

BOBIS launched for Flat season of 2013

Around 450 races with £6,000 bonuses in inaugural year

The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) has officially launched the inaugural British Owners and Breeders Incentive Scheme (BOBIS) for 2013. The scheme will see bonuses of £6,000 paid throughout a horse's two- and three-year-old seasons for every win – whether in a maiden, a nursery, a novice race or conditions race – with no upper limit on the number of bonuses awarded.

Funding for BOBIS is drawn from registration fees paid by owners and breeders which will be matched by the Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB). In the inaugural year there will be around 450 qualifying two-year-old races, with a total pool of close to £1.4 million. This will be extended as three-

year-olds become eligible from 2014.

"I am delighted that we have succeeded in securing industry-wide agreement and funding for the introduction of the British Owners and Breeders Incentive Scheme," said BHA Chief Executive Paul Bittar. "We hope the scheme will encourage investment in British bloodstock, stimulate racehorse ownership in Britain, as well as incentivise owners to run their horses more often."

"We offer our thanks to the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, who initiated the concept, but in order for the scheme to be successful it needed backing from the racing industry, and as such we are pleased that the scheme has received universal support."

Through bonus payments to eligible



Any offspring of British-domiciled mares

or those by British-based stallions foaled elsewhere are eligible for BOBIS prizes

horses on top of prize-money won, it is also hoped that the scheme will prove an incentive for breeders to keep their mares in Britain and encourage breeders outside the country to use British-based stallions. For three-year-olds, class 2 to 4 handicaps (for three-year-olds only) will also be included in BOBIS. Class 2 to 4 maidens are applicable for juveniles and three-year-olds and, to encourage owners and breeders to race fillies, class 5 fillies' maidens are also included.

The tables below illustrate how the bonuses will be awarded – with 60% going to the owner (or nominator), 30% to the breeder and the remaining 10% being split between the trainer, jockey and stable staff.

"Weatherbys will be contacting breeders in the new year with regard to the registration process," said TBA Vice-Chairman Julian Richmond-Watson. "I think the important message is that BOBIS includes the produce of any British-based stallion – it doesn't matter whether the horse has a French or Irish suffix – and also any British-bred products of stallions outside Britain."

There is a two-stage registration process for BOBIS, with breeders signing up a horse once as either a foal, yearling or two-year-old. The fee increases with age (see table, right). That horse will then be 'provisionally qualified' until the owner has made a secondary payment of £275. If the owner

chooses not to make that payment, the horse's breeder will be contacted by Weatherbys and may still qualify the horse for the scheme, which means that the breeder then receives bonus payments as both 'breeder' and 'nominator' (see tables, below) – and this can work in reverse too. Owner/breeders wishing to qualify a horse as a foal can make a one-off payment of £425 for full BOBIS eligibility.

Bittar added: "In time we envisage the scheme becoming the sole incentive scheme for British owners and breeders. Unlike current examples, the scheme is entirely inclusive and as such the benefits can be received by all owners and breeders." ■

Eligibility for BOBIS



Registration fees

Stage 1 – Breeder*

Age	Fee
Foal	£150
or Yearling	£250
or 2yo	£750

Stage 2 – Owner/Nominator

Age	Fee
Foal, yearling, 2yo	£275

*A horse not registered initially by its breeder can be fully qualified by its owner/nominator

Two-year-old BOBIS prizes

*The 'nominator' could be either owner or breeder

Participant	Percentage (%)	Maiden Class 2-4 (£)	Maiden Class 5 Fillies (£)	Novice Races (£)	Nurseries Class 2-4 (£)	Conditions Races (£)
'Breeder' – TBA member/non-member	30	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675
'Nominator'* – ROA member/non-member	60	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380
Trainer	5	300	300	300	300	300
Jockey	3	180	180	180	180	180
Stable	2	120	120	120	120	120
TOTAL (ROA/TBA members)	100%	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000

Three-year-old BOBIS prizes

*The 'nominator' could be either owner or breeder

Participant	Percentage (%)	Maiden Class 2-4 (£)	Maiden Class 5 Fillies (£)	Novice Races (£)	Handicaps Class 2-4 (£)	Conditions Races (£)
'Breeder' – TBA member/non-member	30	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675	1,800 1,675
'Nominator'* – ROA member/non-member	60	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380	3,600 3,380
Trainer	5	300	300	300	300	300
Jockey	3	180	180	180	180	180
Stable	2	120	120	120	120	120
TOTAL (ROA/TBA members)	100%	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000