



## NTF WEEKLY – 7 NOVEMBER 2017

### **Book your place on our “inspirational” management training module**

*“Inspirational.” “Very good ideas to take back to the yard and help with staff retention.”*

*“I learned a lot about leadership and management.”*

*“It has made me look at things from a completely different perspective and question how we do things in our yard.”*

These are some of the comments on the feedback forms from the first two modules “Building a Sustainable Business” created for the NTF by Peter Burnet at The Peplow Group and funded by the Racing Foundation.

There are a few places left on the module taking place in **Middleham at the Key Centre on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**. The module is based on the judging criteria for the [Lycetts Team Champion Award](#), created by the NTF to showcase and reward the yards that have a strong team ethos. By attending the module you and your senior staff will get a deeper understanding of the building blocks for developing a management style and working practices that have been shown to motivate and engage employees.

To book places for you and your management team, email [teamchampion@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:teamchampion@racehorsetrainers.org) or call Rupert Arnold on 07899 797010 or Shelley Perham on 07753 982052.

### **Nomination form for Lycetts Team Champion**

Nominations for Lycetts Team Champion Award must be with us by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. The nomination form, which you download from the [NTF website](#), is a template that allows you to enter text in the boxes for each question. The boxes expand as you type to accommodate the amount of text you want enter. The formatting is fixed so if you want to vary the formatting to make a bigger impact, please contact us at [teamchampion@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:teamchampion@racehorsetrainers.org) to obtain a plain Word document.

We want you to feel free to describe effectively the ways you and your team work together so please regard the 200 word count for each answer as a guide only.

## **NH Flat Races at Newcastle**

Please note that throughout January and February, all NH Flat Races at Newcastle Racecourse will be run on the all-weather track.

## **Only vets can give intravenous injections**

We would like to remind you that unless they have the right veterinary qualifications, trainers and their staff are not permitted to take blood samples or to administer intravenous (IV) injections.

This is because under the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966, all intravenous procedures, including the taking of blood samples, are considered to be a practice of veterinary surgery. The Act provides that only registered members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) may practise veterinary surgery. The taking of blood samples may only be carried out by people qualified to do so, (i.e. veterinary surgeons and registered veterinary nurses,) and those to whom exceptions apply (for example, veterinary students under supervision).

## **Microchip number must be checked against passport**

With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018, the rules will require trainers to have checked the microchip number for all horses in their care against the number in the horse's passport. This is in addition to the existing requirement to check that the horse's markings match those in the passport. Any discrepancy in either must be notified to Weatherbys.

Your vet will have a microchip scanner so you can ask him/her to check the number during a routine visit. Alternatively, some trainers may find it useful to purchase their own scanner; they cost around £50.

## **Stayers programme boosted by Development Fund cash**

Last week the BHA announced a significant commitment to boosting the programme for staying horses through increased expenditure from the BHA Development Fund for 2018, 2019 and 2020.

The c. £1.5m fund, which is raised through the leasing of BHA fixtures to racecourses, will be distributed by the BHA to support longer-term strategic initiatives to enhance the breed and has been agreed following consultation with representatives of Horsemen and Racecourses. The aim is to secure:

- Higher value Novice races for middle-distance and staying types at Class 3 and 4 levels
- A programme of Class 2, 3 and 4 staying handicaps which offer valuable prizes
- Enhancements to the prize money levels of certain races within the Black Type programme

62 races for the staying horse population will be supported by the Development Fund over the next three years, of which 25 are upgrades of existing races and 8 are new contests. As a result, the BHA Development Fund will invest £1,894,500 in these races between 2018 and 2020. Alongside this, racecourses have made commitments to increase the prize money for a number of Black Type races for three year olds.

The Development Fund will also support the following jump racing initiatives

- A £100,000 Novice Handicap Chase staged at the end of the core Jumping period, with weight-for-age Novice Chase qualifiers throughout the season
- Similar initiatives for Novice Hurdles
- Enhance the programme for mares' Jump races by £200,000 and the programme of Juvenile Hurdles by £150,000

### **Insights into Strangles surveillance and research**

The Strangles Workshop recently held at the fabulous Animal Health Trust (AHT) Visitor Centre provided a fascinating insight into the complex and ground breaking disease surveillance and research underway into this disease. Strangles is endemic across most of the world, with evidence that more than 600 outbreaks are identified annually in the UK alone, but thankfully very few of these occur in British racehorses. Dr Richard Newton of the AHT commented,

“The rarity of strangles in racing is undoubtedly linked to the zero-tolerance that the industry has to it, such that trainers, their vets and the BHA all work closely together to control and eradicate the disease when it occurs. It is important that racing remains vigilant and in particular becomes open to adopting wider preventive strategies such as quarantining and screening batches of horses entering training for the first time and those returning from events, such as international meetings, where there may be a heightened risk of introducing a range of infectious diseases including strangles.” You can read more about the workshop on [ntfmuse here](#).

## Regulation deadlines

- Pension auto enrolment staging dates
  - **Up to February 2018** for businesses started since April 2012
- **By the end of 2017** – original Racing Admin website will close.
- **30<sup>th</sup> October 2017** – New non-runner rules take effect: trainer’s non-runner percentage, 2-day stand down for Vet Certificates; increased fine for non-runners after 9.00am
- **1<sup>st</sup> November 2017** – in handicaps, if after raising of weights, a horse rated 1lb or 2lbs above the rating band is set to carry more than 10.7 (flat) or 12.7 (jumps), the weights will be lowered so the top weight carried 10.7/12.7 and other weights lowered accordingly. Amateur races on flat – 12st.
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – minimum ratings applies to all non-two year old Group 1 and non-novice Grade 1 races.
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – when extending declaration deadline, each trainer with a declaration will be deemed to have declared only one horse
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – microchip number on any horse under trainer’s care must be checked against the number in the passport

## NTF meeting dates

<b>North</b>	<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Ripon Racecourse</b>
<b>East</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Rowley Mile, Newmarket
<b>South East</b>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Epsom Racecourse
<b>Central South</b>	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Newbury Racecourse
<b>Committees and Council</b>	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	London