



PRA BOARD MEMBERS

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Clarissa Daly
POINT-TO-POINT PONY RACING EXECUTIVE: Lucy Felton
CHIEF STEWARD: Caroline Hutsby

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Charlie Barlow (Jockey Club)
Caroline Davies (Racecourse Association)
Mike Felton (Masters of Foxhounds Association)
Thomas Greenall (Jockey Club)
Elizabeth O'Flaherty (Racecourse Association)
Nicola Sheppard (Point-to-Point Secretaries Association)
Sheila Handley (Company Secretary)

BOARD MEMBERS:

Charles Barnett (Pony Club)
Zoe Pulling (Pony Club)
Zoe Elliot (British Horseracing Authority)

POINT-TO-POINT PONY RACING COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: Mike Felton
EXECUTIVE: Lucy Felton

Devon & Cornwall	Julia Teague Kelvin Heard
Wessex	Ann Watts Kim Tripp
South Midlands	Shona Supple
West Midlands	Emma Davies Louise Daly
Midlands	Anna Saunders
East Anglia	Gill Duffield
Yorkshire	Anthea Morshead
North	Tony Hogarth
South East	Helen Sarchet Nadine Crouch
North West	Ruth Hurley
Welsh Borders	Pauline Duggan
West Wales	Rebecca Francis
South Wales	Beth Williams

NON-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER: George Welch



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR SPONSORS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT BUT IN PARTICULAR WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK CHARLES OWEN.

Since the Pony Racing Authority came into existence in 2007, we have been lucky enough to have had the support of CHARLES OWEN. They have sponsored the Racecourse Series since its inception. We have been able to benefit from their long-term financial support and from the personal support of their late Chairman, Roy Burek. Roy sadly passed away in April 2019. Roy dedicated his life to making riding safer and was an equestrian safety pioneer. Roy was instrumental in the development of international safety standards. He was involved in research into the science of head injury, work that saw him honoured as a Professor of Cardiff University in 2017. He supported equestrianism in many and varied ways and was an early advocate for Pony Racing.

The Racecourse Series became synonymous with Charles Owen and we are very grateful to them for giving pony racing such a great start.

2020 will see new challenges for the funding of pony racing but will also provide new opportunities. With the continued support of all our sponsors, supporters and funding partners we will continue to strive to find ways to improve the accessibility and opportunities for all to participate in pony racing at every level.

RACECOURSE SERIES:



careersinracing.com



DAWN & RICHARD PRINCE

POINT-TO-POINT PONY RACING:



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

The BHA, HBLB and the Racing Foundation continue to provide much needed financial support for Pony Racing. In 2019 the BHA and HBLB funded among other activities, the development of our Safeguarding Policy and Regulations. These can be found on our website and printed in our regulations book. We are grateful to our partners for supporting our pony racing training, recruitment initiatives and our Youth Training Schemes.

THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT MAKE IT HAPPEN

We are very grateful to all the Racecourses and Point-to-Points that host pony races. Particular thanks must go to the officials and volunteers at these fixtures.

Point-to-Point Pony Racing would not happen without the Committee and Secretaries who organise the Point-to-Point pony racing fixtures. Thanks go to all the Regional Sponsors who support our regional Point-to-Point pony races.

WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT PONY RACING WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO INTRODUCE THE JOCKEYS OF THE FUTURE TO OUR SPORT

LETTER TO ANN WATTS ON HER RETIREMENT
FROM POINT-TO-POINT PONY RACING
FROM **HARRY COBDEN**, NH JOCKEY:

“

I first met Mrs Watts (Ann) 12 years ago when I decided to have a go at pony racing at the Blackmore & Sparkford Vale Hunt point-to-point and that was the moment I got hooked on racing – even though I came last.

Every point-to-point pony race that I ever attended in Ann's area, and there were many I rode in over the years, Ann was there, organising all of us, making sure that we were ready, number cloths in hand, with all the correct equipment. Keeping us in line and not afraid to tell any of us if we stepped over that line. None of us ever realised the amount of work that went on beforehand let alone during the day, but it was all down to Ann.

Without pony racing I would not be in the position I am today and Ann, you are part of that. I am hugely grateful for all you have done for me and there are so many others that you have helped along the way. Many friendships have been made through you – Ann, and pony racing. You supported me through my year of point-to-point riding, a very special friendship formed all those years ago of which I am so grateful.

Love and best wishes Ann in your retirement from pony racing.

”

We can see each day the impact pony racing has on horse racing. The jockeys are arriving at the racecourse more prepared and polished having experience of race riding but more than that, we are introducing children and their families not only to the sport but also the horse racing community.

Over 150 Pony racing graduates hold or have held a BHA licence to ride OR a Point-to-Point Rider Certificate, others have gone on to work in other valuable areas – notably as rider grooms.

12 years since the inception of the Pony Racing Authority, PRA Graduates are mainstays of the weighing room in both Flat and National Hunt.

- PRA Graduates **Will Carver**, **Angus Villiers** and **Megan Nicholls** were 3 of the '5 Names to Follow on the Flat' (with the non-PRA graduates on the list hailing from abroad)
- **Jack Tudor** won the Coral Welsh Grand National
- **Ben Jones** won the Ladbrokes Trophy Chase at Newbury
- **Sam Twiston-Davies**, **Harry Cobden** and **Charlie Deutsch** rode 3 of the first 4 placed horses in the Ladbrokes King George VI at Kempton on Boxing Day
- **Hollie Doyle** broke the record in Britain for the most winners by a female jockey in a year
- **Megan Nicholls** won the Silks Series for the third time in 3 years
- **Charlie Case**, **Rex Dingle**, **Sophie Smith**, **AJ O'Neill**, **Jonjo O'Neill Jr**, **James Bowen**, **Sean Bowen**, **Lorcan Williams**, **Josephine Gordon**, **Tom Marquand**, **Bryony Frost**, **Harry Cobden** are all names you will see regularly in the racing press all came through the pony racing ranks.

Current pony racing jockeys have been cutting their teeth in the media too with the winners of various Racecourse Series pony races being interviewed on Racing UK, Sky Racing and ITV Racing.



SUMMARY OF 2019 ACTIVITIES

RACECOURSE SERIES

#racecourseseries

The 2019 Racecourse Series held 26 fixtures before or after Racecourse meetings with just one lost to the weather. We had 392 entries with 298 runners in 49 races. 54 individual riders took part in a Racecourse Series race many riding multiple times. Races were run for 2 different height categories and there were 12 novice races.

We once again had 2 great finals to the Racecourse Series. The Novice Series Finals were held at York in September and the Racecourse Series Finals run at Cheltenham's November meeting.

Pony Racing was subject to the BHA protocols to prevent the spread of equine influenza. All ponies participating in the Racecourse Series from May to 1st September had to be nasal swabbed prior to running. Our thanks go to all the parents who adhered to these conditions and in so doing allowed us to continue pony racing. The PRA and the BHA funded the cost of these swabs which amounted to over £20,000.

Push the Button became the first pony to win 50 Racecourse Series pony races. Her current jockey is Thomas Bradburne but he was preceded by Charlotte Greenway, Sean Bowen, James Bowen and Sophie Smith. Charlotte works for Tom Dascombe, the



Bowen brothers both hold professional licences and Sophie is apprentice to Ed Dunlop. A pony with a great track record!

The 2019 Racecourse Series Finals was the first time a graduate of our Youth Training Schemes rode in the Finals. Ben Colmer took part in a scheme run for children who do not have access to their own pony in 2015 riding in his first pony race at the Pony Club race day at Lingfield in October 2015. Ben hopes to start working for trainer Eve Johnson-Houghton once he has completed his GCSEs in the summer of 2020.

POINT-TO-POINT PONY RACING

#pointtopointponyracing

A total of 1,196 entries and 960 runners in 150 races at 69 different meetings giving an average 6.4 runners per race. Two meetings were lost to the weather. There were again three height categories and two novice series for those new to the sport.

The Finals for both the Open and Novice series were held at the Exmoor Point-to-Point at Bratton Down on 2nd June 2019.

MEMBERSHIP

#pramember

2019 saw 219 children join the PRA - 58.7% boys and 41.3% girls

TRAINING DAYS

#pratrainning #ponyclubtraining

223 children attended 15 PRA/PC Training Days and 22 children attended 7 Advanced Training Days across the UK. 3 of these Advanced days were run with the PPA as part of their New Rider Training initiative. In total 230 children received PRA pony racing tuition in addition to those who attend the pony racing training delivered by the British Racing School and the National Horseracing College.



FEEDBACK FROM TRAINING DAYS

“

From Parents:

'I thought we would need expensive equipment and a fast pony – how wrong I was. We both had a brilliant time'

'It was amazing just watching their confidence grow'

From an instructor:

'You could hear them laughing all the way up the gallops'

From a rider:

'It was so much fun'

”

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEMES

#NOPONYNOPROBLEM



Over 100 children have completed 28 schemes since 2013, funded by the Racing Foundation and the HBLB under the BHA Recruitment, Training and Retention programme.

- 55 of these children have enjoyed a second pony race and some many more
- The scheme has enabled many to go on to loan racing ponies and we are proud that 21 YTS graduates are working full or part time in the industry
- 3 YTS graduates attended the BRS Pony Racing Camp

This year a YTS graduate, who rode in his first pony race at the Pony Club Race day at Lingfield in 2015, competed in the Charles Owen Racecourse Series Finals at Cheltenham. This is the first time any YTS rider has ridden in the Racecourse Series Finals. 30 children are currently on a scheme hoping to graduate and ride in 2020.

APPLETREE STUD, BANBURY

- 8 children completed a scheme
- 6 YTS graduates had a second partially funded ride
- 45 children have completed a scheme since 2013
- 30 of these 45 have gone on to have a second ride
- 15 YTS graduates are now working full or part time in the industry
- 6 children currently on a scheme

BOURTON VALE EQUESTRIAN

(including St James' City Farm, Gloucester)

- 3 children completed a scheme. All 3 will have a second race in 2020
- 17 children have completed a scheme since 2015
- 12 of these are still pony racing (5 are now too old to pony race)
- 1 graduate is at the British Racing School and 1 aims to go as soon as he has left school
- 4 children are currently riding out for trainers part-time and 1 aims to later this year when he is 15 years old
- 3 children currently on a scheme

CROXTETH PARK, LIVERPOOL

- No scheme run in 2019 due to lack of suitable/sound ponies
- 6 children starting a scheme
- 8 children have completed schemes since 2016
- 2 children have had a second race

PARK LANE STABLES, TEDDINGTON

(including Ebony Riding Club, Brixton)

- 8 children completed a scheme in 2019
- 3 children are waiting to race
- 22 children have completed a scheme since 2015
- 11 graduates have had a second race delivered either by Park Lane Stables or Appletree Stud
- 2 graduates applying for the BRS; one attends part-time

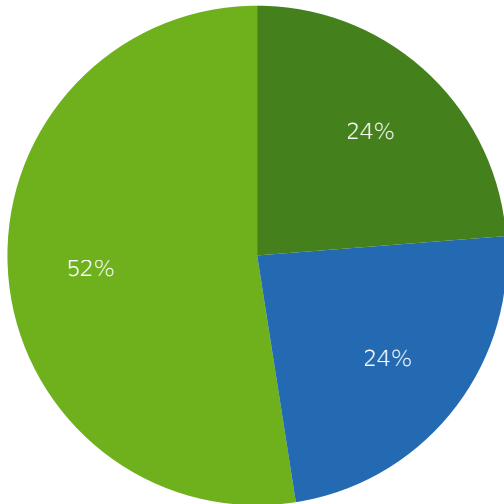
WORCESTER RIDING SCHOOL

- 7 children completed a scheme in 2019
- 7 of these hoping to have a second race
- 7 children currently on a scheme

The PRA is a non-profit organisation but holds money in reserve to ensure pony racing can continue for a year if no outside funding is available or to fund issues such as nasal swabs.

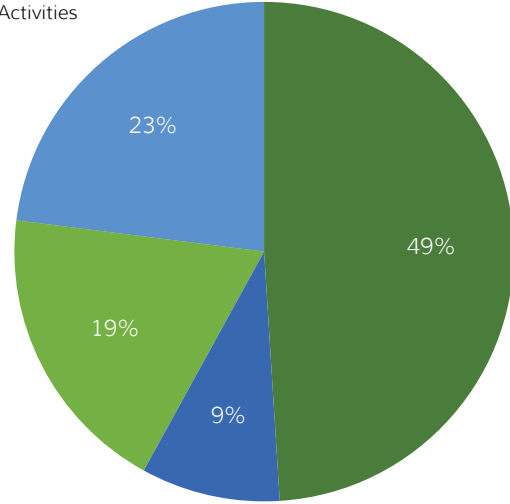
INCOME

- Membership & Entries
- Sponsorship
- Grant Funding



EXPENDITURE

- Administration (includes insurance, website, etc.)
- Activities
- Horse Welfare
- Youth Training Schemes and Graduates



SNAPSHOT

	POINT-TO-POINT	RACECOURSE	TOTAL
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Total Number of Fixtures

2014	85	27	112
2015	72	27	99
2016	76	26	102
2017	71	26	97
2018	61 (73)	23	84
2019	69 (71)	25 (26)	94

(denotes total number of scheduled fixtures)

Total Number of Races

2014	186	54	240
2015	172	54	226
2016	172	50	222
2017	170	51	221
2018	139	46	185
2019	150	49	199

Total Number of Runners

2014	1027	352	1379
2015	1057	371	1428
2016	1046	371	1417
2017	1038	360	1398
2018	889	398	1287
2019	960	298	1258

PRA MEMBERS

2014	247
2015	253
2016	261
2017	258
2018	215
2019	219

REGISTERED PONIES

2014	267
2015	265
2016	273
2017	250
2018	267
2019	280

AWARD WINNERS 2019



THE CHARLES OWEN RACECOURSE SERIES FINALS WINNERS

Winner of 138 cm Final

Harry Davies riding Little Anne

Winner of 148 cm Final

Edward Vaughan riding White Water

Winner of 138 cm Conditions' Final

Zak Kent riding Littel Galway Girl

Winner of 148 cm Conditions' Final

Ollie Proctor riding Steal My Girl

THE SPECIAL FIFTY AND COUNTING AWARD

Push The Button for 50 wins in Charles Owen Racecourse Series Races.

THE RACETECH LEADING RIDER AND PONY COMBINATION AWARDS

Winner of the 138 cm RaceTech Leading Rider and pony combination

Taylor Fisher and Maesteg Ruth

Winner of the 148 cm RaceTech Leading Rider and pony combination

Edward Vaughan and White Water

THE ROSE BENGL SCHOLARSHIP

Winner of the 138 cm Rose Bengal Scholarship

Thomas Bradburne

Runner up Taylor Fisher

Winner of the 148 cm Rose Bengal Scholarship

Elliot England

Runners up Lucy Aspell, Will Featherstone, Henry Main

BEST TURNED OUT - BASED ON POINTS PER RACE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Winner of the 138 cm category Joe Leavy

Winner of the 148 cm category Molly Burton

THE CHIUMBO ENDEAVOUR AWARD

In memory of a fantastic racing pony now retired who gave everything and taught lots of children about pony racing awarded to a jockey who has shown great commitment throughout the season both on and off their pony.

Joint Winners in the 148 cm category

Will Featherstone and Daniel Ellis

AWARD WINNERS 2019

THE MOST WIDELY TRAVELLED - THE RIDERS WHO RODE IN THE MOST RACECOURSE SERIES RACES

Winner of the 138 cm category

Taylor Fisher, riding in 12 Charles Owen Races on 3 ponies

Winner of the 148 cm category

Molly Burton, riding in 13 Charles Owen Races

CAREERSINRACING VIDEO COMPETITION FOR THE BEST VIDEO CONCERNING PONY RACING

Winners Richard Cook and Daisy Dace

Runners Up Jack Dace and Lucas Murphy

POINT-TO-POINT PONY RACING LEADING RIDERS AWARDS

Winner of the 138 cm category Jack Dace

Winner of the 148 cm category Ashley Lewis

MOST STAND OUT RIDER OF THE SEASON. FOR CONDUCT ON AND OFF THE TRACK

Edward Vaughan

SERVICES TO PONY RACING

Ann Watts



THE GEORGE CRAWFORD LEGACY TRUST BURSARY

The George Crawford Legacy Trust was set up in memory of George who died following a road accident at the tragically young age of 20. The Trust aims to provide opportunities for young people, of all abilities, and from all walks of life, to reach their full potential. This Bursary, for £1000, has been created in his memory to support a maximum of 2 pony racing children per annum. They can use it for whatever purposes they need in order to help them participate in pony racing the following season.

Nominations came from the Point-to-Point pony racing committee, PRA stewards and jockey coaches. All were put to the PRA Board and Executive for the final decision.

The inaugural George Crawford Legacy Trust Bursary was awarded to **Charlie Clarke**.



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PonyRacingAuthority



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