

## NTF WEEKLY – 15 JANUARY 2018

### **2018 Annual General Meeting to host Lycetts Team Champion Award presentation**

The NTF's 2018 Annual General Meeting will be held on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** at the Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5ED.

An inspiring new element to this year's AGM is the announcement of the winners of the inaugural Lycetts Team Champion Award. Representatives from the two category-leading yards will receive their trophy and £4000 prize. We will also be publicising the yards that achieved a star-rating for their employment practices through their award nomination. This will take place in the fabulous Waterloo Room at the IoD.

Formal notification of the AGM and the invitation and reply form will be sent out on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Funding for trainers to train older recruits**

Would you like to recruit and train someone over the age of 19 but worry about the expense of carrying an inexperienced employee?

Over the last two years, the NTF and BHA have piloted an "employer led training programme" (ELT) aimed at new entrants to the industry over the age of 19. Training for new staff in this age range is currently limited and restricted at the racing schools to those who may be able to benefit from attracting Government funding.

The ELT Programme enables a trainer to take on a new recruit aged over 19 on an employed basis and apply for funding of up to £2,500 to support the training to bring them up to the required industry standard. These recruits may come from a variety of backgrounds with or without established horse care skills but need racing specific training. The training should be delivered over a 30-week period with milestone payments made at agreed intervals.

Skills are recorded against a 'Skills Passport', to be completed by the employer and employee and will not involve external assessment or qualification achievement as a mandatory component of the training.

We have a number of trainers already using the ELT programme and if you are interested in taking part contact Shelley Perham, the NTF's Recruitment and Training Coordinator, for further details on 07753 982052 or email [s.perham@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:s.perham@racehorsetrainers.org)

### **Wind surgery declaration becomes mandatory from 19<sup>th</sup> January**

The BHA emailed trainers last week to remind them that the new rule which requires you to declare when a horse has had wind surgery will be implemented for races run on or after **19 January 2018**.

The declaration of wind surgery is required for horses which have previously raced and must be made prior to their first run after wind surgery.

The types of wind surgery required to be declared are –

- Tie back (prosthetic laryngoplasty)
- Hobday (ventriculectomy/cordectomy)
- Epiglottic entrapment surgery
- Tie forward (dorsal displacement soft palate surgery)
- Soft palate cauterly

The email contained more detailed instructions about how to manage the declarations on the Racing Admin website and a link to [these graphics](#) which explain the process.

### **ROA Secretary Event, Epsom**

The ROA will be hosting an informal social event for Racing Secretaries and Senior Staff at The Cock Inn (Headley, KT18 6LE) on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**.

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.

Those wishing to attend please RSVP to Chloe Martin [cmartin@roa.co.uk](mailto:cmartin@roa.co.uk) no later than **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January**.

### **Access to migrant worker still elusive**

We know from past experience that the period between December and March is the peak time for the shortage of skilled staff. This year is no exception and we receive regular calls from trainers asking what is being done to regain access to workers from outside the EU.

Obviously the politics of Brexit is a major factor influencing Government policy in this area. As control of immigration has been prioritised above the needs of businesses, it is not surprising that racing find itself in the same position as other industry sectors with a demand for migrant workers but no access to them.

This means the NTF has to grab whatever opportunities come our way to influence Government thinking and press the needs of your businesses. Last year the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC), which advises the Government on immigration issues, called for evidence on the impact on the UK labour market of the UK's exit from the European Union and how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy. The NTF and BHA composed a joint response for the MAC as well as contributing to a response by the Sports and Recreation Alliance to a request for information from the Department of Culture Media and Sport.

We will keep working hard to explain your needs to policy makers and look at ways the immigration system might allow us to recruit from abroad.

Don't forget that the **Tier 5 Youth Mobility Scheme** allows companies to employ workers aged 18 to 30 from a narrow range of countries outside the EU for a period of up to two years.

The relevant countries are Australia, Canada, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea and Taiwan. In most cases, the employer is not required to have a sponsor's licence. The employee must have £1,890 in savings and will have to pay the healthcare surcharge on application for permission to work in the country. See the [Youth Mobility Scheme](#) website for more information.

## Getting to the parade ring on time

Saddling in stables is popular with trainers and over recent years the NTF has liaised with the BHA about greater flexibility for trainers to do this without having to get permission from the Stewards.

Please remember that it is important to ensure that horses enter the paddock in accordance with the times set out on the ST1 form shown in the weighing room and in the racecourse stables. The BHA is liaising with RCA to ensure Clerks of the Course place ST1 timing sheets in visible locations on-course and in racecourse stable yards, along with asking their teams to help inform personnel.

In similar vein, the BHA has asked that trainers and their representatives help keep races to time by ensuring their riders are mounted in the paddock when instructed to do so by Clerks of the Course. This is a perpetual problem and the BHA is liaising with the PJA about jockeys' cooperation.

## Get an insight into mandatory jockey training

The increasing professionalism of jockey training encompasses a wide range of subjects about managing the jockeys' working life other than just the race-riding elements. Examples are media training, resilience training, safeguarding and finance.

If you would like an insight into this training, you are invited to attend the 3lb Claimer Workshop on 30<sup>th</sup> January at the British Racing School. Please contact **Gill Greeves, BHA Vocational Training Manager** by email at [ggreeves@britishhorseracing.com](mailto:ggreeves@britishhorseracing.com) or by phone on 07887560994.

## 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.
- **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
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – a horse may not be made a non-runner on a self-cert once the Declaration Sheet on the racecourse has been signed.
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – trainer becomes responsible for notifying the BHA when a mare in their care is pregnant.
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – mandatory 5-day stand down before racing for any horse having received shockwave therapy.
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2018** – rules tightened on equine flu vaccination records. If horse judged to be a biosecurity risk, Stewards may prevent it from running.
- **19<sup>th</sup> January 2018** – notification of specified wind surgeries must be made on the Racing Admin website for notification for any horse having its first run following surgery.
- **1<sup>st</sup> April 2018** – mandatory Equine Herpes vaccination to race in France