

Point to Point Authority General Instruction (PPAGI) 1

For 23-24 Season

The Framing of Races

For Fixture Secretaries/Committees

All races have to abide by BHA Regulations and Instructions for Point to Points with special reference to Definitions and Regulations 32, 34, 71-76 (see Appendix 4). This document provides further direction and clarification on what is allowed as well as some advisory notes on what can be done with the different types of races.

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Introduction

The following provides a guide and further restrictions to those in Regulation book, which are adjusted from time to time to assist with achieving competitive racing for all. Whilst some of the terminology may be new, and therefore may seem confusing, it actually simplifies what had become very complex/anarchic.

Race Types and Restrictions

Key Point. There is greater detail for each race type further on in the Instruction. However, in a change from before 2020, The term 'Conditions' will only apply to eligibility and penalties for Conditions/Open races. There will then be further 'restrictions' that can be applied to the various types of race

Race Types. In effect there are now seven types of races only:

- **Open Races.** The top level of races with/without penalties
- **Conditions Races.** Standard eligibility and penalty criteria for three different periods (Levels 1 to 3). These are for horses which struggle in Open races but are not qualified for Maiden and Restricted races
- **Intermediate Races.** For those who have not won Open races
- **Restricted Races.** For those who have not won a race other than **one Restricted**, a Maiden, a Flat race or a Hunt race
- **Maiden Races.** For those who have not won anything other than a p2p flat race
- **Flat race.** Only open to those who have never run in another type of race.
- **Hunt race.** Only open to those qualified with the Hunt(s) concerned, but any number of penalties, conditions and restrictions can be applied.

Restrictions. Fixtures can then apply further Restrictions to all of the above within the parameters laid out in this PPAGI for each type of race. These restrictions might include:

- **Horse:** Mares and/or age
- **Rider:** Gender and/or age and/or Novice etc
- **Area(s):** replacement for confined/adjacent.
- **Trainer:** Number of horses / Owner-Trainer

Issues to Consider when Framing a Race card

However, before you confirm what type of races you want, and with what restrictions, you need to spend a short time agreeing what you are trying to achieve, and what might be the best method.

- **Aim.** It may seem obvious that you are trying to get as many entries as possible across the card. However, there will be other aims, which might include:
 - Being attractive to paying public
 - Demonstrating that this is a high class fixture for top horses (or vice versa)
 - Attractive to sponsors
 - Giving local horses a chance with long-term aim of fostering a growth in local horses in sport **(vital for at least 3 of our Areas).**
- **Methodology.** Once you have worked out what you are trying to achieve, you need to consider the factors that will affect your decisions. **Many** Owners and Trainers examine the Planner carefully, and will go where they believe that they have the best opportunities – for larger trainers this will include whole card so a maximum number of the yard's horses can run. Equally Owner-trainers want some races in which they perceive they have a chance **and most won't travel far.** Opportunities for all!
 - **Time of Year.**

- **Early Season.** If you are running early in the year, there will be plenty of horses and not much choice for the owners and trainers. Therefore, you want very few restrictions in order to attract large fields, except when you are trying to fulfil a secondary aim.
- **Spring.** Mid-March to Mid-May has a much more crowded fixture list than the remainder of the year. As a result, fixtures face far more competition, and meetings are geographically closer. Therefore, a fixture might want to consider framing races with much tighter restrictions in the hope that you will attract a niche group who otherwise feel they have limited opportunities in more general races.
- **Competition.**
 - **Race Cards.** Differentiate between your race card and others running on the same day (and indeed week before).
 - **Courses/Going.** Consider similarities between your course and others, and how that will affect runners.
 - **Same Course.** If you are running on same course as an earlier fixture, there is limited value in running same non-progressive races, as it will be presumed the same results will occur and thus the weaker horses will be sent elsewhere.
- **Local Horses and Yards.** Races should reflect the type of horses you have locally, and if not enough of them, what will attract from elsewhere. EG there is little point in restricting a race to a group of horses which does not exist locally. NB However, beware – stats often do not bear out perceived wisdom.
- **Regional Progression.** Large Trainers travel very long distances these days, but most owner-trainers are not so keen. However, they are frustrated, particularly if they have progressive horses, if there is no race for them to run in having won the level below.

NB This is both a Fixture and Area responsibility to ensure that Restricted and Intermediate races are available throughout the season on different types of courses.

- **Variety.** Look for something different, which will attract. For example one region has very few Ladies Opens with penalties,
- **Unique Selling Point (USP).** What is your USP, which will attract horses, crowds and sponsors. This may sound like marketing jargon (and it is) but that does not mean its pointless. Most meetings can point to something special, or create something.

Completing The Race Page Planner

You will receive a link to your race page, which you can go in and check/amend as required. It is fairly intuitive but if you have problems speak to your AS or PPA

In many cases you may just want to retain the card you had last year. In which case all you need to do is check the details are correct at top of page – contact details, entry charges and date, etc. then check prize money is correct.

If changes are required, we hope that this Instruction makes life easy for you to frame races. However, if you remain in the dark do not worry. Firstly, ask people for advice and/or help. Your first port of call should be your Area Secretary, who will have a wider picture, and will also be able to advise about specific detail, and what races are most likely to achieve your local objectives. However, also feel free to ask the PPA office. If you are still struggling, just write down an explanation of what you are trying to achieve, and send it to CEO PPA at peter@P2PA.co.uk, and he will engage.

Open races

Definition. Is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, to be termed as a 'Men's' (to be ridden by Gentlemen), a 'Ladies' (to be ridden by Ladies) or 'Mixed' (to be ridden by either Ladies or Gentlemen) Open Steeplechase.

Notwithstanding the fact that the race can have restricting conditions on performance.

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £500 and £1250 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a). However, if a fixture wishes to offer more it may request for dispensation (along with a good reason) from PPA who will put it to BHA.

Types/Weights. There are five possible types of Open Race:

- **Mixed Open** 11st 7lb plus penalties or 12st no penalties for Novice riders only (special dispensation)
- **Mens Open** 12st with or without penalties
- **Ladies Open** 11st with or without penalties

Mares/Fillies receive a 7lb allowance in all races.

Penalties. All Open races adhere to the penalties as laid down in Reg 75:

- For **all** Open races up to 1 March 2024: The following penalty for three wins between 1 Oct 22 to 30 Sep 23 inclusive must be imposed:
 - **5 lbs.** For the winner of
 - **Either** three or more eligible steeple chases, hurdle races or flat races under the rules of any recognised turf authority
 - **Or** two of the above plus at least one Mens, Mixed or Ladies Open point to point steeplechase
- For Open races with penalties: The following penalties for wins on or after 1 October 2023 must be imposed:
 - **3lbs.** For the winner of one eligible Steeple Chase or Hurdle race under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority or Mens, Mixed or Ladies Open point to point Steeple Chase.
 - **5lbs.** For the winner of two eligible Steeple Chase or Hurdle races under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority or Mens, Mixed or Ladies Open point to point Steeple Chases.
 - **7lbs.** For the winner of three or more eligible Steeple Chase or Hurdle races under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority or Mens, Mixed or Ladies Open point to point Steeple Chase.

The above penalties are not cumulative. They will be added to the 5lb penalty given if a horse has won 3 races under rules or Open point to points in the previous 12 months, as listed above. However, the total maximum penalty is 7lbs. EG If already carrying a 5lb penalty for 3 wins in previous season, the penalty will only rise to 7lb on winning an Open.

Number. Fixtures may run up to two Opens providing, if running two, that:

- Either they include both a Mens and Ladies
- Or at least one is for Novice riders only.

Additional Conditions

Novice riders who have not won more than 5 races by the Thursday before the race receive a 5lb allowance. The exceptions are the four Classic races: Lord Ashton of Hyde, Coronation Cup, The Grimthorpe and the Lady Dudley. All four of these are at level weights apart from Mare's allowance.

Distances. An Open race can be 2m 4f, 3m or something longer if cleared by the Inspectorate.

Winner of 2 OPEN races or races under rules. Once a horse has won 2 OPEN races and/or Hunter chases/races under rules in a season, it may not run in CONDITIONS races in same season.

Further Restrictions that may be placed on an Open race

- For Novice (and Veteran) Riders Only (or similar rider restriction)
- For Mares only
- For Veteran horses only (10+)
- For Area(s) only
- Non-rules only: For horses that have not won under rules other than a hunter chase

Advisory Notes for Open Races

Restrictions should be used sparingly (with exception perhaps of Opens for Novice riders), and will be more suitable for races later in the season when you are trying to attract a niche group.

The advantage of Open races for Novice riders (Pre 2020 races with no penalties for Novice riders had been termed Conditions races) is that those who have already won three Conditions races can continue to run in these races. As such they are better framed later in the season.

The introduction of 'Non rules only' is in response to criticism from many that their horses which have progressed through pointing in the traditional way have no chance against highly rated NH returnees.

NB If you want to use another restriction (not concerning penalties or conditions as laid out above), you may request dispensation from BHA through PPA along with explanation as to thinking behind it.

Conditions Races

Definition. Is a race open to any horse, which satisfies the conditions of the race, and, other than for the final of a National Conditions Series, has not won two Hunter Chases/Open point to point Steeplechases or three Conditions point to point Steeplechase races within the current season.

Note. For the purpose of calculating penalties and eligibility, all races run before the 2020/21 Point-to-Point Season termed Confined, Club or Society, and which were not Open, Intermediate, Restricted, Maiden or Hunt races, will be considered Conditions races.

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £400 and £1000 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a).

Types. There are three levels of standard Conditions races, according to date from which eligibility and penalties are adopted. These are identified by Levels:

- Level 1. 1 Oct 23
- Level 2. 1 Oct 22
- Level 3. 1 Oct 21

Weights. 12st. Regulation 74 applies. Note that a Ladies Conditions race would apply 11st.

Number. A fixture may hold up to four Conditions races, **but that would in most cases be far too many.**

Distance. A Conditions race may be held over 2m4f, 3 miles or such longer distance agreed by the course inspector.

Eligibility/Penalties. Fixtures can decide whether winners of the following types of races, in the prescribed period, are ineligible or take penalties:

- Winners under Rules of a Steeple chase or Hurdle race. Penalty 7lb each win
- Winner of a Mens, Mixed or Ladies Open p2p steeplechase. Penalty 5lb each win
- Winner of a Conditions Race at same Grade or higher. Penalty 3lb each win

NB A fixture may not penalise a higher level than one made ineligible. EG '7lb penalty for winner under rules but an Open winner is ineligible' would not be allowed.

NB2. If winner of Conditions race is not eligible, race should allow winners of Hunt, Flat, Maiden and Restricted point to point races only. Such races should be framed for 8 year olds and over to prevent farming by quality progressive horses.

Maximum Penalty. Penalties are cumulative; maximum penalty is 10lbs

Conditions. A Level 1 race may not be run before 1 March 2023.

Wins. No horse may win more than 3 Conditions races in the current season. Exemption is given to run in all National Series finals including: Veterans, Owner-Trainers and Novice rider.

Further Restrictions that may be placed on a Conditions race.

- For Ladies only
- For Novice (and Veteran) Riders Only **(or similar rider restriction)**
- For Mares only
- Age of horse **(only one age restricted Conditions race per race card)**
- **For trainers of 5 or less where there is no licensed trainer in the family (from 1 March)**
- **For trainers with 3 or less wins in current season (from 1 March)**
- For Owner-Trainers only

- For Area(s) only. A Conditions race may be restricted by Area(s) up to a maximum of two, or three providing the total number of Hunts does not exceed 30.
- A small sub set of an Area may be created as a restriction providing it can be defined easily. EG 'Borders' defines 4 Scottish Hunts/p2ps in Northern Area.
- Club. A Club may create its own set of eligibility/penalties providing they have been cleared by PPA and number 10 or more races. In effect a series.
- National or Area Series. Series, which number 10 or more races, may create own restrictions and conditions providing they have been agreed by PPA/BHA.

Advisory Notes for Conditions Races

Conditions races have seen the greatest changes over the last 20 years as the sport has tried to find ways of accommodating much larger numbers of horses returning from NH with widely varying levels of ability. The above is to ensure there is a simpler way of identifying the level of horse the race is targeting, as well as making it simpler to administer. Thus races which have eligibility and penalty criteria going back three years are likely to give a better chance to weaker horses than ones where it only goes back one year.

There are fewer owner-trainers following the traditional method bringing a young horse up through progressive races. Instead, more are buying NH returnees, hence the growth in Conditions Races, and the popularity of Veteran and Owner-Trainer races.

All Club races, including PPORA and Countryside Alliance, to follow standard Conditions unless they have specifically grouped together to create their own series, which has been accepted by PPA.

Confined no longer used and replaced by Area(s). This type of race was losing support, and was very prescriptive. It was also difficult to check both by hand or by computer. Area(s) give considerably more flexibility and allow some regional planning. However, this restriction should only be used if there is a purpose behind it. For example, a weak Area may wish to restrict a race per fixture for its own horses in order to encourage the development of more local owners and trainers.

*Ladies Conditions races are to be encouraged rather than Ladies Open races. 45% of our riders and **more than 57%** of our Novices are female. Most of them do not have access to Open quality horses with the result that they have a choice of running in races where they have little hope or carrying an extra stone of dead weight. From the fixtures' point of view, Ladies Conditions races have generally got more runners.*

The 8yo+ Conditions race for those who have won nothing other than a Hunt, Flat, Maiden or Restricted race in the prescribed period has proved popular and needs expansion

The use of certain defined groupings of Hunts may be seen as an option to replace Hunt races but ensuring local flavour (minimum 4). The four Scottish border p2ps do this to good effect.

The Pegasus Club race will be considered as a CONDITIONS race for penalties/future eligibility but have the flexibility of a Hunt race due to its age and tradition. As such it may create its own Conditions. NB It may not run a heavyweight division.

Conditions Level 1 should only be used sparingly, particularly if running a Ladies and Mens Open race, as for the most part it is creating another Open race.

Some fixtures may wish to run a Conditions race with non-standard eligibility and penalties. These will be looked at on a case by case basis by PPA and PPRC. Whilst not the only issues, the following must be passed:

- ***The conditions are easy to understand and are simple to apply by Users, PPRC and the fixture.***
- ***They are sufficiently different from the standard options above to warrant their own conditions.***
- ***There is a coherent logic to the race based on location, date or some such issue.***

Some fixtures may wish to include restrictions concerning non-standard numbers of wins by riders, or indeed their ages. This is allowable if cleared, but it is the responsibility of the fixture to work out who is eligible.

There would be limited value in running a Conditions race for which winners Under Rules or Opens are ineligible but there are no penalties for winners of Conditions races. This would appear to be just giving a certain level of horse a major advantage. Hence why they are not allowed.

Intermediate races

Definition. Is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, which has not won:

- (i) a Steeplechase or Hurdle Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority,
- (ii) an Open Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, and/or
- (iii) more than one Intermediate point to point Steeple Chase, and/or
- (iv) more than two Conditions or Intermediate Point-to-Point Steeple Chases (in any combination)

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £400 and £1000 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a).

Types. There is only one type of Intermediate race.

Weights. 12st. Regulation 74 applies

Number. A fixture may hold only one Intermediate race.

Distance. An Intermediate race can be held over 3 miles or 2m4f.

Penalties. A winner of a Intermediate or Conditions race, including Club, Confined, Society, and Service races (Maiden and Restricted races excepted), to receive a 5lb penalty for each such win. Any horse winning 2 Intermediate races is ineligible to run again in an Intermediate.

Conditions. Nil outside the definition above

Further Restrictions that may be placed on an Intermediate race.

- For Ladies
- For Novice (and Veteran) Riders Only
- For Mares only
- For Area(s) only
- For Owner-Trainers only

Intermediate races should be left as open as possible. Any restrictions added should be used sparingly, and will be more suitable for races later in the season when you are trying to attract a niche group.

Advisory Notes for Intermediate Races

The Intermediate races dropped in number to 33 in total last season of which 30 ran. Only 9 were held before March (3 in D&C) and only three are currently programmed next year to run after the May Bank Holiday on 9th May (two in June in D&C). Number of runners remains relatively low despite growing number of qualifiers as the season progresses (there were 109 Restricted races). It would appear that the race is vanishing, except in D&C where 11 are held, and some are very well supported, partly due to a regional final at Exeter and partly because of a more traditional approach to horse ownership in that part of the country.

A reducing number of traditionalists hold a horse for several years slowly working up the scales through the progressive races. Added to this, these days in many parts of the country a large percentage of yards/owners clear out their horses each summer if they have not won or struggled to win a Maiden or weak Restricted. As a result, there are not many horses available for Restricted or Intermediate races at the beginning of the season. This has led to an ever reducing number of Intermediate races being programmed.

However, there are 121 Restricted races programmed over the season indicating that there should be enough runners to fill more than we currently hold, and yet the total number of runners for the season was 150. This suggests that a considerable number of those qualified are not running in Intermediates either because the races are not available or because the few that are are very hot.

If they are not running in Intermediates they have a choice: either to race in Conditions races against old stagers or move to NH, and anecdotal evidence indicate the latter route is being followed by some. If we want to keep our numbers up we must stop this example of self-harm. However, its fully understood that fixtures will not stage Intermediate races which get few runners.

With all the above in mind, the PPA Board has unanimously decided to change the conditions for the Restricted race in allowing winners of said race to continue to run in them with a penalty. This will have an immediate knock on effect on Intermediate races in the short-term but will hopefully lead to a revival re progressive horses coming through the ranks.

NB If you want to use another restriction (not concerning penalties or conditions as laid out above), you may request dispensation from PPA along with explanation as to thinking behind it.

Restricted Races

Definition. Restricted point to point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, which, at starting, has not won any race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority other than National Hunt Flat races or Flat races, or any Point to Point Steeplechase other than Maiden Races, Hunt/Members races **or no more than one Restricted race.**

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £400 and £1000 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a).

Types. There is only one type of Restricted race.

Weights. 12st. Regulation 74 applies

Number. A fixture may hold only one Restricted race

Distance. A Restricted race may be held over 3m or 2m4f.

Penalties. A winner of a Restricted race to receive a 5lb penalty for each such win. Any horse winning 2 Restricted races is ineligible to run again in a Restricted.

Conditions. Nil outside the definition above

Further Restrictions that may be placed on a Restricted race

- For Mares only
- For Area(s) only
- For Owner-Trainers only

The above should be used sparingly, and will be more suitable for races later in the season when you are trying to attract a niche group.

Notes for Restricted Races.

The number of runners in Restricted races has dropped year on year over the past 20 years. In the 22-23 season there were 620 runners in 113 races.. The average of 5.5 runners per race was just up on last year but that was due to fewer races partly caused by loss of many fixtures, whilst Intermediates also continued to drop. Recognising this loss of popularity in progressive races, and that part of the problem is the lack of races available for young horses after the Restricted, the PPA Board has directed a change in the conditions for the Restricted races as listed above. This will hopefully increase numbers, or at least stem losses, in the short term whilst encouraging a rebuild of this type of horses as a viable option.

It is strongly advised against running both a Restricted and an Intermediate in the same card, although it may prove valuable in some Areas and at some times of the year. NB 22 fixtures do – 11 in D&C. If both and a standard Maiden are run, the balance of the card will be on progressive horses and you may therefore fail to attract others returning from NH etc.

Again, Fixtures should liaise with Area Secretaries to ensure there is a good geographical and date spread of these races with different types of courses available.

NB There are fewer owners following the traditional method bringing a young horse up through progressive races. Instead more are returning from NH, hence the growth in Conditions Races.

If you want to use another restriction (not concerning penalties or conditions as laid out above), you may request dispensation from PPA along with explanation as to thinking behind it.

Maiden Races

Definition. A Maiden point to point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, which, at starting, has never won:

- (i) a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, or
- (ii) a National Hunt Flat Race, Flat Race, Steeple Chase or Hurdle Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority, or
- (iii) an Arabian Horse Race

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £400 and £1000 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a).

Types. There are the following types of Maiden races:

- Standard Maiden Race. Open to all subject to restrictions stated in definition above.
- Young Horse Maiden (YHM). Defined as:
 - Jan-Feb: 4-6 year olds, 4-5 year olds only, ~~4-year-olds only~~, 5 year olds only.
 - Mar- Jun: 4-5 year olds, ~~4-year-olds only~~, 5 year olds only.
 - Oct-Dec: 4-5 year olds or 4 year old only.

No horse that has raced under rules will be allowed to run for a select number of Young Horse Maiden races most of which will be sponsored.

4 year old only races have been discontinued in New Year until further notice as too limited number of horses.

- Maiden Race run off 12st with no weight for age allowance (NWFAA)
- Maiden Race for horses which have already run twice in point to point races before
- Older horse Maiden. Covering age group not included in YHM

Weights. Regulation 74 applies. Note we have introduced a sliding scale in weight difference between 4 and 5 year olds as well as 5 yr olds and older.

4 year old only and 5 year old only Maidens will be run off 11st 12

Number. A fixture may hold up to three Maiden races providing they take account of the Conditions listed below. However, in most cases two will be enough.

Distance. A Maiden race may be held over 3m or 2m4f.

Penalties. Nil

Conditions.

- If holding only one Maiden, a Fixture may choose any of the above options.
- If holding two Maidens, only one may be a standard Maiden unless one of them has a 'further restriction' (listed below) and is of a different distance.
- If holding a YHM, a second Maiden must be one of the following three options:
 - Maiden Race run off 12st with no weight for age allowance (NWFAA)
 - Maiden Race for horses which have already run twice in point to point races before
 - Older horse Maiden. Covering age group not included in YHM
- If holding three Maidens, at least one must be a YHM. The second and third may either be one of the three options listed above or a Mares' Maiden. At least one should be over 2m4f. None may be standard Maiden races.

- If holding three Maidens you may not hold a Flat race.

Further Restrictions that may be placed on a Maiden race

- For Mares only
- For Area(s) only
- For Owner-Trainers only

Advisory Notes for Maiden Races.

There has been much discussion over the past 5 years over whether 4 year olds have too great a weight advantage. In past three seasons there has been a sliding scale concerning weight differentials between 4 and 5 year olds as well as between 5 and 6 year olds. This appears to have reduced/removed the perceived problem.

The control of what Maidens can be run is to ensure that top class young Maidens have only one race they can run in at any fixture, giving opportunity for others, and preventing deliberate avoidance on the day. Equally, fixtures should provide that opportunity if running more than one Maiden.

Maidens for horses that have run twice before are to give opportunity for those that are not 'commercial' but may still be young. For example, a 4 or 5 year old, who has proved to have limited ability should have the opportunity to run in lower quality races. This type of race has proved popular averaging over 7 runners a race.

Level weight maidens are a recent innovation this year. Those with top young horses may wish to take the opportunity to prove the quality of their horse giving it greater credibility in the ring. Note that before the New Year the weight allowances are 7 lbs for 4 year olds and none for 5 year olds. For this reason, level weights Maiden (NWFAA) will tend to work better than older horse maidens in this period. The races have proved popular averaging over 8 runners a race. Probably more useful in early season than older horse Maidens

The 22-23 season has seen an increase in number of 4yos over the previous season but still short of figures pre-Covid. Nevertheless, the reduced number of YHM has resulted in relatively good size fields (not as large as other types of Maiden), and the Series has proved a success.

Young Horse Maidens should be run early in the card if possible. This will give them better ground and reduce time spent on lorry before racing. However, if a new course, it should not be the first race.

Horses that have already raced under rules may not run in some YHM because they already have experience which will both affect the nature of the race and its perceived quality.

NB If you want to use another restriction (not concerning penalties or conditions as laid out above), you may request dispensation from BHA through PPA, along with explanation as to thinking behind it.

Flat Races

Definition. A point to point Flat race is a race open to any horse, which has not run in:

- (i) a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, or
- (ii) a National Hunt Flat Race, Flat Race, Steeple Chase or Hurdle Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority, or
- (iii) an Arabian Race,

and which has not run in more than two Point-to-Point Flat Races or won a Point-to-Point Flat Race. No horse aged more than 5 years old will be eligible to start in a Point-to-Point flat race, except where specified in race conditions in January and February.

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £0 and £1000 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a).

Types. There is only one type of point to point Flat race.

Weights. Regulation 74 applies

Number. A fixture may hold only one Flat race unless divided. The course Inspector must have provided clearance before the race programme in the Planner goes to print.

Distance. A Flat race must be held over 2 miles or thereabouts (recognising that some courses will have specific reasons for slightly different distances).

Penalties. Nil

Rider Conditions. For Riders who have either (i) more than 5 winners prior to the Thursday before the date of this point to point flat race or (ii) in addition to a Point to point RQC hold a current Category A or Category B permit **or equivalent** to ride under Rules

Conditions.

- 4-5 year olds only except in Jan-Feb when 6 year olds may be included
- Flat races are to be held at the end of the card unless special dispensation has been given.

Further Restrictions that may be placed on a Flat race

- Single Age groups: 4 year old or 5 year olds
- Gender of horse
- British bred

Advisory Notes for Flat Races.

Flat races can be popular with trainers but are not always so popular with the general public. Furthermore, several divisions of a race risks major effects on the remainder of the card. Therefore, due to risk of several divisions, they must be placed at the end of the card.

The advantage of running a flat race is that entries tend to be higher for other races as the larger trainers come. Flat races are increasingly being seen as an opportunity to give experience to a backward horse. Therefore they are not just for hotshots, but may sometimes have value for the larger old-fashioned chaser, which is not ready for jumping that season.

However, It should be noted that a very high percentage of those entered run. This means it is highly unlikely that the entry fees could cover the cost of normal prize money, especially if a race is divided which is common. With this in mind, combined with the purpose of this type of race, fixtures can choose to provide no prize money, although a little is recommended (or good mementoes).

Hunt Members Race

Definition. Hunt Members point to point steeplechase is for horses certified by an authorised signatory of a Hunt affiliated to a Point to point Area to be the property of Masters, Members, subscribers or Farmers of that Hunt authorised to stage the meeting and if so desired, additional Hunt(s) up to an overall total of five.

NB No hunt may be involved in more than one Hunt race.

Prize Money. The total prize money shall be between £0 and £1000 as laid out at Regulation 76 (1)(a).

Types. A Hunt race can have any number of restrictions.

Weights. Regulation 74 applies. However, a Heavyweight Division may be included where weight does not exceed 13st 10lbs

Number. One

Distance. 2m4f or 3m

Penalties. As decided by the Hunt. However:

- Heavyweight Division has no penalties
- Maximum cumulative penalties must be no greater than 10 lbs and may not exceed 12st 10lb.

Conditions.

- The horse must be registered with the Hunt(s) concerned in the race. Please note that Regulations 32 and 33 has been amended to make it clearer which horses can qualify using unregistered hunt certs. Otherwise, Conditions are set by the Hunt.
- Up to 5 Hunts may be engaged in the race. However, the Hunt(s) engaged in this race may not hold their own Hunt race, whether holding a point to point or not, or be cleared to have their qualifiers in any other Hunt race.
- Riders Conditions must be stated (Reg 51 has been amended). If allowing one day caps (necessary in almost every case), it must state what charge will be made for that one day cap.

Standard Examples of Conditions

- For horses with a current Hunters' Certificate, which need not be registered, issued by the ..., Hunt(s)....
- (possible addition) ... and which have been hunted at least ... times during the season (proof to be provided on the day if Hunted elsewhere)
- To be ridden by the Master(s), Members, subscribers and farmers, or their respective spouses or children of the Hunt or hunts concerned, or by anyone who has paid the One day Cap of £...
- (possible addition) ... and who can provide written proof that they have hunted at least ... times during the current season if not with this Hunt.

Further Restrictions that may be placed on a Hunt race

Hunts have total flexibility on what restrictions or conditions that they wish to include providing they are within the regulations including stipulations above. Any concerns where confusion may lie should be raised with the PPA before submitting

Fixtures may set up their own Conditions and penalties for a hunt race providing they are clear to PPA/PPRC and users, **and will not exceed 12st 10lb plus allowances.**

Conditions concerning Hunting, whether horse or rider, are the responsibility of the fixture to police.

Advisory Notes for Hunt Races.

If running a Heavyweight division, Stewards and Vets are to check that the horse is suitable when in the paddock.

Always check how many horses are likely to qualify with your hunt, and what type are they. If you are likely to have only a very few qualifiers, consider combining with other local Hunts.

Absolutely no point in putting in restrictions if you only have a very few qualifiers to start with.

The option of reducing minimum prize money to zero for this type of race is in recognition that the motivations behind staging one are very varied. Furthermore, the prize money is often raised from the subscribers who then compete in the race making it a circular motion. However, it can cause irritation so think it through, and ensure excellent mementoes if going down this route.

Appendix 1 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Definition of Race Types

Open Point to Point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, to be termed as a 'Men's' (to be ridden by Gentlemen), a 'Ladies' (to be ridden by Ladies) or 'Mixed' (to be ridden by either gender) Open Steeplechase.

Conditions Point to Point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, which satisfies the conditions of the race, and, other than for the final of a National Conditions Series, has not won two Hunter Chases/Open point to point Steeplechases or three Conditions point to point Steeplechase races within the current season.

Note. For the purpose of calculating penalties and eligibility, all races run before the 2020/21 Point-to-Point Season termed Confined, Club or Society, and which were not Open, Intermediate, Restricted, Maiden or Hunt races, will be considered Conditions races.

Intermediate Point to Point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, which at starting has not won:

- (i) a Steeplechase or Hurdle Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority, and/or
- (ii) an Open Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, and/or
- (iii) more than one Intermediate point to point Steeple Chase, and/or
- (iv) more than two Conditions or Intermediate Point-to-Point Steeple Chases (in any combination)

Restricted Point to Point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, which, at starting, has not won any race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority other than National Hunt Flat races or Flat races, or any Point to Point Steeplechase other than Maiden Races, Hunt/Members races **or no more than one Restricted race.**

Maiden Point to Point Steeplechase is a race open to any horse, except where further restrictions have been imposed, which at starting has never won:

- (i) a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, or
- (ii) a National Hunt Flat Race, Flat Race, Steeple Chase or Hurdle Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority, or
- (iii) an Arabian Horse Race

Point to Point Flat Race. Is a race open to any horse, which at starting has not run in:

- (i) a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, or
- (ii) a National Hunt Flat Race, Flat Race, Steeple Chase or Hurdle Race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority, or
- (iii) an Arabian Horse Race,

and which has not run in more than two Point-to-Point Flat Races or won a Point-to-Point Flat Race. No horse aged more than 5 years old will be eligible to start in a Point-to-Point flat race, except where specified in race conditions in January and February.

Hunt Members point to point Steeplechase is a race for horses certified by an authorised signatory of a Hunt affiliated to a Point to point Area to be the property of Masters, Members, subscribers or Farmers of that Hunt authorised to stage the meeting and if so desired, additional Hunt(s) up to an overall total of five.

NB No hunt may be involved in more than one Hunt race.

Appendix 2 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Explanations of specific Restrictions that may be used

The following provides a brief description and explanation for the most common restrictions that could be used:

For Horses:

- **Gender.** Very unusual to have a geldings only race but Mares Maidens are popular. It may be that the occasional Restricted or Intermediate race for Mares only might fill a need as many often struggle against geldings above Maiden race level.
- **Age.** Age groups are most commonly used at Maiden level, particularly Young Horse Maidens. However, with recognition that many pointers are returnees from NH, **only one Conditions race per race card** can be restricted by age.

Young horses are defined as 4-6 in Jan-Feb, and otherwise 4-5 years old.

Veteran horses are defined as 9+ before 1 Jan and 10+ thereafter.

- **Non-Rules Horses Only.** For Open type races only. For horses that have not won under rules other than a hunter chase. There is often criticism that retirees from NH are too good for the horses that progress through p2ps. This provides an opportunity to frame a race accordingly. However, it should only be used very occasionally.

For Riders:

- **Gender.** Open races are traditionally defined as Mens, Ladies or Mixed. However, all other types of race can be further restricted to Ladies only. However, whilst there is logic in this for some Conditions races (a lot of female jockeys with ex-NH horses), it should be used sparingly.
- **Novice.** Open, Conditions, and Intermediate races can be restricted to Novice riders only. This means the horse can find its own level, and Novice riders can ride in Novice (Open) races even if they have already won three Conditions races.
- **Veteran.** A veteran is defined as 40 years plus as at **1 October 2023**; any other age must be defined at the time of framing. There are not enough Veterans for their own races but it is sometimes added to Novice rider restrictions. ie 'for Novice and Veteran riders only'. **NB in 22-23 all bar 4 of the Veterans were also Novices.**
- **Riders who are Winners of 20 or less.** All races, other than Flat and Maiden Races, can be restricted to those who have won 20 or fewer races under the Rules of racing or the Rules of a recognised Racing Authority, Point to point or Arab Horse races.
- **Riders with no current Cat A or B license.** Only available from 1 March onwards

For Trainers.

- **Trainers with 3 Wins (only available from 1 Mar 2024).** For Conditions type races only. Have not changed Keepers since 1 Oct 23 without clearance from PPA, and where the Keeper since 1 Oct 23 has not trained more than 3 winners (at close of entry) under the Rules of any recognised Racing Authority (including point to points)

Utilised at end of season by one or two fixtures. Concept is excellent but again individuals look to circumvent. Solution is to use the same approach as for Owner-trainers above, and/or state that the horse cannot have changed trainer's hands since beginning of season, and must be in a separate yard/address.

- **Train 5 or Fewer and no Licensed Trainer in family.** In line with the national Competition for small trainers, some races can be framed for trainers of 5 or fewer horses. This is at time of close of entry. Only available from 1 March onwards since most horses are now registered only 3 days before entry. This leads some larger trainers to remain defined as 'small' sized trainers until quite late in the season.
- **Owner-Trainers.** This is to provide opportunity for those training their own horses, who often do not have facilities of the larger yards. As a result it should be used in conjunction with limited number of horses. The current Owner-trainer Series allows only 5 horses to be in training with that family.
NB Sadly, some individuals look for ways to get around restrictions, and so one is forced to use long-winded conditions. If wanting to run such a race, PPA/PPRC will provide standard text.

For Regions

- **Area(s).** Runners can be restricted to those qualified to one or two Areas (three if total number of affiliated Hunts is less than 30).

This replaces the use of 'Adjacent' and 'Confined', which had administrative problems as well as having become outdated and very poorly supported. The use of Area(s) as a restriction provides opportunities for weak Areas, which depend on visitors, to run races for their own owners and trainers and thus encourage redevelopment of their numbers. It also provides an opportunity for an Area or region to run a Championship race or series for their own. However, it should only be used for specific purposes as it otherwise just restricts entries. **NB they get lower entries than other similar races**

Sub-Area. Only for Conditions type races. A small group of fixtures, which are easily defined, can create a restriction for their own sub-Area if there is a pressing need. However, this will normally be far too restrictive.

- **Clubs.** Only for Conditions type races. Clubs may be used as a restriction, but must use standard conditions as laid out for each type of race unless there are 10 or more races of same type. For the latter, a single set of non-standard conditions may be applied if agreed by PPA creating in effect a mini-Series.

Appendix 3 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Race Titles

The following in bold provides the order of key information provided in a race title

The

Sponsors name. Vital that sponsors' names are prominent

Club Name if specified. In this sense PPORA and Countryside Alliance are considered Clubs.

Age of horses if specified. To include term 'Veterans'

Restrictions for Types of race. This covers a large number of options several of which could be in play at once and should therefore follow this order:

- **Gender of Rider.** Mixed/Mens/Ladies. The first two for Opens only, Ladies could be used as a restriction for all types of race
- **Area(s)**
- **Specific** eg Owner-Trainer

Type of Race ie OPEN/CONDITIONS/INTERMEDIATE/RESTRICTED/MAIDEN/ FLAT/HUNT point to point

'Race'

Horse Gender for Mares/Geldings

Rider Restriction for Novice/Veteran riders

Distance if different to standard. EG over 2M 4f

Standard weight

Appendix 4 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Regulations for Horse Eligibility (32 – 34), Rider Eligibility for Hunt races (51(i)(a)) and Race Framing (71 – 76)

(Full regulations can be found on Website under Guides and Downloads for Owners)

Regulations 32 - 34 HORSE ELIGIBILITY

Regulation 32. Horses are only eligible to be entered:-

- (1) In Hunt Members Steeple Chases for which they either have a registered hunter certificate for that hunt or hunts, or with an unregistered Hunters Certificate, issued by that hunt or hunts, which must be submitted at entry providing that it fills one or more of the following criteria:
 - (a) The horse is the property of either the Master(s) Members, Subscribers or Farmers of the Hunt(s) concerned, and does not hold a registered Hunter Certificate
 - (b) The horse has been hunted with the hunt(s) concerned, where it is stipulated in Conditions of race that a horse has been hunted with that hunt or hunts.
 - (c) The horse is a non/part thoroughbred or unregistered thoroughbred

- (ii) In Steeple Chases confined to a Regiment or Approved Club, Society or Association if they are the property of Members of such Regiment or Approved Club, Society or Association and have either a Hunter Certificate of a recognised Hunt, that has been registered in the manner required in Sub-Regulation (iii) of this Regulation, or express written permission waiving the requirement of such registration has been given by the British Horseracing Authority to the Regiment or Approved Club, Society or Association concerned. In the event of such permission being given:
 - (a) the Regiment or Approved Club, Society or Association concerned must state in the conditions of entry for the Steeple Chase in question that no registration of Hunter Certificate is necessary and
 - (b) the conditions of entry must require a Hunter's Certificate for the horse to accompany the entry.

- (iii) In all other Steeple Chases if they are the property of either a Master, Member, Subscriber or Farmer of a recognised Hunt and if a Hunter Certificate of that recognised Hunt, upon the form issued by the Point-to-Point Authority, has been lodged at the Racing Calendar Office, the appropriate fee paid and the Certificate has been registered. Registration cannot take effect unless the horse's name has also been registered as required under Regulation 31. A Certificate registered by noon on Thursday shall qualify the horse concerned to be entered in Point-to-Point Steeple Chases which close on or after the following Saturday but to qualify for entry in any race which is restricted to certain Hunts, the Hunter Certificate must have been signed and issued by the Master of one of the Hunts concerned.

Regulation 33 A horse may only be registered to one Hunt at any one stage. If a horse is registered twice, the second Hunter Certificate will take precedence. A horse may only run in a maximum of two Hunt races using different registered Hunter Certificates (we don't need a rich man figuring out way to win Grand Marnier is to re-register his horse to run in 5 Hunt races)

Regulation 34. No Horse shall be eligible to be entered or run in a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase **or Flat race** in the current Point-to-Point Season which:-

- (i) Is less than 4 years old.

- (ii) On or after October 1st, 2023 has won any race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority other than:-
- (a) A Steeple Chase run between March 1st, 2024 and June 1st, 2024 which is confined to Amateur Riders;
 - (b) A Hunters' Steeple Chase; or
 - (c) The Grand Military Gold Cup or the Royal Artillery Gold Cup.
- (iii) During any of the 28 consecutive days prior to the day of closing of entries for the race for which the horse is being entered, has run in any race run under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority other than:-
- (a) A Steeple Chase run between March 1st, 2024 and June 1st, 2024 which is confined to Amateur Riders;
 - (b) A Hunters' Steeple Chase; or
 - (c) The Grand Military Gold Cup or the Royal Artillery Gold Cup
- (iv) During any of the 28 days prior to the day of registering the Hunter Certificate or any of the 28 days prior to being entered in a race,
- (a) has been in the care of a trainer licensed under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority unless the horse is, or was at the time the property of himself, his spouse, civil partner, co-habitant of the trainer by reason of a personal relationship, parents, grandparents, sons, daughters, grandchildren, brothers, sisters (or the Executors of such persons), free of all lease or other joint arrangement, except partnerships between such persons.
 - (b) has been in the care of a person holding a permit to train under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority unless the horse is or was at the time the property of himself, his spouse, civil partner, co-habitant of the trainer by reason of a personal relationship, parents, grandparents, sons, daughters, grandchildren, brothers, sisters (or the Executors of such persons), free of all lease or other joint arrangement, except partnerships between such persons.
- Unless, in respect of the registration of the Hunters Certificate, it has only run in jump or flat point to points in the current season.
- (v) On or after October 1st, 2022 has been placed first, second or third in a Grade 1 or Grade 2 Steeple Chase in Great Britain or Ireland or in any other steeple chase run outside Great Britain or Ireland which in the opinion of the Authority is the equivalent of a Grade 1 or Grade 2 steeple chase.
- (vi) On or after October 1st 2021, it has won a Class 1 or 2 steeple chase, or the foreign equivalent, which was not confined to Amateur Riders.
- (vii) Has been disqualified or is not qualified to Regulations 150, 151 or 152.

- (viii) Following adherence to Regulation 34 (iii) and (iv), runs in a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase and then subsequently returns into the care of a licensed trainer or a person holding a permit to train.
- (ix) During the current season has run in one or more races under the Point-to-Point Regulations and subsequently run in any race under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority other than:
 - (a) A steeple chase run between March 1st, 2024 and June 1st, 2024 which is confined to amateur riders;
 - (b) A Hunters Steeple Chase; or
 - (c) The Grand Military Gold Cup and the Royal Artillery Gold Cup

Regulation 51(i)(a) - amended

The Master(s), Members, subscribers and farmers, or their respective spouses or children of the Hunt or hunts concerned, or as stated in the individual race conditions which must state price of a one day cap if external riders are allowed. *In the case that the Conditions state that a rider must have hunted, either with the said hunt or another, the rider must lodge written proof, signed by the relevant Hunt Secretary that this is the case, with the Declarations Clerk.*

CONDITIONS OF RACES REGULATIONS 72-76

72. Number of Types of Races. The number of Steeple Chases and Point-to-Point Flat Races in the programme of the meeting authorised under Regulation 60(i)(a) shall not exceed seven. Where the meeting is scheduled between the day after the Cheltenham Festival and 9 May 2023 and does not include a Hunt Members Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, the number of Steeple Chases and Point-to-Point Flat Races in the programme of the meeting shall not exceed six. Meetings may apply to the PPA for dispensation from the six race restrictions except for the Easter weekend.

The number of Steeple Chases and Point-to-Point Flat Races in the programme of the meeting authorised under Regulation 60(i)(a) shall be no fewer than six, unless the fixture is scheduled over the Easter or May Day Bank Holiday where there shall be no fewer than five.

If more than one Maiden Steeple Chase is scheduled in the programme, one of them must allow eligibility for the participation of four year olds.

No Hunt may be involved in more than one Hunt race during a season.

The programme shall not include more than the following:

- (i) Two Open Steeple Chases
- (ii) One Intermediate Steeple Chase.
- (iii) One Restricted Steeple Chase.
- (iv) Three Maiden Steeple Chases (two if a Point-to-Point Flat Race is also being run).

(v) Four Conditions Steeple Chases.

(vi) One Point-to-Point Flat Race.

(vii) One Hunt Members' or Military Service Steeplechase

(viii) One additional Hunt Members Race over natural country which has been authorised by the British Horseracing Authority.

Up to two Steeple Chases may be run over 2m4f, unless at least one is a

Maiden in which case up to three Steeple Chases may be run over 2m4f.

SERVICE, CLUB, ASSOCIATION & SOCIETY MEETINGS

73. Deleted and amalgamated into Regulation 72

WEIGHTS

74. The minimum weights to be carried in Point-to-Point Steeple Chases shall be as set out in the conditions of the race, which shall be determined consistent with the following table, no horse shall carry less than 10st:

Regulation 74 - Weights for Age Table - 23-24 Season

Race Type	sex	October - December		1 Jan to end of Feb		1 Mar to end of Apr		1 May to end of season	
		Age	Weight	Age	Weight	Age	Weight	Age	Weight
Point to Point Steeplechase (excluding 4 & 5 year old Maidens)	H&G	5+	12st	6+	12st	6+	12st	5+	12st
	M	5+	11st 7lb	6+	11st 7lb	6+	11st 7lb	5+	11st 7lb
	H&G			5	11st 7lb	5	11st 10lb		
	M			5	11st	5	11st 3lb		
	C&G	4	11st 7lb	4	10st 7lb	4	11st	4	11st 4lb
	F	4	11st	4	10st	4	10st 7lb	4	10st 11lb
Point to Point Steeplechase confined to Ladies (excluding 4 & 5 year old Maidens)	H&G	5+	11st	6+	11st	6+	11st	6+	11st
	M	5+	10st 7lb	6+	10st 7lb	6+	10st 7lb	6+	10st 7lb
	H&G			5	10st 7lb	5	10st 10lb	5	
	M			5	10st	5	10st 3lb	5	
	C&G	4	10st 7lb	4	10st	4	10st	4	10st 4lb
	F	4	10st	4	10st	4	10st	4	10st
Mixed Open point to point Steeplechase	H&G	5+	11st 7lb	6+	11st 7lb	6+	11st 7lb	5+	11st 7lb
	M	5+	11st	6+	11st	6+	11st	5+	11st
	H&G			5	11st	5	11st 3lb		
	M			5	10st 7lb	5	10st 10lb		
	C&G	4	11st	4	10st	4	10st 7lb	4	10st 11lb
	F	4	10st 7lb	4	10st	4	10st	4	10st 4lb
4 & 5 year old Maiden point to	H&G	5	12st	5	12st	5	12st)	
	M	5	11st 7lb	5	11st 7lb	5	11st 7lb)	To end of season

point Steeplechase	C&G F	4 4	11st 7lb 11st	4 4	11st 10st 7lb	4 4	11st 4lb 10st 11lb))
Single age races	H/C& G M/F		11st 12lb 11st 5lb					

In Mares (and fillies) only Point-to-Point Steeple Chases:

- The weight for Mares (and fillies) only Point-to-Point Steeple Chases may be set at either 12st or 11st 7lbs.
- During November and December, four-year-old fillies shall have a 7lbs allowance.
- During January and February, five-year-old mares shall have a 7lbs allowance and four-year-old fillies shall have a 21lbs allowance.
- From 1 March until the end of April, five-year-old mares shall have a 4lbs allowance and four-year-old fillies shall have a 14lbs allowance.
- From 1 May until the end of the season four-year-old fillies shall have a 10lbs allowance.

In Point-to-Point Flat Races:

All 5yo and 6yo horses and geldings shall carry 11st 12lb in a Point-to-Point Flat race. 5yo and 6yo Mares will carry 11st 5lb, to incorporate their 7lb sex allowance. The table below outlines the weight 4yos shall receive from 5yos carrying 11st 12lb. 4yo Fillies will also receive their 7lb sex allowance in addition to the w-f-a allowance. It should be noted that in November and December, 4yos do not receive a w-f-a allowance and will carry 11st 12lb, unless they are in receipt of the 7lb sex allowance and carrying 11st 5lb.

In races restricted to a single age group, horses and geldings will carry 11st 12lb with fillies or mares carrying 11st 5lb.

Point-to-Point Flat Race	Weight for Age Scale / lbs
Age	4yo
Distance	2 miles
Jan 1-15	12
Jan 16-31	11
Feb 1-14	10
Feb 15-28(29)	9
Mar 1-15	8
Mar 16-31	7
Apr 1-15	6
Apr 16-30	5
May	4
Jun	3
Oct-Dec	Nil

Note: Following the abandonment or postponement of a fixture a new date may be applied for. If such date be granted and be not more than sixteen days after the original date all entries and weights (ignoring any intervening performance) shall stand good as if the Meeting had taken place on the day originally fixed.

PENALTIES

75. Penalties for winning may be imposed at the discretion of the Committee or Corporate Entity except:
- (i) In all Open Steeple Chases **up to 1 March 2024** the following penalty for three wins between 1 October 2022 and 30 September 2023 must be imposed:
5lbs for the winner of:

- (a) three or more Steeple Chases, Hurdle Races or Flat Races under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority, or
 - (b) two or more Steeple Chases, Hurdle Races or Flat Races under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority and one or more Open Point to Point Steeple Chase.
- (ii) In Mens Open Steeple Chases (optional), Ladies Open Steeple Chases (optional), and all Mixed Open Steeple Chases, where the weight is 11st 7lb, the following penalties for wins on or after October 1st, 2023 must be imposed:

3lbs for the winner of one Steeple Chase or Hurdle race under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority or Open Point-to-Point Steeple Chase;

5lbs for the winner of two Steeple Chase or Hurdle races under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority or Open Point-to-Point Steeple Chase;

7lbs for the winner of three or more eligible Steeple Chase or Hurdle races under the Rules of any recognised Turf Authority or Open Point-to-Point Steeple Chase;

The above penalties are not cumulative. They will be added to the penalty in Sub Regulation (i) if applicable. The total penalty cannot exceed 7lb.

(iii) In Intermediate Steeple Chases a penalty of 5lb must be imposed for the winner of each previous Intermediate or Conditions Point-to-Point Steeple Chase.

(iv) In Restricted Steeple Chases a penalty of 5lb must be imposed for the winner of a single Restricted point to point Steeple Chase. A winner of two Restricted races is no longer eligible.

(v) Except for in Open Steeple Chases, the maximum penalty cannot exceed 10lbs.

(vi) If in the conditions of a race a fixed penalty has to be carried for winning a race specified by name, horses running a dead heat for such race shall carry the penalty fixed as if the race has been won outright.

(vii) Penalties are cumulative unless so declared by the Point-to-Point Regulations or conditions of the race.

(viii) No horse may carry more than 13 stone in any Point-to-Point Steeple Chase race, other than races held under the provisions of Regulations 72(vii), where no horse may carry more than 13st 10lbs.

(ix) Riders in Open Point-to-Point Steeple Chases outlined in Sub Regulation, who prior to the Thursday before the stated date of a Point-to-Point Steeple Chase, have not ridden more than 5 winners under the Rules of Racing, the Rules of a recognised Racing Authority, the Regulations for Point-to-Point Steeple Chases or Arabian Horse Races shall receive 5lbs.

(x) In the case of a walkover no resultant penalty will be applied to the horse running in subsequent races on the same day.

(xi) This Regulation does not apply to:

- (a) the Lord Ashton of Hyde, Coronation Cup, Grimthorpe and Lady Dudley races; and
- (b) any other race for which special dispensation has been granted.

PRIZE MONEY

76. (i) (a) The total prize money or other prize save with the express permission of the British Horseracing Authority, shall be as follows:

Open (Men's, Ladies' or Mixed) £500 - £1,250
Hunt Members' and Flat Races £0 - £1000
Any other race £400 - £1000

(b) Save with the express permission of the British Horseracing Authority, no further prize money or award from any source whatsoever shall be given or accepted in any one race or races except:

1. A memento must be given in addition to the prizes permitted in Sub Regulation 76(i) (a) above, and the value of each such memento shall be £50 - £150, and
2. A perpetual Challenge Trophy may be received by the winner and two other Challenge Trophies may also be given in any races as special prizes for certain contestants, and
3. A memento valued at not more than £50 must be given to the winning rider, and
4. An award for the best turned-out horse of no more than £25

(c) No payment shall be made for the transport of horses to or from the Meeting, save with the express permission of the British Horseracing Authority.

(d) If the winner walks over or no horse has been placed second or in any lower place the prize money for the placings shall not be given at all.

(ii) Subject always to the provisions of the Regulations 72, the British Horseracing Authority may, however, sanction the staging of a series of not less than 10 races, each race complying individually with sub-section (a) of this Regulation as to prize money. Additional sponsored prizes may be awarded separately under a "points system" for a horse, owner or rider obtaining the most (or as stipulated) number of points in a Point-to-Point Season in any area or areas. Application to stage a "points system" series, together with details of the total value of the prize money or any other prize awarded at the conclusion of the series, must be submitted to the British Horseracing Authority, for approval by them, not later than 1st September in the year preceding the staging of the series.

Appendix 5 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Maximum Number of races to be held on any Weekend by Region

Background. The falling number of horses available to point to point mean that there is a strong risk of very small fields if all cards are maximised to 7 races, whilst 5 race cards can make the numbers look considerably better. For example 28 horses running on the day would average 4 for a 7 race card but 5.6 for a 5 race card.

Regulation 72 provides some restrictions with fixtures running between the Cheltenham Festival and 9 May not being allowed more than 6 races (plus a hunt race if required) except if dispensation provided.

Easter. The following restriction is in place for Easter weekend but should normally be considered the same for any other weekend (with exception of SE and EA) to avoid too many fixtures local to each other:

Region	Max number of races
Midlands (comprising WM, SM, Sand and Midlands)	40
EA/SE	10
Wales	10
SW (comprising D&C and Wessex)	20
North (comprising Yorkshire and Northern)	15

Hunt races are excluded from the above.

NB The above does not include postponed fixtures but it should be taken into account when considering new dates

NB2 7 race cards should now be by exception if no Hunt race

Appendix 6 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Non Point to Point Races

General. A Fixture must get specific clearance from PPA to run a race at the same location and day as a point to point well in advance. A full instruction to that effect is given below. However, you must consider the following very carefully:

- Is everyone who may be liable in agreement. This includes the Landlord.
- Has the Inspector agreed that it is safe to run and whether that is at end or beginning of day
- Is the race insured, and does this provide public liability for all officials involved.
- Have all the necessary officials agreed to support. This includes Stewards and Medical staff
- Has a full Health and Safety assessment been done for this race.
- All equines taking part in races are subject to EI requirements at a p2p.

Cost. There may well be extra costs involved. EG you may have to pay for an extra period of time for the paramedics and doctors so it should not be considered free. **NB Medical indemnity provided for doctors covering p2p races covers pony races as well but nothing else. You must check with the doctors that they are happy to provide cover.**

Number. There is no hard and fast rule but fixtures should not be planning on more than 3 non p2p races, particularly if they are at the beginning of the day.

- Many of the sport's aficionados, owners and trainers do not appreciate them, and get particularly angry if they start to interfere with the race programme's timings. It may affect whether they return in future years.
- In winter officials already have to sort out 7+ p2p races. You are asking quite a lot of them, particularly if they are elderly, to stay an extra hour or two in the cold and rain to support these races.

However, they may provide extra 'runners' at Easter or other periods when there are likely to be fewer p2p runners. In such cases it may be worth supplementing the normal race cards with these sorts of races to entertain the crowds.

Types. There are lots of different types of non p2p races being cleared to run. Many of them are for charity but they generally fall into 4 categories:

- **Pony Races.** Pony races have to be cleared by PRA as well as PPA. There are both regional and national programmes, a set of rules to follow and a fee will have to be paid. Better news is that it tends to be run by the pony racing secretaries.
- **Hunt Scurries.** Several Hunts run Hunt Scurries at the end of the meeting, with some jumping the fences (one circuit only – no ditch). These allow a link between Hunting and p2p to be retained, and work well as charity races. Those over fences **must** be run to an optimum time (BE Novice?) to find the winner. However, this is over fences so you need to work out a good way of ensuring both the horses and jockeys are capable of jumping what are large obstacles.
- **Flat Equine Races.** There are quite a few charity flat races of various types including side-saddle, Clydesdale, donkey derbies and so forth. From your perspective, check for and mitigate risk (its not unknown for very elderly people to take part and then fall off). NB remember donkeys are equines when it comes to Equine Influenza etc.
- **Other.** Periodically, different types of race have been tried. Camel racing, for example, has certainly proved very popular with the general public.

Instruction - Horses' and Riders' Participation at Unrecognised Meetings

Any horse that runs at an unrecognised meeting (or in any individual race) for which exemption has not been received is no longer qualified to run under either the Rules of Racing or the Point-to-Point Regulations. Similarly, any person who owns, trains or rides a horse at an unrecognised meeting is liable to be declared a disqualified person for up to 12 months.

Events at Point-to-Point Meetings:

1. Charity Races, Cross-Country Rides & Hunt Scurries

Hunt Organisers must notify the PPA office two months in advance of any other equine event that is scheduled to take place at their Point-to-Point fixture. Any such event must take place in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Hunt Organisers are responsible for these races and it is essential that they carry out a comprehensive risk assessment; taking particular account of participants' ability and the horses with which they are paired.
- Hunt Organisers must ensure they have insurance in place for the race up to the same values as the remainder of the point to point.
- Medical and Veterinary arrangements must comply with minimum requirements outlined in the British Horseracing Authority Instructions for Point-to-Point Steeple Chases.
- Coordination of participant movements to ensure there is no disruption to the day's racing;
- Responsibility must be taken for dealing with queries concerning the race on the day and variations of conditions from BHA regulated races;
- Details of the race, if provided in the race card, must make it clear that this is not a race run under the BHA Regulations and an announcement should be made to this effect;
- Communication with the local Course Inspector and if necessary the BHA Course Inspectorate is advised to establish a suitable Safety Factor, distance and ensure the surface is suitable such as the bypass areas which must adhere to the established Safety Factor. Please note that neither the local Course Inspector nor the BHA Inspectorate are responsible for inspecting or reporting on aspects regarding the race;
- No on course betting or cash prizes;
- All horses that enter the property used or controlled by the Stewards of the Meeting on the day of racing must be vaccinated against equine influenza in accordance with Regulation 36, and any Emergency Updates;
- Stewards at Point-to-Point courses are not obliged to officiate at these particular races and therefore they should be asked ahead of the Meeting;
- The race must take place either at the end of the card or before the first race provided; sufficient time should be allowed for any delays before the first Point-to-Point race on the card.

2. Races involving minors/children

Any race involving ponies must get clearance from the PRA. Please contact Lucy Felton lucy@ponyracingauthority.co.uk (07771 518258). She should be asked to send PRA agreement to Peter Wright (CEO Point-to-Point Authority) peter@p2pa.co.uk

The BHA safeguarding policy is available here:

<https://www.britishhorseracing.com/regulation/safeguarding/>

All organisers or races involving minors must be aware of their safeguarding obligations and take appropriate actions in order to protect children from harm and abuse.

Any organiser who wishes advice as to how to request exemption or whether or not a race requires exemption should speak to Peter Wright (CEO Point-to-Point Authority) on 01793 781991 or peter@p2pa.co.uk

Events outside of Point-to-Point Meetings - should be referred to BHA

Any meeting (or race) in which there is a crossover of Point-to-Point horses and/or owners, trainers or riders should request exemption from the restrictions written into the Rules and Regulations. Such requests must be made to the BHA Point-to-Point Department at least two months ahead of the intended race day.

Meetings (or races) which receive an exemption are run outside the Rules of Racing / Point-to-Point Regulations and the results do not count for any purpose on horse's or rider's career records.

Cross-country Rides and Hunt Scurries generally take place at equestrian and/or hunting linked events. These 'races' usually have historical significance and are isolated, in that they take place annually and there is no associated race series or associated career form for either horses or riders. Exemption for such events will usually be granted on a rolling basis so as, unless the format of the event changes significantly, it will not be necessary to seek dispensation on an annual basis.

Charity Races and equestrian events looking to feature several races must seek dispensation annually from the BHA Point-to-Point Department.

Any organiser who wishes advice as to how to request exemption or whether or not their event requires exemption should speak to or email Lyn Williams on 0207 152 0123 / lwilliams@britishhorseracing.com

Appendix 7 to PPAGI 1 – Race Framing

Protocol for Schooling ‘Races’ to be known in future as ‘Schooling Trials’

Recently, courses have been holding schooling days, with ever increasing numbers of horses. This has led to some queries about Schooling ‘races’. The following provides advice on how they might be used.

Schooling ‘Races’ are popular in Ireland being held both on licensed and point to point tracks with licensed trainers as well as p2p yards using them to school their horses alongside others but without the pressure for results that races bring. As such, they appear a sound concept with several lateral positives re licensed trainers getting better understanding of p2p courses etc.

However, the term ‘races’ can lead to people drawing the wrong conclusion. It is therefore vital that they are not misrepresented as proper races, which could lead to accusations of flapping, and ultimately the entity which ran them not being eligible for holding future point to points. They are therefore to be known as ‘Schooling Trials’

There is a key difference between being run on a point to point raceday or not.

Raceday.

Subject to same requirements as charity races/Scurries including clearance by Inspectors. However, you need to make clear its not a race, no prize money and no bets (latter absolutely vital). NB cannot be organised and entered/listed as normal p2p race as would lead to misunderstandings.

Careful consideration should be taken of how you are intending to take entries and amount of daylight available as you may not be able to accommodate large numbers.

There must be no effect on future racing at the course that season – ie damage to fences or ground (in most cases this will mean only after the last meeting of season for that course)

Non- Raceday.

In themselves, they have nothing to do with BHA/PPA. However, if being advertised as ‘Trials’, it needs to be made clear that they are not races and could not be construed as such in order to avoid claims of ‘flapping’:

- Not races – no judges, prize money or gambling.
- No paying public (unless same cover as normal p2p)
- There will be no effect on future racing at the course – ie damage to fences or ground (in most cases this will mean only after the last meeting of season for that course)

Whilst it is your event, It is also strongly recommended that:

- Safety cover, including Medical and veterinary, is in place including in case of accidents screens and removal wagon
- ‘Trials’ organised on day to suit ability with numbers kept to an SF provided by Inspectors (preferably 2-4 below a Maiden). I understand that in Ireland, the trainers are asked to indicate likely speed levels they will be going
- Non-thoroughbred ‘race’ allowed providing no more fixtures on that course that season
- Horses parade round paddock as way to control participation (but also educates horses)
- Cleared by Landlord and Insurance in place

Bottom line the day should not have an effect, actual or perceived, on point to pointing.