

# 'ALEX BIRD' TIPPING CHALLENGE 2026

The prestigious Alex Bird Trophy returns in 2026, kicking off at Cheltenham Festival in March. Please make sure your 2026 membership fee is paid before using your 'e-voucher' as an entry fee.

This year, the competition is once again sponsored by the **Racing Post**, who have generously contributed a 12-month Ultimate Membership—valued at £499—as an additional prize for the overall winner.

The 2026 competition will once again follow a condensed four-month schedule, beginning in March with the Cheltenham Festival, in line with tradition. In April, the action moves to Aintree for the Grand National Meeting, before shifting to the flat in May with the Chester May Festival. The series will culminate in June at Royal Ascot, which will serve as the grand finale of the competition.

1. The points will be awarded based on winning and placed horses, with additional bonus points potentially awarded according to starting prices. Full details of the scoring system can be found in the official rules at [www.northernracingclub.com](http://www.northernracingclub.com).
2. The participant with the highest cumulative score across all four rounds will be crowned the overall winner and awarded the prestigious Alex Bird Trophy, held for a period of 12 months.
3. Entries for all races on a given day must be received before the start of the first race. Submissions can be made via e-mail, text, or WhatsApp.
4. Entrants who are on holiday or otherwise unavailable may nominate a substitute to submit entries on their behalf.
5. The entry fee for 2026 remains unchanged at £10, covering all four rounds. All entry fees will be added directly to the prize fund.
6. Participants may submit up to two entries. Each entry will be scored independently.
7. Cash prizes will be awarded to the overall competition winner as well as the winner of each individual round. The overall winner is expected to receive a minimum of £100, while each round winner will receive at least £50. Final prize amounts will be confirmed once the total number of entries is known. In 2025, strong participation enabled the awarding of additional bonus prizes, and similar extras will be offered again in 2026 if entry levels allow.

*Please Note: All cash prizes will be remitted to the winners via direct bank payments.*

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## **ALEX BIRD COMPETITION 2026 – ENTRY FORM**

Name.....Address.....

Phone/EMail.....

If you're entering online, please email your contact details to Mark Banks at [zafonic93@gmail.com](mailto:zafonic93@gmail.com).

1. If you're using an 'e-voucher' please provide your membership number in the space below:  
NMRC Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_
2. To send an online banking payment please send to North & Midlands Racing Club ~ Sort Code: 16-30-32 ~ Account: 10139594 ~ Ref: Alex Bird.
3. To send a cheque please also enclose your entry fee of £10 per entry (cheques payable to North & Midlands Racing Club) and post to NMRC at 68 Mostyn Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 5HT. Please enclose a SAE if you require a paper copy of the rules.

If you are making a double entry for yourself, you can still claim your 'e voucher' and pay for entry two as per the above options. **NB Please DO NOT send membership fees to the same bank account (Separate bank details are on the NMRC membership form)**