



## British Eventing Support Trust

### Terms of Engagement

#### Our Role

If you need our help or you know someone who does, this is a brief introduction to, and summary of our services. The British Eventing Support Trust is there to give immediate advice and help, short or long term financial assistance, other forms of support and access to rehabilitation or mental health support. We are there to help those in need and all actual or potential beneficiaries must recognise that whether or not we can help, and the extent of that help, will be at the discretion of British Eventing Support Trust acting in accordance with the Trust Deed, our Charitable Objects and those guidelines.

As a charity, we are monitored closely by both the Charity Commission and the Financial Conduct Authority, and our independent Board of Trustees take their governance responsibilities extremely seriously.

#### How we help

In some cases, there will be a need for immediate action. For example, we may be able to:

- provide immediate and timely pastoral support in the long as well as the short term.
- offer support when liaising with medical professionals.
- provide financial assistance for things such as temporary accommodation, travel expenses, hospital transfers, after a British Eventing member (Intro / Standard / Premier) suffers an equestrian related physical injury or is suffering from mental health issues.

In other cases, the beneficiary's needs may be longer lasting or may not have resulted from a recent injury ('injury' including mental as well as physical injury).

Here we can:

- provide one-off grants for a specific need.
- provide financial support when someone finds themselves in financial hardship. *(In this instance financial hardship means an inability to meet basic living expenses for goods and services necessary for the survival of the claimant and his or her spouse and dependents)*
- provide rehabilitation services and guidance including physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, neurotherapy, counselling and sports psychology.

#### Who qualifies?

Anyone who is a current Intro, Standard or Premier Member of British Eventing who has suffered an equestrian related injury or may need support with mental health issues.

As has already been indicated, our help is not only available in respect of a particular or recent injury\*. That may be the more obvious examples of when we are needed but, at the Trustee's discretion, the Charity may also support a spouse or dependant family member with pastoral or counselling support.

\*Support can only be offered for injuries suffered since September 2021.

## **How to get in touch**

Email [info@besupporttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@besupporttrust.org.uk)

Call 0333 335 5604

Or visit our website [www.besupporttrust.org.uk](http://www.besupporttrust.org.uk)

Or contact our Mental Health Helpline on 07780 008877 or email [support@sportingchanceclinic.com](mailto:support@sportingchanceclinic.com)

## **How decisions are taken**

In the first instance, particularly in urgent cases, decisions will be taken by the Chair. Otherwise, the board of Trustees will make the decisions based on recommendations presented by our Medical Advisors.

## **What we need**

When you are applying for Medical or Mental Health Support, we require all beneficiaries, to provide all relevant medical documents plus x-rays and images.

When you are applying for Financial Support, we require all beneficiaries, without exception, to give full and frank disclosure of their financial circumstances. This will enable them to prepare an Income and Expenditure Report without which no request for assistance will be granted save in very exceptional circumstances (such as great urgency).

Actual or potential beneficiaries must also be prepared to tell British Eventing Support Trust Head Office if their circumstances change.

## **What we cannot do**

The Trustees have established guidelines on the basis of which they exercise their absolute discretion as to whether (and if so, in what form) support can be given. For example, save in exceptional circumstances, we will not:

- offer loans or provide index-linked mortgages.
- provide financial or legal advice.
- become involved in litigation.
- do anything which has the effect of directly or indirectly supporting a training operation.
- pay for medical procedures when the beneficiary ought ordinarily be looking to the NHS.
- undertake long term responsibility for the funding of social care where the individual is entitled to statutory benefits (though, in certain circumstances, we may be able to provide a modest supplement in respect of such statutory provision).
- support someone who is the author of his or her own misfortune.
- offer support when there is no obvious “need” and/or where the beneficiary can reasonably expect support from other sources (such as family or employer).

## **What we never do**

We never share any of your information with others unless your permission has been expressly given. You may, however, be expected to give full disclosure to us of (for example) your medical and employment history and must recognise that, if an application for support is to be pursued, that information may have to be shared with those who have a legitimate interest in and need to have that information (most obviously, the Trustees on the Cases Committee).

Equestrian House, Abbey Park, Stareton, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2RN  
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Registered in England