

British racing: Raising the standards of equine welfare

Thoroughbreds are the very heart and soul of our sport. Our vision for our thoroughbreds is that they are the best cared for of any horse, setting the gold standard in welfare before, during and after their racing career.

British racing employs over **6,500 people** to provide care and attention for the **14,000 horses** in training at any one time, providing them with a level of care and a quality of life that is virtually unsurpassed by any other domesticated animal.

The BHA, as a regulator independent from our participants, works closely with recognised animal welfare organisations such as the RSPCA and World Horse Welfare to maintain high standards of equine welfare and to provide appropriate scrutiny.

The Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB) has supported nearly **500 individual research projects** since its foundation in 1963. Since 2000, over **£35m of veterinary research funding** has been invested by the HBLB and third parties.

Use of the whip

British racing has strict rules on the use and design of the whip. The officials who apply the rules are independent from racing's participants and penalties for breaches can lead to substantial bans or fines.

Whips are carried as an essential aid to horsemanship and safety. We firmly believe with the appropriate design and these strict controls in place, the whip does not compromise the welfare of horses during a race.

British Racing: Key Facts

Attendances – 5.77 million attendees at over 1,500 fixtures held at 59 racecourses, with four of the top ten sports events in the UK.

Revenues generated – Annual expenditure of over £3.5 billion, with a tax contribution of £300 million from racecourses, participants and a world-leading breeding industry.

Levy – c.£95 million raised in 2018 after levy reform amidst rising betting activity on British racing, of over £14 billion per annum.

Employment – Over 17,400 FTE jobs in the industry across rural Britain; approximately 450 jockeys, 550 trainers & 6,500 stable staff.

Scottish racing – Across five racecourses and training yards, Scottish Racing generates £300 million annually in turnover and supports 3,400 full-time jobs.

Levelling the playing field – In June, Hayley Turner became the first female jockey to win at Royal Ascot for 30 years. Bryony Frost, won the conditional jump jockeys' title, riding 50 winners, including on Frodon at Cheltenham Festival.

A global leader – British-trained horses won 37 top races outside Britain – including a historic 1-2-3 in the Melbourne Cup and five wins at the recent Arc De Triomphe meeting in Paris.

Latest news

In July 2019, **Annamarie Phelps**, Vice-Chair of the British Olympic Association and a former Olympic rower, was appointed as the new Chair of the British Horseracing Authority. **Barry Johnson**, former President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and past Chairman of World Horse Welfare, has also been appointed as the Independent Chair of a new Horse Welfare Board. The Welfare Board has been established to develop a new welfare strategy covering the whole racing industry.









Racing and society

British racing makes a significant contribution to our communities and charitable initiatives in the UK.

- The British Racing School & National Horseracing College each take hundreds of young people a year, often from deprived inner-city areas, and train them for careers in racing.
- The Racing to School initiative, which delivers free outdoor learning activities for young people, held 370 racecourse events working with 14,750 students in 2018.
- Racing Welfare, a charity which supports British racing's current and former workforce, has recently launched a new mental health partnership with SCOPE.
- All racecourses are supporting Tickets for Troops with over 80,000 racing tickets donated to members of the armed forces since the scheme's inception in 2009.

Betting on horseracing is both fun and socially responsible. It puts significant funds back into the industry, through a 10% Levy on bookmaker's horseracing profits & media rights payments. This money creates jobs and ensures a higher standard of care for our horses.

British racing is acutely aware of its duty to promote responsible gambling and is taking action, through partnerships like The Racecourse Association & Gambleaware, to prevent problem gambling.

Brexit and European Racing

The European horseracing and breeding industry is fully integrated across the continent with essential interdependencies – with free movement of horses based on high equine health standards generating hundreds of millions of pounds in sales.

26.000+

annual thoroughbred movements between Great Britain, Ireland and France for racing, breeding and sales purposes using the Tripartite Agreement (TPA)

52%

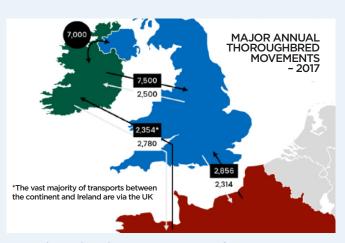
of annual Irish thoroughbred foal crop is exported to Great Britain – some 80% of overall exports

50%

of exports annual French thoroughbred exports are to Great Britain

11%

of the British racing workforce are from EEA countries



Our industry has three main priorities for Brexit:

Maintain the free movement of the Thoroughbred horse within Europe

Ensure there are common movement, transport, health, welfare, Zootechnical and equine ID policies across Europe to the highest standards

As far as possible, ensure the free movement of people working within the Thoroughbred industry

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