

1. Bookmakers who want to use two light boards One Mounted on the bottom of their joint. What Sizes dimension allowed to use and what technical requirements for Frame attached to their joint.

Agreed, standard size and fitting for both LED & Dry Wipe and the additional board must be forward facing and at this moment in time is for bookmakers using joints, not the rails, who at this current moment in time cannot use secondary displays.

2. Maximum size of Shelf used at front of joint. 12 inches has been discussed.

Agreed, maximum size a shelf can protrude from the front of the joint is 12 inches.

3. Ticket expired date. A bookmaker at Cheltenham had 'only valid for 6 months' printed on his ticket. How long should a sleeper be valid? Indefinitely?

There is no expiry time limit for a winning ticket. If the bet is unpaid and the ticket is readable, it is payable.

4. I have been asked to raise the issue of a minority of bookmakers using the Starlink accessory as a means of connecting to the internet. Two of our members lost all connection at York, leaving them totally exposed whilst their immediate competitor at an unfair advantage. Clearly, if every Bookmaker were to use this system there could be dire unintended consequences.

Further monitoring of Starlink usage should take place, the technical people from Elite and the racecourses are to meet to discuss in depth the possibility of a problem where the signals from Starlink could interfere with other Racecourse networks.

The RCA pointed out section 10 of the racecourse T&Cs of entry.

Where practical Wi-Fi costs and systems should be shared

5. Wrap arounds must be used on all joints. Even hired joints. If no wrap-around is in use and the Bookmaker's name is on the light board (not a header plate) when the light board is turned off, there is no signage to identify the bookmaker. What do you think? This should also be the same for bookmaker name plates on the rails. They must be used.

Agreed,

Ring Joints - Wrap arounds or printed signage (Bookmakers Trading Name) must be used on the main frame of the Joint. A Bookmaker trading name header plate or trading name on the light board (permanently displayed, not scrolling and still in lights when no prices are on the board) must be displayed. Enforceable from March 1st 2025.

Rails Joints - Name Plates must be used. A bookmaker trading name header plate or trading name on the light board (permanently displayed, not scrolling and still in lights when no prices are on the board) must be displayed. Enforceable from March 1st 2025.

6. All bookmakers' workers need to apply for Photographic ID Badges from RBC issued for each year. Issued by RBC Office Cost of each ID £24.

Rejected. The Three bookmaker reps. thought this was unnecessary, impractical and with no added value.

7. Lucky dip bets. More bookmakers are offering this, especially on Student days. What do you think? Is the selection random or does the bookmaker choose the horse depending on his liabilities?

These are to be rebranded as Potluck and can only be offered if dedicated random software has been provided.

8. RBC working practices and possible savings. Including Budget and fee plans for 2025.

RBC to use RDT staff wherever possible rather more expensive services. RBC to provide break down by %age of their recharges and a list of their fixed costs, please read with item 11.

9. Installing a set disciplinary procedure for Bookmakers that may infringe acceptable practice, a transparent and fair framework is needed which includes right of appeal and a fair independent hearing.

Agreed that there should be a working party to discuss possible future recommendations to the RCA.

10. Plumpton is to leave RCA, is it thought that other tracks may follow if so could it reflect on RBC practices and how the racecourses may interact with bookmakers.

Business as usual.

11. Financial report for RBC 2024 and a proposed increase by £1 in RBC fee in 2025 ***please read in conjunction with item 8***

Rejected out of hand by the bookmaker reps., there are to be no increases to bookmakers, until tangible savings are made and increases in direct staff costs not being passed on.

Alternative pricing structures to be looked at, taking into account that to a certain degree the fee should reflect the cost of providing the service.

One other structure being a higher Saturday fee to compensate a lower fee midweek charges.

Also to resurrect the idea of charging the full £30 in minor rings at festival days along with the current the Epsom Derby meeting.

12. AOB , the meeting was asked to discuss the quantum in the designated numbers, given the fact that these numbers were created over 20 years ago and economic conditions had changed .The meeting was given a resume of the OFT finding's from the RCA side, which was complimented by the fact that it was the racecourse that per the contract could increase or decrease the number, as it had done at both Ascot and Aintree.

A counter argument was put forward by another bookmaker representative that a number of his members had bought certain numbers as they were in the designated number, which gave them the choice to work no matter how bad the position was, with a specific position being mentioned who traded from a financially nonviable pitch, for a "hobby" motive.