

BHA GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

No 5.2
Dtd 1 Jun 2010

To: Managing Executives
From: Chief Executive
Subject: PHOTOGRAPHY AT RACE MEETINGS

Press and Professional Photographers

1.

a) Press and professional photographers who hold either the annual metal press badge or a PASS card must agree, as part of the terms and conditions of issue, to comply with this Instruction.

b) All other press and professional photographers must be authorised by the Managing Executive to take photographs at any race meeting and must sign to confirm that they have read and agreed to comply with this Instruction.

2. Managing Executives must ensure that all approved photographers are aware that:

a) photographers may not position themselves on the racing surface*, or on or above the take-off or landing side of a fence or hurdle, and are to remain on the outside of any running rail and are not to lean over or under any part of it;

*Note: For Jump racing, the surface is deemed as the course in use for that particular race (for example, the hurdles or chase course). For Flat racing, all photographers must be behind a running rail.

b) photographers must not stand behind any wing of a fence or hurdle or protrude a camera through any part of a wing;

c) no cameras are to be attached to any wing of a fence or hurdle;

d) no cameras are to be placed on the take-off side of a fence or hurdle, except in a ditch or outside the wing on the non-bypass side;

e) tripods and ladders must not be used before or for 45 feet after a fence or hurdle. The top step/platform of the ladder must not be higher than the running rail;

f) for flat racing, ladders can only be used after the winning post except in areas open to the public and behind a double running rail;

g) photographers using a ladder must remain static on the ladder until all runners have gone past the site of the ladder;

h) camera support spikes and mini-tripods may be used but the camera lens must be behind the line of the running rail upright;

- i) photography inside the winner's enclosure is to be restricted to those who are authorised by the Managing Executive (unless other accreditation arrangements are in place);
- j) photography is not to take place in saddling boxes or the Parade Ring, except with permission from the Managing Executive.
- k) photography is not to take place in the Weighing Room, except with permission from the BHA. Photography is not to take place in the Official Racecourse Stables, except with prior permission from the BHA. Such permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Permission will not be granted for requests made on the day of racing;
- l) flash photography of horses is not permitted, except during presentations in low light conditions. At floodlit meetings, flash photography in specific areas may be permitted by the Managing Executive;
- m) photography of ongoing medical or veterinary treatment is not permitted. Specific examples where photography is not considered acceptable, although the list is not exhaustive, include horses or riders undergoing treatment when screens have been erected, the interior of an ambulance when a patient is on board, and inside designated treatment areas for both humans and equines.

3. The above instructions may be supplemented at individual racecourses by any special additional instructions as considered necessary to safeguard riders and horses before, during and after races, and particularly before and after fences and hurdles.

Amateur Photography

4. Amateur photographers are only permitted to take photographs in the areas normally open to the public and should not encroach upon areas specifically designated for or used by professional photographers. As such, it is advised that they not be given accreditation to do so.

5. A notice is to be included in racecards warning amateurs of the restrictions placed upon them, and that the use of flash equipment is not permitted.

Non-Compliance

6. Any instances of photographers who do not comply with this Instruction should be reported by the Managing Executive to the Communications and Promotions Department.

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