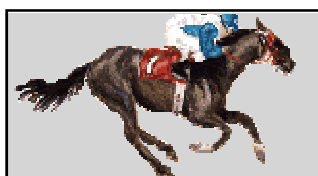


THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

Contingency Arrangements

The RCA has been involved in discussions with the bookmakers since February this year regarding the arrangements to be put in place for the continued administration of existing betting areas from 1 September 2007. It has been agreed, in principle, that the bookmakers will establish a suitable organisation, which is currently being referred to as NewCo, to provide on-course administrative services to racecourses.



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Due to unforeseen delays, and the need to consult on proposals, NewCo was not established and operating in time for 1 September 2007. Therefore, it was necessary to devise and agree contingency arrangements to be put in place from 1 September 2007 until such time as NewCo is able to take responsibility for the administration of existing betting areas.

The RCA has provided racecourses with full details of the contingency arrangements, and the necessary paperwork and checklists to assist with implementation. Any racecourses requiring further copies of this documentation should contact the RCA to obtain a copy.

The contract between the NJPC and racecourses regarding the provision of betting ring services during the contingency period is still being discussed, and a copy will be forwarded to all racecourses for agreement when available.

Caroline Davies, Holly Robarts

Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee Investigation

On 26 July 2007 the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee announced a new inquiry into on-course horserace betting to investigate the likely effects of allocating on-course betting pitches on a commercial basis; what indications on security of tenure, if any, were given to those buying positions on bookmakers' lists in recent years and what the role of the Government should be in the process for agreeing on a future framework for allocation of on-course pitches for bookmakers.

Currently we are compiling a submission in consultation with the RCA Board, Gambling Legislation Group and specialist advisors. Racecourses will be kept apprised of progress, and provided with a copy of the finalized submission. There will be an opportunity to discuss this at the forthcoming Members Forums.

Caroline Davies

RACE PLANNING

RCA Fixture List Process Review

The RCA Executive has asked racecourses to submit their thoughts on the 2008 Fixture List process, the findings of which were discussed by the Race Planning Group on 6 September. Following that the document will be prepared for the RCA Board (18 September) and will then form part of the Agenda for the Members Forum meetings in October.

Carla Moore

Basic Daily Rates

The HBLB has allocated total prize money of £49.5 million for 2008. This compares to £55m in 2007 and £62.5m for 2006. The reduction, combined with an increase in fixtures, most notably on the Flat has led to another considerable drop in BDRs for next year. The 2008 BDRs have been calculated using a new formula:

- An element comprising 25% (7.5% in 2007) of the overall HBLB Prize Money contribution and allocated by reference to a hybrid formula comprising 50% betting turnover / 50% gross win, with betting turnover and gross win averaged over two years (2005 and 2006) and three years (2004-2006) respectively.
- An underpinning element, funded from 25% (40% in 2007) of the respective Flat and NH allocations, relating to the number of fixtures in the 2008 Fixture List.
- A Merit Award, funded from 75% (60% in 2007) of the respective Flat and NH allocations, computed by reference to a Merit Table based on the latest three year average amount of racecourse executive and sponsorship contributions to Prize Money.

The betting turnover allocation for 2008 is £12.375 million (£4.125m in 2007) and was distributed on the basis of information provided by Ladbrokes, Coral and William Hill. The BDR allocations for Flat and NH are £21.374m (£29.524m in 2007) and £14.318m (£19.759m in 2007) respectively. The HBLB has applied this money on the basis of 25% BDR underpinning, 75% merit award.

You should be aware that if individual races were abandoned at your meeting, a proportionate amount would be deducted from your BDR (i.e. if 1 race is abandoned, 1/6 will be deducted).

Racecourse Managers are however reminded that Basic Daily Rates need to be spent. Therefore, please make sure that all the prize money provided by the Levy Board has been distributed across your race programmes.

If in any doubt, please contact David Bradshaw (0207 333 0043) at the Levy Board or Paul Foster at the BHA (0207 152 0088).

Carla Moore

Jump Racing Development Group (JR DG) Update

The next meeting of the JR DG is on 12 September. Topics on the Agenda include: dominance of Irish-trained horses in major races, Summer Jumping work shop, Strategic Review of the Fixture List, Jump Race Focus launch, Jump Racing Knowledge Bank and Communications Strategy. A short report will be printed in next month's UPDATE.

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

Strategic Review of the Fixture List

In May 2007, the BHA initiated a review of the fixture list, when an 'Issues Paper' was distributed inviting all stakeholders to comment upon and prioritise the matters that should be covered in identifying the optimal fixture list for British Horseracing. In excess of 40 submissions were received, broadly split by stakeholder type as follows:

Racecourse	–	11
Horsemen	–	10
Betting industry	–	4
Media	–	6
General Public	–	9

In response, and with the support of the Sports Business Group at Deloitte, BHA recently issued a draft Project Scope document, which:

- (i) Confirmed the Issues to be addressed in the Review – based on the submissions from stakeholders.
- (ii) Set out in overview the Review's methodology, notably:
The focus on basing recommendations on evidence/information;
The data collection tools to be employed during the Review;
The Review's timetable.
- (iii) Summarised the issues raised by stakeholders that will ultimately require consideration but, to facilitate compliance with the proposed timetable, will be deferred until a later date.

The RCA, with support from the Fixture Policy Group, responded to Project Scope highlighting two issues:

1. Timetable: the RCA is concerned that recommendations will not be completed in time for the fixture criteria, which is usually set in March.
2. Betting exchanges: the RCA has requested that they be included in the data collecting process.

The next stage of the review is to collect the data that will underpin the analysis of the identified Issues. These requests were circulated on 5 September. Co-operation from stakeholders is needed in order to make the whole exercise meaningful. The deadline for submission is Friday 19 October.

Once these have been collated, the BHA intends that further consultation will take place with stakeholders (to discuss the evidence), prior to an Initial Findings Report being issued in December. It is anticipated that recommendations will then be developed in early 2008, prior to the Board's consideration of its Fixture Policy for the 2009 Fixture List.

The Fixture Policy Group has produced a draft submission, which will be reviewed by the RCA Board on 18 September and will be discussed at the Members Forums in October. *Carla Moore*

Opportunities for Older High Rated Chasers

In the next few weeks, the BHA will be contacting Jump racecourses to ask for applications to stage 4 or 5 Steeple Chases for older, higher rated chasers. "Older" equates to 10+ and higher rated to around 140+. The HBLB has kindly agreed to provide funding to the tune of £10,000 per race with the total prize money being £25,000. *Carla Moore*

RACE PLANNING

Minimum Values 2008

Due to another reduction in BDRs, Minimum Values had to be reviewed again. The RCA put forward a proposal requesting a 10% reduction across-the-board, whilst the BHA worked on the basis of a 7.7% reduction stating that this was the amount of money that as a minimum must go into prize money. The RCA agreed to the values suggested for Jump racing, but requested that the BHA reduce those for the Flat further in order to avoid downgrades. In the end a mixture of the two proposals was agreed and was circulated to Racecourses on 7 September.

Nevertheless, if you have suffered above average cuts in BDRs you are urged to contact the BHA Racing Department who will assess the implications on your race programme and will try to advise you as best they can.

Carla Moore

HBLB 7th Race Scheme

The RCA and HBLB have had initial discussions with regard to the 2008 Jump HBLB 7th Race Scheme. The pool available for Jump racing is £532K compared to £591K in 2006. The intention is to concentrate on Jump races first and it is proposed that funding will be to the tune of 50% of Minimum Values. The Scheme will concentrate on Class 2 and 3 Steeple Chases and Hurdles Races as well as Bumper. Details will be released to racecourses as soon as possible.

Carla Moore

Race Times

The Race Times Committee will meet on Thursday 4 October to discuss the timings for 2008. It will set the first race times for all race meetings as well as determine all times for races contained in Programme Book I.

Carla Moore

2008 Development Fund

Following a meeting of the RCA Race Planning Group, the RCA Executive is in the process of drafting a proposal to the BHA regarding the 2008 Development Fund. It is intended that details be released shortly.

Carla Moore

Deadline for Flat Pattern Race Applications

Any changes to Flat Pattern Races, or proposals to upgrade a Listed race to within the Pattern, must be agreed by the Flat Racing Committee (FRC) and subsequently approved by the BHA Race Planning Committee and, where appropriate, the European Pattern Committee. All proposed changes for the following season must be submitted to the Racing Department by the end of **October**. No applications will be considered after this date, unless otherwise directed by the BHA in exceptional circumstances. The FRC will consider all applications at its meeting on 22 November, after which racecourses will be notified of the Committee's decision.

Carla Moore

Review of 48-hour Declarations

The BHA Board has decided that a thorough review of 48-hour declarations will take place following the Turf Flat season.

Carla Moore

Double Declarations Procedures

At its June meeting the BHA Race Planning Committee sought to address the anachronism that part (iii) of Rule 144 did not make allowance for situations where horses are declared on the same day to run on different days. The Regulatory Committee approved the amended wording, but it has since come to light that the wording would penalise horses running in lower class races which genuinely intend to run on 2 consecutive days. The Disciplinary Department is currently working upon revised wording which should cover the situation satisfactorily.

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

Treatment of Underperforming Listed races

In order to address black-type races below Pattern level that consistently underperform, the Racing Department will implement the following Ground rules domestically to deal specifically with Listed races:

Any Listed race which is underperforming consistently should lose its Listed status. This under-performance will be judged by whether the race has:

- A three-year average rating which is more than 3lb below the required parameter,

TOGETHER WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TWO:

- Each of the last three annual ratings are below the parameter, or
- Two of the last three renewals have a rating which is more than 5lb below the parameter.

In such cases a race will lose its Listed status immediately (i.e. for the following year). Racecourses can contact Paul Rogers (BHA International and Pattern Races Executive) on 0207 152 0057, to ascertain the provisional rating level for your race(s) in 2007.

Carla Moore

New AWT Listed Races

Five new AWT Listed races have been added to the winter race programme and are to be staged at Kempton Park or Lingfield Park. The development of the new races comes on the back of the success of 6 new Listed races which were introduced in the spring of 2007, with all but one race comfortably exceeding the rating parameters required for Listed race status, as well as attracting 8 or more runners.

Details of the new races, which are also included in Volume 4 of the 2007 Programme Book, published earlier this month, are as follows:

Date	Racecourse	Race	Age	Distance
24/11	Lingfield Park	The Golden Rose Stakes	3yo+	6f
28/11	Kempton Park	The Hyde Stakes	3yo+	1m
01/12	Kempton Park	The Wild Flower	3yo+	1m 2f
19/12	Kempton Park	The Sunbury Stakes	3yo+	1m 4f
22/12	Lingfield Park	The Quebec Stakes	3yo+	1m 2f

Carla Moore

AQPS

This project had been put on hold as France Galop had been required to assign some of its computer programmers to other projects. Subsequent to this development, a substantial estimate for the computer development has been received from Weatherbys which may be considered significantly disproportionate to the benefits gained by the progression of the project. This will not happen in the foreseeable future.

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

Competitive Racing Statistics

Attached for Racecourse Managers are the latest competitive racing statistics which the BHA Racing Department produces on a monthly basis. Due to the bad weather and subsequent abandonments in July (15 Flat and 10 Jump fixtures were abandoned), the number of races run is significantly down in July 2007. This has impacted significantly on both the monthly and quarterly comparisons, and has also had the effect of increasing average field sizes for the majority of the racing that did take place. Points of note, where the increase/decrease between the two study periods are marked, are as follows:

FLAT

- Handicaps run have increased by over 12% on the previous 12 months.
- There has been a large decrease in Classified/Banded Stakes run, and also a significant (over 17%) decrease in the number of Claimers run.

Carla Moore

Goresbridge Breeze-up Sale

Goresbridge Sales has been growing in stature in recent years and it will be added to the BHA list of “specified sales” very soon, such that 2yos sold or bought will be eligible for our Auction races in 2008. The RPC was happy to include Goresbridge on the proviso that horses must not have run before being sold and suggested that the current Rule be amended to reflect this.

Carla Moore

Median Auction Prices

The BHA believed there was a possible anomaly in the way that Weatherbys collates data for Median Auction races. Whereas the “specified sales” for Auction races are named in detail and were originally intended by the Racing Review Committee to be members of the Society of International Thoroughbred Auctioneers (S.I.T.A.), in Median Auction races, there is a rather more vague reference to “the main Public Auction Sales held in Europe and North America”. The RPC saw no real problem and concluded that in order to clarify, a list of all sales houses should be published and available on-line.

Contact: Carla Moore (Tel: 01344-625723)

COMMUNICATIONS

‘Owners’ Guide to Jump Racecourses’

Once again, we are publishing the ‘Owners’ Guide to Jump Racecourses’ which has been a huge success. All 41 jump & dual purpose courses have been included.

The brochure will be included in the October issue of Thoroughbred Owner & Breeder magazine, which is distributed directly to 11,500 owners. The guide is a good opportunity for racecourses to directly promote their facilities to owners and we hope that it brings new customers to their tracks. Thank you to all who supported and participated in this project

Lizzie Lea

BHA GRADUATE 2007

Laura Parsons

In July we welcomed Laura Parsons to the RCA whilst she was on her eight week placement for the *BHA Graduate Development Programme*. Laura has taken on a number of projects which include; researching Australian race off times for the Race Planning Group, updating the Race-course Training Manual, minuting meetings, assisting in legislative issues and looking at the careers in racing website for areas of update/development.

Laura has also undertaken a few of her own projects which include; drafting an information series called 'A novice guide to...' with the aim to educate new racegoers (via leaflets, posters and digital adverts) to increase attendance, research on Future WiFi, and is currently comparing racing facilities (entry fees /hospitality /sponsorship /attendance /alternative uses) to other sports facilities (rugby, football and cricket).

Laura will be staying with the RCA after her placement until Christmas to primarily assist with the on-going work associated with implementation of the Gambling Act and other legislative issues.

Caroline Davies

PROMOTIONS

British Horseracing Call Centre

Since the start of April the RCA Promotions department has assumed the role of call centre for the British Horseracing website. Bookings processed so far are as follows:

Month	2007			2006		
	Orders	Tickets	Value	Orders	Tickets	Value
April	428	1,929	£43,573	682	3,363	£69,387
May	369	1,943	£43,959	860	3,952	£82,146
June	597	2,610	£41,485	1,493	5,801	£123,853
July	739	3,173	£47,332	1,104	4,422	£62,330
August	253	1,179	£22,129	403	1,870	£37,070
Total	2,386	10,834	£198,478	4,542	19,408	£374,786
	(-47%)	(-44%)	(-47%)			

April 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 44 different courses (49 last April)
 May 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 37 different courses (49 last May)
 June 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 36 different courses (38 last June)
 July 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 40 different courses (42 last July)
 August 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 42 different courses (40 last August)

John Phillips or Jenna Strachan

PROMOTIONS

The Mail On Sunday Ticket Offer

Ticket sales for completed meetings so far are as follows:

Date	Racecourse	Tickets Sold	Date	Racecourse	Tickets Sold
4 March	Huntingdon*	92	17 June	Salisbury	234
11 March	Market Rasen	42	24 June	Hexham	34
11 March	Warwick	20	24 June	Pontefract	402
18 March	Carlisle	42	24 June	Warwick	102
18 March	Fontwell Park	40	1 July	Salisbury*	68
25 March	Kempton Park	50	1 July	Windsor*	286
25 March	Worcester †	36	8 July	Ayr	38
1 April	Hexham	36	8 July	Market Rasen	270
1 April	Lingfield Park	92	15 July	Haydock Park	500
8 April	Musselburgh	12	15 July	Perth	100
15 April	Kelso	64	22 July	Newton Abbot	538
15 April	Market Rasen	120	29 July	Ascot	770
15 April	Worcester	102	29 July	Carlisle	80
22 April	Southwell	110	29 July	Pontefract	392
29 April	Brighton	92	5 August	Market Rasen	196
6 May	Hamilton	32	5 August	Newbury	278
6 May	Newmarket	968	12 August	Leicester	132
6 May	Salisbury	118	12 August	Wolverhampton	52
13 May	Plumpton	98	19 August	Bath	250
13 May	Worcester	140	19 August	Pontefract	616
20 May	Market Rasen	134	26 August	Beverley	374
27 May	Fontwell Park	134	26 August	Goodwood	754
27 May	Uttoxeter	250	26 August	Yarmouth	540
3 June	Brighton	40	2 September	Market Rasen	106
10 June	Bath	182	9 September	Fontwell Park	198
10 June	Stratford	204	TOTAL SOLD		10,560

* subsequently abandoned

† subsequently transferred

John Phillips or Valerie Larue

Group Sales

As at 31 August bookings stood at 203 valued at £107,279.

Paul Smith

Special Events Diary

This can be viewed on the RCA website, www.britishracecourses.org. Please e-mail or fax me details of newsworthy meetings you wish to appear in the diary.

Paul Smith

SPONSORSHIP

Jump Racing Sponsorship Seminar – 18/19 October 2007

The Horseracing Sponsors Association and Cheltenham Racecourse are jointly hosting a Seminar to promote sponsorship in Jump Racing at Cheltenham on Thursday & Friday October 18/19, leading into the first meeting of Cheltenham's new season.

The seminar is aimed at racecourse executives, current and prospective sponsors and rights owners within the sport and will serve to illustrate the variety of different sponsorship options within the jumping community, from individual races to events, facilities and yards through a series of presentations, case studies and workshops.

An impressive line-up of presenters has been secured, including Jim McGrath – BHA and Timeform Director and Channel 4 presenter, who will also be “anchorman” for the day; Michael O’Leary, totesport Gold Cup winning owner and CEO of Ryanair; Sam Morshead of Perth Racecourse; Mal Mizen of TNS Sport; Kevin Roberts of Sport Business Magazine; Brough Scott, Editorial Director of the Racing Post and a representative from John Smith’s.

The Seminar coincides with the publication of this year’s Jump Racing Focus, an industry document underwritten by BHA and Jockey Club Racecourses, designed to enable rights holders to communicate with current and prospective sponsors at every level. Last year’s Focus was heavily used by national and regional media to promote the business case for sponsorship, as well as proving a highly useful document for rights holders.

The first day of the Seminar concludes with a champagne reception (kindly sponsored by Allertons), and Dinner (kindly sponsored by

Letheby & Christopher) to which all delegates are invited to attend.

The following day starts with a stable visit at a local jump racing yard to showcase owners/yard sponsorship and then delegates can enjoy an afternoon’s racing and buffet lunch in a private facility back at the racecourse.

The event is **free** to all HSA members and existing sponsors – for all other delegates to attend the event for the two days (inclusive of the dinner) is £150, and for one day (inclusive of the dinner – whichever day you attend), is £100. However, if the delegate’s organisation sponsors British horseracing or becomes a member of the HSA within 6 months then their delegate fee will be refunded.

Racecourses are encouraged to attend (flat courses are also welcome), and to bring along potential and existing sponsors. Understandably there may be some reservations about bringing your sponsors along to another racecourse, but please be assured that whilst the event is being staged at Cheltenham, it is jump racing sponsorship that is being promoted at every level – not the racecourse – Cheltenham are not presenting at the event, but have kindly provided the facilities and joint funding for it.

So please support the event and use it as an opportunity to promote the sport to your sponsors.

If you would like further information and an attendance reservation form, please contact Mary-Ann Sandercock – maryann@thehorseracingbusiness.co.uk or call 01488 73930 or 07786 925803.

RACETECH

RaceTech plan and deliver at Doncaster

RaceTech has been involved in the development work at Doncaster Racecourse since the start and have designed and built the PA, AV and television distribution system for the new stand, as well as the refurbished weighing room and the new hostel. From initial review of the architect's drawings, and a brief from the management team at Doncaster, RaceTech designed the solution to best suit their needs, taking into account the unique acoustics of a racecourse (both indoor and outdoor requirements), the topology of the building and cabling requirements, and perhaps most importantly of all, the need of a television distribution system to deliver a variety of sources of information to assist race-goers to enjoy their day out.

From design to build – the PA system has a total of 10,000 watts of power with over 300 loudspeakers in the new stand, connected to a control system incorporating three racks of state of the art equipment with three Digital Signal Processors (DSP). In addition, the television distribution system carries 12 different TV channels (all under the racecourse manager's control), cabled to more than 300 TV points across the site. The AV control system that RaceTech has supplied allows the racecourse management to display targeted messaging into the specific interfaces to private boxes and the main foyer entrance

as well as facilitating local discreet conferences on non race days.

The press room has been equipped by RaceTech with its own AV and DVD recording facilities and the whole site has been cabled by our experienced teams to handle the outside broadcast commitment as well as the necessary Stewards and Judge's integrity services.

In all, the project has taken 6 months, and RaceTech has provided a full service to the racecourse to design, project manage and deliver a robust and flexible solution for all AV, PA and broadcast requirements, that will serve the racecourse for many years to come.

Whatever your requirements – from small upgrades to major overhauls, RaceTech has the experience and vision, as well as the core competences and logistical excellence to deliver on time and on budget. These resources are available to all racecourses, so please talk to us if you are planning now for work next season and need budgetary indications.

For more information, call Catherine Pullan on 07976 432271 or e-mail cpullan@racetech.co.uk

Catherine Pullan

HORSERACE BETTING LEVY BOARD

Racecourse Improvements: HBLB Capital Fund and Capital Credits

Racecourse Managers will have received notification from the HBLB asking for confirmation of 2007/08 projects, detailed applications for 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11 and forward programme for 2011-2013.

The Levy Board now wish to consider detailed applications for interest-free loans from the Capital Fund for racecourse improvements from 1 April 2008 to 30 September 2011 and needs to be aware of the extent of the likely demand in the years 2011/12 and 2012/13. Therefore all racecourses are being asked to roll their capital programmes forward to 2010/11. Confirmation of projects for the remainder of the current financial year 2007/08 is also sought, including loans already approved by the Board.

HORSERACE BETTING LEVY BOARD

Racecourse Improvements: HBLB Capital Fund and Capital Credits contd

The Levy Board have asked for courses to submit their programmes via the HBLB on-line racecourse system in as much detail as possible in respect of the 3 financial years – 2008/09, 2009-10 and 2010/11 and give a more general indication of plans for 2011/12 and 2012/13. All Board approved loans in these years should be included within the application. Courses are to use the HBLB on-line proforma for this purpose (Refer to page 12 of the Racecourse On-line Facilities Handbook – Capital Project Forecasts).

Full details, including detailed loan repayment proposals, supported by business plans where appropriate, should be given in respect of the projects proposed for 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11. Marketing plans and Masterplans will be required to support these applications. Marketing plans must include an analysis of, and commentary on the past 3 years' attendance data. Failure to supply this information will affect consideration of your application.

Please include details of Proposed and Approved Capital Credit Grants on the proformas. Responses are required by no later than Friday 2 November 2007. Should you have any queries please contact Anya Coppock on 0207 259 8392.

TECHNICAL

Injured Jockeys Fund Newsletter

Attached is the Injured Jockeys Fund Autumn 2007 newsletter.

Carol Walker

RCA Clerks of the Course Seminar

A seminar for Clerks of the Course will take place at Aintree Racecourse on Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 November 2007.

The event is designed to appeal to Clerks of the Course and other members of racecourse management teams such as Racecourse Managers, Operational Managers, and Racecourse Directors, who would be very welcome to attend for all or some of the programme.

Monday's programme will feature presentations from the BHA, Cranfield University and TurfTrax as well as a detailed session on the recording, understanding and communicating of raceday data. Tuesday's programme in-

cludes presentations from the Tote and BHA Head of Handicapping. There will also be presentations on medical and veterinary issues and an opportunity to view the excellent facilities available at Aintree Racecourse.

As is traditional, on the Monday evening, there will be a reception supported by Letheby and Christopher, followed by a dinner sponsored by Fornells with a guest speaker after dinner.

Booking forms will be sent to all Clerks of the Course at the end of September.

Holly Robarts

TECHNICAL

RCA Technical Group

The RCA Technical Group met on Wednesday 5 September 2007. The racecourses were represented by Seamus Buckley, Simon Claisse, Sally Iggulden, Charlie Moore, Anthea Morshead and Chris Stickels. Representatives from the NTF and JAGB were also in attendance. The notes of the meeting will be circulated to all Clerks of the Course and Racecourse Managers when available. A summary of the discussion is outlined below:

Off Times: The Group discussed statistics produced by the British Horseracing Authority regarding off times, and agreed that whilst these were beneficial, some alterations should be made to ensure they are more valuable to individual racecourses. The RCA was asked to contact the BHA regarding the proposed alterations.

IOG National Governing Bodies of Sport Focus Group: The Group was made aware that the Institute of Groundsmanship has established a National Governing Body of Sport Focus Group to advise on current and future training and education developments and demands to ensure that the provision meets the demands placed on the grounds professional at all levels and that Caroline Davies will represent the RCA on this Group.

TurfTrax Going Stick Trial: The Group reiterated the position that the historical data available from the Going Stick was highly useful and should be widely available. They also discussed an extension of the trial, and were informed that this would be considered during the 6 month review of the trial.

Provision of Going Information: The Group was informed that RCA Guidance Document 2.3 regarding the provision of going information to trainers has been updated.

Frost Protection Covers: The Group reviewed and agreed a proposal from Cranfield University for Phase III of the research into frost protection covers.

Halt Race Procedures: The Group reviewed a position paper produced by the BHA regarding Halt Race Procedures, and agreed that further consideration of the paper was required.

Jockey Injury Notification Arrangements: The Group reviewed and agreed a proposed jockey injury notification procedure. This procedure will now be forwarded to the BHA Medical Advisory Committee for review and input.

Light Metres: The Group discussed the proposal that light metres be introduced to horse-racing where there are concerns regarding whether racing should proceed, and asked the RCA to investigate this matter further.

Racecourse Stables: The Group was informed that BHA Instruction C7 had been altered so when trainers provided their own padlocks they must provide a spare key to the stable manager so they can gain access in the event of an emergency.

Loading Ramps: The Group was informed that the specifications for new loading ramps were being revised to take into account the increase in number of rear loading horse-boxes.

Caroline Davies or Holly Roberts

Going Information

The NTF has contacted the RCA to report that trainers find it useful where racecourses provide brief weather forecast details and rain fall in their going reports, and has requested that racecourses do so wherever possible.

Holly Roberts

TECHNICAL

Weather Report

Below is a summary of the July Weather Report (for England and Wales) from the Environment Agency.

July has been the third consecutive exceptionally wet month across England and Wales. It has been the wettest July on record in our Thames and Midlands Regions and the wettest May to July period on record in all our regions. Our regions received between 176% and 282% of the July long term average rainfall. Soil moisture deficits remained very low with little significant change during July. Monthly mean flows increased from June at all but five indicator sites, and were *exceptionally high* at all but four of the forty seven indicator sites. Flows at nearly two thirds of sites were approximately four or more times the July average, including the River Avon in our Midlands Region, where monthly mean flows were nearly ten times the monthly long term average. Groundwater levels increased at more than half of updated indicator sites during July. All but four sites are *normal* or higher for the time of year, and more than one quarter of sites *exceptionally high*. Reservoir storage increased in our South West

and North West Regions and EA Wales, but decreased in our Thames and Anglian Regions. Overall storage for England and Wales increased by 2% to 93%.

Rainfall: Our regions received between 176% and 282% of the July long term average rainfall (LTA) with five regions receiving over 200% of the July LTA.

Soil Moisture Deficit: Soil moisture deficit (SMD) was already low across all regions at the start of July as a result of above average rainfall during May and June.

River Flows: Monthly mean flows increased in July at all but five sites in response to the continuing heavy rainfall. Flows at nearly two thirds of sites were approximately four or more times the July LTA.

Groundwater Levels: Groundwater levels increased at more than half of updated indicator sites during the month.

Reservoir Storage: Regional reservoir storage increased by between 5% and 7% in EA Wales and our South West and North West Regions. Elsewhere storage decreased by between 3% and 6%.

SAFETY

Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (The Green Guide)

The draft fifth edition of the Green Guide was issued for consultation on 13 July 2007. The RCA reviewed this document in liaison with the RCA Safety Group and specialist advisors, and submitted a response on behalf of racecourses.

When the revised version of the Guide has been agreed, the RCA will undertake a full review of the RCA Guide to the Implementation of Safety at Sports Grounds Legislation to ensure it fully reflects any revisions.

Caroline Davies or Holly Robarts

MEDICAL

SRMO Training

The BHA will be running a one day SRMO training course at Newcastle Racecourse on Wednesday 24 October 2007 and at Stratford Racecourse on Monday 19 November 2007. The course is intended for new SRMOs only who have not attended a one day SRMO training course previously. Booking forms have been forwarded to all Racecourse Managers, Clerks of the Course and SRMOs. Further details can be obtained from Carol Walker.

Carol Walker

TRAINING

RaceTech

The date for Clerks of the Course visit to RaceTech for 2007 is Monday 24 September. To arrange this training please call Barbara Leahy at RaceTech on 0208 947 3333.

Racecourse Groundsmen Courses

Intermediate Course:	British Racing School, Newmarket	18-23 November 2007
Advanced Course:	York Racecourse	10-15 February 2008
Foundation Course:	Cheltenham Racecourse	20-25 April 2008
Intermediate Course:	British Racing School, Newmarket	16-21 November 2008

There are places available on the above courses. For information please contact Chris Costello at the Institute of Groundsmanship, 28 Stratford Office Village, Walker Avenue, Wolverton Mill, Milton Keynes, MK12 5TW, Telephone: 01908 312511, e-mail: iog@iog.org

BADGES & PASS

Car Park Labels

Racecourses are asked to be aware that a number of forged car park labels have been identified, particularly forged ROA car park labels.

Where possible, the RCA has traced the source of the forged labels and taken the appropriate action. However, racecourses are asked to continue to be vigilant in checking for forged car park labels. Where these labels are identified, they should be confiscated and sent to the RCA, who will take further action as appropriate.

Forged car park labels can be identified in a number of ways. Firstly, they may not have

an issue number on the reverse (although this is present on some forgeries). In addition, the colour may not accurately reflect that of the original labels, and all centrally issued car park labels can be stuck to the inside of the windscreen, whilst forgeries cannot. Many forgeries are laminated to give them the same glossy appearance as genuine labels, but genuine labels are not usually laminated.

The RCA will ensure that samples of forged labels which have been previously confiscated are available for review by racecourses at the Members Forum meetings in early October.

Caroline Davies or Holly Robarts

Access and Ticketing Workshop

As racecourses will be aware, the upgrades are currently being made to the PASS System. In addition to this, RaceTech and a number of racecourses are investigating barrier access and ticketing systems.

The RCA, Weatherbys and RaceTech have begun discussions about how these systems may work together in the future, and an Access and Ticketing Workshop is scheduled to be held at Weatherbys on Wednesday 10 October 2007 to discuss these proposals further with racecourses. The workshop will also include presentations regarding ticket touting, WiFi and how to deal with forged tickets.

If you would like to book a place on the Workshop, please contact Holly Robarts to arrange this.

Please note that the previously advertised £30 charge for the workshop has been waived, and there will now be no charge for delegates attending the workshop. This includes all delegates who have already booked a place at the workshop.

Caroline Davies or Holly Robarts

BADGES & PASS

2008 Badge Colour Scheme

The colours for the 2008 metal badges for the RCA, Press, Official, NTF and JAGB will be Light and Dark Purple.

Holly Roberts

2007 Badges and Badge Posters

8 copies of the large poster, and 4 copies of the A4 sized poster have been sent to all racecourses. Extra copies are available on request.

Holly Roberts

RCA and Press Badge Lists

Copies of the lists of 2007 RCA and Press Badges holders are available on request. *Holly Roberts*

Missing Badges

RCA: 151, 152, 153, 154, 256, 257, 269, 316, 372, 380, 426, 448, 459, 552, 582, 1030, 1146, 1147

Press: 76, 153, 188, 220, 264, 416, 420, 425, 515

JAGB: 26, 66, 281, 291, 332, 356, 363, 410, 412, 448, 451, 452, 477, 478, 495, 546, 566, 586, 668

NTF: 383, 410, 470, 481, 526, 544, 545, 790, 793, 851, 1257, 1318, 1319, 1405, 1559, 1583

Officials: 60

RECRUITMENT

Goodwood Racecourse

Goodwood is a traditional country estate of 12,000 acres that is managed in a completely modern way. Home to Horse Racing's famous 'Glorious Goodwood', the Goodwood brand is justifiably known for its values of excellence and quality.

PR/MARKETING EXECUTIVE

c£35,000 per annum + excellent benefits.

Ref. 44/07

Working closely with the Group Head of Marketing and PR in Goodwood House and the Racecourse Director, Rod Fabricius, you will take direct responsibility for all PR, promotions and general marketing for the Racecourse.

The successful candidate will need demonstrable experience in racing PR or similar and hold a recognised PR/Marketing qualification. A thorough working knowledge of the horseracing industry is essential. Underpinning these criteria will be your excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

To request an application form, job description and person specification, please either contact the Human Resources Department on (01243) 755000, email careers@goodwood.co.uk or see www.goodwood.co.uk/info. CV's will not be accepted.

If you have not received a response to your application within 4 weeks of the closing date, please infer that on this occasion that you have not been successful.

The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 28 September 2007.

RACING REGISTER

Free to use, Racing Register is an events diary maintained by Sportsguide Limited on behalf of the racing industry. Any organisation planning a press day, product launch or open day etc., involving racing professionals and the media can contact Racing Register to register their event and be advised of any potential clashes.

The following are highlights for October, November and December 2007.

For further details regarding specific dates please e-mail:

events@racingregister.co.uk or contact Lynn Payne at Sportsguide Limited on 01344 774322.

October

7 Sunday	Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe - Longchamp, Paris
9 Tuesday - 10 Wednesday	Annual GamCare Conference - Birdcage Walk, Westminster
17 Wednesday	Breeders Cup World Thoroughbred Championships Press Conference Epsom Downs
18 Thursday - 19 Friday	Sponsors Seminar - Cheltenham
19 Friday - 21 Sunday	Breeders Cup Fan Fest Monmouth Park
20 Saturday	Champions Day - Newmarket
22 Monday - 23 Tuesday	DBS - Horses in Training Sales
24 Wednesday - 26 Friday	DBS - October Yearling Sales

November

15 Thursday	Cheltenham Thoroughbred Racing and Breeding Seminar
16 Friday - 18 Sunday	The Open at Cheltenham
21 Wednesday - 22 Thursday	DBS Flat and NH in Training, Flat Yearlings
30 Friday	Hennessy Winter Festival - Newbury

December

1 Saturday - 2 Sunday	Hennessy Winter Festival - Newbury
3 Monday	Horsrace Writers & Photographers Annual Awards Luncheon London
14 Friday	DBS National Hunt Breeze Up Sale

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Spotlight On

Glen Tubby
General Manager - Great Yarmouth



Age	40
Marital Status/ Children/Pets	Married to Emma, 1 little boy Brandon, 1 guinea pig.
Previous Career(s)	Local Government for 16 years, Financial Controller at Great Yarmouth Racecourse for 3 years before promotion in 2004 to General Manager
Best Bits About Your Job	The raceday adrenalin and creating a great day out. The job is so varied that you never know what is coming next.
Worst Bit About Your Job	You never know what is coming next! It keeps me on my toes but the unexpected is never far away. Admin, admin and admin! Too much red tape, legislation and regulation.
Best Racing Experience(s)	Watching some quality juveniles win at Great Yarmouth and then go onto fame and fortune. Recent horses to do this include Ouija Board and Red Evie. It's great to see a horse develop from a novice or maiden stakes contestant to Group 1 races, especially if you follow them and have a bet or two!
Worst Racing Experience	Loss of our last raceday in 2006 due to water logging. I was on a gate turning away disappointed customers as it was a mid morning abandonment. I can put it down to experience but it was not a good one. The winter jumps courses and all of those on the receiving end of the summer floods have my utmost sympathy.
Racing Hero	Not really a hero but as a personality my hat goes off to Derek Thompson. Boundless enthusiasm, always has time for the punters and families, and having watched him commentate his excitement for every single race is astonishing - you would think he was riding the horse. Keep it up Derek!
Most Fanciable Racing Personality	No comment, in case the wife reads it!
Hobbies	Fishing and Golf
Favourite Film & TV	Aliens and anything Sci-Fi - TV has to be Black Adder; it's as funny now as it was back in the 80s.
Favourite Holiday Destination	USA - travelled around on several open ended and unplanned fly drive holidays but my favourite locations would be the gulf coast of Florida and the Keys. Great to be on the road with no set timetable or destination.
Current Wheels	Audi A3
One Wish To Improve The Industry	I know everybody else has said this but when is this industry going to sing from the same song sheet? Wishful thinking I fear! - The great concern is that the public perception of our product is deteriorating and whilst we seem to be on a path of self harm there are now many alternatives to catch the public's imagination; most frustrating. I do not know what the answer is but it needs to change and sooner rather than later.

DIARY DATES

18 September	RCA Board
20 September	RaceTech Board
25 September	RCA Race Planning Committee
1 October	Members Area Forum - Doncaster
2 October	Members Area Forum - Cheltenham
5 October	RCA Safety Group
10 October	Access & Ticketing Workshop-Weatherbys
25 October	RaceTech Board
30 October	BHA Race Planning Committee

ATTACHMENTS

Injured Jockeys Fund Autumn Newsletter 2007
Competitive Racing Statistics

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UPDATE is also available on our website:
www.britishracecourses.org