

Cheltenham Festival Handicap Qualification

Ahead of the closing date for handicap entries at the Cheltenham Festival on Tuesday, 18th February, the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) has issued two clarifications regarding eligibility criteria:

Run Requirements

The stipulation that horses must have completed at least four runs (chases) or five runs (hurdles) to qualify for non-novice handicap races at The Festival applies to **both novice and non-novice horses**.

Deadline for Meeting Run Requirements

Horses entered into any handicap race at The Festival must meet the required number of chase or hurdle runs **by Sunday, 23rd February**, inclusive of any races on that date, ahead of the publication of race weights on Tuesday, 25th February.

For the avoidance of doubt, both points are included where relevant in the race conditions for handicap races at the 2025 Cheltenham Festival.

For further information please contact the BHA Racing Department on 0207 152 0050 or via racing@britishhorseracing.com