



For immediate release

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## **STATS Turf Flat season gets underway at QIPCO Guineas Festival**

Newmarket's QIPCO Guineas Festival which begins on Saturday, 2 May, will be the first in a series of high-profile Flat racing festivals to benefit from TurfTrax Sectional Timing and Tracking System (STATS) coverage this season.

The announcement follows a joint commitment by Channel 4 Racing, Newmarket Racecourses, Goodwood Racecourse and York to provide the service.

Racegoers, television viewers and sectional timing analysts can look forward to enhanced information from Newmarket's July Festival Meeting, the Qatar Goodwood Festival, The York Ebor Meeting and Dubai Future Champions Festival at Newmarket in the autumn in addition to the Guineas Festival, with other key race dates likely to be added later in the year.

TurfTrax Managing Director, Mike Maher said, 'After a busy season on the all-weather at Lingfield and recent success of the Horse Tracker App at Aintree, we are looking forward to being back at Newmarket for the first of at least three visits this season. I am delighted that the racecourses and broadcasters have come together to ensure that racegoers and viewers can have access to STATS data for some of this season's most important and valuable races.'

STATS has become an established feature at the home of the QIPCO Guineas Festival where much of the system's early development took place. Michael Prosser, Head of Racing, Jockey Club Racecourses East Region said, 'Newmarket racegoers have become accustomed to seeing the speed and positions displayed on screens around the course and I am pleased that they, together with those watching at home will again have the opportunity to make the most of this cutting edge technology at Newmarket Racecourses.'

The TurfTrax data will be displayed live on Channel 4, Racing UK and on Newmarket racecourse TV screens with each broadcaster being able to tailor the live output for their audience. Post-race data will be made available on the Newmarket and TurfTrax.co.uk websites and distributed to the BHA Handicappers and Timeform amongst others to be used as part of their detailed assessment of horse performance.

**ENDS.**

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**About TurfTrax:**

**TurfTrax** is a global leader in the design and implementation of innovative data products for the horseracing industry.

In recent years the Sectional Timing & Tracking System has been deployed at Ascot (QIPCO British Champions Day), Goodwood, Lingfield Park (All Weather Championship fixtures), Newmarket, Sandown Park, York and also at Aintree/Cheltenham where the TurfTrax data forms an integral part of the Channel 4 Horse Tracker App.

The British Horseracing Authority rules require every racecourse in Great Britain to use the TurfTrax GoingStick. The company also installs and operates Going Mapping and Weather Systems and its international customers include; France Galop, Dubai Racing Club, California Horseracing Board, Churchill Downs Inc., New York Racing Association, Hong Kong Jockey Club, Japan Racing Association, The Australian Turf Club and The Victoria Racing Club.

**About Newmarket Racecourses:**

**Newmarket's** two magical racecourses, The Rowley Mile and The July Course, together form the greatest venue in the East of England. They offer the exhilarating excitement of world class Flat racing, pulsating music nights, great value family days, award-winning restaurants and exceptional conference & events facilities. More information is available at [www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk](http://www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk).

Newmarket Racecourses is part of The Jockey Club, which has been at the heart of British racing for more than 260 years. Today the largest commercial group in the sport, The Jockey Club runs the largest racecourse group in the UK by turnover (2014: £162.9m), courses (15) including those at Aintree, Cheltenham, Epsom Downs and Newmarket, attendances (2014: 1.8m), total prize money (2014: £43.7m), contribution to prize money (2014: £19.1m) and quality racing (Group and Graded races); more than 3,000 acres of world-class training grounds in Newmarket, Lambourn and Epsom Downs; The National Stud breeding enterprise and education provider; and the charity for racing's people in need, Racing Welfare. Governed by Royal Charter, every penny The Jockey Club makes it puts back into British racing. More information is available at [www.thejockeyclub.co.uk](http://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk).