

The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) is the governing and regulatory body for British horseracing, which seeks to ensure the effective regulation, integrity, and success of the sport. The BHA's mission is to build a brighter future for the sport of horseracing, for the people working in the industry and for the horses.

The BHA has become responsible for leading the development of an industry strategy, including commercial matters that affect the whole sport. This is a new dimension to the organisation and therefore the appointee will need to be able to think commercially as well as lead on all regulatory and government affairs.

Julie Harrington is stepping down as Chief Executive at the end of 2024 and therefore the BHA is looking for a 'next generation' leader to take the organisation forward, ensuring racing is a sport for everyone and to help it grow and thrive in the future. Julie has led significant changes at the BHA, meaning that the role has recently evolved to include responsibility for setting the long-term industry strategy for horse-racing; the BHA is no longer just a regulator, but also plays a role in the commercial success of the sport.

In addition, the new Chief Executive will have to continue to lead the conversation on issues such as participant welfare (including mental health and safeguarding), the sport's efforts on diversity and inclusion, improving stakeholder consultation, delivering greater operational capability and efficiency, being a voice on the global racing stage, and maintaining a healthy relationship with betting operators.

The BHA therefore now has a significant opportunity to bring in a Chief Executive who understands deeply what it is to lead and implement long-term, sustainable, transformation inside an organisation – how to make it happen, how to embed it, the role of culture and perhaps, most importantly, how to pace it. The appointee will therefore be a proven senior leader, with experience in leading complex stakeholder environments, with the ability to influence external stakeholders, such as government, whilst representing the BHA in the consumer facing environment.

This individual will have an excellent track record delivering financial results, driving operational and workforce best practice and creating long-term value.

The international landscape in racing is driving huge commercial returns in the sport. This individual will need to bring experience in engaging with international markets to deepen the BHA's connections globally and represent Britain in the sport.

Location: London

Closing date: Wednesday 11 September 2024

The MBS Group is acting as BHA's advisors on this appointment. To apply, please send a covering letter, CV, and completed Equality Monitoring Form with the subject line "Application for the role of CEO" to bha@thembsgroup.co.uk by 12 noon on Wednesday 11 September.