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Dear Trainer,

RE: Medication Declaration Process for the 2025 Cheltenham Festival

We are writing to advise you of the medication declaration process for the 2025 Cheltenham Festival, including pre-race veterinary examinations, which is set out in full below.

The process is the same as last year, with trainers required to submit medication records to the BHA via the [Equine MediRecord \(EMR\) online system](#). This applies to all Cheltenham Festival runners, with records covering a six-week period before the race for short-acting medications, and a six-month period for long-acting medications. For those who haven't used the system before, the EMR team will be available to provide any additional support you may require.

Please note that the proper completion and submission of the necessary medication records by the times and dates specified below is a **requirement of the Rules of Racing** and not doing so will result in the respective horse being **ineligible to run**.

There will be **no** dispensation for any submissions received after the deadline, even if the initial intention has been to not run, i.e. if the decision is later taken to declare to get the entry fee back, this will not be possible if the relevant medication records have not been submitted by the deadline.

All horses will also be subject to a pre-race examination on raceday.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation with these important processes. Please do let us know if you have any questions.

Logging into the Equine MediRecord system

Like last year, all medical records need to be submitted to the BHA using the Equine MediRecord (EMR) website.

The EMR team will contact you soon after entries close with your login details and trainer profile, as well as a video guide to completing the medication records for your horses. All trainers will be provided with **NEW** login details this year, even if you used the system in previous years.

Once you have received your login details, you will be able to complete the medication declaration at www.equinemedirecord.com. The system includes drop-down menus that will help you select your horse's name and a list of medications and treatments, including type, trade name and active ingredient.

You can also save your progress as you go through the process, so you can choose to complete the submission gradually throughout the declaration period (recommended, particularly for trainers with multiple entries), or in a single sitting.

For any questions or additional support, or if you do not receive your login details within 48 hours of entries closing for a race you have entered, please contact EMR on:

Email: info@equinemedirecord.com

Phone: +44 (0) 7469 131861 (UK) or +353 (0) 86 409 2584 (Ireland)

Medication Declaration Stages

There are **TWO** stages to the 2025 Cheltenham medication declaration process. Following trainer feedback from the 2024 process, all relevant medication records required for the Cheltenham Festival will need to be entered into one '**Medication Records**' form on the [Equine MediRecord](#) system. The information required is the same as last year.

Stage 1 must be completed online by 17:00 (GMT) on Tuesday 4 March 2025. **Stage 2** must be completed by 18:00 (GMT) the day before raceday.

Stage 1

Trainers of all horses competing at the Festival must have completed Stage 1 of the Medication Declaration (previously referred to as 'Medical Form 1') by **17:00 (GMT) Tuesday 4 March 2025**. This declaration must include:

1. Any short-acting medications given to the horse in the six weeks prior to the deadline (**between 21 January and 4 March 2025 inclusive**). These medications would include routine injections, oral preparations and creams.
2. Any long-acting medications given to the horse in the six months prior to the deadline (**between 4 September 2024 and 4 March 2025 inclusive**). This would include all joint medications and bisphosphonates, and any courses of non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (e.g. phenylbutazone, meloxicam, suxibutazone).

All medication records above should be submitted via the '**Medication Records**' form using the Equine MediRecord system.

As in 2024, a **Trainer Declaration** must be signed via the Equine MediRecord system by 17:00 (GMT) on Tuesday 4 March 2025 to confirm that the records submitted are accurate for the required time period. Please note, horses will be ineligible to race at the Festival if the relevant medication records and a Trainer Declaration have not been received by the stipulated deadline.

To make sure that the records submitted cover the necessary time period, please do not submit a Trainer Declaration more than 24 hours before the deadline.

Stage 2

Trainers of all horses competing at the Festival must have completed Stage 2 of the Medication Declaration (previously referred to as 'Medical Form 2') by **18:00 (GMT) the day before raceday**.

This declaration must include **any** medications or treatments administered to the horse after the submission of Stage 1 (i.e. Tuesday 4 March 2025).

Medication records for Stage 2 will need to be submitted using the same '**Medication Records**' form used for Stage 1. These updated medication records and a **second Trainer Declaration** must be submitted by 18:00 (GMT) the day before raceday for horses to be eligible to race at the Festival.

Again, to make sure that the records submitted cover the necessary time period, please do not submit a Trainer Declaration more than 24 hours before the deadline.

Pre-race examinations and notification of horses with mild lameness

All runners in all races at the Festival will receive a pre-race examination and trot-up at the racecourse on the morning of their race. The earlier in the morning that the pre-race examinations take place, the better for trainers, horses and veterinary staff, so we ask that horses arrive at the racecourse by midday on the day of their race.

Trainers who have horses they are planning to run at the Festival which may be described as having mild lameness should identify these horses to the BHA as soon as possible.

This will enable us to observe the horse, discuss and note any abnormalities in consultation with the relevant trainers and their stable veterinarians well in advance of the raceday. It will also help to avoid any last-minute dispute or disappointment and ensure that trainers have an opportunity to provide insight and information relating to these horses.

In such cases, we first ask you to send us a short video clip via WhatsApp to the BHA (+44 (0) 7786 660391) – see the video [here](#) for an example.

The trot-up should be on a loose lead, for 25 metres, away from and back towards the camera. Please state the name of the horse at the beginning of the video. If you are unsure whether this applies to any of your horses, we would advise sending a video just in case.

We are aiming to complete discussions and assessments relating to these horses as quickly as we can and would request that videos are sent no later than Tuesday 4 March 2025.

Summary

- Trainers are required to submit **TWO** stages of medication records to the BHA for every Cheltenham Festival runner using the Equine MediRecord system.
 - a) **Stage 1** covers all medication given between 21 January and 4 March 2025 and any medication with a long-term effect given in the previous six months up to and including 4 March 2025. Stage 1 must be submitted online with a Trainer Declaration by **17:00 (GMT) Tuesday 4 March 2025**.
 - b) **Stage 2** covers all any medication or treatment administered after the submission of Stage 1 inclusive of Tuesday 4 March 2025. Stage 2 must be submitted online with a Trainer Declaration by **18:00 (GMT) the day before raceday**.
- The relevant medication records and Trainer Declarations must be completed and submitted by the deadline stipulated. Failure to do so will result in the respective horse(s) being **ineligible to run**. There will be **no** dispensations for submissions not made by the deadline.
- You will be contacted by Equine MediRecord (EMR) after entries have closed for a race you have entered a horse in with your login details and a video user guide.
- Any additional queries about the medication declaration process should be directed to Equine Medirecord via info@equinemedirecord.com or +44 (0) 7469 131861 (UK) or +353 (0) 86 409 2584 (Ireland).
- Trainers with horses entered at the Festival that have mild lameness should identify these to the BHA by submitting a video of the horse via Whatsapp to +44 (0) 7786 660391.

Thank you again for your assistance with this year's process.

Kind regards,



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