

Newsletter

The Voice of Britain's Racehorse Trainers



Quinlan report will take racing regulation forward

There has been extensive media coverage of the recommendations from Christopher Quinlan QC about the BHA's Disciplinary Panel, Licensing Committee and Appeal Board.

Some commentators have focussed on the recommendation to broaden the membership of disciplinary panels and this may include former trainers and jockeys. If the right people among these groups can be found, it will create a deeper sense that disciplinary decisions are made with appropriate understanding of the evidence.

Of more fundamental importance is the recommendation to make changes that will establish beyond doubt the independence of the disciplinary, licensing and appeal functions. Whereas now the appointments to the various panels emanate from the BHA itself, in the future (because the BHA has undertaken to enact all recommendations), an eminent lawyer appointed to a new independent role of Judicial Panel Chairman will make the appointments. Racecourse Stewards will not be permitted to sit on Disciplinary Panels where they currently opine on decisions of other Racecourse Stewards.

Some have questioned the fairness of the BHA's existing processes but significantly Quinlan found that, "viewed in totality, the BHA provides a fair disciplinary system." This is an encouraging starting point from which the changes to come will build enhanced confidence of everyone regulated by the BHA.

There has been little comment about the Licensing Committee. In our meeting with Christopher Quinlan we expressed concern that applicants for a licence do not currently have access to an independent assessment of their case until the Licensing Department has refused their application. In future this will be addressed through stricter operating standards for the Licensing Department.

Implementing Quinlan's recommendations will require changes to the BHA's Executive structure. These were announced alongside the report and were headlined by the new roles for Jamie Stier (Chief Regulatory Officer) responsible for equine health and welfare, medical, disciplinary, compliance, integrity, regulation and stewarding; Brant Dunshea (Director of Integrity and Regulatory Operations) responsible for integrity, licensing, anti-doping, and raceday regulation; and Catherine Beloff (Director of Legal and Governance) responsible for general legal counsel and corporate governance.

We are sorry to learn that Jenny Hall will be leaving her role of Chief Veterinary Office. On the positive side, we are particularly pleased at the news that a new role of Director of Equine Health and Welfare is to be created. Equine welfare is a primary objective in our sport; this position gives it the standing it deserves in the governance of racing.

National Trainers Federation

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Inside this issue

Industry.....	2
Race planning.....	3-4
On the racecourse.....	5-7
Veterinary Notes	8, 9
Employment Matters ..	10-13
Business Section.....	14
Membership	15, 16

Articles of Special Interest

Stable Staff nominations....	2
Maiden Auction eligibility ...	3
Race clash improvements..	7
Imported horse checks	8
New pay rates	10
Skills training grants.....	10
Double pension payments	14

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Replacement of funding mechanism

Those of a political inclination will be aware that previously stated timelines for the Government to decide on the formula for replacing the current horserace betting levy are fast approaching. The Government has given a public and repeated commitment to “restore to racing a fair return from all operators that has been lost simply as a result of the shift towards remote betting”. Racing has held firm on this (and that it equates to c.£100m) in high-level representations to Government during summer recess, and the BHA is contacting a further cross-section of political supporters as Government finalises its thoughts.

This has been set against the backdrop of a tumultuous political climate following the EU referendum. The new Prime Minister’s cabinet changes resulted in a number of new faces and some changes in Westminster decision-making. Racing has been working together through the tripartite Members’ Agreement, and with DCMS, on the implementation of the Government’s decision. This has included a levy replacement steering group, and another group working on the construct of the so called Racing Authority, the working title of the body that will distribute levy funds. Both have full member representation and external advisors.

Those involved remain confident that the Levy replacement will be introduced on schedule. As well as engaging constructively with the new Secretary of State and the team of Ministers and Officials at the DCMS, racing has also had very constructive discussions in Brussels with the relevant officials where we have been supported by colleagues from Horseracing Ireland and from the European Federation of Horseracing Authorities. Although there has been speculation that Brexit would delay the implementation of the Levy, it is clear from discussions with Government that it still aims to meet the current timetable and is confident in doing so.

Racing continues to have many supporters among Parliamentarians who understand the importance of our wonderful sport and its economic and cultural importance to the economy as a whole and to numerous communities throughout the UK. Through the BHA and NTF, it’s possible that some trainers will be called on to make best use of contacts with their MP so no stone is left unturned to get the decision this sport needs in the coming weeks.

Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards – Nomination deadline only weeks away

The Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards (GSSSA) had an earlier than usual launch back in July. Easy then to let time pass without considering possible nominations from your yard. But time is running out – nominations close **Wednesday 16 November**.

On behalf of the BHA, Weatherbys has mailed the 7000 Owners and Trainers about the Awards including the nomination form. In addition, the BHA has launched a new GSSSA website, funded by Godolphin, and you can find it at this address www.studandstablestaffawards.co.uk. The website carries all the information you need to make a nomination.

Each year there is a record number of nomination so it would be great to keep the numbers rising and especially for a wider spread of yards to be involved. Even if nominees don’t make it to the finals, we know from conversations with candidates how much it means to them to be nominated and how much pride the yard takes in sharing in the experience. Other ideas to consider are for trainers to delegate responsibility to their staff for nominating deserving colleagues or to owners to nominate staff members that set the highest standards.

Eligibility for Maiden Auction races

Yearling Sales season is upon us so it's worth noting a point that several trainers have contacted us about recently. If a horse is led out unsold at the sales and you subsequently buy it from the vendor privately, it will not be eligible for Maiden Auction races by virtue of that transaction. This is the case even if the sale is recorded in the results and the sales company invoices for the sale.

“If a horse is led out unsold at the sales and you subsequently buy it from the vendor privately, it will not be eligible for Maiden Auction races...”

The relevant rule is (F) 4.6.3, which sits within the Categories of Races defining types of Maiden Races, including:

“A **Maiden Auction** Race if it is a flat race restricted to two year old Maiden Horses or three year old Maiden Horses which have been sold or bought in by public auction under the hammer at specified sales (and for these purposes, any horse which is unsold having failed to reach its reserve does not qualify nor do private sales)..”

Boost for Juvenile Hurdles

The BHA has announced an initiative to support the Juvenile Hurdlers population following concerns raised in the Jump Racing Review. Four high value Introductory Hurdle races, for horses which have not previously run in more than one hurdle race, will be added to the programme in November and December.

The initiative aims to create a pathway for horses into Jump racing following on from their Flat careers. The BHA Racing Department is keen to offer an enhancement to the current programme by offering high value races that will complement the existing Black Type opportunities available.

There are several factors which could be contributing to the shortage of runners in Juvenile Hurdle races, including the increased cost of purchasing suitable hurdling candidates from the Flat due to competition in the international market, to the increase in quality races and prize money available on the All Weather allowing horses to have a prolonged Flat career.

The BHA Development Fund currently contributes £20,000 towards four Juvenile Handicap Hurdle races in the spring and the new races will add further incentive to attract Flat horses and owners into hurdling during the early part of the season. The Development Fund has approved £8,000 per race towards the four £20,000 Introductory Juvenile Hurdle races. The Introductory Juvenile Races are as follows:

Date	Racecourse
26 November 2016	Newcastle
2 December 2016	Sandown
14 December 2016	Musselburgh
27 December 2016	Kempton



Think Value, Think Opportunities, Think #thisfillycan

'This Filly Can' is a phrase that you may see and hear more frequently at yearling sales across the country in the coming weeks.

The TBA initiative, in association with the BHA, is raising awareness of the success of fillies on the racecourse, the large number of race opportunities available to fillies and their relative value when compared to colts and their then obvious attraction to purchase at the season's yearling sales.

In 2015 there were 694 races dedicated solely to fillies, which on average carried 33% more prize money than open events. Last year also saw 83 black type races take place on British racecourses, marking a 15% increase in these events in the last decade. Added to this the new EBF Fillies Series which features 20 races over multiple distances and run at a minimum of £20k prize money and the £2.3 million available for fillies in Plus 10, it is clear to see the incentives for a wide spectrum of racehorse owners.

The 2016 flat season has also demonstrated the quality and quantity of fillies' successes. In what has been a vintage season on the track for cheaply bought fillies, Mecca's Angel, Quiet Reflection, Mrs Danvers have in particular demonstrated the excellent value of fillies bought at public auction.

The #thisfillycan logo will be visible on fillies' pages in sales catalogues and various merchandise around the sales venues.

To learn more about dedicated fillies' race opportunities, incentive schemes and initiatives visit the website: www.thisfillycan.co.uk

Please share your fillies' race successes by using the #thisfillycan and follow on twitter and Instagram; @thisfillycan.



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Bangor racecourse is the latest racecourse to trial the new 'One Fit' hurdles which consist of a modified hurdle frame with custom fitted close cell foam pad instead of the traditional birch. In addition to Bangor, the use of the 'One Fit' padded hurdles is to be extended to Exeter, Kelso and Uttoxeter Racecourses for the coming season. Watt Fences can supply you with 'One Fit' schooling hurdles enabling you to school at home over hurdles similar to those found on the racecourses. The schooling hurdle consists of a traditional frame with a rubber insert to give the look of the new 'one-fit' pad but with a slight difference in dimensions. Prices from £240.00 + VAT. Additionally we can supply rubber schooling hurdles both single and double sided, prices start from £215.00 + VAT.

For more information on any of our products please don't hesitate to contact us.



Racecourse new 'one-fit' hurdle



Rubber Schooling Hurdle 6ft sections



Watt Fences Schooling Hurdle – One fit design



Bangor on Dee Racecourse

Racecourse hurdle available @£340 plus vat and delivery

'One fit' hurdles are currently used at Newton Abbot, Tauton, Bangor, Kelso and Uttoxeter Racecourses.

All of our products can be viewed on our website and can be seen in use at Newmarket Links, Malton Gallops and Middleham Gallops.



Flat start restrictions can be avoided

At the end of August the BHA wrote to flat trainers whose percentage of individual runners with poor behaviour at the start was equal to or more than the threshold at which restrictions are imposed the following year. Their aim was to highlight the trainer's interim percentage so each trainer had time to manage his/her percentage before 31st December when the final percentage is calculated.

We urge any trainer who received the letter to take proactive steps to reduce their percentage. It is also important for trainers who didn't receive the letter (because their statistics were below the 10% level) to be mindful about the behaviour of runners between now and the end of the year. In particular, we would like to remind you that requesting a late load for a horse counts as a criteria failure and will therefore contribute to your percentage. The only exception to this is if the horse has acquired special loading privileges through having passed the required number of stalls tests.

Work on new Owners and Trainers facilities underway at Newbury

Newbury Racecourse's £20m 'heartspace' redevelopment shifted into top gear in August, as contractors moved in to begin work. The first major part of the project is the construction of a new Owners and Trainers facility, on the site currently occupied by the Premier entrance, Owners and Trainers Bar and the Pavilions, adjacent to the Owners and Trainers Car Park.

This building is due to be completed in the early Autumn of 2017, and will transform the Owners and Trainers experience at Newbury. It will contain a VIP entrance for badge collection, a large bar and a 200 seat restaurant for the use of Owners and Trainers, as well as lawn viewing next to the pre-parade ring. On the first floor there will be a private viewing platform with outstanding views of the pre-parade ring, saddling boxes, parade ring and winners enclosure.

The redevelopment will also include a completely new pre-parade ring with open and closed saddling boxes, enhanced viewing around an enlarged parade ring, a new winners enclosure and a new unsaddling/wash down area for unplaced horses to avoid the need for these horses to return to the parade ring to be unsaddled.

During the construction of these new Owners & Trainers facilities, there will be some changes to arrangements on racedays. As has been the case since the new railway bridge at the Eastern end of the site opened in November 2015, you can park in Car Park 2 (the traditional Owners & Trainers car park) or in Car Park 4, closer to the new bridge.

A temporary Owners & Trainers ticket collection marquee will be in use next to The Lodge in Car Park 2 and a temporary Owners & Trainers Bar will be in use on the raised level and terrace of the Premier Lawn Bar adjacent to the Crafty Filly. There will also be a temporary pre-parade ring in use during the next few months in the early stages of construction.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me on 01635 40015 or any of the team as below:

Richard Osgood (Clerk of the Course) on 07977 426947 or via rosgood@newburyracecourse.co.uk

Andy Clifton (Head of Communications) on 07876 330090 or via aclifton@newburyracecourse.co.uk

Gemma Merritt (O&T Representative) on 01635 39655 or ownerstrainers@newburyracecourse.co.uk

Newbury Racecourse thanks you for your patience during the construction period and their team looks forward to welcoming you to Newbury over the coming months and to the fantastic new Owners & Trainers facility in the Autumn of 2017.



Plans for all-weather bend at Fontwell Park racecourse

Arena Racing Company has committed to installing a new cambered all-weather bend at Fontwell Park Racecourse.

Plans have been submitted for the installation on the bottom bend; it a flat and wide bend with a reverse camber which is particularly pronounced in the south west corner. Due to the unique configuration of the track, horses race anti-clockwise around the outside in hurdle races and clockwise around the inside on a split bend in steeplechases. At the height of the summer, both hurdle and steeplechase races are run on a common bend.

The introduction of a cambered all-weather section would provide a consistent surface around the ideal racing line. Similar projects have previously been undertaken at other racecourses including Kempton Park and Musselburgh.

It is proposed that the installation will take place during Fontwell Park's summer break between June and August 2017. The work will take approximately six weeks to complete. Prior to the installation of the all-weather bend, ongoing work will be carried out with the aid of agronomists, Professional Sports Turf Design ("PSD"), and MK Surveys to ensure an optimum racing surface.

Please observe RCA's T&Cs for NTF Metal Badges

It's understandable that as members receive their NTF metal badges from us, they expect the NTF to set the rules for their use. In fact the metal badges are all controlled by the Racecourse Association. The RCA has asked us to remind all metal badge holders that the Metal Badge Terms and Conditions must be complied with at all times.

A small number of trainers have allowed others to use their allocated badges and these are strictly non-transferrable. Racecourses will confiscate badges if found on someone who is not the registered badge holder. We know how important the metal badge is to you all, so please take care how they are used.

PASS System

In the 30th June edition of NTFW there was an article about the new PASS card system for entry to racecourses. If you have not already done so, please would you complete the online form at <http://www.britishracecourses.org/pass/> to provide the RCA with a copy of your e-mail address.

This information will be key in allowing the RCA to provide you with access to the online 'concierge' part of the PASS System, and from 2017 onwards the RCA will be asking that all metal badge holders (across all categories of badge) provide an e-mail address as a condition of badge allocation.

Buy Plus 10 at yearling sales

Yearlings that are not registered for Plus 10 at the time of purchase cannot be entered into the scheme retrospectively and hence trainers are encouraged to target Plus 10 registered yearlings at the sales.

Each time a fully qualified horse wins a £10,000 Plus 10 bonus the trainer, jockey and stable staff will receive £500, with the majority of the bonus – £7,500 – being paid to the horse's owner.

Registered yearlings feature a Plus 10 logo on their pedigree page in the sales catalogue and will often feature a Plus 10 hip sticker in the ring.



Avoiding race clashes improves levy returns

Over the past few years the BHA have focused on reducing the number of race time clashes because of the negative impact they have on betting turnover and, as a consequence, the levy.

In 2014 there were 637 race time clashes but with the help and co-operation of racecourses and raceday staff, the BHA managed to reduce the number of race time clashes to 435 in 2015.

Based on HBLB valuations from 2012, as to how much a clash is worth, the reduction of clashes in 2015 would have meant a minimum of between £300,000 and £350,000 extra levy compared with 2014. The value of this reduction in clashes is magnified when looking at the benefits to bookmakers' profit (and therefore their ability to pay Levy and media rights) which would be between an estimated extra £3.2 million and £3.8 million in 2015.

“Although the financial benefits of avoiding race time clashes are obvious the BHA understands the potential impacts of delaying races and as a consequence do not take delaying any race lightly.”

Although the financial benefits of avoiding race time clashes are obvious the BHA understands the potential impacts of delaying races and as a consequence do not take delaying any race lightly. A number of factors are taken into account before requesting a delay with the primary concern being the welfare of the participants. A delay must have no negative impacts on the performance of the horses. The racecourse stewards and starting team retain the authority to override any delays should they feel it necessary to do so.

In 2015 action taken on race days by British racecourses avoided 554 race time clashes. This represents a tremendous effort but if anyone has any concerns about certain delays that were requested on a race day then please get in touch with the BHA Racing Department because it helps them understand the individual needs of each racecourse.

With the volume of racing remaining similar each year, a reduction in race clashes to the same degree is not expected to continue. It is hoped that refining the scheduling of race times assists in reducing the need for delays while keeping clashes at a minimum.

New legislation for horse transport in France

The French Government has recently introduced legislation requiring that foreign truck drivers whose journeys either begin or terminate in France carry a statement with them that during their professional stay in France they are paid the French statutory minimum wage (around £8.18 at current exchange rates.) Drivers are required to carry this document (an attestation of posting) with them and that each company posting drivers in France must have a French authorised agent. The EU is currently challenging the introduction of the law.

To what extent this affects British-based trainers sending their boxes with drivers to France is unclear from the guidance currently available and in most cases the overall journey will not begin or terminate in France.

It would be advisable to ensure that work schedules show that the journey is starting and terminating in the UK and the TPA Docom should also reflect that. We will continue to research how the legislation is interpreted; if any trainer has any contact with the French authorities in relation to this then please let us know.



Equine Anti-Doping requirements for imported horses

The Equine Anti-Doping (EAD) rules, which came into effect in March 2015, took British racing to new standard on the international stage; it is not surprising that those affected will take some time to get used to the protocols. From a different perspective, the requirements to notify the “whereabouts” are not too far removed from the traceability requirements for some farm livestock.

Depending on the circumstances, trainers will be Responsible Persons under the terms of the rules and should therefore be familiar with following certain procedures. When any horse arrives in your yard for the first time, as well as the usual checks you do (e.g. markings, vaccinations) you should ask the following questions:

- 1 Has the horse been imported from a non-exempt country, or has it spent less than 12 months in an exempt* country?
- 2 If yes to point 1, has the horse had a permanent import test?
- 3 If yes to point 1, did the horse sell through a public auction in a non-exempt country? For example, horses sold at Keeneland in USA may have had ‘BHA Badged’ permanent import test collected at point of sale. Subject to terms (please check Keeneland Conditions of Sale) this counts as its import test for Britain and therefore it doesn’t require testing on arrival in Britain.
- 4 Has the export certificate been lodged with the General Stud Book (note this applies to **all imported horses**, not just those from non-exempt countries)?
- 5 If unsure if a horse has been/requires testing contact anti-doping@britishhorseracing.com, providing as much detail as you are aware of.

It is important to follow these procedures because if you don’t, the horse will be prevented from running and it may result in a “filing failure” or “missed test”, which has further consequences under the rules.

*Exempt countries: these are currently France, Ireland, Germany, Hong Kong, Sweden & Norway.

Guides to the EAD Rules can be found in the Veterinary information section on the NTF website and the Resource Centre on the BHA website.

Biosecurity app now available on Android

EquiBioSafe, the new app designed to assist trainers and breeders follow the respective Codes of Practice for Infectious diseases affecting thoroughbreds, is now available on Android. Go to your Android online store to download it.

The app, launched thanks to funding and support from the Horserace Betting Levy Board, is a comprehensive management tool enabling trainers to identify diseases and locate their nearest APHA reporting centre. In addition there will be a handy vaccination date calculator to help avoid passport errors.



Cobalt still in the headlines

While on the subject of prohibited substances, you may have read an article in the racing press about trainers in Australia complaining that they hadn't been warned by the authorities that cobalt fed as a supplement may lead to levels of cobalt in a horse's system to exceed the permitted threshold.

In the past the BHA has advised that standard supplementation would not be expected to raise cobalt to levels that would lead to a positive test so we asked the BHA to advise on the news article. Their response is

"BHA CVO Jenny Hall would like to reassure trainers that use of injectable B12 containing supplements and products such as Duphalyte® in accordance with manufactures recommended dosage instructions do not result in above threshold levels of urinary cobalt when used in accordance with the Rules of racing, ie not being given on raceday.

"However, it is possible to increase cobalt levels by feeding large amounts of supplementary cobalt in oral products that may then be topped up such additional intravenous supplementation to above threshold levels, Therefore trainers are advised to work with their professional advisors to ensure their horses' total cobalt intakes are not excessive. Please contact Jenny on jehall@britishhorseracing.com if you have further questions."

Injury risks associated with surface type and going

Thoroughbred Health Network (THN) translates and disseminates scientific research findings in an easily understandable format. It has just published its latest research review. This review on injuries risks associated with surface type and going, is broken down into three parts;

1. **a summary page**,
2. **a review of all scientific research available** relating to injury risks associated with surface type and going and
3. **an explanation** of limb and surface interaction during locomotion.

As usual, the THN's research review has been organised in accordance to the scientific evidence available and clearly shows a) what there is good evidence for; b) what there is some evidence for; and c) what there is no evidence for but we would benefit from knowing.

THN is keen to get more trainers involved in the network so go if you aren't already registered, go to the website, www.thoroughbredhealthnetwork.co.uk. The top level research findings aren't the only information available. By moving through the links you can find whatever level of detail you require, right back to the original source papers.

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Revised pay rates take effect from 1st October

As well as the coverage in the media and our weekly email to members, all trainers received a letter from us with details of the pay deal with NASS. In summary,

- 5.5% increase **on minimum rates** for all pay Scales with effect from 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017
- The National Living Wage (NLW) is forecast to increase by 5.6% in April 2017. If required by changes to NLW or National Minimum Wage (NMW), there may be minor adjustments within some Scales in April 2017
- The hourly rates for time worked away from the yard outside normal hours will increase with NMW legislation from 1 October 2016 to £6.95 for workers aged less than 25. (It is currently £7.20 for workers aged 25+.) From April 2017, there will be one rate for all employees at the expected new NLW of £7.60.

An updated version of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) setting out the revised pay rates is now enclosed with this newsletter. Remember you can always download the latest edition from the NTF website under Information/Employment.

Newmarket trainers should note clause 6.4 which is a new clause included to reflect the different payment arrangements used by some Newmarket trainers when their employees are taking runners to Newmarket racecourses. It also helps to meet the HMRC requirements that the tax free allowances are only paid when expenses are genuinely incurred. To this end, the agreement acknowledges that Newmarket trainers sending staff with horses to Newmarket races may pay a set racing payment but that this payment must be at least as good as the hourly rate under the MOA and it further provides that the £10 tax free allowance may not apply and therefore does not have to be paid. This may also apply to Epsom staff taking horses racing to Epsom but is unlikely to apply outside of these two areas.

Grants for staff training from the NTF Charitable Trust

Did you know your staff may be eligible to apply for a grant to develop their skills through the NTF Charitable Trust (NTFCT)? The NTFCT is administered for us by Racing Welfare; the grant scheme is open to all those working in the UK thoroughbred racing industry and can pay up to 75% of course fees towards career and skills development. Applicants will need at least five years' service to the industry and ideally will need the support of their current or former employer.

Some examples of former grant funding have been for LGV Driver Training, Racing Secretary, Book-Keeping, Equine Osteopathy, Equine Dentistry and Assessor courses. This list is not exhaustive and as long as the course applied for will help their career in racing then an application will be considered. All applications will be subject to a means test to determine financial need.

“ up to 75% of course fees towards...skills development.”

Your staff can apply online at www.support.racingwelfare.co.uk

and clicking on the 'Getting Support' drop down menu, followed by the 'Grant Application' link. Or you can speak to your local Welfare Officer who will help you fill in the form.

For more information visit Racing's Support Line or contact any of the regional offices.



Regional training in October

Northern Racing College are pleased to confirm that free regional training will be branching out from October. The NRC is teaming up with Yogi Breisner and trainee jockey coach Russell Kennemore to offer yard based work rider training. This will continue in the Middleham centre to provide vital continual professional development. A date has already been secured by trainers of the Scottish Borders.

These training days have enabled all staff to receive onsite training at the highest level both practically and with video review facilities to suit the needs of individual trainers. Staff and trainers alike have found these days extremely fun, beneficial and a great team building exercise.

The mobile training facility will be available for all yards in the country wishing to receive free simulator training. This will be available from mid-October (see dates and venues below.) The purpose built two-stall horsebox has a self-contained simulator, a video review facility and equipment to assist coaching with the rider's position and core strength. These sessions can be booked to cater for all or a limited number of staff at a time convenient to that of the trainer.

Contact Sam Trainor to book a place, mob 07711782272, email samantha.trainor@northernracingcollege.co.uk

Expert talks:

- Wednesday 12 October: Aspects of Biomechanics. 6.45 to 9pm, Middleham Key Centre
- Thursday 13 October: Phil Smith, Head of Handicapping, 7pm, Jack Berry House, Malton

Simulator training:

- Wednesday 19 October: Stockton Hall Farm, Malpas
- Thursday 20 October: Manor House Farm, Malpas
- Monday 24 October: Basford Grange, Leek
- Wednesday 26 October: Bell House, Beyton, Presteigne
- Thursday 27 October: Butterton Racing Stables, Newcastle under Lyme
- Thursday 3 November: Haygarth House, Retford
- Monday 7 November: Middleham Key Centre
- Wednesday 9 November: Green Oaks, East Appleton, Yorks
- Monday 21 November: Penrith
- Tuesday 22 November: Craig, Langholm

Work rider training

- Tuesday 15 November: With Yogi Breisner in Malton

Skull cap standard takes effect soon

Over the last two years, the Rules of Racing have been revised to enforce usage of the up to date Safety Standards for skull caps and safety vests. As of 31st December 2015, all safety vests in use should comply with the relevant safety standard – (BS) EN 13158:2009.

For skull caps, the original deadline for complying with the latest standard was changed when the European Commission withdrew the EN1384 skull cap standard. As a result, the (BS or CSN) EN 1384:2012 standard remains acceptable only up to and including 31st December 2016. From that date, only PAS 015:2011 will comply with the rules. Now is the time to check that all the skull caps in use in your yard meet this standard and replace any that don't.



The Jockey Coaching Programme

The Jockey Coaching Programme has been running for approximately 5 years and was set up to provide a Jockey Coach to all Apprentice and Conditional Jockeys to support and develop them into professional sports people. Currently running at 93% capacity, there are 23 UKCC qualified coaches based around the country helping jockeys in all aspects of their careers from technical support to motivation, confidence, fitness, nutrition and communication skills. It is managed by the British Racing School (BRS) on behalf of the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) and is financed through two main sources. Firstly, by funds generated under the Rules of Racing, Rider Manual D, Schedule 6 which requires Apprentice and Conditional Jockeys and their employers (unless exempt) to contribute between 3.75% and 7.5% of riding fees. Secondly by an annual grant from the Horserace Betting Levy Board.

“Currently there are 23 UKCC qualified coaches ... helping jockeys in all aspects of their careers”

Racing Excellence runs alongside the Jockey Coaching Programme (JCP) and is the industry accreditation for all apprentice and conditional races which run under hands and heels or training race conditions. Initially set up by The British Racing School as ‘Support for Young Jockeys’ in 2006, the BHA rebranded the scheme in 2010 as ‘Racing Excellence’. A coach will attend every Racing Excellence race to conduct the mandatory pre-race course walk and then will also debrief afterwards.

For more information on Racing Excellence or the Jockey Coaching Programme please contact Jennie Durrans, jennie@brs.org.uk or call 01638 669039.

LJM University helping young jockeys with weight management

Liverpool John Moores University is continuing its world-leading research in professional horse-racing to improve the health, well-being and performances of jockeys.

One of their current projects is to design and implement an education platform for apprentice/conditional jockeys upon entry to the industry, focused specifically on nutrition and the ability to maintain and make the challenging weights. They’re also working towards the redevelopment the food provision at racecourses to make the foods available more conducive to weight-making and riding performance.

In order to inform their work, the team have been interviewing a range of professionals and stakeholders within the sport including racecourse clerks, jockeys coaches, agents, jockeys themselves - and now is the chance for you as trainers to have your say and get involved.

You will receive by email an invitation from the research team of Dan Martin, Dr George Wilson, Professor Graeme Close, Dr James Morton, and Dr Rebecca Murphy to participate in the study

The LJMU approach to nutrition has seen jockeys lose as much as 17lbs whilst remaining hydrated and fed, and concurrently improving their strength and fitness. The current research builds on this to equip our young jockeys with the knowledge and skills to implement good practice from the infancy of their careers and challenge the archaic weight-making techniques currently employed.

The Jockey Coaching Programme

Case Study

Lulu Stanford

18 years old, Winners 17

Apprentice to **Michael Bell**

Coach: **Michael Tebbutt**

Career Highlights – Winning the Racing Excellence Salisbury Apprentice Series 2016 and riding Red Tea to victory at Newmarket on a Saturday.



“I joined the JCP as soon as I was issued my licence and feel I have benefitted hugely from having Michael as my coach. He has helped me not only with fitness and technique but his experience and knowledge of racing/racecourses has proved invaluable. I think it’s extremely important for young jockeys to have a coach; there are so many coming up through the ranks you have to strive to be the best and having a coach helps strengthen your weaknesses and its great having that support there. All other sports have coaches so it’s great that racing is providing this opportunity.

“I think the Racing Excellence series’ are a great way for young jockeys to get going as they provide opportunities for less experienced apprentices and I find the course walks really helpful. As it happens I had my first ride for Peter Hyatt in a Hands and Heels race which led to me gaining the ride on Red Tea.”





Avoiding unrecoverable pension contributions to the Friends Life Scheme

Large, medium and small scale trainers are now having to comply with the legal requirement to provide an Auto Enrolment pension scheme for their employees.

Once you have begun making payments to your new scheme, the requirement to contribute to the NTF Friends Life (“industry”) scheme falls away. Page 5 of the NTF’s **Auto Enrolment Pensions Guide** explains how to ensure you do not pay twice – once to your auto enrolment scheme and also to the Friends Life scheme.

On the Stable Employee Register trainers should flag their employees as having “Other Arrangements” in order for no further contributions to be deducted from their Weatherbys account for the Friends Life scheme. There is no facility to do this flag on the online admin system and trainers will need to either ring or email Weatherbys. At the present time the contact at Weatherbys is Megan Sutton (msutton@weatherbys.co.uk). The NTF will not be able to keep track of contributions wrongly made to the Friends Life scheme after a trainer has auto enrolled. You should check any quarterly pension information received from Weatherbys to ensure that no contributions are being collected. If they are, contact Weatherbys immediately since once any contributions have been forwarded to Friends Life for processing they cannot be recovered.

You must follow the advice above to ensure you do not make unrecoverable payments.

Find out how the Racing Foundation is spending the Tote sale proceeds

The Racing Foundation, which distributes funds resulting from the sale of the Tote, has recently published a review of its activity for 2015, which includes:

- An overview of grants awarded, including number of applications, success rates and total value.
- Case studies of awards made under our Open Grants Programme.
- Case studies of awards made under our Small Grants Programme.
- An update on the launch of our major, pro-active funding initiatives.
- A summary of the year’s annual report and accounts.

A copy of the review is available in pdf format on the Foundation website, using the following link: <http://www.racingfoundation.co.uk/annual-report>. **The Foundation has been particularly helpful in funding projects to improve recruitment and retention of stable staff.**

Insurance premium tax increase in October

Our insurance advisor and provider of trainers’ insurances, Lycetts have pointed out that insurance premium tax (IPT) is set to increase from 9.5% to 10% as a result of the March 2016 Budget.

The change in rate is effective from 1st October and there is a transitional period, which may vary between insurers, ending on 31st January 2017. In practice, all policies with a start or renewal date on or after 1st October 2016 will be liable to 10% IPT.



Racing to School to take forward community engagement work of Racing Together

The education charity Racing School (previously known as the British Horseracing Education Standards Trust - BHEST) will from next month take on the objectives of Racing Together - the umbrella brand for British racing's Community Engagement programme.

Racing to School has for the past 15 years delivered free, nationwide programmes at racecourses, studs and trainers' yards. Today the charity supports the education of over 10,000 young people each year. The charity's work is aligned to the aims of Racing Together, which was formed in 2014 to encourage and highlight the considerable work being done by racing in its communities. Developing valuable partnerships for the sport locally and nationally has been one of the key successes of Racing Together, which has been led recently by the BHA.

"Racing to School and Racing Together already naturally overlap in their aims to use the power of racing for the benefit of local communities, especially the young," said the charity's Chairman David Adam. "The charity has been expanding this year and is well placed to take on the key objectives of Racing Together. Such a strong alliance will allow us to reach more beneficiaries by pooling our networks; expanding our fundraising and communications strategy and using our strong reputations to increase the impact of our work."

What we do for you...

The NTF acts as a hub for trainers' race planning enquiries and we collect trainers' comments on the race programme to pass on to the BHA. If you would like to be part of the new trainer group with whom George Noad (NTF Racing Industry Executive) will be liaising regularly to gather feedback, contact him on 07467 946511.



The NTF represents trainers' interests in strategic decisions for racing. In September we were involved in a BHA Executive Committee meeting with other racing bodies where next steps were agreed for strategy on the following issues: Assisting innovation and development of the sport for broadcasting; working together to improve sponsorship revenues; roles and responsibilities within an overall communications plan; and supporting racehorse ownership.

The NTF is keen to find ways to help trainers to reduce their operating costs. Muck disposal is a significant cost that in theory should be avoidable. We are currently liaising with three companies offering renewable energy options for disposing of muck at no cost to trainers. Our role is to facilitate the introduction of new methods.

Whenever the BHA plans to change any rules governing trainers, it consults with the NTF. We have responded recently to consultation on rules covering Equine Anti-Doping; medication records; false starts and stalls tests; reciprocation of international suspensions; declaration of headgear; notification of gelding; assessment of poor jumpers; alternative colours and weighing in.

Planning applications are often a source of concern for trainers. Either they are seeking support for developing their yard or they are fighting an application that threatens their business. The NTF is usually able to help and recently we contributed information and advice that led to the refusal of planning consent for a solar farm that would have had harmful consequences for a nearby trainer.

We work closely with the Racehorse Owners Association across a number of areas. An outcome of last week's BHA Executive Committee strategy meeting was that the NTF will become better integrated into the work on growing racehorse ownership. This is a natural fit for the NTF as owners form the client base for our members.



NTF Meeting Dates

Region	Date	Location
South West Region	Monday 17th October	Taunton Racecourse
East Region	Tuesday 1st November	Rowley Mile
West Midlands and Wales	Monday 7th November	Warwick or Worcester Racecourse
South East Region	Thursday 17th November	TBC
Central South	Tuesday 22nd November	Oaksey House
North Region	Thursday 24th November	TBC
Council and Flat Committee	Tuesday 6th December	75 High Holborn, London

Executive meetings August and September 2016

- NTF Council
- NTF Flat and NH Committees
- Scotland and Borders regional meeting
- Racing to School Board
- Recruitment and training programmes survey
- Equine Anti-Doping liaison
- Horsemen's Group Board
- National Joint Council for pay
- Racing Foreign Exchange
- BRS Trainers Course
- Stakeholder Integrity Forum
- BHA Members Committee
- BHA Racecourse Committee
- Broadcast Innovations strategy
- Racing Together steering group
- Benevolent Fund trustees meeting
- RIABS trustees meeting

Auto Enrolment Pensions

Auto Enrolment applies to all employers.

Do you know your staging date?

Have you notified a contact to the Pension Regulator?

Don't risk a fine by failing to comply

Read the NTF Auto Enrolment Guide on our website and plan your scheme now.

RACING UK

Don't forget Racing UK has generously offered all NTF members a free subscription for every one purchased. Racing UK shows racing from 34 leading racecourses in the UK - and all in glorious HD. To avail yourself of this offer, please email trainers@racinguk.com.



National Trainers Federation

9 High Street
Lambourn
Hungerford
Berkshire
RG17 8XL

Phone: 01488 71719
Fax: 01488 73005
E-mail:
info@racehorsetrainers.org
www.racehorsetrainers.org

Employment helpline
01488 71729

Any other legal enquiry
01206 846143

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