

## MEDICAL REVIEW PROCEDURE

1. This procedure applies to all Riders or would-be Riders under the British Horseracing Authority's (BHA) Rules of Racing and the British Horseracing Authority's Regulations for Point to Point Steeple Chases.
2. The decision to refuse or revoke the licence/permit will have been made on the advice of the BHA's Chief Medical Adviser (CMA) who will have obtained reports from the attending specialist/ physician and reviewed all the other available information, and applied the current Medical Standards for Fitness to Ride.
3. When a rider's licence/permit is refused or withdrawn by the Authority on medical grounds, a review along the following lines may be invoked at the request of the rider concerned:
  - a. Following the Authority's decision to refuse or withdraw the licence/permit, the rider must, within 14 days, indicate to the Licensing Team ([licensing@britishhorseracing.com](mailto:licensing@britishhorseracing.com)) his/her intention to seek a review.
  - b. The rider will be asked to attend a medical examination. In cases involving professional riders, the cost will be paid by the BHA. In cases involving Amateur or Point-to-Point Steeplechase riders, the cost must be met by the individual.
  - c. The BHA will provide the names of two nationally recognised specialists in relation to the rider's particular medical condition. The rider may choose one of these specialists or may nominate a specialist of similar standing subject to the agreement of the Authority. The rider will be supplied with a copy of any correspondence between the BHA and the specialist.
  - d. When available, copies of the independent specialist's report will be forwarded by post to the rider and the British Horseracing Authority's Chief Medical Adviser.
  - e. The BHA shall establish a Medical Review Panel comprising medically qualified consultants of different specialisms all of whom shall be appointed by the BHA but shall be independent of it, and one of whom shall be appointed by the BHA to be the Chairman.
  - f. The question of the fitness to ride of the rider will then be reviewed by three persons ('the Reviewers') being the Chairman of the Medical Review Panel and two others chosen specifically for each case. For the avoidance of doubt the fitness to ride will be assessed by reference to the then current Medical Standards for Fitness to Ride. The purpose of the review is not to allow dispensation from the Medical Standards in an individual case, nor is it to review the suitability of the Medical Standards or any particular aspect of them. The Medical Standards are reviewed each year and approved by the Authority and are expected to be applied as they are. The purpose of a medical review of an individual's situation is to ensure that the medical or physical condition of the Rider is correctly

diagnosed so that Medical Standards can be applied with the benefit of tested diagnosis.

- g. Copies of the independent specialist report, and if not already appended thereto, any other information concerning the rider's medical condition, shall be provided. The BHA's CMA shall provide his explanation for his diagnosis of the condition of the rider which caused him to recommend the refusal or withdrawal of the Licence/Permit.
- h. The Chairman of the Medical Review Panel shall determine the procedures according to which the review shall be conducted. Provided, however, that before the Reviewers decide to endorse the decision of the Authority to refuse or withdraw a Licence or permit on medical grounds, the rider shall normally be allowed to attend in person before the Reviewers. The rider shall be entitled to have in attendance medical specialist(s) of his own choosing who shall be permitted to give evidence.
- i. It will be the policy of the Authority, but without fettering their discretion to act differently in any case which they consider to be exceptional, to give effect to a recommendation of the Reviewers that the rider meets the relevant Medical Standards or, where these allow a discretion, that the rider ought not to be prevented from riding on medical grounds alone.
- j. The Chairman of the Medical Review Panel will deliver the Reviewers' recommendation to the Authority and to the rider, within 48 hours of the hearing, or as soon as practical where the Reviewers are permitted to make a recommendation without a hearing and decide to do so.
- k. If the Authority is minded to confirm its earlier decision to refuse or withdraw the Licence/Permit as the case maybe, the rider will be informed and given 7 days to request a hearing in person before the Licensing Committee. The rider will be permitted legal representation at such a hearing.
- l. The decision of the Licensing Committee, which will be final, will be notified to the rider, in writing, as soon as practical after a hearing or if none, after the expiry of the 7 days.