



RUGBY WORLD CUP BET 2019

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Rugby World Cup 2019 Preview & Pre-Tournament Tips

Inside your exclusive Rugby World Cup 2019 report:

- 7 bets for the Rugby World Cup...

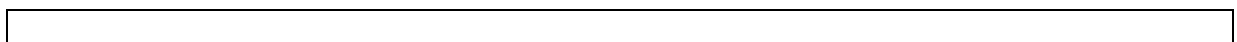
Including:

- Top Points Scorer pick @ 14/1...
- Top Scotland Try Scorer @ 7/1...
- Top Ireland Try Scorer @ 9/1...
- Player of the Tournament pick @ 50/1...

Welcome to the Rugby World Cup Bet service...

I've got **seven bets** for you to place before the tournament kicks off on Friday 20th September...

Also included a guide to staking, which will help you calculate exactly how much to invest in each wager – if you're following our tips throughout the tournament then it's important that you stick to these staking levels, as they reflect the confidence we have in the betting outcome.



Rugby World Cup Bet Staking Plan...

All our tips will have a recommended stake in 'Points' – using a scale of 0.50 point to 3 points (**0.50 of a point** minimum bet to a **3 point** maximum bet).

Most bets will be around the **1 – 2 point** mark, with larger stakes reserved for what we consider outstanding opportunities.

Of course, you are free to apply your own staking plan to suit your pocket – but this will provide a guide and also the marker for published results.

Throughout the Rugby World Cup we'll be keeping a running total of our bank. With all stakes deducted and all profits added.

You'll be able to find that on the **Latest Tips & Advice** page on your members-only website.

Tournament Overview...

The 2019 **Rugby Union World Cup** looks a fascinating tournament with the draw and match schedule being as significant as ever.

Here's how the four pools look...

POOL A	POOL B	POOL C	POOL D
Ireland	New Zealand	England	Australia
Scotland	South Africa	France	Wales
Japan	Italy	Argentina	Georgia
Russia	Namibia	USA	Fiji
Samoa	Canada	Tonga	Uruguay

And here's how the draw looks...

QUARTER FINAL 1	QUARTER FINAL 2	QUARTER FINAL 3	QUARTER FINAL 4
<i>Saturday 19th October</i>	<i>Saturday 19th October</i>	<i>Sunday 20th October</i>	<i>Sunday 20th October</i>
Winner Pool C	Winner Pool B	Winner Pool D	Winner Pool A
Runner Up Pool D	Runner Up Pool A	Runner Up Pool C	Runner Up Pool B

SEMI FINAL 1	BRONZE FINAL	SEMI FINAL 2
<i>Saturday 26th October</i>	<i>Friday 1st November</i>	<i>Sunday 27th October</i>
Winner QF1	Runner Up SF1	Winner QF3
Winner QF2	Runner Up SF2	Winner QF4

FINAL
<i>Saturday 2nd November</i>
Winner SF1
Winner SF2

Pool A Preview

POOL A	Winner Odds
Ireland	1/4 (1.25)
Scotland	10/3 (4.33)
Japan	16/1 (17.00)
Samoa	250/1 (251.00)
Russia	500/1 (501.00)

Pool A Fixture List...

Friday 20 th September	Japan	v	Russia
Sunday 22 nd September	Ireland	v	Scotland
Tuesday 24 th September	Russia	v	Samoa
Saturday 28 th September	Japan	v	Ireland
Monday 30 th September	Scotland	v	Samoa
Thursday 3 rd October	Ireland	v	Russia
Saturday 5 th October	Japan	v	Samoa
Wednesday 9 th October	Scotland	v	Russia
Saturday 12 th October	Ireland	v	Samoa
Sunday 13 th October	Japan	v	Scotland

Pool A is probably the most open group of the four with everyone apart from Russia harbouring some hope...

Ireland are rightly favourites but one can't help feeling the tournament has come a year or two too late for them. Despite the fact they are somehow ranked number one in the world their recent performances have not been as convincing and they may have just passed their peak. Qualification won't be a problem and it is likely

that the game against Scotland will determine the group winners but winning three knockout games in three weeks may prove a bridge too far.

The **Scots** will be eyeing a quarter final spot which would probably represent success and anything more than that would be a bonus. In order to do so they will have to overcome the steadily improving **Japanese**. The hosts have been in good form recently winning the Pacific Cup reasonably comfortably. Since they were awarded the tournament they have secured a number of fixtures against leading nations but their Achilles heel seems to be on defence with New Zealand, Australia and Ireland all reaching 50 points against them in the last two years.

Samoa are not the force they once were and the odds are stacked against them in terms of availability of players and games against quality opposition. They will be encouraged that they ran Scotland close on the 2017 tour but since then they have only mustered one win against meaningful opposition (25-17 v Tonga) and must be ranked as outsiders to make the quarter finals.

Russia are the fifth side in the pool and pretty certain to finish last. They have had very little exposure against highly ranked teams and their recent 85-15 defeat to Italy is an indication of the task ahead of them. Perhaps their best achievement was to restrict Japan to a 32-27 victory last autumn but they may find a packed house at the World Cup a rather different proposition to a cold night in Gloucester!

Pool B Preview

POOL B	Winner Odds
New Zealand	1/3 (1.33)
South Africa	23/10 (3.30)
Italy	200/1 (201.00)
Canada	500/1 (501.00)
Namibia	1000/1 (1001.00)

Pool B Fixture List...

Saturday 21 st September	New Zealand	v	South Africa
Sunday 22 nd September	Italy	v	Namibia
Thursday 26 th September	Italy	v	Canada
Saturday 28 th September	South Africa	v	Namibia
Wednesday 2 nd October	New Zealand	v	Canada
Friday 4 th October	South Africa	v	Italy
Sunday 6 th October	New Zealand	v	Namibia
Tuesday 8 th October	South Africa	v	Canada
Saturday 12 th October	New Zealand	v	Italy
Sunday 13 th October	Namibia	v	Canada

If Pool A is the most open then this is the most predictable...

South Africa and New Zealand meet on day two of the tournament and the winner is certain to top the group. Only a draw could keep any interest from thereon! Again, a couple of years ago the **All Blacks** would have been strong favourites for this game but they have lost their air of invincibility in recent months with the **Springboks** having had a resurgent year. The last four matches between the teams have been decided by less than three points each time and with New Zealand still trying to decide who is their best goal kicker this could be a crucial factor.

The other three sides – Italy, Namibia and Canada are effectively having their own competition for third. On paper **Italy** ought to be favourites for this but with only a handful of wins since the last World Cup they could be vulnerable. With any other opposition that might be the case but with **Namibia and Canada** ranked 22nd and 23rd in the world they are officially the weakest in the tournament.

The games between the giants and the minnows are likely to be foregone conclusions with all teams rotating the squads. This could be a blessing or a curse for punters with the main consequence being for Top Points and Top Try Scorer betting.

Pool C Preview

POOL C	Winner Odds
England	4/11 (1.36)
France	9/2 (5.50)
Argentina	5/1 (6.00)
Tonga	350/1 (351.00)
USA	500/1 (501.00)

Pool C Fixture List...

Saturday 21 st September	France	v	Argentina
Sunday 22 nd September	England	v	Tonga
Thursday 26 th September	England	v	USA
Saturday 28 th September	Argentina	v	Tonga
Wednesday 2 nd October	France	v	USA
Saturday 5 th October	England	v	Argentina
Sunday 6 th October	France	v	Tonga
Wednesday 9 th October	Argentina	v	USA
Saturday 12 th October	England	v	France
Sunday 13 th October	USA	v	Tonga

Pool C is a genuine three horse race with England, France and Argentina vying for the two qualification spots...

England are deserved favourites having enjoyed a good spell in recent seasons. Since the last World Cup, they have only lost nine games, mostly during a bad run in 2018. However, the biggest defeat has been by just 12 points underlining the competitive nature of the performances under Eddie Jones. The prospect of them

failing to get out of the group like in 2015 would seem unlikely as losing to both France and Argentina is improbable and even with one defeat, they would be expected to outscore the other teams on bonus points.

So, the battle for second would seem to be between Argentina and France. The **Pumas** took the brave step to concentrate their efforts on home based players after the last World Cup. On the domestic front this has paid dividends with the Jaguares reaching the final of the Super Rugby competition this year but internationally they are now much of a known quantity with no outsiders to bring in to improve the squad for the big games. They go into the tournament on the back of nine consecutive losses although four of the last five have been by less than 7 points.

At the same time the **French** have also been on a desperate run. With very little consistency in coaching and selection they have been consigned to competing with Italy and Scotland in the Six Nations and haven't beaten any of New Zealand, South Africa or Australia since the last World Cup. Also, their record outside of France is appalling. Excluding Italy, they have only one away win (against Argentina) in the last four years. Of course, if they can find the right combination of talent and commitment, they can never be ruled out but avoiding the humiliation of elimination at the group stage might be their primary objective in Japan.

For the other two sides, USA and Tonga, damage limitation may be the priority and of course the match between the two will be keenly contested. **USA** have been pretty competitive within the second tier in recent times but have had very few opportunities to test themselves against better opposition. **Tonga**, on the other hand, have lost the majority of their matches but have had the benefit of playing the likes of New Zealand which may help them when they get to Japan.

Pool D Preview

POOL D	Winner Odds
Wales	8/11 (1.73)
Australia	11/10 (2.10)
Fiji	40/1 (41.00)
Georgia	250/1 (251.00)
Uruguay	500/1 (501.00)

Pool D Fixture List...

Saturday 21 st September	Australia	v	Fiji
Monday 23 rd September	Wales	v	Georgia
Wednesday 25 th September	Fiji	v	Uruguay
Sunday 29 th September	Georgia	v	Uruguay
Sunday 29 th September	Australia	v	Wales
Thursday 3 rd October	Georgia	v	Fiji
Saturday 5 th October	Australia	v	Uruguay
Wednesday 9 th October	Wales	v	Fiji

Friday 11 th October	Australia	v	Georgia
Sunday 13 th October	Wales	v	Uruguay

Pool D also looks like a contest between Australia and Wales for the top two places...

The **Wallabies** have lost their best attacking player, Israel Folau, in non-rugby circumstances and have been forced to recall veteran players such as Kurtley Beale and Adam Ashley-Cooper. The experience may prove valuable but on the other hand it is hard to see an old and injury-prone squad winning three knockout games against top class opposition in as many weeks. The crucial game for them will be to beat Wales and top their group in order to get a slightly easier quarter final.

However, the **Welsh** will be in no mood to surrender easily. Having just won the Six Nations they will go to Japan full of confidence and are rightly slight favourites to win the pool. Coach, Warren Gatland, has proved time and again that he can lift his teams for the big occasion. They have a habit of being involved in tight matches with only three of their last 17 games having a margin of more than 14 points. So, the knockout games could suit them especially if the weather is more suited to conservative play.

Fiji will have been disappointed to have been drawn in this pool and might have had more chance of an upset against the likes of Scotland or France. The schedule does them no favours either as they play Australia first before any tiredness or injuries can take hold. Recent results have been par for the course with the exception of an incredible win over France last year. They may have a one-off performance in them but it will be a major shock if they can finish above third in the pool.

Georgia and **Uruguay** enter as rank outsiders. The Eastern Europeans have been improving steadily over the last decade and are now ranked 12th. They are a good match for any second tier country and have put in some respectable showings against Scotland, Wales and Italy since the last World Cup. They will be targeting the Fiji match as their main priority and could well do it although the Thursday to Sunday turnaround won't do them any favours.

Finally, Uruguay come to the World Cup hoping to do better than last time round. In 2015 they played three of the same teams after ending up in the proverbial 'group of death'. Keeping the score under 50 would probably be seen as success against anyone other than Georgia.

Tournament Market Previews

Now for a look at the tournament markets starting with the headline 'Outright Winner' market...

Tournament Winner Odds	
New Zealand	5/4 (2.25)
South Africa	4/1 (5.00)
England	4/1 (5.00)
Ireland	9/1 (10.00)
Wales	9/1 (10.00)
Australia	12/1 (13.00)
France	33/1 (34.00)
Rest	50/1+

In a tournament like this with relatively few contenders there is little value in the winner market. **New Zealand** are obvious favourites with **South Africa and England** next in line. It's difficult to see past these three and none of the others really have enticing odds. However, there are some variations on this market with 'Stage of Elimination' and positions in the Pool betting. Of these **Japan to be eliminated in the Quarter Finals at 4/1** is tempting and might be one that could be laid off down the line if the Japan v Scotland game becomes a qualification decider...

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Japan – Stage of Elimination

Bet: Japan to be eliminated in the Quarter Finals

Stake: 1 point

Odds: 4/1 (5.00)

Bookies: 4/1 (5.00) @ Paddy Power, Betfair Sportsbook, Betfred & Sportingbet

Minimum Price: 7/2 (4.50)

Top Points Scorer

The race to be top points scorer is often subject to lots of variables the two main ones being the success of the team and the selection strategy of the coach. The way the draw has turned out it's highly likely that New Zealand or South Africa will be the overall top points scoring teams but with them likely to score massive numbers of tries and rotate their goal kickers the top individual points scorer could lie elsewhere.

The value could lie with 2015's Top Scorer, **Nicolas Sanchez of Argentina**. The Pumas are more likely to be involved in tighter games so will be more reliant on penalties and drop goals to see them through. It's also likely that they will need to

select him for all their matches if they are to progress. A useful hedge to cover your stake could be by backing **Argentina to be eliminated in the Pool stage at 10/11** with *Unibet* effectively giving you a free bet at around 6/1 if he makes through to the Quarter Finals. Finishing as Top Scorer solely on pool matches will be difficult, but if Argentina do qualify for the knockout stages, **Sanchez** will be well in contention...

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Top Points Scorer

Bet: **Nicolas Sanchez to be Top Points Scorer**

Stake: 1 point

Odds: **14/1** (15.00)

Bookies: 14/1 (15.00) @ Ladbrokes and Coral, 12/1 (13.00) Unibet, Boylesports & Sportingbet

Minimum Price: 12/1 (13.00)

Top Try Scorer

Again, team selection will probably have the biggest impact here as the second-string players can often run in a hatful against the weaker teams. So, the value here is often only known once the teams have declared their line-ups for the first match. The overall tournament Try Scorer market can be hard to navigate but there are opportunities in the markets for each country...

Scotland's **Darcy Graham** looks like good value at **7/1** especially if he gets the call against Russia and Samoa. And the same logic applies to *Ireland's* **Jordan Larmour** at **9/1**...

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Top Scotland Try Scorer

Bet: **Darcy Graham to be Top Scotland Try Scorer**

Stake: 1 point

Odds: **7/1** (8.00)

Bookies: 7/1 (8.00) @ Skybet, Ladbrokes, Bet Victor, Coral, Betfred & Boylesports

Minimum Price: 7/1 (8.00)

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Top Ireland Try Scorer

Bet: Jordan Larmour to be Top Ireland Try Scorer

Stake: 1 point

Odds: 9/1 (10.00)

Bookies: 9/1 (10.00) @ Betfair Sportsbook & Paddy Power, 7/1 (8.00) Skybet, William Hill, Bet Victor & Betway

Minimum Price: 7/1 (8.00)

Player of the Tournament

Another 'needle in a haystack' market but great fun for punters to watch how their selections progress. Considering there are over 600 players involved making a selection here is always a long shot! *South Africa's* scrum half **Faf de Klerk** is a good option at **50/1**. De Klerk has been the heartbeat of the Springboks' resurgence and if they are to win the tournament, he has to be pivotal to their hopes. Throw in the fact that he plays in England for Sale making him well known to the European media which always helps to build up the hype...

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Player of the Tournament

Bet: Faf de Klerk to be Player of the Tournament

Stake: 1 point

Odds: 50/1 (51.00)

Bookies: 50/1 (51.00) @ Betfair Sportsbook & Paddy Power

Minimum Price: 50/1 (51.00)

Tournament Totals

Other markets that can sustain the interest of punters throughout the tournament are the Total Points and Tries markets. A bet on '**Over 297.5 Tries**' is recommended. A look through results of matches staged in Japan since the last World Cup (excluding games v Korea or Hong Kong) have averaged 58 points per game which slightly belies the concerns about the weather over the entirety of the tournament, well above the bookies current predictions. Furthermore, with the two

best sides (New Zealand and South Africa) ending up with the two lowest ranked sides (Canada and Namibia) could see some carnage in Pool B. It is conceivable that there could be 80+ tries in this Pool alone. Given that there has been a slight trend in the last few years towards a bigger proportion of points coming from tries than kicks the Total Tries market looks to be a better option than Total Points. There is also a good arbing potential with *Skybet* offering **10/11** about '**Under 318.5 Tries**'.

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Total Tournament Tries

Bet: Total Tournament Tries – Over 297.5

Stake: 3 points

Odds: 5/6 (1.83)

Bookies: 5/6 (1.83) @ Ladbrokes

Minimum Price: 5/6 (1.83)

Also available: **Over 303.5 Tries @ 5/6** (1.83) with Betfair Sportsbook & Paddy Power

And on an individual country basis **South Africa** to score '**Over 30.5 Tries**' looks like an attractive offer as their reserves ought to be able to rack up the points against Italy, Canada and Namibia. Again, this could end up as a tradable bet going into the Quarter Finals.

Rugby World Cup Tip:

Market: Total South Africa Tournament Tries

Bet: Total South Africa Tournament Tries – Over 30.5

Stake: 2 points

Odds: 10/11 (1.91)

Bookies: 10/11 (1.91) @ Bet365, 5/6 (1.83) Betfair Sportsbook & Paddy Power

Minimum Price: 5/6 (1.83)

Lookout for your emails before every round of games...

I'll be back with a preview email, including recommended bets before each round of matches.

Here's to a profitable tournament!

Peter Mac

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