

Dear All

I wanted to write to you, firstly to clarify RDA's position regarding the new hat regulation, and secondly to tell you about a special offer on hats that we have secured with Tagg Equestrian to help with the purchase of new hats should that be necessary.

Updated Guidance

Further to the previous information we have sent out about hats we have now reviewed the situation and changed the guidance and requirements. We are confident that this will make it easier for Groups to adapt to new hat regulations.

We have attached a sheet of information outlining hat regulations for RDA Groups, but to summarise the key change is:

We have extended the period of change and the BS EN1384 quality standard will now not be acceptable after 1st January 2017 – this is one year longer than previously advised.

From 1st January 2017, hats must meet one of the following standards or specifications:

- PAS015 (1998 or 2011);
- ASTM F1163 (2004a);
- SNELL E2001;
- VG1.

More information about each of these standards is included on the attached sheet.

Special offer to Groups

In addition to this we are pleased to announce that we have created a partnership with Tagg Equestrian and thanks to them and the support of the Players of People's Postcode Lottery, we will be offering RDA Groups the ability to buy the popular Polly Hat (an adjustable, lightweight hat), for just £7, (plus P&P at £8.50 per order – regardless of the order size). I am sure you will agree that this is a great deal and will help you replace hats at a very low cost.

The Polly Hat has been adapted to meet the new VG1 standard and is one of the first to have achieved this specification. As such it is only now going into production and will be available from late June 2015. Orders will be made via National Office and we will be in touch about the process to order hats in due course.

I hope that these changes will make it easier for everyone to comply with the changes to regulations. We are very grateful to both Tagg and Players of People's Postcode Lottery for supporting us in this way.

If you have any further questions about hats, please contact Fiona Kendrick here on fkendrick@rda.org.uk

With best wishes



Ed Bracher
Chief Executive



