



HAMILTON PARK

OWNERS PROTOCOLS: GUIDE FOR OWNERS ATTENDING AN ELITE SPORTING COMPETITION

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SECTION A: GENERAL GUIDANCE

1. Overview

This document outlines the protocols that must be followed by all owners attending race meetings held behind closed doors, to help safeguard the health and wellbeing of all attendees. This guidance has been created for the Industry and adapted by Hamilton Park. Where 'owner' is used throughout this document, it refers to both owners and their guests or representative.

To minimise risk for owners attending fixtures, and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of all attendees, the following measures will be in place until further notice:

- Unless agreed otherwise with local health authorities, there will be a maximum of two owners (or representatives) per horse from 2 May. We may seek to increase this (up to a maximum of four owners or six owners/representatives per horse) subject to local restrictions and agreement from our Safety Advisory Group.
- These provisions will be reviewed by 17 May in line with Scottish Government guidance.
- Pre-registration by the agreed deadline is essential. This process will be administered by the RCA's Privilege Access Swipe System (PASS) (or via direct contact for racecourses without PASS) and only confirmed attendees will be granted access to the racecourse. Owners will be **emailed automatically** with details of how to register once their horse is entered to run.
- All owners attending a fixture are asked to sign up to the [Owners' Code](#) and should complete the owner health screening process. This includes an [online learning module](#) and personally administered health assessment to be completed in advance of raceday followed by health questions and a temperature check on arrival at the racecourse.
- All owners will be asked to provide their contact details to support NHS Test and Trace requirements and British racing's contact tracing system.
- Owners have access to the Amber Zone, which is physically separated from the 'Green Zone' used by raceday workers (trainers, stable staff, jockeys, officials, media etc.) by at least two metres. For infection control purposes, crossing between the zones is restricted to **essential racecourse (e.g. medical) staff only**. Owners must remain in the Amber Zone, with designated briefing areas enabling owners to speak to trainers and jockeys.



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- Face coverings must be worn **at all times**, unless specific exemptions apply. Face coverings should be triple layered (in line with specifications set out [here](#) by the World Health Organisation) to provide maximum protection.
- All racecourses remain subject to local authority clearance and if a racecourse is unable to accommodate owners, or has additional screening or capacity requirements, owners will be notified in advance.

All owners attending a race meeting must ensure that they have read and understood this document, together with the relevant sections of the British Horseracing Authority's (BHA) [Guidelines and Operating Procedures](#) on COVID-19 for participants. Owners should also familiarise themselves with current government advice on COVID-19 (see 2, below).

This owner-specific document falls under the BHA [guidelines and operating procedures](#). Unless otherwise stated below, the wider industry protocols take precedence.

This document will be updated periodically, in line with changes to government guidance.

- For information on the return of owners, please visit the [ROA website](#) or contact the ROA directly on 01183 385680 or via: info@roa.co.uk. The ROA is contactable 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.
- For specific questions about the RCA's PASS please contact the PASS Helpdesk on 01933 270333 or via pass@weatherbys.co.uk. The PASS helpdesk is contactable 9am- 5pm Monday to Friday.
- For more information on the arrangements for owners, the RCA Racecourse Guidance can be accessed [here](#).
- For specific information on arrangements at Hamilton Park please contact the racecourse on 01698 283806, via email at enquiries@hamilton-park.co.uk or via the PASS system.

2. Government guidance and local restrictions

This document has been developed in line with the latest government guidance, and all owners must ensure they have read and are familiar with basic public health advice on COVID-19 before attending the racecourse.



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Before registering for, or travelling to attend, a race meeting, owners **should check the specific arrangements with each individual racecourse**, together with the **government restrictions** in their [local area](#), and follow the guidance provided. Owners should also satisfy themselves that their travel to, and attendance at, race meetings is legitimately linked to their business involvement in British racing.

Under current plans, these protocols will apply to meetings in England and Scotland from 29 March with an update provided on racecourses in Wales when available. Owners should, however, bear in mind that racecourses in Scotland and Wales are subject to separate government advice and owners should check with the racecourse as to the current arrangements.

All attendees at fixtures should follow government guidelines and racing's protocols to protect their own safety and local communities. Government guidance in England, Scotland and Wales may vary at any time, so attendees should be aware of any differences.

- Government guidance for England: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- Scottish Government guidance: <https://www.gov.scot/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance/>
- Welsh Government guidance: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

All racecourses remain subject to local authority clearance and if a racecourse is unable to accommodate owners, or has additional screening requirements, you will be notified in advance. It may also be necessary to minimise the number of individuals on course to reduce risk of transmission and manage infection control.

3. Medical explanatory note – screening, social distancing, and face coverings [UPDATED]

As part of British racing's commitment to return safely in line with the government guidance outlined above, screening, developed in consultation with government and public health officials, to ensure owners can continue to access all racecourses are in place to safeguard their health and wellbeing.

Racing is a predominantly rural sport, which takes place in outdoor locations where the risk of virus transmission is recognised to be lower. It is also a non-contact sport, which enables social distancing at two metres to be delivered more consistently than other sports.



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In the early stages of resumption, the number of attendees at the racecourse was kept to an absolute minimum, to mitigate risk even further. However, as the number of people on the racecourse increases, the ability to maintain social distancing is diminished and the likelihood of attendees who are not trainers, stable staff or jockeys being from more urban areas where COVID-19 cases have been higher, is increased.

To reduce the potential of an interruption to racing because of a case of COVID-19 causing quarantine of racecourse contacts, the decision has been made to:

- physically separate owners coming onto a racecourse from other raceday workers by using a zoning approach;
- require all owners to undergo a health screening process, which comprises an online learning module and personal health assessment prior to raceday, and entry screening (health questions and temperature checks) on arrival at the racecourse;
- require all owners to wear face coverings **at all times** while at the racecourse. This is an additional layer of protection, which must be followed alongside other infection control measures like social distancing and frequent handwashing (see 17 below).

4. Owners' responsibilities

a) COVID-19 Rules

Owners should be aware the BHA has made a number of changes to the Rules of Racing to cover the new and revised protocols in place following resumption. All owners entering a racecourse should be aware of the COVID-19 specific requirements that sit within the Rules of Racing and which are outlined [here](#).

Please also be aware that by attending a racecourse, owners acknowledge and agree that notwithstanding the risk mitigation strategies employed by the BHA and other industry bodies in accordance with Government guidance, it is impossible to eliminate all risk and there remains the potential for unintended transmission of COVID-19 between attendees.

All attendees must play their part in minimising the risk to themselves and others by complying with these guidelines, racecourse terms and conditions of entry, and the COVID-19 requirements as set out in the Rules of Racing.



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b) Owners' Code

All owners attending any fixture will be asked to sign up to the [Owners' Code](#). The Code is for your safety and the safety of others and all owners must ensure they observe its terms while on the racecourse.

SECTION B: PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT THE RACECOURSE

5. Registering to attend a race meeting

Unless agreed otherwise with local health authorities, there will be an initial allocation of two owners (or representatives) per horse from 2 May. We may seek to increase this (up to a maximum of four or six owners/representatives per horse) subject to local restrictions and agreement from our Safety Advisory Group.

Pre-registration by the agreed deadline is essential, and anyone not registered to attend **will not** be granted access.

Only owners with horses racing that day – either individually owned or through a syndicate – are permitted to attend. Owners **may not** pass their unused badges to owners without horses competing that day or to other racegoers. This is a breach of the current restriction imposed by the UK, Wales and Scottish governments on spectators attending **all** sport events behind closed doors (see Government guidance, above).

Owners planning to attend to watch their horse(s) run **must** register their attendance using the RCA's Privilege Access Swipe System (PASS) – an existing system which manages the complimentary access into racecourses for owners.

This should be completed as early as possible in advance of the race meeting. The deadline to register to attend is **4pm the day before the fixture**.

Once a horse is entered to run, registered owners will receive a confirmation email inviting them to register those who will be attending the race meeting.

To register your attendees, please log into PASS (<https://www.rcapass.com/>) and submit the names of the individuals who will attend the racecourse. As explained above, all names must be submitted by 4pm the day before the fixture. Changes after that time will not be possible.



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For the avoidance of doubt, for Syndicates and Racing Clubs, it will be the responsibility of the Syndicator/Club Manager to submit the names of those individuals attending the fixture. In all other instances it will be the responsibility of the owner, and any requests for badges by a third party (e.g. your trainer) will not be accepted.

Internationally based owners who are not registered in the UK, should contact the racecourse directly to register attendance. This should be completed **4pm the day before the fixture**. For Racing Managers who require assistance registering attendance on behalf of owners please contact the PASS helpdesk.

Children can attend as one of the owners/representatives if pre-registered. All children attending will undergo the entry screening process as standard.

If you have reduced mobility or a disability of any kind and require additional assistance on raceday, please notify the racecourse directly once you have registered your attendance through PASS, and they will assist you further.

Please note that if a horse is declared a non-runner, the owner should **not** attend the fixture.

For assistance with the PASS system, please contact the PASS helpdesk on 01933 270333 or by email: pass@weatherbys.co.uk.

6. Online COVID-19 learning module

To allow access to racecourses, all owners (and guests) attending a fixture should complete an owner-specific [online COVID-19 learning module](#) prior to raceday.

This will ensure owners have a baseline understanding of COVID-19, social distancing, and hand and respiratory hygiene, to help keep you and other safe on the racecourse.

The online learning can be accessed [here](#). Please watch the videos and complete the online form, confirming that you have understood the information provided.

The online module only needs to be completed **once** (before your first racecourse attendance) and owners do not need to produce proof of completion on arrival at the racecourse.

For support, please contact the ROA on 01183 385680 or via: info@roa.co.uk. The ROA is contactable 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.



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7. Personal health assessment

To minimise risk for yourself and others, we ask that all owners (and guests) attending a fixture assess their own health ahead of attending

To do this, owners should ask themselves five questions:

- i. Are you in a vulnerable person category, as [defined by NHS guidance](#)?
If yes, please consider carefully whether you should attend a race-meeting. If you need further advice, please contact your GP.
- ii. Do you have a fever, cough, and/or a loss of sense of smell or taste? These are symptoms of COVID-19 infection.
If yes, you cannot attend a racecourse until you have contacted NHS 111 and completed any testing or quarantine period.
- iii. Have you had a positive COVID-19 test or been contacted by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS Scotland Test & Protect programme within the last 10 days and advised to self-isolate?
If yes, you cannot attend a racecourse until you have contacted NHS 111 and completed any testing or quarantine period.
- iv. Have you travelled from a country not on the [UK Government exempt list](#) in the last 10 days?
If yes, you cannot attend a racecourse until you have either completed quarantine from the date of your return to the UK or have received a negative test result under [Test to Release](#), unless in a [specified exempt job](#).
- v. In the past 10 days have you had contact with any laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patients when you were NOT wearing the appropriate PPE or in the past 10 days have any of your close contacts (household or workplace) had symptoms of COVID-19 and/or tested positive for COVID-19?
If yes, you cannot attend a racecourse until you have contacted NHS 111 and completed any testing or quarantine period.

Owners are not required to submit their responses but must answer the questions truthfully and stay away from all racecourses if required.

8. What to bring

Please make sure you arrive at the racecourse with your:

- A face covering (See 15 below)



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- Photographic ID (a copy on your phone is acceptable) – you will require this to gain entry to the racecourse.
- Your RCA PASS card - if you have been allocated one as a registered owner.

You may also wish to consider bringing your own alcohol-based hand sanitiser.

9. Travelling to the racecourse

Owners attending fixtures should travel to, and arrive at, the racecourse alone or in household bubbles and follow [government guidance](#). If, on arrival, one person does not pass the any screening checks, everyone in the vehicle will be requested to leave the site. This is to help protect the health and wellbeing of other raceday attendees.

We also ask that owners and trainers **do not** travel to the racecourse in the same vehicle, as they will be entering different infection control zones on arrival at the racecourse. We know that the more interactions between different people from different households (and particularly from different areas of the country), the greater the risk of transmitting the virus.

By travelling separately, owners and trainers can reduce the risk of infection in their respective racecourse zones.

SECTION C: ARRIVAL AT THE RACECOURSE

10. Attendance list

Only owners who have registered their attendance using the RCA's PASS should travel to the racecourse.

The deadline to register to attend is **4pm the day before the fixture**.

Owners who are not registered to attend will not be granted access to the racecourse and should not attend the fixture. If a horse is declared a non-runner the attached owners should also not attend the fixture.

Please note that all owners badge schemes are suspended at present and all attendees must be attached to a runner.



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11. Entry screening

Owners are asked to make their way to the Amber Zone entrance, which will be clearly signposted. This will be staffed from one hour before the first race, unless advised otherwise by the individual racecourse, so no entry will be permitted before this time.

On arrival, all owners will be asked to provide photo ID as proof of identity before answering three further questions about their current health. This will be followed by a temperature check. Your temperature will be taken twice in quick succession. If on both occasions this temperature exceeds 37.8°C, owners will not be granted access to the racecourse and will be advised to travel home.

Any individual that fails the on-course screening will be required to **either**:

- provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test, which can be booked on the [NHS website](#).
- or complete a minimum of 10 days of isolation depending on advice received from NHS Test and Trace before re-admittance to a racecourse.

Owners are reminded that if any member of the same vehicle fails to clear the entry screening process all those travelling together will be denied entry onto the racecourse. Individuals will be re-admitted to the racecourse once the individual with the raised temperature has either had a negative test or if positive all contacts have followed the advice received from NHS Test and Trace.

On successful completion of the entry screening process, owners will be able to gain access to the racecourse and will be provided appropriate accreditation.

All owners and their guests will be asked to provide their contact details on arrival at the racecourse, to support NHS Test and Trace requirements and British racing's reporting and contact tracing system.

For more information about the PASS data protection policy and how your information will be managed, please visit <https://www.rcapass.com>



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SECTION D: ON THE RACECOURSE

12. The Amber Zone

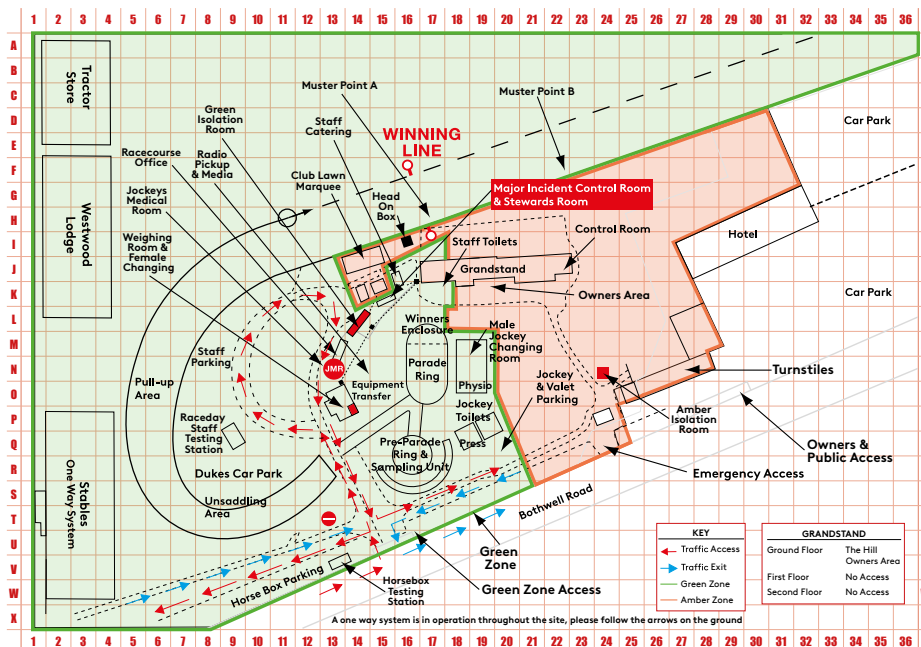
To mitigate the risk of the transmitting COVID-19, owners on course will have access to a dedicated Amber Zone, which will be separated from raceday workers (trainers, stable staff, jockeys, officials, media etc.). For infection control purposes, crossing between the zones is restricted to **essential racecourse (e.g. medical) staff only**.

Access to the Amber Zone will be via the turnstile entrance where aforementioned accreditation will be checked.

The Amber Zone may consist of both outside and indoor space and will include access to toilets. It will **not** allow access to the parade ring, the Winners' Enclosure, or winning connections.

At all points on the racecourse, irrespective of whether inside or outside, owners should ensure they adhere to government guidance and strict social distancing measures.

The Amber Zone will also have a dedicated isolation area should any attendee begin to display any symptoms of Covid-19. This should only be used where said attendee requires urgent medical attention or where they are unable to exit the venue immediately.



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13. Briefing areas

Where possible, racecourses have established briefing areas, where owners will have the opportunity to speak to their trainers and / or jockeys before and after the race, while continuing to maintain social distancing and adhering to other infection control measures. Briefing areas will not be accessible to spectators.

Provision may vary depending on the racecourse, and owners will be advised as to how the briefing area will operate on arrival at the fixture.

14. Food & Beverage

Hamilton Park will aim to provide a limited meal service for owners with non-alcoholic hot and cold drinks whilst race meetings are operated behind closed doors.

In line with Industry guidance, food and non-alcoholic beverages may be provided in an indoor setting. Outdoors, food and alcohol may be considered, but this is subject to local safety advisory group requirements and is not anticipated whilst we are operating behind closed doors.

This will be reviewed in line with government restrictions in relation to hospitality settings, including restaurants, cafes and bars alongside agreement from local authorities.

15. Face coverings

Face coverings (i.e. "non-medical" face coverings) should be worn at all times, other than when specific exemptions apply (see below).

The mandatory use of face coverings adds an additional layer of protection for everyone on the racecourse – further reducing the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Used alongside other essential measures like frequent handwashing and strict social distancing, face coverings can help racing reduce our risk of transmission and safeguard our industry from the virus.

All face coverings should be triple layered (in line with specifications set out [here](#) by the World Health Organisation) to provide maximum protection.

Face coverings should be worn in all indoor and outdoor areas of the Amber Zone, from the point of arrival at the racecourse and throughout the day until departure, apart from where specific exemptions apply.



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When you don't need to wear a face covering

For most people, face coverings can be worn throughout the day and only removed in certain scenarios. Situations where face coverings do not need to be worn include:

- Eating or drinking
- Taking medication
- If asked to remove your face covering for ID checks or to receive medical treatment

There may also be circumstances where attendees are not able to wear a face covering and are exempt from doing so e.g. due to physical or mental health reasons or disability.

16. Betting facilities

Where permitted, owners will have access to betting facilities at racecourses, via both pool operators and on course bookmakers. Owners are asked to bet with a debit card where possible.

SECTION E: LEAVING THE RACECOURSE

17. Departure process

Most racecourses will have one-way systems in place, so owners can return to their vehicle without crossing paths with others and hand hygiene stations will be provided on exit.

Upon leaving the racecourse, accreditation (such as owners' badges) for the raceday should be removed by the owner and disposed of by racecourse staff.



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