

TROTBritain/Le TROT SERIES 2014

ACT NOW TO BE PART OF IT!

This exciting series, open to all French Trotters who meet the series and race conditions, will be run at York raceway starting on 2 August and running through August, September and October.

Le Trot, the governing body of French trotting, is generously adding 50% to the basic prize money. All races will therefore be for £2, 000, £1,000 to the winner and £500, £250, £150, and £100 to the other four places.

The precise number of races in the series will depend largely on the number of horses brought into the country as a result of the sale currently being organized by Le Trot.

The following calculations are therefore offered only as indicative of our current expectations and intentions and **do not constitute any guarantees**.

We are currently working on an estimate of 40 horses brought in via the sale (31 geldings and 9 mares) plus 6 others. 46 horses should sustain 3 races per each of 10 meetings, giving 30 races in total.

Those with a French Trotter who wish to compete in the series must pay the series fee per horse of £500 by 11 July. This will include one year's membership of TROTBritain (which is otherwise £50 for members who race in TB supported events outside the series; £10 for supporter members.)

The series fee will generate **£23,000**.

Race entry fee will be £50, which will generate another **£10,000** if 40 of the 46 horses start 5 times on average.

Le Trot will also pay TROTBritain a €2000 subvention for each mare bought in the sale, which will add €18,000 or about **£14,000** to the basic prize money pool.

Total basic prize money is therefore circa £47,000.

Le Trot will then add 50% to this amount, making a final pool of about £70,000. (Note that any cash sponsorship paid out in prize money will also generate an extra 50%.)

We propose to allocate £2,000 per race to each race, leaving a pot of £10,000 to fund higher prizes for £5,000 special mares event and series finals. The remainder will insure against any shortfall in our projections.

Races

Races will be rotated between 1¼ and 1¾ miles, with all races on the same day being over the same distance. All starts will be mobile, with draws for all races made 30 minutes before the first race on the programme.

The first set of races will be free-for-alls, drawn by lot. From that point on allocation to non-claiming races will be purely on monies won in the series (including claiming races), and by lot where necessary. So, if there are 3 races of 10 horses on the first meeting, and all were to start at the second meeting, the top ten on money won on the first day (first 3 in each race plus one fourth chosen by lot) will go into race A, the next ten into race B and the lowest ten into race C.

The third and sixth meetings will be all claiming races. The owner must nominate at declaration the minimum price at which they are willing to have the horse claimed and the races will be formed on the basis of the claim prices - highest 10 prices to race A, next 10 to race B, lowest 10 to race C. As in France claims are to be made by secret ballot up to 10 minutes after the race, with horses open to inspection on request, without gear or bandages, during this period. Any excess over the claim price will go to the TROTBritain fund for the series.

The aim

The intention behind all these proposals is to make the distribution of the prize money over the series as equitable as possible and to ensure a successful series that will lead on to even greater success in the following two years of the agreement with Le TROT.

Acquiring a French trotter through the sale process.

Le Trot have invited entries of horses 5 to 9 years old that have raced since 1 March 2014, are declared to be in training, are 'clean and healthy', and have shown aptitude on left-handed tracks.

A TROTBritain party will visit France from 27 June to 4 July to inspect all the horses entered. They will select as many geldings and mares as are believed to be worth bringing to England.

Geldings will cost €2,500 (about £2,030 at 1.23) and mares €4,500 (about £3,660). Mares will be eligible to have any progeny by French stallions entered into French studbook. (But not if insemination is by chilled or frozen semen.)

Allocation of the horses will be by lot at York raceway on 12 July, 3 weeks before the first race in the series.

In order to become eligible for the draw you must lodge the amount of £2,030 (geldings) or £3,660 (mares) in the TROTBritain account by 26 June. This will determine the precise number

of horses we commit to take from those offered for sale. (Retrospective adjustments may be made if the exchange rate at which TROTBritain sends the total fund to Le TROT differs significantly from 1.23.)

The Series entry fee of £500 must be paid into the same account by 11 July, the day before the draw.

The TROTBritain Account is at HSBC Kington. Sort Code: 40 26 40 Account Number 80031119
Please add 'French trotter' as the reference.

I hope you will want to be part of this exciting development in British Harness Racing!

Dr Jack Dowie
Chair, TROTBritain
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