

BLC NOTES - EPSOM DOWNS RACECOURSE 27 April 2023

IN ATTENDANCE:

James Crespi General Manager

Bookmakers – Barrie Bass, Joe O’Gorman, Dave Peckham, Jake Adamson.

Steve Clare & Andrew Boardley.

Apologies – Ian Govey

BETRED DERBY 2023

The Metropolitan Police insisted on a 3.00 p.m. kick off for the FA Cup Final, and the knock on effect has caused The Derby to be brought forward to 1.30 p.m. to ensure continued coverage on ITV. The first race will be at 12.50 and there will be 8 races in total.

Advance ticket sales are encouraging, and hospitality bookings in many areas are ahead of this time last year.

It is disappointing, to say the least, that there might also be a strike on Derby Day. Details awaited.

Layout change on The Hill – a relocated and much enlarged Derby Family Enclosure, open on both racing days with a targeted capacity of c.6,000 paying adults.

The Market has been relocated to the top of the Hill in the area occupied by the Family enclosure last year.

The Grandstand Enclosure will again be equipped with a bridge for public access into Upper Tattenham Lawn/Bar area. The layout of the tattersalls betting area will be amended exactly as in previous years to account for temporary bars/catering facilities.

Derby pitching in times – Tattersalls & Rails 10.00 a.m. each day; Lonsdale & Upper Tattenham 09.00 a.m. on Ladies Day & 10.00 on Derby Day.

A detailed final instructions note for bookmakers will be posted on the RBC website in advance of the event.

OTHER RACEDAYS

J.C. explained that there was intensive marketing/promotional activity to include leaflet drops locally, digital social media and a London focussed campaign.

Local bookmakers reported that they were not aware of the local leaflet drop either to their households or in local pubs, clubs or sports venues.

There will be a series of 4 summer music nights but with a 'softer' theme in an attempt to prevent some of the public order issues experienced last year.

August Bank Holiday Monday will again be the traditional Family Funday.

For non-Derby fixtures Grandstand bookmakers can have vehicular access to drop-off kit but vehicles must be off site at least 30 mins prior to gates opening time.

Non Derby pitching in times will again be 1 hour before the first race.

AOB

Bookmakers reported non-receipt of pre-ordered Season Cards – JC to investigate.

JA requested better marking out of betting positions in The Lonsdale with perhaps the line extended to allow more space. It was agreed that this would be considered.

Public capacity numbers:

Lonsdale - 3,000

Upper Tattenham – 5,000

(both excluding hospitality customers)

Opening times:

Lonsdale – 08:00 for coaches/buses; 10:30 spectators on foot.

Upper Tattenham – 08:00 coaches/buses; 10:00 spectators on foot.