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**Racehorse Owners Association concludes 78th Annual General Meeting**

* A tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II preceded the opening of the 78th Annual General Meeting of the Racehorse Owners Association on Thursday, 15 September and a two minute silence was observed
* ROA President Charlie Parker reflected on racings best known and revered owner and breeder whose contribution to British Racing was so cherished and infectious
* Nominations to the Board of President Charlie Parker and Vice President Alan Spence are approved
* Khalid Almudhaf, Charlie Liverton, Ken McGarrity and Chris Wright CBE co-opted to the ROA Board
* Mark Albon and Charles Walker elected to the Board and Tom Goff re-elected

**15th September 2022 -** The ROA today concluded its 78th Annual General Meeting, with all five resolutions approved by its members. The resolutions included the nomination to the Board of President Charlie Parker and Vice President Alan Spence as well as the co-option of Khalid Almudhaf, Ken McGarrity and Chris Wright CBE. The Chief Executive, Charlie Liverton, was also co-opted to the board.

The AGM also marked further improvements to the ROA’s corporate governance which the members ratified in 2021. The ROA’s transition to a skills-based board continues with the approval of the elections of Tom Goff, Mark Albon and Charles Walker.

Charles Walker brings over 30 years as a race horse owner on the Flat and National Hunt. Mr Walker spent 25 years as a Chartered Financial Planner and Financier, and brings an impressive skill-set relating to financial planning, modelling and project management. Mr Albon has been an ROA member for close to 10 years, has flat and National Hunt horses in training and is passionate about all matters impacting owners and the raceday experience. Tom Goff has been re-elected to a second term on the Board, having been first elected in 2019. Tom brings a wealth of experience with over 30 years working in the industry, formerly as a journalist and now as a founding partner of Blandford Bloodstock.

Commenting on their respective appointments;

**Charles Walker** said “There have always been critical times for the racing industry and owners, but this really does feel a particularly pivotal time. The pressures on all sides of the industry are enormous and, whilst they may not get any easier any time soon, I will use my position as your representative to try and be a catalyst for the changes that are desperately needed to ensure owners views are heard”

**Mark Albon** added “I look forward to joining the board of the ROA and being your representative challenging the decisions being made on the key issues facing all owners. I will do my best to push through ideas for improving the race day experience for all and ensuring that the owners voice is at the forefront of industry discussions with a particular focus on reviewing costs and owner expenses”.

Following the conclusion of the AGM, **Charlie Parker, President** of the ROA, said: “At today’s AGM, we shared with our members that the ROA continues to deliver steady progress against a challenging backdrop both at a macroeconomic and industry level. At an industry level the ROA remains at the forefront of the big conversations with our stakeholder partners. As a stakeholder, our role is to ensure owners voices are at the heart of discussions and that our needs and requirements as owners help shape the agenda and are reflected in the wider industry’s strategy planning. I recognise that British Racing is in desperate need of a strategic plan, which will help address key issues, including governance, structure, industry strategy, race programming and distribution of prize money. Whilst we are at a cross roads I am hopeful that we can make progress across the industry over the coming months”.

The full AGM results are available below:

**AGM Results**

**Ordinary Resolution A:** To receive by way of Ordinary Resolution, the nominations of the Board for President Charlie Parker and Vice President Alan Spence

Resolution carried: For 64% Against 36%

**Ordinary Resolution B:** To receive by way of Ordinary Resolution, the results, the co-option of Khalid Almudhaf, Charlie Liverton, Ken McGarrity and Chris Wright CBE as Appointed Directors to the Board

Resolution carried: For 65% Against 35%.

**Ordinary Resolution C:** To receive by way of Ordinary Resolutions, the results of the Election to appoint Tom Goff, Mark Albon and Charles Walker to the Board.

Resolution carried: For 83%. Against 17%.

**Ordinary Resolution D:** To confirm and adopt, by way of Ordinary Resolution, the Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Resolution carried: For 91%. Against 9%.

**Ordinary Resolution E:** To appoint, by way of Ordinary Resolution, RSM UK Audit LLP auditors in accordance with Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Resolution carried: For 93%. Against 7%.

Should we add: “A total of 227 votes were cast out of 6,854 eligible votes, which equates to just over 3% of members.”

**For further information, please contact**

**ROA**

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**Notes to Editors**

**About the ROA**

The ROA promotes, protects and sustains racehorse ownership and racing in Great Britain. Founded in 1945, it now has a membership of over 7,000 racehorse owners, representing their and other owners’ interests throughout the year on the racecourse, in the yards, and in the boardrooms across the country.

As a shareholder in the British Horseracing Authority, the UK industry regulator, and a board member on industry administrative boards, the ROA plays a central role in British racing’s administration, politics and finance.

To find out more about the benefits of the ROA and its role in British racing visit [www.roa.co.uk](http://www.roa.co.uk)