

SUMMARY NOTE OF A HORSERACING BETTORS FORUM MEETING

Monday 13 July 2020, 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm

Held via Zoom Video Conference



Those Present:

Colin Hord - CH - (Chair)
Colin Magee - CM
Sean Trivass - ST
Martin Hughes - MH
Paul Johnson - PJ
Jayne Leggett – JL
Steve Harrison – SH

In attendance:

Tom Kerr (TK), Racing Post – item 5
Steve Tilly (STy) – items 6, 7, 8
Jamie Hart (JH), The Tote – item 7
Fiona Carlin (BHA secretariat) – FC

Apologies:

Charlie Hart

Item	Action / Discussion
Chair's Update	<p>The Chair provided his update and noted progress on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sectional Timing• SPRC Modernisation• Gambling Act Review
Tom Kerr, Editor, Racing Post	<p>TK discussed the return to racing behind closed doors and the relaunch of the newspaper edition of the Racing Post (RP).</p> <p>The meeting discussed the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Racing Post - digital vs print media and website• Bookmakers• In-running• Demographics of racing audience• Fixture List• Technology for betting• Sectional timing• Gambling Act Review• International racing• BGC relationship
HBF Business	<p>The meeting noted progress on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single Customer View• SPRC Modernisation• Gambling Act Review• HBF Fixture Survey• Account Restrictions• Website Update
Jamie Hart, Tote Product Director	<p>The meeting discussed concerns with the operation of the Tote and issues for bettors such as value in the markets. JH explained the competitive betting market in the UK and noted the differences in the Tote in international jurisdictions.</p> <p>JH discussed the entry points for the Tote pool and the impact of betting on the placepot. Betting shops had been decimated by the lockdown and were not as busy since reopening. This was likely to be as a consequence of an increase in internet betting during that time.</p> <p>JH emphasised the importance of engaging with bettors, and the value of the various bets offered by the Tote.</p>

	<p>The meeting also discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to minimum stakes • The Tote Guarantee • How the Tote can become more competitive betting platform • How to encourage serious bettors to use the Tote • Racecourse engagement with betting and bettors • Value in the digital and online markets • The impact of 10 race cards on the Placepot
Date of Next Meeting	The next meeting will take place on 26 October.