



MEDIA RELEASE 12th JUNE 2020

ARC CONFIRMS 2020 STAR SPORTS & ARC GREYHOUND DERBY

~Final on Saturday 31st October~

~Winner's Purse of £50k~

~96 entrants with rounds beginning on Weekend of 2nd/3rd October~

Arena Racing Company ("ARC") confirm that this year's Greyhound Derby will take place at Nottingham over the month of October.

The jewel in UK Greyhound Racing's crown, The English Greyhound Derby, will now proceed after weeks of hard work and planning to make it possible.

Rachel Corden, ARC's Greyhound Operations Director, said:

"The Greyhound Derby is the pinnacle of the racing calendar and we were determined that, despite Covid-19, we would move heaven and earth to make it happen in some form. In the current climate it will be a smaller competition than normal, with no third round, but it at least means we will have a 2020 Derby. The Final will be scheduled for Saturday 31 October.

"We are very grateful to Ben Keith & Star Sports for their on-going support and for committing to their joint sponsorship of the Derby. And we are delighted that Nottingham will host the Derby for the second year in a row".

"This is a substantial commitment from ARC and Star Sports to ensure our flagship event takes place, particularly as, there could be no public attendance and therefore no hospitality or on-site betting revenue. Should it prove possible to have a public attendance for the competition in due course we will assess what that might look like at Nottingham to ensure Government guidance at the time could be safely met".

Ben Keith of Star Sports said: “It’s been a tough year for everyone, but we can now look forward to The Greyhound Derby, so let’s all get behind Nottingham and have the best Derby ever.”

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For more information, please contact

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Note to Editors:

High res imagery available on request

About ARC:

Arena Racing Company (“ARC”) is the largest racecourse operator in the UK. In 2020 ARC Group racecourses will host 572 fixtures with 1.2 million people attending racing at one of ARC’s racecourses each year.

ARC is made up of the following sixteen racecourses: Bath, Brighton, Chepstow, Doncaster, Ffos Las, Fontwell Park, Great Yarmouth, Hereford, Lingfield Park, Newcastle, Royal Windsor, Sedgefield, Southwell, Uttoxeter, Wolverhampton and Worcester.

ARC runs four of the six all-weather racecourses in the UK offering three different types of surface for horses to run on: Polytrack at Lingfield Park, fibresand at Southwell Racecourse and tapeta at Newcastle and Wolverhampton Racecourses – the only tapeta racing surfaces in Europe.

In 2013 ARC pioneered the All-Weather Championships which see horses compete throughout the winter for the chance of qualifying for a £1 million Finals Day on Good Friday at Lingfield Park. This initiative is helping raise the profile and prestige of all-weather racing in Great Britain.

ARC hosts racing at all levels of the sport from Class 7 through to Group 1s. Doncaster Racecourse is home to the world's oldest Classic, the William Hill St Leger, run each year in September as part of the four-day William Hill St Leger Festival as well as the final Group 1 of the year in Britain, the Vertem Futurity Trophy. Feature jumps races include the Grade 1 Betfair Fighting Fifth Hurdle at Newcastle Racecourse, the Coral Welsh Grand National at Chepstow Racecourse and Midlands Grand National at Uttoxeter Racecourse.

As well as racing, ARC also operates a hotel at Wolverhampton Racecourse, a hotel, spa resort and golf course at Lingfield Park and The Border Minstrel public house at Newcastle Racecourse in the grounds of Gosforth Park. The Hilton Garden Inn Doncaster Racecourse opened in September 2018.

ARC is a significant shareholder in the horseracing TV channel Sky Sports Racing which is broadcast on the Sky platform to c.14 million homes.

ARC plays a pivotal role in British Racing. It is a shareholder in British Champions Series and Racecourse Data Company; a signatory to a British Horseracing Authority's and Horsemen's Group Prize Money Agreement; and on the boards of the Racecourse Association ("RCA"), Great British Racing ("GBR") and British Champion Series ("BCS").

In 2015 ARC set up The Racing Partnership. This limited company represents the media rights of the 16 ARC owned-racecourses and the five independent racecourses Fakenham, Hexham, Newton Abbot, Plumpton and Ripon.

In addition to racecourses ARC owns Newcastle, Sunderland, Nottingham, Perry Barr and Belle Vue Greyhound Stadia and looks after the media interests of the Greyhound Media Group ("GMG").

ARC employs 750 permanent staff and engages with 5,500 casual staff for racing and events across its racecourses. Further information about ARC can be found at www.arenaracingcompany.co.uk.