



Tregaron Trotting Club Bookmakers Pitches

Background

Traditionally bookmakers pitches at all our meetings have been allocated on a seniority rights basis - "the seniority list" i.e. the most long standing bookmaker has traditionally held the number 1 pitch followed down the line in order of seniority based on number of years attendance – pitches only changing when a bookmaker retires or passes away. It should be noted that Tregaron Trotting Club have always welcomed **ALL** licensed bookmakers to our meetings but it has always been accepted that "new faces" are asked to stand at the end of the line.

It is well recorded that the number of bookmakers in all harness racing meetings has dwindled especially over the past ten years therefore we have decided to review the method of allocating bookmaker's pitches at our fixtures in order to possibly attract new blood and by giving the pitches a re-sale value. We have taken this step in order to maintain the high standard of racing and improve the facilities on offer. We can assure you that **ALL** proceeds from the sale of pitches will be channelled in this direction. Tregaron Trotting Club has a long tradition of being innovative and trying to improve standards of racing not only in Tregaron but throughout the UK and this is the latest suggestion.

Proposal

It is therefore our intention to do away with tradition and offer for sale **twenty four** pitches at all our fixtures – currently three days (ONE day in May and TWO days in August) on an open tender basis. The right to each pitch will be listed and each bookmaker standing will still incur a pitch fee payable to Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. The pitch fee will be £100 per day and will be held at this level for FIVE years, to be renewed in 2023. If a bookmaker does not take up his/her pitch at a meeting the next in line will step up e.g. if pitch T5 does not turn up B5 will have the option to move across. In any case the two lines will maintain the same number of pitches - if twelve bookmakers turn up they will stand in two lines of six with the "betting without" pitches completing the three sided concourse.

It has been decided to limit the number of pitches in order to give all bookmakers tendering a fair market without excessive dilution. Should identical tenders be received then the pitch will be resolved by drawing out of a hat. Any pitches not taken up by tender will be offered on a meeting by meeting basis up to the maximum of 24 pitches at twice the normal pitch fee. Should the number of tenders exceed 24 then a reserve list will be drawn up.

Straight Betting (16 pitches T1-T8 & B1-B8)

Pitches will be laid out in two lines facing each other trackside and bankside (see diagram below) with the betting without pitches closing the three sided betting area. We will be inviting sealed tenders which should include a copy of the full licence of the bookmaker tendering – the highest tender will become the No.1 pitch trackside (T1) the second highest will take the No.1 pitch bankside (B1), the third highest will take No.2 pitch trackside and so on until all sixteen pitches are taken. Minimum Tender Price will be set at £300.

Each pitch will become the property by right of the successful bookmaker and they will be at liberty to sell the pitch at any time. Each re-sale will incur a commission charge payable to Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. with a sliding scale from £300 for pitch 1 reducing by £10 per pitch to pitch 16 (£150, the minimum commission being £150. The right to the pitch will exist whilst Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. promote harness racing and may be bequeathed on death to immediate family).

Betting Without (8 pitches W1-W8)

Please note “Betting Without” pitches will be confined to eight pitches (see diagram) **ALL** betting without only **ONE** horse. These pitches will be tendered for separately (W1-W8). Minimum Tender Price will be £400. Highest tender will take Pitch W1, second highest W2 and so on.

Each pitch will become the property by right of the successful bookmaker and they will be at liberty to sell the pitch at any time. Each sale will incur a commission charge payable to Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. of £300 per pitch. The right to the pitch will exist whilst Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. promote harness racing and may be bequeathed on death to immediate family.

General Regulations

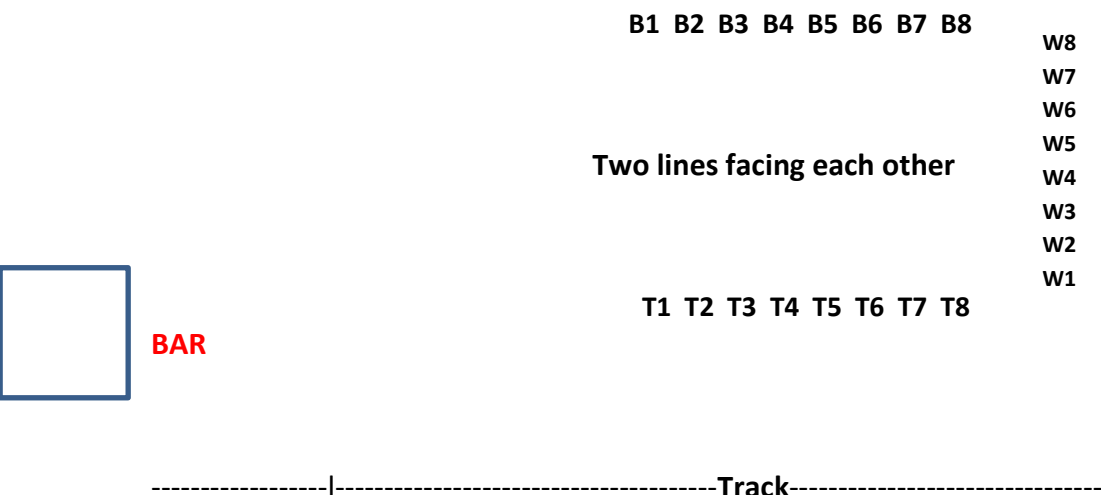
The full tender fee for **ALL** pitches will be payable by cheque with the tender or paid online into the Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd bank account by the closing date (*Bank details on tender form*).

The new pitch list to commence May 2018 will be in the hands of the club secretary and will appear on the Tregaron Trotting Club website as well as the BHRC website. It will be updated each time a transfer of pitch rights takes place.

On race days Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. will appoint a pitch man to assign the pitches as per the tender list at a designated pitch up time, at which point pitch fees will be collected each day. The decision of the pitch man will be final in all disputes.

Any bookmaker found to be fixing his/her prices with another bookmaker will be asked to leave the list and a full refund for the original pitch purchase will be proffered.

Tregaron Trotting Club Ltd. reserve the right to alter any of these conditions prior to confirmation of tender process.



For any further information contact: Huw Evans on 07985558653