Lucinda Russell | 14/1 |
| 2018 | Tiger Roll | Davy Russell | Gordon Elliott | 10/1 |

10 Year Trends

- The average starting price of the winners is 35/1.
- The SP's ranged from 10/1 to 100/1.
- There were no successful favourites.
- All 10 winners started at double figure odds.
- 5 winners were in the range of 25/1 to 33/1.
- 2 winners started at 66/1 or bigger.
- 2 winners were trained in Ireland.
- There were no multiple winning trainers and Leighton Aspell rode 2 winners.
- The most common ages of the winner was 8 and 11.
- 5 winners were aged 10 and over.

- 5 winners carried 11 stone or more.
- The range of weights carried by the winner was 10-03 to 11-09.

Records

Red Rum is the only horse with 3 wins in the Grand National (1973, 1974 and 1977). The horse also finished second in 1975 and 1976 so jumped 150 National fences without looking like falling or making a serious mistake.

The leading jockey is George Stevens with 5 wins between 1856 and 1870.

Three trainers have won the race 4 times the latest being Ginger McCain who trained Red Rum and Amberleigh House.

Trevor Hemmings is the joint leading owner with 3 wins (Hedgehunter 2005, Ballabriggs 2011 and Many Clouds 2015) with Red Rum's owner and an owner from the second half of the 19th century.

Leading Contenders

The race revolves around TIGER ROLL (4/1 with Coral) who is trying to become the first back-to-back winners since Red Rum in 1973 and 1974. The achievement is so difficult due to the weights hike but on ratings the favourite still has several pounds in hand. ANIBALE FLY (12/1 with William Hill) and BRISTOL DE MAI (25/1 with Paddy Power) were placed in the Cheltenham Gold and are the class animals but that is reflected in the weights. PLEASANT COMPANY (22/1 with Betfair) was second last year and is weighted make the frame again. ONE FOR ARTHUR (33/1 with Ladbrokes) won the National in 2017 and BLAKLION (40/1 with Betfair) was fourth in that race. However, on the recognized criteria for contenders and a private ratings system the horse to back is ROCK THE KASBAH at 25/1 with Ladbrokes.

Tip: Rock The Kasbah at 25/1 with Ladbrokes.

Next Week's Race

Scottish Grand National

Previous Tips

Supreme Novices' Hurdle - Tornado Flyer at 16/1 (now 33/1) NON RUNNER
 Arkle Challenge Trophy - Lalor at 5/1 (now 3/1) PULLED UP
 Champion Hurdle - Laurina at 4/1 (now 4/1) FOURTH
 RSA Chase - Topofthegame at 8/1 (now 9/2) WON
 Champion Chase - Altior at 4/7 (now 1/2) WON
 Ryanair Chase - Waiting Patiently 7/1 NON RUNNER
 Paisley Park - Stayers Hurdle 9/4 (now 15/8) WON

Triumph Hurdle - Sir Erec 6/4 (now 5/4) PULLED UP
Gold Cup - Bellshill 14/1 (now 12/1) PULLED UP
Betway Bowl - Might Bite - No price yet
Aintree Hurdle - Buveur D'Air - No price yet
Melling Chase – Waiting Patiently 8/1 (now 8/1)

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Bristol De Mai Runs In The Bowl Not National

The framing of the weights for the Grand National to attract the best horses has worked well this year because the runner-up in the Gold Cup will be the top weight next Saturday. Anibale Fly was only beaten by Al Boum Photo at Cheltenham two weeks ago and in the absence of Bristol De Mai carries most weight at Aintree.

The National weights will rise by 4 pounds which means that Anibale Fly will have a burden of 11st 10lbs as the horse tries to improve on the fourth place finish behind Tiger Roll last year. BRISTOL DE MAI now runs in the Betway Bowl and on Gold Cup form is the best horse in the race. Currently there is no ante post betting.

The highlight of the three day Grand National meeting could be the Melling Chase next Friday if all the intended runners hold their ground. Altior will be trying to break the record for successive wins while Cyranne is the highest rated chaser in Britain and Ireland. The form of the Champion Chase suggests Sceau Royal and Politologue have place prospects but the horse to take Altior on with is WAITING PAIENTLY who is 7/1 with **Betfair** to win the Melling Chase a week today.

There are no meaningful football matches in Britain tonight so the best betting action is a Super League fixture between the home team in Leeds and Castleford. Leeds were the champions in 2015 and 2017 but are currently bottom of the table with just two points from eight matches. The relative point's difference between the two sides suggests CASTLEFORD -6 is the best bet at Evens with **bet365**.

In today's racing the richest race is the handicap chase over three miles at Warwick. (3.45). None of the five runners can be dismissed and on ratings there is only a five pounds range over the field. Coup De Pinceau has some decent form at a higher grade and could be a good thing at the weights. However, a more reliable proposition is KING OF REALMS at 2/1 with **Betfair**.