

## **SUMMARY NOTE OF A HORSERACING BETTORS FORUM MEETING**

Monday 29 March 2021, 1.00 pm – 5.30 pm

Held via Zoom Video Conference



### **Those Present:**

Colin Hord - CH - (Chair)

Colin Magee - CM

Sean Trivass - ST

Paul Johnson - PJ

Martin Hughes - MH

Jayne Leggett - JL

George Ryley - GR

Ben Fellows - BF

Simon Rowlands - SR

### **In attendance:**

Fiona Carlin (BHA secretariat) – FC

Paddy Desmond, Director of Racing, Paddy Power/Betfair – PD – Item 3

Paul Johnson, BHA – PJhn, item 4

Item	Action / Discussion
Chair's Update	<p>CH discussed HBF activities since the previous meeting. There had been good coverage on Affordability and SPs in the Racing Post. Meetings had been held with Flutter, Arc (Martin Cruddace), Tom Byrne and various journalists. CH had also been interviewed by Nick Luck.</p> <p>CH said he was keen to maintain this positive momentum and asked HBF members to assist him.</p>
Paddy Desmond (Flutter)	<p>PD joined the meeting. He discussed his views on affordability and Flutter's approach to responsible gambling.</p> <p>HBF members raised the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education of new betting customers to exchanges</li><li>• Account restrictions applied by operators</li><li>• Changes to best odds guarantees</li><li>• Concessions</li><li>• Promotion of betting on racing and opportunities to attract a new audience.</li><li>• Field sizes and ensuring races are competitive (particularly in jump racing).</li><li>• Bonus races.</li></ul>
HBF Business	<p>The meeting discussed the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GC Consultation on Affordability</li><li>• Gambling Act review</li><li>• SPRC Modernisation</li><li>• Drones</li><li>• Going Group Update</li><li>• HBF Annual Survey 2021</li><li>• Ideas for future speakers</li></ul>
BHA Update	<p>PJn joined the meeting. The following points were raised by HBF members as issues of concern to bettors, and actions agreed where appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Race Distance information</li><li>• Drones</li><li>• Competitiveness of National Hunt Racing / Fixture List</li><li>• Weight Cloth incident</li><li>• Proliferation of Listed and Class races</li></ul>
Date of Next Meeting	<p>The next meeting will take place on 15 July.</p>