

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

Hello everyone and welcome to the latest participants newsletter.

I hope you've had a good summer and are looking forward to the new point-to-point season. There are 127 fixtures scheduled and a number of new initiatives being introduced for the coming season which you have hopefully already seen announced on the website and social media channels.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Summer is always one of the busiest periods for the PPA office and this summer has been busier than ever. A lot goes on behind the scenes between organising the national awards, agreeing the fixture calendar, race planning, regulations and instructions changes, signing up sponsors, preparing the planner and organising officials training around the country. On top of everything we've been building the new website, overhauling the officials training programme, introducing new race series and applying for a range of HBLB (levy) funding grants for 2026. We've also spent a lot of time working with the Point-to-Point Secretaries Association (PPSA) on trying to achieve a better spread of fixtures across the season and easing fixture congestion around bank holidays. Most of the work we've been doing over the last year will only become apparent during the coming season.

NEW NATIONAL WEBSITE

The new national website will be launched in October for the 2025/26 season. We haven't just revamped the old one, we've built a brand new website from scratch with a much better layout, improved user experience and more content, resulting in a website that properly represents our sport. Watch out on social media or the exiting website for the launch date!

MANDATORY VACCINATION APP USE FOR ALL POINTERS

Weatherby's Vaccination App use will be mandatory for all pointers for the 2025-26 season, as it already is under-rules. This means you will need to upload all vaccination information onto the app, and importantly it must be verified by a Vet, by entry stage.

Weatherbys will alert you if a horse is not registered at Hunt Certificate registration stage and entry stage. Weatherbys will provide as much help as possible, however the ultimate responsibility rests with the Owner/Keeper to ensure the horse is fully registered, without which it cannot run.

[Further information can be found here.](#)

2025/26 SEASON HUNT CERTIFICATES

Will be available from 1st October. They will be downloadable via the new website when it is launched and will have a digital signature option. Before then they will be available on www.gopointing.com.

NOVICE RIDER ALLOWANCE CHANGES

Novice Rider allowances have been increased to 5lb until a 10th career win. If a rider is a Novice at the start of the season they will count as a Novice for the whole season, but will lose their 5lb allowance when achieving their 10th win. The new allowance can be claimed in Opens, Conditions, Intermediate and Restricted races.

NEW £250,000 GB POINTERS BONUS

As part of a wider range of initiatives across racing to encourage breeding and increase foal numbers, HBLB (levy) are underwriting a new GB Pointers bonus scheme worth up to £250,000 annually. GB bred winners of the 15-race GB Pointers bonus series will qualify for a £25,000 bonus when winning a developmental race under-rules, with £15,000 for non GB bred horses.

Each race in the series will be sponsored by Tattersalls, Goffs or the PPA with quicker results and free race video access available through the new national website.

NEW “HANDS AND HEELS” SERIES

A new 10-race series joint initiative between the Jockey Club and PPA.

As the grass roots of British jump racing pointing can lead the way in trying new initiatives, benefiting wider racing and educating riders at an early stage of their career. As a trial for the coming season we have introduced a 10-race series for Novice Riders, with points for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th place resulting in a national winner and PPA National Award to the rider with the most points at the end of the season. Riders will still carry a whip, but can only use it for safety reasons.

We really hope owners, trainers and riders will make a real effort to support this series as it puts pointing on the front-foot in the event whip use is banned across racing.

NEW 0-110 RATED SERIES

A brand new Jockey Club 10-race series with a Hunter Chase final at Warwick on Saturday 9th May and a substantial prize-pot.

Horses must have a (GB) or (IRE) jumps handicap rating, with a lifetime rating that has never been higher than 110. Winners of the series will qualify for the final and are guaranteed not to be balloted out, with all runners in the series qualifying but not being guaranteed a run. It is hoped the series will attract horses currently running under rules that have become a bit uncompetitive, which can hopefully be bought relatively cheaply and become competitive with a move to pointing.

PRIZE MONEY INCREASE

Maximum and minimum prize money pots have been increased by 20%. While we know in real terms it's not necessarily a huge amount we hope it sends the message that we understand owner costs have gone up and are trying to help. It is up to fixtures what prize money they offer within the new figures, but we're hoping they will increase it as much as possible.

POINT-TO-POINT NATIONAL AWARDS NIGHT

This years PPA National Awards were a great success and a night to be proud of. The Grass Roots of British Jumps Racing went to the home of British Jumps Racing with the awards taking place at Cheltenham Racecourses Panoramic restaurant. There was champagne, great food, magicians, a live band, with the evening being hosted by Luke Harvey and Claire Hart.

It might seem a bit early, but get next year's date in the diary as we've already booked the same venue for the last Saturday in June (27th June 2026).

NO MRB = NO RIDE

There have been instances of jockeys losing their Medical Record Book or forgetting it on raceday with, on occasion, the BHA Chief Medical Officer giving the rider approval to ride.

However, without exception NO MRB will mean NO RIDE for the 2025/26 season and beyond.

If you have lost or misplaced your MRB you will need to contact the PPA office to arrange a replacement at a cost of £70. We aim to turn replacement MRB's around within 48 hours during the working week (Mon-Fri), but delays with Royal Mail mean they may not arrive in time for the weekends racing, so the sooner you ask us for a replacement the better.

RQC'S FOR 2025-26 SEASON

Once the new website is launched the RQC process can be completed digitally online. The forms will be more concise and you will be able to make card payments, all designed to make the process quicker and easier.

However in the meantime the RQC application form for 2025/26 can be found on www.gopointing.com. As always you need to allow 14 days for your application to be processed, ideally longer if it is your first application.

RQC costs will be subsidised again by the PPA for first and second years riders. 1st year will be £95, 2nd year £140 and 3rd year+ will be £195. Most of the cost is for indemnity cover and insurance which makes reductions for all riders tricky, but we are keen to keep costs as low as possible for riders.

NEW RIDER ASSESSMENTS FOR 2025/26 SEASON

All new riders will be able to arrange the Rider Assessment directly with a BHA approved Jockey Coach, on a date which suits them rather than attending a BRS day.

Cost is £150 but the PPA will contribute £130 with the rider only paying £20. A list of approved Jokey Coaches is available on www.gopointing.com and the new national website when it goes live.

SUBSIDISED JOCKEY COACHING LESSONS

We are working with HBLB (Levy Board) and BRS (British Racing School) to offer better access to Jockey Coaching for point-to-point riders. We are currently calculating the cost of giving 1st year rider one free Jockey Coaching lesson and 2nd years riders two half-price Jockey Coaching lessons. We hope to have a final decision which we can announce before November.

GOING REPORTS FOR 2025-26 SEASON

As part of the fixtures licence we are bringing in new protocols for going reports to ensure they are honest, accurate and updated regularly. We want riders, owners and trainers to get the going they expect when they arrive at a course.

OWNERS EXPERIENCE AND ENTRY TICKETS

We're working with fixtures to deliver a standardised approach to entry ticket numbers for owners and syndicate members. We're also encouraging a better all-round owners experience. It's not an easy fix as the decision is down to individual fixtures, however the PPA will market those fixtures which do a good job and list ticket availability on the new national website.

FIXTURE CALENDAR & FIXTURE CONGESTION

You will notice a number of changes across the fixture calendar this season with around twelve fixtures moving dates as a result of a more flexible approach to HBLB (levy) funding and PPA fixtures fees. A number of fixtures have moved from Sunday to Saturday to ensure we have a spread over the weekend rather than all running on the same day, with others moving to a date earlier in the season. Fixture spread and bank-holiday congestion is not an easy problem to solve, but this is only year-one of a three-year plan so watch this space!

PLANNER UPDATE

The 2025/26 Planner will be available from mid-October.

PRE-CHRISTMAS FIXTURE RACECARDS

Race cards for pre-Christmas fixtures will be posted online next week.

ANNUAL REPORT

We followed up May's Consultation process with a questionnaire across the sport. Over 600 people responded which was great to see. We used this as the foundation of our Annual Report which can be read [here](#).

That's all for now, we'll keep you posted on the new website launch date and other changes. Once again I'd like to thank you all for the time, passion, expense and dedication you put into pointing.

Best wishes



PAUL MILLER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



GOOD HEALTH, DIET AND HYDRATION ARE KEY FOR SUCCESSFUL RACE RIDING

As the top Wellness 'B Corp' Company in the industry, Arbonne nutrition supports physical, emotional and mental health naturally.

Arbonne's Vegan Nutrition can help with weight management whether you are at the peak of fitness or taking the first step towards a positive change. Your overall health, gut microbiome, vitamin and mineral intake will ensure you are alert, focussed and feeling fantastic.

Simply mix with water or plant-based milk, blend in frozen fruit for a more substantial drink or use the protein to make pancakes and protein balls for healthy snacks.

The Daily Gut & Energy Bundle combines the Green Synergy Elixir with EnergyFizz and comes in six flavours. The natural caffeine boost from green tea and guarana maintains energy throughout the day while reducing tiredness and fatigue.

Premium products with a 90-day money-back guarantee and fast delivery to your door.

[Check Out Arbonne Nutrition](#) and get in touch for 20% discount for a year.



WHO TO CONTACT...

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY



Paul Miller – Chief Executive. Responsible for overseeing the strategic direction, standards and regulation of the sport. Driving growth, managing key stakeholder engagement & relationships and ensuring the smooth running of point-to-point racing across the UK.

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Karen Driver – Operations Manager. Operational Office Management, Fixture & Area Secretaries guidance, Officials information, Rider welfare, HBLB/Levy returns, Veterinary & Medical.

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Jemima Jones – Operations Administrator. Deals with Rider Qualification Certificates (RQC's) BHA Medical, Rider sponsorship, sponsorship supplier accounts, Steward Spreadsheets and pre-fixture weekend official information.

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THE POINT TO POINT RACING COMPANY

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Contact for Point-to-Point entries, penalties, weight allowance and eligibility questions & advice.



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