

NTF WEEKLY UPDATE – 05 MAY 2024 – Issue No. 1381

MEMBER SERVICES	2
2024 NTF Badges.....	2
INDUSTRY NEWS	2
Cheltenham and Aintree Medication Declarations 2024 - Feedback Request.....	2
IFAR Launches Membership and Supporter Initiative	2
RACE PLANNING.....	3
Programme Book 3 Schedule.....	3
BHA rule change: declaring non-runners in races from the starting stalls.....	3
The Trustees of The Beaufort Cottage Educational Trust.....	4
Salisbury Road Closure.....	4
National Racehorse Week will take place on the 7th – 15th September 2024	4
EMPLOYMENT.....	5
Employment – new code for migrant worker applications	5
The job code classification for employing new migrant workers has changed to 6129 (from 6139) following the racing and stud roles being placed on the Immigration Shortage List. If making any new application, job code “6129 Animal care services occupations not elsewhere classified” should be used.....	5
Self-employed status	5
Podcasts	5
HMRC - Get your recruits into their roles faster – finding their employment details.....	5
Why this matters.....	5
What other helpful information can be found in the HMRC app and online?	6
What your employees need to do:	6
How to access the digital version of employment and income history.....	6
OTHER BUSINESS.....	6
Tickets now on sale for the 2024 Racing Foundation Conference	6
USEFUL LINKS :	7
HMRC – New VAT Scale charges from 1 st May 2024 – 30 th April 2024	7
Assistance at the start :	7
Point to Point :	7
Trainer Support Network	7

MEMBER SERVICES

2024 NTF Badges

Thank you to all who have completed the application form for RCA Photo ID Accreditation.

The first batch will be sent by recorded delivery and we expect them to be delivered by the end of this week in time for the implementation at racecourse entrances from Monday 20th May.

A second batch of accreditations is currently being processed and a form for new applications is available [here](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

Cheltenham and Aintree Medication Declarations 2024 - Feedback Request

Trainers who have declared a horse to run at the 2024 Cheltenham Festival and/or the 2024 Grand National Festival should have received an email from the BHA to provide feedback on the use of the Equine Medirecord (EMR) online system. If you would like to provide feedback [please use this form](#).

IFAR Launches Membership and Supporter Initiative

The International Forum for the Aftercare of Racehorses (IFAR) announced on 14 May that [IFAR membership](#) is now available for racing and aftercare organisations and individuals who embrace the mission, objectives, and values of IFAR as set forth in its Membership Charter.

“The aftercare of racehorses remains an important and ever-growing global initiative,” said IFAR Chair Di Arbuthnot. “This is an important next step for both IFAR and the racing industry. Becoming a member of IFAR allows responsible organisations to publicly demonstrate their commitment to the wellbeing of our equine athletes after their racing days are done.”

Interested parties are encouraged to complete the [IFAR Membership/Supporter Form](#) and return it to ifarmembership@gmail.com.

RACE PLANNING

Programme Book 3 Schedule

The early index for races from 24th June – 15th Sept are now available to [download from the NTF Website](#). Races from 24th June to 14th July will be online on Wednesday 1st May and the rest of the book will be online on 16th May.

BHA rule change: declaring non-runners in races from the starting stalls

A change to the Rules of Racing will see BHA Stewards able to declare a non-runner in any race beginning from starting stalls if they believe that a horse has been denied a fair start. Under the existing Rules, a horse can only be declared a non-runner if it has been prevented from starting due to a faulty action of the starting stalls or if it is riderless at the off. However from 1 May 2024, the powers of the Stewards will be extended to include situations where a horse has been prevented from starting on equal terms and its chances in a race have been materially affected as a consequence.

The change - which aligns Britain with the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) model rule and the approach applied by other major racing nations - follows engagement with and feedback from industry stakeholders, including participants and the betting industry, and approval by the BHA Board. Use of the updated Rule will be at the discretion of the BHA Stewards and may include instances where a stalls malfunction causes some stalls to open more slowly than others, as was the case in the 2023 Epsom Dash. It could also cover scenarios where there is a problem with equipment fitted at the start, or a stalls handler is still attempting to assist a horse and jockey when the starting mechanism is triggered.

The updated Rule can also be applied in circumstances where a horse has obtained an unfair advantage at the start, for example if a runner forces the gates open prematurely before the Starter has triggered the starting mechanism. However, a horse will not be declared a non-runner if it merely accelerates the gates once the Starter has operated the starting mechanism. Any consideration by the Stewards will always precede the 'weighed in' signal, with participants, racegoers and the betting public alerted that an incident at the start of the race is being reviewed.

The full press release can be found [HERE](#)

The new rule can be found [HERE](#)

The Trustees of The Beaufort Cottage Educational Trust

request the pleasure of your company at:

The Gerald Leigh Lectures - “**Optimising Youngstock Growth and Development**”

Wednesday 12th June 2024, Tattersalls, Newmarket, CB8 9AY

RSVP: <mailto:beaufortcottageet@gmail.com> By 20th May 2024

Please consider passing this invitation to an interested colleague or team member if you are unable to attend.

Salisbury Road Closure

Important road closure information around Salisbury Racecourse. A section of the A360 between the A303 (Longbarrow roundabout) and the top of The Avenue at Wilton is closed until at least mid-July. Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (SEN), on behalf of National Highways, are carrying out work along this length of road to provide power for the future Stonehenge tunnel project. This closure is the circa 5-mile length of road which passes Druid’s Lodge Polo Stables (formerly a racing yard).

This is the route many horseboxes would normally take. A diversion is in place; turning off the A303 sooner (3 miles further east) to join the A345 at Amesbury and then driving into Salisbury and join the A36 out towards Wilton. Trainers coming from the west usually turn off the A303 earlier at Deptford and come along the A36.

[This link](#) provides more information, as well as a map. The racecourse is close to where the “H” is in “WILTSHIRE” at the bottom of the map

National Racehorse Week will take place on the 7th – 15th September 2024

National Racehorse Week showcases the magnificent care racehorses receive from stud through to retirement. By opening your doors, racing is able to create deeper relations between the sport and new audiences.

To take part in National Racehorse week through hosting an open day or getting involved in a community event, please sign up by [following this link](#).

EMPLOYMENT

Employment – new code for migrant worker applications

The job code classification for employing new migrant workers has changed to 6129 (from 6139) following the racing and stud roles being placed on the Immigration Shortage List. If making any new application, job code “6129 Animal care services occupations not elsewhere classified” should be used.

Self-employed status

We quite often receive calls from members being approached by riders who wish to work on a self-employed basis and it is important to be aware of the risks to both employer and the individual when it is not the correct status. Our up-to-date guidance on self-employed status can be found [HERE](#)

Podcasts

[A new podcast has landed](#) – a short podcast on the flexible working regulations and the recent changes can be found on the podcast area of the NTF website. This gives an overview of the processes and the particular importance of following procedures if considering rejecting a request.

HMRC - Get your recruits into their roles faster – finding their employment details

Does gathering information from your new employees slow down your pre-employment checks? Your new recruits can find their 5-year employment and income history in the HMRC app and online. They can then share this with you as part of the onboarding process to get into their new role faster.

This is the quickest and easiest way for them to access their employment details from HMRC. You can accept the digital version as confirmation of previous employment from your recruits as part of your security and employment checks.

Why this matters

If you ask your new employees for their employment and income history, they will often call HMRC to request it. We then send the information by post, which can take up to 15 days and slow down your recruitment process significantly.

However, they can access their employment information in the HMRC app and online instantly. Your new employee can download and send you the digital version or print a copy to share with you at the time you need to see it.

What other helpful information can be found in the HMRC app and online?

Your new employees can find a fully accessible PDF version of their National Insurance confirmation letter quickly and easily in the app and online. They can even store a digital version of their National Insurance number card to their phone wallet – so they never have to search for their National Insurance number or confirmation letter again.

In the HMRC app and online, they will have their Pay As You Earn (PAYE) and tax information at their fingertips – including a personalised explanation of their tax code. This means they can take control of their finances and find answers themselves when things change – reducing the number of pay related queries you'll get.

What your employees need to do:

- they'll need to [download the free HMRC app](#) from the App Store or Google Play Store
- they'll need to follow the instructions on screen to complete the set up – users will be asked to sign in. If they've not already got an account, they'll need to have their passport or driving licence handy to sign up
- they'll need to sign into their account the first time they use the app, but after that they can select facial recognition, a short PIN or choose to use their fingerprint to sign in quicker

How to access the digital version of employment and income history

In the free HMRC app

- once open, the app will show your personalised 'Money' screen – select the 'Pay As You Earn (PAYE)' section
- select 'other tax years or employment history' and scroll down to see the 5 previous years

You can also access other key employment information (including your tax code) in the PAYE section.

OTHER BUSINESS

[Tickets now on sale for the 2024 Racing Foundation Conference](#)

The Racing Foundation is delighted to announce that its seventh annual conference will take place on Wednesday 2nd October 2024 at Ascot Racecourse.

An industry event not to be missed, the carbon-neutral conference aims to prompt collaboration and build understanding around racing's most pertinent challenges and bring delegates from across the industry together for a day of learning, collaboration and inspiration.

The key question being explored throughout this year's conference is: how can horseracing navigate social licence amidst changing societal expectations?

Click the button below to read more about the conference agenda and to purchase tickets
<https://www.racingfoundation.co.uk/conference/>

USEFUL LINKS :

HMRC – New VAT Scale charges from 1st May 2024 – 30th April 2024

Link here : <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/vat-road-fuel-scale-charges-from-1-may-2024-to-30-april-2025>

Assistance at the start :

Training on racing2learn <https://racing2learn.com/course/index.php?categoryid=97>

Point to Point :

https://www.pointtopoint.co.uk/news_articles/pointing-route-to-training-under-rules

Trainer Support Network :

A network of knowledgeable and empathetic people for trainers to share the burdens of their busy and challenging working life. <https://www.racehorsetrainers.org/ntf/tsn.asp>