

# PRESS RELEASE



Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## **For immediate release PJA RESPONSE TO 2026 FIXTURE LIST**

Dale Gibson, PJA Executive Director (Racing), said:

"We welcome the retention of key welfare-based initiatives such as the code breaks, the trial of earlier finishes and some fixtures on Saturday evenings being moved back to afternoon slots. We are also pleased that the recent year-on-year increases in volume of evening fixtures has not continued.

"Additionally, we are very supportive of the proposals that have been introduced aimed at increasing the number of high-quality horses. These initiatives will take some time to have an impact, but they are vital to the future health and competitiveness of our sport and need to be supported long-term.

"The sheer volume of planned fixtures for 2026 continues to place enormous pressure and demands on jockeys and their families, as well as everyone else who services the fixture list. We remain of the view that there are too many fixtures and too much evening racing. With a diminishing foal crop there are some difficult conversations to be had and decisions to take when it comes to the 2027 fixture list.

"Finally, we would thank those involved in the production of the 2026 fixture list, as it is a thankless task with many moving parts and conflicting interests."

### **NOTES FOR EDITORS:**

1. For more information, please contact Dale Gibson, Executive Director (Racing), on 07970 149415.