

OWNERSHIP ADMIN MODERNISATION

To simplify racehorse ownership, the BHA has introduced a package of reforms. We have previously contacted owners to explain what is happening and to prepare you for some necessary changes which will enable everyone to benefit from improvements in the ownership administration system.

Detailed below are the changes that have taken place which will ensure that going forward the administration of ownership more closely meets your needs. In most cases owners will not need to take action, but we want to make sure you understand any changes that might affect you.

If you have any questions about the reforms please do not hesitate to call 01933 304808 or email ownersupport@weatherbys.co.uk.

NEW REGISTRATION STRUCTURES

To better reflect the way in which people own horses today, the number of ownership types have been reduced. This will make the choice of ownership more simple and intuitive and will ensure that the way in which we handle the administration of horses in your ownership more closely meets your needs.

THE FIVE NEW OWNERSHIP TYPES

SOLE

For people wishing to own a horse outright.

COMPANY

For organisations wishing to own a horse under the name of a company or business.

PARTNERSHIP

For two or more registered owners that wish to own a horse together. Partnerships are likely to comprise family or friends and allow owners to share in the responsibilities of racehorse ownership.

SYNDICATE

For a group of people coming together to own a horse, but who do not have to be sole owners in their own right. The ownership is managed and set up by a syndicator who is responsible for the syndicate. The syndicate can be formed as a result of a public offering and often comprises a larger number of people than a partnership.

RACING CLUB

For a group of people coming together to experience the thrill of racehorse ownership. The club manager will be responsible for the racing club, but unlike in a syndicate, members of a racing club do not own the racehorses. Instead members are likely to pay a subscription in order to enjoy some of the benefits of racehorse ownership.

Old Joint Ownerships

In respect to all old Joint Ownerships these have become Partnerships. This will not affect any VAT or accounting arrangements and all linked registrations (i.e. authority to act etc.) will continue as normal.

To allow for owners to manage their ownerships online and benefit from the improvements to the administration system, going forward all Partnerships will be required to have a name. For existing ownerships without a name, unless we heard from you otherwise, your Partnership name will have become the same as your racecard name. In the future, however, while you will be able



to add horses into already existing Partnerships without changing the name, all newly registered Partnerships will require a Partnership name.

Old Racing Partnerships

In respect to all old Racing Partnerships these have become either Syndicates or Racing Clubs and the BHA have previously been in contact advising which option would be best for you. Either way, neither change will affect VAT or any other accounting arrangements and you will not need to change your ownership name.

In a Syndicate there will need to be a minimum of one syndicator – the individual who administers or promotes the syndicate. The syndicator will have access to the new Racing Admin system and will be able to manage the Syndicate on behalf of all the owners online. As with old nominated partners, syndicators will be jointly and severally liable for any sums due from the ownership and will be treated as the owners of any horse for the purpose of the Rules of Racing. All syndicators will need to be registered owners in their own right.

Similarly, in a Racing Club there will need to be a minimum of one club manager – the individual who administers or promotes the Club. Again the managers will have access to the new Racing Admin system, be jointly and severally liable for any sums due from the ownership and be treated as the owners of any horse for the purpose of the Rules of Racing. All Club managers will need to be registered owners in their own right.

Current Sole and Company owners

Sole and Company ownerships have continued as existing ownership entities and have not been affected.

Current Business Partnerships and Recognised Stud Companies

Already Recognised Stud Companies and Business Partnerships have been unaffected; however, no new entities will be registered.

RATIONALISATION AND REMOVAL OF FEES

To simplify the administration of ownership and lessen the associated costs, the BHA has removed and rationalised fees to reduce owners' overall charges by £140k per annum.

While we will continue to work on reducing the cost of ownership, the fees for the daily charge to search for fixtures and races in the new Racing Admin system and the re-registration fee for Joint Ownerships (which for the most have become Partnerships) has been removed.

In addition, to simplify fees relating to Partnerships and to bring them into line with the other registration structures, we have moved away from an upfront payment followed by re-occurring charges which can be costly for Partnerships which subsequently make changes to the partners and/or add additional horses. This has been replaced by an initial one-off fee of £195. Following this, owners will benefit from being able to add multiple horses into the same Partnership without having to pay again as well as change the partners involved without being charged the full registration fee.

In terms of how these changes will affect you, please note that:

- No existing Partnerships will be adversely affected. All existing Partnerships will make savings through not paying a re-registration fee or to own multiple horses;

- New Partnerships with more than one horse (either simultaneously or at different times) throughout the life of the entity will make a saving;
- New Partnerships that only ever have one horse could make a saving over time due to the removal of the re-registration fee.

Overall, the changes to the way Partnership fees are structured will contribute towards owners' savings and remove the need for more than 2,000 registration forms to be completed every year as only a maximum of one will be required for any Partnership.

ALIGNMENT OF FEES

In addition to rationalising and removing some charges, you will also see the alignment of any re-registration fees for colours, authority to act and VAT to one payment date in the year. Not only will this remove the need for separate charges, but it will reduce the amount of paper and invoices you receive.

You should have already received confirmation of your alignment date in a recent letter and for most owners this will coincide with the date of their colours registration. All re-registration fees linked to Partnerships, Syndicates and Racing Clubs in which you are involved will also be aligned to fall on the date of any colours registrations or, failing that, the date the ownership was registered.

To achieve this alignment, where necessary, existing re-registration fees will be charged pro-rata as will any future fees for new colours, authority to act and VAT registrations to keep everything in line. An example of how this will work is outlined below.

As the specific charges will vary for each owner, for more information on how this will affect you, or to confirm your alignment date, please contact the Weatherbys Ownership Desk on 01933 304808.

	Current	2017	2018+
Colours	 AUGUST	 AUGUST	 AUGUST
A2A	 JUNE	 JUNE pay 3 months pro-rated fee for A2A	One payment made for all registrations for 12 months
VAT	 JULY	 JULY pay 2 months pro-rated fee for VAT	One payment made for all registrations for 12 months

NEW RACING ADMINISTRATION WEBSITE

Registered owners can now benefit from the introduction of the new Racing Admin system which will enable you to maintain your ownerships online; from setting up a new ownership to registering sponsorships, authority to act and colours. The system provides you with up-to-date



information on the horses you own and who is involved as well as free and easy access to the race programme which will allow you to search for races. In addition, it will help facilitate the removal of many letters received by owners over the coming months as communications are moved online.

If you already have access to the new Racing Admin system (e.g. as a trainer or racing secretary) you are not required to take any action. In the instance you do not, however, you can apply for a log in via www2.racingadmin.co.uk, using a token code which you should have received recently via post or simply by entering your details.

In the case of companies, it is intended that the *first named director* will be the person with access to the new Racing Admin system. The name of this director should have now been communicated to each company.

If you have any questions on the changes, are unsure about accessing the new Racing Admin system or would like to request a new token code, please contact the Weatherbys Ownership Desk on 01933 304808 (between 8:30-5:30, Monday to Friday) or email ownersupport@weatherbys.co.uk.