

Executive Summary

Para Technical Committee Meeting

12 December 2018

1. Selection Policy

Lengthy discussion regarding the Para Selection Policy with inputs from most attendees. Director and riders feel that the removal of compulsory appearance at Winters and Summer semis does not evince the collaboration we hope to foster. That said, respect that the preparation of international athletes for European, World and Paralympic championships is crucial. Director requested that the selectors consider compulsory Summer semis as a compromise if Winters was not compulsory. If that is the case, BD Para will work with Myerscough and, given the feedback from the vast majority of riders [to move Winters into March or April], work will be done at the Winters 2019 to scope this. Riders and support teams will be consulted.

2. Para Judge Pathway

Phase 1 complete and rough outline below. Phase 2 will be 2019/20 and look at CPD, Level 4, rider to judge pathway, RDA to BD judge pathway.

Register then –

Compulsory

Complete training with Para Tutor Judge at major para event (dates provisional) and cost only £20

Complete RDA Seminar – two per year, one in Spring one in Autumn, location varies and its free

Optional

BD regional para judge training

Complete written paper – cost only £20

Complete practical - £20 – at major para event (not Stoneleigh)

More detail to follow with dates, etc. Significant work done by Sarah Leitch, John Robinson (who have accepted roles within para judging as our 'Lead Para Judge') and Natasha Pearce.

3. Para Home International

Board approval (confirmation as approval in principle was given four months ago to enable scoping work to be conducted) sought to have this placed with an able-bodied major event; Keysoe, 11/12 March. Decision will be advised to all before Christmas.

4. Arena walk at the Nationals for para riders

Support riders are permitted 30 minutes on their riders' horse per competition day. However, at the Gold Semi Finals, Stoneleigh, the mounted arena walk will NOT be included in this 30-minute period. However, support riders MUST mount in front of a steward at the arena and must dismount immediately they leave the arena walk. Disregarding this instruction will result in the whole mounted time counting [from the 30 minutes daily allowance]. This exceptional ruling is in force for Stoneleigh, Gold Finals ONLY; it is introduced on safety grounds that the arena walk is mixed, para, able bodied, and invariably includes the 4/5-year-old horses competing the same day too.

5. Para League

Recognising the commitment and desire for para riders to continue competing once the qualifying point ceiling has been achieved, we have introduced a Para League, with rosettes being presented at the appropriate championship. The first is the Summer League, with Gold league rosettes being presented at Wellington and the silver and bronze at Solihull. Riders need do nothing other than carry on competing; Natasha already holds the list of riders and points achieved so it is a minimal administrative additional task to reward our riders even further. Hope in the future to incorporate into IT.

6. Regional activity and National Para Training Programme

Thrilled with the enthusiasm of our regional reps – work going on in the background to compile a National Para Training Programme. It will be shared to every para rider and invites are extended to every rider from every area. We've allocated central budget to supporting regional para rider development. It's hoped this gives a footprint for us to incorporate riders, coach, judge training, development and inclusion.