

Kelso Local Joint Pitch Council

Minutes of the 17th Meeting held at Kelso Racecourse on Tuesday 28 November 2006

In attendance:-

Haig Jenkinson

James Cameron

John Jeffreys, Richard Landale

Alex Smith

Chairman, secretary NJPC

Rails Bookmakers Assoc.

Kelso Racecourse Executive

East of Scotland Bookmakers Assoc.

1. Minutes of last meeting and matter arising

There were no matters arising and the minutes were approved.

2 Betting Ring Administration Post September 2007

AS asked RJ if the Racecourse Executive had any thoughts regarding the administration of the betting ring at Kelso if the NJPC was no longer in operation after September 2007.

RJ told Council that at the present time it was still too early to know the shape of the administration from this date. RJ indicated he was awaiting advice from the RCA regarding what rules and regulations the Gambling Commission would seek racecourses to implement and until he knew more clearly what his responsibilities were to be he would not be in a position to comment on such matters.

Some general discussion regarding the Gambling Act took place.

3 Designated Numbers 2007

HJ had previously furnished members with opt-in / opt-out details together with crowd attendances during 2006.

HJ told Council that the OFT had recently issued a report regarding their investigation into the setting of designated numbers by the NJPC.

JC told Council he would like the designated number on the rails to be 5 every day.

JC commented that this would only require Council to agree minimum increases to the Rails numbers on 2 days at the beginning of the year. JC told Council that recent transfer of ownership of a couple of Rails pitches will hopefully see a better turnout on the Rails in 2007.

AS commented that he felt this small increase on 2 days would have little or no effect on Tattersalls business and RL and JJ were happy to agree to 5 all days.

Turning to Tattersalls numbers, AS commented that as expenses rose and turnover continued to decrease we were seeing less bookmakers working on quieter days, not just at Kelso, but throughout the country. However, he felt that bookmakers should continue to be given the opportunity to bet and felt the numbers set in 2006 should pretty much be carried through into 2007.

Council agreed to set the new Sunday fixture on 28 January at 40 and it was decided to increase the number from 35 to 40 on the Sunday meeting in December in order that all weekend fixtures staged at the track in 2007 have a continuity of designated number.

A full set of unanimously agreed Designated Numbers for 2007 is attached.

4 AOB

JC asked RL whether bookmakers could be allowed to bring cars into the betting ring 2 hours prior to the first race in order to drop off equipment.

RL indicated he had allowed this in the past but a minority of bookmakers had abused his trust by not paying for staff and dropping them off in the betting ring. He had therefore stopped cars coming into the ring prior to racing and did not intend to reinstate this.

RL told AS and JC that there was a field close to the betting ring adjacent to the stable block that bookmakers could use as an exclusive car park but that this would require a hardcore base to make it a suitable site for parking vehicles. RL had previously obtained some quotes for this work and reckoned it would be about £6,000 to make good the area. RL told AS and JC that if the bookmakers paid for the work required in preparing this area then they could use this as an exclusive car park in perpetuity at no daily charge.

With 40 being the maximum number in Tattersalls and 5 on the Rails it was reckoned that if all bookmakers agreed to pay in the region of £150 as a one-off fee the project could go ahead.

AS and JC will seek feedback from the bookmakers and report back.

Discussion surrounding the stewarding of such a car park followed and it was felt that if bookmakers were to pay a nominal £1 per day when they bet this would allow the racecourse to put a steward on the car park gate in order to stop those who were not bookmakers using the area. Furthermore, it was considered that anyone outwith the maximum numbers who successfully opted-in and wished to use the car park would be entitled to pay £5 per day as they had not contributed to the initial costs of providing the area. If a bookmaker sold his seniority position he would automatically transfer his car parking rights for that position to the buyer.

KELSO DESIGNATED NUMBERS 2007

Tattersalls

29	12 Jan
32	15 Feb
35	2 Apr, 8 May, 9 May, 23 May, 23 Nov
40	28 Jan, 3 Mar, 15 Apr, 7 Oct, 20 Oct, 10 Nov, 9 Dec

Rails

5	All days
---	----------