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BetFan's Top 3 Tipster Champions For The Month So Far Are...

| Service Name | Points | £10 per pt |
|------------------|--------|------------|
| Two Percent Club | +26.25 | £262.50 |
| L7N Longshots | +25.50 | £255.00 |
| The Judge | +20.00 | £200.00 |

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TODAY'S FREE SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

[Two Percent Club](#)

Win Bet - Taunton 15:10 - Choix Des Armes @ 11/2

[Lucky 7 Naps](#)

Win Bet - Southwell (A.W) 15:35 - Saaheq @ 9/2

[Declan O'Donoghue - Irish Racing](#)

Each Way Bet - Aintree 16:05 - Kruzlimin @ 11/1

Rock The Kasbah Is The System Bet For The 2019 Grand National

- By Ian Hudson



The Grand National is the most famous steeplechase in the world and the arguably the most iconic because of the unique nature of the race. The atmosphere on the track at Aintree near Liverpool is enhanced by the fact that the start and finish are both close to the stands. Grand National Day at Aintree is a true sporting occasion and before the race a famous opera star sings the National Anthem. The National is known as the People's Race because it attracts once a year punters and by far the biggest global television audience for a horse racing occasion.

The Grand National is unique in several ways but the fences are something that sets the race apart. Fences on park courses like Cheltenham and the Mildmay Course at Aintree have the distinctive black appearance with the white rail. The Grand National fences are made of spruce so are dark green. When horses hit a fence some of the spruce comes away and is strewn across the course. One of the great images is the damage done to the fences after up to 40 horses have tried to clear them. On the second circuit the course can look like a battle field.

You know the race is something special when some of the fences have their own name. There are 30 obstacles to be jumped over the two circuits, 16 on the first circuit and 14 on the second. The Chair and Water Jump are the only fences that have to be negotiated once. Becher's Brook and Valentines are other fences that have names. The Grand National track goes across the Melling Road which is a quiet suburban street on 364 days of the year. One of the most spectacular sights in sport is the run to the first by 40 horses who have been primed for this big moment.

There are many Grand National systems, some of which are proven and others that have no grounds for worth following. The most common type of system eliminates runners based on historical trends and the nature of the race. A system that has produced good results in the past uses the following criteria to eliminate horses and produce a short list of potential winners of the Grand National:

1. Won a steeplechase or hurdle race over three miles and two furlongs or more.
2. Two years experience in chasing.
3. Won a race this season.
4. Not fallen during the current season.
5. Does not wear blinkers.
6. Four runs or less spread out over the season.
7. British or Irish trained horse with experience of British racing.

8. Horse running of the true weight.

The following horses from the top 25 in the betting qualify as leading contenders as they match each of the qualifying criteria:

Tiger Roll

Rathvinden

Rock The Kasbah

Tiger Roll's name continues to appear and the horse is by far the most likely winner of the 2019 Grand National. However, at the odds Rathvinden and Rock The Kasbah are the horses to back based on the qualifying criteria. Rathvinden won the Grade 3 Bobbyjo Chase over three miles and one furlong at Fairyhouse in February and that race is a recognised Grand National trial. However, Rock The Kasbah won a handicap chase at Cheltenham over three miles three and a half furlongs last November. The horse carried 10-13 and is aged 9. Significantly similar ratings have also highlighted ROCK THE KASBAH so this is the horse to back to win the 2019 Grand National.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Day 1 Of Aintree Is The Only Jumps Fixture with Four Grade 1 Races



The Grand National meeting at Aintree is now about much more than one race and the three day fixture begins today with four Grade 1 races. It is the only day in the jumps calander with so many races at the highest level. The local racing fans love the Thursday of the meeting because it is not as manic as Ladies Day or as packed as Grand National Day but the racing could not be better. Living just up the road makes it perfect for me and it's dry and bright a few miles from the track.

The action begins with a novices' chase over two miles and four furlongs (1.45) and an opportunity for a horse that did not run at Cheltenham. There is a three week gap between the spring festivals this year which makes running at both a challenge. Glen Forsa fell at the fourth fence in the Arkle so hardly had a run but LA BAGUE AU ROI bypassed Cheltenham and can win this race at 13/8 with Coral.

The second race on the card is the second most important of the season for horses aged four after the Triumph Hurdle. The two miles and one furlong contest at 2.20 is sometimes one in which Cheltenham form does not stand up. Pentland Hills won the

Triumph last month and has the highest rating but BAND OF OUTLAWS won the consolation handicap hurdle and is the tip at 13/8 with bet365.

The Betway Bowl over three miles and one furlong at 2.50 is Aintree's Gold Cup and the form often does translate. Kemboy was a first fence faller in the Gold Cup and has something to find on ratings. Clan Des Obeaux was fifth at Cheltenham on unsuitable ground but conditions will be ideal today. However, the horse has been beaten three times by BRISTOL DE MAI who can prevail at 7/2 with Coral

The Aintree Hurdle (3.25) over two miles and four furlongs is as good as the Champion Hurdle and arguably the best race over the smaller obstacles this season. Melon and Faugheen, both trained by Willie Mullins, ran well at Cheltenham without winning and must be respected. However, on past form and ratings you cannot ignore dual Champion Hurdle winner BUVEUR D'AIR at 10/11 with bet365.