

# COVID Recovery Plan



February 2021

The British  
Rabbit Council



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## Chairman's Foreword

I am sure a year ago none of us thought when the government locked down the country on 23rd of March 2020, that we would not be at another show for over a year. It has not been the intention of the BRC to try and see the demise of clubs or societies in anyway, the BRC is keen that as soon as practicable as many shows that can restart should restart for the benefit of the fancy and its enthusiasts.

On the 22nd of February the Prime Minister has revealed his Road Map for the return to "normal" in England, and the devolved administrations are now revealing theirs also. The GB met on the 23rd February 2021 to develop our own Road Map to restart shows following these guidelines based on work by our Policy and Planning committee.

## Membership

Membership has been offered at a rate of 20% discount since the beginning of 2021 for those renewing memberships before March 2021.

## Resumption of Shows

The BRC GB has previously issued guidance which was in line with Government guidance and based on guidance from professionals working in the field of COVID19 risk assessment. All previous guidance has been in line with the government guidance.

**Shows can resume from 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021, and would now invite applications to be submitted.** We will not support any show licence applications before this date, this is in line with Step 3 of the English government's plan to exit lockdown.

## Public Liability Status

We would draw attention to rule H for clubs and societies that holding shows without BRC show support means you are holding an event without public liability insurance, and therefore any incident or subsequent claim against the show will have to be met by your club/society. H1.4 states that the indemnity insurance offered under BRC affiliation is only available to rabbit shows held under BRC rules are covered, no other event organised by the club can use this insurance.

## Guidance and Requirements to achieve Show Support

- Show supports should be emailed to [info@thebrc.org](mailto:info@thebrc.org) as far as possible and payment made over the phone or via paypal for show supports.
- Approval of the licence will be acknowledged via email to the secretary, a copy of the show licence along with relevant diplomas will be posted to the secretary immediately. *(Secretaries are asked to inform the BRC at time of application if they hold sufficient stock of CC's and BoB cards already that could be used in first instance).*

To achieve show support the following requirements are set out:



- ✓ **Approval from Local Authority for permission to hold show** - Shows must comply with current government guidance on COVID19 secure according to the area of the country the event will be held in. Refer to gov.uk or the local authority website for your area. **A copy of email/letter consultation with local authority can accompany your show support application.**
  
- ✓ **Agreement and guidance from the hire venue** - Written guidance should be sought from the venue hirer regarding any special measures the show committee must undertake during their hiring period.
  
- ✓ **Environmental Health Liaison** - The provision of food and drinks at events must be in line with current government guidance and show societies should consult with their local authority environmental health for the latest advice on ways to proceed with offering food/drink at events.
  
- ✓ **Track and Trace Register** - Show societies/clubs must maintain a track and trace register of all persons attending the show detailing name, address, phone number and email. The details of which must be held for the period of one month after the show. Alternatively, clubs should seek to obtain a Track and Trace QR code via gov.uk website that all attendees should use to record their attendance at the venue in line with NHS track and trace protocols.

**At the show, the requirement on the clubs/societies and people attending is that:**

- ✓ People **MUST NOT** attend shows if they are displaying symptoms of COVID, or feeling unwell in anyway.
  
- ✓ Social distancing must be always maintained within the venue and particularly at the judging tables and in the penning areas, until such time as the UK Government/Devolved administrations say that social distancing is no longer required.
  
- ✓ Judging tables must be spread out at least two metres, and more than previously to allow space for free movement of people and to ensure that people are not too close to each other. A defined and secured judging area should be marked out, with clear direction of who may and may not enter that area.
  
- ✓ Shows should as far as possible operate a one way in, and one way out system of entrance and exit.



- ✓ Shows must consider the potential cross contamination risk from using pens, and appropriate hand sanitiser and/or gloves should be provided for stewards and exhibitors.
- ✓ Number of people within a show venue must be restricted to the minimum number required and specified by the venue itself. All those within the venue should wear appropriate PPE in line with the current government guidance (e.g. Masks), Gloves should be considered for those involved in handling of stock and stewarding in particular.
- ✓ The BRC recommends that where it is feasible to do so, the consideration of holding facilities at the judging table for rabbits to be judged such as coops/pens seen in the USA/Australia if clubs so wish, however this is not a stipulation of support. Such facilities would need the availability of disinfecting holding pens throughout the show ideally (e.g. antibacterial wipes).
- ✓ Judges must use hand sanitiser after judging each class.
- ✓ Judges dictate their comments to the book steward for noting, and judges may give permission to the book steward to initial books once the judge has inspected the book.
- ✓ If shows are using fabric material for table coverings etc, they must identify a process of securely removing it from the table into a sealed bag post judging, and then boil wash at least 60 degrees in order to kill any thing that may be carried on the sheet. Alternative coverings should be explored where possible and practical.
- ✓ No grooming may take place within the confines of the show venue, and no facilities must be provided for such. Grooming can take place in vehicles etc outside the venue if necessary.
- ✓ As far as possible shows should seek to identify a way of contactless or cashless payments being made for entry fees and prize money, but all monies should be settled before exhibits are judged and prize money should be paid in a timely fashion by the society and the details of how that will be achieved must be clearly visible to exhibitors if prize money is offered. The BRC recommend a No Prize Money position where possible, or making provisions for clubs to transfer prize money back to exhibitors via bank accounts or payment methods such as Paypal.



- ✓ A detailed risk assessment containing plans for all the above points, and general venue risk assessment must be provided to the BRC alongside the show application.
- ✓ Show applications may be made up to eight weeks in advance of the show. They **must** contain all information required to approve show support upon receipt.
- ✓ The cancellation of shows at short notice due to changes in local steps to prevent the spread of COVID19 cannot be mitigated for by the BRC. The reduction in time frame for submission of applications contributes to this, the last minute cancellation of a show due to local government/national government response will mean that the cost of the show support is forfeited in this circumstance. No credits will be offered. **Last minute is defined as less than ten days before the show is due to take place.**
- ✓ Shows should seek to publish a schedule with fur and feather to ensure that results can be published. Shows that do not publish a schedule with fur and feather must note that the publication does not offer results publication service if no schedule has been published within the magazine.

### Face Masks and Advice to Judges

The wearing of masks at all times is compulsory for all show attendees until UK governments state otherwise. Judges can wear visors where appropriate so that they can still examine the animal if necessary by blowing, however we strongly recommend that judges find alternative ways to explore depth of colour and grooming rather than blowing. Certain medical conditions provide an exemption for which proof should be shown to the secretary.

### Financial Support

- ✓ The BRC Governing Body will give each club 50% reduction on affiliation for 2021.
- ✓ All clubs will be offered 50% discount off their first two shows in 2021, with 4 & 5 Star shows being granted one show support with 50% discount.
- ✓ It is important to note that in 2021 the BRC will already experience a guaranteed loss of around £12,000 from deferred income of show supports from 2020 cancelled/rescheduled shows. It is hoped the current operating model review of the BRC will offer hope of recovering revenue in subsequent years.



# The Annual General Meeting of the BRC

An AGM date will be released in the near future but due to restrictions will not be able to be held in April.

## Contacting the BRC Office

- ✓ One member of staff presently remains on Furlough until at least April 2021.
- ✓ The Office will be contactable via the phone Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 930am – 130pm during the month of March
- ✓ Office hours remain under constant review by the GB at all stages
- ✓ As far as possible contact should be made via online methods such as email ([info@thebrc.org](mailto:info@thebrc.org)) or ordering via the BRC website

The Governing Body of the BRC

23/02/2021

