

Musselburgh Local Joint Pitch Council

Minutes of the 24th meeting held at Musselburgh Racecourse on Wednesday 7 March 2007

In attendance:-

Chair and secretary Haig Jenkinson, Betting Ring Manager
 Bill Farnsworth, Musselburgh Executive
 James Cameron, Rails Bookmakers Assoc.
 Peter Collins, East of Scotland Bookmakers Assoc.

1 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

There were no matters arising and the minutes were approved and signed.

2 Bookmaker Supported Free Day

Both PC and JC had, as agreed, gone to seek the support of those bookmakers they represent in order to secure a free admission day to the public on Monday 9 July.

PC told Council that, after a shaky start, he was pleased to say support in Tattersalls had increased regarding a free day and he indicated that he could confirm a minimum of £4,000 funding from Tattersalls bookmakers. He expected that this would eventually be a conservative figure and a little more might well be raised depending on bookmaker attendance on the day.

JC told Council that he had pledges totaling £5,500 from the bookmakers betting on the Rails.

BF wished to express his appreciation for all the hard work that had gone into raising the funds offered and indicated that, although this sum of £9,500 was a little less than he had hoped to raise to make the day economically viable, he very much wanted to see all the hard work come to fruition. With this in mind, BF agreed that the day should be promoted vigorously as a free day for all racegoers. BF told Council that he would invite the Tote and the caterers onboard in an effort to swell the funds a little.

JC will collect the monies pledged from the Rails bookmakers and PC agreed to collect the monies from the Tattersalls bookmakers.

Regarding the NJPC pitch administration fee of £10 per bookmaker. It was agreed that Tattersalls bookmaker should pay this in the normal way at the badge box on collection of the lists. JC will pay the 5 x £10 fees payable by the Rails bookmakers for pitch administration. Any bookmaker who does not wish to support the free admission day will be expected to pay the normal badge box fees of 5 times admission in order to bet.

It was agreed that the feature race on the racecard will be named to signify the contribution that all racecourse bookmakers had given to support the free day at Musselburgh. Discussion regarding the naming of other races is still to be agreed upon.

Over the coming months BF will set about raising awareness of the free day through the media and on the day he will ensure credit is given to bookmakers for their contribution.

3 AOB

There were no other matter arising.