

".... MY SIMPLE 3-STEP GUIDE TO A POTENT GRAND NATIONAL SHORTLIST...."

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**The *Grand National* takes place on Saturday
11th April 2026**

A field of 34 will contest the *Grand National* on Saturday 11th April at Aintree....

... and one thing's for certain....

... everybody wants to be on the winner....

... preferably at a fancy price....

I'll probably end-up backing three or four horses on the day....

.... just like a lot of other punters....

... because – in a race where luck-in-running counts for so much – I don't want all my eggs sitting in just one basket....

And I'll be looking to back horses at decent prices....

... if I can....

... because that's what I do in the big handicap betting heats....

... I like to take on the favourites....

... and go against the crowd....

Closer to the race I'll be doing my homework....

... setting out to find likely types that can run a big race....

... whittling the field down to a shortlist of suitable betting options....

That probably sounds like a lot of work....

... and – usually – it would be...

... but not with Saturday's big race....

There's a very specific group of horses I'm enthusiastic about backing in the 2026 *Grand National*....

... horses that tick three very specific boxes....

 **ONE** - the horse must be 7 or 8 years old....

 **TWO** - the horse must not be a mare....

 **THREE** - the horse must have had no fewer than six and no more than 10 starts over fences....

In the last ten *Grand Nationals*....

... **60** horses ticked all three boxes....

Six won....

... another **17** hit the frame (with bookies paying out on up to 7 places)....

That's a total place strike rate of 38.3%....

... a stellar figure when you consider that we're dealing with a massive field of runners year-on-year....

The prices - and the betting profits - are there too....

... had you backed all of those horses 1pt e/w at SPs....

... you'd be sitting on a betting profit of **140.5 points**....

In other words....

... that's a group of horses you might want to be on the right side of in this season's *Grand National*....

I'm at Aintree for all 3-days of the 2026 *Grand National* meeting (starts Thursday 9th April)....

... playing the handicaps....

... and digging out 'live' contenders at tasty prices....

If you fancy making Aintree pay you can join me – just for Aintree – **right here**....

All the best....

Nick

Nick Pullen

Against the Crowd

April 2026