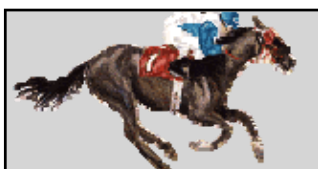


## NEIL WYATT GROUNDSTAFF AWARDS

<b>Flat</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Newmarket</b>
	<b>Runner Up</b>	<b>Goodwood</b>
<b>Jump</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Cheltenham</b>
	<b>Runner Up</b>	<b>Aintree and Fontwell</b>

<b>Dual Purpose</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Newbury</b>
	<b>Runner Up</b>	<b>Newcastle</b>
<b>Special Recognition</b>	<b>Stratford</b>	

Judging took place on Thursday 17 January 2008 to decide the winners of the 2007 Tote sponsored Neil Wyatt Racecourse Groundstaff Awards.



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The Awards are generously sponsored by the Tote who give the winner of each category £2200. £1200 to be spent on Machinery and £1000 to be split between the Groundstaff Team.

The award for the best Flat racecourse was awarded to Newmarket Racecourse, which the Committee noted had undergone significant improvements by installing a new ring main, as well as new wash-down bays on the July Course. It was also recognised that the groundstaff at Newmarket Racecourse have an additional

challenge of having two courses to maintain, and the wear on these courses additional to racedays as they are crossed daily by horses in training. The Committee also agreed that the groundstaff at Newmarket Racecourse dealt very effectively with the restrictions placed on them by the number of sites of special scientific interest in the vicinity.

The Dual Purpose award went to Newbury Racecourse where the Committee commended the innovative team and particularly recognised the excellent communication of raceday information regarding the state of the track by the team at Newbury Racecourse.

Cheltenham Racecourse received the award for best Jump track due to the excellent ground conditions produced, particularly for the Cheltenham Festival, as well as work to implement the use of sectional fences in order to make more use of the ground available to them. It was also noted that there was a high level of ongoing training within the team.

The Committee noted that 2007 had been a difficult year for the groundstaff at many racecourses due to the weather conditions, which led to an unprecedented 35 meetings being abandoned due to waterlogging in June, July and August. The Committee commended the team at Stratford Racecourse who coped so courageously with two very serious floods, both leaving the track and buildings under water for many days and awarded them the special recognition award.

Totesport spokesman Damian Walker who occupies a position on the panel of judges said: "Groundstaff are without doubt amongst the unsung heroes of our industry. There is so much scrutiny of ground conditions now and so much pressure to run more and more fixtures that having the right groundstaff team is vital to a successful racecourse. The standard of work from all the entrants was extremely high this year, particularly given the unusual weather patterns that we seem to have had over the last 12 months. The Tote is proud to sponsor these awards."

*Holly Roberts*

## RACE PLANNING

### 2009 Fixture List

**Framework:** All Racecourses should have received the initial Framework for the 2009 Fixture List. If you have concerns regarding the proposed dates, please contact Richard Wayman in the BHA Racing Department .

**Fixture Market:** The RCA will again make available a page on its website called 'Fixtures Market'. This is a Clearing House where Racecourses can advertise their wishes to swap/move, sell, lease or even buy (acquire) fixtures. The RCA website address is [www.britishracecourses.org](http://www.britishracecourses.org) and you can find the dedicated page under 'Racecourse Services' – Fixture Market.

If you wish to enquire about a fixture you can click on the racecourse, which will provide you with the contact details. The RCA would like to point out that BHA fixture cannot be acquired. They can only be bid for during the bidding process, which commences in June. You are therefore advised not to announce your intention to bid for a BHA fixture on the dedicated website.

Laura Holmes will administer the site and therefore any requests should be directed to her on [laura.holmes@racecourseassociation.co.uk](mailto:laura.holmes@racecourseassociation.co.uk) or contact her on 01344 626 067.

**Enterprise Fixtures:** The RCA Executive had a meeting with the BHA Racing Director, Ruth Quinn on Tuesday 11 December 2007, at which the following regarding Enterprise Fixtures was discussed:

- Proposed cut off date for handing back 'unwanted' fixtures 1 June 2008.
- Slots for 9 fixtures, 4 of which in the summer months. Dates to be confirmed shortly.
- Allocation via an on-line facility. Details to follow.

**Annual Fixtures Meeting:** The RCA organised an annual fixtures meeting in April 2007 and intends to hold one again this year around the same time. A date and venue in London will be confirmed as soon as possible.

*Carla Moore, Laura Holmes*

### BHA's Strategic Review of the Fixture List

At the recent Members Forums Ruth Quinn (BHA Racing Director) and Richard Wayman (Assistant Racing Director) presented some of the findings of the BHA's Strategic Review of the Fixture List. They concentrated on the subject of Sundays, weak Saturdays, geographical spread and the horse population. The BHA endeavours to conduct further research and analysis to draw up conclusions that can form part of the 2009 fixture list process.

*Carla Moore*

#### Jockeys' Overweight

The BHA Racing Committee recommended that Racing should adopt a maximum weight and deemed that horses should not carry more than 13st. On the subject of declaring overweight in advance in order that it could be published, it was decided that this should be done if the rider would be riding over 7lb heavier. The Senior Handicapper pointed out that 50% of overweights occur when a horse is out of the handicap.

*Carla Moore*

#### Penalties in Handicaps

At its meeting on 22 January, the BHA Racing Committee confirmed that a standard penalty of 6lb should be used in Flat Handicaps. The reason for this is that the average amount that Handicappers put horses up is 6.3lb. This goes across the full distance range, whether it is a 5f sprint or a race over an extended trip.

*Carla Moore*

## RACE PLANNING

### Official 2007 Prize Money Break Down

The breakdown of Prize Money (£) in 2007 was:

	Flat 2007	Jump 2007	Total 2007	Total 2006	Difference
Levy Board	32,022,271	21,400,039	53,422,310	62,090,588	(8,668,278)
Racecourses	10,650,986	4,002,669	14,653,655	12,351,786	2,301,869
Sponsors	8,952,730	6,036,615	14,989,345	14,923,705	65,640
Owners	9,981,827	3,144,112	13,125,939	12,097,593	1,028,346
Divided Race Fund	569,550	209,200	778,750	920,250	(141,500)
Development Fund	976,570	480,500	1,457,070	712,000	745,070
BHB Owners' Premium Scheme	0	0	0	707,554	(707,554)
Order of Merit*	0	255,000	255,000	255,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,153,934</b>	<b>35,528,135</b>	<b>98,682,069</b>	<b>104,058,476</b>	<b>(5,376,407)</b>

\* The Order of Merit contribution represents the cash payments made for 2005/06, excluding the element of the prize paid in bloodstock vouchers.

*Carla Moore*

### Selling Races

In December the BHA Racing Committee agreed to a proposal from the RCA to alter Order 96(i)(a) and (b). Computer development work associated with the revised Selling Race Order has been completed and is now in user testing at Weatherbys. Once this has been completed a suitable implementation date will be agreed and the revised Order advertised. The revised Order 96 is as follows:

96 (i) (a) In Selling Races with a Total Prize Fund of up to and including £6,000 the selling price shall not be less than £3,000.

96 (i) (b) In Selling Races with a Total Prize Fund of greater than £6,000 the selling price shall not be less than £4,000.

*Carla Moore*

### 48-hour Declarations for Jump Racing

The BHA Racing Committee recently discussed introducing 48-hour declarations for the feature Jump race on a Saturday in order to enhance their promotion in the media. Currently, in the 16-week core winter period 8 races already have this in place, with 5 other races eligible to bring it in, if they so wished. Further discussion will take place regarding the 3 remaining races, which under current guidelines, are not eligible to carry 48-hour Declarations. The RCA Race Planning Group will also discuss this at its meeting on 19 February.

*Carla Moore*

### Jump Race Development Group

Further to the list printed in last month's UPDATE, it should be noted that both Ruth Quinn and Stuart Middleton attend the Group and not as previously stated.

*Carla Moore*

## RACE PLANNING

### RCA Race Planning Workshop/TRICL I Course

The RCA Race Planning Executive organised a Race Planning Workshop/TRICL I Course on Thursday 17 January 2008, which was attended by 10 delegates. Weatherbys kindly allowed us to use their facilities, which included lunch, at no charge.

The workshop was designed to inform Clerks of the Course and Managers as well as other members of racecourse support staff of the fundamentals of race planning and is now compulsory for the accreditation of new Clerks of the Course. The programme is based on the Order and Rules of race planning, as well as how to put a programme together taking into account the available horse population, betting trends and the punter/racegoer.

The day was split into two parts, in the morning Carla Moore together with Neil Mackenzie-Ross delivered a presentation on 'Up-to-Date Race Planning' which included

tips and points to consider when creating race programmes. This was followed with a detailed assessment of betting data from Tote-pool (presented by Carla) and how race planning had an affect on betting trends, this was then followed by some analysis of the handicap horse population.

The afternoon session focused on TRICL 1 with an informative demonstration of the system presented by Weatherbys' Kathryn Proudlove. Delegates found this particularly useful and were keen to gather tips on how to use TRICL effectively.

Feedback from those who attended was very positive and the RCA Executive looks forward to organising a more substantial workshop in November 2008, including speakers from the Tote and BHA. However, it is unlikely to be held at Weatherbys due to the redevelopment of its conference centre.

*Laura Holmes*

### RCA Race Planning Group

The Group meets on 19 February and the following topics will form part of the Agenda. David Bradshaw, the HBLB Racing Director will also attend the meeting.

- 2009 Fixture Criteria
- Fixtures Incentive Scheme
- BHA Strategic Review of the Fixture List
- Stabling Eliminations
- 48-hour Declarations for Jump Racing

*Carla Moore*

### Jump Pattern - Applications for upgrade

The following applications for upgrade to Listed status have been approved:

- The Summer Handicap Hurdle race – Market Rasen, 2m 1½f, 19 July '08
- The Lord Mildmay Memorial Handicap Steeple Chase – Newton Abbot, 2m 5½f, 30 August '08

*Carla Moore*

### Programme Book Volume 3

The programmes for race meetings taking place between 1 July and 30 September, 2008, were available for collection from the Weatherbys database from Friday, 8 February. Mike Waring (Flat Programmer) and Richard Russell (Jump Programmer) will be contacting you directly regarding any suggested alterations. Racecourse Managers/Clerks of the Course should make any amendments on-screen, using the TRICL software, and then submit the programmes to the BHA Racing Department no later than **Friday, 7 March** (just in time for the Cheltenham Festival). Programme Book 3 is due to be published on 12 May.

*Carla Moore*

## RACE PLANNING

### European Pattern Committee (EPC) Report

The EPC held its 2008 annual meeting in Paris on Thursday 10 January. A summary of the agreements reached are as follows:

**Ground Rules:** The EPC agreed revisions to the Ground Rules that had been proposed by Britain earlier in the year. This will improve quality control and impose more stringent limitations on the number of upgrades/new Pattern races that any country could apply for in any one year. The rules surrounding the downgrading of races will be revisited before next year. The EPC also discussed the aim of trying to achieve stricter European standards for Listed race ratings.

#### Applications for change:

##### Great Britain

<b>Kings' Stand</b>	Upgraded from Group 2 to Group 1
<b>Glorious</b>	Upgraded from Listed to Group 3
<b>John of Gaunt</b>	Upgraded from Listed to Group 3 and moved to 31 May (TV coverage)
<b>Strensall</b>	Moved from 5 September to 20 August 2008 due to York track redevelopment work
<b>Temple</b>	Transferred from Sandown Park to Haydock Park
<b>Park Stakes</b>	Increased prize money from £100,000 to £150,000

##### France

<b>Arc de Triomphe</b>	Prize money doubled from 2 million Euros to 4 million Euros
<b>Prix Eugene Adam</b>	Prize money increased from 300,000 Euros to 400,000 Euros
<b>Prix Andre Baboin</b>	Transferred from Lyon to Bordeaux

##### Germany

<b>Deutsches Derby</b>	Moved from 1 July to 6 July
<b>German 1000 Guineas</b>	Moved from 29 April to 1 June
<b>Schwarzgold Rennen</b>	Moved from 6 May to 15 June
<b>Preis der Diana</b>	Moved from 3 June to 3 August
<b>Bavarian Classic</b>	Moved from 28 May to 8 June
<b>Kolner Herbst Stuten-Meile</b>	3yo+ f to 3yo f and moved from 4 November to 12 May
<b>Fahrhofer Stutenpreis</b>	3yo+ f to 3yo f and moved from 29 June to 4 July
<b>Grosser Preis der Wirtschaft</b>	Distance altered from 1,750m to 2,000m
<b>Idee Hansa-Preis</b>	Distance altered from 2,200m to 2,400m
<b>Grosser Preis der Hansestadt</b>	(Group 3) moved from 2 November 2007 to 9 November 2008, is transferred from Bremen to Krefeld, distance changed from 1,600m to 1,700m and age changed from 3yo+ to 2yo and will now be called <b>Herzog von Ratibor Rennen</b>

##### Ireland

<b>Silver Flash</b>	Upgraded from Listed to Group 3 on 16 July at Leopardstown for 2yof over 7f
<b>Richard H. Faught Mem.</b>	Upgraded from Listed to Group 3 on 29 June at the Curragh for 3yo+ over 5f
<b>Phoenix</b>	Moved from 10 August to 27 July
<b>Denny Cordell Lavarack</b>	Moved from 3 October to 27 September

/Contd.....

## RACE PLANNING

### European Pattern Committee (EPC) Report /Contd.....

#### Italy

<b>Derby Italiano</b>	Moved from 18 May to 11 May, distance reduced from 12f to 11f and prize fund increased to a minimum of 1 million Euros
<b>Carlo d'Alessio</b>	Moved from 20 May to 11 May
<b>Tudini</b>	Moved from 20 May to 11 May
<b>Premio Parioli</b>	Moved from 27 April to 20 April
<b>Paolo Mezzanotte</b>	Moved from 3 June to 25 May
<b>Vittorio di Capua</b>	Moved from 21 October to 12 October
<b>Aloisi</b>	Moved from 4 November to 16 November

Additionally, from 2008, all Italian Classic races to close on 31 March instead of 31 January. All other Italian Pattern races will close one month before running.

#### Scandinavia

<b>Stockholm Stora Preis</b>	Moved from 27 May to 3 June 800,000SEK to 1,000,000SEK
<b>Stockholm Cup International</b>	Prize money increase from 850,000SEK to 1,050,000SEK
<b>Taby Open Sprint Championship</b>	Prize money increase from 800,000SEK to 1,000,000SEK

**Listed Races** - Each country took the EPC through the detail of their Listed races. Much progress had been made with regard to the quality control mechanisms in place in each country and the strength of the European Listed race programme had improved. The new AWT Listed races introduced in 2007 were a mixed bag in terms of their success. Most achieved their ratings parameters and all will be given 3 years to prove their worth.

In summary, Britain will stage 154 Listed races in 2008 (157 in 2007).

- The Rockingham will move from York to Ayr
- The Rose Bowl will be run on 3 July, 2 weeks earlier than currently
- The Aubigny has been downgraded
- The Harvest will change its name to Princess Royal
- The Virginia will be deleted but a similar race will be staged at York in late July
- The Land O'Burns moves 2 weeks earlier to 21 June
- The Flower of Scotland will be downgraded in 2008
- A new 7f Listed race will be introduced at Chester on 12 July

Other subjects that were discussed included:

- **Slippage**  
The EPC discussed the issue of slippage in the international ratings, having considered a paper from Phil Smith. The topic will be discussed at the IFHA's Executive Council Meeting in March. It was accepted that there was nothing that could be done about what had happened in the past, and the reasons why slippage had been experienced were considered to be understandable. It was also recognised that the international handicappers were taking positive action regarding the rating of horses wherever possible. The EPC agreed that the terms of reference and voting structure of the World Rankings Committee should be reviewed.
- **Standardising fillies' allowances**  
Britain had carried out an exercise which showed that the 3lb fillies' allowance used in open races was appropriate in terms of producing a suitable win ratio for fillies in Pattern races. Germany agreed that they would revisit their allowance in the hope that the member countries could achieve uniformity.

## RACE PLANNING

### European Pattern Committee (EPC) Report /Contd.....

- **European Pattern Book**

Britain presented a proposal to make the European Pattern Book available online and to automate the production process. However, there was little appetite from the EPC to drive this forward, with the view being taken that the quote from Weatherbys was considered to be too expensive for the time it would save. It would also replicate the exercise of inputting race conditions onto the IFHA Group races website. It was suggested that Weatherbys should investigate whether a direct link into the IFHA website would be feasible instead.

- **Going Descriptions**

The EPC heard how various methods were deployed around Europe to measure going and to offer going descriptions to interested parties. There was appetite among some countries to provide more accurate going descriptions even if only for Pattern races. This might be achieved by taking readings more frequently or readings on different parts of the course and not just in one place. All member countries assured Britain that they would hope that progress could be made in their respective countries.

- **Breeders' Cup**

In announcing 3 new races for the 2008 Breeders' Cup Meeting, Breeders' Cup Ltd. acted contrary to the way it suggested it would in a response to a letter which the EPC Chairman had sent after 3 new races were announced without consultation in 2007. The Chairman will contact the U.S. Graded Stakes Committee to exert further pressure.

*Carla Moore*

### Graduation Steeple Chases

Following trainers' feedback after the first year of this initiative, there have been requests for Graduation Steeple Chases to continue further into the season. Applications for 3 new Graduation Steeple Chases had therefore been invited and are as follows:

16 January at Newcastle  
10 February at Exeter

8 February at Kempton Park

*Carla Moore*

### Veterans' Steeple Chases

Four new races have been programmed to cater for the strength in depth amongst the older steeple chasers. These will take place on:

31 January at Wincanton  
1 March at Newbury

20 February at Doncaster  
11 April at Ascot

*Carla Moore*

### Divided Race Fund & Appearance Money Scheme

The level of funding for both schemes in 2008 based on the calendar year is:

- Appearance Money    £1,500,000 (as in 2007)  
(£120 Sunday Runners, £250 Flat Conditions Stakes, £300 WFA Novice Chases)
- Divided Race Fund    £ 855,000 (from £950,000)  
(£750 will be deducted from the TPF for each division)

*Carla Moore*

## RACE PLANNING

### Race Times – Second Quarter

Race times for the second quarter of 2008 were circulated to Racecourses on 28 January. The document includes **all** race times for April, May and June. As ever, days affected by terrestrial television **will be subject to later change once television schedules are finalised** (usually 10 days before). If the Race Times Executive is forced to make changes he will try to ensure that first race times are not moved earlier unless it is absolutely un-

avoidable, and always after full consultation with the racecourses involved.

Race times for the third quarter (July – September) will be sent out in April, and for the final quarter (October – December) in July. If you have any race time queries or requests then please contact James Savage at the BHA on 0207 152 0053.

*Carla Moore*

### Arab Races

Following consultation with the BHA Racing Committee, opinion was that the Arabian Racing Organisation's request to alter the qualification criteria which allow thoroughbreds to run in Anglo Arab Races should be approved.

For the record the criteria for qualification will be adjusted as follows:

- the eligibility of Flat horses increases from 40 to 42
- the eligibility of Jump horses increases from 70 to 72
- 7-y-o and upwards which are unraced, or have at some time raced but have never qualified for a rating will also be included.

ARO has been informed and will include the criteria within its guidelines for the forthcoming season.

*Carla Moore*

### RCA Race Planning Group Members and Alternates 2008

Name	Organisation	Representing	Alternate	Racecourse
Nick Lees	Leicester/Stratford	Small Independents	David Hunter	Fakenham
Bill Farnsworth	Musselburgh	Small Independents	Hazel Peplinski	Hamilton Park
James Hutchinson	Ripon	Small Independents	Sally Iggulden	Beverley
Mark Kershaw	Newbury	Large Independents	Ed Gretton	Bangor/Chester
Jim Allen	Northern Racing	Northern racing	Charlie Moore	Great Yarmouth
Michael Prosser	Newmarket	J C R	Andrew Cooper	Sandown Park
Neil Mackenzie-Ross	Lingfield/Folkestone	Arena	Jon Pullin	Windsor
<b>Co-opted</b>				
John Smee	J C R	J C R		
Ian Renton	Arena	Arena		

## RACE PLANNING

### 2007 Claiming Race Analysis

The table below displays the number of claiming races and the number of claims from 2007. As was the case for 2006, last year saw some positive results, a theme which is set to continue. The latest figures reported for January 2008 indicate that claiming races continue to prove a success with 17 horses claimed from 68 races.

The RCA has also undertaken some analysis of the days horses were claimed in 2007. The results have shown that both Mondays and Tuesdays fared the best with the most horses claimed.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of Claiming/Selling races in period	51	42	45	55	63	76	69	77	52	56	53	56
Claims received by telephone	92	83	92	106	154	197	193	175	128	85	99	120
Claims from the racecourse	6	12	14	7	14	15	9	11	6	8	5	12
Sole friendly claims - telephone	30	34	33	35	46	49	54	71	38	36	39	31
Sole friendly claims - racecourse	2	7	11	4	8	10	5	9	2	3	3	11
Contested telephone claims	50	52	48	61	95	134	116	95	80	40	47	77
Of which, successful	18	12	13	12	26	27	30	22	21	13	12	17
Hostile 'phone claims (where none from racecourse) horses	25	14	21	18	27	34	45	37	28	18	21	28
Hostile 'phone claims (where none from racecourse) bids	48	42	40	49	58	84	106	97	79	34	50	85

*Laura Holmes*

### BHA Late Payment Charges

At it's meeting on 14 January 2008, the BHA Board decided to increase the interest rate payable by racecourses who do not settle their raceday accounts liability on time to 4% above the current base rate. In addition a fixed fee of £100 will be payable on all late payments. This change will take effect for all meetings that are required to settle their liability by 1 March 2008.

All racecourses who currently settle by Direct Debit are not affected by this change. For more information, contact Paul Foster at the BHA on 0207 152 0088.

*Carla Moore*

## RACETECH

### RaceTech and Racecourse CCTV

Further to our Update regarding licencing under the new Turf TV/SIS regime, RaceTech has been asked to make enquiries on behalf of a number of racecourses about how to purchase the necessary licences so that you can show away racing from courses in the other group from your own on your CCTV system. It may be advantageous to negotiate pricing as a group, as the alternative is that Sky will calculate prices based on the number of the TV sets on your course, which may work out to be expensive. If you would like RaceTech to make enquiries on your behalf, without any obligation, please contact Catherine Pullan as soon as possible. Please remember that RaceTech cannot show racing from other courses without the proper licencing agreements in place, so if you haven't yet made arrangements, we are happy to assist.

*Catherine Pullan*

### RaceTech and NFS-Hospitality

RaceTech has been working in partnership with NFS Hospitality to promote their unique software solution that helps racecourses to develop and manage their corporate hospitality business. Already in use at Arena, the Rendezvous solution from NFS and RaceTech has no need for large investment in technology and is ideal for those racecourses that do not have in house IT expertise. It is simple to use and intuitive and is available on a low cost rental plan – pay as you go.

Rendezvous is both a sales tool, to help generate more and better quality business on the corporate hospitality side and also an operations aid, dealing with all aspects of managing corporate hospitality, from contract preparation to producing function sheets and catering lists – automatically. Lastly, it is a billing

mechanism, designed to handle the often complex aspects of event billing such as accepting and posting deposits and generating final bills for client approval and sign off.

To find out more, NFS and RaceTech invite you to a round table discussion, with a short demonstration and lunch, so show you how this solution could help your business, on racedays and non raceday events, in a highly cost effective manner, with low capital investment and sensible rental charges. The session would be scheduled for a mutually convenient date and location, so please contact Catherine Pullan at RaceTech for more details and register your interest. For more information, please go to [www.nfs-hospitality.com](http://www.nfs-hospitality.com) and click on "Case Studies" and Venues for a real life success story in racing.

*Catherine Pullan*

## PROMOTIONS

### Mail on Sunday '2-for-1' Offer

The popular Mail on Sunday '2-for-1' ticket offer is once again being run by the RCA Promotions Department in 2008. The offer launched in the paper over the Christmas period and we hope it will appear again shortly. The first meeting of the offer took place at Fontwell Park on 3 February, with 86 tickets sold.

*Valerie Larue or John Phillips*

### The Times Month of Evening Racing

The Times Month of Evening Racing is a new ticket offer set to launch in mid-March for evening meetings in May. All Racecourse Managers who have eligible meetings were emailed in January with details and an acceptance form. If you are yet to respond, please do so by Friday 15 February.

*John Phillips*

## PROMOTIONS

### British Horseracing Call Centre

Since the start of April 2007 the RCA Promotions Department assumed the role of call centre for the British Horseracing website. Bookings taken so far (not accounting for any refunds) are as follows:

Month	2007			2006		
	Orders	Tickets	Value	Orders	Tickets	Value
April	340	1,454	£31,795	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
September	146	642	£12,421	334	1,520	£25,131
October	144	738	£15,068	304	1,380	£25,812
November	151	627	£16,513	226	971	£21,163
December	185	588	£17,824	186	613	£16,722
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,924</b>	<b>12,954</b>	<b>£248,526</b>	<b>5,592</b>	<b>23,892</b>	<b>£463,614</b>
	(-47%)	(-46%)	(-46%)			

Month	2008			2007		
	Orders	Tickets	Value	Orders	Tickets	Value
January	183	718	21,018	214	802	£23,421
	(-14%)	(-10%)	(-10%)			

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)  
 September 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 26 different courses (39 last September)  
 October 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 32 different courses (32 last October)  
 November 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 21 different courses (24 last November)  
 December 2007 saw orders taken on behalf of 29 different courses (21 last December)  
 January 2008 saw orders taken on behalf of 30 different courses (26 last January)

*John Phillips*

### Fixture and Admission Information Please

We have numerous enquiries throughout the year requesting information leaflets on specific courses. We are still awaiting leaflets from a number of courses, so if you are yet to send a supply on to us (or wish to double-check that you already have) please contact us. *Paul Smith*

## THE RACEGOERS CLUB

### Newsletter

Enclosed for Racecourse Managers is a copy of our latest newsletter, sent to members week commencing Monday 4 February.  
*John Phillips*

### Membership Renewal

A second renewal reminder has just been sent to non-renewers. The level of non-renewal looks set to be similar to last year's figure of 18.3%, which was a large improvement on the previous year.  
*Valerie Larue*

### Channel 4 Coverage

The Racegoers Club featured on Channel 4's racing broadcast from Cheltenham on Saturday 26 January, where the Honorary President, Mike Atherton, presented The Racegoers Club Racecourse of the Year Award. Whilst an interview was not possible, the coverage received through a link from the Channel 4 website resulted in a number of new memberships.  
*John Phillips*

### Fixture Booklets

Our complimentary fixture booklets in eye-catching black dispensers have been distributed at 26 racecourses which stage jump racing or all-weather racing. Only a few courses remain outstanding. Courses that stage turf flat racing only will be contacted in March to arrange for a supply of booklets to be sent to them.  
*Paul Smith*

### Cheltenham Guest Speakers

Following on from the success of guest speakers in our marquee at the Cheltenham Festival last year, we will retain the feature for 2008. As last year, Dan Skelton (Paul Nicholls' assistant trainer), Ferdy Murphy and Tanya Stevenson will speak (on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday respectively) with Philip Hobbs a new addition on Wednesday.  
*Paul Smith*

### Mailings

The Racegoers Club is happy to undertake mailings to its database of members on behalf of courses wishing to promote themselves. All we ask is that the communication provides an exclusive offer to Club members from the racecourse, eg. a saving on annual membership, rather than just being a general promotional flyer. The mailing can be sent to the entire database or to a post-code-profiled section of it tailored to your local area. There is no cost for using the database, the only cost to the racecourse is stationery, postage and fulfilment via a mailing house.  
*John Phillips*

## PRESS

### Photographers

Following the photographer's meeting held on 17 November 2007, the RCA reviewed the BHAGI 5.2 in conjunction with the BHA and photographers on 6 February.

The meeting agreed a number of amendments and reviewed the enforcement procedure which will now be done jointly by the BHA and racecourses. Consequently, it was decided to lift the yellow and red card penalty system with immediate effect and withdraw all yellow and red cards.

Once confirmed, the RCA will circulate the amended BHAGI 5.2 and supporting Racecourse Guidance Document to all courses.  
*Lizzie Lea*

## COMMUNICATIONS

### RCA Website [www.britishracecourses.org](http://www.britishracecourses.org) Review

Many thanks to those Racecourses that sent back their completed questionnaires about the usefulness and possible improvements to the RCA site.

I have contacted those courses that required a link from their site to ours and if any other courses would like a link then please contact me.

From the questionnaire results we have gathered that a members log in area on the site would be useful. I will be circulating your usernames and password (which you can change) for your information shortly.

The Members Area contains: Document Library  
Calendar – Listing RCA upcoming meetings

In addition, a members Forum will be introduced later in the year for members to exchange information.

*Lizzie Lea*

### Update

In the Website questionnaire we also asked courses if they would like to receive an electronic version of UPDATE. Many of you said that you would, so the next edition will be sent electronically to those that requested it.

We will continue to send UPDATE by post until told otherwise. Please let Carol Walker know if you would like to receive an electronic version.

*Lizzie Lea*

## BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY

### Update On Trial For Access System To Racecourse Stables

As you may be aware the British Horseracing Authority has for the last six-months, been looking into solutions for an electronic access system for racecourse stables. They are now at the stage where they have identified two possible solutions for a suitable system. Before they implement either of these, they are conducting a trial of the two systems at Kempton and Wolverhampton racecourses during March and April. Following the trial they hope to be in a position where they can identify a solution that best meets their needs whilst causing minimum disruption to those using the system i.e. stable staff and trainers.

Both solutions will use an electronic licence (which in the future will replace the current paper based licences). During the trial these licences will be issued by the Authority's Stable Security Officers on a temporary basis on arrival at the racecourse stables. The licences will be read by a reader (either placed underground as per Kempton or on the sides of the stable entrance as per Wolverhampton) which will identify authorised access on racedays (this will be determined by those who have a runner on that day). Furthermore each system will link to a people counter which is designed

to count the number of people entering the stabling area. Both the people counter and licence reader will work together and will (hopefully) identify discrepancies between the number of people entering the stabling area with the number with valid cards. Any anomalies between these figures will throw up a vibrating alert to the duty Stable Security Officers (SSO's). For further information on the two solutions please contact Yogita Popat, Security Operations & Projects Manager on 07786 678958 or [ypopat@britishhorseracing.com](mailto:ypopat@britishhorseracing.com)

During the trial normal procedures for access to the racecourse stables will still apply; this trial will take place in parallel to these and without much, if any disruption.

The trial will consider the feedback of not only the Authority's staff but also others using the system. We would like to invite anyone who wishes to, to come to either of the racecourses during the two months to see the systems and have a 'play' with them. Your feedback is very much needed and appreciated.

*Yogita Popat*

## SPONSORSHIP

### 2007 Annual Summary Sponsorship Statistical Report

The 2007 Annual Summary Sponsorship Statistical Report will be circulated to 2007 subscribers very shortly. Should any RCA member racecourses that did not subscribe to the monthly and annual summary reports now wish to receive a copy of the annual summary then this is available at a 50% discount – £50. It is available to non-RCA members for £100 and to Horseracing Sponsors Association members for £75.

The report details analysis of 2007 sponsorship by code, class, terrestrial television and business sector. It also includes a list of the top 100 sponsors by total prize value and number of races sponsored, as well as attendance figures and terrestrial airtime.

The 2008 monthly and annual sponsorship reports will be sent to RCA member racecourses free of charge – but will be available to non- RCA members at the same subscription rate as 2007 (£300 general subscription – 25% discount to Horseracing Sponsors Association members).

Should racecourses wish to subscribe to a dedicated sponsorship report (analysis of their own sponsorship monthly and annually - with access to bespoke data from the sponsorship database – i.e., lists of sponsors in certain sectors), this service is still offered at the rate of £250 for 2008 – this will include a dedicated racecourse 2007 sponsorship summary report). An example report can be provided if you would like to see the information this report will include.

For further details – or if you would like to receive a copy of the 2007 Sponsorship Report, please contact Mary-Ann Sandercock.

*Mary-Ann Sandercock*

## SAFETY

### RCA Safety Group

The RCA Safety Group met on Monday 21 January 2008. The racecourses were represented by Steve Horlick, Stella Postins, Nick Russell and Steve Tully. Alan Delmonte from the BHA was also in attendance. The notes of the meeting will be circulated to all racecourse managers and racecourse Health and Safety Managers when available. A summary of the discussion is outlined below:

**Smoking:** The Group was made aware that there has been an increase in the number of staff smoking in the racecourse stable yards. All racecourse stable yards are non-smoking areas, and racecourses are asked to ensure they monitor these areas accordingly.

**Cabling and Power Supply:** The issues of power supply for Clerks of the Scales in the Weighing Room, and the number of cables in this area which may present a trip hazard were

highlighted. Racecourses are asked to assess these areas and assist as far as possible in addressing these risks.

**BHA Field Force Risk Assessments:** The Group reviewed the BHA Field Force Risk Assessments and agreed that these needed to be updated and reviewed to ensure consistency. The BHA has subsequently informed the RCA that a review of these documents is taking place.

**Green Guide Review:** The Group was informed that the RCA had responded to the consultation on the review of the Green Guide and had subsequently contacted the FLA to determine the timescales for the review. Following the meeting the RCA was contacted by the FLA to discuss the submission to the consultation exercise.

/Contd....

## SAFETY

### RCA Safety Group

/Contd...

**SIA Licences:** The Group was made aware that all licences issued by the SIA have to be renewed after 3 years. As the legislation was introduced in 2005 many licences will be due for renewal in 2008. Racecourses are asked to be aware of this requirement.

**Migrant Workers:** The Group discussed the responsibilities of racecourses with regard to the employment of migrant workers who are not entitled to work in the UK should they be employed by a racecourse contractor. The RCA is to investigate this matter further.

**Wi-Fi Risk Assessments/Management:** The Group was informed that following the RCA Access and Ticketing Workshop in October 2007 Burges Salmon produced a guidance document for racecourses regarding risk assessments of Wi-Fi networks. A copy of this document will be included in the RCA Guidance Documents Purple Folder when it is reissued shortly.

**Arboricultural Management:** The Safety Group reviewed and approved the RCA Arboricultural Management Guidance Document, which will be included in the RCA Guidance Documents Purple Folder when it is reissued shortly.

**RCA Guidance Documents Purple Folder:** The RCA Guidance Documents Purple Folder will be reissued for 1 March 2008. Copies will be sent to all Racecourse Managers, Health and Safety Managers, Clerks of the Course and Group head offices. Further copies will be available on request.

**Parade Ring Safety:** It was proposed that racecourses may wish to inform the stewards of who would be the designated parade ring safety officer each raceday to help enhance the profile of this role. It was also identified that there was a need for the Clerk of the Course and Racecourse Executive to support the decisions of the Parade Ring Safety Officer and not undermine their role.

**Ticket Touting:** The Group discussed the

report produced by the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee regarding Ticket Touting and identified methods which racecourses may wish to employ to minimise touting. It was noted that the introduction of a returns policy by racecourses may help to achieve this. Any racecourses which have a returns policy or have considered introducing a returns policy are asked to contact the RCA to provide further details.

**Fraudulent Bookings:** The Group was informed of some difficulties regarding fraudulent ticket bookings. The RCA maintains a list of names and addresses which have been reported as being used for fraudulent bookings, and agreed to provide this to racecourses for information.

**Owners and Trainers Badges:** Some difficulties with the misuse of Owners and Trainers badges were identified by the Group, and the RCA will contact the ROA and NTF directly regarding these.

**Major Incident Management:** The RCA will stage two major incident management workshops in October/November 2008. Racecourses should inform the RCA if they have any items they would like to see included on the programme for these workshops.

**Electronic Scales:** The Group requested that racecourses be made aware that when electronic scales were installed they may not have been connected to the back-up power supply, which is a condition of their use.

**Corporate Manslaughter Legislation:** The Group was informed that that from 6 April 2008 the Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Legislation would come into effect and that in the event of an incident all areas of management connected to it could be held responsible to varying degrees.

*Caroline Davies, Holly Robarts*

## TECHNICAL

### RCA Technical Group

The RCA Technical Group met on Thursday 7 February 2008. The racecourses were represented by Seamus Buckley, Simon Claisse, Bob Davies, Jon Pullin, Anthea Morshead and Kirkland Tellwright. Clare Hazell from the Professional Jockeys Association was also in attendance. The notes of the meeting will be circulated to all racecourse managers and Clerks of the Course when available. A summary of the discussion is outlined below:

**Physiotherapy:** The Group was informed that the BHA Welfare and Training Group would establish a sub-group to examine the provision of physiotherapy on racecourses, and to assist the PJA had sent a questionnaire to their members requesting their views on this issue.

**RCA Racecourse Guidance Documents:** The Group reviewed a number of revised documents from the RCA Racecourse Guidance Documents Purple Folder, and proposed additional amendments to be made prior to reissuing the folder.

**Clerks of the Course Accreditation:** The Group was made aware that the RCA, BHA and BHEST will be reviewing the current Clerks of the Course Training Programme to identify where improvements can be made

**PJA Safety Officers:** The Group reviewed proposal from the PJA for remuneration of Jockeys Safety Officers.

**Stalls Handler Manning Levels:** The Group reviewed the proposals from the BHA to increase stalls handler manning levels and agreed that a proportional solution was required.

**TurfTrax Going Stick Trial:** The Group discussed the current trial of the TurfTrax Going Stick, and agreed that it should be proposed to the BHA that the trial be continued for a further 12 months.

**Frost Covers:** The Group was informed that Phase III of the frost protection covers research is progressing and an interim report would be provided when available.

**Research Partners:** The Group discussed proposals for research to be sponsored by the RCA Research Partners, which the RCA will

discuss with the identified partner.

**Jockey Injury Notification Arrangements:** The Group agreed the jockey injury notification arrangements procedure, which will be provided to racecourses shortly.

**Fit to Ride:** The Group was made aware of some difficulties for jockeys not being able to be passed as fit by a doctor unless they had a scheduled ride on that day. The PJA pursued this matter with the BHA and has confirmed that subject to certain published limitations jockeys can be passed fit to ride by an RMO at a racecourse on any raceday, but if they do not have a ride on that day, the BHA must be informed so that they can alter the database accordingly.

**Light Metres:** The Group was informed that RaceTech was investigating the different devices available and the costs of these on behalf of the RCA.

**Radios:** The Group reported that there were continued difficulties with radio interference at a number of racecourses, and the RCA agreed to pursue this matter further.

**Farriers:** The Group discussed a proposal to make a farrier available at all starts in order to remove plates if necessary. The Group agreed that this would not be practical or necessary and proposed alternative arrangements, which the RCA was asked to investigate further.

**Vets Certificates:** The Group discussed a proposal of self-certification by trainers, and agreed that careful monitoring was required and that it would be necessary to agree the action to be taken should abuse of the system be identified.

**Off Times:** The Group requested that the RCA pursue the provision of individual off time statistics for each racecourse.

**BHA Officials Procedure 2.4:** The Group discussed the procedure to be followed in the event of concerns about the safety of the track, and agreed that a full review was required and it would be necessary to ensure that racecourses were able to retain control in the event that such concerns were raised.

*Caroline Davies, Holly Roberts*

## TECHNICAL

### **RCA Racecourse Groundstaff Seminar 2008**

A seminar for Racecourse Groundstaff will take place at Sandown Park Racecourse on Monday 10 and Tuesday 11 November 2008. These dates have been specifically selected to avoid a clash with those of the previous groundstaff seminar, with the aim that those who were unable to attend previously will be able to attend on this occasion.

If there are any topics that you would particularly like to see covered in this seminar please contact me and we will endeavour to include them in the seminar programme.

*Holly Roberts*

### **Halt Race Procedures**

As racecourses will be aware from the RCA Members Forum meetings, a meeting was held on 14 January 2008 regarding halt race procedures. This meeting was attended by the BHA, RCA, JAGB, Jockeys' Safety Officers and racecourse representatives, and a procedure was agreed for Flat racecourses where the same area of ground is covered more than once in any race. This procedure will be introduced from the start of the 2008 Flat Turf Season and BHAGI 3.2 is to be revised accordingly.

It has been agreed that current fluorescent yellow 'False Start' flag also be used as a halt race flag, which is deployed at positions

agreed by the racecourse and their BHA Course Inspector. The existing black and white flag will continue to be used as a hazard ahead warning flag on all racecourses.

Whistles will be used in conjunction with both flags in order to attract the attention of jockeys to help them to see the flags.

The RCA will be organising a bulk order of flags and whistles for racecourses, and any racecourses wishing to be included in this should contact the RCA for further information.

*Holly Roberts*

### **Wireless Airspace Management on Racecourses**

The British Horseracing Industry IT Network, which is organised by the BHA, has formed a sub-group to investigate Wireless Airspace Management on Racecourses.

The sub-group includes representatives from the BHA, RCA, Racecourses, Weatherbys and the Tote.

The sub-group will conduct an investigation into the different users of wireless airspace on racecourses and their individual requirements. They will then use this information to develop advice for racecourses on the different users, and steps they may wish to take to manage their wireless airspace.

The project will be conducted by a third party organisation at the expense of the BHA, and in line with requirements established by the sub-group.

Further details will be provided to racecourses as the project progresses.

*Holly Roberts*

## TECHNICAL

### Weather Report

Below is a summary of the December 2007 Weather Report (for England and Wales) from the Environment Agency.

December had slightly above average rainfall across England and Wales overall, though four of our regions received less than the average. December was the fifth consecutive month of below average rainfall across three of our regions, but all regions had above average rainfall during 2007. Soil moisture deficits fell in all our regions during the month. Monthly mean flows increased at all indicator sites but flows remained lower than *normal* at just two sites. Flows at more than one quarter of sites were either *above normal* or *notably high*, while several sites increased by four descriptive classes since November. Groundwater levels decreased at approximately one quarter of the indicator sites, while all but four sites remained *normal* or higher for the time of year. Woodleys No.1 in our South West Region became *exceptionally low for the time of year*. Overall reservoir storage for England and

Wales increased by 10% to 90% at the end of December. Storage at all but four reservoirs or reservoir groups remained *normal* or higher for the time of year.

**Rainfall:** Following four months of below average rainfall across England and Wales overall, rainfall for December was slightly above average.

**Soil Moisture Deficit:** Soil moisture deficits (SMDs) fell in all of our regions during the month.

**River Flows:** Monthly mean flows increased at all indicator sites since November with just two sites lower than normal for the time of year.

**Groundwater Levels:** Groundwater levels decreased at approximately one quarter of indicator sites during December, but increased at all other sites.

**Reservoir Storage:** Reservoir storage increased in all our regions during December, with the exception of our Thames Region which remained unchanged.

## MEDICAL

### RMO Training

The Racing and Equestrian Medical Officers course run by Dr Bennett has received full approval from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

In order to comply with the requirements of HRAGI 11.1 para 1, RMOs must undertake training every three years (or 4 for ATLS). Courses are scheduled to be held on 16-17 February and 13-14 September 2008. To book a place, please contact Dr Bob Bennett on 07979 506548.

### Basics Education Courses for 2008

Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	31 March – 2 April	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Immediate Care Course	31 March – 4 April	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Advanced Phec	3-4 April	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	7-9 May	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	7-9 July (to be confirmed)	BMA House, London
Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	27-29 October	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Immediate Care Course	27-31 October	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Advanced Phec	30-31 October	Madingley Hall, Cambridge
Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	24-26 November	Madingley Hall, Cambridge

For further details please contact Tracy at BASICS HQ directly on 01473 218 407 or by email [educ@basics.org.uk](mailto:educ@basics.org.uk)

## MEDICAL

### Medical & Technical Group

A joint meeting of the Medical and Technical Groups was held on Friday 1 February. The changes to the BHAGI 11 that were circulated to all courses on 14 December 2007 were discussed by the BHA Medical Advisory Committee and will be implemented in phases, some of which by the beginning of the Turf Flat season. The notes of the meeting will be circulated shortly.

*Caroline Davies, Lizzie Lea*

## TRAINING

### Groundstaff Training Group Meeting

The Groundstaff Training Group met on Tuesday 15 January 2008. The Group spent the meeting reviewing the 2007 Groundsmen courses and considering what improvements could be made for 2008. It was felt that the Advanced course's management element should include more communication training in order for groundsmen to gain more confidence when presenting to a Board or Committee in future.

The Group agreed that York Racecourse was the perfect venue for the Advanced course. It was suggested that for 2008 it would be a good opportunity for delegates to be given insight into the work York had done to remedy its track following the flood damage in the summer.

It was reported that the Foundation course had retained most of the same format from the previous year but that there had been some further steering of the content towards racecourses. Health and safety procedures had also been integrated more into the practical sessions. Cheltenham racecourse was praised for their continued help and support as host of the course.

With regard to the Intermediate course the Group was informed that John Davis had added some worthwhile tweaks to the Health and Safety session which now meant that individuals could practice conducting risk assessments themselves. It was noted that the practical assessments had overrun this year. It was therefore suggested that the flip-start and by-pass procedure tests should be overseen by just one racecourse inspector.

The Group was advised that the cost of staging the Intermediate course at the British Racing

School had increased which was of concern to the IOG. It was agreed that the IOG should meet with the BRS to negotiate the cost as it was felt that there was no other venue that could offer delegates the same range of facilities and access to gallops as Newmarket. It was also agreed that those who attend the courses should receive membership of the IOG which would ensure that the course fees benefited from the reduction associated with IOG membership.

The Group discussed the proposal to introduce Continued Professional Development (CPD) courses for groundstaff who wished to further their training. The IOG advised that it had already set up such courses for its members and would be willing to adapt some of them to incorporate racecourse subjects. The Group agreed that the concept should be raised at the RCA's Groundstaff Seminar in November. The Group decided that the CPD course should be spread over three days and should be held at a different venue each year. The course should also allow for changes year on year in order for racecourses to be updated on new legislation etc. The IOG agreed to produce a framework of the format of the course and costing.

In terms of succession planning the Group was informed that John Davis would semi-retire in due course and a replacement would be needed for those subjects he decides not to do. The IOG would consider who would be an appropriate candidate with the relevant experience. It was suggested that the IOG approach someone from Cranfield University who was already familiar with racecourses.

*Laura Holmes*

### Clerk of the Course Training—RaceTech Visit

The date for the next Clerk of the Course Training visit to RaceTech is Thursday 27 March 2008. To arrange this training please call Barbara Leahy at RaceTech on 0208 947 3333.

*Barbara Leahy*

## TRAINING

### British Horseracing Education and Standards Trust Ollie McPhail Appointed Full Time Regional Education Officer

Judith Allen, recently appointed Executive Director of the British Horseracing Education and Standards Trust (BHEST), is pleased to announce that Ollie McPhail, National Hunt jockey and part time Regional Education Officer for BHEST, has agreed to take up a full time position from 1 February 2008.

Judith said 'Ollie has shown great commitment in his work with the Racing to School initiative, sharing his experience as a National Hunt jockey with the thousands of pupils who participate in the programme each year. We are de-

lighted with his decision to join BHEST full-time at a time when we are looking to expand the programme.'

In response to his appointment, Ollie said 'Much as I have enjoyed my ten years as a National Hunt jockey I feel it is the right time to move on. Working for BHEST on the Racing to School programme will allow me to continue working in an environment I enjoy, and I am looking forward to the new challenges the position will bring.'

*Owen Byrne*

### Racecourse Groundsmen Courses 2008

Foundation Course:	Cheltenham Racecourse	20-25 April
Intermediate Course:	British Racing School, Newmarket	16-21 November

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](mailto:iog@iog.org)

## BADGES & PASS

### Local Stewards and Casual Officials

Following continued discussions with the BHA regarding the provision of PASS Cards to local stewards and casual officials it has been decided that this will not be progressed any further.

Whilst discussions were taking place, racecourses were asked to continue to recognise the

existing 2007 passes for local stewards and casual officials until 1 March 2008. These passes will now be reissued for 2008, and the RCA will inform racecourses of a confirmed date by when this will be completed and the 2007 passes should no longer be recognised.

*Holly Roberts*

### PASS Cards

Racecourses are asked to remind all metal badge holders that their badge should be accompanied by a PASS Card. Those who do not have a PASS Card should contact the RCA or the PASS Helpdesk in order to get a PASS Card application form. Tel: 01933 270333 or [pass@weatherbys.co.uk](mailto:pass@weatherbys.co.uk).

*Holly Roberts*

### RCA and Press Badge Lists

Copies of the lists of 2008 RCA and Press Badges holders are available on request.

*Holly Roberts*

### 2008 Badges & 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*

### Missing Badges

RCA: 161, 830, 1136

Press: 30, 394

Officials: 106, 148

NTF: 5, 6, 34, 392, 393, 453, 454, 477, 478, 782, 783, 953, 1342

## 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 date clashes.

The following are highlights for March and April 2008. For further details regarding specific dates please e-mail: [events@racingregister.co.uk](mailto:events@racingregister.co.uk) or contact Lynn Payne at Sportsguide Limited on 01344 774322.

### March

- 4 Tuesday Association of British Bookmakers Annual Meeting – Waldorf Hilton, London
- 11 Tuesday Cheltenham Festival (until Friday 14<sup>th</sup>)
- 20 Thursday The Lesters—Professional Jockeys Association Annual Awards Ceremony – Hilton Metropole, Birmingham
- 26 Wednesday DBS Sale. (until Thurs 27<sup>th</sup>)
- 27 Thursday John Smith's Grand National Northern Media Lunch – Aintree
- 28 Friday DBS Lincoln Handicap Sales, horses in and out of training
- 29 Saturday Dubai World Cup – Nad Al Sheba, Dubai

### April

- 3 Thursday John Smith's Grand National Meeting – Aintree (until Sat 5<sup>th</sup>)
- 5 Saturday John Smith's Grand National Day - Aintree
- 14 Monday Goodwood Pre-Season Press Launch – Goodwood
- 15 Tuesday Tattersalls Craven Breeze Up sale - Newmarket (until Thurs 17<sup>th</sup>)
- 19 Saturday Dubai Duty Free media lunch - Newbury

## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Spotlight On .....

Stephen Lambert  
Managing Director and Clerk of the Course  
Stratford-on-Avon



Age	58
Marital Status/Children/ Pets	Married, three very eligible daughters, all looking for rich, racing-friendly husbands. A hunter called Norah, (whose talents are well in excess of her jockey's), a terrier and the front legs of a whippet, who really belongs to one of my daughters.
Previous Career(s)	Amateur huntsman; Partner of Knight Frank, estate agents, and still learning to be a pilot. Currently Chairman of the Masters of Foxhounds Association (unpaid!)
Best Bits About Your Job	Watching it all happen on a busy raceday, when everything is going to plan.
Worst Bit About Your Job	When there are injuries to jockeys or horses; it is difficult not to feel partially responsible.
Best Racing Experience(s)	Seeing Arkle win the Hennessy by 15 lengths and then the Cheltenham Gold Cup by 30 lengths in a year that I would rather not name!
Worst Racing Experience	Falling off a talented pointer called Steepwood Lad at the last when a distance clear.
Racing Hero	Joint heroes: Lester Piggott and Peter O' Sullivan. Professionals in a league of their own.
Most Fanciable Racing Personality	The lady jockey riding at Stratford in late October who, whilst starters, bumped into our Head Groundsman in the Weighing Room. He apologised. She said: "Don't worry, everyone here has seen it all before". What a girl! We couldn't identify her without colours.
Hobbies	Hunting, flying, reading, swimming in the sea, walking with dogs, going to concerts.
Favourite Film & TV	Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines. Any Poirot mystery.
Favourite Holiday Destination	Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.
Current Wheels	Audi Quattro
One Wish To Improve The Industry	For there to be a severe penalty for anyone who drops litter at a racecourse. (Sha Tin racecourse in Hong Kong is a shining example of what can be done).

**MISCELLANEOUS****GOODWOOD**

Goodwood is a traditional country estate of 11,500 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.

**RACING SECRETARY & PA TO RACECOURSE MD  
& MARKETING/PR MANAGER**

£25,000 per annum + excellent benefits – Ref. 04/08

Reporting to the Racecourse Managing Director and working closely with the Racecourse Marketing & PR Manager, you will be responsible for providing full administrative and secretarial support for these two roles. You will be required to assist with a wide range of Marketing and PR related projects. Regular contact with the Racing Authorities and industry bodies including all key stakeholders will be an important part of the role. A wide variety of work including helping to plan and organise race meetings will offer an exciting challenge and demand multi-tasking skills.

The successful candidate will be highly organised with the ability to prioritise and manage a diverse workload. In addition you will need excellent communication skills including letter writing and presentation of information together with exceptional attention to detail. Good computing skills including Microsoft office and a familiarity with related software will be expected. You will be confident at communicating at all levels, personable and presentable. No previous knowledge of horse racing or equestrianism is required but enthusiasm and energy are both essential.

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Due to the rural location of the Goodwood Estate, own or reliable transport is essential.

To request an application pack for this position, please either visit [www.goodwood.co.uk/info](http://www.goodwood.co.uk/info),  
Email: [careers@goodwood.co.uk](mailto:careers@goodwood.co.uk)  
or contact the Human Resources Department on (01243) 755000.

Please note 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 you have not been successful.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is **Friday 22 February 2008**

## DIARY DATES

19 February	RCA Race Planning Group
26 February	Jump Race Development Group
29 February	Racing Promotions Group
4 March	Racing Committee
6 March	RCA Board Meeting

## ATTACHMENTS

Watts Fences - Newsletter February 2008  
The Racegoers Club Newsletter

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