**Certificate of Competence for External Events Form- Q&A**

What is it for?

This was originally put in place as we appreciate that the majority of our RDA Group Coaches  may not have much experience in coaching outside their usual venue.

Why are the groups now signing this instead of Regional Coaches?

It was historically expected that all coaches would have received a face-to-face review by a Regional Coach; however, due to Covid 19 regulations this process was adjusted.  CPD was implemented in the form of online and training days to enable coaches to push their review date a year forwards.  Thus some Coaches have not had a face-to-face review in recent years.

Why do Qualifiers/ Championships require this form for Group Coaches?

Due to our range of coach experiences and backgrounds, we want to empower coaches in coming forwards to assist their participants at large championship events.

RDA UK are expecting around 250 horses and around 900 people, and with a large atmosphere, potential risk assessments and management techniques will look very different. We are also aware that in this environment, participants and equines may also feel and act differently.

Coaches who have achieved their Coach Certificate may not have championship experience, however will be more confident at risk assessing and managing participants in a number of different environments.

Why is this the first we’d heard about it?

The form in itself has been in existence for a number of years and historically may have been used for events such as RDA Holidays. Within the timeframe of the current pathway, a review of the RDA Coaching policies took place and it was determined that it should also be added to Qualifying/Championship events for the above reasons.

**Insurance**

Our Insurance Brokers, Howdens, have confirmed that all of our active coaches are covered by the insurance at RDA events, *according to our Policies*. This form is for quality assurance purposes- we need to feel, at RDA UK, that any incident could be justified for insurance purposes.

If a group is concerned about their Group Coach’s experience and/ or training level and is unwilling to sign the form- we encourage you to let us know and we can look to support both you as the group and the coach with some specialised training.

***I have attached the new form as a reference for your consideration- please let me know if you have any further concerns, comments or queries. My direct dial is 01926 476 308 or you can contact me via email at*** [***anicol@rda.org.uk***](mailto:anicol@rda.org.uk)