

Wednesday 12 August

Thank you for your continuing support as an Annual Badgeholder at York Racecourse over this unprecedented year. Though we very much regret that we will not have the pleasure of your company for the Welcome to Yorkshire Ebor Festival (Wednesday 19 August to Saturday 22 August) we do hope you will be able to enjoy it from afar. I am writing to set out the arrangements we are planning for this year and how supporters can enjoy #EborAtHome

As you will be aware, to comply with the Government's Elite Sport Stage 3 protocols, we will once again have to operate "behind closed doors" in August and September as we did for the July racedays. We had hoped that we might have been authorised to be a pilot site for spectators to return to sport, albeit under reduced capacities and revised protocols, however with the late cancellation by UK Government of the Goodwood pilot on 31 July, that hope unfortunately was no longer an option. We share your disappointment and I am so sorry you cannot be with us.

Notwithstanding this, based on the entries and media talk, there is much to look forward to from the comfort of your armchair! We have the prospect of the highest rated horse and filly in the land, not to mention the fastest one, all set to compete in our feature Group 1 races; in the form of Ghaiyyath, Love and Battaash respectively. There are a host of top quality horses both set to take them on and in our other pattern contests, not to mention the Sky Bet Ebor itself.

As a reminder, the many highlights of the four days will be available to view from the comfort of home with ITV1 showing five races each day and Racing TV all twenty-eight contests. For more details on the race programme please [see here](#).

To take advantage of the special complimentary day passes arranged for you with Racing TV, simply call 0113 859 1477 (standard rate number) and quote:

19/08/2020 York YO1908 20/08/2020 York YO2008
21/08/2020 York YO2108 22/08/2020 York YO2208

6/09/2020 York YO0609

If you are already a Sky viewer you will be able to pre-register now for your Free Day Pass to cover all five days. All you need to do is [click here](#) before 9.30am on Monday 17 August and complete your details. You will be activated before racing begins on Wednesday, with no need to phone up on the day and your access will last for the duration of the festival.

The free digital racecard will also be available once again from our website and social

media platforms on the eve of each day, just visit www.yorkracecourse.co.uk to download it.

We will be active on social media through the week trying to bring you at home a ringside seat on the activity and action. Please follow us on twitter and Instagram for the latest using #EborAtHome.

As a further online experience, please do join us for our Sky Bet Ebor Preview, to be available free of charge, on Facebook Live on the evening of Tuesday 18th August from 6.30pm. Our top panel hosted by Ed Chamberlin, Michael Shinnars, Dave Ord and Mark Howard will hope to both entertain and inform you ahead of the action, joined by various trainers and jockeys who have a stake in the feature races. The final details will be posted on the Annual Badgeholders page of the website.

While you are surfing, do visit our refreshed "[going page](#)" on the website, we hope it gives an indication of the weather past, present and future; now linking into the latest live data from the weather station at the one furlong mark.

With further regret, we have been advised by BHA that the Sunday 6 September meeting will also operate "behind closed doors", so the same conditions and opportunities apply. The Listed Al Basti Equiworld Dubai Garrowby Stakes will be the highlight of the card, see the full programme [here](#).

As the final meeting of the York Racecourse season - on Friday 9 and Saturday 10 October - falls after the current Government target date for re-opening sporting stadia of 1 October, then we remain hopeful that we will at long last be able to welcome you back to that occasion. Scant consolation for us all I know, but we can but hope and will, of course, keep you posted.

To speed the communication in the approach to October, we will rely on digital communication so please could you confirm a current email address to debbie.shirt@yorkracecourse.co.uk.

Thank you once again for your continuing support and patience. I am so sorry that we are not able to welcome you to our flagship festival but do hope you are able to follow the action from the comfort of home.

James Brennan

Head of Sponsorship and Marketing