

NTF WEEKLY UPDATE – 18th May 2023 – Issue No. 1342

INDUSTRY	1
Racing Welfare’s Mental Health Awareness Week 2023 – Monday 15th – Sunday 21st May inclusive	1
Shortage Occupation List – Urgent Trainer Input Needed	2
RACE PLANNING	2
Important Race Planning Changes for Programme Book 2 - JUMP	2
Important Race Planning Changes for Programme Book 2 - FLAT.....	3
EMPLOYMENT	4
Work experience.....	4
ACAS – Behaviours at work equality, diversity and inclusion	4
EVENTS	5
National Racehorse Week – 9th-17th September 2023	5
Cancellation of EPIC training.....	6
Migrate UK – On-line Seminar – 27 th June at 1pm.....	6
.....	

INDUSTRY

Racing Welfare’s Mental Health Awareness Week 2023 – Monday 15th – Sunday 21st May inclusive

Racing Welfare are providing a Stakeholder Toolkit for Mental Health Awareness Week 2023, an important awareness campaign to support across your communications channels over the coming days. The theme for Mental Health Awareness Week, as set by the Mental Health Foundation, is ‘Anxiety’.

Within the toolkit you’ll find information about Racing Welfare’s Mental Health Awareness Week campaign, including key messages and ideas on how you can support.

The campaign runs from Monday 15th – Sunday 21st May inclusive.

On page 3 of the toolkit you’ll find a link to a suite of assets **for use from 10AM on Monday 15th May onwards**, as follows:

- A short film, produced in conjunction with Equine Productions
- Digital and social resources
- Artwork for racecourse CCTV and racecards

- Briefing sheet

Shortage Occupation List – Urgent Trainer Input Needed

The Migration Advisory Committee have now restarted their commission to review the Shortage Occupation List. We are working with the BHA to provide evidence to create a submission to this review. The first step for the NTF is to create a situation report of how many vacancies exist across the yards of our members and we would like to ask you to complete the attached survey. We have very deliberately kept it very short as it is of great importance that we are able to receive as many submissions as possible on this very important matter for trainers.

UPDATE

To date we have received 50 submissions. We are grateful to those of you who have taken the time to make a submission but would really like to receive as many responses as possible if we are to be able to highlight how much this matters to our members. The survey is very quick to complete.

Your help in this matter is very much appreciated.

The survey can be reached by clicking on the below link:

<https://paulntf.wufoo.com/forms/wwzd0wc09ao8oz/>

RACE PLANNING

Important Race Planning Changes for Programme Book 2 - JUMP

Following industry wide consultation through the Racing Group and other sub committees the BHA has advised that the following changes will be introduced for Programme Book 2 and beyond, unless otherwise stated.

- 6-Y-Os are no longer be eligible to run in National Hunt Flat races as of 1st May, underpinned by a 3.6% reduction in NHF races in PB2.
- The maximum number of runs in National Hunt Flat races has been reduced from four runs to three runs as of 1st June, with the exception of Class 1 races. A fourth run in a National Hunt Flat race will be permitted if the race is a Pattern or Listed Race and a fifth run permitted if the race is a Pattern Race (not Listed) during the same season as the fourth run.

- The WFA Novices' Chase programme has been removed entirely from Programme Book 2, with races replaced by a programme of Class 3 Novices' Limited Handicap Chases. As a result 33 Class 3 Novices' Limited Handicap Chases have been programmed.
- +1/+2 system will be removed from all Jump handicaps from June-September.
- July and August: The maximum number of programmed races will be 6 other than where the total prize money is £200,000 or above. Meetings will be allowed to divide a 7th and 8th race.
- Increased cap on races to divide from £8k in handicaps and £10k in non-handicaps, to £12k across the board.
- From March to August, racecourses must programme at least one Novice, Maiden or Juvenile WFA Hurdle per meeting, reduced from three races for every two meetings in March to June, leading to an overall 3% reduction.

The BHA has also reiterated that the Summer Jumping Programme is a National Programme, with the horse population unable to service duplicate programmes in the north and south. Therefore, horses in training during the summer must be expected to travel for their opportunity, in particularly at Class 3 and above. Whilst the BHA have been able to make mitigation for regional opportunities at the lower levels, some degree of travel may still be required.

[Important Race Planning Changes for Programme Book 2 - FLAT](#)

Following industry wide consultation through the Racing Group and other sub committees the BHA has advised that the following changes will be introduced for Programme Book 2 and beyond, unless otherwise stated.

- July and August: The maximum number of programmed races will be 6 other than where the total prize money is £200,000 or above. Meetings allowed to divide a 7th and 8th race.
- Increased cap on races to divide from £8k in handicaps and £10k in non-handicaps, to £12k across the board.

Due to falling field sizes in 2022, the following volume reductions have been made to improve competitiveness:

- Approximately 60% of Conditions Stakes will be removed from PB2, with changes made to the conditions of a significant number of other such races that have been retained.
- Volume of Class 2 and 3 Handicaps reduced by approximately 18% and replaced with lower grade handicaps.

- Nursery Handicap volume reduced in line with the horse population.

EMPLOYMENT

Work experience

A reminder that on the NTF Website in the new employees area members can find guidance upon providing work experience and more general guidance for young workers. The template safeguarding policy can also be found in that area of the website. If providing work experience or taking on under 18s, it is good practice for your supervisory staff to do the safeguarding training through Racing2Learn, which is free and online. <https://racing2learn.com/> A new module designed for senior staff is under development by the BHA.

[ACAS – Behaviours at work | equality, diversity and inclusion | investigation](#)

Are your managers aware of how to deal with unacceptable workplace behaviours? All employers have a duty of care for their employees. Bullying, harassment and aggressive attitudes can lead to increased absence levels, increased staff turnover and potential tribunal claims. Acas training can help identify and address issues and equip your managers with the skills to understand the most appropriate actions to take...

[View or book training sessions:](#)

[Unacceptable workplace behaviours](#)

[Bullying in the workplace](#)

[Sexual harassment](#)

Equality, diversity and inclusion are areas all organisations need to address by law.

Promoting diverse and inclusive workplaces can also lead to increased productivity and employee engagement. Our training sessions provide an overview of the essential considerations for employers and line managers and outline good practice for addressing issues at work.

[View or book training sessions:](#)

[Diversity in the workplace](#)

[Equality, diversity and inclusion - the essentials](#)

Gender identity in the workplace

Reasonable adjustments and disability

Conducting workplace investigations is an important process - for clarifying facts and helping employers make fair decisions. Acas training can provide you with key techniques, procedures and checklists to help ensure that you are considering all the crucial facts and that you undertake the process in a fair and unbiased manner. You will also gain valuable understanding of what the law requires and learn key investigation skills, such as interviewing and report writing.

View or book training sessions:

Conducting investigations

If you need help booking a place at an upcoming event, or if you would like to discuss in-company training options, contact our Customer services team on 0300 123 1150.

EVENTS

National Racehorse Week – 9th-17th September 2023

Don't miss your chance to host an Open Day for National Racehorse Week

The deadline to sign for National Racehorse Week is fast approaching and closes on the **31 May**. Sign up today to host an open day and open your doors to the British public and show racing's commitment to horse welfare and that the horse is at the heart of all we do.

From Stud to retirement, National Racehorse Week creates a money-can't-buy moment in the spotlight for racing to unify and speak to those outside of the sport. It provides a platform to connect with the community and draw new audiences to racing.

Please sign up **before 31 May** via the link below to host an Open Day during National Racehorse Week and also get involved with hosting or being a part of a community event, for example: school visit, charity visit, care home visit and much more.

[National Racehorse Week 2023](#)

Or if you would like more information on how your yard can get involved, please contact NRW Project Manager, Sally Lyons – slyons@greatbritishracing.com

Cancellation of EPIC training

Unfortunately, due to a lack of interest, it was necessary to cancel the free gambling awareness training that we had been offered by EPIC. We will look to reschedule this later in the year but would be happy to hear from anybody who has an interest in including their teams in a session.

Migrate UK – On-line Seminar – 27th June at 1pm

Migrate UK (<https://migrate-uk.com/>) our immigration advisers are running an on-line seminar for NTF members on 27th June 2023 at 1pm. This will be a further chance to learn about Migrate's services and how they assist trainers looking to recruit from abroad and is an opportunity for members to ask questions of Migrate's team. Invitations will be coming out direct to members next week.