



ANNUAL REPORT

2026



GB POINTING THE GRASSROOTS OF BRITISH JUMP RACING

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

CAROLINE BAILEY



I am delighted to introduce the 2025-2026 season Annual Report, which gives an account of what's been going on behind the scenes and plans that are being made for the future.

On behalf of the Board I would like to thank Paul and his team for all their hard work and commitment. There is only a small team in the office and they all work incredibly hard. The Board and I will support them as they look to strengthen and grow the sport for the future.

I would like to thank Ilona Barnett who has recently retired as Chair of the PPSA. She has worked tirelessly with the Board for the last six years. I welcome Beverley Thomas to the Board as the new PPSA Chair.

Thanks also go to Fiona Needham for all her contributions to the Board as an independent member, her knowledge and experience of the sport has been invaluable. We have welcomed Will Easterby as our new independent Board member.

We are indebted to our Volunteers, Officials, Owners, Trainers and Riders. To each and every one of you I would like to say thank you. Without the time and effort put in by all our supporters there would be no sport.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

CAROLINE BAILEY



We had a great start to the 2025-2026 season with plenty of runners and competitive racing but the latter half was affected by the incredibly dry Spring. A great effort was made by many Clerks of Courses to water courses and that was greatly appreciated.

We were deeply saddened by the loss of jockey Sam Lee and our thoughts remain with his family and many friends.

It is a privilege to represent a sport so steeped in tradition and long may it continue. I wish everyone an enjoyable and successful 2026-2027 season.



CAROLINE BAILEY

Thank you to our National Partners for the 2025-2026 season:

ISUZU

GOFFS
SINCE 1866


Tattersalls
Cheltenham

 **THE
JOCKEY
CLUB**

FORAN
EQUINE

Connolly's
RED MILLS
SINCE 1908

 **Highflyer Bloodstock**



CARR & DAY & MARTIN
EST. 1765



WELCOME LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PAUL MILLER

This is my second annual report since arriving as Chief Executive in the summer of 2024. Although my second season, in reality it's my first in terms of being able to make a difference, as most things were in place for the 2024/25 season when I started. The job certainly hasn't got any smaller or less intense, that's for sure.

I came in with a number of thoughts and an open-mindset as I didn't want to have too many preconceived ideas – and I think that approach worked well. It's very easy to look from the outside in and think you know all of the answers and have all of the solutions. In reality though it's only when you get under the skin of the sport and behind the scenes that you realise just how complicated things are, the amount of work involved and what a balancing act it all is.

The 2025/26 season was a strange one to say the least. It galloped off with great racing and good field sizes. Cantered along in the middle when the weather got drier and fixture numbers increased. Trotted towards the finish when the Cheltenham Hunter Chase evening was relocated due to drainage issues and the Stratford Hunter Chase evening was cancelled due to Equine flu. It finally walked over the line when the warm dry period continued indefinitely and the final two fixtures of the season were abandoned.

There was a lot to celebrate and embrace though. Horse number started off well, staying ahead of the previous season until January, giving us the highest number of hunt cert registrations in a single week post-Covid. First year rider numbers were up significantly and crowd numbers increased again with many fixtures reporting bumper or record crowds.

Average fields sizes were ahead of last season, averaging almost eight pre-Cheltenham, and walkovers and void race numbers halved. Flexible fixture and HBLB Grants were introduced as part of a three-year plan to achieve a more balanced fixture calendar with less congestion, resulting in over ten fixtures changing dates. We introduced new point-to-point conference workshops which were very well attended by officials and secretaries. Prize money was increased by 20% across the board and many fixtures provided hospitality and a better experience for owners.

Continues...

WELCOME LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PAUL MILLER

HBLB provided record funding for point-to-point fixtures, officials training and welfare. The PPA also achieved record income from national partners, all put back into marketing the sport to get pointing in front of newer and wider audiences.

We introduced three new race series last season, the £250,000 HBLB underwritten 4-&5-years old Maiden GB Pointing Bonus series which was a huge success, the Hands-&Heels series for Novice riders aimed at improving riding skills and minimise the use of a whip, and the 0-110 Rated Series targeting under-rules horses to run in point-to-points.

Unfortunately horse numbers were down again, following a decade long trend, something which we are all fully focused on addressing.

The feedback for most of the season was very positive with the general feeling being that, horse numbers aside, pointing was in a good place. However as I've said before, and learned first-hand, we can't please everyone all of the time. If someone thinks something is a great idea, there will be someone else who thinks it's a terrible idea.

We're working hard behind the scenes at the PPA over the summer to get everything prepared for 2026/27. I'd love to see everyone across pointing working together next season, pulling together for the good of the sport and remaining positive even when times get tough and we deal with some big challenges.

I'm really looking forward to my next year in the role and hope you all have an enjoyable and successful 2026/27 season.

P. Miller



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STATS ACCURATE FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 30TH JUNE 2026



2026 SPONSORSHIP STATISTICS

£60m
INDUSTRY

5.7m
P2P WEBSITE TRAFFIC



ABC1
DEMOGRAPHIC

80 COURSES **127** FIXTURES



392,000
ANNUAL FOOTFALL
(25% UNDER 18YO)



34,737
SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

202,401
ENGAGEMENT



SOCIAL VIEWS : **10.7 million**

REACH : **1.74 million**

WEEKLY READERSHIP: 150,000

UNIQUE USERS PER MONTH: 1.2 MILLION

RACING POST

HORSE&HOUND

WEEKLY READERSHIP: 146,000

UNIQUE USERS PER MONTH: 3.5 MILLION

934 OWNERS

484 TRAINERS

291 JOCKEYS
48% ARE FEMALE RIDERS

1356 HORSES

+22,000

GB POINTING
WEEKLY

SUBSCRIBERS



AT A GLANCE

2025



1,441

HUNTERS' CERTIFICATES



286*

JOCKEYS
(42 FIRST YEAR)



958

OWNERS



10

NATIONAL
PARTNERS

2026



1,356

HUNTERS' CERTIFICATES



291

JOCKEYS
(65 FIRST YEAR)



934

OWNERS



11

NATIONAL
PARTNERS

* LAST SEASONS NUMBERS WERE INCORRECTLY REPORTED AT 298
INSTEAD OF 286

AT A GLANCE

2025



368,000
ATTENDANCE



£1,686,500
GB POINTER SALES*



3,994
RUNNERS



5.59
AVERAGE RUNNERS PER RACE
(NOT INC WALKOVERS)

2026



392,000
ATTENDANCE



£1,215,100
GB POINTER SALES*



3951
RUNNERS



5.82
AVERAGE RUNNERS PER RACE
(NOT INC WALKOVERS)

*Figures calculated from public auctions only

JOCKEYS 2026

291 issued RQCs



	Total Riders
Season 2025 -26	291 (65 first year and 38 second year)

The season saw a small increase in the total numbers of RQC's which was great to see, however what was particularly pleasing was the substantial increase in first-year riders.

We'll be following up with all of last seasons and the coming seasons first-year riders to better understand what attracted them to pointing, what their motivation is and what their future plans are.



161

Male Jockeys



10

Female Jockeys



65

First Year Riders



77

Sponsored Riders

We'll also be speaking to them - as part of a 12 month trial project - to provide more guidance and help, answer their questions, make the sport more welcoming & accessible, and ensure they are aware of the support & wellbeing services available to them across racing and point-to-pointing.

The PPA are continuing last season's initiative to encourage regular coaching sessions by offering all first-year riders a free Jockey Coaching lesson, and again heavily subsidising the cost of rider licenses to encourage further participation. The points based ten-race Hands-&-Heels Series for Novice Riders, which was introduced last season, proved a great success and has been expanded to 15-races for the coming season. The rider with the most points will receive a trophy and prize at the PPA National Annual awards in June 2027.

Congratulations to the following Jockeys on taking out their Conditional Licence this year:



**HARRY
BROWN**



**MEGAN
BEVAN**



**RICHARD
UPTON**



**JACK
STENHOUSE**

OWNERS 2026

934

REGISTERS
OWNERS

Although the season saw a small reduction in horse numbers and owner numbers, it was pleasing to see so many fixtures offering hospitality and an enhanced owners experience, acknowledging the crucial role owners play in our sport. Fixtures offered anything from a cup of tea and a piece of cake, all the way up to hog-roasts and hospitality tent wrist-bands.

Unfortunately the cost-of-living crisis and the cost of having a horse in training are two things we can't do anything about. What we can do though is make the owners experience as enjoyable as possible and highlight what a great experience being involved with a pointer is. We're working with fixtures on increasing prize money again for the 2027/28 season, HBLB have approved the GB Pointing Bonus Series, and we have improved the 0-110 Rated Series.

Our marketing team is making a real effort to support and publicise syndicates and racing clubs, hopefully making the sport more accessible, and continues to highlight what a great sport pointing is.

KEEPERS 2026

484 Point-To-Point Trainers

Point-to-Pointing continues to be an accessible sport for those looking to take on the challenge of training a racehorse, whether for themselves or others.

Many are happy to stay in the sport, while others use pointing as the place to hone their skills before taking out a professional license.

As the Grass Roots of British jump racing, pointing celebrates them all no matter their ambition or future intentions.

Congratulations to the following Trainers on getting their Under-Rules Licences this year:



**JOHN
DAWSON**



**HARRY
RYALL**



**BRADLEY
GIBBS**



**IAN
CHANIN**

HORSES 2026

1,356

HUNTERS'
CERTIFICATES

1,233 Individual horses ran

The season unfortunately saw another reduction in horse numbers, following a decades long pattern. However, pre-January hunt certificates were actually ahead of last season, with one week seeing the highest numbers of registrations since Covid.

Total runners – 3951

Number of races – 678 (8 walkovers & 7 void)

Average runners per race – 5.82 (walkovers not inc.)

439 individual winners

Numbers started to level off across February and March, before falling behind once the sustained period of hot dry weather became established and ground turned firm.

Pleasingly, overall average field sizes were up on last season, with average field sizes of around eight pre-Cheltenham and before the number of weekend fixtures increased quickly.

The decline in horse numbers is one of the greatest challenges facing pointing, mirroring what's happening under-rules, as foal crop numbers decline. However, we are maintaining the percentage of overall thoroughbred horses running in point-to-points. Unfortunately the cost-of-living crisis and the cost of having a horse in training are two things we can't do anything about.

As part of a wider programme across racing to improve breeding numbers, HBLB underwrote the £250,000 15-race GB Pointing Bonus series which sees GB-bred race winners qualify for £25,000 bonus when winning certain races under-rules. This has been approved again for 2026/27. We also brought in the 0-110 rated series, which we have tweaked for the coming season, to hopefully attract more runners and have made some adjustments to Conditions races for the 2026/27 season.

POINT-TO-POINT HORSES IN MORE DETAIL:

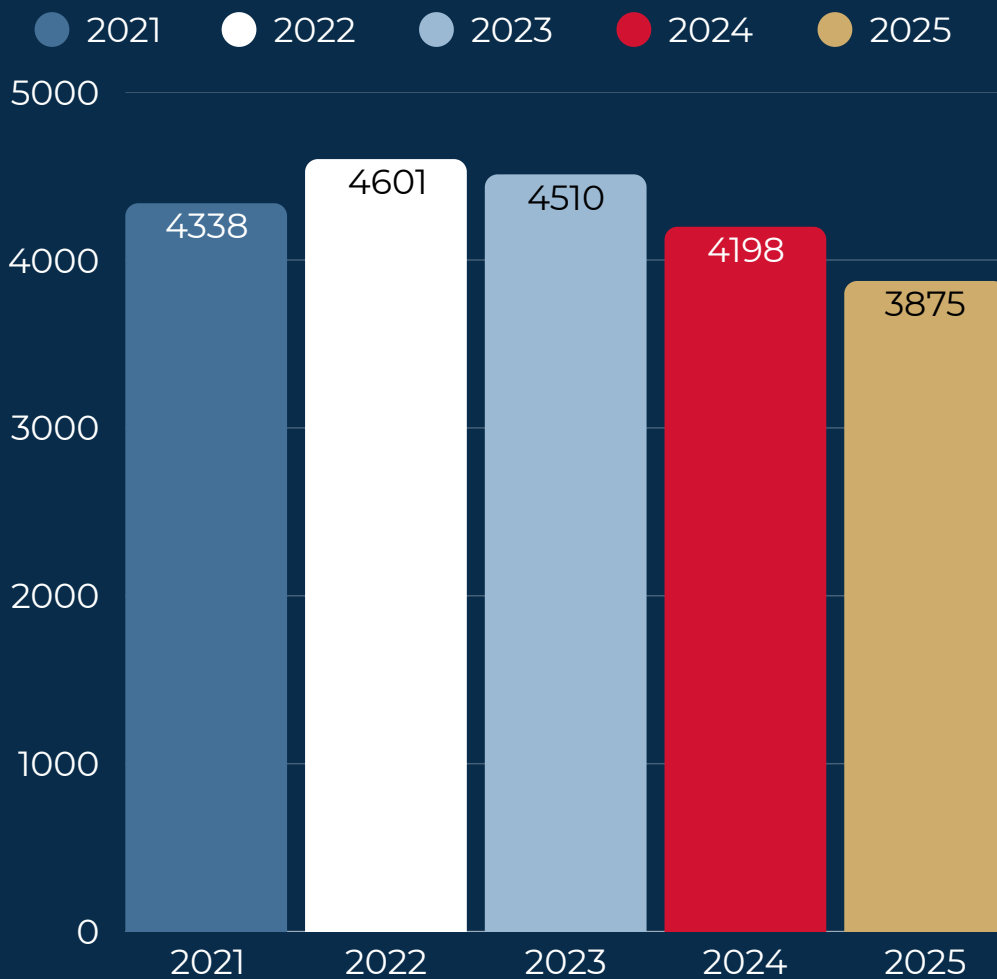
GB Pointing 4 & 5 year old numbers

2025-26 total	4 year olds	5 years olds
302	104	198

4yo: 104 (33 Fillies, 69 Geldings, 2 Colts)

5yo: 198 (148 Geldings, 50 Mares)

GB Foal numbers



COMPARED TO UNDER RULES

UNDER RULES

POINT-TO-POINT

3.51

Average runs
per horse

3.2

7.84

Average field
size

5.82

4,874

Horses in
training

1,356

Average taken over the
2024-25 season from BHA
statistics.

**27.8% compared to
national hunt horse
population.**

POINT-TO-POINT HORSES IN MORE DETAIL:

Season	Hunt Certs	NH horses under rules (numbers as at April each year as end of season)
2014-15	2716	5115
2015-16	2595	5268
2016-17	2516	5161
2017-18	2343	5341
2018-19	2223	5046
2019-20	1781	5520
2020-21	1606	4443
2021-22	1704	5938
2022-23	1632	5472
2023-24	1586	5506
2024-25	1441	4,844
2025-26	1,356	4,874

2025 - 2026

NATIONAL POINT TO POINT AWARDS



Tattersalls Cheltenham Mens Champion Jockey

WINS

★ 1


JAMES KING

66

Goffs UK Ladies Champion Jockey

★ 1


MISS G. ANDREWS

44

Highflyer Bloodstock Mens Novice Champion Jockey

★ 1


LUCAS MURPHY

18

Highflyer Bloodstock Ladies Novice Champion Jockey

★ 1


KATIE FEATHERSTONE

11

Oriental Club Champion Trainer (5 or Fewer Horses)

★ 1


JENNY OWEN

10

Foran Equine Champion Trainer (6 - 14 Horses)

★ 1


LUKE PRICE

25

Foran Equine Champion Trainer (15 and Over Horses)

★ 1


JOSHUA NEWMAN

46

Isuzu Champion Owner

★ 1


JOHN & SONIA GARDENER

14

Connolly's Red Mills Champion Horse

★ 1


LAVORANTE

7

AWARDS DINNER 2026

A fabulous night had by all...

The National Point-to-Point Awards returned to the Panoramic Restaurant at Cheltenham Racecourse on Saturday 27th June for the second consecutive year.

Hosted by Blue Mic presenter Hannah Baycroft and popular commentator Robbie Scott, the evening was a great success. A game of Heads and Tails raised more than £700 for Racing Welfare, and following the presentation of the awards, the fantastic band Presley Rain kept guests entertained well into the early hours.

As we look ahead to the 2027 National Point-to-Point Awards, we'd love to hear your ideas to help keep the event fresh, exciting and enjoyable for everyone. We will be forming a National Point-to-Point Awards Committee and are inviting suggestions for the format of the evening.

Ideas already being considered include a more relaxed, chat-show style event inspired by The Graham Norton Show, a glamorous BAFTA-style awards ceremony, or a more informal BBQ and disco.

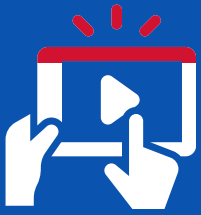
If you have any ideas or would be interested in joining the 2027 National Point-to-Point Awards Committee, we'd love to hear from you. Please email your suggestions to bluemic@p2pa.co.uk







JANUARY 1ST - DECEMBER 31ST THE FULL 12 MONTHS OF 2024 DIGITAL STATISTICS



854,500

SOCIAL VIEWS



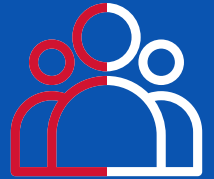
275,600

UNIQUE
SOCIAL
VIEWERS



4.2

MILLION
P2P WEBSITE
TRAFFIC



326,000

P2P
WEBSITE
USERS

INTERACTIONS



25,067

19,765



SOCIAL
MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

22,051



NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS



JANUARY 1ST - DECEMBER 31ST THE FULL 12 MONTHS OF 2025 DIGITAL STATISTICS



6.73

MILLION
SOCIAL VIEWS



1.4 MILLION

UNIQUE
SOCIAL
VIEWERS



5.7

MILLION
P2P WEBSITE
TRAFFIC



331,000

P2P
WEBSITE
USERS

INTERACTIONS



116,581

27,405



SOCIAL
MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

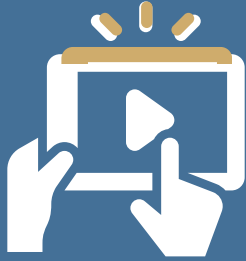
22,137



NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS



JANUARY 1ST - JUNE 30TH THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 2026 DIGITAL STATISTICS



**10.7
MILLION**

SOCIAL VIEWS



**1.74
MILLION**

UNIQUE SOCIAL
VIEWERS



202,401

INTERACTIONS



34,737

SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS



**5.7
MILLION**

P2P WEBSITE
TRAFFIC



331,000

P2P
WEBSITE
USERS



>22,300

NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS

BECOME A NATIONAL PARTNER OF



THE GRASSROOTS OF BRITISH JUMP RACING



WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

Please contact:

Tiggy Vale-Titterton

tiggy@p2pa.co.uk | 01793 781990





KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2026

Every year the Point-to-Point Authority (PPA) submits a number of funding applications to the Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB). For the 2025/26 season, HBLB awarded total grants to POINTING of circa £414,000, and underwrote the GB Pointing Young Horse Bonus scheme for £250,000.

The PPA and HBLB agree a number of deliverables and Key Performance Indicators (KPI) which are reported on and reviewed quarterly and annually.

These headline KPI's were :

- **Maintain horse numbers against 2024/25 season = NUMBERS FELL**
- **Increase average runs per horse = ACHIEVED**
- **Increase average field size = ACHIEVED**
- **Maintain Rider numbers = ACHIEVED**
- **Increase race-goer numbers = ACHIEVED**



THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY BOARD

CHAIR - CAROLINE BAILEY

PPSA - BEVERLEY THOMAS

PPORA - CHARLIE POSTE

BHSA - ALAN HILL

THE JOCKEY CLUB - PHILIP HALL

INDEPENDENT - WILLIAM EASTERBY

INDEPENDENT - DARREN EDWARDS



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