



THIS UNSPORTING LIFE

Race Horse Deaths in British Racing

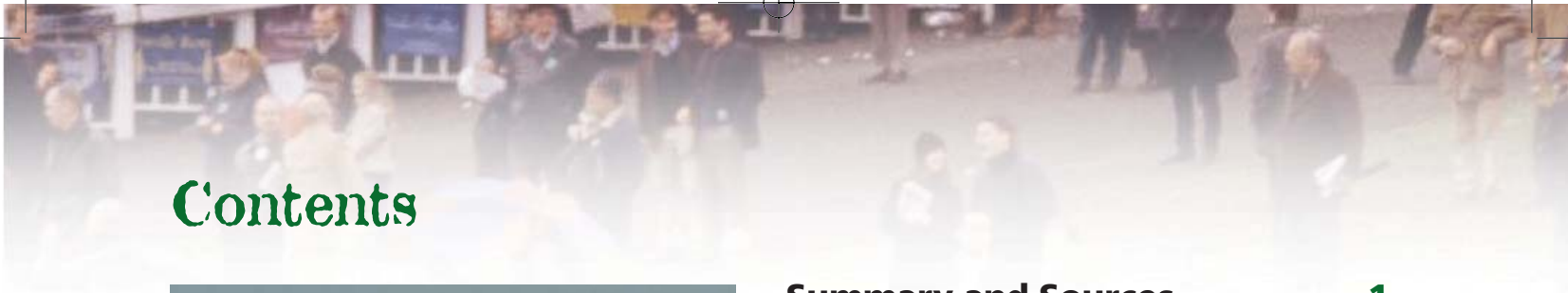
An Animal Aid Investigation

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www.animalaid.org.uk/racing

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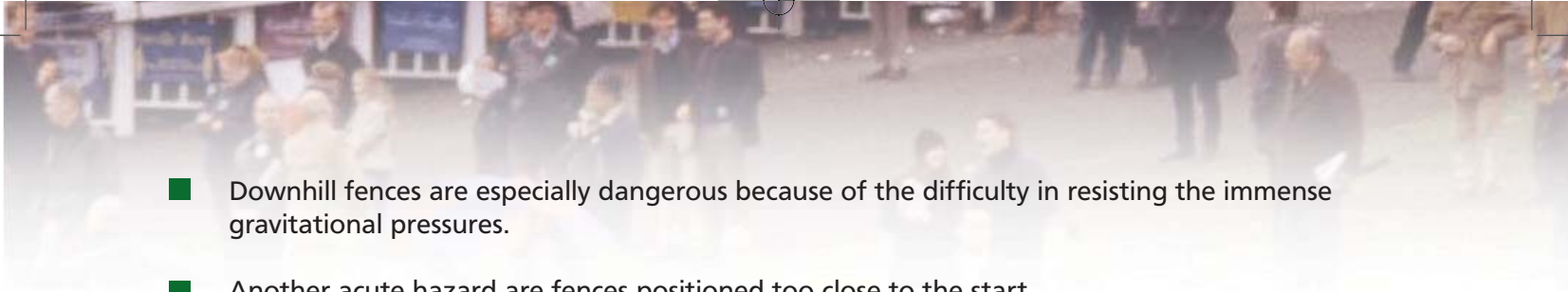
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Summary

- The horse racing industry has always concealed from the public, and even from racing correspondents, the number of horses raced to death every year. Information on mortality is becoming more, rather than less, difficult to obtain.
- Animal Aid has conducted a study of available evidence – including 15,000 pages of race results – to produce the most comprehensive survey of Thoroughbred racing fatalities ever to have been made public.
- Previous estimates – even by animal protection groups such as Animal Aid – have suggested a maximum figure of 300 annual equine deaths. Our new investigation shows that around 375 horses who are entered into races each season die from their injuries; or they are killed because they are considered of no further commercial value, even though they are young enough to continue racing. However, this total is almost certainly short of the true figure. This is because our data is drawn from the *Official Form Book*, which does not list all deaths.
- Reasons for horses being destroyed include broken legs, back, neck and pelvis; fatal spinal injuries, exhaustion, heart attack, and burst blood vessels in the lungs.
- To the 375 racing casualties must be added the far larger, but unrecorded, number of 'inferior specimens' who are disposed of annually before they ever get to race – and the animals who are killed at the end of their racing careers, instead of receiving a properly-funded retirement. These victims probably total several thousand annually.
- This report concentrates on the racing casualties. About 30% of the 375 annual victims die on the racecourse itself. This is an extraordinarily high figure given that the 59 British courses each stage, on average, a mere 12 racing days every year.
- While some 30% of annual fatalities occur during, or immediately after a race, the remainder are killed because of injuries received in training, or after being assessed by their owners as no-hoppers.
- The four most hazardous of all the country's courses are run by racing's own governing body, the Jockey Club. These are Cheltenham, Aintree, Warwick and Carlisle. From just 54 days racing at Cheltenham, there were no fewer than 21 on-course deaths.
- Every year, many more Thoroughbred foals are produced than the racing calendar can accommodate. But such is the number of animals rated in the bottom third of the ability range that their owners often enter them into poorly-organised, under-funded events, where the going might be dangerously firm. This is in a desperate attempt to recoup their costs. Equine deaths come frequently on such occasions.
- It is not unusual for two horses to die in a single race. Three fatalities at a single meeting is also common. 16 horses died on-course during just 16 days (from March 9 to March 24, 2004) – yet no formal action was taken. Nor was there any official response to 10 on-course deaths in just 8 days – from March 30 to April 6, 2002.
- The majority of fatalities occur in jump racing. Horses used to be selectively bred for this sector. They were heavier-boned and more robust than the faster animals racing on the flat. Because of the increasing emphasis on speed in all racing sectors, horses entered into jump races are now more often 'cast-offs' from the flat. Deaths, as a consequence, are more common.

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- Downhill fences are especially dangerous because of the difficulty in resisting the immense gravitational pressures.
- Another acute hazard are fences positioned too close to the start.
- Subjecting novice horses to the same testing jumping conditions as experienced animals, will inevitably result in high rates of injury and death.
- Aintree's Grand National course remains uniquely challenging and horses continue routinely to die on it.

Source Material

- *Raceform Official Form Books: NH Chaseforms & Flat Annuals 1999 to 2004*
- *Raceform Horses In Training 1999 to 2004*
- *Raceform Update*
- *Racing Post*
- *Racing Post Website*
- *Racing Post Weekender*
- *Running For Their Lives* – Animal Aid Report
- *Riding For A Fall* – Animal Aid Report
- *A Hiding to Nothing* – Animal Aid Report
- *Stud Adventures In Breeding* – Kevin Conley
- *Summerhays' Encyclopaedia for Horsemen* revised edition
- *The Racegoers' Encyclopedia* – John White
- *The Racehorse Conformation and Action* – Lt.Col. P.E. Ricketts DSO., MVO.
- *The Rider's Handbook* – Angela Sayer
- *Jockey Club Website*
- *Weatherbys*





Introduction

Among the best kept secrets in British sport is the scandalously high number of racing-age Thoroughbred horses who die every year. They die as a result of injury, heart attack or some other performance-related condition – or they are killed simply because they no longer make the commercial grade. Previous estimates – even by animal protection groups such as Animal Aid – have suggested a maximum figure of 300 annual casualties. This was based on the limited information available through official and unofficial industry sources. In the five years since Animal Aid has been compiling an ongoing audit of racing’s animal victims, published data has become even more scarce.



Undeterred, we have spent more than six months conducting an analysis of literally thousands of racing results going back four seasons. We have also scrutinised thousands of races broadcast on television. What emerges is a far more depressing picture than was previously imagined. Around 375 horses who are entered into races each season die, or are killed by the end of it. This is in addition to the far larger, but unknown, number of ‘inferior specimens’ who are disposed of annually before they ever get to race - and the animals who receive a bullet through the head at the end of their racing careers, instead of a properly-funded retirement. These victims probably total several thousand per year.

This report concentrates on the racing casualties. Of the 375 who perish annually, about 115 – or 30% of the total – die on the racecourse itself. This is an extraordinarily high figure given that the 59 British racecourses each stage, on average, a mere 12 racing days every year.

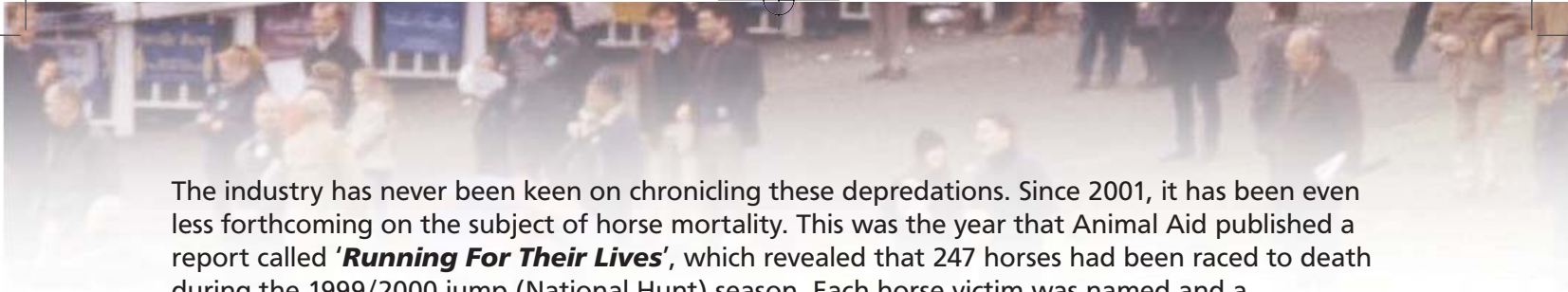
Incredibly, our survey indicates that the four most hazardous of all the country’s courses are run by racing’s governing body, the Jockey Club. These are Cheltenham, Aintree, Warwick and Carlisle. From just 54 days’ racing at Cheltenham, there were no fewer than 21 on-course deaths.

While some 30% of annual fatalities occur during, or immediately after a race, the remainder are killed because of injuries received in training, or after being assessed by their owners as no-hopers.

The image of the race horse that the industry wishes to promote is of a cherished and cosseted animal. What is concealed from the public – whether they be armchair television viewers or champagne-sipping habitués of the growing number of on-course hospitality tents – is that the life of a Thoroughbred racer is a series of unremitting challenges.

It starts in the sale ring; followed by the demands of a strict training regime; the race course debut; the requirement to perform for years at a consistent level; the uncertainty of retirement; and, eventually, a date with the knacker or slaughterer – that is if the horse has not already met a premature end somewhere along the line. Animals selected for breeding face another daunting set of challenges. At the top end of the business, the reproductive potential of both males and females is ruthlessly exploited. This is done, typically, through the use of drugs, oppressive artificial daylight regimes and, for the ‘high quality’ males, punishing trips to the other side of the world to impregnate females who are hormonally receptive when mares in the northern hemisphere are ‘idling’.

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The industry has never been keen on chronicling these depredations. Since 2001, it has been even less forthcoming on the subject of horse mortality. This was the year that Animal Aid published a report called '**Running For Their Lives**', which revealed that 247 horses had been raced to death during the 1999/2000 jump (National Hunt) season. Each horse victim was named and a breakdown was given as to whether he or she died on course (91 victims), or off.
(For more information, see '**Running For Their Lives**' www.animalaid.org.uk/racing)

Information on horse casualties is no longer available through official 'Scratchings – Dead' reports that were regularly published in the racing press. These identified animals who had died on the racecourse. They also included animals who died or were destroyed off course due to a persisting race injury, a training accident, or because they were no longer viable racing machines.

One of the few remaining sources of information about racecourse deaths is the *The Official Form Book* (incorporating the *Racing Post Form Book*). This annual volume, however, is primarily produced as a betting tool for horse racing punters. The structure and layout are designed to identify future prospective winners. It is written by a dozen race readers, each with his or her own perspective on the merits of individual horses, and it is for them to decide whether or not the fate of an injured or fallen horse is reported. While their reports are accurate assessments on the running of the races, the writers are not charged with investigating and recounting the fate of every horse. That responsibility must lie with the racecourses, the vets and the stewards of the Jockey Club, and with racing's promoting body, the British Horseracing Board (BHB).

Weatherbys is the industry body that supplies bloodstock information to breeders, through its publication, *The General Stud Book*. It also keeps information on dead horses under a contract with the BHB. It is understood that these records are comprehensive – covering both on and off course deaths of all horses 'in training'. Animal Aid has made repeated requests for this information from Weatherbys but, promises of assistance notwithstanding, no data had been provided at the time of writing.

What becomes clear from Animal Aid's comprehensive analysis of racing is that it is today thoroughly 'breeder driven'. A hunger for profits has resulted in a mass output of foals that, in Britain and Ireland alone, totals some 16,000 animals annually. Of these, somewhere between one third and one half may ultimately make a racecourse debut. The remainder are essentially a waste by-product. They are killed for pet food, fed to hunting hounds, used for other equestrian events, or sold from owner to owner in a downward spiral of neglect.

On the back of the breeding industry ride a number of financially powerful, multi-national companies. In Britain, the 'big three' bookmakers – Ladbrokes, Coral and William Hill – control the punters' money. However, the new kid on the block, Betting Exchanges, now terrifies the big three, not least because it has torn up the rulebook by taking bets on horses to lose races. Press and television companies also often have a major financial stake in racing, with the line between editorial and advertising frequently difficult to detect, especially in relation to the promotion of the major events.

Most racecourses themselves are today owned by a small number of big businesses. The exceptions are the smaller courses – particularly National Hunt (jump) tracks in the far-flung corners of Britain. These are maintained on a shoestring and offer basic facilities for both horse and human.

At the centre of the whole edifice is the 250-year-old ruling body, The Jockey Club, whose stated function is to oversee key aspects of the business and deal with problems such as race-fixing and the use of performance-enhancing drugs and horse welfare. Such is its inability to maintain control of a fast-evolving industry that – sometime in 2005 - its official functions will be given over to a new body called the Horseracing Regulatory Authority (HRA). However, the HRA will employ many of the same Jockey Club staff in similar positions. Little looks set to change in regard to horse welfare.

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The Jockey Club – Welfare

It is not uncommon to see two or three deaths in one day at courses around the country, or even multiple fatalities at a single course. Injuries – some of which subsequently prove fatal – are also daily occurrences.

While researching this report, Animal Aid made a formal request to the Jockey Club for data on horse deaths. At the time of writing – several weeks after asking – no response has been forthcoming. This tight-lipped approach extends to racing correspondents. They are provided with no data on the nature of injuries suffered by horses who die or are destroyed on racecourses – let alone details about deaths during training.



Animal Aid searched the JC website during February 2005 and found confident claims about the organisation's alleged proactive welfare role. The pronouncements appear not to have been updated since the year 2000 – a matter of some significance given that Animal Aid's research shows that there has been no improvement in the lamentable rate of death and injury to racehorses since we first began our detailed research some five years ago.

Taken from the Jockey Club Website (www.thejockeyclub.co.uk) are the following comments:

'No issue has a higher priority for the Jockey Club than the safety and welfare of the horse.'

'An invaluable tool in expanding the welfare role has been the introduction of a veterinary database. The lameness and injury data collection scheme improves racehorse safety because it monitors the return to racing by horses who have been off the course through injury. The database also allows structured analysis of all injury data to help identify possible factors increasing the risk of injury. Jockey Club Veterinary Officers are responsible for all data recording to maintain consistency.'

The website goes on to refer to a number of ongoing studies of risk factors associated with horse injury and death. It also boasts of having devised improved specifications for horse ambulances. Structured analyses, ongoing studies and better ways to carry off the dead and injured are all very well but what is missing from the JC's approach is any meaningful effort to address known, avoidable causes of injury and death. Some obvious ways would be to remove downhill fences and to prevent novice horses from being subjected to the same testing racing conditions as experienced animals. The implementation of just these two steps would produce a dramatic reduction in injuries and deaths.



Among the most deceptive statements on the JC website is the following:

'Fatal injuries in racing are relatively uncommon but, as in any sport, there is an element of risk for the participants.'

As this report highlights, one racing-age horse dies, on average, every day of the year. The Jockey Club knows this. It also knows that the equine participants have no choice but to race, and that their riders will invariably lash them en route to the finishing line with a narrow plastic rod, the 'whip'. (For further information, see **'A Hiding To Nothing'**, a 2004 Animal Aid report on use of the whip in racing. www.animalaid.org.uk/racing)

Deaths on Jockey Club courses

The Jockey Club is well-placed to know all about on-course equine fatalities, given the number of animals who perish at the 13 racecourses it operates through the Racecourse Holdings Trust. Its estate is as shown left.

7 large courses:

Aintree NH
Cheltenham NH
Epsom Flat
Haydock Park NH/Flat
Kempton Park NH/Flat
Newmarket Flat
Sandown Park NH/Flat

6 smaller courses:

Carlisle NH/Flat
Huntingdon NH
Market Rasen NH
Nottingham Flat
Warwick NH/Flat
Wincanton NH

This report demonstrates that – during our study period – not only were the most dangerous of Britain's 59 racecourses all JC-owned, but that Jockey Club courses scooped more than one top place in the mortality leagues – particularly where jump racing is concerned. During the 2001/2002 NH season, Aintree and Haydock were first and third on the

list. The following year, Carlisle, Cheltenham and Aintree filled the top three spots. In NH season 2003/2004, Cheltenham, Warwick and Carlisle were the deadliest. Cheltenham alone, saw 21 deaths in just 54 days' racing.

Market Rasen and Huntingdon also had depressingly high numbers of dead horses on their consciences. In all, 104 fatalities occurred on JC courses over the study period.



Breeding Industry

Number of Horses Bred

The British and Irish breeding industries are closely linked and together produce thousands of foals annually.

The steady annual increase prompts an important question: Is the racing industry in the 21st Century, 'Breeding to Race', or 'Racing to Breed'. The latter formulation would be hot favourite with any bookie.

Foals Registered at Weatherbys

2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
16,003	15,368	14,177	13,985	13,480

If you have a Classic-winning three-year-old Thoroughbred, the temptation is to rush off to stud – and most do.

The world's current most fashionable – and highly lucrative – stallions are all descendants from the late 20th Century sire Northern Dancer. They are Saddlers Wells, Storm Cat and, more recently, Giant's Causeway. In a single season, one sire can be used to impregnate 100 mares. The offspring are themselves then nurtured as prospective breeders, with the owners looking to get a result from them in a Classic or other Group race so that the animal's status is assured and the money-driven breeding cycle can start again.

The new progeny are soon in the Foal and Yearling Sale Rings, where the big money is to be earned. Tattersalls, Goffs, Doncaster and Ascot are some of the high-status salerooms in Europe, whilst Keeneland in Kentucky is the world market leader. Storm Cat's offspring averaged \$1.68 million at the 2001 yearling sales.



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Physiology

A horse's development takes five years from birth to maturity. The shape and structure of the body go through many changes during this period, with animals more or less vulnerable at different times in terms of their bone and cartilage development. Among the problems faced by modern race horses is that no proper account is taken of these vulnerabilities. To require four year olds, for instance, to jump stiff 4ft 6in. chase fences is to expose them to an unacceptable risk. Our report bears out this point with depressing clarity.

Equally, the close bloodlines of the breeding industry have given rise to equine health problems that are increasing over time. The loss of bone strength in favour of speed is all too apparent in the number of casualties that are highlighted in this report.

(See also *Animal Aid's 'Riding For A Fall – The Genetic Time Bomb at the Heart of Racing'* www.animalaid.org.uk/racing)

The Race Horse An Athlete from an Early Age



The majority of Thoroughbred race horses are born between January and June but all are given an official first birthday of January 1 of the following year. They can start to race from the March of their second birthday, even though, as individuals, horses develop at different rates.

Requiring horses to perform to constant standards during their growth years is unreasonable. The harsh training regime and the demands of race-day will sooner or later adversely affect their well-being. Top-rated young colts and fillies can burn out very quickly – failing to procure for their 'connections' the anticipated 'Classic' win by the age of three. A recent example of stress-related early burn-out – compounded by extreme in-breeding – is the top rated two year old Irish-trained, American-bred colt, called One Cool Cat. Another is the French-trained, American-bred, Denebola. Both highly-inbred animals displayed performance setbacks and One Cool Cat retired to stud, aged three, before he even reached maturity. It is not uncommon to see a 100,000 guineas saleroom star fallen by the wayside, trying to jump hurdles on a windswept National Hunt racecourse instead of racing on the usually more lucrative flat.

Animal Aid has found that of the 127 on and off course fatalities that occurred during the 2000 flat season, no fewer than 76 of the horses (nearly 60% of the total) were younger than five years. Heart failure, bone breaks and fractures were the common causes.



Structure and Objectives of the Racing Calendar

Races

The calendar of annual racing events is orchestrated by the British Horseracing Board. The programme is based on established races and meetings, and new initiatives that the BHB believes will benefit racing as a whole. However, with an escalating number of horses being bred every year, owners and trainers are often so desperate to enter their animals for a run that they will opt for events where the race conditions are ill-suited to their horse's needs. It is animals with the lowest rating – i.e. those with the least running ability – who suffer most. In the hope of picking up small amounts of prize money, such horses, in one year, might be entered into a stressful combination of All Weather, Turf Flat, Hurdles, Chase fences or even in Point-to-Points.

In an effort to provide races for these horses at the bottom of the handicap, 'Banded' races were introduced in January 2004 on All Weather courses. However, such are the numbers of animals rated in the bottom third of the ability range that hundreds still cannot be accommodated. These poorly-organised and grossly under-funded races have been crudely described by television pundit, James Willoughby, as 'meatball racing', such is the respect accorded to horses in this category.

National Hunt (jump) racing also tries to accommodate low-ability horses – by staging events in which only unpromising prospects can take part. They are known as 'selling' races and, as the name suggests, the equine participants are offered for sale at the end of the proceedings, even though, in reality, only those who perform well are likely to attract a bid. The problem with 'sellers' is that owners – who may simply have entered a horse hoping to win a little prize money and who do not wish to part with their animal - have to respond to bids. Either they sell or attempt to outbid any competition and retain their own horse. Through this process, horses can pass from owner to owner, with serious welfare problems resulting.

Unequal Distribution of Prize Money

The amounts of money to be won by owners of winning animals vary dramatically. Flat racing takes the dominant share, with Group and Listed races offering huge sums to the winners. More significantly, post-retirement stud fees accruing to the winners of such races provide even greater rewards to owners. At the other end of the scale, Selling and Banded races offer one or two thousand pounds to the winner and a couple of hundred for a placed horse. This means that less able horses must run more races in often extremely challenging conditions in order to try to cover training and vet costs. Towards the same end, the owners and trainers of such horses will often place bets on their animals – a situation that gives rise to suspicions of race-fixing when betting odds change dramatically as a result of sudden influxes of money.

Two extreme examples of the variable value of horses are as follows:

- **2003 Epsom Derby** £852,600 went to the winner. Even the third place horse won £161,700. Potential Stud Fees are £50,000 for each mare 'covered'. If 150 such coverings are made in a year, total stud earnings would be £7.5 million.
- **2003 a Market Rasen Selling Hurdle** Win Prize Money: £1,810 – 3rd Place: £259. There was no bid for the winner – 9 year old Count Tony. Hopefully, his owners will give him a decent retirement in the not-too-distant future.

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Common Fatal Injuries Related to Racing



Horses are destroyed due to:

- Broken legs from the shoulder to the coronet
- Tendon and ligament injuries
- Deep tissue damage, after being 'struck-into' by another horse
- Damage caused by back hooves striking front legs – known as over-reach
- Broken necks
- Broken backs
- Broken pelvis
- Fatal spinal injuries
- Exhaustion
- Heart attacks
- Internal injuries – e.g. burst blood vessels in the lungs



National Hunt Racing Ill-equipped for the task

Until 30 or so years ago, horses destined for jumps were given time to mature – typically, in an Irish field – ready to begin racing at the age of five. No longer is such growing time commonly allowed. And there are other important recent changes in the shape of the National Hunt sector. These specialist animals were once ‘custom-made’ for the task. They were selectively bred to be larger, more robust and with greater bone strength than their faster, sleeker counterparts racing on the flat. Notable sires of the jumping breed included Deep Run, Strong Gale, Menelek and Pongee. Today, with the emphasis in every part of the industry on speed, a large percentage of NH horses are simply cast-offs from the flat – animals who failed to make the top grade in that more profitable discipline. The planet is scoured for horses just below ‘Group’ ability who may give their owners an edge. French and German horses are popular. Horses from Australia, New Zealand and Argentina are also seen on British jumping courses.

The Obstacles

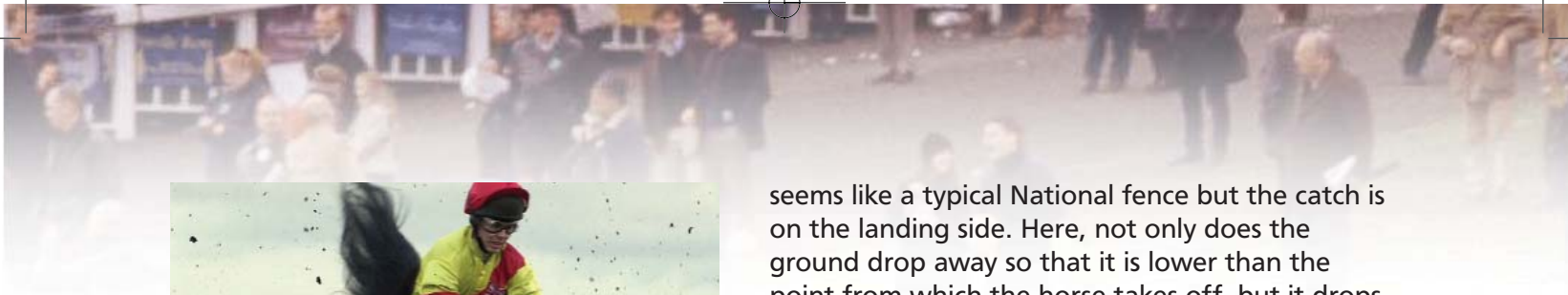
There is a formidable range of obstacles confronting animals racing over jumps:

- **Hurdles**
Hurdles are 3 ft 6 in. high when slanted, and have a relatively small spread compared with a fence. Their comparatively modest size belies the danger. Hurdles are jumped at greater speed than fences. Fallers are frequently killed, while other horses who are unable to react quickly enough in order to escape the falling animal, are brought down, with often fatal consequences.
- **Fixed Brush Hurdle**
Based on the French hurdle design, these obstacles are similar to plain fences but lower in height. Unlike the traditional hurdle they are very rigid in construction.
- **Chase (Or Plain) Fences**
The plain fence is made from compacted birch cuttings, bound and placed in a rigid frame. The density of the birch governs the fence’s ‘give’ and ‘stiffness’. Many courses, such as Cheltenham, Aintree and Warwick, have stiff fences, which means horses cannot brush through the top and are very likely to fall if they make contact with it. The fence has a standard height of 4 ft 6 in. with a spread of 8ft.
- **Open Ditch Fence**
The open ditch is similar to a plain fence but its spread is 11ft. This extra spread is due to an open ditch on the take-off side.
- **Water Jump**
The fence itself is 3 ft high and it has a 2 ft spread. It also features a shallow water pool, giving a total spread of 11 ft. Though comparatively small, water jumps kill two or three horses each season.

Two courses present a set of obstacles that break with the traditional format: Aintree’s Grand National Fences and Cheltenham’s Cross-country course.

The Grand National Course

The Grand National’s fences are of variable height, with the most imposing being an open ditch known as The Chair. It is some 5 ft 2in. high and has a huge ditch and spread unmatched on any other racecourse around the world. However, there are other daunting fences to be jumped, including the infamous Becher’s Brook that has claimed many horses’ lives. On approach, Becher’s



seems like a typical National fence but the catch is on the landing side. Here, not only does the ground drop away so that it is lower than the point from which the horse takes off, but it drops lower on the side nearest the rail – the territory some jockeys would try to claim for the shortest route round. In addition, a water filled ditch lies at the foot of the fence, into which fallen horses have sometimes rolled back. Alterations over recent years have reduced the chances of 'roll-back' and the ditch is itself more shallow than in the past. These changes were made after a fatally injured horse, called Brown Trix, had to have his head held out of the water to save him from drowning, in a year when another horse was killed at the fence. But Becher's remains a very dangerous obstacle. The Canal Turn is another major hazard. On its other side, the course turns 90 degrees. This leads to most jockeys opting for an inside berth, causing horses to bunch and many to fall. The outstanding 'Roll A Joint' died at this fence.

Cheltenham's Cross-Country Course

Cheltenham's Cross-country course is a relatively new innovation. Inspired by equestrian events and the more variable layout of European courses, it is, in parts, without the standard running rail to guide the riders around. In fact, many riders have been suspended for taking the wrong route! It is relatively unsuccessful in racing terms due to its lack of pace. It serves purely as an eye-catching, incident-packed feature for specialist horses that has little appeal to owners and trainers other than the decent prize money on offer.

Positioning of Obstacles

Favourable positioning of fences and hurdles is crucial to the safety of the race horse. There are many obstacles, however, that are deliberately set to catch out horse and jockey. These are described as 'trappy'.

Downhill fences

Downhill obstacles are particularly nasty and cause many equine fatalities. This is due chiefly to the momentum gained as the animals approach the jumps and the difficulty they have of resisting the gravitational pull that makes jumping itself difficult. Even if they clear the fence rather than running into it, gravity can tend to bring them headfirst to the ground upon landing. The schooling of horses for such obstacles must be difficult, if not impossible, for many trainers – the high number of novice deaths at downhill jumps bears testimony to this. Cheltenham's downhills are notorious and over many decades have killed seasoned and novice horses alike. There was no sadder sight than that of Tardar, at the 2004 Festival meeting, who lay fatally injured, trying to lift his head, his ears twitching, as the other horses galloped away. His death was unseen by the roaring, excited crowds, having happened out in the 'country', and it received barely any mention by race commentators. Tardar's jockey was also seriously injured, and could have easily suffered the same fate as the horse.

Jumping too young

Another unpalatable feature of the racing calendar is the staging of chase events for four year olds. There is an argument that says the younger a horse starts jumping the better he or she will be. This is based on studies of European race horses. The Europeans, however, have brush-through



fences and a mix of obstacles that 'school' the horse. They do not just drop animals in at the deep end.

The worst example of four year olds coming to grief during this report's study period, was at Warwick on November 23, 2003, in the Highflyer Bloodstock Four Year Old Novice Chase. The event was over two miles on fast ground. Six horses started, one was killed at the first fence; one blundered badly at the second, unshipping his experienced jockey; and a third horse took a very nasty fall at the last fence. Only three completed the course – the last horse trailing some distance behind the winner.

Too close to the start

Fences positioned too close to the start of a race can also be a problem. The Thoroughbred is known for nervousness and can take time to settle. If a novice is not settled at the first obstacle, and is fighting the bit, taking a pull, or if his eye is not in on the short approach, then danger looms quickly. Deaths are common at first flights. Red Halo at Warwick and Great Oaks at Plumpton are two examples from our study period.

Too close together

Similarly, if fences come quickly after each other - particularly in the home straight when the race is on, and exhausted horses are being pushed to their limit – then disaster is almost inevitable. From our study, Ludlow must be highlighted for its four fences in the straight after the home turn. The fourth last fence - known to jockeys as 'Tricky Trevor' – was moved off the bend because of complaints by the riders that it was a seriously dangerous obstacle. However, instead of being removed altogether, it has been squeezed into the straight, giving a daunting line of four for the horses to face. The consequences of this realignment were all too apparent with the death of two horses in a three horse race. The novices Sharp Steel and Occam were killed at these Ludlow fences on November 13, 2003.

Sanded roads over courses also frequently serve as obstacles, and at least one such fatality occurred during the study period. The victim was a young horse who tried to jump the road and broke a leg in the process.

The problem with visors

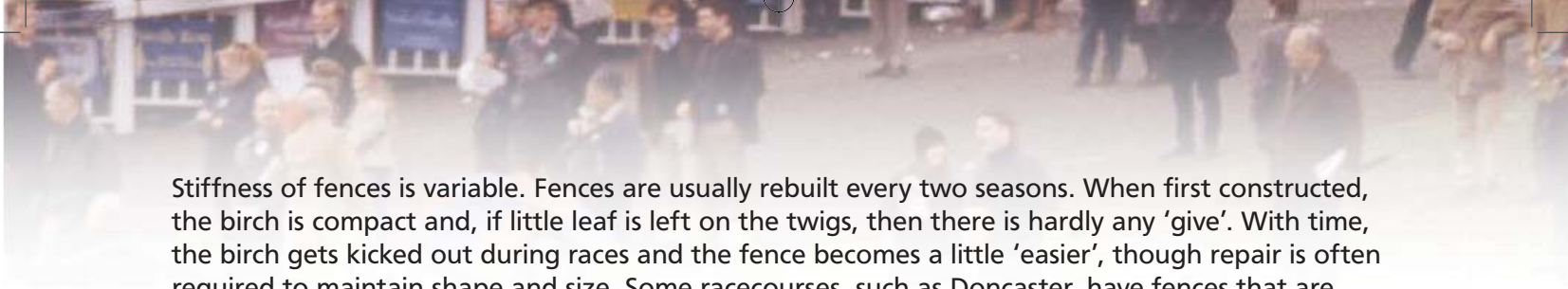
The use of visors may also have contributed to the annual death toll in jump racing. Animals wearing them for the first time are particularly vulnerable. Horses with visors run at increased pace, maybe through fear of not being able to see what is behind them. They may also have an obstructed view from the visor as they approach the obstacle. A fatal fall from increased speed and poor visibility can be the result.

Stiff fences

Horses also pay with their lives when falling at stiff fences. Many race professionals would argue against this comment, but the facts speak for themselves. The highly talented Behrajan suffered awful neck injuries and died at the same stiff fence at Warwick racecourse that killed the novice Red Halo.

The Grand National course at Aintree with its stiff fences has killed many, many horses over the years. Less well known to the public are the Mildmay fences situated inside the National course. These too are stiff. The great Desert Orchid was brought down to the ground here, and the top horse of the 1990s, One Man, died at a Mildmay fence that crashed him into the Aintree turf.





Stiffness of fences is variable. Fences are usually rebuilt every two seasons. When first constructed, the birch is compact and, if little leaf is left on the twigs, then there is hardly any 'give'. With time, the birch gets kicked out during races and the fence becomes a little 'easier', though repair is often required to maintain shape and size. Some racecourses, such as Doncaster, have fences that are portable and can be moved to better ground to suit the prevailing conditions.

Ground Conditions

Many trainers are reluctant to run their horses on Firm, or Good to Firm ground because of the hazards such conditions present. Where horses are required to race on such ground, many will hold back, since jarring can give rise to injuries. Horses who fall on this ground commonly die. Thus, while small fields of horses line up on firm ground, there is a greater than average opportunity for their owners and trainers to earn prize money. If just three horses start, providing they jump all the way round on NH courses, or pass the finishing post on the flat, they are guaranteed a financial return. The Ludlow race mentioned earlier, where Sharp Steel and Occam both died in a three horse race, was a typical example of horses of limited ability being forced to take chances and paying with their lives. Owners, trainers, jockeys, the racecourse, the veterinary profession and the Jockey Club are all answerable.

Falls Do Not Just Affect the Fallen A Welfare & Financial Problem

The falls of horses can cause chaos in a race and hamper other runners. Frequently, other horses are brought down and some are fatally injured.

Welfare problems aside, injuries are financially extremely costly to race horse owners and trainers. Our study has found that, in the 2003/2004 NH Season, no fewer than 454 horses who fell, or were brought down, did not race again that season.

Form Book Comments



The Form Book race readers sometimes register their own reaction to the pain and suffering of race horses, through the terms they use to describe falls. They include: Horrific, Heavy, Nasty, Ugly, Awful, Awkward, Crashing. On the result of the fall, they write of the potential 'loss of confidence' and 'mental scarring' that will affect performance in future races.



Conclusion

All facts on death, injury and sickness must be made public

Through painstaking research of available data, Animal Aid demonstrates in this report that around 375 horses are raced to death every year. Most die young from broken necks, legs, backs, or from heart attacks. Even larger numbers are killed because they fail to make the commercial grade or because they have come to the end of their exhausting racing careers. All these victims are individuals in their own right. We name many of them in our tables. Earlier Animal Aid reports revealed extremely high levels of stress-related equine injury and disease – notably, gastric ulcers and bleeding lungs. Collectively, our evidence points to an inherently exploitative industry that has little regard for the Thoroughbred workhorse on whom profits and glory depend. Animal Aid argue that it is an industry undeserving of the massive public support that comes its way through betting and racecourse attendance revenues. Nor should the industry, in our view, be allowed to regulate itself through the Jockey Club, or what looks set to be an equally unaccountable successor body, the Horseracing Regulatory Authority.

Are we right to argue that racing is intrinsically exploitative? How can the public make a judgement if the full facts about equine disease, neglect, injury, death and abandonment are concealed from them? We have worked hard to assemble and reveal what exists in the public domain. We call upon the Jockey Club to offer up for public consumption the complete truth. If the JC is so confident that racing can defend its reputation on the basis of proper disclosure, then, we say, put that confidence to the test.

In response to a written request for hard mortality data, Animal Aid received no answer. In fact, not even racing commentators are given such information. This is despite the JC's fondness for spinning out fine-sounding rhetoric: 'No issue', it likes to declare, 'has a higher priority for the Jockey Club than the safety and welfare of the horse.'

The truth has a way of leaking out. We have revealed a good deal of it in this report. The JC knows more. We say: it's time to come clean and let the public decide.

DIRTYING LIFE

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Report Scope, Terms and Criteria

This report into race horse deaths was compiled during 2004/2005. The principle source was *The Raceform Official Form Book*, which does not list all equine fatalities. The true figures will therefore be higher.

All three British horse racing disciplines were covered:
Flat & All Weather (grouped together) and National Hunt (NH)

Data was collected to cover Flat & All Weather Seasons' races: 2000; 2001; 2002; 2003 and National Hunt Seasons' races: 2000/2001; 2001/2002; 2002/2003; 2003/2004

For Flat and All Weather Horse Deaths, horses were named with age and sex given. They were then totalled.

All National Hunt races were included: Chases; Novice Chases; Hurdles; Novice Hurdles; NH Flat Races

British horses killed abroad were noted, as were foreign horses killed in Britain.

Individual 'National Hunt Racecourses Where Horse Deaths Occurred' charts highlight each NH Season of the study. They display the number of horse deaths at each racecourse for that particular season and show, alongside, the number of days racing that season at that racecourse. Total figures are shown and a mean figure is given at the foot of the table specifying the number of horse deaths per hundred days racing. This allows for season-to-season comparisons.



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A chart combining the overall study period of NH deaths at individual racecourses displays a mean figure that gives the number of horse deaths per hundred days racing. This allows individual racecourses to be compared, rather than just comparing the total number of horses killed on a year-by-year basis. This gives a more accurate and reliable assessment of the racecourse's record over a number of seasons. The tally includes the total number of racing days at all courses – not just those courses that suffered deaths. Lingfield is not included, as it did not have consistent NH racing over four seasons, with only seven days NH racing in total.

The two graphs cover the same period of NH horse deaths. The first graph totals the deaths for each season. The second graph shows the mean number of horse deaths per hundred days racing assessed from the total days racing from courses where deaths occurred. This gives a more accurate and reliable assessment of each season, particularly in view of the six month foot and mouth outbreak in 2001 that resulted in many NH race meetings being cancelled. This, in turn, reduced the number of horse deaths that season. However, when the reduced number of racing days was taken into account, the death toll was consistent with the other seasons that were studied.

Key to Layout and Abbreviations

National Hunt Layout

Tally • Name of Horse • Type of Race & Class of Race • Distance of Race • Number of Obstacles Jumped • Racecourse • Date • Cause of Injury • Jockey • Trainer • Number of Horses in Race • Ground Conditions (Going) • Age of Horse • Weight Carried by Horse • Horse's Official BHB Rating • Position in Race when Injury Occurred • Reason for Death.

National Hunt Abbreviations

NH = National Hunt (Jump Racing); **Nov** = Novice

A-W / OR = Age of Horse – Weight Carried by Horse / Horse's Official BHB Rating (Ability Rating)

Class of Race = 'A' top rated race though to 'H' lowest rated race

Dist. = Distance of the Race; **m** = distance of the race in miles to the nearest half mile.

m f = miles and furlongs re: NH Flat Races; **f** = furlong (eight to a mile)

Ob. = Total Number of Obstacles to be Jumped in the Race either fences or hurdles

fncs or fnc = fences; **hdls or hdl** = hurdles

Fell (1st, etc.) = the fence or hurdle at which the horse fell

BD = Horse was Brought Down by a fallen horse; **UR** = Unseated the Rider (Jockey)

PU = Horse was Pulled Up and stops racing

Blind = Blundered at a fence or hurdle; **Mistk** = Mistake at a fence or hurdle;

Himpd or Hp = Hampered by another horse; **rmt** = Jockey remounted horse after falling

Inj. = Injured; **S.I.H.** = Horse struck into himself (back legs struck front legs)

Flat / AW (All Weather) Layout

Tally • Name of Horse • Age of Horse • Sex of Horse • *Horses Killed on a Racecourse.

Flat / AW Abbreviations

c = colt (male horse under 5 years old); **h** = horse (male horse aged 5 years or older);

f = filly (female horse under 5 years old); **m** = mare (female horse aged 5 years or older);

g = gelding (castrated male horse that can be of any age)

Number of Horses Killed

Flat & All Weather Season 2000
Total Horse Deaths exposed: 127
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 23

Flat & All Weather Season 2001
Total Horse Deaths: projected 106
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 19

Flat & All Weather Season 2002
Total Horse Deaths: projected 139
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 25

Flat & All Weather Season 2003
Total Horse Deaths: projected 100
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 18

National Hunt Season 1999/2000
Total Horse Deaths exposed by Animal Aid: 247
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 91

National Hunt Season 2000/2001
Total Horse Deaths: projected 132
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 49

National Hunt Season 2001/2002
Total Horse Deaths: projected 259
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 96

National Hunt Season 2002/2003
Total Horse Deaths: projected 205
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 76

National Hunt Season 2003/2004
Total Horse Deaths: projected 227
Total Horse Deaths on Racecourses: 84

All Years Total Horse Deaths On Racecourses: 481.

This total includes NH 1999/2000 deaths, as revealed in the Animal Aid report, *Running For Their Lives*.

N.B. The projected figures in the tables above are arrived at as follows: An Animal Aid survey of the 1999/2000 NH season and of the 2000 Flat season found a total on and off course death tally of 374. Thirty per cent of these casualties arose on the courses themselves, while the remainder died or were killed subsequently during those seasons as a result of training injuries, or because the animals were considered to be of no further commercial utility. Because on course deaths have been consistent since 2000, we can reasonably assume that the off course death tally also remained consistent. By these calculations, the projected total death figures, as shown above, are deduced. Equally, we also arrive at an annual average total death figure of 375. This annual total is reliable, despite some of the data above suggesting a lower yearly total. The reduced figures above result from the foot and mouth outbreak and from the extensive number of waterlogged courses that severely curtailed racing during 2001.



Names and Number of Horses Killed

Race Horse Deaths Flat/AW Season 2000

Combining Horses That Died On And Off The Racecourse

Horse	Age/Sex	*Killed On Racecourse	Horse	Age/Sex	*Killed On Racecourse
1 Adirpour	6g		65 Lite A Candle	3f	
2 Aqua Caballo	3g		66 Lordy Lady	2f	
3 Aiwin	3c		67 Lullaby	3f	
4 Albaneck	2g		68 Makati	6g	
5 Alfini	3c	*	69 Margarita	2f	
6 All Mine	3g		70 Markells	4g	*
7 Alright Pops	4f		71 Marshall St. Cyr	3g	
8 Aristocrat	3c		72 Mephitis	6g	
9 At Large	6g		73 Midyan Blue	10g	*
10 Baillieston	2g		74 Mukhills	7g	*
11 Big Al	4g		75 Natural Eight	6g	
12 Bonifacio	4c		76 Neervam Star	2c	
13 Boulder	3c		77 Netta Rufina	5g	
14 Bread Winner	4g		78 Ollie's Chuckle	5g	
15 Capercaille	3g		79 Onka Paringa	2f	*
16 Central Stage	3c		80 Oregon Flight	2f	
17 Centurion	4c	*	81 Palacegate Jack	3g	
18 Changing Scene	2c		82 Race Promise	3f	
19 Check To Check	6m		83 Red Button	4f	
20 Chemcast	7g		84 Penny Lass	2f	
21 Chist	5h		85 Perpetual Pride	3c	
22 Civil Liberty	7g	*	86 Perupino Pearl	3f	
23 Chocolate Ice	7g		87 Pine Ridge Lad	10g	
24 Conдор Hero	3g		88 Pips Star	3f	
25 Da Boss	5g		89 Polo Venture	5g	*
26 Dark Menace	8g		90 Portland	3c	
27 Daunting Assembly	5m		91 Present Laughter	4c	
28 Days Of Thunder	12g		92 Prince Danzig	8g	
29 Desert North	3g		93 Princess Kall	3f	
30 Diamond Murphy	2f	*	94 Principle Account	4f	
31 Distinctly Chic	2f		95 Royal Fusilier	4g	*
32 Dvebandi	4g		96 Rule Of Thumb	3g	
33 Double Bang	3g		97 Running Bear	3g	*
34 Double Rush	3c		98 Russian Music	9g	
35 Double Vision	8g		99 Sings	5g	
36 Double Rainbow	3c		100 Sings Banks	2f	
37 Eastern Rainbow	4g		101 Scotty Guest	3c	
38 Eastwell Minstrel	5g		102 Service Star	3c	
39 Eshtiaal	6h		103 Shapour	3c	
40 Eurolink Moussaka	5g		104 Shotley Marie	5m	
41 Fast Buck	2c	*	105 Sign the Truce	2c	*
42 Flying Officer	4g		106 Space Race	6g	
43 Forest Friendly	3f		107 Spartan Heartbeat	7g	*
44 Frisky Fox	6m		108 Spring Anchor	5g	*
45 Full Circuit	4c		109 Sticks	2f	*
46 Get It Sorted	2f		110 Striding King	5g	*
47 Gibney's Flyer	2f		111 Sunset Shore	2f	*
48 Groesfaen	4f		112 Supreme Maimoon	6h	*
49 Gutteridge	10g		113 Sure To Dream	7m	*
50 Happy Hogan	3c		114 Swagger	4g	*
51 Hedge Park	3c		115 Tambourinaire	3g	*
52 High Carry	5m		116 The Fishes	8g	*
53 Importune	2c		117 To The Roof	3c	*
54 Inca Star	3c		118 Touch The Sky	8g	*
55 Inch Pincher	3c	*	119 Touch The Sky	3f	*
56 Insightful	3g		120 Vanborough Lad	11g	*
57 I Recall	9g		121 Vannucci	3g	*
58 Jonathan's Girl	5m	*	122 Venture Capitalist	11g	*
59 Katiymann	8g		123 Warrior King	6g	*
60 Keen Dancer	6g		124 Wild Flight	3g	*
61 King Of Truth	2g		125 Wild Thing	4c	*
62 Kranitor	3c		126 Woody's Boy	6g	*
63 Lamtansa	3c		127 Wurzel	3c	*
64 Legal Issue	8h				* 23 Total

Race Horse Deaths Flat/AW Season 2001

Killed On Racecourse Data Only - Total Season Deaths Unavailable

Horse	Age/Sex	Horse	Age/Sex
1 Blue Forest	3c	11 Jackerin	6g
2 Bodfari Anna	5m	12 Lord Harley	3g
3 Brainwave	3f	13 Misty Boy	4g
4 Court Express	7g	14 North Light	4g
5 Darra	4g	15 Secret Drop	4f
6 Jarramsan	3g	16 Shortain	8g
7 Jarramsan	3g	17 Solar Colours	3g
8 Force Of Destiny	3f	18 Vicious Circle	7g
9 Gama Pie	12g	19 York White	3f
10 Hoh Gem	5g		

Race Horse Deaths Flat/AW Season 2002

Killed On Racecourse Data Only - Total Season Deaths Unavailable

Horse	Age/Sex	Horse	Age/Sex
1 Applehayes	3f	14 Mental Pressure	9g
2 Black Weasel	7g	15 Mind The Silver	5g
3 Coshocton	3c	16 Premier Baron	7g
4 Dandilum	5g	17 Robandela	5g
5 Ellendune Girl	4f	18 Sardon Aratino	3g
6 Euro News	4c	19 Sarangani	6g
7 Givre	4g	20 Signy	9g
8 Glowing	5m	21 Theodora Falls	3f
9 Honduras	3g	22 Time Machine	3g
10 Happy Guest	5g	23 Tinsel Moon	5m
11 Honduras Park	3c	24 Welcome Gift	6g
12 In Disguise	3g	25 Zarzella	3f
13 Landrfin	7g		

Race Horse Deaths Flat/AW Season 2003

Killed On Racecourse Data Only - Total Season Deaths Unavailable

Horse	Age/Sex	Horse	Age/Sex
1 Akebono	7g	10 Look First	5g
2 Athenian	4g	11 Princess Tavery	2f
3 Beauchamp Rose	3f	12 Romantic Liason	3f
4 Bedazzled	3f	13 Royal Insult	5g
5 Curfew River	3g	14 Sun Of Speed	2c
6 Effervesce	5m	15 Tzar	4g
7 Ginger Jack	3g	16 Warm Hill	2c
8 Golden Brief	5g	17 Weet A Mo	5g
9 Guns At Dawn	2c	18 Ynyannon	5g



Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2000/2001

Racecourses highlighted in **bold** are where more than one horse was killed on the same day or at the same meeting

Horse	Jockey	Discipline	Trainer	Dist./Ob.	No. Runners	Course	Going	Date	A-W / OR	Cause/Death	Pos. in race
1	Tappeto	NovChase D	NovChase D	2.5m / 16 fnc	7 ran	NewtonAbb.	Good (G/S)	1-Jun-00	8-11-0 / -	Fell 5th	Fatal Fall
2	W Marston	NovChase E	NovChase E	2m / 11 fncs	6 ran	Folkestone	Folkestone	7-Jun-00	5-10-8 / -	Prominent	?
3	Flying Gilda	Lady Herries	Lady Herries	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	Good	11-Jun-00	6-10-7 / 80	Fell Last	Destroyed
4	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
5	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
6	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
7	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
8	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
9	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
10	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
11	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
12	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
13	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
14	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
15	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
16	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
17	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
18	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
19	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
20	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
21	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
22	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
23	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
24	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
25	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
26	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
27	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
28	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
29	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
30	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
31	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
32	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
33	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
34	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
35	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
36	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg
37	JA McCarthy	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	20 ran	Worcester	G/F (Good)	11-Jun-00	5-11-3 / 125	Weakning	Broke Leg

Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2000/2001 cont

38	High Topper	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2.5m / 10 hdl	Doncaster	Good	21-Feb-01	21-Feb-01	Fell 3rd	Fell 3rd	Fatal Fall
39	Golden Eagle	NovChase E	NovChase E	2.5m / 17 fnc	Ludlow	Good	21-Feb-01	21-Feb-01	Fell 14th	Fell 14th	Destroyed
40	Avallero	Chase H	Chase H	3.5m / 20 fnc	Warwick	Good	9-11-2 / -	9-11-2 / -	Mid-Division	Mid-Division	Fatal Fall
41	Young Kenny	Chase A	Chase A	3.5m / 22 fnc	Haydock	Soft	24-Feb-01	24-Feb-01	Challenging	Challenging	Lame
42	Corporation Pop	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2.5m / 12 hdl	Urtwoyer	Soft (Heavy)	10-11-10 / 150	10-11-10 / 150	Prominent	Prominent	PU after 10th
43	Dixie River	Chase F	Chase F	2.5m / 15 fnc	Leicester	Soft	27-Feb-01	27-Feb-01	Leading	Leading	Pelvic Injury
44	Buckside	NovChase E	NovChase E	2.5m / 16 fnc	Huntingdon	Soft	14-Mar-01	14-Mar-01	Weakning	Weakning	Br. Hind Leg
45	Tundra Spring	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m 1f	Muskelburgh	Soft	3-Apr-01	3-Apr-01	Finished 5th	Finished 5th	Heart Attack
46	The Outback Way	Chase B	Chase B	2.5m / 18 fnc	Aintree GN	G/F (Good)	4-10-12 / -	4-10-12 / -	PU 3f Out	PU 3f Out	Broke Leg
47	Carriganmon	NovChase D	NovChase D	2m / 12 fncs	Huntingdon	Soft (Heavy)	11-12-0 / 147	11-12-0 / 147	Prominent	Prominent	?
48	Sporting Way	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m / 10 hdl	Taunton	Good / Firm	8-10-8 / 92	8-10-8 / 92	Soft	Soft	?
49	Crisis	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m 1f	Worcester	Good / Firm	20-Apr-01	20-Apr-01	Leading	Leading	Broke Leg
	Mr A Honeyball	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m 1f	Worcester	Good / Firm	20-Apr-01	20-Apr-01	Leading	Leading	Broke Leg

NB: The Season 2000/2001 was severely affected by the foot and mouth disease outbreak. Many meetings in the National Hunt Racing Calendar were cancelled including the Cheltenham Festival. This accounts for the drop in death figures. However, in relation to the amount of days racing held, the toll was consistent with other seasons.



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Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2001/2002

Racecourses highlighted in **bold** are where more than one horse was killed on the same day or at the same meeting

Horse	Jockey	Discipline	Trainer	Dist/Ob	No. Runners	Course	Going	Date	A-W/ OR	Cause/Death	Pos. in race
1	Derrymore Mist	Chase F	Chase F	3.5m / 17fnc	13	Sedgefield	Good	4-May-01	4-May-01	Fell 11th	Fatal Fall
2	Bring Sweets	Hurdle A	Hurdle A	2m / 8 hds	23	Haydock	Good	5-May-01	5-May-01	Fell 7th	Died Night
3	Spontanenety	Hurdle G	Hurdle G	2m / 9 hds	18	Hereford	Good (G/F)	5-May-01	5-May-01	Mid-Division	?
4	Master Rocky	Chase H	Chase H	3m / 18 fncs	24	Wetherby	Good (G/F)	9-May-01	9-May-01	Behind	Fatal Fall
5	Mr M Clayton	WT Reed	WT Reed	2m / 18 fncs	16	Stratford	Good (G/F)	9-May-01	9-May-01	PU after 4th	Fatal Injury
6	Miss Alicia	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2m / 8 hds	13	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	23-May-01	23-May-01	PU after 7th	Fatal Injury
7	Stately Home	Chase D	Chase D	2.5m / 15fnc	4	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	23-May-01	23-May-01	Weakening	Broke Leg
8	Zolaran	NH Flat H	NH Flat H	2m 1.5f	18	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	23-May-01	23-May-01	Last	Fatal Fall
9	Second Helping	Chase F	Chase F	2m / 13 fncs	16	Market Rasen	Good / Firm	26-May-01	26-May-01	Prominent	Broke Leg
10	Polar Peer	Chase E	Chase E	2.5m / 16 fnc	16	Good	Good	28-May-01	28-May-01	Prominent	Fatal Fall
11	Our Ghillie	Chase D	Chase D	3.5m / 21fnc	5	Huntingdon	Good (G/F)	1-Jun-01	1-Jun-01	Leading	Br. Off Hind
12	Pekan Heights	Hurdle C	Hurdle C	2m / 9 hds	14	Stratford	G/F (Good)	2-Jun-01	2-Jun-01	Behind	Fatal Fall
13	Anthony Evans	Hurdle F	Hurdle F	2.5m / 10 hdl	14	Stratford	Good / Firm	2-Jun-01	2-Jun-01	Behind	Fatal Fall
14	Royal Then	Hurdle F	Hurdle F	3m / 12 hds	17	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	9-Jun-01	9-Jun-01	Weakening	Fatal Fall
15	Chase Night	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	2m / 8 hds	12	Good	Good	10-11-0 / 94	10-11-0 / 94	Mid-Division	Fatal Fall
16	Ahraydoublyou	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m / 8 hds	9	Good (G/F)	Good (G/F)	8-Jun-01	8-Jun-01	PU after 4th	Broke Leg
17	Lutine Bell	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2.5m / 16fnc	10	Stratford	Good / Firm	1-Jul-01	1-Jul-01	Challenged	Broke Leg
18	General Gleeson	Collingridge	Collingridge	3m / 12 hds	16	Worcester	Good / Firm	6-10-0 / 81	6-10-0 / 81	Leading	Fatal Fall
19	Eagle Canyon	Hurdle G	Hurdle G	2.5m / 10 hdl	17	Worcester	Good (G/F)	9-10-0 / 81	9-10-0 / 81	Finished 3rd	Heart Attack
20	Albright	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	15m / 10 hdl	15	Soft	Soft	8-11-0 / 75	8-11-0 / 75	Prominent	Broke Leg
21	Chergale	Chase F	Chase F	3m / 18 fncs	6	Sedgefield	Good (G/F)	26-Jul-01	26-Jul-01	PU/Collapsed	Heart Attack
22	Ruthampton	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	11m / 18 fncs	11	Stratford	Good (G/S)	11-Aug-01	11-Aug-01	Reached 6f	Heart Attack
23	Raymond's Lad	Hurdle F	Hurdle F	3m / 19 fncs	9	Good (G/S)	Good (G/S)	11-10-0 / 79	11-10-0 / 79	Prominent	Broke Leg
24	Mr Bombastique	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	3m / 10 hds	8	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	13-Aug-01	13-Aug-01	Disressed	Fatal Fall
25	Atlantic Charter	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2.5m / 10 hdl	7	Good (G/F)	Good (G/F)	14-Aug-01	14-Aug-01	Lame 7th	Died ?
26	Mr Bruno	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	3m / 12 hds	9	Good (G/F)	Good (G/F)	18-Aug-01	18-Aug-01	Prominent	?
27	Barton Heights	Hurdle F	Hurdle F	2m / 7 hds	15	NewtonAbb.	Good / Firm	8-10-5 / 72	8-10-5 / 72	StruckSelf	Sev. Tendon
28	Frontier Flight	Hurdle F	Hurdle F	2.5m / 11 hdl	6	Southwell	Good / Firm	9-9-9 / 80	9-9-9 / 80	Won	Heart Attack
29	Lynton Lad	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2.5m / 10 hdl	6	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	11-9-10 / 76	11-9-10 / 76	Fell 1st	Fatal Fall
30	Alten Grazed	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2m / 8 hds	16	Market Rasen	Good / Firm	1-Sep-01	1-Sep-01	WellPlaced?	?
31	Chick Brack	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2m / 9 hdl	2	Good / Firm	Good / Firm	9-10-12 / -	9-10-12 / -	Behind	Broke Leg
32	Common Man	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2.5m / 10 hdl	9	Good (G/F)	Good (G/F)	14-Sep-01	14-Sep-01	?	?
33	Caledonian Express	Hurdle G	Hurdle G	12m / 12 hdl	12	Soft	Soft	8-11-3 / 109	8-11-3 / 109	Blind, PU 4th	Broke Leg
34	Mountain Flyer	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 12 fncs	17	Plumpton	G/S (Good)	6-10-7 / 76	6-10-7 / 76	Collapsed	Heart Attack
35	Major Lando	Hurdle B	Hurdle B	2m / 8 hds	7	Plumpton	G/S (Good)	6-11-1 / 87	6-11-1 / 87	Behind	Fatal Fall
36	Doctor Goddard	NovHurdle C	NovHurdle C	2.5m / 16 fnc	9	Good	Good	4-11-1 / 119	4-11-1 / 119	Br. Leg Fin. +	Broke Leg
37	Solitary	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	3m / 12 hds	8	Market Rasen	Good	6-11-0 / -	6-11-0 / -	Weakening	Fatal Fall
	J Tizzard			11	G/S (Good)	G/S (Good)	4-10-11 / -	4-10-11 / -	Behind	Fatal Injury	

Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2001/2002 cont

38	Moonlight Invader	NovChase E	NovChase E	2.5m / 15 fnc	9	Huntingdon	Good	12-Oct-01	12-Oct-01	Fell 5th	Fatal Fall
39	Final Settlement	Hurdle C	Hurdle C	2m / 8 hds	5	Huntingdon	Good	12-Oct-01	12-Oct-01	PU after 5th	PU after 5th
40	Hariym	Hurdle C	Hurdle C	2m / 8 hds	5	Huntingdon	Good	12-Oct-01	12-Oct-01	Prominent	Prominent
41	Polar Star	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	2m / 12 fncs	7	Good	Good	25-Oct-01	25-Oct-01	Prominent	Fatal Injury
42	Relaxation	Chase E	Chase E	3m / 19 fncs	10	Ludlow	G/F (Good)	25-Oct-01	25-Oct-01	Prominent	Fatal Fall
43	Minioso	Chase D	Chase D	3m / 17 fncs	10	Cheltenham	Good (G/F)	30-Oct-01	30-Oct-01	Staying On	Broke Leg
44	Samba Sharply	NovHurdle F	NovHurdle F	2m / 9 hds	16	Good	Good	9-12-0 / 123	9-12-0 / 123	Fell 18th	Fatal Fall
45	Leila	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m / 18 fnc	8	Plumpton	G/S (Good)	3-Nov-01	3-Nov-01	Prominent	Fatal Fall
46	Son Gancho	Hurdle G	Hurdle G	3m / 17 fncs	18	NewtonAbb.	Soft	7-Nov-01	7-Nov-01	Fell Last	?
47	Thanks Keith	NovHurdle C	NovHurdle C	3m / 17 fncs	18	Haydock	G/S (Good)	18-Nov-01	18-Nov-01	Prominent	Fatal Fall
48	Blissful	Hurdle C	Hurdle C	2m / 9 hds	8	Good	Good	5-11-9 / 104	5-11-9 / 104	Prominent	?
49	Kaizen	Hurdle H	Hurdle H	2m 1f	21	Good (G/F)	Good (G/F)	6-11-4 / 118	6-11-4 / 118	Fell 3rd	Fatal Fall
50	Hai Hoo Yaroom	NovChase D	NovChase D	2.5m / 16 fnc	6	Good / Soft	Good / Soft	25-Nov-01	25-Nov-01	Finished 8th	Heart Attack
51	Smackwater Jack	NovChase E	NovChase E	3m / 19 fncs	6	Soft	Soft	8-10-12 / -	8-10-12 / -	Prominent	Fatal Fall
52	Robzeida	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	2m / 8 hds	6	Hexham	Soft	8-10-12 / -	8-10-12 / -	Finished 2nd	Heart Attack
53	Ice	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 9 hds	12	Soft (Heavy)	Soft (Heavy)	12-Dec-01	12-Dec-01	Collapsed	Heart Attack
54	Pedro Pete	Hurdle B	Hurdle B	2m / 9 hds	12	Good / Soft	Good / Soft	19-Dec-01	19-Dec-01	Finished 3rd	Heart Attack
55	Earls Seat	NovHurdle D	NovHurdle D	16m / 10 hdl	16	Good (G/S)	Good (G/S)	22-Dec-01	22-Dec-01	Prominent	Fatal Fall
56	Mixing Sides	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	5m / 9 hds	15	Haydock	Heavy (Soft)	4-10-0 / 126	4-10-0 / 126	Finished 12th	PD Next Day
57	Gold Stabette	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2m / 8 hds	17	Good / Soft	Good / Soft	6-10-12 / -	6-10-12 / -	Fell 2nd	Fatal Fall
58	Raise A Prince	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2m / 8 hds	17	Good / Soft	Good / Soft	10-1-4 / 95	10-1-4 / 95	PU after 8th	?
59	Bobstown	Hurdle B	Hurdle B	2m / 8 hds	17	Good / Soft	Good / Soft	9-Jan-02	9-Jan-02	Fell Last	Fatal Fall
60	Beggars Balin	Hurdle H	Hurdle H	2m 1f	14	Good (G/S)	Good (G/S)	17-Jan-02	17-Jan-02	Weakening	Broke Leg
61	Phil Sanders	Hurdle C	Hurdle C	3m / 19 fncs	5	Good (G/S)	Good (G/S)	8-11-0 / -	8-11-0 / -	Tailed Off	?
62	Kurakka	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	2.5m / 17 fnc	7	Good (G/S)	Good (G/S)	9-10-5 / 115	9-10-5 / 115	Behind	Fatal Fall
63	Sunshade	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	2.5m / 10 hdl	11	Wetherby	Good / Soft	21-Jan-02	21-Jan-02	Prominent	Broke Neck
64	Trute Pippin	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	2.5m / 9 hds	8	Good / Soft	Good / Soft	6-10-11 / 94	6-10-11 / 94	PU/Collapsed	Heart Attack
65	Red Imp	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2.5m / 12 hds	11	Good (G/S)	Good (G/S)	22-Jan-02	22-Jan-02	Challenged	Fatal Fall
66	Cash Account	Hurdle H	Hurdle H	2m / 12 fnc	8	Market Rasen	Soft (Heavy)	7-Feb-02	7-Feb-02	Fell 2nd	Broke Leg
67	Supreme Bramble	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	3m / 15 fncs	9	Soft (Heavy)	Soft (Heavy)	9-11-7 / -	9-11-7 / -	Collapsed	Fatal Fall
68	Freside Girl	NovHurdle E	NovHurdle E	2.5m / 11 hdl	22	Soft (Heavy)	Soft (Heavy)	16-Feb-02	16-Feb-02	Held Up	Heart Attack
69	Trump Appeal	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2m / 6 hds	15	Sedgefield	Soft (Heavy)	6-10-11 / -	6-10-11 / -	Weakening	Fatal Fall
70	Artist's Model	Hurdle E	Hurdle E	2m / 6 hds	15	Warwick	Soft (Heavy)	8-11-0 / 91	8-11-0 / 91	In 3rd Place	Fatal Injury
71	Misty Path	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	2m / 17 fnc	8	Ludlow	Heavy	4-10-12 / -	4-10-12 / -	Held Up	Fatal Fall
72	Park's Gesture	Hurdle C	Hurdle C	2m / 11 fncs	2	Ludlow	Good (G/S)	28-Feb-02	28-Feb-02	Behind	Fatal Fall
73	Pur Tressor	Hurdle F	Hurdle F	2.5m / 9 hds	18	Soft (Heavy)	Soft (Heavy)	5-12-2 / -	5-12-2 / -	Fell 7th	?
74	Knight Mite	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	3m / 16 fncs	8	Soft (Good)	Soft (Good)	8-10-11 / 85	8-10-11 / 85	Behind	Fatal Fall
75	L Cooper	Hurdle D	Hurdle D	3m / 16 fncs	8	Soft (Good)	Soft (Good)	6-Mar-02	6-Mar-02	Behind	Fatal Fall
76								7-Mar-02	7-Mar-02	Behind	Fatal Fall
								6-11-0 / -	6-11-0 / -		Fatal Fall

Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2001/2002 cont

Horse	Jockey	Discipline	Trainer	Dist./Ob.	No. Runners	Course	Going	Date	Pos.	Death
77 Leonato	JG Goldstein	NovHurdle E	Warwick	3m / 11hds	10	Good (G/S)	Soft	9-Mar-02	7	Finished 7th
78 Vairamix	AP McCoy	Hurdle A	Cheltenham	2m / 8 hds	15	Good (G/S)	Good	12-Mar-02	5	Sb after 6th
79 Roubale	T Aspell	Hurdle A	Cheltenham	2.5m / 10 hdl	2.5m / 10 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	6-12-01 / 167	167	Prominent
80 Mr R Biddiscombe	Mr R Biddiscombe	Hurdle B	Cheltenham	2.5m / 10 hdl	2.5m / 10 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	13-Mar-02	3	Slip after 3rd
81 Dancing Shiva	Mr R Biddiscombe	Hurdle B	Cheltenham	2.5m / 10 hdl	2.5m / 10 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	13-Mar-02	3	Behind
82 Too Cool	P Aspell	Hurdle D	Cheltenham	2.5m / 10 hdl	2.5m / 10 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	13-Mar-02	3	Behind
83 Otsuno	N Williamson	NovHurdle E	Warwick	3m / 11 hds	15	Good (G/S)	Soft	28-Mar-02	5	PU Lame 5th
84 Single Currency	Mr R Lucey-Butler	Hurdle C	Warwick	2.5m / 11 hdl	2.5m / 11 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	30-Mar-02	9	PU after 9th
85 Bell Bird	JA McCarthy	Hurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 11 hdl	2.5m / 11 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	30-Mar-02	9	Fell 6th
86 Primitive Herb	JA McCarthy	Hurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 11 hdl	2.5m / 11 hdl	Good (G/S)	Good	30-Mar-02	9	Prominent
87 On Air	A Ross	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	8-10-13 / 118	118	Outpaced
88 Deerert Mountain	DR Dennis	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	6-10-7 / 90	90	PU 10th
89 Avubis Orbus	MR L Stephens	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	1-Apr-02	5	Fell 5th
90 Manx Magic	G Supple	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	6-10-6 / 139	139	Fell 4th
91 The Last Fling	R McGrath	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	6-10-6 / 138	138	Fell 5th
92 Buddy Marvel	P Carberry	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	6-10-6 / 122	122	Fell 5th
93 Wishbone	Mr P Robson	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	9-9-7 / 134	134	Fell 5th
94 Pinouli	Mr JR Barlow	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	20-Apr-02	16	Leading
95 Treen Desert	A Dempsey	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	8-11-2 / -	-	Fell 14th
96 Stormin' Native	A Thornton	NovHurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 9 hds	2.5m / 9 hds	Good (G/S)	Good	23-Apr-02 / -	-	Mid-Division
								6-10-12 / -	-	Fell 8th
								7-11-11 / 125	125	Prominent



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Horse	Jockey	Discipline	Trainer	Dist./Ob.	No. Runners	Course	Going	Date	Pos.	Death
1 Silent Hunter	E Babington	NovHurdle E	Warwick	3.5m / 17 fnc	3.5m / 17 fnc	Plumpton	Good (G/F)	29-Apr-02	7	Fell 12th
2 Colette	C Honour	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 11 hdl	2.5m / 11 hdl	Good	Good (G/F)	6-10-9 / 62	62	Weakening
3 Just Lizzie	R Nixon	Hurdle B	Warwick	3m / 11 hds	3m / 11 hds	Haydock	Good	3-May-02	3	PU after 5th
4 Doydynamas	Dr Fritchard	Hurdle E	Warwick	3m / 12 hds	3m / 12 hds	Chepstow	Good	5-10-11 / 84	84	Weakening
5 Dudwell	R Walker	Hurdle D	Warwick	3m / 18 fnc	3m / 18 fnc	Good	Good (G/F)	4-May-02	3	Prominent
6 Native Affair	A Dobbins	Hurdle E	Warwick	2.5m / 10 hdl	2.5m / 10 hdl	Perth	Good (G/F)	9-5-11 / 128	128	Collapsed 8th
7 Forty Love	Miss T Clark	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	8-10-0 / 87	87	Fell 13th
8 Dream Of Nurmi	J Crowley	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	15-May-02	3	Weakening
9 Fiftysevenchannels	Miss A Armitage	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	8-11-2 / 103	103	Fell 7th
10 Spirit Of Love	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	16-May-02	3	Prominent
11 Magical Knight	A Evans	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-11-5 / -	-	Leading
12 Cootshill Boy	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	17-May-02	3	PU after 16th
13 Rockfaine Magic	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	8-10-8 / 113	113	Weakening
14 Call The Shots	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	5-Jun-02	3	Weakening
15 Sunuvugun	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	13-11-6 / -	-	Weakening
16 Mr Lamb	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	12-Jun-02	3	Fell 11th
17 Moor Hall Rock	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	12-Jun-02	3	Prominent
18 Piccadilly	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	4-10-8 / -	-	Fell 1st
19 Super Gran	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	15-Jun-02	3	Prominent
20 Windy Valley	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	8-10-9 / 84	84	Prominent
21 Storm Tiger	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	10-11-2 / -	-	PU after 7th
22 Reservoir	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-Jul-02	3	Behind
23 Special Present	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	13-10-11 / 84	84	Behind
24 Belle D'Orsini	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-Jul-02	3	PU after 13th
25 Miner's Gamble	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-Sep-02	3	Behind
26 Mutasarrif	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-10-10 / 73	73	Behind
27 My Baton	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-10-10 / -	-	Held Up
28 Susan Wintour	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	13-Sep-02	3	Fell 4th
29 Charter Ridge	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-11-0 / 69	69	Prominent
30 Kilmore	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	13-Sep-02	3	Fell Last
31 Ballyvaughan	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	7-11-1 / 79	79	Challenging
32 Its Time For A Win	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	15-Sep-02	3	PU 4f out
33 Silver Socks	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	4-10-13 / -	-	Destroyed
34 Littleton Brosses	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	15-Sep-02	3	PU after 6th
35 Mister Wellard	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	9-11-2 / 93	93	Prominent
36 Beethoven	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	3-Oct-02 / 95	95	Fell 6th
37 Bneya	G Lee	Hurdle G	Warwick	2.5m / 15fnc	2.5m / 15fnc	Perth	Good (G/F)	4-Oct-02 / 95	95	PU after 11th
								4-10-13 / -	-	Lame ruin
								6-Oct-02	3	Won
								7-11-1 / 122	122	Fell 6th
								21-Oct-02	3	Challenging
								5-10-0 / 77	77	Fell 2nd
								24-Oct-02	3	Fell 8th
								9-10-10 / 78	78	Prominent
								26-Oct-02	3	UR 14th
								7-11-5 / 102	102	Challenging
								28-Oct-02	3	HpPUaf12hd
								5-10-12 / -	-	?
								2-Nov-02	3	HpPUaf13th
								9-10-10 / 21	21	Prominent
								9-10-10 / 21	21	Collapsed 9th
								8-10-13 / 87	87	Behind
								9-Nov-02	3	Fell 15th
								7-10-3 / 122	122	Prominent
								16-Nov-02	3	Fell 13th
								10-10-9 / 140	140	Mid-Division
								16-Nov-02	3	Blind 11th PU
								5-11-12 / 110	110	Prominent
								24-Nov-02	3	Blind 6th PU
								3-10-12 / -	-	Behind
								6-Dec-02	3	PU after 5th
								7-Dec-02	3	Prominent
								6-11-3 / 123	123	Collapsed
								5-10-7 / -	-	Finished 5th
								5-10-7 / -	-	PU after 4th
								5-10-7 / -	-	Prominent

Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2003/2004 cont

38	Scotmail Park J Crowley	NovHurdle E	2m / 7 hds	11-Nov-03	Sedgefield	Fatal Fall
39	Sharp Steel N Feilly	GM Moore	15 ran	4-10-12 / -	G/F (Good)	Behind
40	O'Carroll N Feilly	NovChase D	2m / 13 fncs	13-Nov-03	Ludlow	Fatal Fall
41	Brother Joe R Johnson	NovChase D	2m / 13 fncs	9-11-12 / 82	Firm (G/F)	Challenging
42	Poliantas R Johnson	NovChase B	2.5m / 15 fnc	9-10-11 / 97	Firm (G/F)	Fell Last
43	Formal Bid N Feilly	NovChase C	2.5m / 15 fnc	15-Nov-03	Cheekenhm.	Fell 14th
44	Kippinour J Tizzard	NovChase C	3m / 17 fncs	9-11-7 / 143	Cheekenhm.	Br-Shoulder
45	Red Halo S Durack	NovChase C	3m / 17 fncs	15-Nov-03	Cheekenhm.	Heart Attack
46	Intelligent RM Power	Chase B	3m / 22 fnc	16-Nov-03	Haydock	Runn. Loose
47	Max Pride B Hitchcott	Chase D	3.5m / 22 fnc	6-11-0 / -	NovHurdle E	Broke Leg
48	Goodtime George R Johnson	NovChase B	3m / 19 fncs	22-Nov-03	Huntingdon	Fatal Fall
49	Murphy Verdict R Johnson	NovChase B	3m / 15 fnc	11-11-1 / 99	Warwick	Fatal Fall
50	Xtra L Aspell	NovHurdle A	2m / 9 hds	25-Nov-03	Sandown	Fatal Fall
51	Lozzy Lee T Scudamore	NovHurdle E	2.5m / 10 hdl	5-Dec-03	Warwick	Br. Hind Leg
52	Mohawk Brave JP McNamara	NovHurdle E	3.5m / 12 hdl	12-Dec-03	Cheekenhm.	?
53	Easy Tiger S Durack	Hurdle G	2m / 10 hds	7-11-5 / -	Cheekenhm.	Fatal Fall
54	Sloane Street K Prendergast	Hurdle E	3m / 12 hds	19-Dec-03	Asot	?
55	Take Control P Miloney	Chase A	3.5m / 22 fnc	5-11-0 / -	Good (G/F)	Fatal Fall
56	Benrajan JP Byrne	Chase A	3.5m / 22 fnc	20-Dec-03	Hereford	Fatal Fall
57	Beer Genius S Durack	NovChase C	2m / 19 fncs	5-11-0 / -	G/S (Soft)	Fatal Fall
58	Jazz Duke PJ Brennan	Chase F	3.5m / 15 fnc	26-Dec-03	Huntingdon	Fatal Fall
59	Dextra Lighting CL Tizzard	NovHurdle E	3m / 12 hds	5-10-12 / -	Uttoxeter	Fatal Fall
60	Gunner Dream R McGrath	NovChase D	3m / 18 fncs	26-Dec-03	Good / Soft	Broke Leg
61	Anglena Ballerina T Greenway	NovChase E	3m / 18 fncs	5-10-12 / -	Haydock	?
62	Another Moose B Fenton	Hurdle A	3m / 11 hds	29-Dec-03	Warwick	?
63	Shooting Light AP McCoy	Chase A	3m / 19 fncs	10-Jan-04	Warwick	Broke Neck
64	Miss Cool AP McCoy	NovChase D	2.5m / 17 fnc	10-Jan-04	Warwick	?
65	Premier Generation C Dayman	Chase E	2m / 12 fncs	10-Jan-04	Warwick	?
66	Yorkshire Miss C Milne	Hurdle G	2m / 7 hds	11-11-9 / 158	Good (G/S)	?
67	Yorkshire D Grosse	Hurdle D	2m / 8 hds	8-11-2 / -	Good (G/S)	?
68	Benbecula JA McCarthy	NovChase D	2.5m / 16 fnc	19-Jan-04	Plumpton	Exhaustion
69	Sumthynne Special L Berridge	Hurdle F	2.5m / 11 hdl	11-10-2 / 69	Soft (Heavy)	Died Later
70	Badger Beer Mr N Mitchell	Chase H	3m / 20 fncs	23-Jan-04	Chepstow	?
71	Eye Of The Tiger B Harding	NovChase E	2.5m / 17 fnc	11-10-2 / 76	Carlsruhe	Fatal Fall
72	Tardar E Cooper	Hurdle A	3m / 13 hds	6-10-8 / 75	Towcester	Died Later
73	Atlastaboy Mr G Elliott	Chase B	4m / 24fncs	28-Feb-04	Kempton	Broke Down
74	Miss Baitwick Mrs G Scudamore	Chase B	2.2m / 24fncs	9-11-4 / 120	Good	Br-Shoulder
75	El Hombre W Marston	Chase F	3m / 19fncs	11-11-12 / 150	Ludlow	Heart Attack
76	Remembrance D Flavin	Hurdle E	2m / 8 hds	8-11-2 / -	Good (G/F)	BD Fatally

Race Horse Deaths National Hunt NH Season 2003/2004 cont

77	Tiger Tops Brian Murphy	Hurdle E	2m / 8 hds	19-Mar-04	Fakenham	PU 4th
78	Cool Investment A Honeyball	Hurdle E	12 ran	5-11-2 / -	Good / Soft	Held Up
79	The Proof Best	Hurdle E	3.5m / 13 hdl	22-Mar-04	Hereford	PU 11th
80	Del MA Fitzgerald	NovChase B	2m / 6 hds	7-11-7 / 103	Good / Soft	Prominent
81	Diann Righ G Lee	NovChase B	3.5m / 17 fncs	23-Mar-04	Exeter	Held Up
82	Marmaduke TJ Murphy	NovChase B	6 ran / 17 fncs	24-Mar-04	G/S (Good)	Fell 1st
83	Solway Breeze F King	NovChase E	3.5m / 21 fnc	10-11-3 / 99	G/S (Good)	Fell 1st
84	Under The Sand TJ Murphy	NovChase E	7 ran	30-Mar-04	G(S)(G/F)	Fatal Fall

* Trained in England, ran and killed in Ireland
 ** Ran under the name 'Investment Force'
 *** Trained in Germany, ran and killed in England

National Hunt Deaths - Breakdown of Race Types/Seasons

	Season 2000/2001	Season 2001/2002	Season 2002/2003	Season 2003/2004	Seasons Total
National Hunt Flat:	4	6	4	1	15
Novice Hurdle:	10	22	20	12	64
Hurdle:	11	29	21	27	88
Novice Chase:	13	29	10	9	79
Chase:	13	29	21	23	96
Totals:	49	96	76	84	305



National Hunt Racecourses Where Deaths Occurred

Listed in order of most dangerous for each season.

NH Season 2000/2001 26 Courses where deaths occurred

Course	Horse Deaths	Days racing	Horse Deaths	Days racing
1 Ayr	2	7	16	6
2 Musselburgh	2	7	17	6
3 Taunton	3	11	18	14
4 Warwick	3	11	19	8
5 Newton Abbot	4	15	20	8
6 Leicester	4	8	21	8
7 Sedgfield	3	12	22	10
8 Market Rasen	4	17	23	10
9 Cheltenham	2	9	24	15
10 Fakenham	2	9	25	1
11 Ludlow	3	9	26	1
12 Worcester	3	14	26	1
13 Cartmel	1	5	26	1
14 Haydock	2	10	26	1
15 Folkestone	2	11	26	1

Mean Deaths to Days Racing: 20.2
 * Information unavailable on all meetings
 ** No longer a National Hunt course

NH Season 2001/2002 33 Courses where deaths occurred

Course	Horse Deaths	Days racing	Horse Deaths	Days racing
1 Aintree	5	6	19	10
2 Stratford	8	17	20	10
3 Haydock	4	8	21	10
4 Fakenham	3	9	22	6
5 Huntingdon	6	18	23	18
6 Market Rasen	6	18	24	14
7 Worcester	4	12	25	9
8 Sedgfield	4	19	26	16
9 Plumpton	5	16	27	8
10 Cheltenham	4	13	28	9
11 Ludlow	4	13	29	10
12 Folkestone	3	10	30	10
13 Warwick	3	11	31	11
14 Perth	3	12	32	12
15 Ascot	2	9	33	15
16 Bangor	2	9	33	15
17 Wetherby	3	14	33	15
18 Ayr	2	10	33	15

Mean Deaths to Days Racing: 24.3

NH Season 2002/2003 33 Racecourses where deaths occurred

Course	Horse Deaths	Days racing	Horse Deaths	Days racing
1 Carlisle	4	9	19	12
2 Cheltenham	7	16	20	13
3 Aintree	2	6	21	13
4 Exeter	5	16	22	16
5 Doncaster	2	7	23	9
6 Fontwell	5	18	24	10
7 Market Rasen	5	18	25	10
8 Ascot	2	8	26	10
9 Stratford	4	16	27	10
10 Wincanton	3	13	28	11
11 Warwick	2	9	29	14
12 Cartmel	1	5	30	17
13 Hexham	3	15	31	17
14 Sandown	2	10	32	19
15 Plumpton	2	15	33	20
16 Sandown	2	10	33	20
17 Cheltenham	2	12	33	20
18 Perth	2	12	33	20

Mean Deaths to Days Racing: 18.3

NH Season 2003/2004 30 Racecourses where deaths occurred

Course	Horse Deaths	Days racing	Horse Deaths	Days racing
1 Cheltenham	8	16	18	15
2 Warwick	4	6	19	15
3 Wetherby	8	18	20	17
4 Huntingdon	7	19	21	17
5 Ludlow	5	14	22	18
6 Cartmel	2	6	23	18
7 Kempton	3	11	24	10
8 Cheltenham	3	13	25	11
9 Fakenham	2	9	26	11
10 Sedgfield	4	18	27	12
11 Kelso	3	14	28	16
12 Hereford	3	15	29	16
13 Haydock	2	11	30	1
14 Plumpton	2	14	30	1
15 Towcester	2	14	30	1

Mean Deaths to Days Racing: 20.9
 * British Trained Horse Killed Abroad

Deaths to Days Racing NH Seasons 2000/2001 through to 2003/2004:

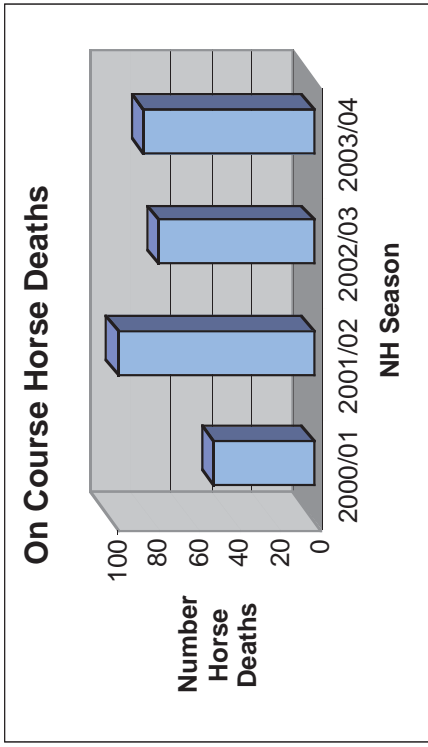
Horses: 305
 Days Racing: 1455
Total Mean: 20.9

It can be seen from comparing the Total Mean figure with the 2003/2004 Season Mean figure that deaths are consistent and not reducing on British Racecourses.

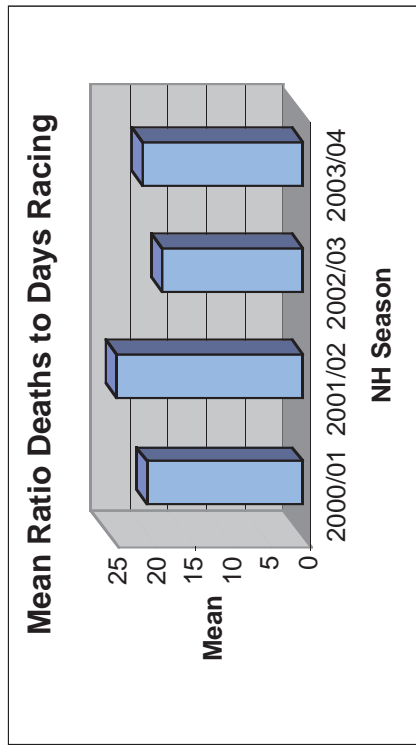


Graphs displaying On Course Horse Deaths as Numbers and as a Mean in relation to Deaths to Number of Days Racing

Season 2000/01 2001/02 2002/03 2003/04
 Deaths 49 96 76 84



Season 2000/01 2001/02 2002/03 2003/04
 Mean 20.2 24.3 18.3 20.9



The Mean Ratio Deaths to Days Racing graph indicates the consistency of deaths over the past four seasons. This highlights that nothing relevant is being done by the racing industry to lower the death rate of horses on British racecourses.

NH Racecourses that have killed Horses in relation to total days racing from Seasons 2000/2001 to 2003/2004

Courses are listed according to how dangerous they are, with the most hazardous first.

Course	Horse Deaths	Days racing	Deaths per 100 days racing
1 Cheltenham	21	54	38.89
2 Aintree	8	25	32
3 Warwick	12	39	30.77
4 Carlisle	10	34	29.41
5 Worcester	16	58	27.59
6 Ludlow	13	49	26.58
7 Market Rasen	17	70	24.29
8 Fakenham	8	35	22.86
9 Huntingdon	15	66	22.73
10 Cartmel	4	18	22.22
11 Haydock	9	41	21.95
12 Sedgefield	14	69	20.29
13 Stratford	12	61	19.67
14 Chepstow	8	43	18.6
15 Plumpton	10	56	17.86
16 Kempton	7	41	17.07
17 Perth	8	48	16.67
18 Folkestone	6	40	15
19 Newton Abbot	10	67	14.93
20 Ascot	5	34	14.71
21 Hexham	7	48	14.58
22 Southwell	6	44	13.64
23 Exeter	8	59	13.56
24 Ayr	5	37	13.5
25 Taunton	6	46	13.04
26 Catterick	3	24	12.5
27 Fontwell	8	65	12.31
28 Bangor	5	39	11.63
29 Doncaster	3	28	10.71
30 Wetherby	6	58	10.34
31 Hereford	6	59	10.17
32 Kelso	4	43	9.3
33 Wincanton	5	55	9.09
34 Sandown	3	36	8.33
35 Musselburgh	2	25	8
36 Towcester	3	38	7.89
37 Leicester	2	34	5.88
37 Uttoxeter	4	68	5.88
39 Newcastle	2	37	5.41
40 Newbury	1	38	2.63
Total & Mean	302	1829	16.51

There are currently 41 National Hunt courses. Lingfield has been omitted from this list due to not racing through four seasons, with only seven days racing in total. Therefore, accurate analysis of the course cannot be made. However, deaths do occur there, with Felixdotcom being a recent example.

Horse Deaths Range: 20
Deaths/100 Days Racing Range: 36.26

The wide numerical range clearly indicates the extremes that horses face at different racecourses. Any mathematical data with similar range from a mere sample of 40 (in this case the number of courses) shows instability and problems with the structure where the ultimate goal would be zero in deaths and range. Clearly, the courses at the top of the list would benefit, from a best practice point of view, by looking at those at the lower end. To see at the bottom should, in turn, look to achieve a zero rating.



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