

Meeting With JCR

Several members of the BRBA board, and one board member from another trade body took part in an online meeting with JCR representatives on the morning of Tuesday 20 July 2021. As a result of matters discussed JCR have asked that we bring the following matters to the attention of members of our respective trade associations:

- Restrictions on bookmaker attendance numbers at all Jockey Club racecourses have now been removed.
- Due to pressure racecourses are facing in some areas from local safety advisory groups there may be a need for changes to bookmaker pitch locations within betting rings at some racecourses. In such cases racecourses, in liaison with safety advisory groups, will decide on bookmaker pitch locations.
- Going forward **ALL** bookmakers and members of the public wishing to attend race meetings at Jockey Club racecourses will be required pre-book and pre-pay for badges and tickets online. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
- Initially badges and tickets can be booked online up to 10.30 am on the day of a race meeting. However, the booking-in cut-off time may be revised at some time in the future, with 12.00 midnight on the night before a race meeting being the most likely alternative cut-off time.
- Refunds can be claimed by bookmakers in circumstances where they pre-book badges and tickets but fail to attend.
- As a result of the pre-book system JCR are hopeful, based on ticket sales, that they will be able to provide realistic crowd attendance forecasts.
- Pitching-up times at mid-week festival meetings and on busy Saturdays are likely to be revised, with the time-gap between pitch-up and the first race being extended.
- JCR are keen to engage with bookmakers and intend to re-start meetings with bookmaker racecourse liaison groups as soon as possible. The target date for the re-start of such meetings is September/October.