

NATIONAL JOINT PITCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of The Aintree Local Joint Pitch Council Held on Friday
4th May 2007 at Aintree Racecourse.

PRESENT:

Mr M Ryan	Chairman NJPC (MR)
Mr C Barnett	Aintree Racecourse (CB)
Miss Z Greenall	Aintree Racecourse (ZG)
Mr J Walmsley	National Association of Bookmakers (JW)
Mr G Billington	Rails Bookmakers Association (GB)

1 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

MR stated to the members that in Item 2 Open Meeting / Betting Areas under New Grandstands that “in 12 months time” be amended to read “after the Grand National Meeting 2007”. This was agreed and the minutes of the meeting were read and approved by members as a true record.

2 REVIEW OF THE GRAND NATIONAL MEETING/NEW BETTING AREAS

A MR reported to members regarding the new betting areas. MR stated that they had been a great success and that the majority of pitches allocated to the Bookmakers had been filled on all three days. The exception being the Aintree Pavilion, 7 Bookmakers were allocated in the collecting area of the Pavilion. Due to Health and Safety reasons this number was reduced to 5. The exceptionally sunny weather was a deciding factor for Bookmakers not betting in the Pavilion. Members agreed to review the position of the Bookmakers in the Pavilion deciding to have 2 x 3 sets of Bookmakers with 3 alternate areas within the Pavilion. This will be decided at the autumn LJPC.

B CB stated for the Aintree Evening Meeting on the 19th May that the 2 Red Rum bars and the Aldaniti bar would be open on the lower floor of the new Grandstands, and he expressed his wish that the new areas are available to bet in for this meeting. The Aintree Pavilion will be open for the May meeting but there will be no alcoholic drinks and it is merely for the concert after racing. All members agreed for the remaining fixtures in October and November the new areas will not be open.

C MR stated to members that he had no complaints from the Embankment Bookmakers, and hoped that this was a 'good sign'. With extended facilities on the embankment this year being more beneficial to the majority of Bookmakers who bet there.

3 RAILS POSITIONS

Members discussed the Rails Positions and their location in the County Stand. CB stated that the Racecourse's view was that although they had no funds to re-site the Rails Bookmakers they would be happy to consider the possibility of this happening in the future. MR stated that there was no ring improvements money available from the NJPC. Members agreed to review this issue periodically.

3 MATTERS ARISING

A MR stated to members that a number of Bookmakers from the County Stand remain unhappy with not being included in the mechanism for the new betting areas. The NJPC guidelines dictate that there will be a 50% allocation of positions within the maximum designated number to both the current Tattersalls and rails Bookmakers. Members agreed that the NJPC guide lines on new betting areas had been applied correctly and re-iterated their sympathy with the County Stand Bookmakers. Members stated however, that any new mechanism should be devised by the NJPC, and reflect the Aintree Management's wish that 7 Bookmakers would still service the County Stand Customers at the Grand National Meeting and 5 Bookmakers for the May Evening Meeting. CB considered that the 7 Bookmakers' positions created between the Lord Sefton and Earl of Derby Stand and the 7 Bookmakers from the County Stand were sufficient to service the Customers in that area and did not envisage any further increase in Bookmaker numbers around the new Grandstand.

B CB stated that with the development of Bookmakers within the Members Area which included 5 Bookmakers at the Grand National start 7 from the County Stand and 7 around the new Grandstands that the Racecourse was considering for 2008 charging 5x the admission fee of the County Stand for the Bookmakers betting badge or alternatively charging the Bookmakers and their staff the full admission price for the County Stand/ Members area. This was noted by members and CB asked for this to be included as an agenda item at the autumn LJPC.

C GB stated that he would like clarification that the new Betting areas created are not subject to a commercial charge from 1st September 2007. MR stated that any new Betting areas approved by the HBLB pre 1st September 2007 should only be subject to 5x admission. MR spoke with Mr T Moore (CEO NJPC) following the meeting and he concurred that any new Betting area approved by the HBLB either temporary or permanent pre Sep. 2007 would only be liable to a charge of 5x admission, as set out under the HBLB's certificate of approval.

4 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Next meeting August 2007.