Notes to Editors

The Racing Foundation was established in January 2012 by the British Horseracing Authority, the Horsemen's Group and Racecourse Association, as a charity, to oversee the distribution of funds to charitable causes within racing following the sale of the Tote. We are registered with the Charity Commission under the law of England and Wales (no. 1145297). Our purpose is to make a difference in racing by acting as a catalyst and a funder of improvement. The Trustees of the Racing Foundation are Ian Barlow (Chairman), Linda Bowles, Susannah Gill, Mark Johnston, Louise Kemble and William Rucker. Since inception, the Racing Foundation has granted over £20million to charities associated with the horseracing and Thoroughbred breeding industry in the UK, supporting work in social welfare, education and training, horse welfare, equine science research, and heritage and culture.

The Pony Racing Authority has particular responsibility for integrity and safety. The PRA governs the sport at the grass roots Point-to-Point level as well as the prestigious Racecourse Series. The PRA works closely with the Pony Club to support entry level pony racing via the Pony Club Race Days. We also work closely with the Pony Club to organise pony racing training.

Shareholders of the PRA are the Racecourse Association, The Jockey Club, the Point-to-Point Secretaries Association and the Master of Foxhounds Association. Representatives from the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) and The Pony Club also sit on the PRA Board in observer positions. The PRA is a company limited by guarantee and all money raised by the PRA is invested into Pony Racing.

The Pony Club is an international voluntary youth organisation for young people interested in ponies and riding. Founded in England in 1929, and granted independent charitable status on 1st January 1997, there are around 345 Branches and 480 Centres in the UK alone. The Pony Club has been the starting point for a large majority of equestrian team members and medal winners. The Pony Club currently offers nine sports to its members including Pony Racing, this sport offering is achieved through educational work (Achievement Badges), training and competitions which are held at prestigious racecourses.

The objectives of The Pony Club include encouraging young people to connect with horses and riding through all kinds of sports, horsemanship, welfare of the equines in members care, teaching members citizenship, sportsmanship and other ideals.

Racing to School is a registered charity responsible for the development and delivery of racing-related education programmes. Delivered free to schools at racecourses, studs and trainers' yards across the UK, Racing to
School’s lively approach supports children and young people by demonstrating a practical application of a range of National Curriculum subjects and sparking a knowledge and understanding of the sport of horseracing. Since 2016 the charity has also delivered the Riders’ Programme, which encourages young people who already ride and/or have an interest in another equine discipline to consider racing as a possible career route. The charity ran over 370 events in 2019, engaging more than 15,000 beneficiaries.

Careers in Racing is the central careers marketing and recruitment brand for British racing run by the British Horseracing Authority. The team implements recruitment initiatives and marketing campaigns to promote racing careers and pathways to a range of audiences from school age to those looking to change careers.
Pony Racing Progression Pathway

Racing to Schools
- Education: Schools visits (primary and secondary) to racecourses
- Riders’ Programme: showcase racing to young equestrians

Pony Club
- Family Days including QIPCO Champions Series
- Branches/Centres Taster Sessions
- Branch and Centre Rallies
- Competition Badges – introduction/competition
- PRA/PC Training Days
- Pony Racing Race Days
- Coaching
  ⇒ ‘Train the Trainers’ instruction days
  ⇒ CPD for instructors

Pony Racing Authority
- ‘Get the Pony Racing Buzz’ taster days at Pony Club race days
- Taster sessions – stand alone or on the racecourse
- PRA/PC training days
- Advanced training days
- Academies – also at the BRS/NHC
- Pony Racing
  ⇒ Racecourse Series
  ⇒ Point-to-Point Series
  ⇒ Train the Trainers’/BHA Jockey Coaches

BRS/ NHC
- Academies
- Training Days
- Pony Racing Camps

Careers in Racing
- Information Point
- Talks, information days and presence on racecourse at Family days/Champions Series
- Visits to Schools, Colleges and Universities including Careers Fairs
- Career changes and advice

Formal Entry Points into Racing
National Stud/TBA  SRA  BRS/NHC  Heros  Vocational Courses  Trainers Yards  Jockeys