

## **BHA GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**BHAGI 5.1**  
**Dtd 27 March 2021**

To: Managing Executives  
From: Chief Executive  
Subject: TELEVISION AND RADIO TRANSMISSION

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### **General**

1. The Managing Executive should give every assistance to television and radio broadcast companies, providing that their coverage does not compromise safety or integrity, and does not interfere with the smooth and proper running of the meeting.

2. This Instruction covers the conduct of broadcast interviews and other filming and transmission on the racecourse in two main sections. The first deals with designated integrity areas, under the control of the BHA on racedays, and the second covers all other areas which are the responsibility of the Managing Executive.

### **Designated Integrity Areas**

3. Filming or radio interviews are not to take place on racedays in the following designated integrity areas without the prior permission of the BHA:

- Weighing Room complex (to include Weighing Room, Stewards' Room and Jockeys' Changing Rooms). However, if the Managing Executive agrees, a mini-camera with an effects microphone may be installed in the Weighing Room itself without permission of the BHA, providing that the Stipendiary Stewards and the Clerk of the Scales are informed beforehand;
- Sampling Unit;
- Racecourse Stables (once BHA's security provision is in force);
- Judges' Box;
- Stewards' Viewing Boxes;
- The Start.

4. Any organisations who wish to use any of these areas for filming etc., must be referred to the Communications Department at BHA's Head Office (Mark Scully 07368 860873), who will inform both the racecourse and the appropriate BHA Officials of the decision. Officials will not allow filming to take place in designated integrity areas unless authorised beforehand by the Communications Department. If an urgent situation requires it, this authority may be obtained on the day by telephone.

### **All Other Racecourse Areas**

5. The siting of personnel and equipment and all filming, broadcast and transmission activities in all other areas of the racecourse are matters to be decided by the Managing

Executive, who must always take into account safety, the smooth running of the meeting and ensure compliance with the requirements of paragraphs 8-16.

6. If BHA Officials consider that the activities of filming, broadcast and transmission personnel in these areas are a threat to safety, the smooth running of the meeting, or contravene paragraphs 8-16, they will immediately inform the Managing Executive, who should deal with the situation without delay in line with the requirements in paragraph 5. Failure to take the necessary action may result in a report being submitted to the BHA.

Such activities would include:

- distracting horses or riders whilst racing or on the way to the start;
- prejudicing safety in the Parade Ring, Winners' Enclosure or between these areas and the racecourse;
- holding up jockeys before the start of a race, or delaying them unduly from returning to weigh in.

Note: These examples are not exhaustive, and other circumstances may pose a threat to safety or the smooth running of the meeting.

7. The Stewards will not be required to approve filming, broadcast or transmission companies' plans, which is the responsibility of the Managing Executive or the BHA as appropriate. However, the Stewards may decide to hold an enquiry involving the Managing Executive, and may forward a report to the BHA if the racing itself has been adversely affected, if the safety of horse and rider has been put at risk by these activities, or if paragraphs 8-16 have been contravened.

### **Tracking cameras**

8. The proposal to introduce any new type of tracking camera must first be cleared for safety by television companies with the Racecourse Operations Department.

9. Also in the interests of safety, tracking cameras must travel no less than ten yards from the side of the course, or if this is impossible, no less than fifty yards in front of the leading horse. Vehicles carrying these cameras must be careful to avoid rapid acceleration or deceleration.

10. Any mobile camera designed to be carried by horse or rider must be authorised by the BHA. A protocol for its use would then be developed by the BHA in conjunction with racing's associations and the television companies.

11. For tracking cameras placed on a jib see paragraph 15.

### **Siting of cameras**

12. Cameras at the start are not to be placed in such a position that they will upset the horses or impede the starting procedures.

13. If cameras are positioned on the winning line, they must be sited so as not to interfere in any way with the photofinish mirror and integrity cameras. They must also not be attached to either the winning post or any marker post. Where facilities for cameras are limited, integrity cameras must be given priority.

14. Broadcast cameras must not restrict the view of Racecourse Stewards, BHA Officials or integrity cameras.

15. The siting of any cameras which encroach on to the track (for example overhead or in a fence etc.) is to be agreed beforehand with the Inspector of Courses and the Racecourse Department.

### **Filming of Ongoing Medical or Veterinary Treatment**

16. Filming of ongoing medical or veterinary treatment is not permitted. Specific examples where filming is not considered acceptable, although the list is not exhaustive, include horses or riders undergoing treatment when screens have been erected, jockeys and/or horses with clearly visible injuries, the interior of an ambulance when a patient is on board, and inside designated treatment areas for both humans and equines without prior permission from the Communications Department.

### **Video and Film Recordings**

17. Any request to film on the course, other than usual raceday recording, must first be discussed by the Managing Executive with the Communications Department. If the request is granted, this Instruction must be shown to the television, broadcast or transmission organisation.

### **Drones**

18. No drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) may be used at a racecourse without the Managing Executive having obtained prior permission from the BHA Racecourse Operations Department. All relevant information required by the BHA must be provided, including details of flight path, altitude, routes, take-off and landing sites. In addition, all relevant Civil Aviation Authority requirements and licences must be met and complied with.

Guidance from the Racecourse Association on the use of drones should be observed.

**Conditions of Contracts**

19. Standard clauses to be laid down in contracts with television and radio transmitters are attached at Annex A. The contract should also contain the requirement for television, broadcast or transmission companies to have read and agreed to comply with this Instruction.

75 High Holborn  
London WC1V 6LS

Conditions of Contracts

**Circulation**

Stewards  
Assistant Stewards  
Clerks of the Scales  
Judges  
Starters  
Inspectors of Courses  
Racecourse Association  
Integrity Service Providers  
Annex A

**CONDITIONS OF CONTRACTS**

1. To safeguard the interests of the BHA and the Stewards, the conditions shown below are to be included in the terms of contract for television and radio broadcasters.

**Conditions**

a) If Racecourse Stewards hold an enquiry in respect of any matter connected with a race of which a film shall have been recorded under the terms of this Agreement then the recording company shall upon request exhibit the said film to the Racecourse Stewards, the BHA and such other persons as such Stewards may require.

b) Nothing herein contained or implied shall prevent or in any way restrict the taking or exhibiting of any official film or other record of a race that may from time to time be required by the Rules of Racing.

## **BHA GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**BHAGI 5.2**  
**Dtd 27 March 2021**

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

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### **Press and Professional Photographers**

1.
  - a) Professional photographers who hold RCA Media Accreditation and/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 from under a running rail;

\*Note: For Jump racing, the surface is deemed as the course in use for that particular race (for example, the hurdles or chase course). This also includes any bypass of a hurdle or fence, whether it is in use or not. For Flat racing, all photographers must be behind a running rail.

- b) photographers must not stand behind or in any wing of a fence or hurdle or protrude a camera through any part of a wing or stand between a double rail;
- c) no remote cameras are to be attached to any wing of a fence or hurdle;
- d) the positioning of any remote cameras immediately adjacent to the take-off or landing side of a fence or hurdle is only permissible on the outside of the wing and when there is sufficient angle on the wing so that as runners approach the obstacle the position of remote cameras is completely obscured.
  - i) Remote cameras may be positioned on the take-off side of a fence on the outside of the wing adjacent to the take-off board providing the camera lens does not protrude through any part of the wing and must be secured by means of a sub-surface ground spike or a flexible ground support which must not exceed a height of 24 inches.
  - ii) Remote cameras may be positioned on the landing side of a fence (not hurdle) within and no further than six inches from the base of the fence frame. Where advertising hoardings are in situ permission must be obtained from the racecourse as to remote camera positions.

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- iii) No rigid camera supports in excess of seven inches above ground level are permitted.
  - e) tripods and ladders must not be used before or for 30 yards after a fence or hurdle on the side of the rail marking the layby of that 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 or five yards back from a single 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 Racecourse Association or 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. Flash photography may be allowed in specific areas or in adverse light conditions, with permission of the Racecourse 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, jockeys and/or horses with clearly visible injuries, 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.

Any dispensations to these rules require written permission from the Racecourse Executive and Inspector of Courses (if available) in advance.

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### **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.

75 High Holborn  
London WC1V 6LS

### **Circulation**

Stewards  
Assistant Stewards  
Clerks of the Scales  
Judges  
Starters  
Inspectors of Courses  
Racecourse Association