



## NTF WEEKLY UPDATE – 5 JANUARY 2023 – Issue No. 1327

### NTF Trainer Metal Badges 2023

The new metal badges and Trainer Car Park Labels will be sent next week, together with the NTF Membership Renewal Packs. The RCA agreed that the orange 2020 badges will be allowed for the first two weeks of January, due to the strike disruption.

### URGENT - Vaccine Requirements

A separate mail message was sent yesterday to all members – the key information is repeated here:

**9TH JANUARY** - Entries made from 9th January (excluding those made for Saturday 14th January) will only be accepted for horses with a booster within the last 6 months.

**15th JANUARY** - New booster intervals become effective. At this point any horse that has not had a booster within the previous 6 months will be required to start a new primary course. This will mean a stand down of 21 days for the two primary vaccinations then a further 6 clear days stand down before the day of the race.

## EMPLOYMENT

### Health and Safety - HSE - Welfare Facilities at Work

The Health and Safety Executive advice: If you employ anyone (however short the period) you must 'so far as is reasonably practicable', provide adequate and appropriate welfare facilities for them while they are at work. This means you must provide such facilities unless it is clearly unreasonable in terms of time, trouble, cost and physical difficulty.

'Welfare facilities' are those that are necessary for the well-being of your employees, such as washing, toilet, rest and changing facilities, and somewhere clean to eat and drink during

breaks. [This leaflet](#) gives you simple, practical advice on how you can meet these requirements. The information may also be of interest to employees and the self-employed.

It summarises the requirements of the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992.

## Checking Hats and Safety Vests

Last year the Racing Staff Development Team hosted an event with BETA regarding the importance of checking hat and body protector/safety vest fitting, how it should correctly fit and when it should be changed. As you will all know, it is the employer's responsibility to provide PPE free of charge for employees and to ensure that it is suitable. There is a recording of the event available at : <https://youtu.be/rpQrUFJ71Vg>

## Industry Pension Schemes

Staff employed in 2001 and before may have funds in the old industry pension scheme waiting to be claimed. More information and the contact details for Winterbourne Trustees (administrators of the SEPP) is available in [this link](#)

## Upcoming racing coach course at the BRS

Do you have a member of your staff who would like to expand their skills in supporting and developing your team? If so, the Racing Coach route may be right for them and you – the BRS have a course upcoming in February – details here.

## Business Rates

The looming rating revaluation due on 1st April 2023 is being seen as an opportunity for many so-called “rating experts” to target businesses with cold calls giving dire warnings of rate increases and promises of reductions in rate bills if they are instructed. Christopher Marriott (NTF Consultant for Business Rates) would like to warn trainers that the vast majority of these are unqualified, and any such approach should be treated with the utmost suspicion. First, do check to see if the “valuer” is qualified – RICS, IRRV or RSA – second, make a Google search for reviews of the company; third, check to see if what is included in the Rateable Value is actually what is on the ground because, once the appeal process is started, it could result in an increase in RV. If in any doubt whatsoever, please contact Mr Christopher Marriott for advice.

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## DISSERTATION QUESTIONNAIRE – THEA GEAKE

"An exploration of how the economic pressures of training racehorses affect the well-being of the trainer."

Trainers (either current or retired) willing to be interviewed for Thea's dissertation (results anonymous) to get in touch with her by email - [theageake@gmail.com](mailto:theageake@gmail.com)

Please find the [link here](#)

## IJF and RACING TOGETHER - AUTISM IN RACING FREE WORKSHOP

A free Autism Awareness workshop, coordinated by Autism in Racing at IJF Oaksey House, Lambourn on Tuesday 31st January 2023. Autism in Racing Founder Bobby Beevers and autism advocate Carly Jones MBE will lead the workshop which will be a fun, informal event suitable for everyone in the racing community including trainers, jockeys, racing staff, racecourse teams and more. Our aim is to raise autism awareness, and communicate how it may affect a colleague, friend or family member.

*By the end of the workshop attendees will:*

- *Understand what autism is and how it may affect colleagues and employees*
- *Be better equipped to recognise signs and support colleagues*
- *Know where to seek help and guidance*

More information can be found [here](#)

## Schooling Wings January Sale

Wattfences 13 FT Schooling Wings normal price £375 a pair " Sale price £345 a pair" plus vat and delivery.

Please contact: Bill Watt 07966529666 Or email [wattfences@aol.com](mailto:wattfences@aol.com)

## REGULATORY DEADLINES

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2023** - Re-evaluation of business rates