



Photographer Guidelines (2 pages)

We request that **ALL** photographers, including members of the Irish Horse Racing Photographers Association, agency representatives attend a safety briefing at 12.30 on Tuesday 29th April in the Visiting Press Room, ground floor of the racecourse office. Any issues and suggestions will be addressed here. This is mandatory and a condition of accreditation.

1. There will be **two levels of photographer accreditation** at the Punchestown Festival
 - (1) Track & Parade Ring Access
 - (2) Enclosure Access Only
2. Track and Parade Ring access level accreditation will be strictly limited to professional photographers who regularly work at major sporting, equestrian and/or racing events and selected media partners. Accreditation will be at the discretion of Punchestown management.
3. Enclosure Only Level photographer accreditation will not have access to the parade ring or race track (turf) itself but will be permitted access to all other areas where photography is permitted.
4. Punchestown requires photographers to provide evidence, at time of application, of Public liability **Insurance** for an industry standard minimum of €1.5 million (enclosure access only) and €6.5 million for track and parade ring level access.
5. Track access level photographers will be issued with a **Punchestown Photographer Bib** which **must be worn** (in addition to AIR armbands) to gain access to the designated photographer areas. If you do not have and wear this bib you will not be granted access to the track. Independent agency bibs will not be permitted. **This bib must be collected and signed for by the accredited individual at the mandatory briefing in the Visiting Press Room.** Please return bibs to press room on completion.
6. Track and parade ring photography zones are particularly busy areas but also areas that merit the highest levels of cooperation between photographers and Punchestown officials. Please **adhere to rules and instructions** as it is for your own safety and the safety of others.
7. *****Any photographer disobeying the rules, causing an inconvenience or encroaching on other photographers work, attempting to gain access to undesignated photo areas or causing any level of safety concern to jockeys, horses, members of the public, industry, staff or contractors will receive one warning before having their accreditation removed.*****
8. Photography of racecourse, veterinary, security or official personnel who are dealing with medical or veterinary treatment is not permitted. Photographs should not be taken of horses, jockeys, officials, connections or racecourse personnel behind screens.

Parade Ring & Winners Enclosure

1. Photographers are not permitted to obstruct a horse and/or jockeys return at any point from the track to the winner's enclosure.
2. Photographers should be aware of positioning while RTE are covering proceedings. Please try to remain **behind the RTE camera when filming**.
3. Keep it simple and keep it courteous for the winner group photographs. There is a white line. Please stand behind it.

Track Level Photographers

1. The **track access point** for photographers are marked A & B on the info zones in both media rooms.
2. The track level bibs are numbered and allocated to each photographer and are strictly non-transferable.
3. Once on the track please make your way to the designated photographer zones.
4. Under no circumstances should a photographer be positioned at any time in the **red zone** marked on the photo map in the press rooms. This zone is located between gates A & B on the stand side rail.
5. Photographers **must not lean under or over the running rail at any time**.
6. Camera lens must be **kept behind the running rail** at all times.
7. All photographers must be **at least 5 metres back from the running rail** during finishing stages.
8. All photographers must be **at least 10 metres back from fence, hurdle and finish line** at all times.
9. Steps, ladders and stools must be placed **behind the photographer/running rail** at the fence/hurdle.
10. Support spikes and mini-tripods may be used but the camera must be **behind the line** of the running rail. Tripods must not be used before or for at least five metres after the fence.
11. No cameras are to be attached to the **wing of a fence or hurdle**.
12. Remote cameras may be set up on the take-off/landing side of a fence once they are **behind the running rail** or photographer zone rail.
13. Strictly **no flash photography** during racing. Flash photography may be permitted during presentations in low light conditions.
14. Please do not attempt to cross the track until **all horses remaining in the race have jumped the final obstacle**. Please be aware that there may be some distance between horses.
15. Please be aware at all times of **loose horses** on the racecourse

We hope everyone will cooperate to make the 2025 festival a safe and enjoyable working environment. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any suggestions or queries. We can all work together to establish a system that is safe and productive for all parties concerned.

Wishing you a great Punchestown 2025.

The Punchestown Team