

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION



Although I am currently standing in as interim Chairman of The PPA, the 2015/16 Season was run under the capable watch of Tim Curtis, to whom our gratitude goes out for his stable but progressive stewardship.

2015/16 was a successful season with good high-quality racing lasting into June, thanks to a wet spring and some excellent course management and preparation. It is clear that owners and trainers will run their horses throughout the season and across the country so long as they know they will get safe reliable racing surfaces. The decline in horse and rider numbers has slowed down significantly and 2016 saw 2,600 horses compete at 182 meetings. The newly formed Race Planning Committee under the Chairmanship of David Minton has created a more diverse race structure which caters better for our horse population. The more notable achievements are significantly more 2.5 mile races for non-maidens, and more encouragement for 4 year olds.

The sport of Point-to-Point racing continues to defy the economic climate and the changing rural landscape to prove that people love the thrill of the racing and the great day out that our sport provides. This is only possible due to the passion, dedication and hard work of our vast volunteer army, so on behalf of all our participants and their supporters a heartfelt 'thank you' for putting on our sport! Also a big thanks to Clare Hazell and the hard working team at The PPA.

Looking forward 2017/18 is a 'watershed' moment for Point to Point racing with the accepted recognition from The BHA that a stable grass roots/Point to Point is critical to a healthy professional sport, and their commitment that the long-awaited additional funding via the Racing Right will be significantly targeted towards 'Grass Roots' racing. We must make our case professionally and strongly for the much needed additional funding to keep our sport as a national one with a balanced fixture list.

Point-to-Pointing can be rightly proud of the fact that so many of the top players in the professional sport have stated their careers in points including our well-deserved Champion Jockeys both NH and Flat, Richard Johnson and Jim Crowley. Our aim continues to be able to provide amateur racing where future champions can hone their skill alongside passionate weekend amateur competitors whilst always seeking to be 'the best we can be' and ensure our sport is sustainable for future generations.

NICK SUTTON



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW



It continues to be a privilege and pleasure for my team and me to play our part in supporting the hard work of so many people who without whom the Point-to-Point season would not exist.

The relocation of the PPA office to Swindon and a two-stage recruitment process was completed in time for the beginning of the season. Colleagues Cara O'Reilly and Becci Thompson took up the positions of Liaison Executive and Communications and Commercial Executive, respectively. It is year-round teamwork that allows us to provide the sport with the professional range of services it needs and deserves, and I want to place on record my grateful thanks to the PPA staff.

The office is a bustling resource for the needs of jockeys, owners, officials and Point-to-Point fixture secretaries – the latter being, of course, the nationwide backbone of the sport. It was so helpful and inspiring for Cara, Becci and me to visit over 30 fixtures nationwide over the season, and I would like to thank all of those organising fixtures for their enthusiastic welcome.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Chairman, Tim Curtis and his fellow PPA Board members for their generous guidance and for giving up so much of their time and expertise so freely. It would be remiss not to take this opportunity to thank Mike Felton, MFHA representative on the Board for many years and to welcome Alan Hill who took over the reins from Mike in September 2015.

Dr Linsey Whitley took up the position of Medical Advisor in November 2015 replacing Dr Tony Walsh, who retired in September. Together with processing the numerous Riders' Qualification Certificates, Linsey liaises closely with the BHA Medical Department on implementation of positive changes and improvements to medical care within the sport.

I am proud to be PPA Chief Executive and of the achievements of the team. The development of our new website and the setting up of a Race Programming Committee are two key developments in this period. The former is our shop window and is both a key resource and a first entry point for the participants and racegoer alike. Race Programming is the skilled process of matching the races on offer with the changing size and standard of the horses that are in training. The Committee is chaired by David Minton and has turned out to be a very dynamic 'think tank'. They have taken considerable time analysing statistics, resulting in positive Regulation change with an aim of increasing the competitive nature of races and ultimately the number of runners.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW

The 2015/16 was another memorable season, with 182 fixtures held at over 100 unique courses. Competing nationwide were 2,600 horses and 590 jockeys, with almost £90,000 directed to the sport's grassroots via National Sponsorship. We are indebted to our loyal long-term sponsors, Connolly's Red Mills and AGA who we bid a fond farewell to at the end of the season. Subaru's successful first season led to a decision to double the number of their sponsored races to 50, in addition to introducing a new exciting points championship with the winning owner securing the lease of a Subaru car for a year. The ground-breaking Point-to-Point Bumper in 2015 sponsored by GoffsUK was followed up by a race at Exeter in 2016. Both the TBA and Jockey Club also made a further commitment to the sport by increasing the number of races they supported.

With the support of the HBLB, the PPA implemented a survey during 2015. The feedback enabled the PPA to put in place some specific measures during the period, addressing some common concerns:

COMMON THEME	New initiatives for 2015-16 Season
Prize Money too low	Maximum prize fund increased to £1,000 (from £550) in Opens and £750 (from £350) in all other races.
Uncompetitive Races	Mandatory Penalties introduced in Ladies and Mixed Open Races
Limited opportunities at different distances	2m4f races introduced across all race cards for all horses. Winners on the Flat will be allowed access to P2P through restricted races
Rising Costs	Lower insurance fees secured for riders and owners
Limitations of Website	New website delivered for 2015-16

The survey highlighted a perceived lack of promotion within the sport, which is an area that the PPA, with the support of others, would like to prioritise going forward. In addition, we have identified several strategies to help retain and increase current numbers of riders and owners within the sport, all based upon enhanced promotion, marketing and support of pointing and, with the support of the HBLB it was fantastic to secure a presence within The Racing Post through editorial and the advertising of successful British P2P graduates under rules for the 2015-16 season.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW

My congratulations go again to both Will Biddick and Gina Andrews who retained their crowns and it was wonderful to celebrate their achievements at the National Dinner hosted by Luke Harvey with both Victoria Pendleton and A P McCoy in attendance. It was also great to see both Will and Gina in action, as the best riders from Britain and Ireland battled it out in the annual renewal of the Anglo-Irish International Point-to-Point Challenge held at Inch, in February resulting in an overall victory for team GB. Congratulations to all team members for making the event a great success and a huge thank you to the organisers in Ireland who welcomed us over and were such fantastic hosts.

A special mention to Victoria Pendleton, multiple Olympic gold medallist, who took part in the Betfair Switching Saddles challenge and rode in Point-to-Points throughout the season before taking part and finishing 5th in the Cheltenham Foxhunters at the Festival. She has become a natural ambassador for the sport and we look forward to following her as she continues to compete within the sport during the 2016-17 season.

My recent involvement in the BHA's Jockey Development and Training and Development Group is, I believe, a good step forward for Pointing and we are extremely grateful for BHA funding of Point-to-Point Jockey Coaching and course walks over the season. With over 55% of our young riders going on to ride professionally its only right riders can learn from qualified coaches, all of which are ex-professional riders.

The PPA will continue to work in a progressive and responsive way and whilst ever mindful of the differences between each area and the challenges they may have, it's key that we work to combine the strengths and unique qualities of these areas to raise the profile of the sport on a national level, and to ensure its voice is heard and understood in the corridors of power. Its inevitable tough decisions often need to be made and supported to benefit the sport. Transparency through direct communication goes a long way to satisfy our supporters, confirming that we act carefully and for the common good. I am mindful that passions can naturally run high in sport and I will continue to communicate face-to-face with as many people possible involved to understand their views.

CLARE HAZELL

June 2016



THE BOARD:

The Board, under the chairmanship of Tim Curtis, met regularly during the year.

Stakeholder Directors

Mike Felton - MFHA (Replaced by Alan Hill, Feb 2016)

Stephen Howlett - PPSA

Richard Russell – The Jockey Club

Robert Killen – PPORA – (From Sept 2015)

Independent Directors

Tim Curtis - Chairman

Jeremy Barber

Nick Sutton

THE PPA TEAM:



CLARE HAZELL

Chief Executive



CARA O'REILLY

Liaison Executive



BECCI THOMPSON

Communications & Commercial Executive

MEDICAL ADVISOR:

Dr Linsey Whitley

BOOK KEEPER/ACCOUNTS:

Julie Ellis



STATISTICS 2015-16

The figures shown in brackets are the corresponding figures for the 14/15 season

FIXTURES

The number of fixtures sanctioned by the BHA in 2015/16 was 182 (191). 165 (184) meetings took place. The first Meetings, on 29th November were the Black Forest Lodge Club at Black Forest Lodge and Cambridge University United Hunts Club at Cottenham. Victoria Pendleton had her first ride in a Point to Point this season with her first ride being at the Black Forest Lodge Club fixture on the Alan Hill trained Minella Theatre.

COURSES

Meetings were held on 104 (104) different courses throughout the country in 2015/16.

ABANDONED, POSTPONED & REARRANGED FIXTURES

25 (13) meetings were abandoned, postponed or rearranged in 2015/16. 3 (2) meetings were abandoned before their entries opened, 14 (5) meetings which entries opened were totally lost, 3 (2) meetings were rearranged, and 5 (4) meetings originally postponed went ahead within 15 days. 8 meetings were postponed and 17 were abandoned due to the winter weather conditions.

HUNTER CERTIFICATES

2595 (2716) Hunter Certificates were lodged with 171 (177) British Hunts in 2015/16.

2 (5) Hunts registered 50 or more horses.

RACES AND ENTRIES

The total number of entries at Point-to-Point meetings in 2015/16 was 17,640 (17,915) with 8754 actual runners the average number of runners per meeting 53.05 (49.27).

There were 7 (11) walkovers of which 3 were Hunt Members, 2 were Mens Opens, 1 was a PPORA Club Member's for Novice Riders and 1 was a Restricted.

There were 29 (42) two runner races. Of these, 11 were Hunt Members, 11 Men's, Ladies or Mixed Opens, 2 were Intermediates, 1 was a Restricted, 1 was a Club Members (Nov/Vet Riders), 1 was a Confined, 1 Club Members for Mares & Fillies and 1 was an Open Maiden for four, five and six-year-olds.

1 (3) Meeting had 100 or more runners. Harkaway Club at Chaddesley Corbett had 115.

10 (22) Meetings had 30 or fewer runners.

The average number of runners per meeting was 53.12 (49.54)



STATISTICS 2015-16

ATTENDANCE

Total Attendance during the season was in excess of 200,000

Month	Average Meeting Attendance 2014-15	Average Meeting Attendance 2015-16
December	1,500	1,000
January	1,500	1,700
February	1,200	1,200
March	1,700	2,000
April	2,500	1,900
May	1,800	1,400
June	2,000	1,500

HUNTERS' CHASE SEASON 2016

After the reduction in the number of races for the 2014 season, and resultant much improved statistics, it was decided to maintain the same number of races in 2016 as in 2015 despite a further small decline in Hunters' Certificates. As a result, 97 races were scheduled, two of which were Point-to-Point Bumpers, one being at Exeter in April, the second being at Aintree in May. Early season suffered from some frost and a wet spell later resulting in eight races being abandoned during the season, the biggest number since 2012.

For the second year, a record was kept of the number of races with less than 6 runners, mirroring the measurement kept for all other races by the BHA and 15 races or 19% fell into this category, just 1% better than the rate for all steeplechases run over the same period.

FINAL STATISTICS

For the 89 races that took place (including the 2 Bumpers) 1913 entries were received, 21.5 per race, and on the day this produced an average field size across all Hunters' Chases for the season of 9.13 per race. The comparable figure of all types of Steeplechase combined came out at 7.5 and all Hurdle races at 9.12 per race over the same period. All these figures came about during the season after the balloting out of 20 horses in Hunters' Chases for Safety Factor reasons and a further 10 for a lack of stables.

It was a season of which we should be proud, with good competitive racing, and once more the BHA and the supporting racecourses should be congratulated for allowing a number of races to suit the horse population.



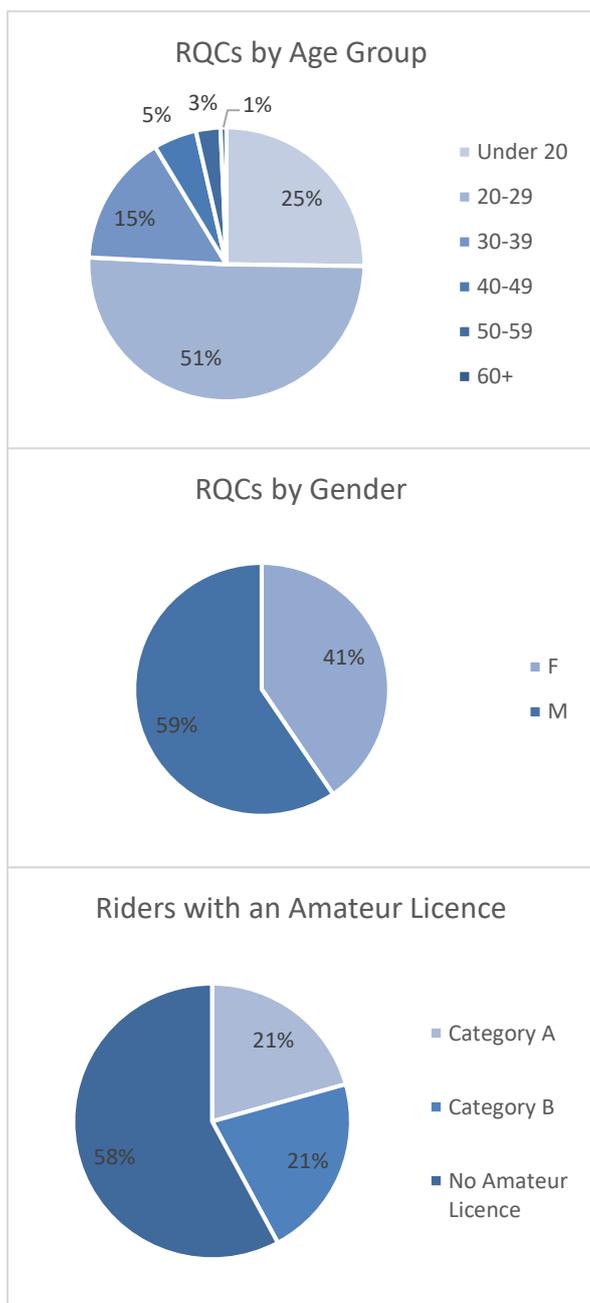
STATISTICS 2015-16

The figures shown in brackets are the corresponding figures for the 14/15 season.

RIDER QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

During the 2014/15 season a total of 591 (603) Riders Qualification Certificates (RQCs) were issued. Of the RQCs issued 135 (131) were issued to new applicants who hadn't held an RQC before (22.9%).

DEMOGRAPHY



Age

Around 50% of all RQCs were issued to the "20-29" age category with second most RQCs issued to "under 20" year olds at 25%. Only 4 RQCs (5) were issued to riders aged "60+". There was little change to the percentage of RQCs issued in each age category as compared to last season.

Gender

More RQCs were issued to Male Riders over Female Riders, and the percentage issued to each was exactly the same as last season (59% Male, 41% Female).

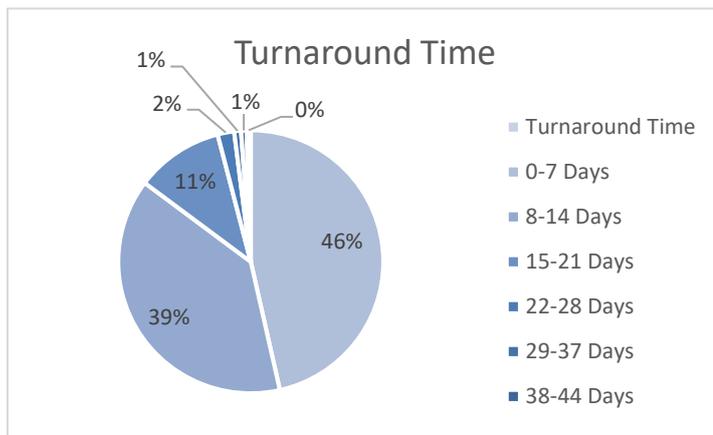
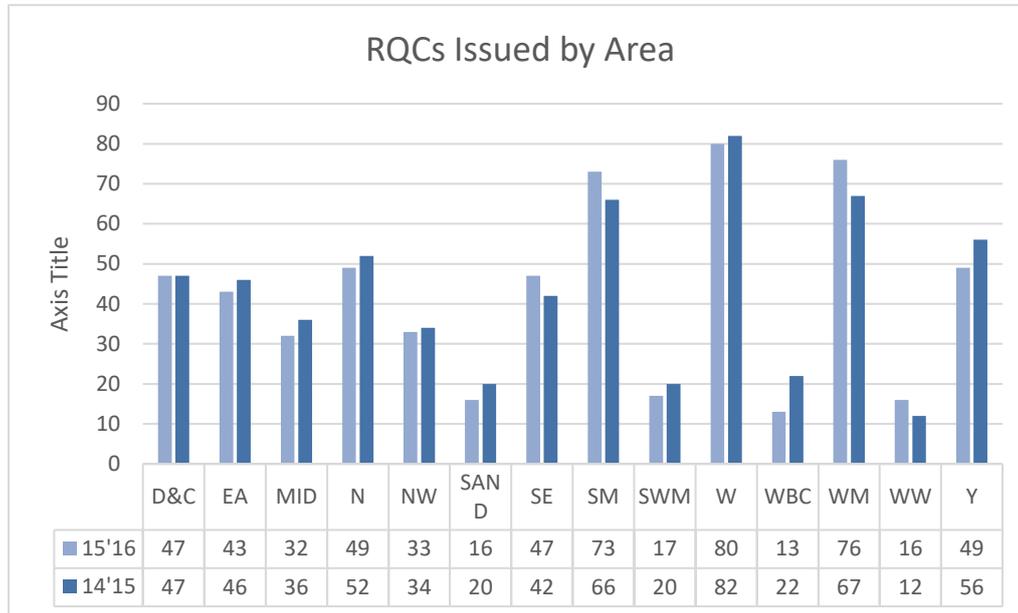
Less than half the riders issued with RQC's also held an Amateur Licence at the time of application. 21% (19%) also held a Category A Licence and 21% (22%) held a Category B Licence.



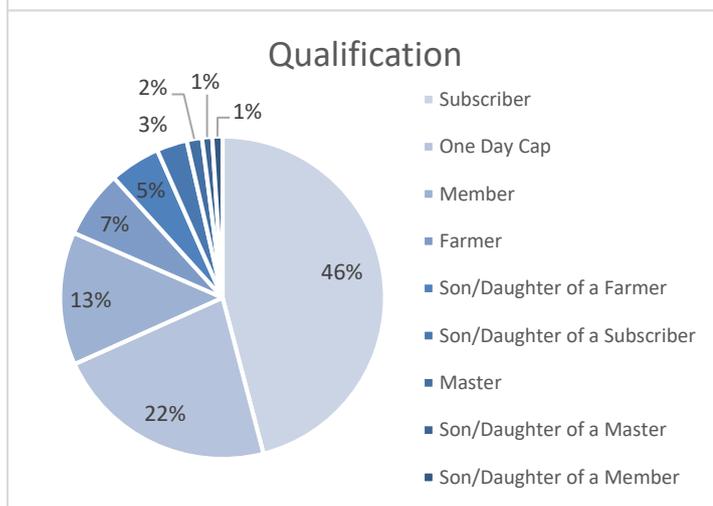
STATISTICS 2015-16

GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD

Most RQCs were issued in the Wessex area (W). The areas that issued least RQCs were West Wales and Sandhurst with 16 (WW with 12)



The average time taken to issue a RQC (from receipt of the application to the date it was posted out) was 9.3 days (8.7 days), the majority of applications - 85% (87%) were issued within 14 days of receipt.



The majority of riders 272 (256) were Hunt Subscribers and 132 paid 'One Day Cap'.

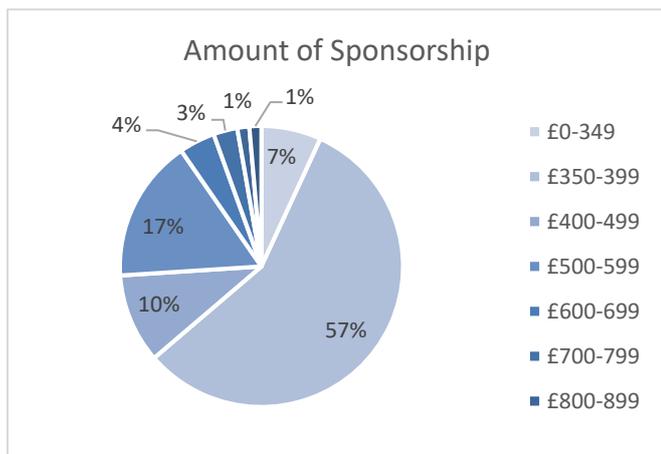


STATISTICS 2015-16

Figures shown in brackets denote the corresponding figure for the 2014'15 season.

RIDERS SPONSORSHIP SCHEME (RSS)

In the 2015'16 Point to Point season 147 (272) riders registered with the Riders Sponsorship Scheme (RSS), 103 of them had been registered the previous season and were renewing the sponsorship and 44 were new to the scheme.



A total of £59,516.07 (£64,755.70) in sponsorship was paid into the scheme during the season which equates to an average of £404.85 (434.60) per rider.



DEVELOPMENT

JOCKEY TRAINING

RQC holders were invited to attend regional jockey coaching workshops within the BHA's Jockey Coaching Program. Receiving expert tuition and advice from professional coaches' attendees gained greatly by attending the workshops. All riders were contacted via a group text messaging services which resulted in good take up.

Course walks were more popular and encouraged by owners/trainers.

The PPA are grateful to the BHA for the providing funding for the Point-to-Point Jockey training and the PPORA for assisting with the organization.

PPA DOCTOR ORIENTATION DAYS

A Doctors orientation day for Point-to-Point Doctors was held at the start of September, at the Household Calvary in London and attended by over 20 Point-to-Point Doctors. Amongst others, Dr Jerry Hill (BHA Chief Medical Advisor), Dr Linsey Whitley (PPA Medical advisor), Dr Steve Piggott (Medical Equestrian Association), Dr Jules Blackham (consultant emergency physician), Gemma Gracey Davison (Professional Jockey), made presentations.

FIXTURE SECRETARIES WORKSHOP

A Fixture Secretary Workshop was held at Weatherby's in Wellingborough in September and was attended by 12 new (or nearly new!) Fixture Secretaries. It was an informative and enjoyable day and our thanks go to our speakers: Lucy Price (BHA), Richard Power, The P2PRC, Weatherby's Printing Services, Stephen Wensley (D&C Social Media Officer), Sarah Walters (Health & Safety from The Jockey Club) and Anna Saunders (Area Secretary Midlands).



OUTLINE OF REGULATORY & INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGES

The following changes were approved by the PPA Board and further ratified by the BHA Board and were effective from the start of the 2015/16 season.

PENALTIES

The inclusion of mandatory penalties for all Open races. Where Point-to-Point race programmers / organisers could previously use their own discretion with regard to including penalties except in Ladies Open Steeple Chases where penalties remain discretionary until March when they become mandatory.

Introduction of cumulative penalties for Mixed Open races accounting for each win in Opens and Rules races and amendment of dates so that the penalties apply only for previous season wins and not the two previous seasons.

WEIGHTS

The cessation in the 5YO allowance from 1 March each season to reflect a horse maturing as a five-year old.

VETERAN HORSE DEFINITION

A "Veteran Horse" is a horse aged nine years old and upwards from the start of the season up to and including December 31st, and for ten years old and upwards from January 1st until season end.

NEW DISTANCE OF 2m4f ACROSS ALL RACES

Regulation 80

All races with the exception of those in Sub-Regulation (ii) below shall be run over a distance of not less than 3 miles, and there shall not be less than 18 jumps in any race, unless otherwise approved by the Stewards of the Meeting in accordance with Regulation 13 (iii), or the provisions of Regulation 122 (iv) have been enacted.

Maiden races for 4, 5, 6 and 7 year olds and one additional Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, with the approval of the British Horseracing Authority, may be run over 2 miles 4 furlongs

Regulation 72

A Steeple Chase to be run over 2m4f in addition to, or instead of a 4, 5, 6 & 7 YO Maiden Steeple Chase.

Regulation 73

A Steeple Chase to be run over 2m4f in addition to, or instead of a 4, 5, 6 & 7 YO Maiden Steeple Chase.

DISALLOWING 7 YEAR OLDS FROM RUNNING IN 'YOUNG HORSE MAIDENS'

Maiden races for 4, 5, and 6 year olds, with the approval of the British Horseracing Authority, may be run over 2 miles 4 furlongs.

WINNERS ON THE FLAT TO RUN IN RESTRICTED RACE

"Restricted Point-to-Point Steeple Chase" is a race open to any horse, except if age or sex conditions are subsequently imposed (or if it is confined to specific Hunts, Clubs, Associations or Services), which, at starting, has not won any Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority other than a National Hunt Flat race, a Flat race or any other Point-to-Point Steeplechase other than Maiden Races, or Hunt Members Races.



MAXIMUM PRIZEFUND

Regulation 76 (i) (a) (i) (a) The total prize money or other prize for an Open (Men's, Ladies or Mixed) Steeple Chase shall be £325-£1000 and of any other Steeple Chase, £250-£750, save with the express permission of the British Horseracing Authority.

REVIEW OF PASSPORT PROCEDURE

If an owner is unable to produce a passport, or the vaccination section of the passport has not been endorsed as required under Regulation 36(ii), he will be fined £100 (See Regulation 38(ii)). The horse may run providing the owner or his authorised agent is prepared to sign a declaration, provided by The British Horseracing Authority Veterinary Officer, that he has received the passport, the horse has been properly vaccinated and that the horse has not been vaccinated against equine influenza on the day of the race or on any of the 6 days prior to the day of the race.

The passport must be sent to the British Horseracing Authority Office, addressed to the Point-to-Point Executive to arrive within 72 hours of the meeting taking place. The passport will then be endorsed and returned.

Where there is a passport irregularity, as under Regulation 38(ii), this must be rectified and sent to the British Horseracing Authority Office, addressed to the Point-to-Point Executive. The passport will be endorsed and returned.

STARTING PROCEDURE

Should the Starter consider that a fair start has not been effected he shall declare it a false start by keeping his flag raised, or by raising it again if it has been lowered, and order the riders, by means of the recall flagman, to return to the Starting Post and a standing start will be effected.



RACE PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Committee Member	Representing
David Minton (Chairman)	Independent
Richard Russell	BHA
Alan Hill	MFHA
Mat Coleman	PRO
Nick Bostock	PPSA
Tik Saunders	PPORA
Philip Hall	The Jockey Club

The role of the Race Programming Committee is to make recommendations to the PPA Board in respect of race programming and framing at Point-to-Points and to provide a forum for debate on all aspects of the fixture list. The Committee collects feedback, and monitors all relevant statistics, to be able to recommend policy.

The Committee, chaired by David Minton met twice during the period, making a recommendation for the 2016-17 season for inexperienced Riders to claim an allowance in Open Races.



During the period the P2PRC team consisted of Viv Buckby (Supervisor), Lucy Wheeler and Sarah Pollard. Lucy Wheeler left in March 2016 and was replaced by Jen Graham.

Andrew Bubeer was appointed a role within Weatherby's to create publications such as the Planner, Andrew started his new role in June 2016 and worked closely with the area and fixture secretaries

P2PRC BOARD

Nick Wright (Chairman),

Jo Abraham and Nick Craven, representing Weatherby's

Clare Hazell and Tim Curtis representing the Point-to-Point Authority

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

During the season the P2PRC provided an entries service for 80 meetings providing owners and trainers with the option of entering with via the telephone or online. The online entry option has proved increasingly popular and was made available to all meetings over the 2015/16 season. The PTPRC team is also responsible for qualifying all Point-to-Point Entries in their administrative role, supporting both the BHA and the PPSA in the day-to-day running of the sport.

The P2PRC product range includes two books produced during the close season; the 'Point-to-Point & Hunter Chase Results & Stats 2015-16', containing full results from the previous season along with a statistical summary; and 'The Point-to-Point & Hunter Chase Race Planner' containing full race conditions for every Point-to-Point and Hunter Chase throughout the season.

Throughout the season the P2PRC publish the Loose Leaf Form Guide which, posted out weekly, forms the only definitive resource for Point-to-Point form, building into an unrivalled formbook covering every Point-to-Point and Hunter Chase, including comments in-running and proven ratings which make it an invaluable tool for regular racegoers, form students and those involved with producing and training horses for the sport.

The National Website is also run from the Point-to-Point Racing Company Ltd. office, keeping the Point-to-Point world up to date with all the latest news and events, meeting previews and reports.

In addition to these products the P2PRC produce Racecards for well over 100 Point-to-Points every year in association with Weatherbys Printing Services, as well as offering an Entries Service to meetings, effectively operating as Entries Secretaries to a number of meetings which grows with each season. The P2PRC also run the sport's Official Telephone & Fax Entries and Results Service - Talking Point.



2015-15 CHAMPIONS

TOP PERFORMERS 2015/16

Lady Riders

Gina Andrews	28
Claire Hart	19
Jacqueline Coward	15

Fullers Brewery Gentleman Riders

Will Biddick	54
John Mathias	28
Sam Davies-Thomas	25



Leading Owner

Sarah Easterby	14
Alan Hill	11
Christine Banks	10
Charles Levinson	10

Connolly's Red Mills Leading Horse of the Year

Premier Portrait	8
Gunmoney	6



Foran Equine Leading Trainers' Championship - 7 or fewer horses

Sarah Easterby	14
David Gibbs	11
Charles Levinson	10



Connolly's Red Mills Leading Trainers' Championship – 8+ horses

Jack Barber	50
Alan Hill	25
Ed Walker	21



Fullers Brewery Leading Male Novice Rider

Jack Andrews	13
Richard Patrick	11



Fullers Brewery Leading Female Novice Rider

Abigail Banks	6
Taylor Pook	6
Hannah Welch	4



PPRC Leading Hunter Chase Rider

James King	5
5 Riders on 3 wins	



Leading Hunter Chase Trainer

Alan Hill	3
-----------	---

The Jockey Club Mares Maiden Championship

Galros Lady	33pts
Princess Tina	17pts



THE PPA NATIONAL AWARDS DINNER AND DANCE

The National Dinner was held in November 2015 at the Four Pillars Hotel, Cotswold Water Park to celebrate the champions of the 2014-15 season. Over 250 guests were treated to a champagne reception sponsored by Fullers Brewery, a three course dinner, awards ceremony hosted by Luke Harvey and music supplied by the ever popular Chip Shop Boys.



The PPA and all involved in Point-to-Pointing are very grateful for the support received from the Levy Board. Examination of the fixture profitability levels shows how critical this support is.

£8,750 was allocated towards a stakeholder survey in 2015. The Survey was carried out by an independent party in the spring. It contained around 50 questions covering attendance, spend, recall, rating of meetings and reaction to various statements. The feedback has enabled the PPA to ascertain the demographic of spectators, officials and participants.

The survey highlighted a perceived lack of promotion within the sport, and off the back of this the PPA identified several strategies to help retain and increase current numbers of riders and owners within the sport, all based upon enhanced promotion, marketing and support of pointing.

The Racing Post - It was felt crucial to have a presence within horse racing's daily paper through editorial and advertising. It is of public interest that news of any Point-to-Point graduates that go on to win under Rules is published. Success boxes were implemented from January 2016 enabling British P2P graduates to be highlighted within results.

Funding was allocated to create a marketing blueprint and training was delivered to fixture secretaries focusing. The blueprint focused on adding value via experiences for visitors, media liaison and advertising templates with a view to encouraging fixtures to help themselves.

The PPA believes that the principle of differential support bands is now well accepted, however, in order to strengthen the programme at the least popular times of year, a further increase in the lowest band was proposed. As a result, the following contributions for the 2015/16 period were agreed.

Band	2014/15		2015/16	
	No of Meetings	Proposed Contribution per Meeting	No of Meetings	Proposed Contribution per Meeting
Dec – Feb	43	£1,750	46	£1920
March	46	£1,450	30	£1500
Apr - Jun	77	£1,200	85	£1200
Easter Sat	12	£300	11	£300
Easter Mon	11	£300	11	£300

PR AND COMMUNICATIONS

During the period, the PPA increased its use of social media keeping the sport up to date with breaking news and interacting with race-goers and participants. As at June 2016 the PPA Facebook page had 3,537 likes (an increase of 17%) and 3,806 followers on Twitter (an increase of 24%). The GoPointing Facebook and Twitter accounts continue to be a useful and popular PR tool with 2,522 followers on Twitter (67% increase) and 4,180 facebook likes (38% increase).

A digital edition of the Pointer Magazine was again produced in time for a PPA Media Day held in October. 750 hard copies were printed, including some for the PPORA for their members at cost price with the digital version distributed via email to approx. 25,000 racing and Point-to-Point enthusiasts including every registered Flat and National Hunt Owner.

The E-Route Newsletter is now distributed monthly; this is a digital production sent by email to a database of over 3,000. It is also posted on the National Website, Twitter and Facebook.

A PPA Media day was held at Stratford Racecourse on 29th October 2015 with over 50 attendees. It was hosted by Luke Harvey and was an effective platform to announce the new season and continued sponsorship deals with Subaru and Doncaster Bloodstock Sales. The day was attended by sponsors, members of the media, Area PRO's and other relevant individuals. The media pack was distributed to journalists and an accompanying press release announcing the sponsors was distributed to the E-Newsletter database.

The Point-to-Point fixture list was once again published within the IJF desk and pocket diary.



SPONSORSHIP

Dodson & Horrell again sponsored the PPORA Club Members Series for Novice Riders. The series consisted of 13 sponsored races with the final taking place at Garthorpe in May. In addition, all other races containing a Novice Rider condition offered a place in the Final to the first three horses and riders past the post.

Leading feed producer **Connolly's Red Mills** continued to support a National Intermediate series. A total of 14 races were sponsored culminating in their final at Cheltenham racecourse's Hunter Chase meeting on Wednesday 27th April. The first 4 horses placed in a qualifier were eligible for the Final plus the first two horses placed in any other intermediate race. The winner of the ninth running of the sought-after was Lilbitluso. Congratulations to John Mathias and the winning connections.

In addition, Connolly's Red Mills awarded the leading Point to Point trainer with a tonne of horse feed, a trophy and voucher in two categories, trainers with 7 horses or fewer and those with 8+. They also awarded a Red Mills Cooler, trophy and voucher to the National Champion Horse.

In the 2015/16 season, **The Thoroughbred Breeders Association (TBA)** sponsored 12 races for Mares. Owners with a runner in any TBA race were given a 12-month subscription to the TBA worth £125.

AGA sponsored a series of Ladies Open Races and a final at Stratford on 20th May.

The Jockey Club were welcomed back as a sponsor of the Mares Maiden Series for the 2015/16 season, including the Champion Novice Mare award. Mares accumulated points once they had been placed in one of 18 sponsored qualifiers. The owner of the winning mare was awarded £500 at the National Awards Dinner.

Subaru sponsored 50 qualifying races and a final at Stratford. The final attracted a quality field of 14 runners. A new points based Subaru Championship went down to the wire with two horses in contention running in the final. The prize of the lease of a Subaru car was won by North George whose owner passed onto the winning Jockey, Byron Moorcroft, who had ridden the horse all season

To promote Point-to-Point bumpers under Rules, **Goffs UK** supported the Grassroots of the sport in return for advertisements in race cards for a second season.



ANGLO-IRISH CHALLENGE

THE MOUNTAIN WAREHOUSE ANGLO-IRISH CHALLENGE – CONGRATULATIONS TO TEAM GB

The fourth running of the Anglo-Irish Challenge was held at Inch Point-to-Point, held near Tallow in County Cork, on March 23 2016. Four men and four women from each country went head to head in a series of races during the day.

Ladies

Gina Andrews

Hannah Watson

Claire Hart

Catherine Walton

Gentlemen

Will Biddick

John Mathias

Darren Edwards

Nick Orpwood

After Derek O'Connor clinched the men's race, Britain's Gina Andrews and Hannah Watson finished in first and second in the Ladies, securing an overall victory for team GB.

Congratulations to all team members for making the event a great success and a huge thank you to the organisers in Ireland who welcomed us over and were such fantastic hosts.



THE PPA

PPA OFFICE

The relocation of the office to The Shrivenham Hundred Business Park near Swindon in July 2015 went smoothly along with the recruitment for 2 new members of staff. The new office benefits from a high level of security, improved technology, good transport links and communication. In addition, it brings the PPA Office closer to representatives from other areas of the racing industry.

Becci Thompson and Cara O'Reilly were recruited and started in August. Becci acts as the lead role in communications such as newsletters and has regular contact with National Sponsors and riders. Cara O'Reilly acts as the main point of contact for all Fixture secretaries and Area secretaries. She also acted as a contact for MFHA, BHA and Weatherby's Racing services department (Hunter Certificates).

PPA ACCOUNTANCY

Tim Brown of Grosvenor House Grosvenor House Practice Ltd continued as the PPA's accountant/auditor. The PPA is grateful that it can rely upon such professional advice

STATUTORY REPORT & ACCOUNTS

The Statutory Report and Accounts for the year ended June 2016 and Balance Sheet at that date are set out on the remaining pages of this Report.



REGISTERED NUMBER: 06734470 (England and Wales)

Abbreviated Unaudited Accounts

for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

for

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY LIMITED

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY LIMITED

**Contents of the Abbreviated Accounts
for the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

	Page
Company Information	1
Abbreviated Balance Sheet	2
Notes to the Abbreviated Accounts	3

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY LIMITED

**Company Information
for the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

DIRECTORS:

T Curtis
R G Russell
N Sutton
S Howlett
J Barber
A Hill
R H Killen

SECRETARY:

Mrs C Hazell

REGISTERED OFFICE:

30A Shrivenham Hundred Business Park
Majors Road
Watchfield
Swindon
SN6 8TZ

REGISTERED NUMBER:

06734470 (England and Wales)

ACCOUNTANTS:

Grosvenor House Practice Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Avening
Priory Park
London Road
TETBURY
Gloucestershire
GL8 8HZ

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 06734470)

Abbreviated Balance Sheet
30 June 2016

	Notes	30.6.16 £	30.6.15 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	2	2,599	2,494
Investments	3	52,500	52,500
		<u>55,099</u>	<u>54,994</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		35,072	26,905
Cash at bank and in hand		259,033	244,271
		<u>294,105</u>	<u>271,176</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year		(113,405)	(110,504)
		<u>180,700</u>	<u>160,672</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>180,700</u>	<u>160,672</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		<u>235,799</u>	<u>215,666</u>
RESERVES			
Other reserves		246,067	246,067
Income and expenditure account		(10,268)	(30,401)
		<u>235,799</u>	<u>215,666</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 June 2016.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The abbreviated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 17 November 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

T Curtis - Director

The notes form part of these abbreviated accounts

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY LIMITED

Notes to the Abbreviated Accounts for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

Turnover

Turnover represents net invoiced sales of services, excluding value added tax.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on cost
Office equipment	- 33% on cost

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Total £
COST	
At 1 July 2015	14,227
Additions	1,420
	<hr/>
At 30 June 2016	15,647
	<hr/>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 July 2015	11,733
Charge for year	1,315
	<hr/>
At 30 June 2016	13,048
	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 June 2016	2,599
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 30 June 2015	2,494
	<hr/> <hr/>

3. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Investments other than loans £
COST	
At 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016	52,500
	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 June 2016	52,500
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 30 June 2015	52,500
	<hr/> <hr/>

The unlisted investment above relates to the investment in 50% of the issued ordinary share capital of The Point-to-Point Racing Company Limited.

THE POINT-TO-POINT AUTHORITY LIMITED

**Notes to the Abbreviated Accounts wholly REPLACED
and/or accounting policies totally IGNORED
and/or accounting policies with text REPLACED
by user's choice on client screen entries
for the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

The following standard accounting policy has been IGNORED as a result of user choice DESPITE THE EXISTENCE OF RELEVANT ACCOUNTING ENTRIES.

PENSION COSTS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

None of the standard accounting policies has been replaced.

PLEASE CHECK THAT THIS CHOICE IS CORRECT - all changes that would automatically be made to notes generated by IRIS as a result of posting amendments etc WILL NOT BE AMENDED where REPLACEMENT notes have been selected.