

Control Sheet

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Change Control		
Version Number	Revision	Date
1.0	Draft following Governance Steering Group's initial thoughts	07/02/2025
1.1	Final Version following RDA Board approval	26/03/2025

Activities Advisory Board Terms of Reference

RDA UK

Purpose	To provide advice on equine welfare within RDA, ensuring that RDA provides our horses the highest standards of welfare and care, and that they are always treated with compassion, kindness and respect.
Advisory Board Chair	RDA UK Chief Executive (the RDA UK Chief Operating Officer will deputise as Chair of the Advisory Board for the Chief Executive when required).
Membership	<p>General Advisory Board membership principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the Advisory Boards will serve 3-year terms of appointment which can be renewed 3 times (total service of 9 years). Following the completion of a 9 year term, after 3 further years a volunteer may return to a role previously held. (Note: election of members covered at section 6 below). • Meetings of the Advisory Boards will be considered quorate if 6 of the members are in attendance. • Members of the Advisory Boards cannot be current RDA UK Trustees or staff. <p>Advisory Board Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members representing: Vet(s), Farrier, Equine Physiotherapist (or equivalent), Equine research, British Equestrian¹, Equine Welfare, Physiotherapy, RDA Advance Coach (3 year terms, up to 3 terms). • Regional Chair attendance: one RC representative attends each Board for a 12-month term with the purpose of providing a communication link between the Advisory Board and the Regional Chair's Committee and supporting the Advisory Committee in understanding the impact of its advice on RDA Groups. • RDA UK staff attending as required, based on specific meeting content.
Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice on equine welfare across RDA, ensuring that the standards expected of Member Groups are clearly articulated and communicated. • To review research in equine welfare, consider the applicability of it to RDA activity and advise on how improvements can be implemented by Member Groups.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on specific equine welfare concerns raised within the RDA network, and provide professional expertise in the evaluation of these cases. • Advise and comment on the consistency of RDA compliance with industry standards, including those set by British Equestrian.
Powers	There are no decision-making powers designated for the advisory board. The board is to advise RDA UK on matters outlined in its purposes. In some circumstances, especially those relating to competitions, members will be asked to undertake organising responsibilities outside of the formal meetings.
Proceedings and Reporting	Advisory Boards will meet twice a year, with further meetings if requested by the RDA UK Board, Chief Executive or Regional Chairs Committee. Meetings will be held online, and secretariat functions will be provided by RDA UK staff.
Approval and Review	The approval, review and amendment of this document is reserved for the RDA UK Board of Trustees, in consultation with the current advisory board members.

¹To note, this role will be nominated by British Equestrian and is therefore not subject to the same member length of service or recruitment process.