

INFORMATION FOR OWNERS AND RIDERS

ALL RIDERS AND NOMINATED OWNERS WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY REGULATIONS FOR POINT-TO-POINT STEEPLECHASES. ADDITIONAL COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT, WEATHERBYS, SANDERS ROAD, WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS, NN8 4BX, PRICED £8.00 (CHEQUES PAYABLE TO THE BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY).

RIDERS

1. RIDERS INSURANCE.

Compulsory Insurance for riders continues for the 2007/2008 season from weigh-out to weigh-in and will include cover for Death, Permanent Disablement, Temporary Total Disablement and £5,000,000 Third Party Liability. The premium will be £161.58 per RQC with the exception of those persons who have one ride only in the Hunt Members or Members Race Across Natural Country where the premium is £47.60. Further details are issued to each rider with their RQC. Those riders who participate in the Hunt Members or Members Race Across Natural Country only must surrender the RQC when declarations are made. Riders must apply to the Point-to-Point Department of the British Horseracing Authority for their RQC upon the application form issued by their Hunt Secretary. In addition riders will have to complete a declaration of health which will be supplied by the Hunt Secretary with the application form. Both documents should be sent to the Point-to-Point Department of the British Horseracing Authority at least **THREE WEEKS** before the RQC is required. Furthermore all first time applicants will be required to undergo a routine medical examination carried out by their G.P. as part of the application process. The G.P. will complete a four page medical form. The same examination process will apply to any rider aged 25 on the 1st December 2007 or who reaches 25 before 30th June 2008. This will also apply to the following age categories: 30, 35, 40 and 45. All riders over 45 will require an **annual** four page medical with their G.P. All riders over 60 are required to have an exercise stress test as well as the routine medical.

N.B. AN RQC WILL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL THE APPLICANT'S CHEQUE HAS CLEARED AND HE HAS BEEN DECLARED FIT BY THE BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY CHIEF MEDICAL ADVISER. CASH OR POSTAL ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

2. FALLS.

The attention of all riders is drawn to General Condition 6(iv). All riders who have a fall must report to the Doctor immediately. Unless there are exceptional circumstances failure to report to the Doctor will result in a £70 fine.

3. MEDICAL RECORD BOOKS.

Amateur jockeys riding under Rules, and who already possess a Medical Record Book, will be issued with an RQC only. All riders must take their **RQC AND their MRB** to each Point-to-Point meeting. You can only hold **one** MRB which must have been issued by the British Horseracing Authority, Jockey Club or the HRA. The detail of injuries **will** be recorded in the MRB, and a Point-to-Point Doctor may declare you unfit to ride without specifying a period. *A rider who has been declared unfit to ride by a Point-to-Point Doctor may not ride in a race until he is passed fit to ride by The British Horseracing Authority Chief Medical Adviser, a Racecourse Medical Officer or Point-to-Point Doctor. Where a period of time is specified in the declaration a rider may only be passed fit to ride after this time has elapsed. Furthermore, where the injury was a fracture or dislocation the rider must also provide supporting documentary medical evidence to the Chief Medical Adviser, Racecourse Medical Officer or Point-to-Point Doctor that it has subsequently healed, before he can be passed fit. **Where a rider at a Point-to-Point has suffered concussion, s/he can only be passed fit to ride again by the British Horseracing Authority Chief Medical Adviser.** A rider who has been declared unfit to ride by a Racecourse Medical Officer must be passed as fit to ride by a) a Racecourse Medical Officer or; b) a Point-to-Point Doctor, providing the latest injury in the MRB was not a fracture, dislocation or concussion; c) the British Horseracing Authority Chief Medical Adviser. Where a period of time is specified in the declaration a rider may only be passed fit to ride after this time has elapsed. **A rider who has suffered a concussion at a Point-to-Point meeting can only be passed fit to ride again by the British Horseracing Authority Chief Medical Adviser. All riders who suffer concussion are subject to the British Horseracing Authority Concussion Protocol for Amateur and Point-to-Point Riders as currently in place.***

4. USE OF SPECTACLES AND CONTACT LENSES.

In the interests of safety, no person shall ride in Point-to-Point races wearing spectacles or lensed goggles. In the case of people who wish to ride wearing contact lenses, the lenses must be of the soft type.

5. WHIPS.

Riders are advised that only whips of the following specifications may be used in Point-to-Points:-

(a) A maximum length, including the flap, of 68cm.

(b) A minimum diameter of 1cm.

The only additional feature which may be attached to the whip is a flap. If a flap is attached it must fall within the specifications below:-

(c) A maximum length of flat from end of shaft of 10cm.

(d) A maximum width of flap of 4cm, with a minimum width of 2cm.

(e) The flap from the end of the shaft must not contain any reinforcements or additions.

(f) There shall be no binding within 23cm of the end of the flap.

- (g) The contact area of the shaft must be smooth, with no protrusion or raised surface, and covered by shock absorbing material throughout its circumference such that it gives a compression factor of a least 6mm;
- (h) The flap must have similar shock absorbing characteristics to that of the contact area;
- (i) The overall weight must not exceed 160 gms.

Random checks will be carried out during the Season. Guidelines on the use of the whip are detailed in the Regulations under Appendix E.

6. BODY PROTECTORS.

All riders are advised under Regulation 115(iv) that no rider in a Point-to-Point Steeplechase shall be weighed out for or ride in the race unless he is wearing a body protector which conforms to a standard approved by the British Horseracing Authority. For details of approved patterns please contact the British Horseracing Authority Chief Medical Adviser on: 0207 189 3838.

N.B. NO RIDER SHALL BE WEIGHED OUT FOR, OR RIDE IN ANY POINT-TO-POINTS STEEPLECHASE UNLESS HE/SHE IS WEARING A BODY PROTECTOR WHICH CONFORMS TO EN 13158: 2000 OR BS EN 13158: 2000. RIDERS IN POINT-TO-POINTS WILL RECEIVE A 2LB WEIGHT ALLOWANCE FOR THE BODY PROTECTOR.

7. SKULL CAPS.

Regulation 115(ii)

Only skull caps that satisfy all the requirements laid down below are approved by the British Horseracing Authority for use by a Rider on a racecourse or for riding in races.

A. Criteria

1. All skull caps shall:-
 - meet (BS) EN 1384: 1997, or EN 1384: 1996, or PAS 015: 1994 standard;
 - have a CE marking;
 - be in a serviceable condition;
 2. Skull caps shall NOT have a chin cup, cradle or draw lace.
 3. The chin strap must pass under the jaw and be attached to the harness by a quick release buckle. Metal hooks are expressly forbidden.
- B. The Skull cap must be of the correct size for the individual Rider, the harness must be correctly adjusted and the chin strap fastened at all times when mounted on a horse.
- C. As skull caps are designed for "single impact only" any skull cap which has been subjected to a severe impact or has been worn by a rider suffering concussion should not be regarded as serviceable and should be replaced.

Skull caps will be subject to random inspection by Point-to-Point Doctors or British Horseracing Authority Officials. For further information you should contact the British Horseracing Authority Chief Medical Adviser on: 0207 189 3838

OWNERS

8. PASSPORTS.

Owners are advised of the procedures for checking horses' passports. Random checks will be carried out by the British Horseracing Authority Veterinary Officers. Owners must ensure that their horses' passports are available for inspection at any Point-to-Point meeting. For those horses for which passports have not been issued which are running solely in the Hunt Members Race, owners must be able to produce a certificate signed by the Veterinary Surgeon confirming the identity of the horse and that the horse is currently vaccinated against Equine Influenza. Owners are therefore strongly advised to check with their own Veterinary Surgeon that their horses are correctly vaccinated in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 36 (see General Condition No 14).

9. VACCINATIONS FOR HORSES.

Owners should be aware of Regulation 36(ii) concerning vaccinations for horses. Horses must have had two injections for primary vaccination given between 21 and 92 days apart, and where sufficient time has elapsed a first booster given not less than 150 days and not more than 215 days after the second component of the primary injection plus annual boosters thereafter.

Where any horse's vaccination programme has not been in accordance with the Regulations a new course of primary vaccinations must be given before the horse can race.

10. ADVERTISING.

No paddock sheet or rug used in the Parade Ring on any course may bear the name or initials of the owner larger than 4 inches high. No other form of advertisement will be permitted either on the horse, its rider, its clothing or its attendants, except that after the race, paddock sheets and rugs may bear other forms of advertisement.

11. WEIGHTS AND ALLOWANCES.

Owners are reminded that in all races (with the exception of those run in December 2007 - see N.B. at end of 11) the following allowances shall apply:

- 4 years old fillies 28lbs;
- 4 years old colts & geldings 21lb;
- 5 year old mares 14lb;

5 year old horses and geldings 7lb;
6 year old and upwards mares 7lb.

N.B. Four Year Old horses cannot run in any race other than 2m 4f Maiden Races for 4,5,6 and 7 year olds UNTIL they have won such a race.

Unless otherwise stated, weights shall be as follows:

Ladies Open Races	11st or over
All other Races	12st with penalties where applicable OR 12st 5lb

Owners must ensure that when making entries and declarations they include all allowances or penalties, wherever applicable. In mares only race the weights to be carried by mares aged six years old and upwards may be set at any weight between 11st 7lb and 12st 5lbs. The 7lbs allowance for five year old mares shall still apply at all times.

N.B. Notwithstanding all of the above, in all Point-to-Point Steeple Chases run in December four year olds Colts and Geldings shall receive an age allowance of 7lbs, and four year old fillies a combined age / sex allowance of 14lb; five year old mares shall receive the usual sex allowance of 7lbs but five year old horses and geldings shall receive no allowance whatsoever.

12. HUNT MEMBERS RACE.

Those owners who intend to participate in the Hunt Members Race only must ensure that they obtain a Hunter Certificate for their horse from their Master, which must accompany their entry for the race (See General Conditions No 5 (i)).

13. LIVERY YARDS.

Owners are reminded that if they keep their horses at livery, they must be fully aware of their responsibilities as an Owner, in particular they must ensure entries are only made in writing by them (Authorised agents etc. are not acceptable) and that their horses are qualified by the conditions of the race and carry the correct weight.

14. BLINKERS.

Owners are advised that they are required under the Regulations to state at declaration whether their horse is to wear blinkers, or any combination of eyeshield, hood, visor, eyecover or *sheepskin cheek pieces*. (See General Condition No 15). These items are not to be put on the scales when weighing out or in.

When weighing out or weighing in, the rider in addition to the items detailed above, will also **exclude** from the scale any breast plate, breast girth, martingale or neck strap that the horse is to carry or has carried.

15. TYING DOWN OF HORSES' TONGUES AND BITTING.

On every occasion when a horse is to run with its tongue tied, the owner shall indicate on the Declaration Sheet if he wishes his horse to be withdrawn if the Tongue Strap cannot be fastened or is shed on the way to the start. The requests will be annotated on the list of declared runners and given to the starter. It will be the starter's responsibility to take a final decision as to whether or not any horse should run in these circumstances but, in reaching that decision he will take note of any such notification by the owner of the horse. When no declaration of tongue strap has been made a tongue strap must not be worn by the horse in the parade ring, on the way to the start or during the race. Failure to comply with this will result in a fine of not less than £75, although the horse may still run.

On every occasion when a horse is to run with its tongue tied, the owner is responsible for showing the horse, with its tongue tied, to the Veterinary Surgeon on duty on the course before it is allowed to proceed to the start. Disciplinary action will be taken against any owner who fails to comply with this notice on each occasion that his horse runs with its tongue tied.

Owners should ensure that horses do not run with tongue straps or other similar devices which encircle the horse's tongue and are attached either directly or indirectly to the bridle.

Veterinary Surgeons will take note of the biting of every horse brought into the parade ring.

16. DIVISION OF RACES.

No rider may be declared to ride more than one horse in any race (as published in the racecard) unless it is anticipated that the safety factor will be exceeded and the race divided under Regulation 113.

When such divisions are made, they shall be run consecutively.

If it is anticipated that a race may be split on the day, a rider may ride in both divisions of the race. If a rider is declared to ride two horses, the rider must, by the time of declaration closing, state the preferred horse to the Declarations Clerk and inform the owner or owner's representative of the non-preferred horse accordingly. The owner, or the owner's representative of the non-preferred horse must, prior to Declarations closing, state whether the horse will be withdrawn or name an alternative rider who will be substituted, in the event that the race does not divide. If the race is not subsequently divided the named alternate rider will be the declared rider of the non-preferred horse.

17. DECLARATIONS.

Declarations may only be made by the Owner(s) or some other person on production of **written** authorisation from the Owner(s).

18. IRISH POINT-TO-POINTERS.

Owners who have purchased Irish Point-to-Point horses which have won must check with the Irish Turf Club (Tel: 00 353 45 445600) in which races their horses are eligible to run or are subject to carry weight penalties.