

# **BANGALORE TURF CLUB LIMITED**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

On behalf of the Members of the Managing Committee/Stewards of the Bangalore Turf Club Ltd., I have great pleasure in sharing this Press Release.

BTC is completely dedicated to the sport of horse racing and we are extremely delighted to announce that the Bangalore Winter Racing season 2020-21 is in all readiness to “gallop” off the blocks. After several months of lockdown, the racing track of the Bangalore Turf Club (BTC/Club) will once again resonate with the thundering of hooves and the familiar adrenaline rush associated with the thrill of horse racing. The most eagerly anticipated Bangalore Winter Racing season promises all that and much more.

The BTC is pleased to share that the Government of Karnataka has been considerate in granting the necessary approvals for legalising online betting. This is indeed a milestone for BTC in terms of enhancing the transparency in the betting sport as well as being a significant source of revenue generation. The conventions for the online betting mechanism will be rolled out soon, we are committed to providing a secure legal digital experience through computer, smart phone or tablet device.

## **RACING**

The racing season will commence on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2020 and we are pleased to announce the aggregate total prize money of **Rs.1,31,56,799/-** for the 5 Race Days [November-1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>].

**The remainder of the prospectus will be published shortly.**

As per the guidelines of Government of India and Government of Karnataka. Therefore spectator less racing, general public will not be permitted till such time the Government grants permission.

For Public health and safety reasons Bangalore Winter Meeting may not be able to open for general public for the time being. While this has been a difficult decision, it is unavoidable under the present circumstances. In keeping with the spirit of the phased unlocking happening across the country, and to ensure that spectators are not completely deprived of the joy of witnessing racing. the BTC has met with the Government officials and requested permission for a stipulated percentage of racing patrons as may be decided mutually to be allowed to witness the races. The Club has assured the Government of Karnataka that all Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) will be strictly followed and adhered to.

The Club will certainly focus all its efforts towards bringing back the physical witnessing of the races to the spectators and will share updates on the progress as and when any significant decision is taken.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had significant impact financially on many industries and horse racing is no exclusion. BTC also faces its share of economic challenges owing to the adverse impact of the pandemic, we believe with the support of the members, the government and other patrons, the Club will be able to address the difficult situation and welcome race goers back to enjoy horse racing in a safe and secure environment in due course of time.

The BTC has taken all permissible measures to safeguard all the personnel , all the SOP's are in place by the Club in accordance with the Government guidelines and these will continue to be strictly adhered to.

We thank the Government, all our personnel, patrons and well-wishers for their patience and understanding given the challenging practical circumstances of the current national lockdown and providing us the strength and support for a successful commencement of the racing season.

### **SWEEPSTAKES RACES:**

Added Money for the Sweepstakes Races to be run in November is as detailed below:

<b>Name of Sweepstakes Race</b>	<b>Added Money</b>	<b>Trophy Value</b>
The Rajyotsava Trophy (Grade III)	8,00,000	60,000
The Royal Calcutta Turf Club Cup	8,00,000	50,000
The Bangalore Turf Club Trophy (Grade III)	8,00,000	60,000

### **PROFESSIONALS:**

- 33 'A' Licensed Trainers are expected to take part in the Bangalore Winter Meeting 2020-21. Trainers from other centres are expected to participate for the Classics/Sweepstakes Races.
- 80 Jockeys including 20 Jockeys claiming allowance have been issued 'A' License and 15 Jockeys have been issued 'B' License. In all, 95 Jockeys have been issued License during the year 2020-21.

### **CLASSIC RACES:**

- Added Money for Classic Races during the Bangalore Winter Meeting 2020-21 will be as same as for the Bangalore Winter Meeting 2019-20.
- Prospectus for Classic Races to be run during the year 2021-2022 will be published shortly.

### **SALIENT FEATURES:**

- Number of races will be restricted to a maximum of eight races on each race day.
- Minimum number of acceptors has been restricted at 4 with respect to races to be run over a distance of 1800 Metres or more.
- Maximum number of acceptors in respect of ordinary races will continue to be 12 except the Classic Race Days where the maximum number of runners will be 14.

### **GENERAL:**

- Jockeys will continue to be subjected to a breath analyzer test on every race day for detecting the presence of alcohol.
- It was decided to test both blood & urine samples in respect of the first three placed horses in the Graded Races.
- Urine/Blood Sample will be collected compulsorily from winner of all races.

### **BOARD OF APPEAL:**

Board of Appeal has been reconstituted as under for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021:

Mr. D.M.Kumara Swamy (Chairman)

Mr. S Chockalingam

Mr. B.K.Das

Dr. Hajee Abdul Sattar Sait

Mr. Kamal Pant

Mr. I.S.N.Prasad

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

I thank you immensely for all the help extended to Bangalore Turf Club in the past and during the tough time of COVID-19 pandemic by the Owners, Trainers, Jockeys and all of the people concerned. On behalf of the Managing Committee/Stewards, I request your support and your co-operation in providing wide coverage in the media for the Bangalore Winter Meeting 2020-21.

I wish you and the racing patrons a successful racing season.

Bangalore

Date:31<sup>st</sup> October,2020

  
(D. VINOD SIVAPPA)

CHAIRMAN & SENIOR STEWARD