

NTF WEEKLY UPDATE-17 FEBRUARY 2023

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Industry News

Racing Welfare Survey

Racing Welfare would like to gain trainers' feedback about their experience of Racing Welfare's services for themselves and for their staff in order to better understand the impact of those services and how they might be improved or expanded. This is part of a bigger survey and the results of this evaluation will inform the service development for Racing Welfare over the next 2-3 years so this is your chance to provide feedback. If you employ or manage racing staff, the short form to complete is [here](#) and it needs to be done before 25th February to have your say – it will take around 5 minutes and can be completely confidential.

Change of on-course obstacles from orange to white

All jumps tracks have now changed the markings on fences and hurdles from orange to white. As part of the ongoing project trainers are invited to complete the following survey on the experience of the change of colour.

<https://forms.gle/he6FIJK6758rSTJx8>

The project has been championed by the Horse Welfare Board and has been led by a cross-industry working group, which included trainer representation. This project is part of the industry's ongoing work to improve on-course safety and help to reduce injuries and fallers and is based on cutting-edge research into equine vision completed by Exeter University during 2017/18. The full research by Exeter University can be seen here Equine Vision Research. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S016815911930142X>

EMPLOYMENT

ACAS - Disciplinary procedures: dealing with the unexpected

This webinar for small and medium-sized businesses explains what to do when there are disruptions to a disciplinary procedure, to help employers:

- improve processes
- avoid making costly mistakes that could lead to workplace conflicts or a potential employment tribunal claim at a later stage

It will cover:

- how to follow a fair and reasonable disciplinary procedure
- options to consider when an employee is off sick during a disciplinary procedure
- how to deal with a grievance raised during a disciplinary procedure
- options to consider when an employee is absent from a procedure

Two dates are available:

Wednesday 8 March 11am – 12pm [Book your place](#)

Thursday 16 March 2pm – 3pm [Book your place](#)

These webinars are free to attend

Workers with more than one employment in the industry

Do you have employees who work a second job?

The standard NTF contract requires the employee to notify the employer if they take up another job so that you can manage their working hours and rest breaks accordingly – the responsibility for working time compliance lies with both employers.

An important point specific to racing is that if the employee is working for another trainer in their second job, the employee should ensure they are on that trainer's Stable Employees Register as a paid employee as well as registered to their main employer to ensure they are covered for RIABS in both jobs.

Race Planning

Prize Money Boost to Development Races in 2023

Last week the BHA announced the programming of over 60 high-value developmental races in 2023, with funding provided by the BHA, Darley and Juddmonte, supported by additional contributions from the hosting racecourses.

The races will offer enhanced prize money to horses at the beginning of their careers as well as assisting longer-term objectives of supporting the domestic breeding industry and ensuring more quality young horses who are bred in Britain are retained to race here.

It is the intention that this initiative is a first step on the path towards a substantial enhancement of the values of Flat maiden and novice races, with discussions ongoing about further improvements for 2024 and beyond.

The 63 races, which can be viewed in full [here](https://media.britishhorseracing.com/bha/Fixture_List/High_Value_Dev_Races_23.pdf) https://media.britishhorseracing.com/bha/Fixture_List/High_Value_Dev_Races_23.pdf, are made up as follows:

- 20 x £30,000 2yo Restricted maiden and novice races: Supported by Juddmonte
- 21 x £30,000 2yo Open maiden and novice races: Supported by the BHA Development Fund
- 22 x £30,000-£50,000 3yo/3yo+ Open maiden and novice races: Supported by Darley and the BHA Development Fund

The races will be run at a range of racecourses, both large and small, across the length and breadth of Great Britain. The highest value races offering prize money of £50,000 are targeted towards races over longer distances. This forms part of the ongoing programme of work to support the continued production of quality stayers in Britain, with the aim of maintaining variety in the horse population.

As part of this initiative, additional support for restricted novice and maiden races allow for additional prize money to be funnelled across a range of horses, including less expensive horses and more affordable home bred, thereby also providing a boost for smaller owners and breeders.

Changes to the 2023 Flat Pattern and Listed Programme

The British Horseracing Authority's (BHA) Flat Pattern Committee has confirmed several additional changes to the 2023 Flat Pattern and Listed race programme, following ratification by the European Pattern Committee. The following races have been repositioned or relocated within the existing programme to help achieve a better spread of Black Type opportunities in the relevant age and distance categories in 2023:

- The Listed Abingdon Stakes (10f, 3yo fillies, early June), previously run at Newbury, will now take place at Goodwood on Sunday 11 June and be run as the Listed Agnes Keyser Stakes (10f, 3yo fillies) with a prize fund of £70,000
- The Listed Tapster Stakes (1m 3f 218y, 4yo+) will also be run at Goodwood on Sunday 11 June, rather than in late May, and will also offer prizemoney of £70,000, to mirror that of the Agnes Keyser
- The Listed Cathedral Stakes (6f, 3yo+) at Salisbury will move to Saturday 27 May (previously mid-June)
- The Listed Stonehenge Stakes (8f, 2yo) at Salisbury will take place on Wednesday 16 August (a race which was otherwise due to be run in early September in 2023)

The adjustments to the Flat Pattern and Listed programme for 2023 follow the reduction in the number of Group 3 and Listed races in Britain, announced earlier this year. The aim remains to try to boost field sizes and increase competitiveness in the short-term, while work continues to strengthen Britain's race programme overall, using a variety of measures, for 2024 and beyond.

Grand Steeple Chase de Paris

The 2023 Grand Steeple-Chase Masters series consists of 4 qualifying races leading up to the Grand Steeple-Chase de Paris which takes place on Sunday 21st May 2023. FRBC and France Galop would be delighted to welcome more British runners in 2023 to compete in this series and to try to win this lucrative prize. There is a €150,000 bonus for any horse that wins any 2 of the 4 qualifying races as well as the Grand Steeple-Chase de Paris. For more information please follow this link <file:///C:/Users/George/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/XFYGTM4L/UK.html>

Upcoming Events

NTF AGM – Thursday 23rd February

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd February at The Honourable Society Of Gray's Inn, 8 South Square, London, WC1R 5ET from 10:00am.

With guest speakers Joe Saumarez Smith, Neil Hayward and Richard Wayman.

National Racehorse Week is back for 2023 !

This year's National Racehorse Week will take place 9-17 September 2023. Great British Racing will continue to lead this cross-industry equine welfare initiative with the support of a dedicated project manager, Sally Lyons who said:

“After the enormous success of 2022's campaign, this year's theme is 'Connecting with Communities' - throwing open racing's doors to create new and deeper relationships between racing and new audiences.

As part of 2023's celebrations, we are encouraging everyone within racing to open their doors to showcase the fantastic care that racehorses receive. With this year's theme being one of connecting communities, you may also wish to get involved in our significant programme of community events - all fully supported by Great British Racing and Racing Together.

You are welcome to host as few, or many events as you like - we appreciate the significant amount of work involved in hosting any event. Following your feedback from 2022's event, we also have new and improved ways of supporting you in putting on a National Racehorse Week event.

The industry's open weekends lie two weeks apart this year, but the Henry Cecil Open Weekend on 23-24 September will be fully integrated into all NRW promotional activity, giving a great opportunity to 'extend' activities beyond the official week itself. Please do put these dates in the diary and start to think how you can get involved this year. Link to the form for registering your interest is [here](#) “

Other Business

FOR SALE - [EasyFix Schooling fences](#)

6 sections EasyFix schooling fences

Surplus to requirements.

New, never been jumped but stored outside.

Must be sold as 2 lots of 3 or as a whole.

Buyer to collect NN12 8HN

Please call or email Heather at Laura Horsfall Racing 07976 605094

heather.kemp@tovevalley.net

[TO RENT - 60 Box Yard available to rent in Middleham](#)

Warwick Lodge, with accommodation. For all enquiries contact

Shane Gray 07855162899 Email: shane@graysresurfacing.com

JETS

JETS (Jockeys Education & Training Scheme) is planning a Career Case Study feature on workriders and other positions within training yards which former jockeys are currently thriving in. If you have someone in your stable you'd like to put forward as an example of a former jockey thriving in their second career within your yard, please contact Kate Struthers at JETS (kate@jets-uk.org) or 07980 661003.

Great Northern Air Ambulance welcomes Emma Smith-Chaston as their new sports personality ambassador

British Jockey Emma Smith-Chaston, originally from Lancashire, now based at Middleham, North Yorkshire, has said she is delighted to support a charity that is so close to her heart and is looking forward to seeing what can be achieved when working together with our critical service.

The partnership between ourselves and Emma will help raise much-needed funds and awareness for our charity to remain operational.

Emma said: "As an ambassador of such an amazing charity, I want to just raise as much money and awareness as I can, and I can't wait to see what we can achieve together."

[Read Emma's full story here](#)