

NTF WEEKLY UPDATE –14 SEPTEMBER 2023 – Issue No. 1356

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INDUSTRY NEWS

[Horse Welfare Board - Newsletter September 2023](#)

The latest edition of the [Horse Welfare Board Newsletter September 2023](#) provides an update on the key projects for equine welfare, as set out by British Racing's five-year welfare strategy 'A Life Well Lived'.

The Strategy identifies four welfare key outcomes: Best possible quality of life, collective lifetime responsibility, best possible safety and growth and maintenance of public trust.

This issue includes updates on the 2023 Racehorse Census, National Racehorse Week and Aftercare -Support for Former Racehorses.

Information about the Horse Welfare Board can be found on the BHA website [here](#)

[Registration Open for IFAR Webinar on Behaviour Change in Equine Welfare](#)

The International Forum for the Aftercare of Racehorses (IFAR) announced today that registration is now open for its webinar on the role of behaviour change in equine welfare. Scheduled for 24 October, the webinar will be led by applied behavioural scientist Dr. Denise Goodwin and moderated by renowned media personality Caroline Searcy. It will begin at 11 a.m. (BST).

The webinar is free, but registration is required. After registering, attendees will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. To register, please click [HERE](#).

Nominate NOW for the Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards

Nominations are OPEN for the 2024 [Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards](#), sponsored by Godolphin. If you know someone who deserves recognition, please nominate them now at: www.thoroughbredawards.co.uk.

With £128,500 in prize money across six categories, these awards are about shining a spotlight on the people working in our yards and providing the best possible care for our horses.

This might be someone new to the yard who has made a quick impression, a great leader or dedicated colleague with years of service, or simply a brilliant member of the team.

Nominations are open until Tuesday 7 November 2023. Just go to the website and complete the online form or submit a quick video nomination.

For more information, including full details about the categories and nomination criteria, visit www.thoroughbredawards.co.uk.

RACE PLANNING

Removal of +1/+2 system for Class 5 Jump Handicaps

The BHA's Racing Committee has agreed to the permanent removal of the +1/+2 system for all Class 5 Jump Handicaps.

This change comes into effect from 1 October 2023 and follows a trial of the removal of the +1/+2 system in all Handicap Jump races during the Summer Jump racing period.

Please note that the +1/+2 system will remain in place for all other race classes.

The decision to permanently remove the +1/+2 system for all Class 5 Jump Handicaps follows a review of the data during the trial, which has demonstrated the intended improvements in race competitiveness and supports the permanent removal.

Those Class 5 Jump Handicap races that have already been published in the Racing Calendar up to 8 October 2023 with +1/+2 in the race conditions will be altered to have such conditions removed. A list of those races has been published on Racing Admin.

For further information please contact the BHA Racing Department on 0207 152 0050 or via racing@britishhorseracing.com

EMPLOYMENT

[National Joint Council for Racing Staff minimum terms and conditions \(the MOA\)](#)

As members will know the current MOA “wage agreement” is effective from 1st April 2023.

We have agreed with NARS that negotiations will take place early next year with a view to a new agreement from 1st April 2024 if negotiations are successfully concluded at that stage.

We are aware that many yards will have a wage review date in their contracts of 1st October although many yards will have their own different review dates. The standard contract wording places no obligation upon the employer to increase the rate of pay but it is important to discuss with and inform employees as to what is the position within your own yard on wage reviews.

[ACAS Guidance](#)

ACAS has recently updated its Coronavirus advice. Self-isolation is no longer a legal requirement but there is public health advice in England, Scotland and Wales and employers may have their own policies in place.

[If an employee gets covid: Covid and work - Acas](#)

MEMBER SERVICES

NTF RACING DIARY 2024

Preparation for the NTF Racing Dairy 2024 is underway. Will you please advise any change to your address and contact details and names of contacts to diary@racehorsetrainers.org the current details we have are shown on the NTF website, available [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

NTF Regional Forums Confirmed for the Autumn

- **South West and Wales Region** on Monday **16th October** at Taunton Racecourse at 2pm
- **South East Region** on Wednesday **18th October** at Lingfield Racecourse 1:30pm
- **Scotland and the North Region** Monday **6th November** at Newcastle Racecourse at 2pm
- **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.

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