



Dear Trainer,

We are contacting you regarding the enhanced medical and veterinary process for the **2024 Aintree Grand National Handicap Steeple Chase**, which applies to all horses entered in the race.

You are receiving this information because you have a horse entered and we wanted to provide specific guidance about the information that is required, and how and when it should be submitted. **This is set out in full on the pages below.**

The process will be the same as last year, when new enhanced pre-race veterinary protocols were introduced to help us work with you and your teams to identify, discuss, and seek to resolve any potential veterinary issues well in advance of raceday.

As with last year, the relevant medical and veterinary information must be submitted using the [Equine MediRecord](#) (EMR) online system. Some trainers will be familiar with EMR, but for those who haven't used it before, the EMR team will be available to provide the necessary support.

The team at EMR will contact you by Wednesday 7 February to provide you with login details and your profile, as well as a video guide to submitting the necessary medical information for your horses. Please note that if you have already been allocated an EMR login as part of the 2024 Cheltenham Medication Declarations process, you will be able to use this to access your account.

If you do not receive an email from EMR by the Wednesday 7 February, or if you require any assistance with any stage of the process, please contact:

- **Email:** [info@equinemedirecord.com](mailto:info@equinemedirecord.com)
- **Phone:** +44 (0) 7469 131861 (UK) or +353 (0) 86 409 2584 (Ireland)

Please note that the proper completion and submission of the forms by the times and dates specified in the guide below is a **requirement of the Rules of Racing** and failure to do so will result in the respective horse being **ineligible to run**.

As in recent years, trainers will also be required to provide medical documentation in advance of raceday for all horses entered in the **Randox Foxhunters' Open Handicap Steeple Chase** and the **Randox Topham Handicap Steeple Chase**. Trainers with horses entered in these races will be contacted with more details on the information required once entries for those races have closed.

On the morning of the race, all runners must be submitted for inspection by BHA Veterinary Officers in the racecourse stables.

We want to thank you in advance for your assistance, cooperation, and positive engagement with these processes, which are designed to help us continually improve the sport's safety record and prevent avoidable risk.

Kind regards,

**James Given BVetMed MRCVS**  
**Director of Equine Regulation, Safety and Welfare**  
British Horseracing Authority  
Holborn Gate, 26 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AN



## **Aintree Grand National Festival 2024 – Medication Declaration Requirements**

### **GRAND NATIONAL**

The medication declaration process for the Grand National Handicap Steeple Chase has **three phases**, with **three deadlines** to be met before the race. All forms should be completed using the [Equine MediRecord](#) (EMR) online system. The team at EMR will provide a video guide alongside your login and will be available throughout the process to provide any assistance.

#### **PHASE 1 – Grand National Pre-Stage Forms – Due **midday (GMT) Tuesday 20 February****

- The **Grand National Pre-Stage Vet Form** needs to include:
  - A **vet report** from your home veterinarian with any treatment or procedure that the horse has had in the previous 12 months (since 20 February 2023) and an assessment of the horse's suitability to race, including auscultation of the heart and an assessment of soundness.
  - **One supporting video** of the horse trotting in a straight line on a firm and level surface for approximately 25 metres, away from and then towards the camera after exercise (i.e., warmed up).
- The **Grand National Pre-Stage Medical Form** covers any medication given to the horse in the preceding 6 weeks (since 9 January 2024), and any long-acting medication\* given to the horse in the preceding 6 months (since 20 August 2023).

Both the Grand National Pre-Stage Vet Form and the Grand National Pre-Stage Medical Form must be submitted by **midday on Tuesday 20 February 2024** (the day weights are published). The forms will be available to fill in from Tuesday 6 February 2024 once entries have closed.

\* Long-acting medications include all **joint medications** and **bisphosphonates**, and any **non-steroidal anti-inflammatories**.

#### **PHASE 2 – Medical Form 1 and Veterinary Form – Due **midday (GMT) Tuesday 26 March****

- **Medical Form 1** covers any medication given since the deadline of the Grand National Pre-Stage Medical Form (i.e., any medication given since 20 February 2024).
- The **Veterinary Form** needs to include:
  - A **further vet report** from your home veterinarian with any treatment or procedure the horse has had since the deadline of Grand National Pre-Stage Vet Form (i.e., any treatment or procedure since 20 February 2024), and a further assessment of the horse's suitability to race, including auscultation of the heart and an assessment of soundness.
  - A **second supporting video** recorded in the same way as the first submission.

Both Medical Form 1 and the Veterinary Form must be submitted by **midday on Tuesday 26 March 2024** (the second forfeit stage). The forms will be available to fill in from Tuesday 20 February once the deadline for the Grand National Pre-Stage Forms has passed.



**PHASE 3 – Medical Form 2 – Due 6pm (GMT) Friday 12 April (i.e., the night before the race)**

- Medical Form 2 covers any medication given since the deadline of Medical Form 1 (i.e., any medication given since 26 March 2024)

Medical Form 2 must be submitted by 6pm on **Friday 12 April 2024**, which is the evening before the race. The form will be available to fill in from Tuesday 26 March once the deadline for Medical Form 1 has passed.

If you have any questions regarding the Medication Declaration Process for the Grand National, or if you do not receive an email with your login, please contact the team at EMR at:

- **Email:** [info@equinemedirecord.com](mailto:info@equinemedirecord.com)
- **Phone:** +44 (0) 7469 131861 (UK) or +353 (0) 86 409 2584 (Ireland)