

NTF STAT ATTACK

AINTREE GRAND NATIONAL

MEETING



Trainer, Jockey, Sire.....

All the stats you need on your side for Aintree 2011

WWW.NARROWING-THE-FIELD.COM

No sooner is Cheltenham out of the way we then need to switch our focus completely to Aintree and its own springtime festival.

As with other meetings of this stature this one also highlights some robust stats that we can utilise in our search for profits. This guide looks at the areas that I feel are worthy of close scrutiny as we build a profile of the type of animals that are best suited to the demands of the Aintree Grand National meeting.

So stick on the old RED RUM DVD's, digest the stats I've pulled together and start constructing a picture of the kind of horse it takes to win at Aintree in April.

Main source of info – [PROFORM PROFESSIONAL](#)

Ben (NTF)

<http://www.narrowing-the-field.com/>

1. Last time out track

A stat or phrase that is often wheeled-out at this time of year is “*horses that ran at the Cheltenham festival don't run their race when they come on to Aintree*”. I agree that in some cases a horse may well have been trained to peak at Cheltenham so when they re-appear at Aintree they are ‘over the top’ or ‘not at their peak’, however, if we take a look at the table on the following page we will see that a vast majority of winners at Aintree actually had their last start at.....CHELTENHAM. In fact a huge majority of win & place horses had their last start before Aintree at Cheltenham. Cheltenham by far outstrips any other track for supplying number of winners at this meeting (it does supply the most runners as well but this is to be expected).

The following table looks at the past 5 Aintree festivals and is a definitive list of all runners and the track at which they appeared at before tackling Aintree. It certainly makes for some interesting reading....

LTO track

LTO Course	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Cheltenham	684	60	9	171	25	-£122.63	£114.76	42.58	12.31	153.59
Sandown	86	6	7	17	20	£46.00	£99.57	63.85	29.93	59
Newcastle	36	4	11	11	31	£57.75	£111.18	97.84	35.8	109.47
Kempton	55	4	7	7	13	£11.00	£23.40	53	18.6	31
Uttoxeter	36	4	11	7	19	£165.00	£258.04	61.18	72.51	142.59
Newbury	96	4	4	12	13	-£58.17	-£45.23	75.07	11.69	26
Ludlow	26	2	8	6	23	£54.00	£114.11	129.34	69.05	91.95
non-uk	59	2	3	6	10	-£41.50	-£35.93	127.76	10.53	15.5
Aintree	45	2	4	7	16	-£25.50	-£18.80	76.68	12.1	18
Haydock	56	1	2	7	13	-£46.00	-£43.12	139.62	11.88	11.88
Doncaster	34	1	3	8	24	-£19.00	-£9.07	90.22	23.93	23.93
Bangor-On-Dee	30	1	3	4	13	-£17.00	-£11.00	102.55	18	18
Wetherby	22	1	5	7	32	£4.00	£14.00	70.1	35	35
Taunton	21	1	5	7	33	-£13.00	-£11.40	167.96	8.6	8.6
Huntingdon	20	1	5	2	10	-£9.00	-£7.00	128.03	12	12
Ayr	20	1	5	3	15	£6.00	-£5.90	177.14	13.1	13.1
Warwick	19	1	5	3	16	£7.00	£25.15	137.01	43.15	43.15
Stratford	17	1	6	2	12	-£6.00	-£3.41	116.17	12.59	12.59
Chepstow	17	1	6	2	12	-£9.50	-£8.44	83.88	7.56	7.56
Fontwell	14	1	7	3	21	-£9.50	-£9.30	126.06	3.7	3.7
Southwell	13	1	8	2	15	-£9.50	-£9.20	79.17	2.8	2.8
Exeter	13	1	8	3	23	-£5.00	-£4.40	70.25	7.6	7.6
Leopardstown	9	1	11	1	11	-£5.50	-£5.25	35.13	2.75	2.75
Gowran Park	6	1	17	3	50	£1.00	£1.60	29.89	6.6	6.6
Plumpton	3	1	33	1	33	£12.00	£14.63	50.54	16.63	16.63
LTO Course	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Kelso	25	0	0	3	12	-£25.00	-£25.00	104.63	n/a	n/a
Musselburgh	25	0	0	2	8	-£25.00	-£25.00	111.77	n/a	n/a
Ascot	22	0	0	2	9	-£22.00	-£22.00	60.31	n/a	n/a
Wincanton	21	0	0	2	10	-£21.00	-£21.00	158.93	n/a	n/a
Hereford	17	0	0	1	6	-£17.00	-£17.00	101.15	n/a	n/a
Catterick	13	0	0	1	8	-£13.00	-£13.00	136.41	n/a	n/a
Carlisle	13	0	0	0	0	-£13.00	-£13.00	111	n/a	n/a
Fakenham	12	0	0	3	25	-£12.00	-£12.00	68.7	n/a	n/a
Navan	10	0	0	2	20	-£10.00	-£10.00	53.48	n/a	n/a
Lingfield	10	0	0	0	0	-£10.00	-£10.00	39.52	n/a	n/a
Market Rasen	10	0	0	2	20	-£10.00	-£10.00	212.39	n/a	n/a
Leicester	9	0	0	1	11	-£9.00	-£9.00	101.39	n/a	n/a
Sedgefield	7	0	0	0	0	-£7.00	-£7.00	67.27	n/a	n/a
Fairyhouse	6	0	0	1	17	-£6.00	-£6.00	29.5	n/a	n/a
Ffos Las	6	0	0	2	33	-£6.00	-£6.00	79.8	n/a	n/a
Newton Abbot	5	0	0	0	0	-£5.00	-£5.00	56.07	n/a	n/a
Naas	5	0	0	1	20	-£5.00	-£5.00	65.28	n/a	n/a
Wolverhampton	4	0	0	0	0	-£4.00	-£4.00	284.58	n/a	n/a
Towcester	4	0	0	0	0	-£4.00	-£4.00	220.36	n/a	n/a
Folkestone	4	0	0	0	0	-£4.00	-£4.00	104.73	n/a	n/a
Wexford	3	0	0	2	67	-£3.00	-£3.00	48.39	n/a	n/a
Thurles	3	0	0	1	33	-£3.00	-£3.00	69.96	n/a	n/a
Hexham	3	0	0	0	0	-£3.00	-£3.00	143.75	n/a	n/a
Down Royal	3	0	0	1	33	-£3.00	-£3.00	33.74	n/a	n/a
Clonmel	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	54.22	n/a	n/a
Punchestown	2	0	0	1	50	-£2.00	-£2.00	22.96	n/a	n/a
Dundalk	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	33.45	n/a	n/a
Perth	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	341.59	n/a	n/a
Roscommon	1	0	0	1	100	-£1.00	-£1.00	6.6	n/a	n/a
Cork	1	0	0	1	100	-£1.00	-£1.00	35	n/a	n/a
Worcester	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	47	n/a	n/a
Thirsk	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	309	n/a	n/a
Limerick	1	0	0	1	100	-£1.00	-£1.00	7.8	n/a	n/a
Newmarket	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	199	n/a	n/a
Downpatrick	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	15	n/a	n/a

CHELTENHAM last time out

Of the 104 winners at the past 5 Aintree festivals 60 of them had their last start at Cheltenham (58% of winners). As is to be expected a vast majority of runners had their last start at Cheltenham but 60 winners does not suggest to me that it's a negative to have run at Prestbury Park on their last run before the national meeting. To strengthen the Cheltenham runners' dominance we need only look at the placed horses: 171 of 302 placed horses had their last start at Cheltenham (57% of winners).

NEWBURY & HAYDOCK last time out

Both these grade 1 tracks offer up plenty of runners but a serious lack of winners. Could it be that running at one of these tracks takes too much out of a horse? Do the usual ground conditions at the track make it harder to be at their best at Aintree? Whatever the reason may be the stats suggest Newbury or Haydock is not the ideal warm up for Aintree.

Other tracks

There are not many other tracks that supply a huge amount of winners although Sandown has supplied 6 (next best on the list). At the opposite end of the scale KELSO, MUSSELBURGH, ASCOT and WINCANTON stand out amongst the tracks that have not supplied any winners in the past 5 seasons.

*Like most stats this angle is best used as a guide rather than something to rely strongly on.

2. Trainers

Like most of the large meetings some trainers are more adept at other in getting there charges primed for the occasion. The following table gives an in-depth look at all winning trainers from the past 5 Aintree festivals –

Trainer	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Paul Nicholls	136	12	9	35	26	-£85.79	-£81.23	27.81	3.56	7.2
Jonjo O'Neill	52	10	19	20	38	£37.37	£81.24	34.55	12.32	54
Alan King	51	8	16	19	37	£22.38	£65.26	31.04	13.53	64
Nicky Henderson	82	8	10	16	20	£8.38	£35.58	36.41	13.7	43.15
Philip Hobbs	66	5	8	23	35	-£17.00	-£0.54	26.58	12.09	18.87
Peter Bowen	33	3	9	10	30	£45.00	£78.43	50.25	36.14	46.16
Nigel Twiston-Davies	66	3	5	7	11	-£35.50	-£24.44	60.08	12.85	26
Howard Johnson	56	3	5	8	14	-£42.25	-£41.09	51.45	3.97	7.8
David Pipe	62	3	5	12	19	-£31.00	-£25.33	54.06	11.22	13.06
Venetia Williams	51	3	6	7	14	£84.50	£133.99	69.44	60.66	142.59
Henry Daly	20	2	10	4	20	-£13.38	-£13.02	37.35	2.49	3
John Quinn	12	2	17	4	33	£20.00	£24.00	80.13	17	21
John Queally	7	2	29	3	43	£9.75	£16.20	15.22	10.6	18
Ian Williams	10	2	20	3	30	£7.50	£11.68	36.3	9.84	11.88
Ferdy Murphy	20	2	10	6	30	-£13.25	-£12.53	35.39	2.74	3
Nicholas Gifford	10	2	20	5	50	£5.00	£8.97	38.96	8.49	14.42
Donald McCain	33	1	3	7	21	-£30.75	-£30.66	83.05	1.34	1.34
Nicky Richards	26	1	4	12	46	-£21.00	-£20.80	30.92	4.2	4.2
Gary Moore	24	1	4	2	8	-£14.00	-£13.00	35.5	10	10
M C Pipe	23	1	4	2	9	-£14.00	-£13.00	87.9	9	9
Sue Smith	21	1	5	1	5	£30.00	£54.00	58.29	74	74
Alan Swinbank	18	1	6	2	11	-£14.50	-£14.20	36.65	2.8	2.8
Tom George	18	1	6	2	11	-£11.50	-£10.95	64.42	6.05	6.05
Evan Williams	17	1	6	6	35	£6.00	£10.00	30.93	26	26
Emma Lavelle	11	1	9	2	18	£6.00	£14.00	44.15	24	24
Gordon Elliott	9	1	11	2	22	£25.00	£39.00	53.57	47	47
Thomas Mullins	8	1	13	1	13	-£3.00	-£2.50	42.53	4.5	4.5
Lucy Wadham	8	1	13	2	25	£7.00	£9.63	31.37	16.63	16.63
James Fanshawe	7	1	14	1	14	-£1.50	£0.20	12.48	6.2	6.2
Tom Tate	7	1	14	2	29	£8.00	£17.93	142.61	23.93	23.93
John Spearing	6	1	17	2	33	£5.00	£8.00	15.19	13	13
Milton Harris	6	1	17	1	17	£15.00	£24.77	84.62	29.77	29.77
Lucinda Russell	6	1	17	1	17	£61.00	£148.59	378.15	153.59	153.59
Jim Goldie	5	1	20	1	20	£21.00	£9.10	175.88	13.1	13.1
Paul Webber	5	1	20	1	20	£46.00	£55.00	35.59	59	59
E McNamara	5	1	20	1	20	£6.00	£8.50	10	12.5	12.5
Dr Richard Newland	5	1	20	1	20	£46.00	£87.95	47.2	91.95	91.95
C Byrnes	5	1	20	1	20	£2.00	£2.60	56.02	6.6	6.6
Michael Hourigan	5	1	20	1	20	£10.00	£12.00	59.3	16	16
Renee Robeson	3	1	33	1	33	£23.00	£44.17	39.38	46.17	46.17
John E Kiely	3	1	33	2	67	£2.50	£3.57	5.46	5.57	5.57
R Barber	3	1	33	2	67	£4.50	£5.56	7.65	7.56	7.56
Robert Waley-Cohen	2	1	50	2	100	£4.50	£5.20	6.61	6.2	6.2
James Moffatt	2	1	50	1	50	£19.00	£23.00	23.86	24	24
P Jones	2	1	50	2	100	£5.00	£6.57	8.19	7.57	7.57
Michael Smith	2	1	50	1	50	£39.00	£73.00	171.5	74	74
Martin Brassil	2	1	50	1	50	£10.00	£14.50	19.25	15.5	15.5
Chris Down	1	1	100	1	100	£7.00	£8.60	8.6	8.6	8.6
Kate Walton	1	1	100	1	100	£66.00	£109.47	109.47	109.47	109.47
T Doumen	1	1	100	1	100	£4.00	£5.00	5	5	5

Trainers

The following table looks at the trainers that have failed to shine at Aintree in April –

	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
W P Mullins	25	0	0	8	32	-£25.00	-£25.00	35.82	n/a	n/a
D T Hughes	16	0	0	6	38	-£16.00	-£16.00	36.95	n/a	n/a
Charlie Mann	15	0	0	1	7	-£15.00	-£15.00	103.28	n/a	n/a
Malcolm Jefferson	15	0	0	4	27	-£15.00	-£15.00	38.01	n/a	n/a
Keith Reveley	12	0	0	2	17	-£12.00	-£12.00	70.86	n/a	n/a
Henrietta Knight	11	0	0	2	18	-£11.00	-£11.00	51.25	n/a	n/a
Colin Tizzard	11	0	0	2	18	-£11.00	-£11.00	49.89	n/a	n/a
C F Swan	10	0	0	3	30	-£10.00	-£10.00	27.49	n/a	n/a
Nick Williams	10	0	0	2	20	-£10.00	-£10.00	34.3	n/a	n/a
Oliver Sherwood	10	0	0	1	10	-£10.00	-£10.00	80.37	n/a	n/a
Charlie Longsdon	9	0	0	0	0	-£9.00	-£9.00	226.07	n/a	n/a
Brendan Powell	9	0	0	0	0	-£9.00	-£9.00	80.24	n/a	n/a
Seamus Mullins	9	0	0	1	11	-£9.00	-£9.00	115.89	n/a	n/a
Andy Turnell	8	0	0	1	13	-£8.00	-£8.00	37.62	n/a	n/a
E J O'Grady	8	0	0	3	38	-£8.00	-£8.00	11.79	n/a	n/a
A L T Moore	8	0	0	1	13	-£8.00	-£8.00	63.87	n/a	n/a
T J Taaffe	8	0	0	2	25	-£8.00	-£8.00	42.08	n/a	n/a

PAUL NICHOLLS

It's no surprise to see PAUL NICHOLLS with the most amount of winners against his name although we would be in the poor house if we followed him blindly at the meeting.

Here are a few Nicholls-Aintree-April stats to ponder over –

8 of his 12 winners were (FR) bred

All 12 of his winners started at SP 7/1 or less

11 of his 12 winners were ridden by Ruby Walsh

Only 2 of his 12 winners came in a handicap

JONJO O'NEILL & ALAN KING

O'Neill and King are next on the list of total winners. Their stats show up well and suggest their runners may well deserve closer scrutiny.

Trainers to be wary of

The top Irish duo of Willie Mullins and Dessie Hughes have failed to score with any of their recent runners although it should be noted that their place strike rates are not to be sniffed at – 32% & 38% place strike-rates respectively.

Top trainers such as NIGEL TWISTON DAVIES & DAVID PIPE send out plenty of runners although finding the winners circle seems to elude them more often than not. It must also be noted that NIGEL TWISTON DAVIES' runners have also struggled to fill the places with only 7 of 66 (11%) managing to run into a place.

3. Jockeys

No huge pointers from this angle although there are certainly some jockeys who seem to enjoy Aintree at National time and some who seem to struggle to get their mounts home in front.

The following tables show who is hot and who is not at Aintree in the spring time –

Jockeys	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R%	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R%	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
R Walsh	83	14	17	34	41	-£18.04	-£10.51	9.75	4.18	8.6
A P McCoy	77	13	17	34	44	£11.74	£36.27	9.5	7.71	21
Robert Thornton	52	8	15	19	37	£21.38	£64.26	22.69	13.53	64
Paddy Brennan	61	6	10	13	21	-£12.75	-£0.43	57.6	9.09	26
Timmy Murphy	44	5	11	9	20	-£0.25	£11.81	30.41	10.16	18
Richard Johnson	60	5	8	20	33	-£25.38	-£15.16	25.73	7.97	18.87
Barry Geraghty	39	4	10	10	26	-£16.75	-£13.45	23.81	5.39	9.26
Noel Fehily	28	3	11	4	14	£20.50	£58.20	114.34	27.73	54
Mr Joshua Guerriero	3	2	67	2	67	£17.00	£24.57	171.52	12.79	18
Mr S Waley-Cohen	13	2	15	5	38	£10.50	£12.20	67.76	11.6	17
Denis O'Regan	34	2	6	5	15	-£23.50	-£22.44	44.61	4.78	7.8
Dominic Elsworth	27	2	7	5	19	-£4.50	-£0.57	84.58	12.22	16.63
Graham Lee	37	2	5	6	16	-£30.25	-£29.53	62.24	2.74	3
Dougie Costello	10	2	20	4	40	£17.00	£16.88	76.01	12.44	13
Andrew Tinkler	16	2	13	3	19	£31.00	£54.10	60.8	34.05	43.15
Jamie Moore	22	2	9	3	14	£14.00	£25.00	54.17	22.5	35
A Dobbin	19	2	11	10	53	-£10.50	-£10.00	20.02	3.5	4.2
Tom Scudamore	45	1	2	10	22	-£32.00	-£30.94	77.39	13.06	13.06
Jason Maguire	32	1	3	6	19	-£29.75	-£29.66	136.41	1.34	1.34
D N Russell	28	1	4	6	21	-£21.00	-£20.40	50.91	6.6	6.6
M A Fitzgerald	26	1	4	4	15	-£5.00	-£1.00	24.3	24	24
Aidan Coleman	21	1	5	1	5	£5.00	£11.00	79.39	31	31
Paul Moloney	18	1	6	4	22	£5.00	£9.00	37.78	26	26
Liam Treadwell	15	1	7	3	20	£86.00	£128.59	55.43	142.59	142.59
Brian Hughes	15	1	7	1	7	£8.00	£13.28	41.52	27.28	27.28
Andrew J McNamara	14	1	7	3	21	£1.00	£3.00	83.15	16	16
K J Mercer	13	1	8	2	15	£2.00	£11.93	176.56	23.93	23.93
Tjade Collier	11	1	9	1	9	£40.00	£64.00	89.76	74	74
D J Condon	10	1	10	2	20	£31.00	£65.00	86.99	74	74
R M Power	10	1	10	1	10	£24.00	£38.00	74.4	47	47
Richie McGrath	8	1	13	1	13	£59.00	£102.47	114.67	109.47	109.47
James Reveley	6	1	17	1	17	£20.00	£8.10	75.76	13.1	13.1
N P Madden	5	1	20	1	20	£7.00	£11.50	58.75	15.5	15.5
Mr T Greenall	5	1	20	1	20	£2.50	£3.56	154.31	7.56	7.56
Will Kennedy	4	1	25	3	75	£47.00	£56.00	26.37	59	59
Campbell Gillies	4	1	25	1	25	£63.00	£150.59	313.03	153.59	153.59
Antony Evans	4	1	25	1	25	£7.00	£10.00	42.5	13	13
Mr R Burton	4	1	25	1	25	£1.50	£1.40	34.98	4.4	4.4
Jimmy McCarthy	3	1	33	1	33	£23.00	£44.17	34.38	46.17	46.17
Andrew Glassonbury	3	1	33	1	33	£9.00	£12.42	75.86	14.42	14.42
Mr T Weston	3	1	33	1	33	£48.00	£89.95	57.32	91.95	91.95
Mr W Biddick	2	1	50	1	50	£6.50	£7.40	10	8.4	8.4
B C Byrnes	2	1	50	1	50	£9.00	£11.50	10.65	12.5	12.5
Mr M Byrne	1	1	100	1	100	£28.00	£46.16	46.16	46.16	46.16
Sean Quinlan	1	1	100	1	100	£20.00	£29.77	29.77	29.77	29.77

Jockeys

	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Sam Thomas	25	0	0	1	4	-£25.00	-£25.00	50.03	n/a	n/a
Tom O'Brien	23	0	0	5	22	-£23.00	-£23.00	52.25	n/a	n/a
P Carberry	19	0	0	5	26	-£19.00	-£19.00	31.29	n/a	n/a
Christian Williams	19	0	0	2	11	-£19.00	-£19.00	57.36	n/a	n/a
D J Casey	18	0	0	2	11	-£18.00	-£18.00	25.08	n/a	n/a
Phil Kinsella	17	0	0	4	24	-£17.00	-£17.00	100.27	n/a	n/a
Brian Harding	16	0	0	1	6	-£16.00	-£16.00	58.11	n/a	n/a
Joe Tizzard	14	0	0	2	14	-£14.00	-£14.00	50	n/a	n/a
Wayne Hutchinson	13	0	0	0	0	-£13.00	-£13.00	66	n/a	n/a
Nick Scholfield	13	0	0	2	15	-£13.00	-£13.00	44.66	n/a	n/a
Miss N Carberry	13	0	0	2	15	-£13.00	-£13.00	63.71	n/a	n/a
Leighton Aspell	13	0	0	3	23	-£13.00	-£13.00	93.88	n/a	n/a
Daryl Jacob	12	0	0	3	25	-£12.00	-£12.00	46.5	n/a	n/a
Mr O Greenall	11	0	0	0	0	-£11.00	-£11.00	39.17	n/a	n/a
S Durack	11	0	0	1	9	-£11.00	-£11.00	67.3	n/a	n/a
M Foley	11	0	0	2	18	-£11.00	-£11.00	97.82	n/a	n/a
Tom Siddall	10	0	0	0	0	-£10.00	-£10.00	143.28	n/a	n/a
Mark Bradburne	10	0	0	0	0	-£10.00	-£10.00	87.45	n/a	n/a
Wilson Renwick	9	0	0	2	22	-£9.00	-£9.00	181.58	n/a	n/a
Richie McLernon	9	0	0	1	11	-£9.00	-£9.00	50.78	n/a	n/a
Barry Keniry	9	0	0	0	0	-£9.00	-£9.00	163.4	n/a	n/a
Alan O'Keefe	9	0	0	0	0	-£9.00	-£9.00	157.5	n/a	n/a

WALSH – McCOY – JOHNSON

Three of the finest jockeys around at the minute and all get plenty of rides at the meeting although the stats tell us that Walsh & McCoy are better at squeezing more out of their mounts than Johnson with more winners and better strike-rates to their names. However, if we look at win AND place results Johnson does close the gap on his 2 rivals.

If we pull Robert Thornton into the equation between the 4 of them they have ridden 107 of the 247 (43%) placed horses at the past 5 Aintree festivals.

WALSH/MCCOY/JOHNSON/THORNTON have between them ridden 43% of the placed horses at the previous 5 Aintree festivals.

4. Sires

A tricky angle to get a real strong grip on at the meeting, although as with all angles there are positives and negatives that we can look at.

The following tables only highlights a selection of sires that have had runners at the previous 5 Aintree festivals –

SIRE	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R%	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R%	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Old Vic	34	5	15	9	26	£14.00	£28.79	44.2	11.56	18.18
Sir Harry Lewis	8	4	50	6	75	£41.63	£63.75	57.31	16.94	43.15
Accordion	37	3	8	12	32	-£17.00	-£14.06	58.79	6.65	9.14
Oscar	25	3	12	7	28	-£17.38	-£16.64	42.57	1.79	3.3
Lord Americo	23	3	13	6	26	£35.00	£52.00	50.53	24	35
Flemensfirth	22	3	14	8	36	£34.75	£44.11	45.33	21.04	59
Cadoudal	12	3	25	6	50	-£5.12	-£4.60	106.54	1.47	3.2
Alzao	10	3	30	5	50	£21.75	£38.13	25.82	15.04	23.93
Kayf Tara	22	2	9	5	23	-£7.00	-£5.80	59.95	7.1	10
Alflora	19	2	11	3	16	-£5.50	-£2.37	117.81	7.31	11.88
Sadler's Wells	16	2	13	4	25	£18.00	£47.60	75.73	30.8	54
Unfuwain	13	2	15	6	46	£77.00	£169.86	42.05	90.43	153.59
Passing Sale	10	2	20	2	20	£99.50	£142.99	37.16	75.49	142.59
Karinga Bay	10	2	20	4	40	£9.00	£13.26	32.28	10.63	12
Definite Article	7	2	29	3	43	£27.50	£46.72	29.7	25.86	46.16
Second Empire	7	2	29	4	57	£55.00	£81.50	21.26	43.25	74
Villez	6	2	33	3	50	£2.38	£3.86	32.25	3.93	6.4
Chamberlin	5	2	40	2	40	£33.00	£38.95	27.29	20.98	24.95
Supreme Leader	39	1	3	8	21	-£22.00	-£12.00	59.68	26	26
Presenting	29	1	3	5	17	-£21.00	-£20.20	40.89	7.8	7.8
Hernando	19	1	5	5	26	£4.00	£8.00	46.19	26	26
Bob Back	17	1	6	5	29	-£11.50	-£10.86	40.07	5.14	5.14
Roselier	15	1	7	2	13	-£10.00	-£9.80	54.02	4.2	4.2
Kahyasi	15	1	7	4	27	-£11.75	-£11.53	20.87	2.47	2.47
Montjeu	14	1	7	2	14	£3.00	£0.00	114.47	13	13
Zaffaran	14	1	7	5	36	-£5.00	-£4.20	32.21	8.8	8.8
Daylami	13	1	8	1	8	-£2.00	£0.59	89.76	12.59	12.59
Anshan	13	1	8	3	23	-£8.00	-£7.50	52.29	4.5	4.5
Pistolet Bleu	12	1	8	3	25	-£5.50	-£4.80	181.18	6.2	6.2
Turgeon	11	1	9	2	18	-£8.50	-£8.30	13.81	1.7	1.7
Be My Native	11	1	9	1	9	£4.00	£6.00	78.8	16	16
Saddlers' Hall	17	0	0	2	12	-£17.00	-£17.00	115.57	0	0
King's Theatre	17	0	0	4	24	-£17.00	-£17.00	33.05	0	0
Alderbrook	14	0	0	1	7	-£14.00	-£14.00	82.87	0	0
In The Wings	13	0	0	3	23	-£13.00	-£13.00	66.59	0	0
Overbury	13	0	0	0	0	-£13.00	-£13.00	78.82	0	0
Un Desperado	13	0	0	3	23	-£13.00	-£13.00	64.4	0	0
Montelimar	13	0	0	2	15	-£13.00	-£13.00	89.77	0	0
Linamix	11	0	0	1	9	-£11.00	-£11.00	172.01	0	0
Glacial Storm	10	0	0	2	20	-£10.00	-£10.00	53.14	0	0
Beneficial	10	0	0	1	10	-£10.00	-£10.00	25.98	0	0
Video Rock	10	0	0	3	30	-£10.00	-£10.00	52.92	0	0
Lute Antique	10	0	0	1	10	-£10.00	-£10.00	86.49	0	0

5. Days since last run

Is it an advantage to have run within the past week or 2 weeks?

Is a long break ideal before tackling the fiercely competitive Aintree festival?

What length of break proves most profitable?

Take a look at the following table and see for yourselves -

Days since last run	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
0-7	87	3	3	9	10	£-52.50	£-49.93	148.21	11.36	15.5
8-14	89	4	4	16	18	£14.00	£75.95	133.36	40.24	91.95
15-21	312	23	7	82	26	£33.00	£161.77	55.91	19.6	142.59
22-28	504	46	9	123	24	£43.88	£295.45	57.03	16.38	153.59
29-42	306	14	5	54	18	£-111.50	£-18.54	66.67	19.53	109.47
43-56	131	4	3	19	15	£-62.00	£-64.43	85.97	15.64	31
57-90	83	3	4	10	12	£-59.67	£-56.03	78.79	7.99	12
91-150	77	4	5	10	13	£-20.75	£12.95	67.42	21.49	54
150+	102	3	3	10	10	£-71.50	£-62.21	117.67	12.26	18

The time frame that provides the most winners is 15 – 28 days. Horses that had their last start in this period have by far the most wins. They also supply the vast majority of runners but if we look at the win AND place stats we can see they also come out well on top here on the S/R side of things and they also have eye-catching LSP figures.

If we look at horses that had their last start more than 42 days previous before running at Aintree we can see that they only supplied 12 winners in total and this is a stat well worth bearing in mind.

6. Age

Do the old boys put their experience to good use or is it an advantage to be a fresher faced individual?

Take a look at the following table which highlights all winners from the past 5 Aintree festivals and brackets them into age groups –

Age	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
4	151	11	7	32	21	-£2.13	£88.49	101.93	20.77	74
5	260	17	7	54	21	-£70.00	-£14.20	72.04	13.46	64
6	258	21	8	60	23	£61.66	£211.14	52.7	21.34	109.47
7	269	19	7	59	22	-£100.46	-£58.24	47.09	10.09	29.77
8	231	13	6	51	22	-£129.63	-£127.74	53.67	6.94	18
9	204	13	6	39	19	£156.00	£358.36	72.03	42.26	153.59
10	153	5	3	20	13	-£77.00	-£47.42	92.36	20.12	47
11	96	4	4	13	14	-£62.00	-£51.80	135.46	10.05	18.87
12	47	1	2	4	9	-£41.50	-£41.60	150.09	4.4	4.4
13	18	0	0	1	6	-£18.00	-£18.00	170.44	0	0
14	4	0	0	0	0	-£4.00	-£4.00	402.75	0	0

It's clear from the above table that the older generation struggle to land a blow.

Aged 12 and older have scrapped 1 victory between them and only 5 places, certainly an area we should consider opposing.

10 & 11yo's fare slightly better, especially in the place markets, but still struggle over all to come home in front.

If we discount 4yo's (who have their own race) then 83 of the 93 winners (89%) came from the 5-9 age group.

7. Handicaps

Similar to the Cheltenham festival the handicap races at Aintree can be fiercely competitive so I have looked at these races on their own.

At the past 5 Aintree meetings there have been 38 handicap races run.

There are 7 handicap races at this year's meeting.

The 4 areas I will be looking at here are

- **The tracks at which the handicap entrants ran at on their final start before Aintree**
- **The finishing position of the handicap entrants last time out**
- **Did the winners run in a handicap or non-handicap race last time out**
- **Trainer records in handicaps**

Handicaps – Last time out tracks

Last time out track	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R%	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R%	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Cheltenham	358	18	5	58	16	-£85.75	£55.42	56.21	21.97	153.59
Sandown	43	6	14	12	28	£89.00	£142.57	49.15	29.93	59
Uttoxeter	26	3	12	5	19	£149.00	£220.87	59.12	81.29	142.59
Kempton	33	2	6	4	12	£10.00	£13.00	64.31	22	31
Newbury	64	1	2	8	13	-£53.00	-£50.00	42.91	13	13
Non UK	26	1	4	3	12	-£14.00	-£9.50	64.22	15.5	15.5
Newcastle	21	1	5	5	24	-£13.00	-£10.49	69.96	9.51	9.51
Bangor-On-Dee	20	1	5	4	20	-£7.00	-£1.00	81.23	18	18
Wetherby	20	1	5	6	30	£6.00	£16.00	48.71	35	35
Huntingdon	6	1	17	1	17	£5.00	£7.00	71.23	12	12
Stratford	5	1	20	1	20	£6.00	£8.59	78.18	12.59	12.59
Ayr	5	1	20	2	40	£21.00	£9.10	52.55	13.1	13.1
Exeter	3	1	33	1	33	£5.00	£5.60	77.37	7.6	7.6
Haydock	39	0	0	5	13	-£39.00	-£39.00	107.13	0	0
Doncaster	22	0	0	6	27	-£22.00	-£22.00	33.14	0	0
Aintree	21	0	0	3	14	-£21.00	-£21.00	48.83	0	0
Ascot	16	0	0	1	6	-£16.00	-£16.00	47.39	0	0
Chepstow	12	0	0	1	8	-£12.00	-£12.00	84.85	0	0
Ludlow	11	0	0	2	18	-£11.00	-£11.00	29.81	0	0
Musselburgh	10	0	0	0	0	-£10.00	-£10.00	56.96	0	0
Taunton	9	0	0	3	33	-£9.00	-£9.00	76.43	0	0
Kelso	9	0	0	1	11	-£9.00	-£9.00	46.95	0	0
Navan	8	0	0	2	25	-£8.00	-£8.00	64.05	0	0
Carlisle	8	0	0	0	0	-£8.00	-£8.00	89.34	0	0
Wincanton	7	0	0	2	29	-£7.00	-£7.00	210.44	0	0
Southwell	6	0	0	1	17	-£6.00	-£6.00	111.25	0	0
Fakenham	5	0	0	3	60	-£5.00	-£5.00	36.71	0	0
Naas	4	0	0	0	0	-£4.00	-£4.00	77.52	0	0
Market Rasen	4	0	0	2	50	-£4.00	-£4.00	28.59	0	0
Warwick	4	0	0	0	0	-£4.00	-£4.00	64.75	0	0
Fairyhouse	4	0	0	1	25	-£4.00	-£4.00	26.86	0	0
Gowran Park	4	0	0	1	25	-£4.00	-£4.00	39.78	0	0
Wolverhampton	3	0	0	0	0	-£3.00	-£3.00	46.44	0	0
Lingfield	3	0	0	0	0	-£3.00	-£3.00	48.17	0	0
Hereford	3	0	0	0	0	-£3.00	-£3.00	60.8	0	0
Leopardstown	3	0	0	0	0	-£3.00	-£3.00	30.06	0	0
Fontwell	3	0	0	0	0	-£3.00	-£3.00	84.65	0	0
Newton Abbot	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	9.3	0	0
Thurles	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	102.05	0	0
Hexham	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	61.12	0	0
Leicester	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	126.5	0	0
Ffos Las	2	0	0	2	100	-£2.00	-£2.00	21.97	0	0
Folkestone	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	142.67	0	0
Wexford	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	61.34	0	0
Thirsk	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	309	0	0
Towcester	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	179	0	0
Sedgefield	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	30.78	0	0
Cork	1	0	0	1	100	-£1.00	-£1.00	35	0	0
Down Royal	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	64	0	0
Dundalk	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	61.98	0	0
Clonmel	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	33.45	0	0
Catterick	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	12.5	0	0

As expected it is Cheltenham that supplies the majority of handicap runners and also by far the highest amount of winners. Sandown is interesting as all 6 winners the track supplied came in the handicaps. Newbury, Haydock, Doncaster, Ascot and Aintree itself show up poorly.

Handicaps – Finishing position last time out

Is it an advantage to have won on their previous start?

Do we want a horse in form or a horse skipping under the radar?

Take a look for yourselves –

Finishing Posi LTO	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R%	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R%	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
1	125	7	6	34	27	-£62.50	-£49.50	23.67	9.79	13
2	96	6	6	29	30	£17.50	£33.20	48.12	20.53	47
3	66	4	6	9	14	-£24.25	-£7.41	32.65	13.65	18.87
4	63	1	2	9	14	-£57.50	-£56.40	47.92	5.6	5.6
5	52	3	6	11	21	£4.50	£15.80	75.61	21.6	31
6	45	1	2	7	16	-£39.50	-£37.80	61.5	6.2	6.2
7	40	2	5	4	10	-£13.00	-£8.88	84.52	14.56	19.62
8	34	3	9	8	24	£101.00	£141.59	53.22	57.53	142.59
9	38	1	3	3	8	-£12.00	£17.00	78.17	54	54
10	26	2	8	2	8	£34.00	£43.80	53.94	33.9	59
11	27	0	0	2	7	-£27.00	-£27.00	95.41	0	0
12	20	0	0	0	0	-£20.00	-£20.00	68.68	0	0
13	15	1	7	2	13	£6.00	£10.95	82.99	24.95	24.95
14	18	0	0	2	11	-£18.00	-£18.00	84.14	0	0
15	10	0	0	2	20	-£10.00	-£10.00	88.92	0	0
16	10	0	0	0	0	-£10.00	-£10.00	98.8	0	0
17	8	1	13	1	13	£59.00	£146.59	127.4	153.59	153.59
18	4	0	0	1	25	-£4.00	-£4.00	99.02	0	0
19	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	33	0	0
20	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	40	0	0
21	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	37	0	0
22	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	54	0	0
25	2	1	50	1	50	£7.00	£8.50	36.75	9.5	9.5
26	1	0	0	0	0	-£1.00	-£1.00	31.13	0	0
27	2	0	0	0	0	-£2.00	-£2.00	149.48	0	0
UR	18	0	0	1	6	-£18.00	-£18.00	49.51	0	0
BD	2	0	0	1	50	-£2.00	-£2.00	48.93	0	0
FELL	28	1	4	4	14	£23.00	£47.00	53.79	74	74
PU	88	3	3	11	13	-£33.00	-£9.77	98.28	25.08	29.77
Non-UK	26	1	4	3	12	-£14.00	-£9.50	64.22	15.5	15.5

The strongest trend emerging appears to be that a top 10 finish is desirable as 31 of the 38 handicaps winners recorded a top 10 finish last time out (the winner in the non-UK range finished 3rd).

A top 3 finish shows up well with 18 of the 38 winners finishing there.

Fallers or unseats last time out only supplied 1 winner from 46 qualifiers and only 5 finished in the places.

Handicaps –Handicap or non-handicap LTO?

Did the winners take the handicap route before winning their handicap race at the Aintree festival or were they stepping up from the novice ranks or stepping down from the graded ranks?

Take a look -

HCP or NON-HCP	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
HANDICAP	681	34	5	116	17	-£47.50	£220.26	59.33	26.28	153.59
NON HANDICAP	188	4	3	31	17	-£73.25	-£52.10	64	26.38	74

It's clear from the above that you want your handicap runner to have taken the handicap route and run in a handicap last time out. A huge 34 of the 38 handicap winners (89%) had their last start before Aintree in a handicap race.

The 4 winners that did not have their last start before Aintree in a handicap all came from the novice ranks.

0 winners were stepping down from non-novice graded races.

Handicaps – Trainer records

Are some trainers more capable than others at targeting the Aintree festival handicaps?

Do some struggle along with poorly handicapped horses?

Take a look –

Handicap Trainers	Winners			Win & Place		LSP		Odds		
	Runners	Winners	Win S/R %	Win & Plc	Win & Plc S/R %	P/L to SP	P/L Betfair	Avg Odds	Avg Win Odds	High Win Odds
Jonjo O'Neill	30	7	23	11	37	£46.25	£88.68	45.54	15.95	54
Philip Hobbs	40	4	10	13	33	£5.00	£21.06	36.47	14.26	18.87
Venetia Williams	39	3	8	6	15	£96.50	£145.99	62.15	60.66	142.59
Nicky Henderson	44	2	5	5	11	-£6.00	-£0.05	55.23	20.98	24.95
Paul Nicholls	71	2	3	10	14	-£57.50	-£56.20	37.9	6.4	7.2
Alan King	11	2	18	4	36	£14.00	£19.22	50.15	14.11	19.62
Peter Bowen	24	2	8	7	29	£25.00	£40.28	50.87	31.14	35
Sue Smith	15	1	7	1	7	£36.00	£60.00	40.57	74	74
Jim Goldie	2	1	50	1	50	£24.00	£12.10	15.97	13.1	13.1
Gordon Elliott	4	1	25	1	25	£30.00	£44.00	44.8	47	47
Milton Harris	4	1	25	1	25	£17.00	£26.77	25.07	29.77	29.77
Nigel Twiston-Davies	44	1	2	3	7	-£35.00	-£34.20	69.94	8.8	8.8
Ian Williams	8	1	13	2	25	-£0.50	£0.80	25.26	7.8	7.8
James Fanshawe	5	1	20	1	20	£0.50	£2.20	15	6.2	6.2
David Pipe	42	1	2	6	14	-£34.00	-£31.49	69.58	9.51	9.51
Nicholas Gifford	7	1	14	3	43	£5.00	£8.42	52.67	14.42	14.42
Evan Williams	11	1	9	4	36	£12.00	£16.00	41.6	26	26
John Spearing	6	1	17	2	33	£5.00	£8.00	15.19	13	13
Martin Brassil	2	1	50	1	50	£10.00	£14.50	19.25	15.5	15.5
John Quinn	9	1	11	3	33	£8.00	£5.00	18.43	13	13
E McNamara	3	1	33	1	33	£8.00	£10.50	10.6	12.5	12.5
Lucinda Russell	3	1	33	1	33	£64.00	£151.59	63.97	153.59	153.59
Paul Webber	2	1	50	1	50	£49.00	£58.00	41.28	59	59
Howard Johnson	22	0	0	2	9	-£22.00	-£22.00	80.15	n/a	n/a
Donald McCain	17	0	0	3	18	-£17.00	-£17.00	54.81	n/a	n/a
W P Mullins	16	0	0	5	31	-£16.00	-£16.00	44.4	n/a	n/a
Gary Moore	15	0	0	1	7	-£15.00	-£15.00	43.84	n/a	n/a
Ferdy Murphy	14	0	0	4	29	-£14.00	-£14.00	23.99	n/a	n/a
Henry Daly	11	0	0	1	9	-£11.00	-£11.00	23.58	n/a	n/a
Malcolm Jefferson	10	0	0	3	30	-£10.00	-£10.00	35.09	n/a	n/a
C F Swan	10	0	0	3	30	-£10.00	-£10.00	27.49	n/a	n/a
Tom George	8	0	0	0	0	-£8.00	-£8.00	37.34	n/a	n/a
Emma Lavelle	8	0	0	1	13	-£8.00	-£8.00	52.92	n/a	n/a
Nicky Richards	7	0	0	2	29	-£7.00	-£7.00	31.59	n/a	n/a
Nick Williams	7	0	0	2	29	-£7.00	-£7.00	44.02	n/a	n/a
T J Taaffe	7	0	0	2	29	-£7.00	-£7.00	46.38	n/a	n/a
D T Hughes	7	0	0	2	29	-£7.00	-£7.00	52.64	n/a	n/a

The only trainer that really stands out is Jonjo O'Neill; his stats suggest he targets this meeting with his handicappers. Phillip Hobbs has a healthy place strike rate and that is something we should keep an eye on. Nicholls, Twiston-Davies and Pipe have had plenty of attempts at the handicaps but to little success, they potentially appear at the meeting with poorly handicapped horses.

As I always I suggest these stats should be used as a guide rather than as gospel and should be used as pointers to help you narrow the field in the competitive Aintree National meeting races.

Best regards

Ben (NTF)

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