


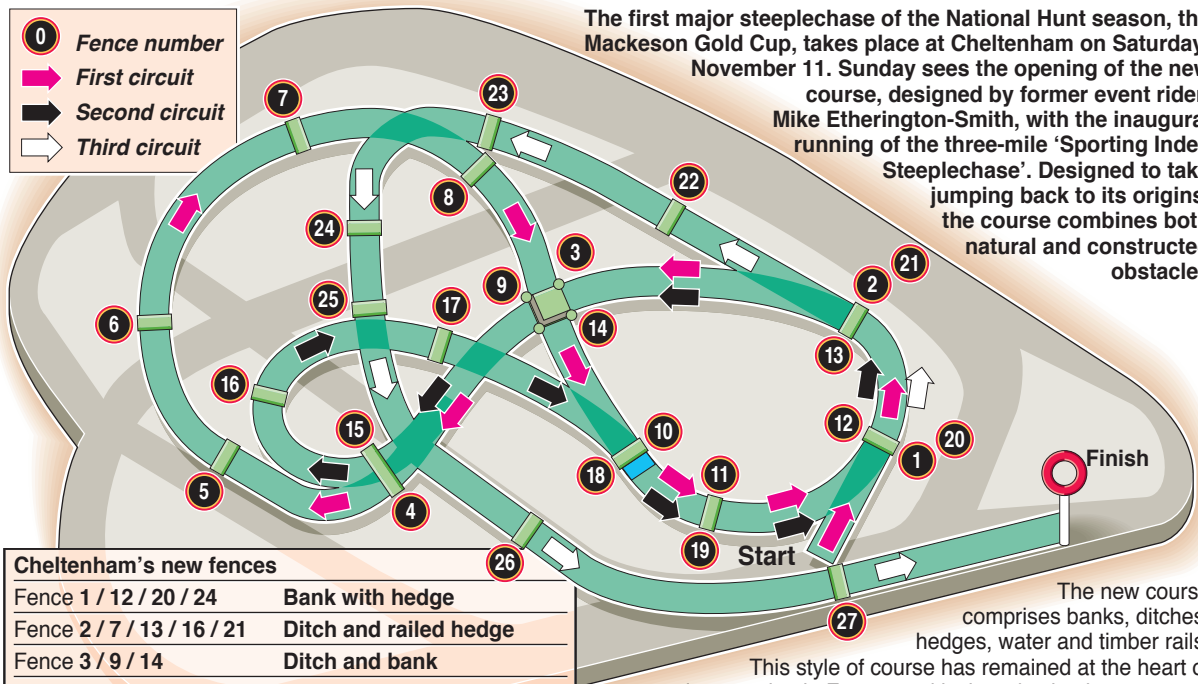


Cheltenham's 'Spaghetti Junction' to test horse and rider

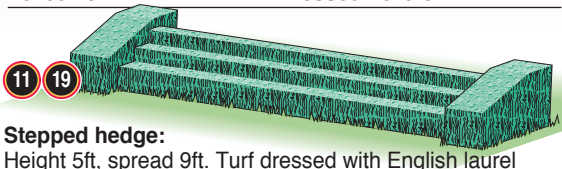
- 0** Fence number
-  First circuit
-  Second circuit
-  Third circuit



The first major steeplechase of the National Hunt season, the Mackeson Gold Cup, takes place at Cheltenham on Saturday, November 11. Sunday sees the opening of the new course, designed by former event rider, Mike Etherington-Smith, with the inaugural running of the three-mile 'Sporting Index Steeplechase'. Designed to take jumping back to its origins, the course combines both natural and constructed obstacles

Cheltenham's new fences

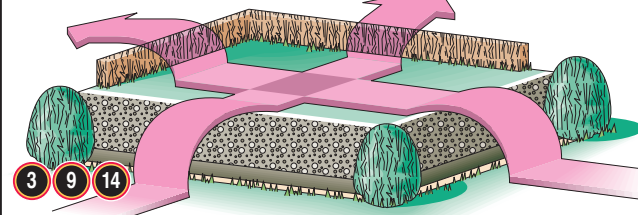
Fence 1 / 12 / 20 / 24	Bank with hedge
Fence 2 / 7 / 13 / 16 / 21	Ditch and railed hedge
Fence 3 / 9 / 14	Ditch and bank
Fence 4 / 15	Ditch and bank
Fence 5	Timber rails
Fence 6	Railed hedge
Fence 8	Railed hedge
Fence 10 / 18	Rails and water
Fence 11 / 19	Stepped hedge
Fence 17	Ditch and boarded hedge
Fence 22	Birch island fence
Fence 23	'Aintree' – birch and spruce
Fence 25	Double bank with hedges
Fence 26 / 27	Dressed hurdle



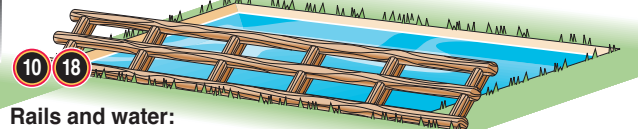
Stepped hedge:

Height 5ft, spread 9ft. Turf dressed with English laurel

The new course comprises banks, ditches, hedges, water and timber rails. This style of course has remained at the heart of jump racing in France and its introduction has attracted an entry from this year's *Pardubice* winner, *It's A Snip*



Ditch and bank: Height 3'6", spread 39ft. Cotswold stone step, bordered with English laurel. Fence jumped from both directions according to circuit of course



Rails and water:

Height 2'6", spread 10ft. Timber fence.