



## Ongoing and future stayers' initiatives

### Black type/conditions races

- Qatar Goodwood Cup upgraded from Group 2 to Group 1 for 2017
- Queens Vase at Royal Ascot upgraded from Listed to Group 2 for 2017 with its distance altered to 14 furlongs to become a stepping stone for developing stayers
- The Listed Beckford Stakes for fillies and mares was introduced over 14 furlongs at Bath last October and enjoyed a successful first renewal
- The Listed March Stakes over 14 furlongs at Goodwood has reverted to a three-year-old-only contest for 2017
- New 13 furlong conditions race for three-year-olds to be run at Newbury in October

### Handicaps

- Three further valuable staying Class 2 handicaps have been included for the three-year-olds for 2017, each with a prize fund of at least £50,000:
  - These take place at Musselburgh on Derby Day, Haydock in July and Chester in August
  - The two original races of this type, introduced in 2015 at Haydock in September and York in October, remain in place
  - The Melrose Handicap, the prestigious staying handicap for three-year-olds at York's Ebor Festival, has also had its prize fund boosted to £105,000.

*The above races receive assistance from the BHA Development Fund in 2017, which comes with the expectation that each of them will be run for a minimum of £100,000 next year.*

- Four Class 2/3 14 furlong handicaps for fillies, one a month from June to September, which were added to programme for 2016, will be run again this year
- At least six new 12 furlong three-year-old maidens will be created to boost the middle-distance programme of maiden races for three-year-olds

### Two year olds

- Reinstatement of the Listed Zetland Stakes over 10 furlongs at Newmarket in October
- 10 furlong conditions race at Chelmsford now included in November
- The BHA has also incorporated 13 sire-restricted maiden or novice races for two-year-olds, mostly run over one mile:
  - The majority are restricted to the progeny of sires which won over at least 10f but four races will be restricted to the progeny of sires which won over 12 furlongs or more
- Increase in the number of 10 furlong maiden/novice races for two-year-olds, with a further increase planned for 2018