

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Will there be any changes to the present Steward and Technical Adviser roles going forward?</p>	<p>At the moment there are no plans to change these roles. A plan to recruit for these roles will be developed.</p>
<p>Will the membership costs for the good amateurs wanting to compete above Novice/2* with only one horse be reviewed for 2023? My horse would have stepped up to Intermediate in 2022 but the additional cost of membership for his rider who only has two horses to compete around a full time job, and only one potentially at Intermediate was prohibitive. If nothing is changing for 2023 I may have to make the difficult decision, especially if points push him out of Novice, to either move him to another rider; stick to ON classes or swap to BS. There needs to be some differential to account for the professional with multiple rides at that level where the additional cost split across those rides is minimal and the one horse amateur competing on a tight budget anyway, where cost of living/diesel makes that increase in competing costs prohibitive when split across just a few events.</p>	<p>This is something we are reviewing currently ahead of 2023. We absolutely acknowledge that there needs to be a fairer system on a cost per run kind of basis, so that the amateur rider with perhaps one or two horses at Intermediate level is not having to pay the same as a pro-rider competing in excess of ten horses per season. The IT constraints make things hard, and another membership tier is not an option, but we are hoping to have a solution in place for 2023 and will update on this shortly.</p>
<p>Will qualification for Badminton Grassroots remain the same as a huge additional cost to get to Areas for those from the South West.</p> <p>With the introduction of regional academies, will adults be offered the same opportunities as U18s who have their own team championship? An adult version of U18 champs for adults at 90/100/N would then be comparable with what BD, BRC and BS offers and has huge buy in.</p>	<p>We will soon release details around grassroots Championship pathways in 2023 including the qualification route towards both Badminton and Bramham for 2024. There will be changes to the qualification routes and more Regional Championships will be put in place with one confirmed in the South West (2023 calendar imminent). Final details will be released with the rules.</p> <p>The Howden Way Regional Academies will provide regional training opportunities for all members, regardless of age or ability.</p> <p>The competition structure is being simplified to make it more accesible to reach the adult Championships at 80/90/100 level. The Corinthian Cup is hosted at The Festival of British Eventing at Gatcombe Park, which is at Novice level.</p>

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Why does the 2022 BE rule book contain references and information for 'BE100PC' classes on multiple pages yet on horse records the class has only been recorded as PC100 causing issues with the qualification checker and therefore misleading purchasers?</p>	<p>These are infact different classes. The BE100PC classes are BE classes for PC members and count towards MER's for BE competitions. The new PC classes introduced earlier this season were Pony club classes held at BE events. But these classes were open to PC members only and competitors did not need to be members of BE. The new PC classes were explained in our news item of August 16, 2022 <a href="https://news.britisheventing.com/dont-miss-out-on-the-opportunity-to-compete-in-our-pony-club-classes-this-summer/">https://news.britisheventing.com/dont-miss-out-on-the-opportunity-to-compete-in-our-pony-club-classes-this-summer/</a></p>
<p>When is the 2023 calendar to be released?</p> <p>Will the 2024 calendar be earlier?</p>	<p>The calender will be released on Monday 12th Dec. The process of finalising the calendar takes much consultation with Organisers and stakeholders with several draft versions shared with organisers to reach consensus before final agreement is reached. Sometimes this process can take longer than expected as changes and discussions are ongoing. We certainly aim to release a season's calendar by a deadline, usually mid November, but as you will appreciate final agreement must be reached before publication.</p>
<p>We need more horse trials in the eastern region as have lost so many - please let us know what you plan to do</p> <p>Please can there be more IN and 105 classes as good stepping stones for amateurs to move up - I</p>	<p>The planning of the fixtures calendar takes regional requirements into consideration. The viability of events is important as is the cost of eventing to our members. Balancing the requirements of both organisers and competing members is an ongoing challenge in delivering the calendar to ALL our members.</p>
<p>Please clarify if currently appointed U18 Regional Coaches roles continue within the Regional Academy Framework</p>	<p>We will share an update on the Regional Academies very soon.</p>
<p>Not sure if relevant for AGM as can't see agenda yet!</p> <p>How does BE decide which events can run, when they do and what classes they can hold over how many days etc?</p>	<p>We refer to previous answers given on the fixtures calendar and process.</p>

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Last season was quite difficult to plan a programme for young horses with various events not running. Particularly local events which then meant traveling much further to get a run. I am sure it was for many others for different reasons. What I could not understand was the fact that when entering again at a different event the 'late payment fee' was applied even though not our fault it was after the ballot date and entries were still being taken. Also, trying to support other events that were very pro-active in trying to obtain entries after the ballot date in order to run at all, to be faced again with 'late payment fees'. Obviously not seen 2023 schedule yet and aware that the ballot date has been removed.</p>	<p>The late entry fee is at the organiser's discretion as per rule 4.1.6. but we will share your feedback with the organiser's association for their consideration.</p>
<p>Is there any potential for U18 classes to be split Open and Restricted. From my experience the past 12 months is appears demoralising for U18 riders on restricted horses to be competing against Open experienced horses. This does not create a level playing field and has been been the cause of a couple of riders we were sponsoring to step away to UA competitions. Understandably with a smaller 'capture' does not warrant prizes for split sections, however would motivate our youth competitors to remain in the sport.</p>	<p>This would come as a cost to the organisers and with the current economic climate it would be unreasonable to ask them to give out additional prizemoney.</p>
<p>If BE90 and BE100 are considered Grassroot level and, rightly so, horses that have gained points are restricted to Open sections at these levels, has the committee considered also restricting professional riders to the Open sections to create a more level playing field for the amateur rider in these classes?</p>	<p>Currently BE does not have a definition of a professional rider. If BE were to introduce a definition it must be manageable via the BE systems. But the question is a fair one and we'll consider what other options there may be. This is already in place at BE90 level see rule book 2.9.5.</p>
<p>I know that the 2023 fixtures hasn't yet been released when I'm registering for the AGM but in 2022 there was a lot of fixture clashing with 2 events similar distance on the same weekend which we may have looked at doing. Could distance travelled from members be looked at when looking at the fixture list particularly in the north - living in East Yorkshire we often travel over 2 hours to events but it's nice if those events 2 hours don't clash too often such as Frickley and Northallerton and Breckenbrough and Norton Disney (1)</p>	<p>The 2023 Calendar will be released on Monday 12th Dec. Until that is done we are unable to answer specific fixtures questions as the Fixtures process to finalise the calendar is still ongoing. The planning of the fixtures calendar takes regional requirements into consideration. The viability of events is important as is the cost of eventing to our members. Balancing the requirements of both organisers and competing members is an ongoing challenge in delivering the calendar to ALL our members.</p>
<p>How many Scottish BEs are there going to be next season ?</p>	<p>The 2023 Calendar will be released on Monday 12th Dec.</p>

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Can we please look at increasing the number of national intermediate classes that count as MER's for FEI events. I am worried about the decline of national intermediate classes in Scotland and the North of England.</p>	<p>Adding classes to the calendar is part of the fixtures process and we refer to previous answers given on the fixtures calendar and process. MER's are there to prove eligibility, using the MER's to increase the viability of event is not sustainable for the events or the membership</p>
<p>As a youth competitor could I ask if there is any potential or future plans to split U18 classes 'Open' &amp; then 'Restricted' It can be demoralising to compete against Open horses, very often finishing lower in class than if had entered the BE non U18. Has felt like the U18 is not a level playing field, unlike other height sections where there is an 'Open' or 'Restricted'</p>	<p>This would come as a cost to the organisers and with the current economic climate it would be unreasonable to ask them to give out additional prizemoney.</p>
<p>As a previous organiser, and owner and currently chairman of The South East Eventers League which has supported British Eventing by promoting the sport for 27 years. The membership in the south east is currently rightfully worried by the demise of events in the south east. We have lost Brightling, Eridge, Rackham, and if rumour has it right, Firlie has now disappeared from the calendar in previous years. Blindley Heath did a great job in running this year but only replaced Borde Hill. Current members are implying they may not re register for 2023 due to rising travel costs which they now have to endure to compete. Please can BE look at possible new options in the South East to encourage new and existing members to register before they go down the unaffiliated route. I also feel Wellington would be a great asset if allowed to run to 4* level in the south east as an alternative/ addition rather than travel to Blair.. Ian Bareham</p>	<p>We refer to previous answers given on the fixtures calendar and process. There have been a number of interested venues looking to run events, and they have been part of the current process, but have failed to commit to become BE venues, due to the economic and entry landscape we find ourselves in. Brightling Park is due to come back into the calendar for 2023 up to Novice level. The question of additional FEI events into the calendar is always one of balance and something the Fixtures Team and Committee work hard to keep across the country</p>



## British Eventing

### QUESTION

### ANSWER

Are there any plans for U18 classes to be split to enable U18 riders on 'ordinary horses' to be competitive against experienced Open horses.  
Due to numbers entering see a valid point, entries do not warrant prizes for both sections.  
However current U18 eligibility is demoralising for youngsters coming up through the ranks to often be beaten by Open horses who have stepped down.  
The youth riders are the future of the sport and to split classes would raise moral.

This would come as a cost to the organisers and with the current economic climate it would be unreasonable to ask them to give out additional prizemoney.

Is there a future plan for Blenheim?

BE are working with Blenheim Palace to find a replacement organiser for the Horse Trials. The Palace are keen for the Horse Trials to continue at Blenheim, which is great news for the Sport and the pathway to 5\* level in the UK. We will keep members updated once there is further news.



# British Eventing

## QUESTION

## ANSWER

Why is the volunteer working group still not up and running? We have been promised this since pre-pandemic and some of us have been told we are on it - but since then nothing. I realise it may not be your priority, but the insights we could give would be invaluable to organisation.

In recent times, Resource & Budget restrictions have limited the ability to continue with some of the initiatives considered before Covid, but in response to an email received from 2 Volunteers, at the end of November, a small group has been formed with the aim to demonstrate that BE Volunteer efforts are being recognised & rewarded by British Eventing & British Eventing Organisers. They are also wanting to provide opportunities to promote volunteering to a new audience.

Jan Cottam has taken the lead on this & has recruited some Volunteers, a couple of BE Officials & some Organisers.

Two ZOOMs have been held where it was agreed a 'Quick Win' was necessary to revitalise Volunteer interest. One way to achieve this 'Quick Win' would be to hold some Volunteer Training sessions before the start of the season. Emails have gone out to potential venues, BE Technical Advisors, who would lead the meetings & content has been discussed. Fingers crossed, we will be able to deliver some great 'get-togethers' to help prepare for the coming season, as well as rejuvenate enthusiasm for the role of the Volunteer.

After Christmas, the group will be meeting again. There are plenty of ideas & enthusiasm & they would welcome additional input. If you'd like to get involved please contact Jan at [jan.cottam@britisheventing.com](mailto:jan.cottam@britisheventing.com)

This Group is in its infancy. There is a long way to go & we are right at the beginning of the journey.

Rest assured, this Group understands the importance of Recruiting, Retaining & Rewarding Volunteers but we do invite you to get involved.

It would be very sad to lose events like Great Witchingham from the calendar, both geographically and for the diversity they offer, removing their FEI status because they run some unaffiliated events does not seem justified. They need your support, please address this.

The Fixtures Committee work hard to keep a balanced calendar and have to deal with a whole host of factors. In a drive to protect standards, Venues running International Competitions will not be permitted to run 3 phase unaffiliated competitions. Two phase competitions, training competitions, training and 3 phase competitions affiliated to BEF member body organisations are permitted under the affiliation agreement.

Please explain why we are losing events and venues and what is being done to address this ?

The current economic climate and the reduction in membership and entries has meant that there has to be a rebalance of events in the calendar which may continue into the foreseeable future



# British Eventing

## QUESTION

## ANSWER

What is BE's plan for 2023 with the coaching qualifications through UKCC?

In 2023 BE intend to increase the number of coaching courses available.

I would like more info on the following please, ideally as much ahead of the meeting as possible, rather than on the Zoom: 1. Proposed Fixture list for 2023 particularly spread of Int, Advanced, 3\* / 4\* across season and geography. Ideally some weekend dates for amateurs; 2. Proposed Membership / Horse season ticket pricing and Event pricing for 2023; 3. Proposed changes for Organisers / Events - so I can understand why some are so unhappy ( Great Witchingham & Upton so far) ; 4. Info on what training is available to help our 24 yr old amateur rider and 10 yr old horse consolidate & develop from first 4\*S in 2022. Ideally some at weekends as working full time to afford eventing.

1.The 2023 fixtures will be published on Monday 12th, please see above for more info. International, Advanced and Intermediate spread is always considered and was subject to a specific review with stakeholders this year. Like many things the fixtures list is a balance and needs to look at the membership as a whole and we work closely with organisers to unsure this.  
2. This is something we are reviewing currently ahead of 2023. We absolutely acknowledge that there needs to be a fairer system on a cost per run kind of basis, so that the amateur rider with perhaps one or two horses at Intermediate level is not having to pay the same as a pro-rider competing in excess of ten horses per season. The IT constraints make things hard, and another membership tier is not an option, but we are hoping to have a solution in place for 2023 and will update on this shortly.  
3.We have listened hard to organisers and understand the challenges of running events, especially in the difficult climate we face. As you will all be aware, as a former organiser myself, I have run every level from BE80 to CCI5\* and fully comprehend the challenges you all face. BE venues, who don't run International Classes, can run UA 3 phase events as long as it is not within a 14 day period after the BE event, and many venues do this very successfully across the country. This allows them to spread their XC costs over a number of events.  
4.There is training available for all via the Howden Way, details of which are on the BE website, with more information on this project to be released tomorrow.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>why are you being so stubborn about awarding one off Horse Trial venues what they want? I live in Norfolk and we have lost so many events that I'm not sure I'm going to event next year as all my events are 2 hours away. You are forcing me into competing at unaffiliated events. I feel eventing is going to end up being arena eventing at a handful of purpose build event venues. I'm bored with going round the same jumps in different fields.</p>	<p>We work with the organisers to develop a balanced fixtures list looking at the needs of the membership and the sport as a whole.</p>
<p>The Howden Way seems to be a great addition to the recognising of young riders and horses coming into the sport. How are these individuals found and selected? This is a loaded question as my son is a young professional rider trying to make his way in the sport and bringing on horses he has backed and produced himself. It seems to be very difficult to get any recognition without having a top horse bought for him, which we can't afford.</p>	<p>There are a number of initiatives within The Howden Way framework. Two of which are the Young Horse Academy and The Talent Pathway. The Young Horse Academy this year was selected based on age group horses and riders that were identified via a minimum performance criteria, who were then invited to a development day where they were scored by coaches on the flat and jumping on a number of factors. Combinations were selected based on these outcomes. The talent pathway will be being launched soon. The selection criteria has been developed by the Youth Performance team aimed at supporting riders throughout the talent pathway and offering additional entry points to the talent pathway. Over the preceding years BE intends to develop the pathway from the Regional Academies through to the Talent Academies to enable more access to support throughout the levels, Academy launch information is due to be released tomorrow which will give members an insight into our future training plans.</p>



QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>we are losing all our Eastern Horse Trials - Please re instate the running of unaffiliated and affiliated as this is putting people off running BE as they need to make money by having the unaff. The unaff usually stop at 100 level and i have a horse doing 2 star/int so that doesnt help me if they lose their BE status and only run unaff.... Still trying to see if you can do two placings in a section esp at 100/novice level - somehow to give the amateurs who do it for their hobby somethng to go home with. even if its just a statistic. The top slots are usually taken by professionals who ride more than one horse and of course are better as it is their job. Sometimes finishing on a 30 and coming out of the top ten is pretty discouraging. if it was rated against the amateurs as well it would make one feel better that you were doing a good job. I think we need more incentives for amateurs who ride at novice and above - we have the Corinthian cup which is great but the 80/90/100 have loads of things to aim for - i aslo think that the Corinthian cup should be harder as it is a championship so it should be like and IN or a 2 star technicality.</p>	<p>BE venues, who don't run International Classes, can run UA 3 phase events as long as it is not within a 14 day period after the BE event, and many venues do this very successfully across the country. This allows them to spread their XC costs over a number of events. Currentlly BE does not have a definition of a professional rider. If BE were to introduce a definition of professional it must be manageble via the BE systems. But the question is a fair one and we'll consider what other options there may be. BE have been working closely with Equiratings on leagues and we will continue to work on this in 2023. In 2021/22 we introduced the Novice/Intermediate masters and this will be continued in 2023 with further development.</p>
<p>Given the recent spotlight on social licence and what it means for equestrian sport and in particular how its addressing equine welfare, Id like to know if BE acknowledge the growing prevelance of horse welfare in our sport, if they consider it a priority for the future of our sport and also how they intend to address it, given the inevitability is our industry will at some point have to be regulated.</p>	<p>Social Licence is one of the most important issues that Equestrian Sport has to grasp immediately. We at BE are working with all of our stakeholders to reiterate the importance of this. We are currently working on any rule changes for 2023 and many of them are in this area, we have to accept that our sport must change. The rise of unregulated sport, especially at BE venues is a concern as they do not have the goverancy in place that a National Governing Body must have, as we are regulated by British Equestrian who is regulated by DCMS.</p>
<p>Are there any plans to revert to the original Regional Final system for Badminton grassroots qualification so that people can choose a RF which is nearest to them and have potentially more attempts at qualifying instead of just 4 in the whole of the UK?</p>	<p>The qualification towards the Grassroots Championships have been revamped and the new rules will be released soon. However, qualification has been simplified and more Regional Championships have been put in place.</p>



# British Eventing

## QUESTION

## ANSWER

I wondered if there were any plans to change the rules regarding qualification passing down the line for Badminton Grassroots? I competed at Bicton BE100 3 day at the end of this season where I would have qualified for Badminton grassroots had my class not contained ineligible competitors (competed at intermediate in the last 5 years) and people who already had a qualifying place. This was obviously extremely disappointing, particularly when Bicton costs a lot of money to enter and the open 3 day class had very little entries, as well as the fact that the amended qualification percentages were released before the competition at Bicton had been finalised (on the Friday), meaning not all spots were filled due to ineligible competitors finishing ahead of eligible competitors.

This is something that is being discussed with the sport committee to review for 2023.

Have BE looked into prize money? Should a system not be put in place so that maximum prize money is given as it varies depending on who is running the event. When sponsors ask that some of their money is allocated to prize money that should happen?

The only jurisdiction BE have is the minimum amount of prize money an organiser can give where by prize money is determined using the prize money calculator rule 8.3-8.3.4. However, organisers have the freedom to increase prize money if they so wish this has to be agreed by the CEO and we would always encourage this where possible. In the current economic climate we do not feel its appropriate to put any more financial constraints on event organisers by increasing this. Regarding sponsors these contracts are made directly between sponsor and organiser, and each events will vary. Legally BE are not involved with these contracts.

Would BE consider running XC in reverse order to make it more exciting? It would also ensure that those on the podium are there to collect their prizes which is important for sponsors.

BE offer this option to organisers and a small few will run in this format- The Festival of Eventing at Gatcombe certainly do for the championship classes. The biggest problem with this is the timetabling and multiple riders in different classes riding several horses.