

## PRESS RELEASE

### PJA STATEMENT FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE FULL 2021 FIXTURE LIST

The BHA today published the remaining fixture list for 2021 (which can be found [here](#)).

Commenting on the fixture list, Dale Gibson, PJA Executive Director (Racing), said:

“Programming the fixture list is always a difficult job and has been particularly challenging this year. Whilst we, along with other horsemen and women, have significant concerns about the sheer volume of fixtures programmed next year, we are pleased to note improvements elsewhere in the calendar.

“The results of the comprehensive PJA Jockey welfare survey in the spring clearly pointed towards the need for longer code breaks for our members under both codes. We would have preferred more progress in this area but are pleased that, following widespread consultation and lobbying, the existing breaks will be extended by way of using rider restricted meetings.

“With another intensive fixture list to service in 2022, the burden on all those who service it will be significant. However, we are pleased to note that there is also one additional Flat-free Sunday programmed next summer to break up the long period with of continuous racing, alongside subtle movement of fixtures to reduce excessive travelling for participants including racing and stable staff.

“There is still more to be done but it is encouraging that the sport is slowly beginning to consider the wellbeing of the workforce when producing the fixture list, and we thank the BHA and other organisations for their continued help and support on this vital issue.”

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021**