



National Trainers Federation

**ANNUAL REPORT**

2017

## NTF SUPPORTING

# Association of Air Ambulances



**Today, around 70 people will have their lives saved or the quality of their lives enhanced thanks to an air ambulance. It was the same yesterday. It will be the same tomorrow.**

Many people don't realise that there are actually 21 separate regional air ambulance charities operating 39 air ambulances which fly 365 days a year. Each charity is funded through generous donations by organisations such as yourselves.

The Association of Air Ambulances Charity (AAAC) acts as a platform to provide support and donations to multiple air ambulance charities across the country enabling each charity to continue saving lives and operating in a pre-hospital environment.

On behalf of the Air Ambulance Charities of the UK, thank you to the National Trainers Federation for your incredible support. Your contribution is extremely valuable in assisting the sustainability and ongoing lifesaving services carried out by all air ambulance charities.



# ANNUAL REPORT

# Contents

	Page
NTF Council and Committee Members .....	2
NTF Aims and Objectives .....	3-4
European Trainers Federation.....	4
2018 AGM Notice and Agenda .....	5
President's Report .....	6
Membership .....	7
Championships .....	7
Elections and the Regions .....	8
The Executive .....	8
Representation .....	8
NTF Strategic Objectives .....	8
Chief Executive's Report .....	9
Other trainer benefits and services.....	13
Horsemen's Group .....	13
Employee Benefits, Insurance and Charities.....	14
Alex Scott Assistant Trainers Travel Scholarship .....	14
Financial Report .....	15-16

# NTF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

These were the elected Regional Representatives during 2017.

## Presidential Triumvirate

Seamus Mullins (President)  
Ann Duffield  
Emma Lavelle

## Region

Scotland  
North  
West Midlands and Wales  
East  
South West  
Central South  
South East  
Past President  
Co-opted

## 2017

Nick Alexander  
Ann Duffield, Ruth Carr, James Moffatt  
Charlie Longsdon, Dan Skelton, Tim Vaughan  
Rae Guest, Hugo Palmer, Roger Varian  
Seamus Mullins, Emma Lavelle, Jamie Snowden  
Ralph Beckett, Eve Johnson Houghton, Trelawney Hill  
Roger Ingram, Di Grissell, Suzy Smith  
Jim Boyle  
John Gosden

## Executive Committee

Seamus Mullins (Chairman), Nick Alexander, Ralph Beckett, Ann Duffield, John Gosden, Emma Lavelle

## Flat Committee

Ralph Beckett (Chairman), John Gosden, Ruth Carr, Eve Johnson Houghton, Jim Boyle, Ann Duffield, Rae Guest, Roger Ingram, Hugo Palmer, Roger Varian

## NH Committee

Seamus Mullins (Chairman), Nick Alexander, Di Grissell, Trelawney Hill, Emma Lavelle, Charlie Longsdon, Jim Moffatt, Dan Skelton, Suzy Smith, Jamie Snowden, Tim Vaughan

## NATIONAL TRAINERS FEDERATION EXECUTIVES AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

### National Trainers Federation

9 High Street, Lambourn, Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 8XL

### EXECUTIVE AND ADVISERS

President  
Chief Executive  
Chartered Legal Executive  
Membership & Publications Executive  
Racing Executive  
Financial Adviser  
Legal Adviser  
Veterinary Adviser  
Rates and Planning Adviser  
Recruitment and Training Co-ordinator

Seamus Mullins  
Rupert Arnold  
Dawn Bacchus  
Jill Crook  
George Noad  
Peter Treadgold  
Helen Niebuhr  
Clive Hamblin  
Christopher Marriott  
Shelley Perham

### ACCOUNTANTS

#### Ross Brooke

2 Old Bath Road, Newbury,  
Berkshire, RG14 1QL

### SOLICITORS

#### Knights 1759 LLP

Midland House, West Way,  
Botley, Oxford OX2 0PH

### INSURANCE ADVISERS

#### Lycetts

1 Stables Court, The Parade,  
Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1NP

# NTF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

**In its rules the NTF's objectives are:**

“To represent and protect trainers’ interests and to be a reliable and respected source of information, advice and support.”

## **MEMBERS’ BENEFITS**

As a member of the NTF, you receive the following benefits:

### **Services**

- Unlimited help and advice from the NTF office. We provide a personal, direct service with an executive team who understand your working life.
- Immediate advice on legal problems including employment law from the NTF’s in-house Chartered Legal Executive.
- Legal Assistance Scheme for members including Legal Expenses Insurance and helplines operated by Knights 1759 Solicitors.
- Legal Representation for appropriate cases at BHA Disciplinary Panel enquiries and Appeal Board. When provided by the NTF’s Legal Executive, this service is free. Alternative representation is subject to terms of the legal expenses insurance.
- Access to advice on finance and tax with Ross Brooke Chartered Accountants, insurance from Lycetts, and veterinary issues from Clive Hamblin.
- The services of Christopher Marriott to provide advice on Non-Domestic Rates and conduct appeals with the Valuation Tribunal.
- Twice yearly Regional Meetings open to all members.
- Non-transferable metal badges to allow movement within the racecourses for each member and their spouse/partner in every racecourse in the country. Up to seven badges for Assistant Trainers if eligible in proportion to the number of horses in training.
- A Car Park Label for each badge holder for entry into the trainers’ car park at each racecourse in Britain.
- Group discount schemes for private health care, preferential rates for debt collection and Direct Debit services from Group 1 Credit Management and Express Group. Free second subscription to Racing UK.
- Free administration of the NTF Stakeholder Pension Scheme, Racing Industry Accident Benefit Scheme and Death in Service Benefit.

# NTF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

## continued

### Information

- The NTF Racing Diary – the indispensable working manual for the industry. Includes complimentary live computer feed for worldwide fixtures and sales dates.
- Bi-monthly printed Newsletter and NTF Weekly e-mail news update. Breaking news available on Twitter, @NTFnews. An archive of news articles on the NTF blog, ntfmuse, with members' comments. Free subscription to European Trainer Magazine.
- Access to the dedicated Members Area of the NTF Web Site for up to date forms, advice sheets and publications. Your contact details listed in the Trainers contact area, with a direct link to your website.
- Each member receives the NTF Employment Guide, a bespoke manual for all employment matters.
- Free Medication Record Books as required.
- The NTF Code of Practice for Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity guidelines available in print and via the EquiBioSafe App available in both Android and iOS.
- A range of free publications and advice sheets.

### EUROPEAN TRAINERS FEDERATION

The NTF is a member of the European Trainers Federation, which comprises Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden.

A benefit of our membership is that all NTF members receive a free subscription to European Trainer Magazine.

**Notice is hereby given that the  
FORTY FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the  
NATIONAL TRAINERS FEDERATION  
will be held at the  
INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS  
116 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5ED**

**at 12.00 noon on Thursday 22nd February 2018**

**AGENDA**

1. To approve the minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting
2. To approve the Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017
3. To receive the President's Report
4. To confirm election of the President and Triumvirate
5. Any other business

Dated this 20th day of January 2018

By order of the Council



J R ARNOLD  
Chief Executive

# PRESIDENT'S report



## **SEAMUS MULLINS**

My second year as your President has passed very quickly with many different challenges and I hope plenty of achievements. It has been interesting representing you on various committees and forums throughout my term and I have witnessed a lot of progress for our industry during that time.

The Government finally signed off on the Levy Replacement legislation last April which has secured an income for racing from offshore betting. The new money now coming on stream has allowed an increase in prize money at the grass roots of racing. This is long overdue and we must keep the pressure on the betting industry and racecourses to honour all levy and prize money agreements.

ITV has reported better than expected viewing figures for its first year back as racing's sole terrestrial broadcaster. This encouraging news will raise racing's profile throughout televised sport which should lead to new racing fans and increased income in the future.

The BHA's adoption of the 2016 Quinlan Report into the regulation of racing has thrown up some interesting results and reactions throughout the year. The setting up of an independent panel to pass judgment on all disciplinary cases has given horsemen a fairer system of regulation. The result and subsequent failed appeal by the BHA in the case of the Philip Hobbs trained Keep Moving shows that the Panel is prepared to apply the rules in a fair and totally independent manner. The result of the Hughie Morrison case also shows that the independent panel is free from influence. As a result of these two rulings the BHA has stated it will be looking into the strict liability rules but the NTF will defend its position vigorously to ensure that in appropriate circumstances trainers are protected from a career threatening outcome.

The fixture list is set to increase again in 2018 causing extra pressure on our already over-stretched work force. The appointment as Culture Secretary of Matthew Hancock MP, whose West Suffolk constituency encompasses Newmarket, will ensure a better understanding at Westminster of the pressure our industry is under to secure suitably qualified and skilled staff.

Ralph Beckett and I represent you on the BHA Racing Group and we have had a busy year supporting your views on race planning and other related matters. Many new initiatives have been introduced such as the improved stayers program on the flat and new race series for NH racing. There also seems to be an upturn in the Northern jumping scene but there is a lot more work to be done here. We thank all of you who have helped us with your input throughout the year.

In 2018 Anne Duffield will become the first woman to hold the position of NTF President and I wish her well in her term of office. Having been involved in the NTF for over 25 years, I don't ever remember a period where female trainers have been as active in our organisation as they are at present.

Rupert, Dawn, George, Jill and Shelley have worked hard throughout the year on our behalf and I would like to thank them for their continued endeavour. Over the two years of my term as President I have learnt what dedicated service and hard work they all do on our behalf.

**Seamus Mullins**  
**President**

## MEMBERSHIP

At 31 December	2016	2017	Change
Licensed Trainers	549	529	20
NTF Members	502	482	20
Non-members	46	47	+1
Percentage of all trainers	91.50%	91.12%	0.38%

## CHAMPIONSHIPS

2016/17 NH Championship – **Nicky Henderson**

Highest number of winners – Paul Nicholls, 171

2017 Flat Championship – **Aidan O'Brien**

Highest number of winners – Mark Johnston, 215

Flat	Prize Money Won	National Hunt	Prize Money Won
Aidan O'Brien	£8,335,027	Nicky Henderson	£2,846,487
John Gosden	£6,185,144	Paul Nicholls	£2,529,250
Richard Fahey	£4,239,127	Colin Tizzard	£2,041,055
Sir Michael Stoute	£3,855,061	Nigel Twiston-Davies	£1,582,656
Mark Johnston	£3,555,120	Philip Hobbs	£1,502,991

It's becoming a habit: Keith Dalgliesh set another record for the total number of winners trained by a Scottish trainer with 86 winners of £799,401.



## ELECTIONS AND THE REGIONS

Of three regional representatives' positions coming up for election in 2017, the only change is in the West Midlands and Wales region, where Tim Vaughan has decided to step down after finishing his latest three year term on Monday 6th November 2017. No nominations were received to replace him so the vacancy remains unfilled at the year end.

## THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive team has never been stronger. Having such a solid and constant group at the helm ensures we can provide the voice of experience and reliable advice on a vast range of subjects.

In the midst of the flow of routine enquiries, Dawn Bacchus (Chartered Legal Executive), George Noad (Racing Executive) and Jill Crook (Membership and Publications Executive) are always prepared for the unexpected and deal with it all with great humour and perspective.

Shelley Perham is in her second year under contract to the NTF, leading our work on recruitment and training of racing staff. It is a pretty full on role for a part time position but she puts huge energy into the initiatives and we appreciate the determination with which she is pressing on with the Racing Groom website.

## REPRESENTATION

The NTF represents trainers' interests on the following racing industry committees and working groups:

- The Horsemen's Group
- BHA Members Committee (representing Licensed Personnel)
- BHA Executive Committee
- BHA Racing Group
- BHA Fixture Group
- Racing to School Board of Trustees
- BHA Stakeholder Integrity Group
- BHA Racecourse Committee
- RCA Technical Group
- BHA Veterinary Committee
- BHA People and Development Group
- National Joint Council for Stable Staff
- Animal Health Trust Equine Industry Committee
- Tattersalls and Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Liaison Groups
- European Trainers Federation

## NTF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Assisting racehorse trainers to run a long-term, sustainable business
2. Enabling trainers to employ a sufficient number of skilled stable staff
3. Ensuring the right balance of racing opportunities for the horse population
4. Protecting the welfare of all thoroughbreds in training
5. Ensuring racehorse trainers are regulated fairly
6. Communicating timely and accurate information and advice to support racehorse trainers

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S report



## RUPERT ARNOLD

In 2016 the NTF set six strategic objectives, which are shown at the bottom of page 8. Our aim was to align the Federation's core activity to objectives that reflect our members' priorities. Reviewing 2017 against these objectives, the key themes that emerge are staffing shortages and fair regulation.

The strategic significance of maintaining a workforce that can provide the desired standards of care for the racehorse population and guarantee adequate numbers of runners on racecourses is at last understood across the industry. In January a stakeholder group comprising representatives of the NTF, National Association of Stable Staff, British Racing School, Northern Racing College, Racing Welfare and the BHA met to hammer out a funded strategy to improve recruitment and retention. A package of measures was agreed and the BHA Board has supported its inclusion amongst other funding proposals for consideration by the Racing Authority.

As well as contributing to industry strategy, the NTF's focus has been on two major projects, both funded with contributions from the Racing Foundation. The Racing Groom website will be an HR resource for employees in British racing stables and will be constructed as an online community. Any corporate business with over 6000 employees would have a central hub to provide support, usually in the form of an intranet website. In the way it performs this function, Racing Groom will encourage racing employees to see themselves as belonging to and valued by the wider industry and not solely as an individual employee of one trainer. Like many IT projects, the build has taken longer than expected, though remaining within budget. Our target is a launch in the Spring of 2018.

Our second project, Lycetts Team Champion Award, has come to fruition more readily. In a way, the award is the tip of the iceberg, the main body of which is The Winning Approach, a bespoke industry standard for staff management. Our aim with The Winning Approach was twofold – to offer trainers guidance on “what good looks like” in the way they manage employees; but also to celebrate the many training businesses where high standards are already in place. Consultants Sport and Beyond, in collaboration with half a dozen trainers, developed the standard and used elements of it to set the assessment criteria for the Lycetts Team Champion Award. It was hugely satisfying to see how well trainers responded to the call for nominations. That the judges commented on the very high standard of those nominations proved there are great places to work in British racing stables and as an industry we have a brilliant story to tell. We look forward to celebrating the winners at the AGM in February.

Trainers often ask how we are going to regain access to workers from outside the EU. To achieve progress we have to follow the Migration Advisory Committee's (MAC) timetable. Following the Brexit vote, the Government asked the MAC to advise on British businesses' needs for migrant labour so we had the opportunity to collaborate with the BHA on a response that explained the skills shortage in racing. In particular we emphasised the risks to the safety and welfare of our workforce and horses if trainers cannot employ people with the necessary skills.

When trainers are granted a licence, they agree to be bound by the rules of racing. One of the NTF's roles is to represent trainers' opinion when the BHA wants to introduce new or change existing rules. In 2017 this has brought us into conflict too often. Trainers can't expect the

outcome of consultations to always coincide with their views but there is a feeling that the BHA is not interested in the practical impact of its proposals on the people whose every waking moment is geared to creating the sporting action at the heart of the industry. The new rules relating to non-runners seemed to capture the essence of this dissatisfaction. At least we were able to persuade the BHA not to introduce penalties based on a scale of going reports. Declaration of wind surgery was another case in point. The NTF took a responsible approach suggesting a period of research before the detailed rules were decided. We pointed out that the BHA prides itself on evidence-based regulation but its priority turned out to be the evidence of a punter-led survey.

Many had concluded that the BHA had already made a decision to introduce fully paid racecourse Stewards. The NTF played a key role in ensuring there was a meaningful consultation and at the turn of the year the BHA had paused for further thought and discussion with the industry.

Arguably the highest profile regulatory issue occurred at the end of the year. The investigation and subsequent disciplinary case about the anabolic steroid found in Hughie Morrison-trained Our Little Sister brought the consequences of strict liability rules into sharp focus. When the Disciplinary Panel exercised its right not to impose a penalty in a different case because trainer Philip Hobbs had shown he met the relevant criteria in the rules, the BHA appealed. This was an important test because the NTF has been arguing for some time that this approach is fair and provides an incentive for high standards of stable management. We supplied legal representation for the appeal, which concluded in favour of the trainer. When the Disciplinary Panel then imposed a lower than expected penalty on Hughie Morrison, some commentators imagined that the equine anti-doping rules and principle of strict liability had been weakened. That is not how the NTF sees it. These commentators seem to have forgotten that since the Hobbs appeal, three trainers have been found in breach and penalised following positive samples for substances the source of which could not be determined. In our opinion, these decisions consolidate the Disciplinary Panel's independence and emphasise that it is able to distinguish between cases where a penalty is justified and cases where a different decision is merited. This is a positive outcome for racing, not a negative.

In the following pages you will find more examples of the NTF's work in 2017 actively supporting trainers over a wide range of subjects. As an Executive, we strive constantly to communicate our work for members. We hope you will refer regularly to our multiple news channels so you stay abreast of everything we are doing on your behalf.



**J R Arnold**  
**Chief Executive**

### ***Assisting trainers to run a long-term, sustainable business.***

Last year's report foreshadowed the result of an appeal to the Upper Lands Tribunal about the basis of valuation of a trainer's All Weather gallops. The NTF provided financial support for the appeal because allowing it to go unchallenged would have had major implications for trainers' rates bills throughout the country. In February we were delighted to be informed that the appeal had been successful. In the summer we won another appeal against the Valuation Office, which had refused to apply the earlier result to a trainer in a different part of the country.

Consolidating the original result meant trainers across the country could apply for rebates and costly new Rateable Values coming into force from April 2017 could be adjusted.

In 2017 we have completed an overhaul of the ROA/NTF Training agreement, which plays such an important part in protecting trainers from bad debts. The area in which we have made less progress is improving the systems for payment of training fees through Weatherbys. Time pressures are partly to blame though we also need the cooperation of the BHA and ROA. Towards the end of the year we picked up the challenge again and aim to make further inroads in 2018. Our objective is a fully integrated chain linking the record of agreed fees, the horses in training and owner register, and the banking system to create automated payments with a minimum risk of disputes.

### ***Ensuring the right balance of racing opportunities for the horse population***

Throughout 2017 the NTF used regional meetings and feedback from a group of trainers to gather information about the way the race programme is working. This information is passed on to the BHA in quarterly debriefing sessions. Our aim is to ensure that improvements are made year on year so mistakes are not repeated and we are using a tracking system to make sure the suggested changes have been put in place.

The debrief process helps to inform the BHA's Optimum Race Programme work. Much more data is now used to predict the demand for each type of race and adjust the programme accordingly. The data produces a theoretical outcome and the NTF can assist by providing more qualitative information.

As usual it was a busy year on the BHA Racing Group, where trainers Seamus Mullins and Ralph Beckett represent the jump and flat codes respectively. Agendas cover a very wide range of topics so we have picked out some major items.

On the Flat, the Novice/Maiden programme was extended throughout the year for the first time. Trainers' feedback through the NTF was helpful to demonstrate some of the practical issues this caused, unpredicted at the planning stage.

Another review of novice chases and 48-hour declarations for all races at the Cheltenham Festival were highlights on the jumping scene. There was a suspicion that the larger proportion of novice handicap chases had reduced the number of weight for age novice chases too far. Some rebalancing was done for the programme from October but it has to be said that the two and three runner fields seemed more evident. A new policy preventing the rating of horses placed in novice chases from being raised doesn't appear to compensate for the fact that owners want their horses to run competitively rather than chase home much higher rated runners at a respectful distance.

### **Total prize money at a high**

Another record figure was set in 2017 for total annual prize money, which reached £142.5m (from £137.7m.) Last year we noted the increasing polarisation in returns between the top end of the sport and even the middle tier. We forecast this would be addressed in the funding round for 2018 fixtures.

As a member of the BHA Fixture Group, George Noad was involved in negotiations that led to an industry agreement to significantly expand the Race Incentive Fund and Appearance Money Scheme for Class 4 to 6 races. Central funding of £8m will be used to unlock further funding from racecourses. The minimum value for Class 6 races for which this funding is unlocked will be £6000.

### **Sources of prize money**

	<b>RACECOURSE £m</b>	<b>BHA £m</b>	<b>HBLB £m</b>	<b>OWNER £m</b>	<b>DIVIDED £m</b>	<b>TOTAL £m</b>
<b>2011</b>	45.2	0	32.4	15.4	0.9	<b>93.9</b>
<b>2012</b>	46.1	0	34.3	16.0	1.4	<b>97.8</b>
<b>2013</b>	48.6	0	46.4	17.9	1.4	<b>114.3</b>
<b>2014</b>	54.6	0.3	47.4	19.8	1.4	<b>123.5</b>
<b>2015</b>	61.7	0.3	46.9	21.7	1.5	<b>132.1</b>
<b>2016</b>	68.5	0.4	44.6	22.6	1.6	<b>137.7</b>
<b>2017</b>	73.6	0.5	44.4	22.3	1.7	<b>142.5</b>

### **Protecting the welfare of all thoroughbreds in training**

Hygiene standards in racecourse stables became a hot topic for the NTF in 2017. One catalyst was an outbreak of EHV-1 in a North Yorkshire yard with two other yards put at risk. The other concern was the potential for a runner to be contaminated with a prohibited substance given to a previous occupant of a stable, causing a positive sample from an unknown source.

The NTF's Northern Region led the way, with Chairman Ann Duffield persuading three Yorkshire racecourses to allow Alan Creighton from the Irish Equine Centre (IEC) to carry out microbial analysis in their stables. We also asked trainers at regional meetings for their opinion on the adequacy of the stable cleaning protocol set out in the BHA General Instructions.

The results of the IEC tests were recommendations to improve the cleaning of stables by using equine-specific disinfectants and modern fogging machines. Neither of these are expensive and have the advantage of saving labour. We are currently working to have these recommendations adopted into the BHAGIs.

### **Communicating timely and accurate information and advice to support racehorse trainers**

The NTF's news service is a staple activity of the organisation. As well as our various news feeds mentioned below, we have a number of flagship publications including the Employment Manual.

Dawn Bacchus and Jill Crook undertook a major rewrite and restructure of the Manual and while much of the work was done in 2016, it was completed and distributed to members in February 2017. The important role of this publication is clear when one considers that of 2195 telephone and email enquiries directed to the NTF office during the year, 1541 (70%) were about employment matters. Of the remaining 30%, 295 were questions about racing issues, 248 about membership and 111 were about publications and other issues.

NTFWeekly, the regular email news update direct to members only, is sent to 631 subscribers consisting of members, assistants, accountants and secretaries of members. On average 41.5% are opened which though more than twice the industry average for sports (18.3%), is a shade disappointing. We often wonder what it takes to encourage more trainers to take advantage of the

information we send out but on a positive note, it was pleasing to see proof of the impact of the Lycetts Team Champion Award – the announcement of the shortlists gained the highest number of open rates and views on ntfmuse.

**ntfmuse** is a great success and has become an industry resource. In 2017 it received 4,624 visitors, the 154 posts getting 8,074 views. After the Lycetts Team Champion shortlists, the top stories by number of views was the NTF statement on the result of Hughie Morrison's disciplinary case, followed by our statement on the new requirement to declare wind surgery. Ntfmuse has an international following. Apart from the UK, it was read in the USA, Ireland, Australia, France, India, the Netherlands, Hong Kong SAR China, Spain and the United Arab Emirates.

## **ON THE RACECOURSE**

An important area for the NTF is ensuring the best conditions on the racecourse for horses, owners, trainers and racing staff. This is George Noad's responsibility and in 2017 key subjects have included the Summer Jumping Strategy Review, the Going Stick Working Party and the meetings of the Association of Racecourse Veterinary Surgeons, BHA, NTF and RCA.

However, the subject that took up more time than any other individual issue was the new PASS card system introduced by the RCA for entry into racecourses. We had been led to believe that in practical terms little would change. In fact nothing prepared us for the torrent of complaints from trainers about delays at Owners and Trainers desks, non-arrival of PASS cards, owners not being allowed to delegate to their trainer the allocation of owners' badges, and other teething troubles. A good deal of diplomacy was needed at the NTF end to stabilise the situation.

## Other trainer benefits and services

### **LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS**

#### **Legal Assistance Scheme**

The Legal Assistance Scheme completed its fifth year. In 2017 there were 22 claims for recovery of legal expenses with 12 either paid by the year end or with a reserve set against them at a total value of £87,245.

The Helplines took [1,219] calls from NTF members including relevant employment cases handled by Dawn Bacchus, our Chartered Legal Executive. Despite a significant increase in premium the scheme is still good value for money so the Council approved the renewal of the policy covering all members for 2018.

The main volume of calls are not unsurprisingly about disciplinary issues and absence but whilst not able to recommend an auto enrolment product due to legislative restrictions, we have worked with trainers throughout the year assisting with the administration change from the industry scheme to auto enrolment.

### **HORSEMEN'S GROUP**

Rupert Arnold is a director of the Horsemen's Group, representing the NTF.

#### **Key agenda items in 2017 included:**

Levy replacement and the constitution of the Racing Authority, 2018 Fixture List and funding review, future of pool betting, prize money agreements and distribution, minimum race values, ownership and exploitation of raceday data, Brexit, consultation on regulation including the Stewarding review, equine infectious diseases and the Veterinary Research Council.

## **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, INSURANCE AND CHARITIES**

### **Racing Industry Accident Benefit Scheme**

The NTF, as secretariat on behalf of the Trustees of the Racing Industry Accident Benefit Scheme, is the hub of communication between the trustees, SLS Crawford & Co., and Bluefin, the insurance administrators. The trustees meet twice a year to review and ensure optimum running of the scheme. In between these meetings the trustees are required to assess specific claims and are always available. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each one for giving their time, knowledge, compassion and consideration for the benefit of employees in the racing industry. The trustees are Charles Egerton, Jonathan Eddis, Michael Henriques, Serena Geake, Dr. John Disney and George McGrath.

In 2017 detailed work was done to modernise the trust deed and ensure that benefits are managed in a way that meets the charitable objectives. This work was instigated by chairman Charles Egerton, who has overseen restructuring of the trustee board to bring in the skills required by the charity. Charles retired as chairman on 26th September and we would therefore like to acknowledge the invaluable contribution he has made during his tenure. Johnny Eddis was appointed as chairman in his place.

### **Stable Employees Life Cover Trust**

The NTF is also the sole trustee of the Life Cover Trust which provides a Death in Service Benefit for full and part time stable employees.

### **NTF Charitable Trust**

The aims of the NTFCT are to dispense grants to people who are or have been employed in racing. Grants are awarded for the advancement of retraining and education to enable applicants to develop skills and enhance their employability within the industry.

The trustees are Chris Wall (Chairman), Rupert Arnold, Ann Duffield and Charlie Longsdon. In 2017 grants were awarded totalling £7449.

### **Racehorse Trainers Benevolent Fund**

The total accumulated for the Racehorse Trainers Benevolent Fund from a percentage of prize money won in this country by trainers based outside Britain reached £62,000.

In 2017 the Fund has been registered as a charity and the BHA nominee trustee was changed to Will Lambe.

## **ALEX SCOTT ASSISTANT TRAINERS TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP**

Brydi Allison, assistant to David Simcock, was awarded the 2017 Alex Scott Assistant Trainers Travel Scholarship worth £3000. Her three-month work experience in Australia begins with Tony and Calvin McEvoy in the Barossa Valley and then Melbourne and Adelaide. Her report will be posted on the NTF website alongside those from previous years.

The NTF manages the applications and judging of the Scholarship, which from 2017 is funded by the Tim Dunlop Memorial Travel Scholarship.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Summary of financial position as at 31st December 2017

The information below is extracted from the Federation's full accounts for the financial period, which are audited by Ross Brooke Ltd. At the time of printing this report the audit had not been formally completed but it is anticipated that the figures will not change. Members of the Federation can view a full set of finalised accounts on the NTF website. Printed copies will be available at the AGM for the purpose of formal approval.

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>	<b>466,325</b>	<b>461,290</b>
Personnel and officials	(284,226)	(277,217)
Administrative expenses	(226,965)	(193,004)
Other operating income	49,851	-
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>(8,931)</b>
Gain on financial assets at fair value through income and expenditure account	4,641	-
Other interest receivable and similar income	1,539	2,487
Interest payable and similar expenses	(37)	(107)
	<b>6,143</b>	<b>2,380</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>	<b>11,128</b>	<b>(6,551)</b>
Taxation on (deficit)/surplus on ordinary activities	(500)	-
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>10,628</b>	<b>(6,551)</b>

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible assets	46,618	52,820
Other financial assets	104,641	20,000
	<b>151,259</b>	<b>72,820</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	59,077	64,376
Cash at bank and in hand	321,279	488,154
	<b>380,356</b>	<b>552,530</b>
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(80,681)</b>	<b>(185,044)</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>299,675</b>	<b>367,486</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>450,934</b>	<b>440,306</b>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>		
Accumulated fund	450,934	440,306
Total equity	<b>450,934</b>	<b>440,306</b>

**DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017 (UNAUDITED)**

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>TURNOVER</b>		
Subscriptions	443,293	437,561
Sundry income	5,754	2,907
Insurance commissions	8,270	10,452
Management fees	9,008	10,370
	<u>466,325</u>	<u>461,290</u>
<b>PERSONNEL AND OFFICIALS EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries and wages, including pension contributions	253,697	243,147
Committee meeting expenses and room hire	10,989	11,564
Motor, travel and subsistence	15,807	17,529
Motor vehicle and depreciation	3,733	4,977
	<u>284,226</u>	<u>277,217</u>
<b>ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES</b>		
Printing, postage and stationery	40,171	34,684
Repairs and renewals	9,514	6,586
Telephone and fax	5,153	5,121
Gifts & donations	2,050	5,604
Business rates	336	1,833
Insurance	2,793	4,896
Badges	5,788	4,788
Light, heat and power	1,810	1,769
Depreciation	2,469	2,770
	<u>70,084</u>	<u>68,051</u>
<b>FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES</b>		
Bank charges	356	-
Stable Employees Pension Plan expenses	-	1,657
Weatherbys management fees	9,056	5,652
Legal and consultancy fees	3,925	31,753
Other professional fees	81,604	30,141
Accountancy fees	7,815	3,625
Auditor's remuneration	4,000	4,000
Legal assistance scheme	50,125	48,125
	<u>156,881</u>	<u>124,953</u>
<b>INTEREST RECEIVABLE</b>		
Bank interest receivable	<u>1,539</u>	<u>2,487</u>
<b>INTEREST PAYABLE</b>		
Bank overdraft interest payable	<u>(37)</u>	<u>(107)</u>



**THE NATIONAL TRAINERS FEDERATION AGM AT THE INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS LONDON  
23RD FEBRUARY 2017**



Designed and Produced by Talk Design & Print, Basingstoke. Tel: 01256 641125

Photography by Matthew Webb Tel: 01488 649944 Mob: 07901 940232

9 High Street, Lambourn, Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 8XL  
T: 01488 71719  
E: [info@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:info@racehorsetrainers.org)  
W: [www.racehorsetrainers.org](http://www.racehorsetrainers.org)

Chief Executive: Rupert Arnold  
Chartered Legal Executive: Dawn Bacchus  
Membership & Pub<sup>n</sup> Exec: Jill Crook  
Racing Industry Executive: George Noad

[r.arnold@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:r.arnold@racehorsetrainers.org)  
[d.bacchus@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:d.bacchus@racehorsetrainers.org)  
[j.crook@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:j.crook@racehorsetrainers.org)  
[g.noad@racehorsetrainers.org](mailto:g.noad@racehorsetrainers.org)