

New safety features for Grand National

Following another false start and the deaths of two horses in 2012, a raft of new safety measures have been implemented for this year's renewal



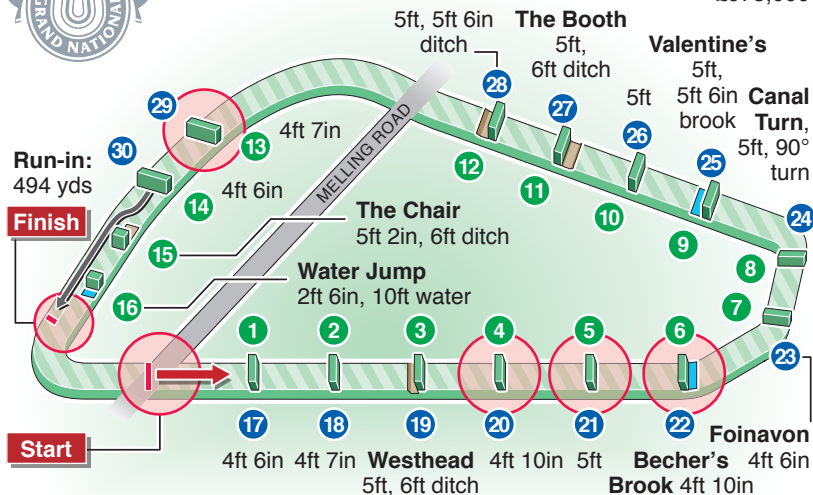
Race distance: Start tape moved by 90 yards, further away from crowd noise and to reduce speed to first fence. Overall length now 4 miles 3½ furlongs

● **First circuit**

● **Second circuit**

Prize money:

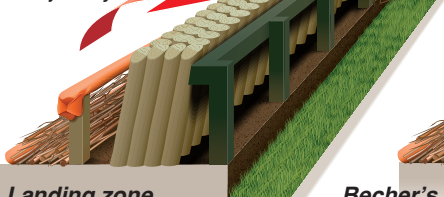
£975,000



FENCE CONSTRUCTION:

Traditional timber frame replaced by fronds of "plastic birch" to reduce injuries to horses and jockeys

Inner plastic core covered with spruce to depth of 14-16in



Landing zone

Levelled at fences 4, 5, and 13, notoriously tricky jumps

Becher's Brook: Further levelling to reduce drop, following changes in 2011. Becher's has claimed more fatalities than any other fence