

The Grand National Meeting: Facts and Figures 2025

A total of **67 horses** have been killed as a result of racing at the three-day Grand National Meeting since the year 2000. Of these:

- **17 horses** have been killed in the main Grand National Race
- **21 horses** have been killed on the Grand National course in other races held during the three-day Grand National Meeting
- **29 horses** have been killed on the Mildmay course during the Grand National Meeting

NB The Grand National Meeting was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19.

• Animal Aid's **list of all horses who have died at the Grand National Meeting** since 2000, including their details, can be viewed at: <https://www.animalaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/AA-GN-Deaths-List-Chart-2000-to-2024-amended-16-April-2024.pdf>

• In 2007, Animal Aid launched **Race Horse Death Watch** – the only public record of the names and details of horses who were killed on all British racecourses, compiled by Animal Aid's meticulous research. www.horsedeathwatch.com

Animal Aid is calling for a ban on jump (National Hunt) racing as a consequence of the huge death toll – see www.animalaid.org.uk/BanJumpRacing

Additional background notes for Editors:

- Animal Aid has been at the forefront of exposing, and campaigning against, the racing industry for more than two decades. <https://www.animalaid.org.uk/the-issues/our-campaigns/horse-racing/ban-the-grand-national/>
- In 2021, Animal Aid's undercover footage from a UK abattoir that slaughters horses featured exclusively in the BBC Panorama programme entitled The Dark Side of Horseracing. The programme showed that horses, including horses from the British and Irish racing industries, were being slaughtered for their meat. As a result of the programme, the British Horseracing Authority introduced regulations that make it compulsory for any horse racing in Britain to be signed out of the food chain. Animal Aid wants the government to go further and to introduce limits on the numbers of horses who can be produced, because this will result in fewer unwanted horses. One of the horses featured in the programme was top race horse Vyta Du Roc, who was killed for his meat. For more information visit: www.animalaid.org.uk/horse-slaughter

Contact Animal Aid's Horseracing Consultant, Dene Stansall, for comments or further information: 07780 756957.

Dene has been the Horse Racing Consultant to Animal Aid for almost 20 years. His work has involved lecturing the RSPCA's Scientific, Technical and Academic Committee, as well as Parliament's All-Party Group for Animal Welfare. He has advised both Oxford and Eastbourne Councils on the viability of proposals for Horse Drawn Carriages on public roads. He is a joint author of an academic book titled 'Contemporary Issues in Sport Management' with a specific reference to animals used in sport. On a routine basis he is an invitational lecturer to Post-graduate Master of Science Degree students who are seeking careers in the equine industry. He is also regularly called upon to advise undergraduates on dissertation subject matters relating to horses. His research and opinions are routinely sought by national newspapers, radio and TV broadcasters and by specialist horse magazines. Media and equine specialists from all parts of the world are also increasingly seeking his views.