

THE GAME WITHIN THE GAME

YOUR EXPERT GUIDE TO THE
2019 RUGBY WORLD CUP



INTRODUCTION

Japan hosts its first ever Rugby World Cup this month and we are releasing our World Cup eBook to help you get up to speed.

The Exchange has identified England and South Africa as the two main obstacles in the All Blacks' way. Can New Zealand be the only nation to win three World Cups in a row?

The World Rugby rankings have Ireland as the #1 side in the tournament and following wins over Wales, New Zealand, France, Scotland and Argentina in the last 12 months, they certainly have the personnel to cause some upsets.

The Analysts, our Rugby Union experts, have done a deep dive into all the major contenders this World Cup to make their predictions. In this eBook you will find:

- Previews, including betting strategies, of all four pools
- Outright winner selections and trading strategies
- Odds comparison between the Exchange and leading bookmakers

You can also find [The Analysts' tips](#) for all of the big games in pool play and every elimination game at the business-end of the tournament.

We hope you enjoy our 2019 Rugby World Cup eBook and expert analysis.

*All odds correct as of 13:00 06/09/19



No doubt the easiest pool to handicap. Ireland, who have won three of six Six Nations titles since 2014, are the obvious winner here. Ireland have not lost a pool game at the Rugby World Cup since 2007.

Scotland sit ninth in betting but are clear second in the group. They have played in all eight World Cups and have been eliminated at the quarter final stage six times.

Hosts Japan will be hopeful of progressing past pool play but despite their improvement and a bunny pool, they won't be seeing knockout rugby. Samoa and Russia will not be causing any upsets.

Winner: Ireland

Advancing: Scotland

Betting Strategy: ▲ BACK - Ireland to Win Pool A for 3u at \$1.35



There is nothing to see in Pool B outside of the cracking opener between New Zealand and South Africa.

There is some buzz about the Springboks heading into this World Cup but the All Blacks have won the last two World Cups and have lost just twice in the last four World Cups. The Springboks have won just three of their last 20 against the All Blacks.

Italy are the pick of the remainder but will only enjoy wins over Canada and Namibia. All of those three will just be looking to mitigate the damage against two of the three favourites to win it all.

Winner: New Zealand

Advancing: South Africa

Betting Strategy: ▲ BACK - New Zealand to Win Pool B for 3u at \$1.34



England have not won the Six Nations in either of the last two years and endured a horrific home campaign in 2015 where they failed to get out of the pool stage. That disaster should steel Eddie Jones' team, who are 20-4-1 all-time v Argentina and have won 11 of their last 16 against France with Les Bleus not winning outside of France since 2011.

The interesting battle here is the battle for second between France and Argentina. Les Bleus have advanced to the quarters in all eight World Cups – the semis in six – but have won only five of their last 15 Tests and are at a real low-point.

Argentina have won 10 of 17 games against France and on a neutral venue they can absolutely stun.

Winner: England

Advancing: Argentina

Betting Strategy: ▲ BACK – Argentina To Reach The Quarter Final for 2u at \$2.00



There is no question that it will be Wales and Australia advancing out of Pool D.

Georgia are a nation on the rise but have never advanced out of the pool stage while Fiji have fallen at the pool stage in three of their last four World Cup campaigns and have sent stronger squads. Uruguay are minnows who conceded 111 in their last World Cup appearance.

Six Nations champs and Grand Slam winners Wales deservedly edge Australia in favouritism on form but it is hard not to fancy Australia beating them on the back of wins in 16 of the last 18 Tests between the nations.

Winner: Australia

Advancing: Wales

Betting Strategy: ▲ BACK – Australia to Win Pool D for 2u at \$2.20



TOURNAMENT WINNER

Any discussion around the Rugby World Cup inevitably starts and ends with the All Blacks. The two-time defending champions are heavily favoured to be the first team to win three World Cups on end. There are some vulnerabilities around Steve Hansen's team though. While clearly the most talented and most accomplished team, a heavy loss to Australia and a defeat against South Africa in the last 12 months have created some worry. At just over black odds, they are value, particularly with the World Cup not being held on slow European tracks.

England and South Africa are viewed as the prime contenders. The Springboks are chasing their third World Cup while England are in pursuit of No.2. South Africa have ushered in generational change over the last few years but are the biggest unders in the tournament. South Africa have New Zealand in their pool and England shape as a potential semi-final matchup for the All Blacks so happy to take both on.

The only other genuine chances are Australia, Wales and Ireland with France, Argentina and Scotland all lacking the class and, in the case of the latter two, pedigree, to threaten.

The Wallabies are a hard pass. They can win their group but they lack the physicality and athleticism to go with the strongest teams. Wales are an interesting team looking for their first World Cup Final. They won the Grand Slam this year but get bogey team Australia in their pool. Ireland don't enter in the best form but look the greatest value. They are perennial underachievers at the World Cup and recent form has been poor but they have shown over the last four years that they can beat any team in the world.

BETTING STRATEGY

- ▲ BACK - New Zealand to Win World Cup for 2u at \$2.50
- ▲ BACK - Ireland to Win World Cup for 1u at \$12.50

CONCLUSION

The 2019 Rugby World Cup has potential to be the best one yet. In a new host country and including nations that have been on a steady rise over the past four years, we are set for a bunch of entertaining games.

The [Betfair Hub](#) will be your number one resource for [Rugby World Cup previews and tips](#). The Analysts will be sharing their tips for all games involving Australia, England and New Zealand, every knockout match and all other games with significant public interest.

Be sure to regularly check the [Betfair Hub](#) across the tournament for your all-in-one resource to betting on the Rugby World Cup.

Best of luck and, as always, gamble responsibly.

Team	Betfair	BetEasy	Sportsbet
NZ	2.48	2.30	2.25
South Africa	5.09	4.50	5.00
England	5.66	5.00	5.00
Ireland	11.93	11.00	9.00
Wales	13.35	9.00	11.00
Australia	17.63	15.00	15.00
France	36.15	34.00	26.00
Argentina	66.55	41.00	51.00

*Betfair prices are net of 5% commission.