

RACEHORSE TRAINERS BENEVOLENT FUND

The Racehorse Trainers Benevolent Fund (RTBF) awards grants to current or formerly licensed racehorse trainers in Britain. Grants are awarded for the relief of financial hardship due to exceptional events beyond the control of the applicant.

Examples include accident, illness, family breakdown, bereavement, animal disease and environmental factors. Grants may also be awarded to assist with welfare problems where the beneficiary could not afford to pay for that assistance.

The RTBF makes grants to eligible individuals. All awards are discretionary and may be varied to meet exceptional circumstances.

If you are a current or former trainer needing support, read the [Grant Criteria](#) and [Application Form](#) and contact the NTF Chief Executive on 01488 71719 or by email at rtbf@racehorsetrainers.org

Trainer Support Network

In 2023, the RTBF set up a pilot scheme to provide outreach support to trainers facing mental health challenges. The Trainer Support Network is a team of knowledgeable and empathetic people to make it easier for trainers to share the burdens of their busy and challenging working life. The TSN is funded partly by a grant from the Sir Peter O'Sullivan Charitable Trust.

More details are available here [National Trainers Federation - Mental Health Support](#)

History of the RTBF

In 2014, having acknowledged a lack of specific welfare support for trainers, the NTF proposed to the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) the creation of a trainers' benevolent fund using a system of deductions from prize money won by overseas-based trainers.

In 2015 the BHA approved a rule change whereby, in respect only of trainers based outside Great Britain, 2% of the trainer's share of prize money will be directed towards a benevolent fund for the benefit of British-based trainers. The fund will be jointly administered by the British Horseracing Authority and the National Trainers Federation.

A trust was set up in 2016 to administer the fund with trustees appointed by the BHA and NTF as well as two other independent trustees. The current trustees (at March 2025) are Rupert Arnold (NTF), James Given (BHA) Harry Dunlop, James Eustace, Paul Foster.

March 2025