

Meeting with JCR

Several members of the BRBA/ESBA Board, together with a guest Director from another trade association, held an online meeting with JCR representatives on the morning of Wednesday 13 October 2021. Following the meeting JCR have asked us to bring the following matters to the attention of those who operate on-course at racecourses within the JCR group:

- ❖ With the exception of Haydock Park, a company trading in the name of International Currency Exchange Ltd (ICE), provided ATMs at JCR racecourses. ICE has recently ceased trading resulting in the withdrawal of ATM facilities at a number of JCR racecourses. However, JCR are hoping that the lack of ATMs is a temporary measure and are looking to appoint a new supplier to provide an ATM service at their racecourses.
- ❖ Plans are well under way for JCR to distribute 10,000 free tickets to NHS workers wishing to attend Aintree racecourse on the Thursday of the 2022 Grand National meeting.
- ❖ The Epsom Derby bidding process in 2022 will be the same as it was pre-Covid.
- ❖ The online ticket/badge pre-race day purchasing process introduced by JCR at all its racecourses has been a success and there are no plans for JCR to return to a cash purchase system.
- ❖ JCR will amend their ticketing sales information to include a reference to the fact that their racecourse are not entirely cashless as bookmakers operating in the betting rings on-course still accept cash.
- ❖ JCR is to review the process of the one-for-one picking mechanism in new areas so that a consistent picking system is in place from course-to-course throughout the JCR group.
- ❖ At the request of the BRBA, JCR agreed to look at improving the messaging system, on PA's, particularly relating to Rule 4 messaging. We have asked that the PA system include more frequent announcements of the Rule 4 deduction when a race result is subject to a Rule 4 deduction. The BRBA has also asked that the Rule 4 message refers to the fact that the deduction factor relates to bets placed with all on-course betting outlets and not just to bookmakers operating in the betting ring(s). Furthermore, we have asked, in an effort to deter underage bettors, that the PA system be used to broadcast regular messages that under 18's are not allowed to place bets anywhere on the racecourse.
- ❖ The next meeting was scheduled for February 2022