

# ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE HORSERACING INDUSTRY

Workbook





# INTRODUCTION

This workbook has been developed to help you gain a comprehensive knowledge of the organisation and administration of the horseracing industry.

It comprises six sections:

1. Development and Present Day Role of the Thoroughbred in the Racing and Breeding Industries
2. Role and Responsibilities of Major Organisations within the British Horseracing Industry
3. Organisation, Governance and Regulation of the British Horseracing Industry
4. Understand the Principles of Race Planning and its Impact on British Horseracing
5. Operation of Racecourses and the Major Racing Centres in the Horseracing Industry
6. Structure of the Betting Industry and its Relationship with the British Horseracing Industry.



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### LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATION

You may be interested in taking a qualification about the organisation and administration of the horseracing industry.

This qualification forms part of a suite of qualifications that provides the knowledge and understanding of how the racing industry is structured, including information about its governance, regulation and administration, key organisations, structure of the betting industry, the operation of racecourses and the history and role of the Thoroughbred.

Level 3 qualifications recognise the ability to gain, and where relevant apply, a range of knowledge, skills and understanding. Learning at this level involves obtaining detailed knowledge and skills. It is appropriate for people wishing to go to university, people working independently, or in some areas supervising and training others in their field of work.

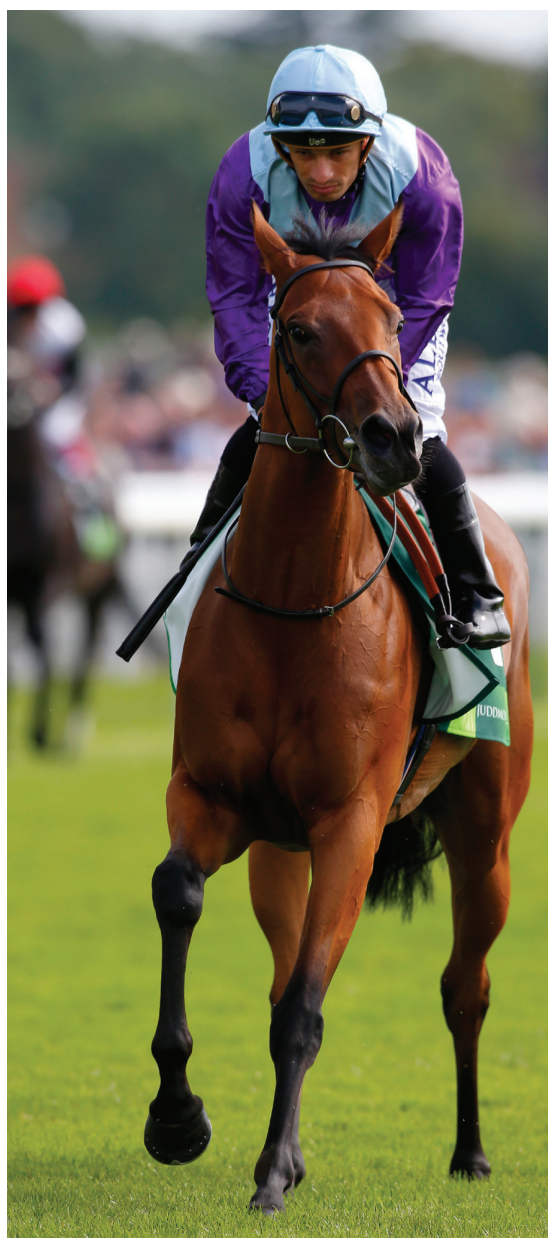
This qualification is appropriate for someone who has significant experience of the industry and wishes to broaden their knowledge of the sector as a whole to help them in their work.

### ASSESSMENT

Each unit can be assessed independently and is assessed through a range of assessment methods.



# DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENT DAY ROLE OF THE THOROUGHBRED IN THE RACING AND BREEDING INDUSTRIES



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## THE HISTORY OF RACING

Horseracing is derived from warfare, chariot racing and the chase, and it is of interest that at the time the Romans occupied Britain, Queen Boadicea lived on Newmarket Heath. The earliest recorded horserace in England took place at Netherby in Yorkshire about AD 210 between two Arabian steeds.

Racing first became a fashionable pastime for the landed gentry in the reign of King Richard I (1189–1199). However, it was not until the reign of King Henry VIII (1509–1547) that the first racecourse was officially established around 1540 at Chester. In 1574, Queen Elizabeth I is reported to have attended races at Croydon.

In 1616, King James I, who spent several weeks of the year in Newmarket but was more interested in hunting and breeding than racing, bought the Markham Arabian for £154 to use with his royal mares, and this small bay stallion became one of the first ancestors of the modern Thoroughbred.

Races were generally run for gold and silver bells and, later, cups. Races were over long distances, up to eight miles, with horses carrying weights of 8–17 stones, and often involved heats, with a final run on the same day.

Regular meetings in Newmarket were established by King James I's son King Charles I, and the Newmarket Gold Cup was first run in 1634. It was, however, King

Charles II who brought real prominence to Newmarket, making it the headquarters of the Turf. He rode his own horse first past the post in the Plate in Newmarket in 1671. His favourite horse was Old Rowley, which is still remembered to this day at the famous Rowley Mile racecourse in Newmarket, one of the finest straight-mile racecourses in the world.

Queen Anne was another monarch to own and race horses, and she was responsible for setting out the racecourse at Ascot, where the opening race at Royal Ascot is named after her. Royal Ascot is one of the most celebrated meetings in the British flat racing calendar.

History generally records that the Jockey Club was founded in 1751 in London's Pall Mall. However, recent digitalisation of newspapers from the 17th and 18th centuries by the British Library has prompted a rethink. There are several earlier references to the Jockey Club, and there is evidence that the club was active even before the first public announcement of a meeting in August 1729. Nevertheless, 1752 is a convenient date to record since it was the year the Jockey Club leased a plot of land in Newmarket where a coffee house was constructed in the High Street as a meeting place for its members. Soon, the Jockey Club purchased the freehold, which became known as the Jockey Club Rooms,

as it is today. Its main role at that time was to provide leadership and authority for the sport.

Records of racing were published as early as 1623. In 1773, James Weatherby first published the Racing Calendar in his role as the Jockey Club's first Keeper of the Match Book.

## **HISTORY OF THE THOROUGHBRED**

It is generally accepted that the eager and active participation of King Charles II was not only responsible for the emergence of racing as we know it today but also for the emergence of the Thoroughbred horse. His father, Charles I, raced horses, but Charles II had the greater influence.

Charles II was a direct supporter of breeders in Britain in order to keep his racing stable supplied with suitable horses. This royal patronage was the encouragement which led breeders to seek to improve their stock, and they looked to the Middle East and countries on the southern shores of the Mediterranean to acquire horses to improve the bloodlines already in Britain. They set about acquiring and importing as many stallions of the right type and quality as they could afford. Few mares, by comparison, were imported.

Three imported stallions in particular were to have a hugely significant impact in the evolution of the Thoroughbred. The names of the Byerley Turk (1680), the Darley Arabian (1700) and the Godolphin Arabian (1724) are universally known because they were the three imported stallions from which the descent of all modern Thoroughbreds can be traced in the male line.

Originally bred to cope with endurance tests as mature horses, the nature of the Thoroughbred has changed along with the demands of racing. They have become much larger, faster over shorter distances and mature earlier.

The early Thoroughbreds ran in match races, mostly at around four miles, which suited the stamina-rich, tough Arabian influence. But in the latter quarter of the 18th century the nature of racing changed with the inception of the far shorter St. Leger, Derby and Oaks, and an increasing emphasis on racing two- and three-year-olds.

The emergence of the Thoroughbred as a breed was recorded in full for the first time by the nephew of James Weatherby, also called James, when in 1791, he published the first General Stud Book, which has been produced at regular intervals ever since. The Weatherby family remain the proprietors of the General Stud Book, and the 47th volume was published in 2013, containing foals born in Great Britain (GB) and Ireland (IRE) from 2009 to 2012.

**100 Countries**

The Thoroughbred is now present in over 70 countries, and about 93,000 Thoroughbred foals were born in 2014, the last year for which comprehensive figures are available. Of these, 4,328 were born in Britain and 8,000 in Ireland. The USA is the single largest producer of Thoroughbreds, with 20,300 born there in 2014. The remainder were bred in other countries.

**THE FOUNDING SIRES**

**The Godolphin Arabian**

- Foaled 1724.
- Probably exported from Yemen via Syria to the stud of the Bey of Tunis.
- Initially given to Louis XV of France in 1730, he was then imported to Britain.
- Sired the best racehorse of the day, called Lath.
- The Godolphin Arabian's line has not won the Derby since Santa Claus in 1964, and since the turn of the 20th century has been overshadowed by the Darley Arabian's descendants.

**The Byerley Turk**

- Foaled 1680.
- His line includes Herod, foaled in 1758, who was leading sire eight times.
- Descendant Highflyer and his sons were champion stallions 23 times in 25 years.
- The Byerley Turk's line is now much less evident than that of the Darley Arabian.

**The Darley Arabian**

- Foaled 1700.
- Amongst others, he sired Bartlett's Childers, whose great grandson was the unbeaten 18th century champion Eclipse.
- More than 90% of modern racehorses can trace their male-line descent to Eclipse, including the outstanding Canadian-bred stallion Northern Dancer, whose impact on the modern Thoroughbred can be traced worldwide.

and the 49th volume was published in 2022, containing the breeding results of mares foaling in Great Britain and Ireland between 2017 and 2020.

over 80,000 Thoroughbreds are born annually,



## THE MODERN THOROUGHBRED

A number of industry organisations are involved in producing and supporting the Thoroughbred. Key industry organisations are summarised below.

### WEATHERBYS

**233 Years**

**For over 220 years**, the Weatherbys Stud Book department has been dedicated to providing services to breeders in Britain and Ireland. It undertakes formal registration of mares, foals and stallions, both Thoroughbred and non-Thoroughbred, to ensure the integrity of bloodlines upon which breeding and racing industries worldwide depend.

The original ancestry record for Thoroughbreds was the General Stud Book (GSB). Published at regular intervals – **Delete usually** every four years – by Weatherbys since 1791, it records all Thoroughbred matings and births in Britain and Ireland.

All Thoroughbred stud books around the world are based on the GSB, and all Thoroughbreds can be traced to the very first volume of the GSB. An update of Thoroughbred births, entitled the Return of Mares, is published annually as a supplement to the GSB.

In contrast to its historical perspective, the Stud Book department has been instrumental in securing notable scientific advances in the integrity of Stud Book information, including the introduction of blood typing in 1986, which was replaced by DNA parentage verification in 2001. **Since 1999 all foals have been microchipped to assist with identification.**

**These microchips are also able to read temperatures**

Weatherbys also organises and hosts the International Stud Book Committee, a body **representing 69 countries with 'approved' stud books**, whose common objective is to ensure that horses are accurately and consistently identified, and to ease the international movement of racehorses and breeding stock.

**over 100 countries**

## THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

The Thoroughbred Breeders' Association (TBA), a registered charity, is open to all breeders of Thoroughbreds and any other members of the public who are interested in the development of the Thoroughbred. The TBA was founded in May 1917 and is the only official body representing Thoroughbred breeders in Britain. The TBA has always been actively involved in the broad range of issues affecting its members, all of which have a critical bearing on the health and wealth of British Thoroughbred breeding.

The TBA provides a voice for British breeders on national and international breeding issues through representation on many of racing's boards and committees.

### SALES COMPANIES

Britain is the home of two of the world's most internationally renowned bloodstock sales companies: Tattersalls, which is based in **Goffs UK** Newmarket, and **Doncaster Bloodstock Sales** **who sell from Doncaster sales complex** (DBS). In October 2015, Tattersalls purchased the auctioneering business of Brightwells, which organised specialist jump racing sales.

The quality, value and choice these companies offer is renowned, and Thoroughbreds from these auctions regularly excel on the world stage. Also, a number of auction races in Britain are open only to Thoroughbreds sold by these auction houses. Types of sales include those for yearlings, race-ready two-year-olds, horses in training, foals, broodmares and fillies. The following is a summary of the main sales held in Britain:

- **Yearling sales** are predominantly held in late August through to October in Britain. Unraced horses that are one year old are sold through the ring. They are then trained to accept a saddle and bridle in a process known as breaking in, after which they are placed in training, from where they will begin their racing careers and possibly run as a two-year-old on the flat, depending on their precocity.
- **Horses in training sales** are held throughout the year. They are a useful source of proven horses, as well as those bought for jump racing, and attract a substantial overseas market.

- **Breeze-up sales**, held in the spring in Britain, are for unraced two-year-olds, which are galloped for potential purchasers to view before the sale. Graduates from these sales usually begin their careers running on the flat as two-year-olds.
- **National Hunt breeze-up sales**, with similar conditions to those for two-year-olds, involve horses specifically bred to jump and aged three and four years old. **Goffs**
- **Jumping sales** – the **DBS** Spring Sale is a premier auction for horses specially bred for jumping. The majority of the horses sold are 'stores' (a three- or four-year-old untried horse).
- **Breeding stock sales** – entrants are fillies (female horses of four years or under), broodmares and foals.

## BLOODSTOCK AGENTS

The role of the bloodstock agent within the racing and breeding industries is extremely important, perhaps even more so when first-time investors are involved.

British-based agents have developed an international reputation for first-class service founded on integrity, expertise and professionalism. A thorough knowledge of the bloodstock market, on both an international and domestic scale, means that they are ideally qualified to offer the best possible advice on the purchase and management of racing and breeding stock and associated services.

Services offered by leading bloodstock agencies include:

- the purchase and sale of Thoroughbreds of all ages both privately and at public auction
- representing clients at bloodstock sales
- the management of bloodstock affairs, both racing and breeding
- providing valuations for prospective purchasers, insurance purposes, annual accounts etc.
- arranging export, transportation and insurance
- advising on stallion selection for broodmares and the purchase of breeding rights.

An agent will charge commission, usually a percentage of the purchase price or sale, but not both, of the Thoroughbred, for their services.

The Federation of Bloodstock Agents (GB) Ltd represents 38 bloodstock agencies and is committed to ensuring that high standards of business practice are maintained.

## RACEHORSE CHARITIES

Retraining of Racehorses (RoR) is British horseracing's official charity for the welfare of horses that have retired from racing. The aims of RoR are to:

- raise funds from within the racing industry to help support the charitable retraining and rehoming of former racehorses
- help provide facilities for the care, retraining and rehoming of former racehorses
- promote the adaptability of racehorses to other equestrian activities
- run a well-established programme of competition, sponsorship and clinics to educate and improve riders handling former racehorses.

The ultimate goal is to achieve a balance between the number of horses leaving racing and the number of enthusiastic, and suitable, new homes. Racehorses have gone on to many successful careers both in competition and as leisure horses.

Launched by the British Horseracing Board (now the BHA) in April 2000, RoR was awarded charitable status in autumn that year. RoR now also has responsibility for those rare cases when former racehorses are found in a sick, neglected or ill-treated state.

RoR funds its activities through a combination of grants and donations from racing's participants and investment income.

## LIFE CYCLE OF THE THOROUGHBRED

### STUDS

The majority of Thoroughbred racehorses are bred on a stud, which can be commercial or private operations. Studs can be divided into three main categories:

- public studs, which stand stallions and own or keep broodmares
- private studs, which own or keep broodmares
- boarding studs, which specialise in boarding broodmares and managing the process to get a mare in foal, including transporting her to the stallion; they may also board foals and yearlings, and prepare them for the sales.

### MARES

Mares can be divided by status:

- maiden mare (never having been covered by a stallion)
- barren mare (not in foal)
- in-foal mare
- mare with foal at foot.

When selecting or purchasing mares for breeding, the following points should be considered:

- whether to breed for flat or jump racing
- try to breed from a proven mare (one that has won races or bred winners – the higher the rating of the race, the better)
- a mare with 'black type' in her breeding or close family is likely to breed foals more attractive to purchasers (black type is used in sales catalogues to denote Group- or Listed-race wins and places)
- broodmares can be purchased privately or through an auction house
- good conformation is essential
- try to select a mare by a stallion whose sire is a proven broodmare sire
- owners of broodmares must be registered with Weatherbys in order to register any resulting foals.

## STALLIONS

The selection of a suitable stallion to put to a broodmare is a skilled process, with those involved having extensive experience and knowledge of bloodstock performance and pedigrees. Key points they will consider are:

- whether to breed flat or jump racing stock
- racing and breeding performance
- pedigree
- the current trends and fashions in stallions
- conformation and temperament of the stallion
- whether to use a first-season or proven sire
- covering fee and terms of business – reputable studs should provide a contract for the purchase of a nomination to the stallion
- boarding fees and terms.

## PEDIGREE ANALYSIS

When analysing the suitability of a stallion for a particular mare, his performance as a racehorse and pedigree are of particular importance. Pedigrees are the family history of a horse. Breeders and pedigree analysts spend many hours researching pedigrees, although this has often proved to be an inexact science – for example, Red Rum, the triple Grand National winner, was bred to be a sprinter. When analysing pedigrees, past performance records, including preferred going and optimum distance, are of key significance.

## THE RACEHORSE CAREER

### Foals

The breeding season for racehorses is very structured, with most flat breeders aiming to foal their broodmares between January and March. Potential jump racing horses can be foaled a little later as they do not race at such an early age under the Rules of Racing. Regardless of the date when they are born, all horses foaled in the northern hemisphere share the same birthday, 1 January. Thus a foal born in April becomes a yearling (one year old) the following 1 January.

The foal should be registered with the appropriate Stud Book Authority, as without this registration it will not be able to race.

### Yearlings

Unless yearlings are to be kept by the breeder for racing, many will be prepared for sales. There are several yearling auction sales where trainers, owners and bloodstock agents compete to buy the best-bred and best-looking horses. The international auction circuit begins in the USA in July, then moves to France, Ireland and finally Britain to the Doncaster Bloodstock and Tattersalls' sales.

### Two-year-olds

Two-year-olds are also known as juveniles. No horse is allowed to race before it is two. Valuable races for two-year-olds take place from Royal Ascot in June through to the late autumn.

### Three-year-olds

The most important year for a flat horse is the 'Classic' season, as a three-year-old. The five British Classic races – the 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas, Derby, Oaks and St. Leger – are restricted to three-year-olds. Any colt or filly that wins a Classic is likely to be much sought after as a stallion or broodmare. A horse's good form as a two-year-old is no guarantee of success the following season, as over the winter some may not develop as expected. Meanwhile, others, usually more stoutly bred, which display little aptitude as juveniles, are likely to mature as three-year-olds.

Most jump racing-bred youngsters start their racing careers as three- or four-year-olds. Some start in National Hunt flat races, whilst others begin their careers over hurdles.

### Four-year-olds and over

The most successful three-year-old colts are often retired at the end of that season to maximise their stud value. However, there are many valuable races in which older horses can compete, and some that did not shine as three-year-olds mature into top-class performers at four or five. Flat horses tend to have peaked by five, although some continue until they are a lot older. The popular Persian Punch, which won his second Goodwood Cup at the age of 10, was one such example, while the record for the oldest Group 1 winner in Europe, also aged 10, is shared by Yavana's Pace (2002) and Alcazar (2005). Most jump racing horses will continue their careers over hurdles and/or fences until at least that age.

### Life after racing

Many racehorses can be retrained to fulfil a long and successful career outside racing when they retire. Disciplines encouraged by RoR in which they succeed include hunting, eventing, showjumping, dressage, hacking, polo, riding club or other competitive activities.

## THOROUGHBRED IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

To enable a Thoroughbred to be registered and therefore become eligible to race, stringent procedures are in place. A summary of the registration process, managed by the Stud Book Authority at Weatherbys, is as follows:

- a. The stallion must be registered as follows:
  - An initial stallion registration form must be submitted with the stallion's passport and indicated fee.
  - A DNA sample is required before the stallion is registered and the owner's name recorded.
  - Annual stallion registration must be completed in order to receive the required number of covering certificates to be distributed to mares covered by that stallion.
- b. The broodmare will be registered and her ownership recorded – she must be registered as a breeding animal for her foal to be registered.
- c. When the broodmare has been covered, the stallion owner, or their representative, forwards details of all broodmares covered with the first and last covering dates to the Stud Book Authority.
- d. Based on this covering information and the ownership details provided when the broodmares concerned are registered, the Stud Book Authority forwards a foaling return to the broodmare owner.
- e. When the broodmare foals, the breeder must arrange for the foal to have a DNA sample and be microchipped within four weeks. This is done by the veterinary surgeon, who will have been provided with a stock of foal identification kits by the Stud Book Authority.
- f. The vet, using this kit, will then undertake the essential tasks of:
  - preparing written and graphic description, including date of birth, gender, colour, markings and hair whorls
  - DNA testing – the vet will take a blood sample from the foal and forward this for analysis to an authorised laboratory
  - microchip – at the time of the visit, the vet will insert a microchip into the foal's neck.

The veterinarian is able to ensure that these processes are specific to each foal through the unique barcode labels contained within each kit.
- g. The Stud Book Authority receives the results of the DNA analysis and parentage test, and if in order, the foal will be registered and a passport issued.
- h. The passport will be updated by the Stud Book Authority if any changes are required, such as gelding or naming.

# ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAJOR ORGANISATIONS WITHIN THE BRITISH HORSERACING INDUSTRY

## INDUSTRY ORGANISATIONS

There are many groups and organisations that work together to ensure the efficient and fair running of the horseracing industry. The following are some of the main organisations, with a brief description of their roles.

### AMATEUR JOCKEYS' ASSOCIATION (AJA)

Amateur race riding has been in existence for as long as racing itself and still retains its popularity. In 1995, the Lady Jockeys Association and the Amateur Riders Association amalgamated to form the AJA, which has over 500 full riding Members, 280 many life associate members and several honorary members. Its intention is 'to protect and promote the interests of all members, male and female, in an increasingly professional world'. The AJA aims to:

- improve the standard and safety of all amateur riders
- encourage amateur races under both codes
- find sponsors for and sponsor such events
- act on behalf of its members by providing recommendations to the various regulatory and administrative racing bodies
- select and finance amateur jockeys to ride abroad
- play an important part in the formation of the policy of the British racing industry.

### BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY (BHA)

The governing and regulatory body of racing in Britain is the BHA, which succeeded the British Horseracing Board (BHB) in July 2007.

It is the BHA's role to ensure the continued health and successful development of the sport. It is the BHA's responsibility to:

- provide the most compelling and attractive racing in the world
- be seen as the world leader in raceday regulation
- ensure the highest standards for the sport and participants, on and away from the racecourse
- promote the best for the racehorse
- represent and promote the sport and the industry.

The BHA is headed by a board of 12, of whom 10 are independent, including the Chairman and Chief Executive, and two Regulatory Directors. Two are member nominees, one representing the Racecourse Association and the other a combination of the Racehorse Owners Association, Thoroughbred Breeders Association and licensed personnel.

The BHA's responsibilities are wide-ranging. They include:

- compilation of the fixture list
- race planning, including the supervision of race programmes and the employment of handicappers
- disciplinary procedures, both on and off the racecourse
- protecting the integrity of the sport on and off the racecourse
- licensing and registering racing participants – jockeys, trainers, horses, owners and stable staff
- setting and enforcing standards of medical care for jockeys and other participants
- developing and maintaining programmes of recruitment, training and education
- setting and enforcing common standards for racecourses
- maintaining high standards of veterinary care for racehorses, setting and enforcing medication control and research, and improvements in equine science and welfare
- regulating point-to-point racing
- setting and enforcing the Rules of Racing
- overseeing the conduct of a day's racing.

Additional responsibilities include:

- strategic planning and policy for racing
- encouraging and fostering the breeding of bloodstock
- representing racing in dealings with government
- liaison with the betting industry
- representing British racing abroad, which includes membership of the Executive Council of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities.



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## BRITISH RACING SCHOOL (BRS)

The BRS is a purpose-built centre of excellence for the racing industry, providing high-quality training and courses leading to government-recognised qualifications for people who are, or wish to be, employed in the sector, including stable staff, jockeys and trainers.

It was founded in 1969 at Great Bookham in Surrey, and moved to Stoneleigh and Goodwood before being housed in purpose-built facilities on Jockey Club-owned land in Newmarket in 1983.

## HORSEMEN'S GROUP

### Thoroughbred Group

The Horsemen's Group was formed in 2005 by the Racehorse Owners Association and National Trainers Federation to discuss and negotiate with the **BHB** (now BHA) and racecourses. Under a reconstitution in 2012, its constituent bodies are the Racehorse Owners Association, National Trainers Federation, Professional Jockeys Association, National Association of Stable Staff and Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

### Thoroughbred Group

The aims of the **Horsemen's Group** are to:

- provide a structure for the co-operation of owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys and stable staff, now referred to as the 'horsemen'
- promote and protect the interests of horsemen
- join with racecourses and other relevant bodies in maximising revenue streams for British racing
- negotiate, on behalf of horsemen, with racecourses an equitable share of total revenue, principally but not exclusively in the form of a prize-money contract
- be involved in the process for compiling the fixture list and racing programme to ensure the best use is made of the horse population
- support the proper governance and regulation of British racing
- provide a single voice for horsemen in areas of common interest.

## HORSERACE BETTING LEVY BOARD (HBLB)

The Levy Board collects and distributes a significant proportion of funding within the industry. It is a statutory body established by the Betting Levy Act 1961 and now operates in accordance with the provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (as amended). Its role is to assess and collect monetary contributions from British bookmakers, betting exchanges and the Tote via a levy on their gross profits from horserace betting, and 'to apply them for purposes conducive to any one or more of:

- the improvement of breeds of horses
- the advancement or encouragement of veterinary science or veterinary education
- the improvement of horseracing.'

The Levy Board provides funding for a range of initiatives including:

- prize money
- integrity services
- the advancement of veterinary science
- training, qualifications and education for stable and stud staff and jockeys.

On 3 March 2016, government announced new funding arrangements for British racing which will create a level playing field for British based and offshore gambling operators, and ensure a fair return from all gambling operators to racing. Racing will be responsible for making decisions on spending the new fund which is intended to be in place by April 2017.

## INJURED JOCKEYS FUND (IJF)

Founded in 1964 by public subscriptions following career-ending falls suffered by jockeys Tim Brookshaw and Paddy Farrell, the IJF has since raised and disbursed funds to jockeys who have been injured and need help and support. A key fund-raiser remains the annual sale of Christmas cards and calendars. It provides support through:

- immediate and effective help to newly injured jockeys
- continuing support for existing beneficiaries.



Racing

At the start of 2016, it had spent more than £18 million in helping over 1,000 jockeys and their dependants through medical, financial and pastoral support.

**JOCKEY CLUB**

The Jockey Club, a self-elected body whose history can be traced to the early 18th century, was responsible for the governance and regulation of racing in Britain until June 1993, when the more democratic and industry-representative British Horseracing Board (BHB) took over as the governing body. The Jockey Club relinquished its regulatory role when BHA succeeded the BHB in July 2007.

Today, the Jockey Club, which remains self-electoral, concentrates its activities on running 14 racecourses under Jockey Club Racecourses, a large property portfolio under Jockey Club Estates, which includes responsibility for training grounds in Newmarket, Epsom and Lambourn, the National Stud and the umbrella charity Racing Welfare.

Profits from the Jockey Club's various activities are invested in the racing industry.

**JOCKEYS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SCHEME (JETS)**

JETS is a charity set up in 1995 to help current and former jockeys plan and achieve a secure future. It is funded by jockeys' prize-money contributions and additional support from the IJF. It provides career advice and training in new skills for jockeys to gain employment after their race-riding careers.

A jockey's career is inevitably short and the risk of serious injury is higher than in most sports. Jump racing jockeys, who average one fall every 16 rides, are 30 on average when their careers end, and flat jockeys are not far behind at 33.

JETS offers career coaching, to make jockeys aware of their strengths, attributes and transferable skills from race riding. It holds group training sessions in IT and media broadcast skills. Jockeys also benefit from grants to take up individual training courses.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STABLE STAFF (NASS) NARS**

NASS, which changed its name from the Stable Lads Association (SLA) in October 2007, is the independent certificated trade union for stable staff. It is largely funded from a percentage of prize money. It provides advice, guidance and representation to all stable staff.

**NARS**

NASS is represented on a number of racing industry bodies, including the Horsemen's Group, and negotiates the rates of pay and conditions of service of stable staff with the National Trainers Federation, which are contained within the annual Memorandum of Agreement.

**NATIONAL STUD (NS)**

The NS, founded in Ireland in 1916, was relocated to England in 1943 and moved to purpose-built facilities on Jockey Club-owned land in Newmarket in 1963, when it was put under the control of the Levy Board. It has been owned by the Jockey Club since 2008, and comprises over 500 acres of prime pastureland. It is a showcase for British Thoroughbred breeding, and facilities include accommodation for eight stallions and up to 200 mares in nine separate yards.

It promotes high-class stallion services and training for people employed in the stud industry through:

- providing a comprehensive range of services to the UK Thoroughbred breeding industry including stallion services, seasonal and permanent boarding, foaling, sales preparation and quarantine for export
- providing a first-rate residential education and training facility for young people entering the industry or seeking higher qualifications within it
- providing an effective and accessible 'shop window' into the Thoroughbred breeding industry for the public, raising interest, awareness and knowledge.

Delete

When what is now the BHA took over as governing body

## HORSERACING

## National

**NATIONAL TRAINERS FEDERATION (NTF)**

The licensed trainers' representative group is the NTF, which was founded in the early 1970s on the amalgamation of separate organisations for flat and jump racing trainers.

Its aims are to represent and protect trainers' interests and to be a reliable and respected source of information, advice and support, by:

- liaising and negotiating with other industry bodies and relevant national agencies and organisations
- providing up to date information to members about any matters affecting their business
- offering access to a wide range of professional advisers including in-house legal advice.

Representation is achieved through membership of committees and working groups throughout the racing industry, including the Horsemen's Group, liaison with other associations and industry organisations, and consultation with national agencies including government departments.

The NTF publishes regular newsletters, guidelines, advice sheets and other materials to keep trainers in touch with the latest information and developments.

As well as providing instant advice on all key areas within the sport, the NTF employs an in-house legal executive to advise on all aspects of employment law and contractual disputes. It also retains professional advisers on accountancy, insurance, veterinary matters, property (including commercial rates) and work permits for foreign staff.

**NORTHERN RACING COLLEGE (NRC)**

The NRC, situated near Doncaster, was opened in 1984 to provide stable-staff training for school-leavers in South Yorkshire, and is owned by a charitable trust. It has developed as the centre of excellence for the racing industry in the North, operating on similar lines to the British Racing School by providing and promoting high quality training for people employed in the sector, including stable staff, jockeys and trainers.

**PROFESSIONAL JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION (PJA)**

The PJA, which was founded as the Jockeys Association of Great Britain in June 1969, before being rebranded in February 2008, is the jockeys' representative body. Its mission statement is to promote, protect and represent the interests of professional jockeys both on and off the racecourse, working with regulatory, industry and commercial bodies to improve the jockeys' standing, and continually to work in the best interests of British horseracing.

Its head office is in Newbury, Berkshire.

**RACECOURSE ASSOCIATION (RCA)**

The trade association for racecourses is the RCA, formed in May 1907. At the start of 2016, there were 60 British racecourses, of which all but Towcester belong to the RCA.

The objectives of the RCA are to:

- work with racecourses to increase and develop new income streams
- promote the highest professional standard in racecourse management, health and safety, medical and veterinary best practice
- promote racecourse interests within the racing industry
- provide information, training and support for racecourses
- assist with compliance regulations and BHA General Instructions
- manage the Racegoers Club.

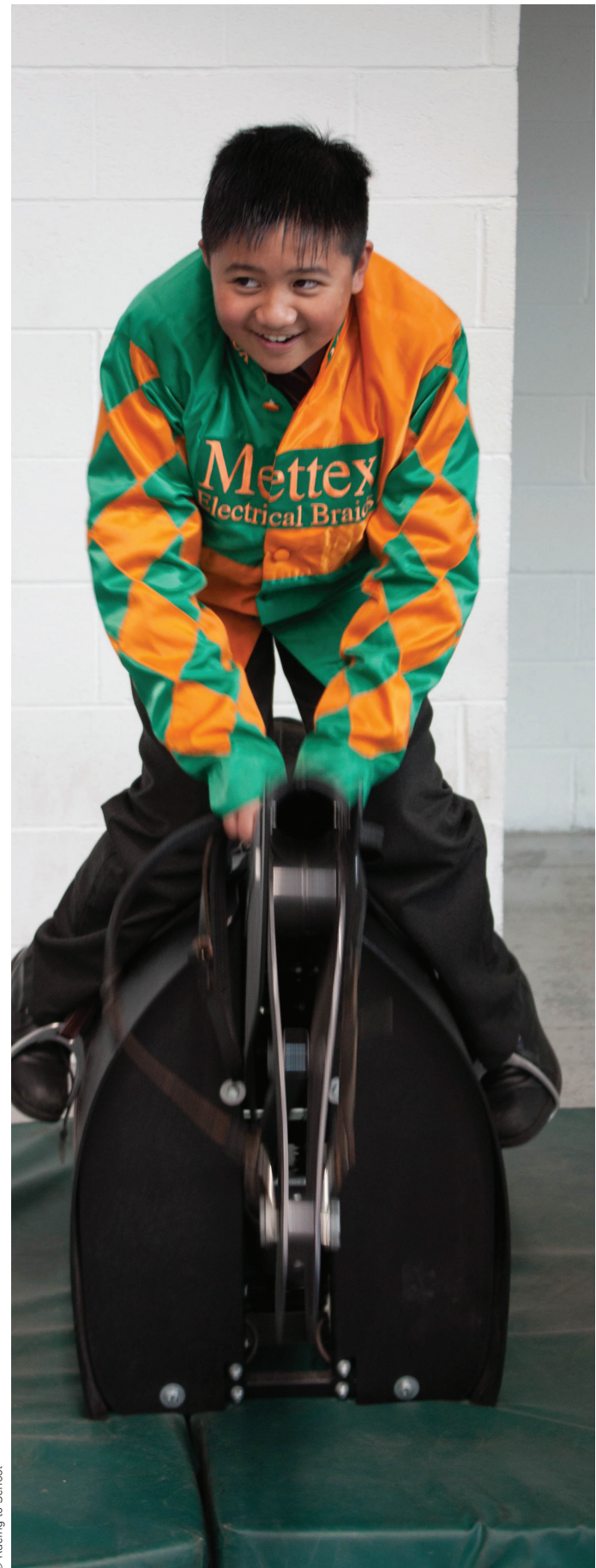
## RACEHORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION (ROA)

Racehorse owners are represented by the ROA, founded in 1945. The ROA promotes the interests of racehorse owners in Britain.

The ROA has a Council of 16 members, an executive committee of six and a staff of six based in London. The ROA is represented on many of racing's boards and committees, notably the BHA Members' Committee and Horsemen's Group.

The aims of the ROA are to:

- work with other members of the Horsemen's Group to bring about a dramatic improvement to the financial structure of British racing, thereby enhancing the quality of the sport and allowing British-trained horses to compete more effectively on the international stage
- obtain a much-improved return to owners from prize money by seeking additional contributions from racecourses and increased returns via the levy
- reduce the percentage of prize money that originates from entry fees
- ensure that the views of owners are represented within the various bodies involved in the running and funding of the industry
- support recruitment and retention of owners, encouraging all owners to become ROA members
- help owners to obtain sponsorship
- improve the raceday experience for owners at all racecourses
- combine with others to produce a fixture list and race programme that meets the requirements of owners and their horses
- work with the Horsemen's Group and racecourses to exploit British racing's rights for the purpose of boosting revenue from overseas betting operators
- support a humane and compassionate approach to the treatment of Thoroughbred racehorses and encourage positive developments in equine veterinary science.



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### **RACING ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REL)**

REL, which was founded in April 2008 and is owned jointly by the Horsemen's Group and Racecourse Association, is the lead body responsible for maximising commercial income for the industry as a whole. It has direct responsibility for selling the lists of runners and riders to customers including bookmakers and the media.

REL also led the Racing for Change project, since restyled Great British Racing (GBR), which is the sport's official marketing and promotional body, working with all racing's stakeholders.

### **RACING FOUNDATION**

The Racing Foundation was established in January 2012 by its founding members, comprising the British Horseracing Authority, The Horsemen's Group and the Racecourse Association.

The Racing Foundation received an endowment of £78 million from the net proceeds of the UK government's sale of the Horserace Totalisator Board ('Tote'). This funding represents a unique opportunity to establish a lasting legacy for the horseracing and Thoroughbred breeding industry.

The Foundation's aim is to support charitable purposes associated with the horseracing and Thoroughbred breeding industry. It does this by investing funds to generate investment income and using the income to make grants to appropriate charities.

### **RACING WELFARE**

Racing Welfare is a charitable organisation, founded in 2000, which provides help and support for all people who work or have worked in the racing industry, other than those supported by the Injured Jockeys Fund. Its head office is in Newmarket, supported by five regional offices.

Its work involves:

- helping people who work or have worked in the horseracing industry and who are in need
- delivering nationwide support through a network of welfare officers and a 24-hour helpline
- providing financial aid to those who suffer injury, illness or other disadvantage
- providing high quality, affordable housing for retired personnel or for young people who have just entered the industry.

### **RETRAINING OF RACEHORSES (ROR)**

RoR is British horseracing's official charity for the welfare of horses that have retired from racing. Its work includes:

- raising funds from within the racing industry to help support the charitable retraining and rehoming of former racehorses
- helping provide facilities for the care, retraining and rehoming of former racehorses
- promoting the adaptability of racehorses to other equestrian activities
- running a well-established programme of competition sponsorship, and clinics to educate and improve riders handling former racehorses.

The ultimate goal is to achieve a balance between the number of horses leaving racing and the number of enthusiastic, and suitable, new homes.

Launched in April 2000, RoR was awarded charitable status in autumn that year. RoR now also has responsibility for those rare cases when former racehorses are found in a sick, neglected or ill-treated state.

RoR funds its activities through a combination of grants and donations from racing's participants and investment income.

## THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (TBA)

The TBA is a registered charity to which all breeders of Thoroughbreds and any other members of the public who are interested in the development of the Thoroughbred are eligible for membership. The TBA was originally formed in May 1917 and is the only official body representing Thoroughbred breeders in Britain. The TBA has always been actively involved in the broad range of issues affecting its members, all of which have a critical bearing on the health and wealth of British Thoroughbred breeding.

The TBA provides a voice for British breeders on national and international breeding issues through representation on many racing boards and committees, notably the BHA Members' Committee and Horsemen's Group.

## WEATHERBYS

The main organisation that supports the administration of racing is Weatherbys, the privately owned firm which has provided a secretariat for British racing since 1770 and today fulfils this role under a contract awarded by the BHA. Weatherbys also owns and runs the General Stud Book, in which all British and Irish Thoroughbreds have to be registered in order to race under rules.

The Weatherbys racing administration team, based at Wellingborough, processes all registrations of ownership, colours, horse names and horses in training, and receives all race entries and declarations. It allocates the weights to be carried in all races, and holds the central file of handicap ratings. Its role also involves receiving all jockey bookings, and following final race declaration, it conducts the stalls draw, race divisions and any necessary eliminations, whereupon it issues the final, official lists of runners and riders.

Weatherbys also manages an interactive Internet site through which owners, trainers and other authorised personnel conduct their racing business and access up-to-the-minute information. Weatherbys compiles the weekly Racing Calendar and quarterly programme books, advertising conditions for all races held in Britain.

Weatherbys also collects and distributes the prize money for all British races, administers the VAT Scheme for Racing and registers all sponsorship arrangements. Since 1994, Weatherbys has operated a bank, which has been increasingly used by the racing industry.



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## CAREERS, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Since the 1990s, the racing industry has developed a comprehensive structure of education, training and qualifications that support its workforce. The main organisations involved in the delivery are:

- the BHA, which sets the strategic direction, standards and policies for training and education, and also oversees quality assurance of training delivery
- the BRS, based in Newmarket, which is one of racing's centres of excellence in the provision of training for stable staff, jockeys and others who work in the racing industry
- the NRC, based in Doncaster, which is the second of racing's centres of excellence, operating on similar lines to the BRS
- the National Stud in Newmarket, which provides education and training for stud staff through a range of courses.

Other work-based training providers include Haddon Training and Warwickshire College.

There are a number of career pathways in the racing and breeding industries including:

### STABLE STAFF

The role of stable staff is to provide direct care of the racehorse under instruction of the trainer, head staff and assistant trainer.

Normally a full-time position, routine duties include mucking out, sweeping the yard, grooming, feeding, exercising, general horse care and welfare, accompanying horses to the races and ongoing communication with the trainer.

### STUD STAFF

Studs employ a range of individuals to look after stallions, mares, foals and youngstock. Paddock maintenance is a high priority, and large studs will employ someone to look after the land and buildings. Positions at a stud include stud manager, stud groom, stallion handler, stud secretary and stud hands.

New image please

## TRAINER

The role of the trainer is to run the entire training yard as a business enterprise, prepare and maintain horses for racing, and liaise with all relevant parties to progress towards winning races. The trainer must organise stable staff and work riders. Depending on the size of their operation, trainers will generally be supported by a racing secretary, head groom and assistant trainer. The trainer's role will include training the horses, communicating with owners on the progress of horses in training, deciding on race entries for the horses, organising the transportation of the horses to the races and attending the races.

## WORK RIDER

The role of the work rider is to exercise and school racehorses on the gallops up to and including race fitness. The job does not generally involve routine yard duties. Work riders are highly skilled horsemen and women, often former jockeys, who are able to assess a horse's level of fitness, ability and preferred type of going. They are usually paid according to experience and for the amount of horses ridden.

## GALLOPS MAN Person

A gallops man is employed to maintain grass and all-weather gallops and facilities at public and private training centres.

## RACING SECRETARY

The role of the racing secretary is to provide administrative support for the trainer and staff. Secretaries may be employed to work full- or part-time and have a varying workload depending on the season. Secretaries in smaller yards may be required to ride out. Routine tasks include declaring and entering horses in races, looking after owners when they visit the yard, updating the trainer's websites and blogs, paperwork and registrations of horses, owners, staff, racing colours etc. with Weatherbys, making sure health and safety regulations are met and kept up to date and ordering supplies. Some secretaries will be required to organise wages and accounts.



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## TRAVELLING HEAD LAD Person

Travelling staff are responsible for taking horses to and from the races, and looking after them on racecourse property. Duties will normally include driving the horsebox, maintenance of and cleaning the horsebox, maintenance and cleaning of racing tack, and declaring and saddling the horse when at the races.

## JOCKEYS

A professional jockey will ride in either flat or jump races according to their chosen field of work and licence obtained, and occasionally some ride under both codes. A small number of jockeys are retained, or employed, by a trainer or owner, but the majority are self-employed. When not race riding, jockeys will often ride out for trainers to maintain contact and assist with preparing horses to race fitness.

## RACECOURSE RACEDAY OFFICIALS

A range of officials are employed to ensure the safety and integrity of a raceday. These include:

- advanced flag operator – responsible for making sure horses and riders stop racing in the event of a false start during a race
- clerk of the scales – the person responsible for weighing the jockeys before and after the race to check the horse has carried the correct weight allocated
- handicapper – assesses horses and their performances, and gives a rating, on which handicap weights are based in order that each has a theoretically equal chance of winning
- judge – responsible for declaring and announcing the finishing order of a race and the distances between the placed horses
- racecourse medical officer (RMO) – dedicated raceday doctor
- stable integrity officer – maintains integrity of the racecourse stables, ensuring no access by unauthorised personnel and that horses are not interfered with
- starter – in charge of the horses and riders before the race, and starts the race
- honorary stewards – unpaid volunteers responsible for ensuring that the conduct of the raceday adheres to the Rules of Racing
- stipendiary steward – a professional steward employed by the BHA to advise the honorary stewards and ensure the Rules and Instructions are adhered to
- stewards' secretary – a professional raceday official who assists the stewards and is responsible for producing all of the documentation on a raceday. Can also act as a steward if required
- veterinary officer – the official vet who implements all veterinary aspects of the Rules of Racing, including supervising medication control procedures; works closely with racecourse veterinary surgeons

- equine welfare integrity officer – responsible for the security of the stable yard and monitoring of horse welfare at race meetings.

## GROUNDSTAFF

Depending on its size, a racecourse can have a ground team of between two and 15 people on its groundstaff, led by the head groundsman. The role involves working in all weathers and often during unsociable hours. Ground staff will ensure the track and all its rails and fences are in excellent racing condition.

## JOURNALISTS

Racing journalists write about the political, business and racing activities within the industry. They may be self-employed or on the staff of a particular newspaper or magazine.

## VALETS

Valets work for jockeys in the weighing room, making sure riders have the correct equipment in clean and safe condition for each race, including boots and colours.

## MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES

Various management and administration roles are found throughout the industry, whether it be at racecourses, governing bodies or with yards or stud farms. These can range from general administration to marketing, IT, business finance, legal and regulation.

## CLERK OF THE COURSE

The clerk of the course is responsible for all matters relating to turf management, fence construction, course configuration and raceday preparation and operation. In conjunction with the racecourse manager, they will also deal with race planning and aim to achieve an optimum fixture list.





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## RACECOURSE MANAGER

The racecourse manager is responsible for all matters relating to running a racecourse as a business, including raceday preparation and the raceday itself. On racedays, the manager deals with racegoers, owners, trainers, jockeys, sponsors, caterers, raceday staff, police, security, press, broadcasters, bookmakers and any subcontractors on site. Ongoing responsibilities include liaising with the clerk of the course, finance, marketing, insurance, health and safety and promotional material for the racecourse.

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Since the early 1990s, the racing industry has developed a comprehensive programme of training and education, especially tailored to stable staff and jockeys. Led by the BHA, training is developed by industry partners and delivered by a range of specialist training providers including the BRS, National Stud and **NRC**.

### NHC

Industry-specific qualifications are awarded by 1st4sport Qualifications.

Information on the training available within the industry is available on a website called careersinracing.com. Careersinracing is an industry-owned brand, run by the BHA to support recruitment marketing and the promotion of training and career opportunities.

Training provision is designed to meet the specific needs of those working in the racing industry, within which a range of qualifications and short courses have been developed. In some cases, attendance at certain training is a requirement under the Rules of Racing. A brief overview of the areas is provided below.

### Stable and stud staff training

The main component of stable and stud staff training is the industry's Foundation and Advanced Apprenticeships. The courses provide a Level 2 or Level 3 Diploma in Racehorse Management as well as additional training in personal skills and numeracy and literacy.

Stable staff under the age of 19 joining a racing yard must attend the Foundation Apprenticeship course. The same regulation does not apply for stud staff.

A further range of short courses is available. These cover technical skills such as lungeing or work riding, as well as job-specific training such as the racing or stud secretaries' course or the supervisory skills course for head staff.

### Jockey training

Before an apprentice or conditional jockey can take out a licence to ride under the Rules of Racing, they are required to attend a licence course, which assesses their competence and safety to ride in public. Having passed this course and obtained their licence, an apprentice or conditional jockey may then be referred for further training on a continuation or advanced course. These courses are run by either the BRS or NRC, and provide training in race-riding skills, diet and nutrition, psychology and fitness, as well as the rules and regulation of racing.

Apprentices and conditional jockeys are also provided with workplace support through a series of training races, with restricted conditions and the provision of one-to-one coaching through a qualified jockey coach.

Amateur riders (either Category A or Category B) are required to complete a mandatory course to obtain their licence. For Category As, this is a one-day seminar and assessment. For Category Bs, it is a five-day course.

Occasionally, where deemed necessary, the BHA's Disciplinary Panel may refer a jockey for remedial training in relation to rule breaches.

### Training for potential racehorse trainers

In order to receive a licence, potential racehorse trainers are required to complete a Level 3 Diploma in Racehorse Care and three one-week training courses as follows:

- Module 1: Racehorse Management
- Module 2: Business Skills for Racehorse Trainers
- Module 3: Staff Management.

### Racecourse employees' training

A range of training is provided for racecourse personnel. These include accredited or industry recognised courses such as:

- Advanced Course for Racecourse Groundsmen
- Intermediate Course for Racecourse Groundsmen
- Foundation Course for Racecourse Groundsmen
- Accredited Racecourse Personnel (Clerk of the Course).

There are also short courses in specific skills:

- horse handling
- fence building
- machinery maintenance.

### Management and administration

The BHA provides a number of courses to support the management and administration side of the industry:

#### [Remove graduate from the title](#)

- **Graduate** Development Programme – provides a talent pipeline to bring young graduates into the industry; run annually in the summer holiday period with about 20 graduates, the programme has a strong track record, with many senior industry officials and managers entering through this route
- Racing Industry Course – a middle to senior management course for those who wish to broaden their understanding of the racing industry and its challenges
- Overview of British Racing Seminar – a one-day induction course on the structure of and background to the industry.

## EDUCATION

### Racing Together

Racing Together sets out British racing's contribution to communities throughout Great Britain. Through the network of racecourses and small and micro-businesses across Great Britain, British racing brings together communities of all economic and cultural backgrounds.

Racing Together activity is centred around four guiding pillars:

- helping others – providing a 'Centre of Excellence' to support the aggregate of Racing Together
- racing – looking after the people and horses who are British Racing
- education outreach – improving education and developing future champions
- local life – bringing together communities.

Working within the Racing Together initiative is Racing to School which is the racing industry's education programme. The programme, delivered at racecourses, trainers' yards and studs, is designed to introduce young people to the horseracing industry, while at the same time enhancing and enriching their learning opportunities. The aims of Racing to School are to:

- deliver a positive impact on learning, helping them to develop their knowledge, skills, confidence and interest
- increase enthusiasm for and understanding of the racing industry
- improve awareness of and interest in employment opportunities available with the racing industry
- highlight the industry's role in driving social benefits within local communities and with opinion-formers and influencers across Britain.

### RaceDay for Schools

#### Racing to school

The BHA's RaceDay for Schools project is an engaging and interactive web-based resource that aims to extend learning in a number of areas related to enterprise education within the context of British horseracing. The resource is aimed at 11–16 year olds, Key Stage 3 and 4, and directly linked to enterprise education in England, Scotland and Wales. The aim of the resource is to find further ways of engaging young people with racing, with a particular view of career opportunities.

The learning objectives are to:

- create a range of activities that offer students an exciting and innovative enterprise experience through the context of the British horseracing industry
- offer opportunities for students to acquire and develop the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin enterprise education and specifically marketing, operations management, decision making, leadership and financial management
- bring to life an interactive activity (the RaceDay game), in which students can focus the knowledge, understanding and insights they have gained into British horseracing and enterprise in an accessible and engaging way
- create opportunities for students to develop their learning of work-related and enterprise education and citizenship through the vocational context of British horseracing
- develop a portfolio of skills that are relevant to the racing industry.

# ORGANISATION, GOVERNANCE AND REGULATION OF THE BRITISH HORSERACING INDUSTRY

## ORGANISATION OF THE HORSERACING INDUSTRY

There are many organisations within the horseracing industry, and all play a vital part in the smooth operation of the sport. The key organisations involved with the regulation, financing and administration of racing are as follows:

### BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY (BHA)

[Remove reference to BHB](#)

The governing and regulatory body of racing in Britain is the BHA, **which succeeded the British Horseracing Board (BHB) in July 2007.**

It is the BHA's role to ensure the continued health and successful development of the sport. It is the BHA's responsibility to:

- provide the most compelling and attractive racing in the world
- be seen as the world leader in raceday regulation
- ensure the highest standards for the sport and participants, on and away from the racecourse
- promote the best for the racehorse
- represent and promote the sport and the industry.

The BHA is headed by a board of 12, of whom 10 are independent, including the Chairman and Chief Executive, and two Regulatory Directors, and two are member nominees, one representing the Racecourse Association and the other a combination of the Racehorse Owners Association, Thoroughbred Breeders Association and licensed personnel.

The BHA's responsibilities are wide-ranging. They include:

- race planning, including the supervision of race programmes and the employment of handicappers
- disciplinary procedures, both on and off the racecourse
- protecting the integrity of the sport on and off the racecourse
- licensing and registering racing participants – jockeys, trainers, horses, owners and stable staff
- setting and enforcing standards of medical care for jockeys and other participants
- developing and maintaining programmes of recruitment, training and education
- setting and enforcing common standards for racecourses
- maintaining high standards of veterinary care for racehorses, setting and enforcing medication control, and research and improvements in equine science and welfare

- regulating point-to-point racing in Britain
- compilation of the fixture list
- setting and enforcing the Rules of Racing
- overseeing the conduct of a day's racing.

Additional responsibilities include:

- strategic planning and policy for racing
- encouraging and fostering the breeding of bloodstock
- representing racing in dealings with government
- liaison with the betting industry
- representing British racing abroad, which includes membership of the Executive Council of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities.

### **HORSERACE BETTING LEVY BOARD (HBLB)**

The Levy Board collects and distributes a significant proportion of funding within the industry. It is a statutory body established by the Betting Levy Act 1961 and now operates in accordance with the provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (as amended). Its role is to assess and collect monetary contributions from British bookmakers, betting exchanges and the Tote via a levy on their gross profits from

horserace betting, and 'to apply them for purposes conducive to any one or more of:

- the improvement of breeds of horses
- the advancement or encouragement of veterinary science or veterinary education
- the improvement of horseracing.'

The HBLB provides funding for a range of initiatives including:

- prize money
- integrity services
- the advancement of veterinary science
- training, qualifications and education for stable staff and jockeys.

The HBLB also supports the improvement of racecourses by way of loans from its Capital Fund. It also assists British breeders through the provision of annual funding for a Breeders' Prizes Scheme.

On 3 March 2016, government announced new funding arrangements for British racing which will create a level playing field for British based and offshore gambling operators, and ensure a fair return from all gambling operators to racing. Racing will be responsible for making decisions on spending the new fund which is intended to be in place by April 2017.

Can't find any reference of this anywhere

### **RACING ENTERPRISES LIMITED (REL)**

REL is the body charged with promoting and bringing more money into the industry through Great British Racing (GBR) and the exploitation of media rights. It has direct responsibility for selling the lists of runners and riders to customers including bookmakers and the media.

GBR is the sport's official marketing and promotional body, working with all racing's stakeholders.

### **RACECOURSE ASSOCIATION (RCA)**

The trade association for racecourses is the RCA, formed in May 1907. At the start of 2016, there were 60 British racecourses, of which all but Towcester belong to the RCA.

The RCA provides advice and support to its members on a range of issues including:

- health and safety at sports grounds
- turf management
- race planning
- marketing and sponsorship
- funding.

### **WEATHERBYS**

The main organisation that supports the administration of racing is Weatherbys, the privately owned firm which has provided a secretariat for British racing since 1770 and today fulfils this role under a contract awarded by the BHA. Weatherbys also owns and runs the General Stud Book, in which all British and Irish Thoroughbreds have to be registered in order to race under rules.

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Weatherbys also collects and distributes the prize money for all British races, administers the VAT Scheme for Racing and registers all sponsorship arrangements. Since 1994, Weatherbys has operated a bank, which has been increasingly used by the racing industry.

### **THE FUNDING OF BRITISH HORSERACING**

The Economic Impact of British Racing 2013, a BHA-commissioned report stated that British racing generates an estimated £3.45 billion in direct, indirect and associated expenditure to the British economy. It contributes significantly to the social and cultural life of the nation, and provides 17,500 full-time equivalent jobs and supports 85,000 full-time equivalent jobs overall, including approximately:

- 550 licensed trainers employing 6,500 stable staff
- 2,200 employees at 60 racecourses
- 3,100 breeders, who produce 4,400 foals annually
- 450 licensed jockeys.

The funding of British horseracing is extremely complex, but there are a number of important funding streams that support the industry, including:

- Off-course Betting Levy – the statutory levy, collected by the Levy Board, is applied to betting operators' gross profits on British horseracing

- Racecourses:
  - racegoers including
    - raceday admission, membership fees and racecards
    - catering spend
    - corporate attendees
  - sponsors and advertisers
  - on-course betting, commission paid by Tote and on-course bookmakers' fees
  - non-raceday attendees – conferences, banquets, on-site hotels etc.
- Media:
  - broadcasters – payments from terrestrial channels and bookmakers (SIS and Turf TV)
  - Racing UK and At The Races
  - sales of picture rights, betting commission etc.
- Owners and breeders:
  - ongoing operating expenditure on keeping and training horses including training and jockey fees
  - capital cost of buying racehorses
  - breeders breed, produce and sell horses and pay sales commission when selling horses at auction
- Charitable giving – the racing industry has a co-ordinated policy for the raising of charitable funds for its essential support activities. This is done through:
  - prize money deductions
  - deductions from riding fees
  - direct grants from the HBLB
  - donations from trade associations
  - public fund-raising.

## THE LEVY

The HBLB is among the most important contributors to horseracing's finances. The original intention of establishing the levy, and therefore the HBLB, was to provide a means of compensating racing for the loss of attendance that was anticipated when



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off-course betting shops were legalised in 1961. Today, the HBLB applies levy funds to a wide range of schemes in direct support of horseracing.

The HBLB is a UK statutory body that was established by the Betting Levy Act 1961. It operates in accordance with the provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (as amended). It is a non-departmental public body (NDPB), and its sponsoring government department is the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Unlike some NDPBs, the HBLB receives no central government grant-in-aid and no National Lottery funding. Instead, it is required by the Act to collect a statutory levy from the on- and off-course horseracing business of UK bookmakers, spread-betting firms and bet-broking operations, including betting exchanges, and the Tote.

The levy on off-course betting represents the greatest proportion of the HBLB's income. It is collected from bookmakers as a percentage of the gross profit on their horserace betting business. The majority of levy income is expended in direct support of horseracing.

The HBLB's statutory objectives are to collect the levy and to apply the funds raised to one or more of the following:

- the improvement of horseracing
- the improvement of breeds of horses
- the advancement or encouragement of veterinary science or veterinary education.

The levy is collected in accordance with a formal, annual Levy Scheme and is distributed each year in accordance with the HBLB's annual agreed Policy Statement. Some 90% of levy income is applied to the improvement of horseracing each year.

Each year, the Bookmakers' Committee formulates proposals for the following year's Levy Scheme in accordance with the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963. It recommends the categories, rates, conditions and definitions of the Scheme and then forwards them to the HBLB for consideration. The HBLB takes into account the funding needs of racing and the bookmakers' capacity to pay levy before any agreement is reached. The Bookmakers' Committee prepares a forecast of the amount of on-course and off-course horseracing gross profit, both cash and credit, which is likely to be achieved in the levy year concerned. A Scheme is then prepared for the forthcoming levy period commencing 1 April. In the event that agreement of the Scheme cannot be reached by 31 October, the Scheme is automatically referred to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport for determination, and a decision is imposed.

The HBLB's strategic objectives and its income, expenditure and policy objectives are set out in its Policy Statement, which is reviewed annually.

On 3 March 2016, government announced new funding arrangements for British racing which will create a level playing field for British based and offshore gambling operators, and ensure a fair return from all gambling operators to racing. Racing will be responsible for making decisions on spending the new fund which is intended to be in place by April 2017.

### PRIZE MONEY

Prize money derives from a number of sources, including the HBLB, racecourses, sponsors and owners' entry fees. This overall prize-money pool is distributed on a percentage basis to the following stakeholders:

- owners
- trainers
- riders
- stable staff
- industry training
- jockeys' valets attendance
- Professional Jockeys Association Pension Fund
- National Association of Stable Staff.





## GOVERNANCE AND REGULATION OF BRITISH HORSERACING

The national governing body for racing in Britain is the BHA.

The BHA is responsible for the annual production of the Rules of Racing.

One of the BHA's key responsibilities from a regulatory perspective is to protect the integrity of the sport on and off the racecourse. Almost £5 billion was wagered on British racing in the UK alone in 2014–2015, and for the sport to flourish and for racegoers and punters to be attracted to the sport, racing has to be, and seen to be, clean and fair.

### LICENSING

The BHA has responsibility for licensing its participants. The licensing team administers the licensing process for professional trainers, permit holders, full jockeys, apprentices, conditionals and amateur riders. It also licenses jockeys' valets and riders' agents.

The decision whether or not to grant a licence (or registration as an owner) is an executive function that follows strict suitability criteria designed to protect the integrity of the sport. The BHA's licensing committee meets on occasion to ensure that all applications have been considered fairly and thoroughly and consider any appeals against decisions.

### INTEGRITY AND COMPLIANCE

The aim of the integrity services, compliance and licensing department is to promote the highest standards for the sport and its participants on and away from the racecourse through a combined strategy of fairness, education, prevention and deterrence.

The roles of the integrity services and compliance teams within the BHA are wide-ranging and include:

- identifying and deterring rule breaches and malpractice in horseracing
- conducting investigations into rule breaches
- charging and presenting cases before a Disciplinary Panel hearing.
- gathering information on any malpractice within the sport
- inspecting trainers' facilities
- monitoring betting markets for suspicious activities
- protecting the integrity of racecourse stables and the weighing room on racedays
- working with the equine science and welfare department to maintain the high standards of veterinary care.

The BHA has a fully resourced intelligence unit managed by the Head of Integrity Operations, which is reinforced by sophisticated intelligence and analytical databases. This unit is akin to a police intelligence unit.

The BHA employs betting investigators who monitor betting markets for suspicious betting activity. They are in regular contact with established bookmakers and betting exchanges, sharing information as and when necessary.

The BHA employs a Raceday Integrity Co-ordinator who works closely with the betting investigators, acting as a key link between raceday stipendiary stewards and the handicappers, reviewing live racing and carrying out post-race analysis and, where necessary, following up any concerns.

The stables are also an important part of the integrity services team, with the specific role of maintaining the integrity of the weighing room and racecourse stables areas on racedays.

The department works closely with the equine science and welfare department and has adopted an intelligence-led approach to testing in training, plus pre-race and post-race testing of horses.

## RACEDAY OPERATIONS AND REGULATION

This BHA department has the primary responsibilities of regulating all racing fixtures and protecting the welfare of horses.

Raceday Operations are managed by BHA's 'raceday team' who carry out the various functions necessary to ensure the smooth conduct of racing. Office based functions include the administration of the Disciplinary Panel and Appeal Board, and the real time monitoring of betting on races. The Department also works closely with Integrity, Legal and Risk.

On the racecourse, BHA stewards, both professional and volunteer, view the races to ensure the Rules of Racing are adhered to. This includes determining the outcome of the race should interference have taken place, ensuring all horses are ridden on their merits, and penalising any licensed persons found to be in breach of the Rules.

Veterinary Officers oversee the welfare of the horse by inspecting horses before and after the event. This covers not only soundness issues and injuries, but also ensuring the biosecurity Rules are adhered to. They also play an important role in overseeing the obtaining of pre and post-race samples from horses to ensure they are free of prohibited substances when competing.

Equine Welfare & Integrity Officers control the stable yard in which all horses are secured during racing. They check the identity of the horses and any person entering the yard making sure they are entitled to do so. Additionally, these Officers obtain samples from selected horses post race.

The Starters start the race with the objective of ensuring all horses achieve a fair start. They maintain behavioural files on each individual horse to determine how a horse is best handled to achieve an efficient and fair start.

The Judge has the primary function of determining the finishing order of the horses at the end of the race, using the photofinish as an aid.

The Clerk of the Scales' primary task is the weighing out and weighing in of riders before and after the race and thereby ensuring horses carry the weight allocated to them in the race. The Clerk of the Scales also monitors access to the Weighing Room and oversees the drug testing of selected riders.

## DISCIPLINARY

The Rules of Racing are in place to protect the welfare of horses, the safety of riders and the integrity of the sport with regard to the interests of the betting and racing public.

The BHA enforces the rules and takes action against any possible breaches in two ways:

- on the racecourse through teams of stipendiary and racecourse stewards who attend every race meeting
- off the racecourse through the disciplinary department based in London at the BHA's central office at 75 High Holborn.

### On the racecourse

On the racecourse, the responsibility for policing the rules rests with the stewards.

Every meeting usually has two voluntary racecourse stewards – more at major meetings – and two stipendiary stewards. Racecourse stewards are trained by the BHA and re-approved on an annual basis and, being unpaid, have no vested interest other than fair racing. Stipendiary stewards are full-time paid employees of the BHA.

Any **inquiry** on the racecourse is heard by a panel of three stewards, usually consisting of two racecourse stewards and one stipendiary steward. The second stipendiary steward presents the case under consideration to the panel and carries out the questioning of the jockey and/or trainer in respect of the possible breach of the rules.

Stewards have at least four camera angles of every race to monitor the running and riding of all the horses. The usual views are: head-on and side-on views of the home straight; a rear view following the field in the home straight; and a further camera down the back straight. Every race is viewed live by the stewards from various vantage points on the racecourse and in the stewards' room on TV monitors showing the different camera angles. Post-race, a further full review of all the camera angles is carried out in the stewards' room.

In watching and reviewing races, the most common breaches of the rules identified by the stewards relate to:

- interference
- use of the whip
- horses not running on their merits.

Whenever the stewards hold an **inquiry** into any of these three rules, they will always follow the procedures set out in the Guide to Procedures and Penalties. The guide sets out the questions the stewards should consider before finding a breach and, if a breach is found, a recommended penalty. Use of the guide by stewards across all 60 racecourses ensures a high degree of consistency in their decision making. The guide is also a useful training aid for jockeys and trainers, because it explains what is expected of them in running and riding a horse and the questions that the stewards will ask should an inquiry be held.

Jockeys and trainers are required to report to the stewards anything that happens in a race that might adversely affect the performance of their horse. Requiring jockeys and trainers to make such reports ensures that stewards

and the public are kept aware of the reason for a horse's disappointing performance and a possible explanation for any subsequent improvement in form.

Details of every stewards' inquiry held on the racecourse and reasons provided by jockeys and trainers as to why their horses ran badly are published immediately after every race meeting on the BHA website.

Stewards also have the power to order post-race samples to be taken from horses so they can be tested for the presence of prohibited substances.

### **Off the racecourse**

The main responsibilities of the disciplinary department are to:

- provide a Disciplinary Panel, which hears serious cases of possible breaches of the rules and appeals against decisions taken on the racecourse
- organise appeals or inquiries emanating from the racecourse
- oversee the Rules of Racing and the BHA's General Instructions, and any required changes
- provide advice and guidance to trainers, riders and owners on the application of the rules.

Any jockey, trainer or owner who is aggrieved by a decision taken by the stewards on the racecourse has the right to appeal such a finding to the Disciplinary Panel. The Panel also considers all other possible breaches of the Rules of Racing, whether identified and referred from the racecourse, or charges brought about as a result of more serious investigations carried out by the integrity department.

**The Disciplinary Panel is made up of 12 members; eight of whom are experienced racecourse stewards and four of whom are solicitors or barristers. A panel of three is required to consider any appeal or inquiry, and the more complex inquiries – those requiring more detailed reasons for finding and penalty – are normally chaired by one of the legal members.**



There is also an Appeal Board, over and above the Disciplinary Panel. The Board considers appeals against decisions of the Panel but will not consider appeals against decisions from the racecourse.

Anybody wishing to appeal a decision from the racecourse must do so within seven days, or 48 hours if a suspension is involved in the decision. Written grounds for the appeal must be submitted together with a deposit (£500), which will be forfeited should the disciplinary panel dismiss the appeal and find 'no reasonable grounds' for its submission. In reaching a decision, the Panel would usually view video recordings of the incident and hear evidence from all persons involved. So as to see whether or not any person's evidence may differ at appeal from that given to the stewards, the panel is also provided with a transcript of the inquiry on the racecourse. The appellant, as with any person charged with a breach of the rules and required to appear before the Panel, can be legally represented.

In considering an appeal or holding an inquiry into interference, the whip or the running and riding of a horse, the Disciplinary Panel will follow the same Guide to Procedures and Penalties used by the stewards on the racecourse. The Panel may come up with a different answer, but the actual questions and procedures it adopts are the same.

To demonstrate the fairness and transparency of the BHA's disciplinary procedures, all appeals and inquiries held by the Disciplinary Panel into incidents that took place during the running of a race are open to the press.

Some possible breaches of the rules cannot be concluded by the stewards on the racecourse and therefore are referred to the disciplinary department for further investigation. The most common of these referrals are for horses that win after a succession of unplaced runs. Such referrals require each of the horse's earlier races to be reviewed so as to ensure that it was ridden in accordance with the requirements of the rules. If the riding is considered unacceptable, the jockey and trainer will be charged with a breach of the rules and required to appear before the Disciplinary Panel. The BHA also has the power (which is used very rarely) to re-open a case from the racecourse if it considers that a decision of the stewards was wrong or the stewards may have missed something.

## EQUINE SCIENCE AND WELFARE

Horses are central to racing, and the role of the BHA's equine science and welfare department is to oversee their welfare whilst in training, provide veterinary regulation on racedays, and ensure drug-free racing.

### VETERINARY CARE

On every raceday, the BHA's veterinary officers and equine welfare integrity officers are present. Veterinary officers provide oversight of horse welfare and advise the stewards on the enforcements of veterinary-related rules. The veterinary officers also work with the racecourse veterinary surgeons to ensure the highest levels of clinical care. As well as supporting welfare, veterinary technicians have a central role in collecting samples for medication control.

### MEDICATION CONTROL

British racing is a clean sport. The equine science and welfare department provides a programme of surveillance, detection and advice to ensure racing remains clean and so trainers and their veterinary surgeons can safely treat their horses when required.

### WELFARE

The safety and welfare of the horse is a priority to all in racing. The BHA is committed to ensuring the highest possible standards of horse welfare, including compliance with UK animal welfare legislation.

Without horses, there is no sport, but like most sports, racing carries risks. The BHA's role is to monitor what happens to horses at racecourses and in the care of licensed trainers, ensuring there is a good level of care and that the risk of injury continues to be reduced.

Horseracing has close and constructive relationships with animal welfare organisations, such as the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA), World Horse Welfare and RoR, and works with these and other groups to understand and reduce risk.

## WELFARE AND CARE OF RACEHORSES

Leading organisations in British Horseracing have got together to increase awareness of the high standards of equine welfare in the sport through an initiative called 'The Horse Comes First'. This initiative aims to improve understanding of the care given to racehorses throughout and after their careers in racing.

The campaign is supported by the British Horseracing Authority, the Racecourse Association, Racehorse Owners Association, the Professional Jockeys Association, the National Trainers Federation, The Jockey Club, the National Association of Stable Staff and Arena Racing Company.

British Racing is among the world's best regulated animal activities. The 14,000 horses registered in training at any one time enjoy a quality of life virtually unsurpassed by any other domesticated animal. British Racing employs over 6,000 people to provide constant care and attention for these horses.

An increasing number of racehorses go on to successful second careers after retiring from the track. There are currently over 11,500 horses registered with Retraining of Racehorses (British Horseracing's official charity for the welfare of former racehorses) as active in other equine disciplines outside of racing, including Polo, Showing, Dressage and Eventing, as well as those horses happily engaged in hacking and exercising.

Horseracing's welfare initiatives focus on the following:

## Care

In training, and on racecourses, the horses are in the care of experienced horsemen and women whether licensed trainers, stable staff or jockeys. Expert veterinary care is always available. Horses are reviewed before racing by one of the BHA's veterinary surgeons, and medication controls ensure they do not race under the effect of drugs.

When a horse retires from racing, there are many avenues open to it, and the industry supports and monitors the work of trainers and owners, and organisations such as RoR assist with finding new homes and careers for horses

## Surface

All racecourses are licensed annually through the BHA's racecourse department, and work with the BHA's trained and experienced inspectors of courses and independent agronomists to provide the best and safest racing surfaces, to minimise the risk of injury, and to encourage owners and trainers to run their horses.

Racecourses are limited in the use of their turf, and racing on ground officially described as 'hard' is not permitted in jump racing. Trainers also have every incentive to provide safe training grounds, and all recognise their duty of care to their horses.

The BHA provides specific annual reports and statistics on ground conditions and casualties at every racecourse, and inspects trainers' facilities and provides advice to enable trainers to meet licensing criteria.

## Obstacles

Racecourse hurdles and steeple chase fences are designed in line with the specifications of the BHA's General Instructions, agreed in liaison with the BHA's inspectors of courses, and both types are regularly renewed and reviewed.



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The BHA collates statistics of fallers and casualties from each race meeting, including point-to-points, and reports to racecourses to assist them in identifying and improving any individual obstacles that may pose a problem. Racecourses invest substantially to improve horse safety.

To underpin the BHA's regulation and other industry horse welfare initiatives, horseracing provides assistance and support for numerous research projects designed to improve racehorse welfare. These include commercially funded projects, and the HBLB's veterinary programme, which invests several million pounds every year in research projects to enhance horse health and welfare.

## COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA

Horseracing as a national pastime has been reported on from the early 19th century. Several specialist newspapers have closed, and the *Racing Post* remains as the only daily publication. The *Racing Post* is published in full colour every day, seven days a week, and is the only sport-specific daily national newspaper in Britain. It includes detailed information about horses' form and other relevant racing data, as well as being an influential hub for comment and investigative journalism.

ITV since 2017

British racing also receives significant space in the national press, with most newspapers printing form and racecard data and others focusing on editorial and telling racing's 'stories'. In addition, racing has a dedicated terrestrial broadcast partner in the form of **Channel 4 (ITV from 2017)**, which covers around 90 days' racing every year, as well as two dedicated digital satellite channels, At The Races and Racing UK.

The BHA has a communications and external affairs department, which includes a media manager who is the first point of contact for media inquiries.

## COVERAGE OF THE SPORT

The horseracing industry has a dedicated daily newspaper and two dedicated horseracing channels, with further coverage in other newspapers and one terrestrial TV channel:

- *Racing Post* – a daily publication containing all the information needed to follow the sport
- Racing UK – dedicated horseracing subscription channel covering 34 racecourses, including those owned by Jockey Club Racecourses, as well as others such as Ascot, Goodwood, Newbury and York
- At The Races – dedicated horseracing channel, part of the Sky Sports package, covering 25 racecourses, including those owned by Arena Racing Company (ARC) and several small independents

### The Opening Show

- **The Morning Line/Channel 4 Racing** – an early-morning racing review programme aired on Saturdays before live horseracing coverage in the afternoon, **moving in 2017 to ITV and ITV4.**

## PROMOTION OF THE SPORT

Responsibility for the central promotion of the sport is handled by Great British Racing ([www.greatbritishracing.com](http://www.greatbritishracing.com)), **which operates under Racing Enterprises Ltd (REL)**, has been tasked with broadening the appeal of British horseracing at every level, with the objective of increasing participation and revenues, and protecting and growing the thousands of jobs that exist within the sport.

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Great British Racing **was known as Racing for Change until the beginning of 2013.** It actively encourages novice racing fans through social media, and promotes the merits of racehorse ownership. It is also responsible for the promotion of the British Champions Series.



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# UNDERSTAND THE PRINCIPLES OF RACE PLANNING AND ITS IMPACT ON BRITISH HORSERACING

## THE FIXTURE LIST

The fixture list is the 'events diary' for racing, being the full list of race meetings contained within a 12-month calendar period.

The BHA has responsibility for production of the fixture list following an annual process completed in consultation with stakeholders.

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The process normally starts in the early part of the year before the fixture list in question. So for example, the process for agreeing the 2017 fixture list normally starts in early 2016.

The total number of race meetings contained within the annual fixture list is a policy decision made by Racing's Executive Committee, comprising representatives of the BHA, RCA and **Horsemen's Group**. It is dependent on demand from racecourses to stage race meetings, the supply of horses to service that demand and available central funding from the Levy Board.

The Thoroughbred Group

## DISTRIBUTION OF RACE MEETINGS

The distribution of race meetings takes account of the commercial objectives of racecourses to stage successful race meetings, the need to provide a consistent betting product for bookmakers for betting purposes, and the requirement to provide a balance of opportunities for the entire racehorse population.

Bookmakers' representatives and the Levy Board decide what the best spread and pattern of fixtures is for betting purposes. This is called the fixture criteria. For example, bookmakers state that running three afternoon fixtures with even intervals between races generates most betting and therefore the most profit for them, which in turn provides the most levy (and income) for racing.

However, for racecourses, the most popular and profitable fixtures are Saturday, Sunday and evening meetings, outside the midweek festivals, which are traditionally the very best race meetings, held over two or more days. Racegoers are more likely to attend these meetings than on a Monday afternoon in winter.

Therefore, there is a need to balance the different interests and demands involved, together with the available funding in finalising the fixture list.





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## FIXTURE CRITERIA

The size and shape of the fixture list is determined by criteria prescribed the Levy Board, taking into account the:

- maximum number of fixtures that can be run
- distribution of the fixtures, between racecourses and in relation to the type of races held
- balance of flat and jump races
- distribution of evening fixtures
- number of Saturday and Sunday fixtures.

Within this framework, there are the following types of fixture:

- Racecourse fixtures – in 2016, from a total of 1,482 scheduled fixtures, these comprise 1,219 fixtures. Racecourses can request to swap and move fixtures with other courses, with the BHA racing department overseeing any transfers, ensuring that the best interests of the fixture list are met.
- BHA (leasehold) fixtures – in 2016, there are 217 fixtures awarded on a one year leasehold basis following evaluation of a balanced scorecard of performance. Fixture composition and race programme are decided by the BHA racing department.
- Self-funded fixtures – there are 13 in 2016. These fixtures receive no funding from the Levy Board.
- Enterprise fixtures – introduced in 2008 in order that more commercially attractive slots were available to racecourses. There are 33 in 2016.

Delete everything in red

## RACE PROGRAMME

The overall aim of the BHA racing department is to produce a programme of races that:

- is designed to maintain the quality of horses in training in Britain, and the competitiveness of racing, by ensuring that horses are catered for broadly in accordance with ability over their entire careers
- maximises opportunities for the horse population at all reasonable levels of ability and over all distances throughout the season
- produces a satisfactory product in terms of off-course betting, in order to maximise the betting levy.

This is achieved through three main elements:

- **balance** – providing adequate opportunities for:
  - horses
  - owners
  - trainers
  - jockeys
  - breeders
 while also satisfying:
  - racecourses
  - racegoers
  - betting shops and other gaming facilities
  - broadcast media
- **competitiveness** – taking into account:
  - horse population
  - field sizes
  - starting prices
  - competitive racing data
- **flexibility** – this may involve:
  - dividing additional races where necessary
  - transferring fixtures at short notice
  - transferring major races
  - reacting to changes in weather
  - re-opening and re-offering races with low numbers of entries and declarations.

When working with a racecourse to produce a programme of races for a particular day, the BHA racing department:

- forecasts the demand for certain race types by analysing changes in the horse population and predicting changes in the horse population
- identifies gaps in the race programme
- analyses the success of or demand for certain types of races
- measures the performance of existing races in terms of the number of runners, entries and ratings for each type of race, to deem whether the race was a success
- takes into account the budget available to the racecourse.





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## RACE TIMES

Race times are planned and updated every four months, with updates made in between to accommodate changes to broadcasters' schedules or racecourse requests, in order to provide appealing betting opportunities throughout each day. Elements that need to be taken into account when compiling race times for a particular day are:

- broadcasters – both terrestrial television and the dedicated racing channels
- racecourses
- race sponsors
- avoiding clashes or overlaps in starting times to ensure that viewers and punters have the opportunity to watch every race uninterrupted
- minimising delays to races
- significant international races and fixtures.

## STATISTICAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Statistical research is used to ensure that the fixture list and race programme continue to reflect the needs of the racehorse population, including analysing the success of different types of races in terms of:

- field sizes
- the role they play for the horse population
- the demand for types of races and fixtures from those in the industry, such as owners and breeders.

## RACE TYPES

To meet the various needs of racecourses, the betting industry and horses and their connections, a diverse list of race types has been developed as follows:

- **Auction races** – specifically for horses that are only eligible if they have passed through certain named auction houses.
- **Beginners' steeple chase** – a steeple chase for horses that have never won a steeple chase at any recognised meeting in any country other than a match or private sweepstake, or a steeple chase at a point-to-point meeting in Britain; not to be confused with a maiden steeple chase.
- **Charity race** – a race run outside the Rules of Racing for which participants are encouraged to collect sponsorship money to donate to an allotted charity. Riders are not required to hold an accredited jockey's licence, although they are obliged to prove their standard of riding.
- **Claiming race** – any horse can be claimed at its advertised price following the race. Minimum and maximum claiming prices are set, and horses advertised below that price will carry less weight than a more expensive rival, at sums set by connections of each horse.
- **Classification of races** – races are classified (class 1–7 for flat and class 1–6 jumping) in relation to the quality of the race. The classification of the race indicates the race's minimum value or meritocracy band for prize money.
- **Classified stakes** – this is a flat conditions race or a weight-for-age steeple chase or hurdle race other than a maiden or novice race, where horses entered in these races must have handicap ratings at or below a set figure (e.g. 0–95). The intention is to provide a non-handicap opportunity for horses with similar ratings, which in theory produces a competitive race.
- **Conditions race (Jump)** – any race that is not a handicap, a novice race, a maiden, or a selling or claiming race.
- **Conditions stakes (Flat)** – a race that has not been awarded Pattern or Listed status, is not a handicap or a novice race, is not restricted to maidens, is not governed by selling or claiming provisions and is not restricted to apprentice or amateur riders if the total prize fund is less than a specified amount.
- **Consolation race** – a race in which horses that were balloted out of a feature (heritage) handicap can compete in a similar race on the day or the day before, but for less prize money.
- **Graduation chase** – steeple chases for horses that have not won more than two steeple chases.
- **Handicap** – a race where the weights carried are dependent on the official ratings allotted by the BHA handicappers, with the intention of giving each horse an equal chance of winning.
- **Hands and Heels race** – the Hands and Heels Apprentice and Jumps Series are for riders who have ridden not more than 10 races at the start of the series, in which the whip can be carried but used only for safety purposes, not encouragement. They are intended to improve race-riding skills and develop a jockey's ability to motivate a horse without resorting to the whip.
- **Heritage handicap** – a handicap race identified as such by the BHA directors that has a minimum total prize fund. All races are well established handicaps with a tradition of attracting a good number of runners in a competitive race.
- **Hunters' steeple chase** – a weight-for-age steeple chase (although there are occasional handicaps) confined to amateur riders and horses that have been hunting and have thus been certified by a master of hounds.
- **Intermediate races** – these jump race types offer an intermediary stage between other race types. For example, an intermediate chase is aimed at horses that are no longer eligible for maiden or novice chases but are perhaps not yet ready to compete in a standard handicap.

- **Introductory hurdle** – a race for horses that have not run in more than one hurdle race.
- **Junior National Hunt flat race** – a race for three-year-olds prior to 1 January and four-year-olds from 1 January to 31 March, which have not run under any recognised Rules of Racing, except in these races in Britain, Ireland and France. Races are run over distances of not less than one mile, four furlongs and not farther than one mile, seven furlongs.
- **Juvenile races** – a type of novice hurdle restricted to juvenile horses. Juveniles are horses that are aged three years old before 1 January for the current jump season and four years old after 1 January until the end of the season.
- **Limited handicaps** – these are flat and jump handicaps where a restricted weight range is specified in the conditions, and additional conditions or penalties may apply to attract the correct calibre of horse. These conditions may include a more expensive entry charge for horses whose handicap rating is in excess of a certain level.
- **Listed races (flat)** – these races are just below Pattern grade but have been awarded Listed status by the BHA and are recognised internationally. They are awarded black type status by the International Cataloguing Standards Committee.
- **Listed races (jump)** – races are decided by the BHA.
- **Maiden** – a race for horses that have not won a race in that code of racing, either flat or jump. There are exceptions for horses that have won races such as National Hunt flat races, matches, private sweepstakes, French AQPS flat races or point-to-points.
- **Maiden auction race** – a flat race restricted to two-year-old or three-year-old maiden horses sold by public auction at specified sales. There is usually a maximum auction price attached to these races, with horses sold below a certain price receiving weight from more expensive horses.
- **Maiden handicap** – a handicap flat race restricted to maiden three-year-olds and over that have run in at least three British flat races.
- **Maiden median auction race** – a maiden flat race with an additional criteria relating to the sire of the horse entered. Horses are only eligible for this race if their sire's progeny for that generation do not exceed a certain median price when sold at auction as yearlings.
- **National Hunt flat race** – a race for horses aged between three and seven years old, depending on the time of year, which have not run under any recognised Rules of Racing, except in these races in Britain or Ireland or in French AQPS flat races.
- **Novelty race** – a race that limits the number of runners through either a restriction on the horses or the riders.
- **Novice** – a race for horses that have not won a race before a specified date.
- **Novice auction race** – a flat race restricted to two-year-old horses that:
  - have not won a flat race above a Class 4 (other than those races treated as Class 4 in the conditions of the race)
  - have not won more than two races of any class
  - must have been sold or bought in at auction at specified sales.

As with maiden auction races, a maximum price is set, and horses below this price receive a weight allowance.
- **Novice flat race** – a flat race restricted to two-year-olds that:
  - have not won more than two races
  - have not won a Class 1 or 2 race (other than those races treated as Class 4 in the conditions of the race).
- **Novice hunters' steeple chase** – a weight-for-age steeple chase confined to amateur riders and to horses certified by a master of hounds to have been hunted, and which have not won a steeple chase before a specified date.

- **Novice median auction race** – a flat race restricted to two-year-olds:
  - that have not won more than two flat races of any class
  - whose sire's progeny for that generation do not exceed a certain median price when sold or bought in at auction as yearlings.
- **Nursery handicap** – a handicap confined to two-year-olds (official birthday 1 January). A nursery cannot be programmed before 1 July.
- **Pattern races** – the best flat races are accorded Pattern-race status by the European Pattern Committee. Jump races are accorded Pattern status by the BHA. For flat and jump racing, all Pattern races are deemed to be Class 1, with three groups (flat) or grades (jump) (1, 2 and 3) within the classification.
- **Pony Racing** – introduced in Britain in 2004 in order to encourage a wider spectrum of young enthusiasts to consider developing a career in racing, Pony Races are staged before or after normal racing. The initiative has helped to promote the development of British jockeys, in the same way as many Irish jockeys have been involved in this field. The Pony Racing Authority was launched in May 2007 under the auspices of the BHA.
- **Rating-related maiden race** – a maiden flat race that is not a handicap, but is restricted to horses that have a handicap rating at or below a certain figure.
- **Sales races** – races generally for two- and three-year-olds, sponsored by individual sales companies and restricted to horses sold by them. Prize money is usually high as a result of entry fees paid by connections.
- **Selling races** – every runner can be claimed (see claiming race, above), but the winner must be offered for sale by auction.
- **Training races** – the Apprentice and Conditional Jockeys Training Race series are designed to be the next step on from the Hands and Heels series in terms of developing race-riding skills. They are for riders who have ridden not more than 20 winners at the start of the series. In these series, riders may use their whips.
- **Veteran chase** – introduced for horses aged 10 years old and upwards, and developed into a series with a high-value final by the BHA in 2015–2016.
- **Weight-for-age race** – all races except handicaps and selling races. An older horse will carry more weight, with allowance made for younger horses according to the official weight-for-age scale.



## INTERNATIONAL LIAISON

The BHA racing department has responsibility for the British Pattern, and seeks appropriate adjustments to the group status, including additions and upgrades, through its representation on the European Pattern Committee and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' International Grading and Race Planning Advisory Committee (IRPAC).

## HANDICAPPING

About half of the races staged in Britain each year are handicaps, where weights carried are determined by the horse's official rating, as decided by the BHA handicappers, with the aim of giving each horse an equal chance of winning. The highest rated (or best) horse in the race carries the highest weight. For most owners, handicaps offer their best chance of winning a race. Without them, the best horses have a greater chance of winning, which would not encourage competitive racing.

The BHA has a team of 12 handicappers, most of whom concentrate on a particular distance bracket or code, flat or jumps. Their job is to study and interpret the form shown by each horse in a race, from which they publish a list of ratings every week: the higher the rating, the better the horse. If one horse is rated 120 and another is rated 110, the handicapper believes that a difference of 10lb in the weights carried in a race would give each a fair chance. Most handicaps are restricted to horses with ratings in a particular range, 0–70 for example. That race would not be intended for horses rated higher than 70. So the rating not only decides on the weight that a horse will carry, it also decides in which races it can run.

If a horse runs better than its rating then the rating may be raised, depending on the race circumstances. If it keeps running below its rating, its rating will be lowered. The very best horses generally do not run in handicaps as there are other opportunities for them in the race programme.



# OPERATION OF RACECOURSES AND THE MAJOR RACING CENTRES IN THE HORSERACING INDUSTRY

## RACECOURSES

A racecourse is a licensed venue where horseracing takes place. British racecourses are laid out in a variety of shapes – oval or circular, figure of eight, flat or undulating, from seven furlongs to two miles round – and race either right- or left-handed. The majority race on turf, but since 1989, six have introduced synthetic surfaces for flat racing. Start points for different race distances are positioned around the course, with a finishing point in front of the main grandstand.

Although all-weather flat racecourses will stage up to 84 meetings each in 2016, the majority have 15–25 race meetings per year. However, to remain economically viable, they need their facilities to be used on as many days as possible and therefore diversify for a year-round income. This involves hiring out the racecourse facilities for events such as weddings and conferences, and operating golf courses and hotels on site.

## TYPES OF RACECOURSES

Racecourses are divided into the following categories:

- flat – where races are run from five furlongs to two miles, six furlongs on turf
- National Hunt or jump – horses are raced on turf over obstacles (hurdles or steeple chase fences) or National Hunt flat races (bumpers)
- dual – where both flat and jump racing take place at the same venue
- all-weather – there are six all-weather tracks where flat racing is held on an artificial surface
- point-to-point – some are held on racecourses over specially built fences, but the majority are non-permanent racecourses, often used for pasture for much of the year; portable steeple chase fences are normally erected to run races during the early months of the year.

The variety of horseracing in Britain is unparalleled anywhere in the world. In 2016, there were 60 BHA-licensed racecourses, each with its own particular character and atmosphere.





© Racecourse Association

Britain's racecourses have broad appeal, offering an enjoyable day out for people of all ages – from children through to those who have retired, plus being excellent for business entertaining. All courses offer free admission for accompanied children, while there are often concessions for students and pensioners. Facilities for corporate entertaining are good, and race sponsorship is ideal for generating publicity.

### STATUS/OWNERSHIP OF BRITISH RACECOURSES

Racecourse ownership is broken down into two main categories – group or independent.

In 2016, the main group operators are Jockey Club Racecourses (JCR), which owns 14 courses, and Arena Racing Company (ARC), which also operates 14 courses and has a management arrangement with another.

#### Groups

- Jockey Club Racecourses, originally called Racecourse Holdings Trust, was formed in 1964 with the objective of securing the future of threatened racecourses. Cheltenham was the first course acquired by the group to join the Jockey Club's original venue at Newmarket. The Jockey Club's trustee ownership ensures that profits are re-invested in racing and not distributed as dividends to shareholders.

- Arena Racing Company was formed in August 2012 on the acquisition of Arena Leisure plc by Aldersgate Investments Ltd (part of the Reuben Brothers group of companies), which already owned Northern Racing Ltd and merged their racecourse assets. At the time, Arena Leisure owned seven courses and Northern Racing nine, as well as having a management arrangement with Ffos Las. Hereford (ex-Arena) and Folkestone (ex-Northern) were closed in December 2012.

#### Independents

Racecourses outside the two major groups are known as independents. They vary greatly in size and profitability, and may be owned privately or by a company, council or trust. The most recent to be opened were Ffos Las in June 2009 and Chelmsford City in January 2015.

The table overleaf shows the British racecourses licensed in 2016, together with their type and ownership status.

## LOCATIONS OF BRITISH RACECOURSES

Racecourses in Britain are spread throughout England, Scotland and Wales. Some are located near areas of high population, such as Leicester, Kempton and Newcastle, whereas others are more rural, such as Cartmel, Kelso and Taunton. Five of the 60 racecourses are in Scotland and two in Wales. The table below shows their location and ownership.

Racecourse	Type	Ownership/ Management Status
<b>Scotland</b>		
Perth	Jump	Independent
Hamilton Park	Flat	Independent
Ayr	Dual	Independent
Musselburgh	Dual	Independent
Kelso	Jump	Independent
<b>North</b>		
Newcastle	Jump/all-weather flat	ARC
Hexham	Jump	Independent
Carlisle	Dual	JCR
Cartmel	Jump	Independent
Sedgefield	Jump	ARC
Catterick	Dual	Independent
Redcar	Flat	Independent
Thirsk	Flat	Independent
Ripon	Flat	Independent
Beverley	Flat	Independent
York	Flat	Independent
Wetherby	Dual	Independent
Haydock	Dual	JCR
Aintree	Jump	JCR
Pontefract	Flat	Independent
<b>Midlands</b>		
Doncaster	Dual	ARC
Market Rasen	Jump	JCR
Chester	Flat	Independent
Bangor-on-Dee	Jump	Independent (managed by ARC)
Uttoxeter	Jump	ARC
Southwell	Jump/all-weather flat	ARC
Nottingham	Flat	JCR
Leicester	Dual	Independent
Fakenham	Jump	Independent
Wolverhampton	All-weather flat	ARC

Racecourse	Type	Ownership/ Management Status
Worcester	Jump	ARC
Stratford-on-Avon	Jump	Independent
Warwick	Jump	JCR
Towcester	Jump	Independent Closed down
Huntingdon	Jump	JCR
Great Yarmouth	Flat	ARC
Newmarket	Flat	JCR
Ludlow	Jump	Independent
<b>South</b>		
Ffos Las	Dual	Managed by ARC
Chepstow	Dual	ARC
Chelmsford City	All-weather flat	Independent
Newton Abbot	Jump	Independent
Exeter	Jump	JCR
Taunton	Jump	Independent
Wincanton	Jump	JCR
Bath	Flat	ARC
Cheltenham	Jump	JCR
Salisbury	Flat	Independent
Newbury	Dual	Independent
Goodwood	Flat	Independent
Windsor	Flat	ARC
Ascot	Dual	Independent
Fontwell Park	Jump	ARC
Sandown Park	Dual	JCR
Kempton Park	Jump/all-weather flat	JCR
Epsom Downs	Flat	JCR
Lingfield Park	Jump/all-weather flat	ARC
Plumpton	Jump	Independent
Brighton	Flat	ARC
Hereford	Jump	Independent ARC

## REGULATION AND LICENSING OF BRITISH RACECOURSES

All racecourses are highly regulated to ensure they offer a fair and safe environment for racing.

Racecourses are licensed by the BHA. The licence is issued annually to the racecourse managing executive, which must comply with the requirements of the BHA during all its racing operations. Each year, around one-third of licences are issued with specific BHA General Instructions-related conditions attached. These conditions must be addressed by the stated timescale.

### COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OF RACECOURSES

The prime function of a racecourse is to provide a venue for horseracing. However, all racecourses must be viable commercial enterprises and therefore will usually provide a range of unique opportunities to generate income, including:

- race sponsorship
- corporate hospitality
- advertising and promotions
- conference and exhibition facilities
- wedding venues
- equestrian competition sites.

### OUTLINE OPERATION OF A RACEDAY

The actual operation of a raceday involves months of preparation. A licensed racecourse will plan its racing programme when the fixture list is agreed and will liaise closely with the BHA Racing Department during the lead-up to each raceday.

#### The racing surface

The racing surface, jumps and facilities are managed by a team of groundstaff, normally led by a head groundsman. The management of the track is of utmost importance to provide the optimum racing surface for

horse and jockey. The BHA inspectors of courses, who must have relevant racing experience, monitor conditions at all licensed racecourses through regular visits. Invariably, course inspectors are former licensed jockeys, knowing how a course rides with an invaluable perspective on the siting of a fence or the layout of running rail on a bend. Their role is primarily a regulatory one, ensuring that agreed standards are met. However, with the experience it has, the team is often asked for advice by clerks of the course on areas such as turf management, fence construction and course configuration.

Common standards are set down in the BHA's General Instructions to Racecourses, covering the following topics for which racecourses have to meet strict licence conditions:

- state of the track
- marking of courses
- running rail
- winning post
- steeple chase fences
- hurdles
- hazard warnings/course direction markers and the bypassing of obstacles
- racetrack floodlighting
- facilities for integrity services
- stable yard and horsebox park
- racecourse stables
- canteen and hostel
- stewards' boxes and room
- judge's boxes
- weighing room
- winner's enclosure
- parade ring/horsewalks/saddling boxes
- starting arrangements
- medical facilities
- veterinary facilities
- sampling unit.

### Pre-race procedures

In the lead-up to a raceday, many key processes take place, including:

- provision of advance going reports
- securing part-time and casual staff such as car park attendants, bar staff and others
- organising health and safety arrangements, assessments and management systems
- arranging appropriate security measures, including for horses, spectators, participants and facilities
- entering and declarations of horses and jockeys
- securing sponsorship
- marketing of the raceday and corporate hospitality
- planning catering and hospitality
- organising attendance of racecourse officials, including medical personnel
- liaising with technical support teams and media channels.

### The raceday

The raceday starts early for the groundstaff, clerk of course and racecourse management team. Going reports are issued as directed by the BHA, and if there is any concern about the weather, updates will be provided on a regular basis.

Officials and technical support teams are also in place well before the start of the event. According to the distance travelled, horses may arrive at the course the day before the race or early in the morning of the raceday. This will allow them an opportunity to rest and settle before the race. Stable staff will accompany them and may also require accommodation.

Horses generally arrive in the pre-parade ring some 20–30 minutes before their race. The jockey will be weighed out by

the clerk of scales, who is in direct electronic contact with racing's main database. The trainer or their representative will collect the saddle, weight cloth and any ancillary equipment from the weighing room when the jockey has weighed out and saddle the horse. The horse will then be taken through to the main parade ring where owners, trainers and jockeys assemble prior to the race.

At a signal, jockeys will be legged up into the saddle, and after a further circuit of the parade ring, horses and jockeys will be released on to the course to make their way to the start. At this point, the starter is in control of proceedings and will ensure the correct and timely start to the race.

During the race, camera patrols are in place and medical and veterinary vehicles in attendance. Stewards closely monitor the race to make sure it is run according to the regulations.

After the race, the horses are collected by their handlers and either taken back to the unsaddling area and washed off, or to the winner's enclosure. Stable staff will be advised if the horse is required to provide a urine or blood sample.

Jockeys will be weighed in by the clerk of scales, and bets cannot be settled until the weighed-in announcement is made.

Returns are made by the judge to ensure all the relevant authorities are made aware of the final results of the race.

Handicappers will review the performance of each horse after each race.

### Role and responsibility of key racecourse personnel

The racecourse team is responsible for the day-to-day running of the racecourse and preparation for racedays. The raceday team consists of BHA officials and staff (some sessional) brought together by the racecourse team.

Key members employed by the racecourse:

- clerk of the course – the official in charge of all aspects of running the actual raceday
- racecourse medical officer (RMO) – dedicated raceday doctor
- racecourse manager – manager in charge of the racecourse operation
- other personnel involved with sales and marketing, public relations, events and catering, race sponsorship and finance
- advanced flag operator – responsible for making sure horses and riders stop racing in the event of a false start.
- veterinary officer – the official vet who implements all veterinary aspects of the Rules of Racing, including supervising medication control procedures; works closely with racecourse veterinary surgeons
- equine welfare integrity officer – responsible for the security of the stable yard and monitoring of horse welfare at race meetings.

## MAJOR RACING TRAINING CENTRES

### EPSOM

Key members employed by the BHA:

- clerk of the scales – the person responsible for weighing the jockeys before and after the race to check the horse has carried the correct weight allocated
- handicapper – assesses horses and their performance, and gives them a rating in order that in handicaps each has a theoretically equal chance of winning
- judge – responsible for declaring and announcing the finishing order of a race and the distances between the placed horses
- stable integrity officer – maintains integrity for the racecourse stables, ensuring no access by unauthorised persons and horses are not interfered with
- starter – in charge of the horses and riders before the race, and starts the race
- stewards – the group of people responsible for ensuring that the conduct of the raceday adheres to the Rules of Racing
- steward's secretary – a professional raceday official who ensures all races are run smoothly and within the Rules of Racing

Epsom in Surrey has a long history of racing and training horses. The first recorded race meeting to be held on the Downs was in 1661. In recent times, there have been up to 14 trainers based in Epsom, making the most of the recent attempts to rejuvenate the centre. Facilities include three all-weather gallops and miles of turf gallops, managed by the Training Grounds Management Board. The Jockey Club became responsible for day-to-day management, employing a dedicated team of downskeepers, from January 2014.

### LAMBOURN

Lambourn in Berkshire also has a long horseracing history. The racing connection began in the 18th century, when the Earl of Craven held racing meetings on Weathercock Hill. In the 1840s, some owners moved their racehorses to be trained in Lambourn, which grew in importance with the introduction of the railway in 1898. Over 1,500 horses are now stabled in and around Lambourn – second in size only to Newmarket. Many turf and all-weather gallops are situated in and around the village, and significant improvements have been made since the Jockey Club acquired the training grounds in January 2006.

## MALTON

Situated in North Yorkshire, the thriving market town of Malton, 18 miles from York, has a long-established connection with horseracing. Its rolling hills provide ideal sites for training gallops, and being close to major road networks, it is well placed for trainers to take advantage of the comparative proximity of the many northern racecourses.

Malton and Norton had a racecourse on Langton Wold, with racing held in 1692, although the course eventually closed in 1862. In 1867, a National Hunt course was constructed on Orchard Fields, Malton, but racing only lasted for three years there. Another course was constructed in 1882 at Highfield, just off Beverley Road, Norton, adjacent to the site of the existing gallops.

It is not difficult to see why the area became a popular location for training. An important factor for local trainers today is the availability of training gallops, which tend to have their origins in the now-closed historic racecourses that could be found in the area. The high quality turf and well-drained soil provide local trainers with an ideal environment to produce winners. All-grass gallops have been supplemented with all-weather surfaces in some locations – notably on Langton Wold, adding to the competitiveness of Ryedale as a training base.

## MIDDLEHAM

Racehorses have been trained in this area for over 200 years, but the Cistercian monks of nearby Jervaulx Abbey were breeding horses long before then. The first documented reference to racehorses in Middleham was the establishment of Isaac Cape as a jockey in 1733, and he eventually became the first specialist racehorse trainer here. Racing was established on the High Moor as early as 1739, and meetings were held regularly during the 18th century. The last race to be held on the moor was in June 1873 after disputes between trainers and local gait owners (landowners with grazing rights on the moorland). From then onwards, the High Moor has been used only for training. By then though, racing was an important part of

Middleham's life and so began the history of famous trainers settling there and sending out winners at all the leading meetings in the country.

One of the most famous trainers was Captain Neville Crump, who sent out three Grand National winners from Warwick House Stables – Sheila's Cottage (1948), Teal (1952) and Merryman II (1960). He also trained five Scottish and two Welsh National winners. Today, Middleham's most successful trainer is Mark Johnston, who in 2015 trained more than 200 winners in Britain for the sixth time in seven years.

With good modern facilities, Middleham continues to prosper as a training centre. There was a time in the late '70s and '80s when the area suffered a downturn in fortunes, and there were some empty yards during that period. However, the training facilities were improved, and Middleham is now a major and important racing centre.

## NEWMARKET

Newmarket in Suffolk is the largest major training centre in Britain and is steeped in history. It is widely reported that the first recorded race took place in 1662. It has special horse walks so the horses can reach the gallops safely from the many training establishments, most based in and around the centre of the town.

More than 2,500 racehorses are trained in the Newmarket area. Over 70 licensed trainers and around 60 stud farms operate in and around the area. Newmarket has three main sections of heath, all of which are used to train racehorses. Racecourse Side is located next to the Rowley Mile racecourse and is a predominately flat area. Warren Hill overlooks the town and consists of three all-weather canters and a multitude of grass canters. Bury Side is the name given to the area located near Bury Road and the railway line. These areas and the surrounding heath are chalk downland.

The town has two race courses situated on Newmarket Heath. These are the Rowley Mile and the July Course. The two courses are separated by the Devil's Dyke.

# STRUCTURE OF THE BETTING INDUSTRY AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BRITISH HORSERACING INDUSTRY



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## BETTING

Betting is defined by the Gambling Act 2005 as the making or accepting of a bet on the outcome of an event of uncertain outcome, the likelihood of anything occurring or not occurring, or whether anything is or is not true. The typical outcome of the horseracing bet is evident within a short period.

## BRIEF HISTORY OF BETTING

Betting on horseracing is almost as old as the sport itself. James Weatherby was the first known stakeholder for horserace betting when he held the money waged for participants in races on Newmarket Heath. James Weatherby went on to become the Jockey Club secretary in 1770.

Links between horseracing and betting are very strong. Licensed betting offices (LBOs) are common sights in most towns, tending to be sited wherever a significant number of people with disposable cash can be expected. The first LBO opened in England in 1961. The number of LBOs gradually increased to an estimated peak of 16,500 in the mid-1960s. Live television pictures of British horseracing were first allowed in betting shops on 5 May 1987.





Initially, horseracing, together with greyhound racing, comprised the majority of the events on which bookmakers offered bets. Bookmakers now offer customers the opportunity to bet on a vastly expanded list of events. These include the outcome of other sporting events, political contests and TV talent shows. In addition, LBOs now make gaming machines available for customers.

The British betting industry is one of the most diverse in the world, with a mix of fixed odds, pools, spread betting and betting exchanges. The competitive nature of the British betting industry results in the second highest return to stakes bet by horseracing punters of any major betting country – 89.7% in 2014, behind Ireland (97.4%), and compared with 73.7% in France.

Since 2000, the UK has seen massive growth in Internet gambling. Punters place bets online, where technology gives them access to a greater wealth of information and knowledge. More recently, apps on tablets and mobile phones have provided another increasingly popular method by which customers can place bets.

## OVERVIEW OF BETTING AND HORSERACING

Horseracing bets can be placed in retail betting shops, on course at a racecourse, over the phone, online or using mobile apps. A variety of bets can be placed, including win, where the punter picks a horse to come first in the race, and each way, where the punter picks a horse to win or be placed in the race. Place terms depend on the number of horses in the race and the type of race. These bets are placed at fixed odds stated by bookmakers at the time of taking the bets, or at starting price, which is declared shortly after the start of a race.

The Tote, which originally operated under government authority but was sold on a seven-year licence to the bookmaker Betfred in July 2011, offers a pool-betting option, where winning punters are paid a dividend dependent on the number and amount of winning bets on individual races. This sale led to the setting up of the Racing Foundation.

Betting exchanges allow consumers to both back and lay horses at odds of their choice. Similar in some ways to a stock exchange, a bettor may want to back a horse, hoping it will win, or lay a horse, anticipating it will lose, effectively acting as bookmaker.

These forms of betting are regulated by the Gambling Commission. The BHA works closely with the betting industry to monitor the activities of those seeking to corrupt horseracing.

The horseracing industry generates a large amount of its direct revenue from betting via the statutory levy, currently set at 10.75%,

on British betting operators' gross profits from British racing. The majority of levy is allocated to fund either prize money or integrity services. The levy contribution has fallen over recent years primarily due to the decreasing interest from punters in British horseracing, the rising interest in betting on other sports such as football, and the movement offshore, where no levy is payable, by some elements of bookmakers' businesses.

In January 2016, British Racing introduced Authorised Betting Partners (ABPs) to develop mutually beneficial funding relationships.



## KEY ORGANISATIONS

### The Horserace Betting Levy Board

The Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB) is a UK statutory body that was established by the Betting Levy Act 1961. It operates in accordance with the provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (as amended). It is a non-departmental public body, and its sponsoring government department is the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

The original intention of establishing the levy, and therefore the HBLB, was to provide a means of compensating racing for the loss of attendance that was anticipated when off-course betting shops were legalised in 1961. Today, the HBLB applies levy funds to a wide range of schemes in direct support of horseracing.

The HBLB raises money by collecting a statutory levy from all onshore bookmakers on bets on British horseracing. This includes LBOs, pool betting, on-course, telephone, Internet and mobile. Off-course betting includes bets placed with LBOs, spread-betting firms and bet-broking operations. The levy on off-course betting represents the greatest proportion of the HBLB's income. It is collected from bookmakers as a percentage of the gross profit on their British horserace betting business. The majority of levy income is expended in direct support of horseracing. The HBLB is among the most important contributors to horseracing's finances.

The HBLB's statutory objectives are to collect the levy from bookmakers and to apply the funds so raised to improve horseracing, improve breeds of horses and help the advancement and encouragement of veterinary science or veterinary education.

The levy is collected in accordance with a formal, annual Levy Scheme. The levy is distributed each year in accordance with the HBLB's annually reviewed business plan, in which its strategic objectives and income, expenditure and policy objectives are set out. Some 90% of levy income is applied to the improvement of horseracing each year.

### The Gambling Commission

The Gambling Commission was set up in 2004 under the Gambling Act 2005 to succeed the Gambling Board, and has overseen betting and gaming in Britain since September 2007. It took over the responsibilities of the National Lottery Commission in October 2013.

The Gambling Commission expects that maintaining the integrity of the sport is primarily an issue for sports regulators. The Gambling Act states that the Commission may provide information gathered in day-to-day activity to the regulators listed in the Act. This is used towards the fight against corruption in horseracing. The BHA has no power to investigate criminal offences but will refer matters to the Commission or the police when appropriate.

## THE BETTING BUSINESS

### On-course bookmaker

The principal betting area at most racecourses, known as the ring, is in Tattersalls' enclosure, named after the famous company that in 1866 drew up the first rules on betting transactions.

Bookmakers on course are allocated individual stands from which to operate, known as pitches, where they display their boards with prices, and take and settle bets.

### Licensed betting offices

The first betting shops were opened on 1 May 1961. Before then, betting on horses could legally take place only on a racecourse or through a credit account.

### The Tote

The Tote was established by Act of Parliament in 1928. Its original purpose was to offer on-course pool betting on horseracing as an alternative to starting-price betting with bookmakers, and to distribute its profits for 'purposes conducive to the improvement of breeds of horses or the sport of horseracing'.

The Betting Levy Act 1961 forced significant changes on the racing and bookmaking industries. A horserace betting levy on bookmakers meant that the Tote was no longer the only source of betting revenue for racing. Most importantly, bookmakers, but not the Tote, were permitted to open betting shops. These restrictions on the Tote were lifted in 1972, and from then on, it operated as a bookmaker as well as offering pool betting on horses. The government was first minded to divest itself of the Tote in 1997. When a sale was finally effected to the bookmaker Betfred for £265 million in July 2011, the Tote had 517 retail shops offering cash betting on horseracing and a wide range of sporting and non-sporting events, as well as its racecourse operation and an Internet business. The Tote was sold in July 2011.

### Betting exchanges

Betting exchanges, which first appeared in 2000, enable person-to-person betting. They are an online platform for people to swap or 'exchange' bets. A person may wish to bet on a specific horse at 2/1 (that is decimal odds of 3.0), and someone else may want to offer or 'lay' that same horse at 2/1. At a betting exchange, that transaction can take place.

Betting exchanges make their money by charging a commission to the winner of the bet (not to the loser). The usual starting level for betting exchange commission is circa 5%. However, this commission rate varies depending on the number of data requests made to the exchange.



## REVISION TEST

1. Describe in your own words the early history of horseracing from the reign of King Richard I until the formation of the Jockey Club.

2. Give a short summary of the development of the Thoroughbred racehorse. Include reference to the founding shires and introduction of record keeping.

3. Plot a typical lifecycle of a racehorse from conception to retirement. Make reference to the industry organisations that are involved in this lifecycle.

4. Compare the role and responsibilities of racing industry organisations involved with:

- (a) financing of the sport
- (b) regulation and governance of the sport
- (c) member representation
- (d) welfare

5. Select five different career pathways in the racing industry and describe what is involved and any training available to support career development.

6. Give an overview of the role of the British Horseracing Authority. Select one of its departments and discuss the responsibilities of that department and state how it interacts with other racing stakeholders.

7. Select any race and describe how its prize money is distributed.

8. Describe the regulatory and charitable activities available to ensure the optimum welfare for racehorses.

9. Analyse the make up of a week's racing in relation to balance, competitiveness, prize money and geographical spread.

10. Describe the five categories of racecourse and give one example of each.

11. Select any racecourse and compare its racing and non-racing activities.

12. Define 'betting' as described within the Gambling Act 2005.

13. Describe the role and responsibilities of the Horserace Betting Levy Board.

14. Describe how betting exchanges operate.

15. What is the main role of the Gambling Commission?

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