

## NTF WEEKLY – 23 OCTOBER 2017

### **Non-runner rules taking effect on 30th October**

Having gone through the BHA's rule approval process, some of the rule changes relating to non-runners will come into effect on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. These are:

#### **Non-runner rates and permission to use Self-Certificates**

The BHA has already published individual trainers' non-runners as a percentage of declarations. These will be refreshed at the end of each quarter, omitting trainers who have not had at least 100 declarations. Any trainer with a non-runner percentage greater than 50% above the average for flat and jump respectively on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018, will have the right to use Self Certificates withdrawn for 12 months. Horses that have already arrived at the racecourse and are subsequently declared as non-runners due to unsuitable going, will not be counted in the trainer's percentage.

#### **Two-day stand down following use of a Vet Certificate**

Any horse that has been declared a non-runner using a Vet Certificate may not run again on any of the following two days. For example, a horse declared a non-runner on a Monday may not run again until the Thursday in the same week.

#### **Fine for late announcement of a non-runner**

Where the circumstances of a declaration of a non-runner lead to a fine, that will increase to £500 (from £140) if the non-runner declaration is made **after 9.00am** on the day of the race.

### **Warning about firework display at Newcastle Racecourse on 4th November**

Clerk of the Course James Armstrong has asked us to let you know that when making entries at Newcastle for the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November, you need to be aware that a fireworks display will take place 75 minutes after racing.

James expects the majority of trainer will have removed horses from site at this time; however being a twilight fixture some horses may well be stabled over night before travelling south the next day.

Travelling staff will be informed on the day via posters and through communicating with the stable manager.

## **Update on the BHA Racing Admin website**

Late last year the BHA made the decision not to close the old racing admin site until after the Ownership changes had been introduced to Ownership Admin. That activity has been completed and a number of workshops and course visits have been staged to provide help and support.

BHA and Weatherbys are now starting the process of shutting down the old Racing Admin website. Some parts of the site will close before the end of the year (such as Horses in Training and Stable Employees) but the entries and declarations part of the website will remain open until the middle of January 2018 at which point the site will become unavailable.

Throughout the site's development the BHA and Weatherbys have asked for feedback and trainers have been fantastic in coming forward with suggestions and amendments, of which over 250 have been implemented since launch to make the website better for you. They ask that any further feedback should be sent to [racingadmin@britishhorseracing.com](mailto:racingadmin@britishhorseracing.com). The team will endeavour to deal with these before the closure. It is worth noting however that the site will continue to be developed as time progresses and this does rely on feedback, so this email address will remain open so you may do that.

Trainers are encouraged to use the time between now and the closure to ensure they are familiar with the new website at <https://www2.racingadmin.co.uk>. You will find help and support within the website under your Information Menu and "Help & Support". Help Videos are also available under "How To Videos".

## **Supporting Ken Dooley's family**

Throughout British racing, there was shock at the terrible accident that claimed Ken Dooley's life at Kempton Park on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Ken was known to many in our sport and was clearly much loved and respected. Racing Welfare has set up a donation page on Justgiving; you can find it at this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ken-dooley>

If you would like to make a donation, go to the page via the link and then just click on the Donate button. Alternatively, go to the Just Giving Home page and search under the name Ken Dooley and the page will come up.

## **Adding horses to SIS Owners Sponsorship scheme**

If any of your owners use the ROA's SIS Owners Sponsorship scheme to recover VAT, you will find that while owners can make changes to sponsorship, adding horses to the scheme isn't an option via the new Racing Admin website.

The ROA has asked us to let you know that any applications can be made as usual to the ROA office, or via the online form at the following page on its website <https://www.roa.co.uk/en/benefits/Owner-sponsorship/index.cfm>

## **Accessing relief for the 2017 business rates revaluation**

Local authorities have been given funding from central government to support locally designed rate relief schemes aimed at reducing increases in rates liabilities caused by the 2017 Rating List Revaluation, which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

We know that some trainers have received a letter from their local authority notifying that the trainer is entitled to relief under the local scheme. In one letter we have seen, the trainer was automatically awarded nearly £1500 in relief without having to apply. However, we recommend that you make enquiries to your local authority to check how their scheme works and ensure you don't miss out on the valuable relief that may be available.

## **Read the IJF annual newsletter online**

The Injured Jockey Fund provides marvellous support for all jockeys past and present. The IJF has published its annual newsletter and a copy will be sent with the next NTF Newsletter in December. Until then you can read online via this link

<http://www.injuredjockeys.co.uk/reports-and-newsletters.asp>

## **Trainer's responsibilities for stable staff pensions**

As an employer, you are responsible for ensuring that qualifying employees are auto enrolled into an appropriate workplace pension scheme. Most trainers will by now have set up their scheme as the legal requirement for Auto Enrolment (AE) has been in place since 2012 for large employers and smaller employers should have complied during this year.

If you are a new employer and are not sure what you should do, check out the NTF's Auto Enrolment Guide on the website and [The Pension Regulator website](#).

If you missed your start date, you still need to work out what your AE duties are and comply with them immediately. You may also need to backdate contributions for member of staff that need to be put in a workplace pension. Find out more on the [TPR website](#).

If you are less than six weeks after your start date, you must backdate your member of staff's scheme membership to the day they first met the age and earnings criteria to be put in a scheme, and you may need to backdate contributions, too. Alternatively, you can use postponement to delay the assessment of their workforce for a period of up to three months from their duties start date. If more than six weeks have passed since your duties start date, you'll have to do the same but you will be unable to use postponement.

## 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.
- **1st October 2017** – Novice Chase recommendations come into effect.
- **30<sup>th</sup> October 2017** – New non-runner rules take effect: trainer's non-runner percentage, 2-day stand down for Vet Certificates; increased fine for non-runners after 9.00am
- **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

There are a large number of rule changes taking effect **from 1<sup>st</sup> January** and which have an impact on training admin and operations. We will be doing a comprehensive list and explanation of these in a forthcoming edition of NTFW and on ntfmuse.

## NTF meeting dates

<b>South West</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Taunton
<b>West Midland and Wales</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Warwick Racecourse
<b>North</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Ripon Racecourse
<b>East</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Newmarket
<b>South East</b>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Epsom Racecourse
<b>Central South (confirmed)</b>	<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>	Newbury Racecourse
<b>Committees and Council</b>	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	London