

NTF WEEKLY – 10 SEPTEMBER 2018 - (Issue 1129)

NTF Racing Diary 2019

In preparation for the NTF Racing Diary 2019 we ask you, as usual, to check that the contact details we have for you are correct by following this link to the trainer's membership profile <https://www.racehorsetrainers.org/login/memberloginwordy.asp> Please let us know if any alterations which need to be made, via the links on the profile.

This year, due to both the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the horrid abuse that trainers and jockeys are being subjected to, not just on social media but to their mobile phones and email addresses, we suggest reducing the amount of contact detail shown in the NTF Racing Diary. But, this is your Diary and if you would like to add any other than the main contain details: Trainer's Name, Address, Office telephone number (that may be your mobile telephone number if we don't have a landline number), Email Address, Website address, Type of licence held – or prefer not to be listed - please let us know with an email to diary@racehorsetrainers.org

New testing policy for Group and Grading Races

The NTF was informed last week about the BHA's new testing policy for runners in Group and Graded races. The change in policy took effect from last weekend and we contacted all British-based trainers with runners in the relevant races on Saturday.

From 1 September 2018 the first four placed horses in all Group 1, 2 & 3 Flat races, and all Grade 1 Jump races will be sampled. Historically multiple runners have been sampled from these races, however not consistently the first four placed.

The policy is linked to a request to set a new standard to protect the integrity of these Pattern races. By setting this standard, particularly for Flat racing, it is believed other international racing nations will be expected to follow. This in turn will protect the integrity of Pattern races and the LONGINES World's Best Horse Rankings.

The BHA have assessed the logistics of making this happen and have developed initiatives within its teams' working practices to minimise logistical challenges. They have also allocated additional Veterinary and EWIO resources where appropriate to those fixtures. At future fixtures where a race falling into the category outlined above is being run, racecourses are being asked to have an additional Catcher available to assist for those specified races. Additional water and buckets should be made available around the area of the sample units.

Upcoming ROA Secretary and Senior Staff Events

The ROA are hosting several informal social events for Racing Secretaries and Senior Staff over the coming weeks:

- Tuesday 11th September – Lambourn, Oaksey House
- Monday 24th September – Middleham, The Saddle Room
- Tuesday 25th September – Malton, Jack Berry House
- Tuesday 2nd October – Gloucester, The Huntsman Inn (Falfield)

Secretaries are invited to attend between 1-3pm for a general discussion on ownership related matters and to share new ideas for the recruitment and retention of owners. There will also be the opportunity to discuss ways that the association can support secretaries in their daily communications with owners. A selection of sandwiches, cakes and light refreshments will be provided.

As well as providing a discussion forum, the events provide a great opportunity for networking with others from neighbouring yards. Those wishing to attend any of the events should please RSVP to Chloe Martin cmartin@roa.co.uk as soon as possible. Further dates for other regions, including Newmarket and Epsom, will be circulated in due course.

ROA and Owner Sponsorship

The ROA continues to provide owner-sponsorship for ROA members and have received enquiries from trainers in Lambourn who were previously covered by their own SIS scheme.

The ROA is fully funding the scheme now, but the SIS logos will remain in place while they look for another sponsor, or the ROA decides to fund the sponsorship themselves for the foreseeable future. There has been no new deal with SIS, and their logos will be replaced in the fullness of time. The current scheme covers 12 months from September 1st 2018 to August 31st 2019. The following link gives more details of the scheme and there is an online form to apply to join which can be completed by owners or their trainers.

<https://www.roa.co.uk/en/benefits/Owner-sponsorship/index.cfm>

Airofreem Hurdle Pads for sale

Airofreem in Trowbridge, who make the hurdle pads, have about 20 used pads for sale. They are not suitable for the racecourse but would be suitable for schooling purposes. The pads are available on a first come first served basis and would require collection. For more information please contact kate.kearley@airofreem.co.uk Trainers are advised that they may have to modify the existing hurdle frame.

Regulation deadlines

- **1 October 2018** – Level 2 safety vest mandatory for jockeys for race riding
- **January 2019** – Changes to Racing Calendar and Programme Book take effect