

Rivals to battle for Cheltenham Gold Cup glory

The ever-popular Kauto Star is set to race for a hat-trick of Gold Cup victories after recovering from an untimely schooling fall – while favourite Long Run, who is five years younger, will bid for back-to-back titles



KAUTO STAR

Born: France, 2000

Trainer: Paul Nicholls

Owner: Clive Smith

Jockey: Ruby Walsh

Starts: 40 **Wins:** 23

Seconds: 7 **Thirds:** 4

Earnings: £2,375,883

Major races won

Cheltenham Gold Cup (2007, 09)

King George VI Chase (2006, 07, 08, 09, 11)

Betfair Chase (2006, 07, 09, 11)

Tingle Creek (2005, 06)

LONG RUN

Born: France, 2005

Trainer: Nicky Henderson

Owner: Robert Waley-Cohen

Jockey: Sam Waley-Cohen

Starts: 21 **Wins:** 13

Seconds: 5 **Thirds:** 3

Earnings: £1,209,737

Major races won

Cheltenham Gold Cup (2011)

King George VI Chase (2010)

Beat Nicholls' pair Kauto Star and Denman in 2011 Gold Cup