



## ABANDONMENT REFUND HEAD OF TERMS

This is an interim set of heads of terms addressing the issue of refunds for 2022 that will be reviewed by May 2022 at the latest once we can all see how it is working in practice. A working party will be appointed immediately to:

- (i) Work within an agreed terms of reference to review related issues
- (ii) Monitor how this works in practice over the early months of the 2022 season, to be chaired by the BE CEO and reported back to the three stakeholder bodies.

### THE ABANDONMENT REFUND HEADS OF TERMS

These heads of terms apply to all events to provide a minimum refund. Only the minimum refund will be set out in the events schedule.

#### **The scale of refund will be as follows based on the day the event abandons:**

Stage 1 - Before Ballot Date - Full refund

Stage 2 - Between Ballot Date to 14 days prior to the start date of the competition – 50% refund

Stage 3 - Between 6 to 13 days prior to the event start date – 30% refund

Stage 4 - Between 5 days of the event starting and 17:00 before - 15% refund

Stage 5 - From 17:00 the day before the event day in question - no refund

Refund of start fees will be provided except where competitors have started the dressage phase of their competition.

The definition of abandonment is to be agreed but will cover all abandonments for (i) health and safety reasons caused by adverse weather which are beyond the reasonable control of the organiser and (ii) where an event has experienced a serious medical emergency such that continuation of that fixture is deemed by BE not to be in the interest of the sport and competitors/officials/volunteers.

The abandonment refund will be clearly stated on each event schedule and every competitor must sign up to these terms when entering.

### OTHER TERMS

These are the related terms that will be included in affiliation agreement

- i) Only the minimum refund will be set out in the event's schedule. As soon as possible after the event has been abandoned (and no later than 6 weeks) Events are requested to make additional refunds if event costs allow, based on the principle that events should not profit from an abandonment. Details of this are to be agreed.
- ii) From 2022 the prize money calculator will be used at all events meaning that first prize will always be at least equal to the entry fee. Prize money in kind and its associated reduced entry fees will remain during 2022 but will be removed as an option in 2023.

- iii) In the event of abandonment, BE will not charge the organiser affiliation fees for the abandoned days. No other additional charge will be levied.
- iv) Any BE organiser running UA ODEs must not give a better refund policy to their UA competitions than the policy stated above.
- v) We will all work together to find a variety of individual solutions that will help make BE events to be more commercially viable without the need to increase prices further

## DECISIONS TO ABANDON

Any decision to abandon will be made by BE Officials in consultation with the organiser & landowner. There needs to be the formation of clear policies and procedures by which decisions to abandon are made and are then evidenced.