

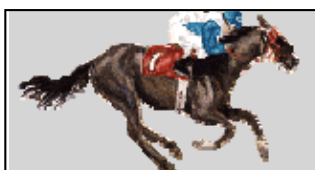
LONDON MARATHON

Injured Jockeys Fund

Many thanks to those who supported my efforts to raise money for the Injured Jockeys Fund by running the London Marathon on Sunday 13 April. In total your support raised nearly £900 for the IJF and I completed in 4hr43. My first and only attempt and I certainly need softer ground following 26.2 miles on London tarmac! Thank you for supporting me.

If you wish, you can still support this worthy cause by donating securely online at www.justgiving.com/lizzielea Any contributions will be greatly appreciated and should be made before the end of June 2008.

Lizzie Lea



CONTENTS

London Marathon	1
Race Planning	1-7
REL	7
The Jockey Club	8
BHA	9
Promotions	9-10
The Racegoers Club	10
Sponsorship	11
RaceTech	12
Communications	13
Welfare & Training	13
Technical	14-16
Safety	17-18
Badges & PASS	18-19
Administration	19
Racing Register	20
Miscellaneous	21
Social Intercourse	22
Diary Dates	23
Contributors List	23

RACE PLANNING

2009 Fixture List

As there were only a handful of contentious moves to consider, the Fixture Allocation Committee (FAC) managed to conduct all of its business by email. The recommendations of the FAC should have been communicated to Racecourses. The remaining timetable for the compilation process is as follows:

6 May	-	Start of "friendly moves" Round 2
14 May	-	Bidding process for Racecourse Fixtures
20 May	-	Deadline "friendly moves" Round 2
28 May	-	2 nd FAC meeting
9 June	-	BIDDING PROCESS for BHA fixtures
12 June	-	Enterprise Fixture Allocation
16 – 20 June	-	Final non-contentious applications accepted
23 June	-	Final FAC meeting
14 July	-	BHA Board to approve the 2009 Fixture List
24 July	-	2009 Fixture List Published

Bidding Process - Racecourse Fixtures

The BHA has organised an auction for any Racecourse that wishes to sell or lease its Racecourse Fixtures on 14 May at 2 pm. In advance of this, racecourses should have provided the following information to BHA by 3pm on 7 May:

- The date of any fixture(s) to be offered.
- Confirmation for each fixture of whether it is to be permanently sold or leased for a specified period.
- The minimum bid (or reserve price) that will be accepted for each fixture.
- The conditions associated with the sale or lease of each fixture. All potential bidders should be aware that the vendor will be solely responsible for setting these conditions and, accordingly, they are likely to vary from vendor to vendor.

Cont...

RACE PLANNING

2009 Fixture List

BHA issued details of any such fixtures to be offered by racecourses on 8 May. As with the bidding process for BHA Fixtures, fixtures will be offered in chronological order. Bidders should also be aware that each auction will open at the minimum bid, as determined by the vendor, and, if no bid is received, the website will subsequently display that the vendor has 'won the fixture'. For further information, please contact Tim Newton (0207 152 0058) or Richard Wayman (0207 152 0059).

Training

If Racecourse Managers wish to have a training session prior to the bidding process, please contact Richard Wayman at BHA (0207 152 0059).

Enterprise Fixtures

Following on from last year's successful introduction, an additional 4 Enterprise Fixture slots will be offered up for 2009. These fixtures will receive no central funding in their first year, but could be integrated into the Fixture List and become Racecourse fixtures if staged over a period of 3 years. The RCA had originally proposed that funding for Enterprise fixtures would be on the basis of 0% in year 1, 50% BDR in year 2, 75% in year 3 and full funding in year 4. However, the Levy Board has intimated that it will not provide funding for Enterprise Fixtures for 2009. The RCA will make a submission to the Levy Board in June to justify funding (prize money as well as integrity fees).

Racecourses are reminded that Enterprise Fixtures require a minimum racecourse contribution to prize money of £40,000 for Flat fixtures and £30,000 for Jump fixtures and will be subject to BHA Inspectorate approval. As races are Total Prize Fund, Racecourses should not forget to add an appropriate amount of owners' entry fees to prize money or, alternatively, not charge owners' entry fees. Racecourses are reminded that any prize money will not count towards the Merit Table until the fixture receives 100% BDR from the Levy Board. A full list of slots will be available following the friendly move phases.

Applications will be decided via a pick system with the order being determined by a racecourse's position in the combined 2008 Flat and Jump Merit Table figures. This table will be available shortly. The allocation of Enterprise Fixtures will be determined electronically on 14 June.

Self-Funded Non-Criteria Fixtures

Racecourses will be permitted to apply to the FAC to stage Self-Funded fixtures outside the Fixture Criteria. Approval will usually depend on whether the fixture is at a time of year when the horse population requires additional opportunities, but exceptions can be made. However, Racecourse Managers should note that self-funding means self-funding, i.e. no BDR, no Fixture Incentive, no Integrity Fee, and any Executive prize money contribution will not count towards the Merit Table.

Fixture Market / RCA Website

Racecourses are reminded that the RCA has a dedicated page on its website called 'Fixtures Market'. This is a Clearing House where Racecourse can advertise their wishes to swap/move, sell, lease or even buy (acquire) fixtures. The RCA website address is www.britishracecourses.org and you can find it under 'Members Area' – Fixture Market. (login details were circulated to you by Lizzie Lea earlier this year). If you wish to enquire about a fixture you can click on the racecourse, which will provide you with the contact details. There are a few requests on the site and a couple have been successful, so please go and take a look.

Laura Holmes administers the site and therefore any requests should be directed to her (laura.holmes@racecourseassociation.co.uk or fax 01344 627 233).

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

2009 Fixture Incentive Scheme

The Scheme was constructed within a funding allocation of £6.026m, unchanged from 2008.

Apart from calendar changes there are no differences between the 2009 Scheme and the existing 2008 version. One addition to the Scheme is that there will be support for the deployment of Frost Covers (£10,000 per use). The finer details will be discussed with the Levy Board Executive and will be communicated to racecourses as soon as possible.

Carla Moore

Levy Allocation

The Levy Board recently announced an increase in its 2008 Prize Money fund of approximately £6.7m effective from 1 July this year. As a result, the Board's original 2008 allocation of £49.5m will increase to approximately £56.2m (+13.5%). The revised prize money allocation for the period 1 July – 31 December 2008 equates to a calendar year provision of £62.5m, equalling the best year on record (2006).

The Levy Board has sought to plan for future years with the intention, as far as possible, of creating a stable prize money fund. Based on current forecasting, the Board would look to provide a prize money allocation for 2009 to 2011 of at least £65m per annum, assuming that sustainable future Levy Schemes are reached. The Levy Board, BHA and RCA Executive will discuss how this additional prize money will be distributed for 2008 and future years (BDRs, Development Fund, AWT winter evenings).

For information, the details of the Levy Board's prize money allocation and the Levy Yield over the last 10 years are as follows:

1st July – 31st December 2008

Levy Board will increase its current 2008 calendar year budget from £49.5m to approximately £56.2m (+£6.7m).

Levy Board Prize Money Allocation

2008	£56.2m (revised estimate)	2003	£44m
2007	£55m	2002	£40m
2006	£62.5m	2001	£35m
2005	£60m	2000	£34m
2004	£55m	1999	£32.5m

Levy Yield (including Tote)

2007/08	At least £110m	2002/03	£79.9m
2006/07	£99.2m	2001/02	£72.9m
2005/06	£97.7m	2000/01	£60.3m
2004/05	£105.6m	1999/00	£59.4m
2003/04	£110.7m		

Carla Moore

Changes to Race Conditions (from the Programme Book)

It would be helpful to let the BHA and NTF know in advance if you are intending to change races (especially Class and/or distance) that are programmed in the Programme Book. This way, the BHA can look to replace the race you were originally scheduled to run and can inform the NTF of the change.

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

Jump Pattern and Listed Races

If you wish one of your Jump races to be upgraded to Listed status or promoted within the Pattern, you should have submitted an application to the BHA Racing Department by **6 May** for consideration by the Jump Racing Sub-Committee (JRSC) at its meeting on 16 May. The BHA has written to all Racecourse Managers and Clerks of the Course to this effect and more information can be obtained from Stuart Middleton at the BHA (0207 152 0055).

Carla Moore

Veteran Chases

At the time the budget was set for the 2008 Development Fund, funding was put aside for 2 more Veterans' Steeple Chases, subject to their initial success. The races held in the first part of the year have been extremely well received and the BHA therefore plans to stage 2 or 3 more (subject to confirmation by the JRSC on 16 May) in October, November and December, 2008. The BHA welcomed applications from racecourses to stage races during this period, which should have been submitted by **no later than 6pm on Tuesday 6 May**. Races will receive £12,500 match funding from the Development Fund, to be run for a minimum of £25,000. It will probably assist your application if you can remain flexible on the detail and merely identify the fixture on which you would like to stage the race. Race conditions for the existing races currently read "for 10-y-o and upwards, rated 0-145" but this is also subject to slight alteration, following the end of season review at the JRSC meeting. For further information please contact Stuart Middleton at the BHA (0207 152 0055).

Carla Moore

Horses Taking Advantage of Lower Marks Over Alternative Obstacles

As you may have read recently in the Racing Post, the Head of Handicapping proposes the following approach with regard to the above:

- On the Sunday after the end of the season in April, Weatherbys will run a purge which will remove all ratings if a horse has not run over the obstacle this year. When trainers wish to enter one of these horses they will need to contact the relevant Handicapper who will review the whole record of the horse and revise its rating. This happens now if a horse hasn't run for 10 months. In the majority of cases the horse's rating will be dropped. If the horse has not won over the alternative obstacle since 31 October 2007 trainers can assume the rating will not be higher than its last published rating.
- From the first day of the season every time a horse runs, its rating under the alternative code will be removed. This will involve an increase in workload for the Handicappers but will enable each horse to run off a rating more in keeping with its current form. Again in most cases its rating will either remain as it was or be dropped thus making horses that have obviously lost their way immediately more competitive over that obstacle. In the past this has not occurred if the horse had a published rating.

However horses that have improved over the other obstacle MAY have their rating raised depending upon the circumstances of the individual horse.

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

Review of Hunter Chases

As previously reported in UPDATE, the BHA has conducted a review of Hunter Chases in an attempt to make the races more competitive. The following was endorsed by the BHA Racing Committee:

- Introduce further eligibility clause to Order 92 to say: “*or has been placed first, second or third in a Grade 1 or Grade 2 Steeple Chase after 30 September 2006.*” (This is the date applied to penalties in the Pattern races during the 2007/08 season)
- Create a 2-tier system designed to channel the higher rated horses into races where they have to run against each other, thus reducing the number of Open Hunters’ Chases in February by restricting 10 of the 24 existing races to horses which have not won more than 3 steeple chases (this does not include Point-to-Points).
- Reduce the number of Hunters’ Chases over distances of less than 3 miles in February to 8 and redistribute the excess races into March and April. Other than Maiden races, all Point-to-Points are run over 3 miles and upwards and the existence of too many Hunters’ Chases over distances short of this plays into the hands of the classier ex-handicappers who may not have the stamina for 3 miles.
- Review the current penalty structures to create more differential between classes of race won in order that better horses would at least be carrying more weight (see below).

Example Penalty Structure

Penalties, after 2005, a winner of a steeple chase.....4lb
Of 2 steeple chases or of a Class 1 to 3 steeple chase.....8lb

Using the 2008 season as an example, the year after which penalties are applied should be altered to 2005 for races taking place in February and March and altered to 2006 for races run from 1 April onwards. Currently all races generally apply penalties for races won after 2006 and as such many ex-handicap chasers are running in their early Hunters’ Chases unpenalised, as they often lack the recent winning form.

Changes to race conditions will be discussed with relevant racecourses and will be considered by the BHA Board on 13 May.

Carla Moore

Race Times

Race times for the third quarter of 2008 were circulated to racecourses following the meeting of the Race Times Working Party on 22 April. This document includes race times for July, August and September following the completion of Programme Book 3 and receipt of provisional television schedules for this period.

The Working Party has tried to keep first race times unchanged from the initial document (sent out in October) as far as possible; however in some circumstances these may have changed in order to fit in with television schedules or due to revised numbers of races on particular days.

As ever, days affected by terrestrial television (dates coloured **pink** in the document, which include all Saturdays) **will be subject to later change once television schedules are finalised** (usually 10 days before). If the BHA is forced to make changes, James Savage will try to ensure that first race times are not moved earlier unless it is absolutely unavoidable, and always after full consultation with the racecourses involved.

Carla Moore

RACE PLANNING

Weights In Flat Races

At the previous BHA Racing Committee meeting, the Chief Executive of the PJA made a plea to racecourses regarding the framing of weights in Flat Handicaps. Normally, the BHA frames Handicaps as follows: for a 15lb weight range minimum weight 8st 4lb and maximum 9st 4lb and for a 20lb range minimum of 8st 2lb with a maximum of 9st 7lb (depending on age allowance). However, it appears that increasingly racecourses programme their minimum weights at well over 8st 4lb. Racecourses need to be mindful that if the majority of weights were raised there could be problems in future with jockeys not being able to ride 2yos or do the lower weights in Heritage Handicaps. The PJA understands that racecourses want to attract the better jockeys for their top races, but would like to encourage the race planners to use as big a spread in the weights in Handicaps as possible and take in to account the weight range of our jockeys overall. With a larger weight spread jockeys at both ends of the scale could be accommodated, i.e. put the weights up at the top and drop them at the bottom.

Carla Moore

Re-Opened Races

The NTF has requested that the deadline for re-opening is extended until 11am and that when a race is re-opened the rating of the highest rated horse at the time, is published. Weatherbys are currently working on the computer development which will allow this to be implemented at some point in June.

Carla Moore

Apprentice and Conditional Jockeys Races

It appears that not all racecourses comply with the General Instruction relating to the number of Apprentice and Conditional Jockeys' races that should be staged. The current Instruction is that there should be an Apprentice race for every 4 days Flat racing and a Conditional Jockeys race for every 3 days Jump racing. The Department has been quite successful in adding races as the following figures show:

	2007			2008		
	Required	Actual	Deficit	Required	Actual	Deficit
Flat	186	154	32	224	231	-7
Jump	171	122	49	169	166	3

However, a number of courses continue to contravene the Instruction and the BHA will be writing to those racecourses on behalf of the Racing Committee in an attempt to rectify the situation. .

Carla Moore

Declaration Time For Reserves

At its latest meeting the BHA Racing Committee discussed the timing for raising the weights and the declarations time for Reserves. Currently, in the event of a non-runner, the weights are raised at 10.30 am and the deadline for reserves to come into the race is 11.30 am. The Committee recommended that the times should coincide and suggested a 10.30 am deadline.

Carla Moore

Jockeys Overweight in Flat Races

The BHA Racing Committee recommended that the Flat should follow Jumping's example whereby the details of a jockey carrying overweight of more than 6lb, should be declared.

Carla Moore

Race Planning

Competitive Racing Statistics

Attached for Racecourse Managers are the latest competitive racing statistics which the BHA Racing Department produces on a monthly basis. Points of note, where the increase/decrease between the two study periods are marked, are as follows:

Annual: Apr 2007 – Mar 2008 (Apr 2006 – Mar 2007)

Flat

- Classified/Banded Stakes run decreased by over 42% in the year to March 08. Claimers run increased by over 25% however.
- The field size of Sellers decreased by over 11% compared to the previous year.

Quarter: Jan 2008 - Mar 2008 (Jan 2007 – Mar 2007)

Flat

- Nearly 32% more races were run in the quarter to March 08 than to March 07.
- Field sizes overall decreased by over 16% over this period.
- The SP of the favourite for Sellers was also over 10% shorter.
- The % of races with fewer than 8 decs increased by over 20%.

Jump

- Over 12% more races were run in the quarter to March 08 than March 07.

Month: March 2008 (2007)

Flat

- Nearly 24% more races were run in March 08 than March 07.
- Field sizes of Handicaps, Sellers and Claimers all decreased markedly.

Jump

- 17% more races were run in March 08 than March 07.
- Field sizes of WFA Chases were down over 11%.

Carla Moore

RACING ENTERPRISES LIMITED

Chris McFadden Appointed Inaugural Chairman of REL

Racing Enterprises Limited (REL), set up to undertake commercial activity for the benefit of British horseracing, has appointed its first Chairman.

Chris McFadden, a successful businessman and financial analyst, will take on the role of developing REL's progress and generating new income sources for the sport.

He said: "Racing has a great tradition, but must look with a fresh perspective at the changing marketplace in which it operates. A number of other sports, such as football, golf and Formula One, have remodelled themselves to create a clear, dramatic narrative, which has led to substantially increased investment.

"One of the attractions of leading REL is the desire among racing's constituents to embrace change and to really drive a programme to seek

new sponsors and high-profile supporters, new revenue streams and achieve greater public interest."

Paul Dixon, Chairman of the Horsemen's Group and President of the Racehorse Owners Association, commented: "Chris impressed us with his enthusiasm and desire to take REL forward and he will be a great asset in developing new ideas and thinking about the sport."

David Thorpe, Chairman of the Racecourse Association, said: "Increasing racing's revenue is closely linked to better promotion of the sport and improving the way in which it is packaged and presented to the consumer. Chris will have a key role to play, working closely with racecourses and the Horsemen's Group."

*For further information contact
Alan Delmonte at REL on 020 7152 0027*

THE JOCKEY CLUB

Simon Bazalgette appointed to new post of Jockey Club Chief Executive

The Jockey Club is pleased to announce that Simon Bazalgette has been appointed Chief Executive of The Jockey Club.

Simon Bazalgette, 46, is currently Executive Chairman of Racing UK, the media rights management company and TV channel owned by 30 British racecourses, and Chairman of Racecourse Media Services, the vehicle by which 31 racecourses manage their 50% stake in Turf TV.

The Chief Executive of the Jockey Club is a new role, reporting directly to the main board of Jockey Club Stewards. The appointment reflects the intention of The Jockey Club to become more directly involved in the management of its commercial assets since the divestment of its regulation and governance responsibilities was completed in 2007.

It is expected that Simon Bazalgette will take up the role in September. Andrew Gould, who is to be appointed to the new position of Group Finance Director for The Jockey Club, will in the meantime continue as Acting Chief Executive of Jockey Club Racecourses.

Simon Bazalgette's responsibilities as Chief Executive of The Jockey Club will include chairing the Board of Jockey Club Racecourses, ensuring maximum value is obtained from the group's commercial and media rights, promoting the role of The Jockey Club in the public arena and developing relationships with key players in the racing and betting industries. The Jockey Club family is comprised of 14 racecourses, among them Cheltenham, Aintree, Newmarket and Epsom Downs, as well as 5,000 acres of land around Newmarket and Lambourn, including the National Stud. Jockey Club Racecourses is the largest shareholder in Racing UK and the largest racecourse shareholder in Turf TV.

Julian Richmond-Watson, Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, said: "Simon was the outstanding candidate for the role. He is an experienced Chairman and Chief Executive, with strong financial and strategic skills. During his time with

Racing UK he has repeatedly demonstrated his understanding of racing's own complexities as well as his extensive skills in stakeholder management. With a track record of success in a range of sectors, including racing, Simon can lead The Jockey Club forward to enable it to fulfil its commercial potential, thereby increasing its contribution to the sport."

Simon Bazalgette said: "I am delighted to have been offered this exciting opportunity. I believe that this new position will effectively be the leading commercial role in British racing. In addition to its commercial responsibilities, The Jockey Club continues to play a unifying role in racing, and I look forward to working closely with the key stakeholders to help secure the sport's health and prosperity going forward."

Andrew Gould added: "I am very pleased that Simon has been appointed Chief Executive of The Jockey Club. In the four years since the birth of Racing UK, Simon and I have worked closely together and we have established an excellent working relationship. I am looking forward to working with him in our respective new roles and to an exciting future for The Jockey Club."

Previously a Founder Director and Chief Executive of Music Choice Europe plc, Simon Bazalgette joined Racing UK at its inception in May 2004. Racing UK has now expanded to six business units, all start up operations which have successfully generated profits and value for its racecourse shareholders. Turf TV, of which Bazalgette is also Founder Director, is a sister channel successfully launched in 2007 providing coverage from 31 British racecourses to over 8,500 betting shops.

In March Simon Bazalgette announced that he would become the Non-Executive Chairman of Racing UK and the company is currently in the process of recruiting a Chief Executive.

*John Maxse, Director of Communications,
Tel: 0207 189 3895 / 07785 243 232*

BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY

Equine Events

Racecourses are reminded of the need to notify the Racecourse Department four weeks before any event which involves horses / ponies entering racecourse property other than a normal race meeting (BHAGI 3.1). The following details are required:

- Name of the promoting organisation
- Where on the racecourse property the event is to be held
- Whether or not the official racecourse stables will be used
- How long the horses/ponies will remain on the property
- What steps the Managing Executive and the promoting organization intend to take to comply with Rule 35

Owen Byrne

Jon Ryan, BHA's Director of Communications

Jon is now in place as Director of Communications. Most recently Sports Editor of the Sunday Telegraph for nine years, he was also Assistant Editor, News Editor and Sports Editor at the Mail on Sunday from 1984 to 1999. He said: "I am looking forward to helping get more people talking about racing, and going racing. I love the sport, and what it means as an important part of British sporting life. My expertise from journalism is there as a resource for people to use and I look forward to working with the racecourses to communicate and promote the sport."

Owen Byrne

Promotions

The Mail on Sunday Ticket Offer

35 racecourses are participating in this offer on 84 racedays in 2008. The offer launched over Christmas and appeared for a second time in the Daily Mail on Friday 4 April. Total ticket sales for meetings that have occurred are listed below.

Date	Racecourse	Tickets Sold	Date	Racecourse	Tickets Sold
3 February	Fontwell	86	16 March	Fontwell	80
10 February	Hereford	48	30 March	Wincanton	96
17 February	Southwell	56	6 April	Hexham	Abandoned
24 February	Fontwell	104	6 April	Market Rasen	70
2 March	Bangor	110	13 April	Kelso	16
2 March	Huntingdon	106	27 April	Brighton	200
9 March	Market Rasen	82	4 May	Hamilton Park	134
9 March	Warwick	96	4 May	Newmarket	882
16 March	Carlisle	32	4 May	Salisbury	310
TOTAL SOLD					2,508

Valerie Larue or John Phillips

The Times Month of Evening Racing

The offer was launched in The Times week commencing Monday 17 March. Although some meetings have already taken place, we are hopeful that the offer will be printed at least once more for the remaining meetings. Unfortunately The Times were not able to print a booking form along with the offer dates in the paper, which restricted customers to downloading a booking form from their website or calling us. Whilst this will affect sales, we have secured advance ticket sales for a number of courses and are hopeful that the exercise has helped promote evening racing in general.

John Phillips

PROMOTIONS

British Horseracing Call Centre

The Racecourse Association has been fulfilling the function of the BHA's call centre since April 2007, taking telephone bookings and processing all web bookings. Below are the ticket sales dealt with since the start of 2008 along with the equivalent sales from last year.

Month	2008			2007		
	Orders	Tickets	Value	Orders	Tickets	Value
January	183	718	£21,018	214	802	£23,421
February	248	1,011	£26,554	243	963	£23,050
March	277	1,029	£24,767	253	1,130	£25,468
April	212	1,047	£21,902	340	1,454	£31,795
TOTAL	920	3,805	£94,241	1,050	4,349	£103,734
	(-12.4%)	(-12.5%)	(-9.2%)			

January 2008 saw orders taken on behalf of 30 different courses (26 last January)

February 2008 saw orders taken on behalf of 32 different courses (29 last February)

March 2008 saw orders taken on behalf of 37 different courses (36 last March)

April 2008 saw orders taken on behalf of 42 different courses (44 last April)

John Phillips

THE RACEGOERS CLUB

Spring Newsletter

The Racegoers Club's spring newsletter was sent out to members on Friday 2 May. A copy is enclosed for Racecourse Managers. Whenever possible we like to convey special racecourse offers to members through the newsletter, such as the discounted Royal Ascot and Glorious Goodwood ticket offers and free evening at Kempton Park, carried on page 3 of this issue. If you would like to make a similar offer in our next issue, due to be published in late July, please contact me.

John Phillips

Social Diary

A number of courses provide the Club with access to private facilities. As a rule these are days on which the facility is likely to be empty and through a special offer we can increase the attendance on that day. A copy of the programme was sent to members along with the spring newsletter, and is enclosed for Racecourse Managers. A second issue will be sent to members with the next mailing (summer) in order to maximise bookings.

Paul Smith

Owners Groups

Owners Group 27 has seen Maia, trained by Dandy Nicholls, finish third of 20 on her seasonal debut at Redcar prior to being badly hampered and left with no chance at all at Thirsk. She is entered to run next on Saturday 10 May at Thirsk or Monday 12 May at Redcar.

Paul Smith

SPONSORSHIP

Pertemps People Development Jumps Training Series

The final of the inaugural series, sponsored by Pertemps People Development Group, took place at Ascot on 11 April. Although he didn't have a ride in the final race, the series was won by Michael McAvoy who is based with Micky Hammond in Middleham. Michael will be sponsored by Pertemps People Development Group for the next 12 months and has received branded riding clothing and equipment and a cheque for £500.

Many thanks to all the racecourses that hosted races in this series, we only lost one race originally scheduled at Folkestone in January it was abandoned and rescheduled for Lingfield Park early March, only to become a victim of the weather again.

A "wash-up" meeting about this series and the Racing Post Hands and Heels Jumps Series is taking place at the British Racing School in Newmarket on 27 May. This will be attended by the Jockey Coaches and representatives from the BHA, PJA, NTF, AJA – and myself as co-ordinator of the series, representing the RCA. Should racecourses have any feedback about either series please would you let me know and I will raise any points at the meeting.

Mary Ann Sandercock

News From The Horseracing Sponsors Association

Flat Sponsorship Showcase Event, 27 June, Newmarket

We have had a good response to the event since mentioning it in the April Update – this is a reminder to any racecourse representatives wishing to come along to get in touch if they would like an attendance reservation form and event programme forwarded to them.

We are delighted to announce that Sport Business Magazine has been appointed media partner for this event. Sport Business Magazine is a global magazine and this is the first time that it has partnered a horseracing event. It is hoped that the business of horseracing will become a regular feature of the magazine, bringing the sport to a wider audience of sports business professionals and investors across the world.

Speakers include, Mark Jordan – Brand Manager, Woodford Reserve, speaking about their involvement with the Kentucky Derby and indeed their new partnership with the Epsom Derby; Colin Birchall, Chief Executive and Steve King, Managing Director, Pertemps People Development Group, talking about their sponsorship of the Pertemps People Development Hands and Heels Series and Gordon Brock – Brand Manager, Natwest; talking about their partnership with the Natwest Rowley Mile Racecourse at Newmarket.

The champagne and wine for the evening's event are kindly being sponsored by Allertons and the buffet dinner is kindly being sponsored by Letheby and Christopher – in addition to this Woodford Reserve will kindly be serving their Kentucky Derby renowned Mint Julep cocktails.

Mary Ann Sandercock

RACETECH

RaceTech Announcements and Agreements

Sky Business – licensing update: Sky Business has asked RaceTech to assist racecourses to become correctly licensed to show ATR and other Sky channels through racecourse CCTV. Currently, over half of racecourses do not have the correct arrangements, equipment, licensing or paperwork, so there is work to do to rectify this situation. Sky Business has proposed that RaceTech work with racecourses to a) audit what equipment you already do have on site and whether it is appropriate and relevant to your needs and b) understand what you want to show on your CCTV, what Sky channels and packages will fit your requirements and then handle the installation and commissioning of equipment/receivers etc. The subscription element will be handled by Sky Business directly, based on the recommendations and information agreed between you and RaceTech. This way, racecourses have the opportunity to comply with licensing requirements, whilst also reviewing exactly what you need and want from the service and RaceTech is qualified and able to handle the technology element for you.

Therefore, we will be writing to all racecourses that currently do not have a commercial Sky license to offer them a free audit – we will analyse what you have, what you want and which channels you wish to show on your CCTV – on race days and non race days, and then design the most cost effective solution to meet those needs. Sky Business has asked us to work with racecourses prior to their compliance team becoming involved, which will involve any site without the correct licenses being fined, so we hope that you will take up our offer of assistance. Domestic Sky licenses, receivers and cards may not be used to feed into racecourse CCTV, although this practise is common, so please be aware of this.

Web site is up and running: RaceTech AV has a new web site! Please take a look at www.racetech.tv and read about some of the services and skills that we offer to racecourses and beyond. You can also reach the microsite by clicking on the AV Services button on our main site Home page. Do not forget that if you are planning to upgrade or improve your AV or PA, whether for conferencing or race day activities, RaceTech is at the forefront of this technology, providing leading edge, future proof solutions for a variety of customers – and no-one knows more about the unique requirements of a racecourse than we do.

Access Control in a box: RaceTech has been commissioned to provide two 20' containers that are fully equipped with intelligent turnstiles for Royal Ascot. The containers are totally self contained and hold 6 turnstiles each. They will be connected to power and the ticketing network at Ascot a few days before the event and the containers open out for visitors to walk through with their bar coded tickets in exactly the same way as the permanent turnstiles already installed at Ascot. Racecourses that are considering access control and ticketing solutions should have a look at the containers that will be sited near the Silver Ring at Ascot, or we can arrange for you to visit prior to the event. RaceTech is handling all logistics for this project and we hope that other racecourses may see the enormous benefits of a “pay as you go” solution to deliver intelligent turnstiles as and when you need them.

RaceTech IT: RaceTech has been providing technical services on racecourses for many years and increasingly, we are seeing technology become PC based. This means that broadcast, voice and data traffic is being transported over the computer network, for ease of use. It is cost effective to control and maintain the infrastructure and to take advantage of the growth in web based/internet applications. The majority of racecourses do not have IT expertise in house and RaceTech is now investing substantially in IT and IP expertise to offer to racecourses an “IT department in a box” solution – on a pay as you go basis, we will manage your IT infrastructure for you – from office PCs, to disaster recovery, data backup, and any applications that you run over your network, both now and in the future (now might be ticketing and hospitality software, tomorrow might be all voice calls being made over the internet which would substantially reduce costs). RaceTech’s mission is to use technology in the most cost effective way possible – and take full responsibility for that technology – just as we do for your broadcast services. So if IT is starting to cause you headaches and/or cost you money, please call us before you reach for the Yellow Pages to try and deal with someone who has no knowledge of your business or the dynamics of racecourses.

Catherine Pullan

COMMUNICATIONS

Racing Promotion Group

The Racing Promotion Group (RPG) chaired by David Thorpe has held several successful meetings this year.

The Group's members include:

David Thorpe	RCA	Simon Clare	Corals
Nic Coward	British Horseracing Authority	Harry Herbert	Highclere
Julie Harrington	Northern Racing	Alan Lee	The Times
Edward Gillespie	Jockey Club Racecourses	Paul Mathieu	Racegoers Club
James Oldring	British Horseracing Authority	Jim McGrath	Timeform/Channel 4
Mary-Ann Sandercock	Horseracing Sponsors Association	Brad Higgins	RaceTech

The RPG's objectives:

- To promote race going as a leisure activity to the general public
- To ensure fixture information is readily available to the public via all media streams
- To ensure that racing is attractive and understandable to both novice and regular racegoers
- To encourage occasional racegoers to attend more often

To meet these objectives, three work streams have been devised; short term improvements, focussed summer production campaign and longer term branding and narrative proposals.

Further details of the Group's progress will follow. The Group continues to work closely with all industry sectors to ensure continued promotion for Racing.

WELFARE & TRAINING

RMO Training Courses 2009

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

In order to comply with the requirements of BHAGI 11.1 para 1, RMOs must undertake training every three years (or 4 for ATLS). Courses are scheduled to be held on 28 February—1 March 2009, 9—10 May 2009 and 19—20 September 2009 at Chorley and 4-5 July 2009 at Newmarket. To book a place, please contact Dr Bob Bennett on 07979 506548.

Basics Education Courses for 2008

Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	13-15 June	Beauchief Hotel, Sheffield
Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course	7-9 July	BMA House, London

For further details please contact Tracy at BASICS HQ directly on 01473 218 407 or by email educ@basics.org.uk

Racecourse Groundsmen Courses

Intermediate Course: British Racing School, Newmarket 16-21 November 2008

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

TECHNICAL

RCA Racecourse Groundstaff Seminar 2008

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

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

Holly Roberts

BHA Racecourse Committee Meeting

The BHA Racecourse Committee met on 26 March 2008. Caroline Davies, Bob Davies and Kirkland Tellwright attended on behalf of the RCA. Below is an outline of the key points discussed:

TurfTrax Going Sticks: The Committee reviewed a report produced following the first 11 months of the year long trial. An extension of the trial was discussed as was support for the stick across the various user groups. It was agreed that the BHA would investigate the practicalities of extending the trial, and that further information would be provided to racecourses as available. In addition the RCA would contact the racecourses to obtain their feedback on the trial. A representative of TurfTrax later attended the meeting to discuss the trial in greater detail.

Box For Every Runner: The Committee reviewed the statistics for horses eliminated due the Field Size Limit based on available stabling, and agreed that the 2007 figures were influenced by the Summer Floods which had caused a number of abandoned meetings. It was agreed that the policy was supported and should continue.

Stable Hygiene: Concerns were raised regarding stable hygiene, and it was reported that inspections by BHA Veterinary Officers had increased, with any specific problems to be reported to the BHA. In addition BHAGI

7.2 would be reviewed to include the removal of feed from stables between occupancies.

Obstacle Design: The Committee was informed that a trial of obstacles was taking place on the gallops at Lambourn. It was agreed that further research should take place into water jumps.

Synthetic Take-Offs & Landings: The Committee was made aware that Professor Alan Wilson was continuing research into synthetic take-offs and landings.

Stalls Handlers: It was reported that the Regulatory Committee supported a minimum of 11 handlers, but the matter was further discussed by the BHA Board. The BHA will confirm the timescale and way forward as soon as they are confirmed.

Equine Vet Data: Each racecourse has been provided with their individual raw data for 2002-2006. The validation of the statistics is under discussion.

TAWS: It was reported that the TAWS system has been re-launched to trainers, and that a pilot scheme is underway before extension to a wider circle of trainers.

BHA Officials Procedure 2.4: The BHA requested further details of the concerns of the RCA and racecourses regarding BHA OP. This is being further progressed with the BHA.

Caroline Davies

TECHNICAL

New Official Distances

Racecourses will be aware that 6 New Official Distances were introduced from 25 February 2008. These are Nose, 2 ¼ lengths, 2 ¾ lengths, 3 ¼ lengths, 3 ¾ lengths and 4 ½ lengths.

In line with this, a trial of an alteration to the way in which distances are calculated is also taking place. All distances are calculated based on the Going as follows:

National Hunt

4 lengths per second when the going is good to soft or softer

5 lengths per second when the going is good or firmer

Flat

5 lengths per second for AW Fibresand and for turf when the going is soft or heavy

6 lengths per second for AW Polytrack and for turf when the going is good to soft or firmer

It is therefore essential that the judge is aware of the Going before the first race and of any changes throughout the day so that the appropriate alterations to calculations can be made. Judges have been advised that they should request this information, but Clerks of the Course are requested to inform them wherever possible.

Holly Robarts

Stop Race Procedures

Stop Race Procedures were introduced for ALL Racecourses on 27 April 2008. The procedure is as follows:

- A Yellow Flag (similar to that currently used by the AFO) will become a stop race flag, with flags to be deployed upon instruction from the Clerk of the Course by designated persons appointed by the racecourse as they deem necessary.
- The flag will be accompanied by an FA standard whistle to get the attention of the jockeys.
- Racecourses should agree implementation of the procedure in line with their own risk assessments and following discussions with their BHA course inspector.

In addition, there is an alteration to the Hazard Ahead procedure. The Black and White chequered flag will continue to be used as a Hazard Ahead flag, but must now be accompanied by a Fox 40 whistle in order to get the attention of the jockeys.

The Flat jockeys have been informed of the procedure at their seminars and that Jump jockeys will be informed via the PJA newslet-

ter and by email. This procedure is also being raised by Stipendiary Stewards at their ongoing courses for Conditionals and Amateurs at the British Racing School.

In addition, each racecourse will have put up posters in the weighing/changing rooms showing the Hazard Ahead and Stop Race Procedures Flag and explaining their meaning and when they will be deployed. If you do not have a copy of this poster, please let me know and I can arrange for it to be E-mailed to you. Laminated copies are also available on request.

The Course Inspectors have agreed to informally remind jockeys of the stop race procedure, but all Clerks of the Course are asked to confirm with jockeys on a raceday that they are aware of the procedure and of the action to be taken in the event that a yellow stop race flag is deployed. They should also be reminded that a whistle will be used with both the stop race and hazard ahead flag in order to gain their attention, but that the whistle **IS NOT** a signal to stop

Caroline Davies or Holly Robarts

TECHNICAL

Horses Away

Racecourses are asked to be aware that the BHA has confirmed that in the event that a trainer feels their horse may be a danger to people in the Winners Enclosure they should be able to remove the horse from the enclosure without waiting for the Weighed-In announcement.

As this is a safety issue, racecourses are asked to ensure that their staff are aware of this and do not prevent a trainer from removing their horse from the Winners Enclosure early if they have concerns about the behaviour of a horse.

Caroline Davies or Holly Roberts

Weather Report

Below is a summary of the March 2008 Weather Report (for England and Wales) from the Environment Agency.

March was a very wet month with above average rainfall across all our regions. It was the wettest March since 2001 in three of our regions and since the 1980s in a further two regions. Soil moisture deficits remained low with very little change during the month. Monthly mean flows increased at more than three quarters of the indicator sites. Flows were *above normal* or higher at more than one third of sites, and generally *normal* elsewhere. Groundwater levels increased at the majority of updated indicator sites. At the end of the month, all but three sites were *normal* or higher for the time of year. At the end of March, regional reservoir storage was 94% or higher in all our regions. Overall storage for England and Wales increased by 2% to 97%. All but one of the reservoirs or reservoir groups were *normal* or higher for the time of year.

Rainfall: March was a wet month; all of our regions received 125% or more of the long term average (LTA) rainfall. Our Anglian, Southern and Thames Regions each received 150% or more. It was the wettest March since 1981 in our Anglian Region and since 1988 in our Midlands Region. Our South West, Southern and Thames Regions recorded the wettest March since 2001.

Soil Moisture Deficit: Soil moisture deficits (SMD) were already low at the end of February. Changes during March were less than

2mm. At the end of March, SMD was approximately 5mm or less in all our regions; approximately 5mm to 10mm lower than at the same time last year.

River Flows: Monthly mean flows increased at more than three quarters of the indicator sites in March, in response to above average rainfall and low SMDs. More than one half of flow sites increased by one or two descriptive classes. Overall, more than one third of sites were *above normal*, and the remainder were *normal* or *notably high*. Mean monthly flows at all the regional index sites were higher than those recorded in 1976.

Groundwater Levels: Groundwater levels increased at just over half of the updated indicator sites during the month. However, levels at the remaining sites, predominantly in the chalk aquifers of south east and north east England continued to decrease. At the end of March, two sites were *below normal*, and Woodleys No. 1 in our South West Region was *notably low* for the time of year. All other sites were *normal* or higher.

Reservoir Storage: Reservoir storage increased in all but one of our regions during the month. Storage was 90% or more at all but one of the reservoirs and reservoir groups, and 95% or more at over three quarters. At the end of March, Pennines Reservoir Group in our North West Region was *below normal* (due to reservoir repairs), but all other reservoirs or reservoir groups were *normal* or higher for the time of year. Overall storage for England and Wales increased by 2% to 97%.

SAFETY

Major Incident Workshop

The RCA will be holding two one day major incident workshops, one in the North and one in the South later this year.

York Racecourse
Windsor Racecourse

Monday 17 November 2008
Wednesday 19 November 2008

The programme is aimed at Senior Racecourse Management including Racecourse Managers, Safety Officers and Senior Racecourse Medical Officers who would be involved in command operations should a major incident occur at their racecourse. These workshops have arisen from the Medical Review's recommendations and are supported by the RCA Safety Group. The objectives of the workshop are:

- To advise racecourses of their responsibilities in the event of a major incident
- To advise racecourses on the management process both on-course and within the local/national environment should a major incident occur at their course
- To provide information to racecourses to assist them to prepare contingency plans for possible crises
- Highlight "what" a major incident could arise from e.g. food poisoning, high profile meeting abandonment

Further details of cost and programme will be sent to all racecourses, with the booking forms in September.

Caroline Davies or Lizzie Lea

RaceTech Risk Assessments

At its previous meeting, the RCA Safety Group requested that the RCA contact RaceTech in order to obtain copies of their risk assessments for all roles carried out on-course. Further to discussions with RaceTech, any racecourses requiring copies of these risk assessments are asked to contact Andy Peverell at RaceTech to request them. Andy can be contacted on 0208 947 3333 or apeverell@racetech.co.uk

Holly Robarts

Events Industry Discuss Safety of Large TV screen Structures

The Standing Committee on Structural Safety (SCOSS) and the Advisory Group on Temporary Structures (AGOTS) recently held an Events Industry Workshop to discuss concerns relating to the increasing use of large television screen structures at public events.

The aim of the workshop was to identify ways of ensuring adequate attention was paid to the competency of those involved, the design process and the use and management on site of these potentially complex structures. The workshop was attended by screen suppliers, promoters, event organisers, designers and the Health and Safety Executive. SCOSS has produced a report on the procurement, design and use of these structures which highlights a number of serious concerns.

John Carpenter, Secretary of SCOSS, said: 'Everyone recognises the need for these structures to be procured and used in a manner which

reflects their safety critical nature. The SCOSS report has identified some weaknesses in the process and it is essential that the events industry, and those who engage them, work to remove these deficiencies.'

John continued: 'Enforcement by Local Authorities and the use of the Institution of Structural Engineers' guidance document *Temporary Demountable Structures* (3rd Edition) is essential to the safety of these structures. This workshop was a successful first step in developing a strategy for moving this issue forward. Key actions included screen suppliers asking for improved data, and all Local Authority CEOs being reminded of their obligations'.

For more information please contact John Carpenter, Secretary of SCOSS, on 07813 853 405 or scoss@istructe.org or visit www.scoss.org.uk.

Safety

Crowd Behaviour - Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds and JCGI 8.3

Managing Executives are familiar with the requirements of the 'Green Guide' and BHAGI 1.2. Nevertheless, there are certain points which are worth reinforcement, especially at this time of the year:

- a safety officer should be appointed who should have the authority to make safety related decisions without having to refer to senior management or directors, however he should have the right of direct access to these people;
- a senior person, other than the Clerk of the Course, should have responsibility for security and this person must be named on the Racecourse Licence Application Form;
- signs regarding conditions of entry and no drinking areas should be prominent and policed (no drinking signs are available from the RCA);
- the bringing of alcoholic drink into enclosures is prohibited. This must be publicised and policed;
- strict security control must be imposed on coaches arriving at your racecourses and the RCA coach pass procedure must be completed;
- caterers must be fully briefed of the racecourses responsibility and they should be willing and able to close bars when necessary;
- promotions which include the provision of free alcohol should not be arranged.

We have no doubt that Racecourse Executives are very conscious of the need to prevent crowd trouble. **We must ensure that crowd control measures are enforced.**

Caroline Davies

BADGES & PASS

PASS Report Package for Racecourses

The following reports are now available from PASS Central Operations on request:

People by category: Report showing which categories (owner/trainer/jockey etc) have attended your racecourse and how many badges they have taken. The report will differentiate between a person whom may fall into more than one people category i.e. a trainer could also be an owner etc.

Season Attendance: Report showing how many times an individual person has attended your racecourse within a date range, identifying the number of badges they have taken.

Attendance by County: Report showing the number of owners visiting a particular meeting from a specific county or various counties.

Declaration and Attendance: Report on owner/trainer declarations/attendance at your racecourse per year. The report will identify the number of declarations by owner/trainer at your racecourse within a date range and how many of these were attended.

Attendance at Neighbouring Courses: Report on people attending a specified range of racecourses within a radius of your racecourse.

Company Ownership: Report identifying com-

pany ownerships who have attended your racecourse. Could be used to target hospitality packages.

Please note that the reports will only detail relevant information e.g. cardholder name, card number, card category, number of badges, dates, times etc. Unfortunately, there are limitations to providing information such as addresses due to Data Protection laws.

To request any of the above reports please contact the PASS Helpdesk on 01933 270333 or pass@weatherbys.co.uk

Information in these reports will be provided free of charge as part of your current PASS agreement. However, a charge will be applicable should you wish to contact the cardholders listed within the reports by mailshot. Mailshots can be conducted via the PASS Helpdesk – details of charges will be provided on request.

Should you require information that is not currently covered in the available reports, please enquire to the PASS Helpdesk as additional details may be provided on request.

Holly Roberts

BADGES & PASS

PASS Workshop

A PASS Workshop will be held at Weatherbys on 30 May 2008. The Workshop will provide general information for PASS Operators on use of the system, and will also discuss the alterations to the way in which the PASS data can be downloaded on racedays. There will be no charge to racecourses for the Workshop.

Further details will be sent to all racecourses shortly, but should you require further information in the meantime, please contact the PASS Helpdesk on 01933 270333

Holly Roberts

Horsebox Drivers Identity Cards

The Identity Cards issued to Horsebox Drivers in 2007 expired on 29 February 2008. It has come to the attention of the RCA that only a very small number of drivers have applied to renew their cards for 2008.

It has therefore been agreed that Weatherbys will contact all those who have failed to renew their cards and remind them of the need to do so. Racecourses are asked to continue to recognise the 2007 cards until **1 June 2008** to allow time for Weatherbys to contact horsebox drivers and process the renewal applications. Following this date racecourses should no longer recognise the 2007 cards.

Holly Roberts

PASS Cards

Racecourses are asked to remind all metal badge holders that their badge should be accompanied by a PASS Card. Those who do not have a PASS Card should contact the RCA or the PASS Helpdesk in order to get a PASS Card application form.

Holly Roberts

RCA and Press Badge Lists

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

Holly Roberts

2008 Badges and Badge Posters

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

Holly Roberts

Missing Badges

RCA: 161, 679, 830, 847, 848, 861, 899, 990, 1026, 1067, 1075, 1136, 1248
 Press: 60, 149, 394
 Officials: 106, 148
 PJA: 22, 64, 79, 93, 155, 302, 318, 1783
 NTF: 5, 6, 34, 120, 121, 172, 173, 202, 203, 453, 454, 477, 478, 638, 639, 672, 705, 706, 782, 783, 854, 856, 857, 905, 906, 953, 1342

ADMINISTRATION

Terrorists!

The RCA's brokers SBJ Sports have advised that they have access to a facility of up to £30m to insure for terrorism liability, which can be placed even if it is not included in a racecourse's primary insurance.

John Hembury, who can be contacted on 0845 872 5060, would be pleased to discuss your requirements. All you would need to have to hand is your attendance figures.

Lance Havell

RACING REGISTER

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

The following are highlights for June and July 2008. For further details regarding specific dates please e-mail: events@racingregister.co.uk or contact Lynn Payne at Sportsguide Limited on 01344 774322.

June

6	Friday	Derby Festival – Juddmonte Oaks – Epsom Downs
7	Saturday	Vodafone Derby – Epsom Downs
10	Tuesday	Royal Ascot & Global Sprint Challenge Launch - Newmarket including Dinner at the Jockey Club Rooms
11	Wednesday	Royal Ascot and Global Sprint Challenge - Newmarket including Gallops visits, breakfast and Press Conference
17	Tuesday - 21 Saturday	Royal Ascot
25	Wednesday	ROA AGM Hyatt Regency, London

July

7	Monday	Dubai International Arabian Race Day, Media Conference - Carlton Tower, London
20	Sunday	Dubai International Arabian Race Day – Newbury Racecourse
29	Tuesday – 2 August	Glorious Goodwood
30	Wednesday	Goodwood Media Dinner – Goodwood House

MISCELLANEOUS**COMMERCIAL MANAGER**

Salary £30k-£35k + Benefits

Musselburgh Racecourse, which is located 6 miles East of Edinburgh City Centre, is a progressive, independently operated racecourse, and one of Edinburgh's leading hospitality and entertainment venues. An exciting opportunity has arisen for someone to join the team and play a significant role in the Racecourse's future development.

ROLE

Reporting to the General Manager the Commercial Manager will be responsible for managing the commercial activities of the racecourse. Responsibilities will include:

- Leading the racecourse office team to drive business revenues to meet challenging budget targets
- Managing and implementing the racecourse marketing plan to increase attendances and raceday revenues
- Working with the Corporate Sales Team to maintain and develop customer relationships resulting in growth in hospitality and sponsorship sales revenues
- Operational responsibilities to ensure Visit Scotland 5-star visitor accreditation

CANDIDATES

Potential candidates will be exceptional individuals who will share our passion for the continued improvement of Musselburgh Racecourse. To be successful at the first stage, candidates will have a proven commercial track record, preferably but not essentially, from within the Horseracing Industry.

To apply please send your CV with covering letter to:
Bill Farnsworth – General Manager
bfarnsworth@eastlothian.gov.uk

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Spotlight On

Jim Allen
Head of Racing Development
for Northern Racing Limited



Age	35
Marital Status/ Children/Pets	Married to the long suffering Zana - we met at Uni. No kids yet. 16 Dales Ponies, 2 Thoroughbreds & 1 dog (Alf - Mongrel)
Previous Career(s)	General Manager of Sedgefield Racecourse (6 years) and Huntingdon Racecourse (3.5 years). Stints at the British Racing School, Darley, the Tote, various Racehorse Trainers, how far do you want me to go back - I started on doing Penny for the Guy and a few paper rounds in Croydon!
Best Bits About Your Job	I work in the sport that is my hobby and passion as well.
Worst Bit About Your Job	Without doubt, when a horse or jockey is seriously injured.
Best Racing Experience(s)	Training Point to Pointers and seeing them make the track back in the 1990s when I had time. The feeling on raceday morning is unbelievable. I hope to get a Permit next year to train my own 2 Thoroughbreds under rules - but 2 is enough! You are always just one step away from disaster and it does take its toll mentally.
Racing Hero	The Lester Piggott/Vincent O'Brien & the Norton's Coin/Sirrell Griffiths achievements. Both great stories which do a lot to help the sport promote itself.
Most Fanciable Racing Personality	My 3 year old unraced Filly by Dr Fong!
Hobbies	Horseracing & Crystal Palace FC.
Favourite Film & TV	Horsey—Phar Lap/Seabiscuit/Champions etc. Non Horsey—Braveheart, Gladiator, Moulin Rouge, A Good Year & Million Dollar Baby.
Favourite Holiday Destination	I don't really have time to go on holiday, but I would like to explore France one day! I also love Ireland.
Current Wheels	Peugeot 407 - Very economical & a Nissan Pick Up truck - my ideal car!
One Wish To Improve The Industry	My apologies to all my bookmaker friends but a Tote Monopoly would be the best thing! Alternatively, the sport should be striving to achieve a National Horseracing Lottery - involving a race every Saturday at the same track - the tickets should be sold through the normal Camelot machines so all of the money raised can go back into horseracing. How many you would have to name in the correct order would be up to the accountants!

DIARY DATES

19 May	Industry Committee
21 May	REL Board
28 May	RaceTech Board
29 May	Jump Race Development Group
30 May	RCA Legal Group
3 June	RCA Gambling Advisory Group
3 June	BHA Racing Committee

ATTACHMENTS

Competitive Racing Statistics
 Racegoers Club Spring Newsletter
 Racegoers Club Social Diary

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www.britishracecourses.org