

NTF WEEKLY UPDATE- 10 NOVEMBER 2023 – Issue No. 1363

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INDUSTRY NEWS

Gambling Review – Please sign and share the Affordability Petition?

It is now one week since the launch of the petition to seek to halt affordability checks and we stand at around 77,000 signatures.

We are asking trainers and their teams for a concerted push this week to get us towards the 100,000 signatures, at least, that we are aiming for.

Please act now to sign and to send on to staff, owners, suppliers, friends and family. This is our chance to act to defend the sport that we care about. Please pull out all the stops.

Click the [link here](#) to sign.

Grand Sefton Handicap Chase

Please note the Grand Sefton Handicap Chase this Saturday at Aintree will be the first race with the new standing start on the Grand National Course. This was detailed in the Jockey Club Press release whereby a standing start will apply to all races over the Grand National fences throughout the 2023-24 season and beyond. *Insights from independent research papers, combined with The Jockey Club's own analysis of the speed of the horses participating in the race shows an increase in speed on average as the horses approach the first fence over the past 10 years.*

Full details can be found [here](#)

GBR say - A HUGE THANK YOU FOR MAKING NATIONAL RACEHORSE WEEK A HUGE SUCCESS!

National Racehorse Week surpassed all previous years in attendance and reach in September 2023. The National Racehorse Week team would like to thank all those that hosted an open day and/or a community event during the week, its success is down to the hard work that you and all your staff put in to making these days enjoyable for all that attended.

Key statistics:

209 events took place with more than 15,000 places made available to the public up and down the country

60 additional community and school events were delivered across the week, giving over 3,000 young people and individuals the chance to meet a racehorse and learn more about racing

60% of people were new to racing or not regular racegoers

The week provided a platform to create a lasting impact on those who are not familiar with racing or who don't have the opportunity to get close to a horse in everyday life. In research undertaken after the week had finished, 94% of people said the experience had left them with a better understanding about and a positive impression of welfare. And 92% of attendees who were new to racing said their opinion had been positively changed about the lives our racehorses lead.

View the highlights document [here](#)

Watch video showing highlights from the week [here](#)

Watch the community highlights video [here](#)

Interactive Highlights document [here](#)

EMPLOYMENT

Rehabilitation of Offenders – changes to when convictions become spent

New legislation has come into force that reduces the period of time before criminal convictions become spent so reducing the period that individuals are required to declare a custodial sentence to their employers. We have not set out the changes here but if any member would like further information, please contact the office. The Government guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rehabilitation-periods>

New duty to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace

The Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023 will bring a new duty upon employers to take steps to prevent sexual harassment of their employees. This will come into force in October 2024. It gives tribunals the power to increase compensation by up to 25% where an employer is found to have breached this new duty.

This new legislation creates a pro-active duty upon the employer to prevent sexual harassment from happening in the workplace, rather than as at present a redress approach if there is a claim from an employee.

Further information and guidance to help employers with the new duty will be issued during 2024 but you should already have in place a dignity at work/anti bullying policy and train your staff upon the conduct expected within the workplace – there is a training module on Racing2Learn in the Respect in Racing area. It is important to keep records of staff training and refresh training on a regular basis.

MEMBER SERVICES

Property

Christopher Marriott will be stepping down from the NTF Professional Consultant role in property and rates, although he will complete any current instructions for existing clients.

We are very pleased to introduce John Webber BSc FRICS Dip, Head of Rating for Colliers, who will manage all new enquiries and can be contacted on telephone numbers:

Direct 0207 344 6967 | Mobile 07795 010130 | Main 020 7935 499

[John's Profile](#) www.colliers.com

Colliers | 50 George Street | London W1U 7GA | United Kingdom

On behalf of the NTF membership we thank Christopher for working tirelessly for NTF members since 2016.

NTF Trainer Metal Badges - 2024

Discussions are ongoing for the NTF Trainer Metal Badges and how the badge scheme will operate next year. The 2023 NTF Metal Badges will continue to be valid until further notice.

As usual at this time of year, if members wish to make changes to their badge allocation, please email the NTF office [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

NTF Regional Forums Confirmed for the Autumn – Please sign up [here](#)

- **Midlands and Central North Region** Monday **20th November** at York Racecourse and via Zoom at 2pm
- **Central South Region** on Tuesday **21st November** at Oaksey House at 1:30pm

- **East Region** on Tuesday **28th November** at Newmarket Rowley Mile Racecourse at 1pm

If you are planning to attend a Regional Forum, please sign up here

<https://paulntf.wufoo.com/forms/z6959sp0i71j3r/> The agenda will be out 1 week before the meeting.
