



## APPENDIX 1

### BE HORSE AWARE PARADE RING SAFETY CAMPAIGN

#### 1. Background

The ROA took the lead in collaborating with the RCA and NTF to review the Code of Good Practice in the parade ring\* with a view to strengthening its implementation to promote safety and minimise risk. Incidents such as when a horse collides with and injures an individual in the Parade Ring serve as a reminder of the difficulties faced by everyone when horses come into close proximity to individuals, whether they be participants in the form of officials, racecourse staff, owners, trainers, jockeys, stable staff, or members of the public.

\*The parade ring should not be treated in isolation, and that all guidelines, recommendations and principles should apply equally to the pre-parade ring, winners' enclosure and unsaddling area(s).

#### 2. Industry Code of Practice and Supporting Guidelines

The revised Code of Good Practice has been approved by respective Boards, and is attached at **APPENDIX 1**; (there are further adjustments to be incorporated following feedback from the Horseman's Group at their meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>). The Code will be launched with a comprehensive comms plan delivering consistent messaging across the industry, at the start of the 2019 Flat Season, and will be enforced by racecourses and those with relevant responsibilities.

Each association has produced supporting guidelines to assist their members in implementing and complying with these principles.

#### 3. Parade Ring Access

It is key to emphasise that the objective of the 'BE HORSE AWARE' campaign and Code of Good Practice is to promote safety and minimise risk within the Parade Ring, for those who genuinely should be in this area (i.e. those connected with runners in the relevant race, Officials carrying out their raceday duties etc). As part of this, parade ring access arrangements will be strengthened to ensure that those who do not have a genuine requirement to be in this area are not permitted access<sup>1</sup>.

The Terms and Conditions that were sent with the RCA and Officials Accreditation for 2019 were amended to clearly state that RCA badges do not provide access to the pre-parade ring, parade ring or winners enclosure unless agreed in advance with the individual racecourse

#### 4. Implementation

In addition to producing supporting guidance to assist with the practical implementation of the Code of Practice, a comprehensive communications plan has been drafted and will be circulated to all relevant parties shortly. This will include consistent messaging that each Association can

<sup>1</sup> Access may be granted to those who are not connected with runners in the relevant race, Officials carrying out their raceday duties, but this must be agreed in advance with the racecourse, who will take account of all relevant factors before granting permission.



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### BRITISH HORSERACING

#### THE CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE IN THE PRE-PARADE RING, PARADE RING AND WINNERS ENCLOSURE

Incidents such as when a horse collides and injures an individual in the Parade Ring serve as a reminder of the difficulties faced by everyone when horses come into close proximity to individuals, whether they be participants in the form of officials, racecourse staff, owners, trainers, jockeys, stable staff, or members of the public.

As part of a continuing programme to support racecourse risk assessments and safety practices in these areas, the British Horseracing Industry *[INSERT DETAILS OF SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS HERE]* supports the following code of good practice and expects their members and employees to adhere to the provisions outlined below.

#### General Principles

- Children under the age of 12 are not allowed in the parade ring.
- Do not block up disabled access areas and do be aware of the special issues faced by disabled individuals within the parade ring or specialist viewing areas.
- The greatest potential risks come from loose and unruly horses. Whilst there is potential for these in all races, research shows that these are more likely in 2-year-old races on the Flat and National Hunt bumpers, and particular vigilance should be paid to these races.
- Avoid loud behaviour and intrusive photography.
- All instructions provided by racecourse personnel should be followed without question or delay.
- Only Trainers (or their representative), jockeys, stable staff and Racecourse Veterinary Surgeons may approach horses in the parade ring.

#### Owners

##### Sole owners

- Owners and their guests may only enter the parade ring to view a horse with which they are connected running in that race.
- Meeting your trainer or their representative in plenty of time so that they can show you into the parade ring.
- When the moment comes for mounting up, stand well clear and leave it to the professionals.





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### Syndicates

- Support racecourse policies in managing numbers. Spread the load by offering syndicate members the chance to see their horse in the pre-parade ring, or after racing (hopefully in the winner's enclosure) instead.
- Delegate the syndicate leader or representative to chaperone the party and point out the need to be aware on horse walkways, crossing points, etc., with particular reference to any syndicate members who are not experienced around horses.

### Racecourses

- Appoint a horse-aware Parade Ring Safety Officer to oversee the parade ring, pre-parade ring and winners' enclosure. The individual should be of sufficient calibre to enforce the racecourse policies, and sufficiently empowered to do so.
- Establish clear policies for the access to and safety within the parade ring, pre-parade ring and winners' enclosure, supported by appropriate risk assessment.
- Establish and enforce clear capacity restrictions for the parade ring. Clearly communicate these to owners and trainers in advance and on the raceday.
- Display clear signage regarding the rules for parade ring access and enforce these.
- Ensure that the public are kept separate from horses and that access ways are segregated by railing with controlled crossing points
- Identify if sponsors etc. can be accommodated elsewhere, or only permitted access to the pre-parade ring, parade ring or winners' enclosure when no horses are present. If it is necessary for them to enter when horses are present, ensure they are accompanied by a member of racecourse staff, with appropriate horse-awareness training.
- Ensure ancillary activities, such as live music, are sufficiently far away from the parade ring, pre-parade ring and winners' enclosure.
- Ensure unruly horses are removed from the parade ring as expediently as possible.

### British Horseracing Authority

- Only enter the parade ring if necessary to conduct an active raceday role. If it is not necessary to be in the parade ring to fulfil the responsibilities of your raceday role, do not enter this area.
- Support racecourse staff in the enforcement of racecourse policies and cooperate with any requests they make – including leaving the parade ring, pre-parade ring and winners' enclosure if asked to do so.



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- Maintain records of any unruly horses and share these with racecourses and the relevant trainer.

### Trainers and Stable Staff

- Advise the Clerk of the Course or Parade Ring Safety Officer immediately if you have any concerns regarding the behaviour of your horse.
- Ensure that all staff that accompany horses are competent and suitably experienced, taking into consideration the nature of the horse(s) they are accompanying. All staff should be aware of the requirements of taking a horse racing, and any specific dangers
- Consider whether any Personal Protective equipment is required and provide this as appropriate.
- Ensure all stable staff wear appropriate clothing and footwear to lead up horses. Follow guidance from the BHA Health and Safety Manual (The Red Book) regarding clothing, jewellery, perfumes etc.
- Ensure any staff who do not speak English as their first language are sufficiently able to understand instructions given to them by racecourse officials.
- Ensure all staff are aware of any unusual or specific arrangements, such as a parade.
- Do not lead horses across the centre of the parade ring unless specifically instructed to do so by the Clerk of the Course or Parade Ring Safety Officer.

### Jockeys

- Advise the Clerk of the Course or Parade Ring Safety Officer immediately if you have any concerns regarding the behaviour of your horse.
- Where horse are mounted at the walk, check/tighten the girth before leaving the parade ring.

### All Other British Horseracing Industry Personnel

- Only enter the parade ring if necessary to conduct an active raceday role. If it is not necessary to be in the parade ring to fulfil the responsibilities of your raceday role, do not enter this area.