UK NEWS WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

The Telegraph

News Sport Business Opinion Ukraine Money Royals Life Style Travel Cult

See all Sport



Animal Rising 'hanging themselves in public', says Jockey Club chief after 'bad day for protesters'

Organisers had taken out a High Court injunction to protect the racecourse and believe that there is now a clear route to civil prosecution

By Jeremy Wilson, CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER 4 June 2023 • 7:35pm



The Jockey Club will launch civil proceedings against the protester who attempted to <u>derail the Epsom Derby</u> and have accused Animal Rising activists of drastic self-sabotage over the past 48 hours.

"It was a very bad day for Animal Rising," said Nevin Truesdale, the chief executive of The Jockey Club, who own the Epsom Downs course.

"There is a degree to which this could make them more determined but I actually think we should stop talking about them now. We should give them the chance to effectively hang themselves in public which is what they've been doing in the days leading up to it and what they did on Saturday."

Truesdale specifically referenced Animal Rising's claim that the activist who broke onto the course — whose name was confirmed by the group as Ben Newman — had entered the racetrack after <u>The Derby had started</u>. Surrey Police and ITV, who screened the event live, as well as numerous witnesses, were adamant that he entered the finishing straight shortly after the race started, an act described by The Jockey Club as "deplorable".

Organisers had taken out a High Court injunction to protect the racecourse and, as well as what might follow from Surrey Police's 31 arrests, they believe that there is now a clear route to civil prosecution, fines and potentially even the threat of prison for contempt of court.

A willingness to now act on that court order was reiterated on Sunday. "We were always very clear that having been granted the High Court injunction we would not hesitate to enforce it should Animal Rising or anyone breach the court order," said a spokesperson for The Jockey Club.

"Following their reckless and illegal actions we have been in touch with our lawyers about the next steps." Truesdale believes horseracing must now deal what he called their "new normal" in dealing with the threat of animal rights campaigners and there have already been talks with organisers of Royal Ascot, which will be staged later this month.

The use of intelligence and a preemptive strike by Surrey Police that involved 19 arrests on the morning of Saturday afternoon's race formed a notable part of a security operation that cost The Jockey Club an additional £150,000.

"We had significantly more security," Truesdale told Racing TV. "We've learnt a lot about how to police future events. We shouldn't underestimate the impact of really strong intelligence-led policing. Protesters were followed home from Epsom having done reconnaissance on Friday evening, and then more vehicles were stopped on the way to Epsom, and I think the big win there was just taking out individuals and man power from them ... the removal of infrastructure like locking devices, burner phones. The removal of those I suspect probably helped stop their operation from going well."

Animal Rising told The Telegraph they would continue their dialogue with the horseracing industry and they intended to make an announcement about any upcoming plans early this week.

They believe it was still a hugely successful event for their cause, citing not just how the protester ran on to the course but the "conversation" that has taken place about animal welfare in horseracing.

They also said that protesters had been attempting to get onto the course just before the race started and criticised organisers for not then suspending the race.

"We had repeatedly called on The Jockey Club to put safety first and cancel the race ahead of time," said a statement. "It is public knowledge that there was immense pressure to run the race before ITV1 coverage switched to the FA Cup Final. In an industry where a horse dies every other day, it is unsurprising that the need to run the race was put above care for animals.

"These 'equine athletes' did not get a choice in this matter, they never signed up for this or were informed of the risks."

Surrey Police said on Sunday that Newman, of Hackney, had been charged with causing public nuisance and has been remanded ahead of an appearance at Guildford Magistrates' Court on Monday.

Police also said that two women who were "quickly detained moments before they were able to get onto the track".

"We absolutely support people's rights to peacefully protest, but we differentiate between this and unacceptable criminal behaviour," said chief supt Clive Davies, who was in charge of the policing operation for the Epsom Derby.



The Telegraph values your comments but kindly requests all posts are on topic, constructive and respectful. Please review our <u>commenting policy</u>.

Show comments

More stories

Huw Edwards: Presenter at centre of BBC sex scandal named by wife

Aryna Sabalenka's message to Wimbledon crowd – stop booing Belarusian and Russian players



More from Racing

| Marlborough racing tips and best bets for today's races |
|--|
| <i>By</i> Marlborough 13 Jul 2023, 1:41pm |
| Don't be fooled by the waffle – racing's future has been murdered |



CHARLIE BROOKS 66 3 Jul 2023, 8:30am

| Royal Ascot 2023: Today's race times, how to watch on TV and betting tips |
|---|
| <i>By</i> Telegraph Sport 25 Jun 2023, 3:20pm |

| Frankie Dettori departs as Royal Ascot's greatest showman – he will be sorely missed |
|---|
| By Marcus Armytage |
| 24 Jun 2023, 9:11pm |
| Jamie Spencer shocks even himself as he rides Khaadem to win Queen Elizabeth II Stakes |
| <i>By</i> Marcus Armytage |
| 24 Jun 2023, 6:33pm |
| Frankie Dettori hoping it is not 81 and out at Royal Ascot |
| By Marcus Armytage |

23 Jun 2023, 7:59pm

More from The Telegraph

| Inside Elon Musk's plan to turn Britain into a 'virtual power grid' |
|--|
| China has penetrated every sector of British economy, MPs warn |

| Huw Edwards latest: BBC journalists 'investigated presenter before claims were published' |
|--|
| The full list of allegations against Huw Edwards |
| Huw Edwards named by wife as BBC presenter at centre of sex scandal allegations |
| Why does my rose have yellow leaves? |

Voucher Codes >

The latest offers and discount codes from popular brands on Telegraph Voucher Codes



| JD discount codes | | | <u>Wiggle promo codes</u> | | |
|------------------------|------------|----|---------------------------|--------|---------------|
| The Telegraph | | | | | Back to top 🔨 |
| Follow us on: f | \bigcirc | Y | | in | |
| Help Centre | | Al | out us | | |
| Telegraph Extra | | Re | ader Prints | | |
| Branded Content | | Sy | ndication and Commissi | ioning | |
| Guidelines | | Pr | vacy | | |
| Terms and Conditions | | Ad | vertising Terms | | |
| Fantasy Sport | | U | Voucher Codes | | |

Modern Slavery

Broadband and Mobile Deals

The Chelsea Magazine Company

© Telegraph Media Group Limited 2023

Betting Offers

Tax Strategy

Wine Cellar

138253833198

THE PERSONNER WOWL DEPARTMENT OF A DEPART

(https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1785339/Join-Express-Politics-WhatsApp-Community) (https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/science-technology/1790240/watch-sky-tv-netflix-for-free-deal-expires) Watch Sky TV and Netflix for FREE, but only if you order before midnight tonight

(https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/science-technology/1790240/watch-sky-tv-netflix-for-free-deal-expires) (https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1785923/Madeleine-McCann-witness-speaks-out-Christian-Brueckner) Madeleine McCann bombshell as key witness speaks out for first time

(https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1785923/Madeleine-McCann-witness-speaks-out-Christian-Brueckner) (https://gosearches.net/index.php) Cheap All-Inclusive Holidays That Will Leave You Breathless

Cheap Holidays | Search Ads

(https://gosearches.net/index.php) (https://www.express.co.uk/showbiz/tv-radio/1788669/Coronation-Street-Elaine-Jones-Paula-Wilcox-age) Coronation Street fans baffled on discovery of Elaine Jones star's real age

(https://www.express.co.uk/showbiz/tv-radio/1788669/Coronation-Street-Elaine-Jones-Paula-Wilcox-age) (https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/health/1788485/robin-gibb-bee-gees-bowel-cancer-symptoms) Robin Gibb suffered from a deadly disease common in men prior to death

(https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/health/1788485/robin-gibb-bee-gees-bowel-cancer-symptoms)

(https://popup.taboola.com/en/?template=colorbox&utm_source=reach-express&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=alternating-above-article:Above Article Express:) by Taboola (https://popup.taboola.com/en/?template=colorbox&utm_source=reach-express&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=alternating-above-article:Above Article Express:)

(https://popup.taboola.com/en/?template=colorbox&utm_source=reach-express&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=atternating-above-article:Above Article Express:)

Animal Rising eco-mob plot to sabotage Saturday's Epsom Derby exposed

EXCLUSIVE: The Express can reveal more than 70 activists are plotting to cause so much disruption the famous race may have to be called off.

| e e |
|------------|
| Learn More |
| |

BREAKING NEWS

CLOSE 🗙

Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc (https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave forecasts)

Would you like to receive notifications from this site?



 \odot



Animal Rising activists plan to sabotage this weekend's Epsom Derby (Image: GETTY)

٥

Fanatics plan to sabotage this weekend's Epsom Derby with a reckless plot to invade the track, the Daily Express can reveal today.

Animal Rising activists plan to mingle with racegoers before swarming over the barriers onto Surrey's famous Epsom Downs Racecourse.

Race organisers have warned previously that protests against the "cruel and outdated" treatment of horses can endanger the animals.

The Jockey Club has also obtained a High Court injunction which threatens jail for demonstrators who spoil the fun for up to 80,000 spectators.

BREAKING NEWS

CLOSE X

Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc (https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave forecasts)

Would you like to receive notifications from this site?

303

There have been fears that hundreds of people from climate and animal rights group Animal Rising will try to stop The Derby on Saturday.

Sponsored

(https://tick.busterry.com/95e2ad75-01a1-45e3-8113-96e15a3d4900) Libiyi Say Goodbye to Pricking Your Finger and Awkward Scanning (https://tick.busterry.com/95e2ad75-01a1-45e3-8113-96e15a3d4900)

> by Taboola (https://popup.taboola.com/en/?template=colorbox&utm_source=reach-express&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=thumbnails-mid:Mid Article Express:) (https://popup.taboola.com/en/?template=colorbox&utm_source=reach-express&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=thumbnails-mid:Mid Article Express:)

And our investigation reveals how the militant group is determined to repeat their attempt to halt this year's Grand National.

Police arrested 118 protestors at Aintree after they managed to delay the race by nearly 15 minutes when they stormed the security fences.

READ MORE: Labour donor pledges to DOUBLE donations to Just Stop Oil in next 48 hours (/news/politics/1776008/labour-just-stop-oil-dale-vince)



Fanatics will try to stop The Derby on Saturday. (Image: GETTY)

Animal Rising organiser Beau King Houston boasted to our undercover reporter that they will:

- Travel en masse to Surrey from all over the country and stay in "safe houses" on Friday night ahead of the race.
- Be ferried to and from the course in mini-buses and brought back from the police station if they are arrested.
- Adopt a "normal dress code" to avoid being spotted by police and communicate with pay-as-you-go "burner phones".
- · Be organised into different activist "pods" made up of individual "peas" rur
- · Laugh off arrest because they can get anything from a cup of tea to fresh

Our reporter in Haggerstc

BREAKING NEWS

CLOSE X

Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc We passed 1 (https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave forecasts)

Would you like to receive notifications from this site?



 \otimes

Privacy



Police arrested 118 protestors at Aintree (Image: GETTY)

Nevin Truesdale, the Club's Chief Executive, said: "Our number one priority will always be to ensure that the safety of all our equine and human participants and racegoers, officials and our own employees is not compromised.

"Everyone should have the right to peaceful protest and we have offered Animal Rising an area near the entrance of Epsom Downs Racecourse to express their views in a law-abiding way.

"However, they have repeatedly made it explicitly clear that they intend to break the law and disrupt The Derby Festival, leaving us with no choice but to seek a High Court injunction."

Conservative MP Jonathan Gullis added: "More woke warriors just trying to spoil people having fun in the sun.

"Do people not get that people have a right to choose what they want to eat, or are they just desperate to get their face on telly as a 'victim of society'?

"These bedwetters just need to shut up and keep themselves to themselves."



BREAKING NEWS

Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc (https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave forecasts)

Would you like to receive notifications from this site?

305

 \otimes

Animal rebellion a

SUBSCRIBE

We use your sign-up to provide content in ways you've consentee سی This may include adverts from us and 3rd parties based on our unders time. <u>More info ((provolice)</u> rays you've consented to and to improve our understanding of you parties based on our understanding. You can unsubscribe at any

King Houston, a serial protestor who admits to multiple arrests, outlined the group's intent to disrupt the 243-year-old race at a briefing this week.

At the final "non-violent training session" in east London, he told would-be recruits they would "bond together" at "safe houses" near Epsom.

"Peas" [the term the group uses to describe its protesters] would be bussed with other "pod" members to the track, where they have been told to expect to be arrested for "public nuisance" or "conspiracy to commit public nuisance".

As well as drivers, back-up teams will be on hand to cook and clean for the frontliners, while others will wait outside police stations.

As well as spelling out what to wear, they were told they can have "anything you want" on their untraceable phones - "except your drug dealer's number".

During the training session, activists simulated evading police and were taught how to frustrate officers by going "floppy" to become a "dead weight".

They were also coached on how to block supermarket aisles and stage restaurant sit-ins for other forthcoming demos.

King Houston insisted he "never had a bad experience" once arrested, adding: "Honestly being in a cell is like being in a really s*** hotel room.

"There's a button in the cell to press, which is basically what I call room service.

"You can ask to just be let out if you're feeling a bit claustrophobic and they can sometimes let you have a walk-around.

"And you can get as much coffee and tea and water as you want. You just press the bell.

"I even had it once when I came out of the shower and I was like 'do you have any moisturiser?' and the guy said 'I've got some, you can borrow some of mine'.

"They'll take your clothes sometimes and give you a lovely grey tracksuit - custody sweats - which everybody wants to get, like you want to have the custody sweats ...

"You want to have that grey tracksuit that says you're in the gang, it's so stupid. Now it sounds like a cult, I'm joking."

TRENDING

The Barnet-based fanatic claimed officers in Scotland were "the nicest police ever" and sang "happy birthday" to him when he was held at the Scottish Grand National in April.

He told followers he is a former actor who once performed as a "drag version" (danced" at her birthday party.

BREAKING NEWS

The Scot als Would you like to receive notifications Government Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc from this site? (https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave "I ao into scł forecasts) Privacy

 (\times)

CLOSE X

"You have to be DBS-checked every year and I had one two months ago and I already had like seven arrests at that point and it didn't even show up on the DBS check.

"I've had a clearance for actually three years now, so I can do that for three years."

In preparation for the Epsom Derby disruption, activists have been told to write the number of the solicitors firms that represent the group on their bodies, so that they can contact them when they're arrested.

Mr King Houston told the meeting that "Birds", "Hodge Jones and Allen" and "Commons" all represent Animal Rising when they are being held.

During the session two of the activists, one from Poland and the other from Canada, expressed concerns about being "deported" from the UK.

The young Polish activist, Doris, asked Mr King Houston "how many times" she can be arrested before being booted out of the country.

Moustachioed Mr King Houston, who was wearing sparkly fake leather tracksuit bottoms, allayed the concerns of the young protester by telling her that the "head of actions" at Animal Rising, Rue, is from the Netherlands and "has been arrested maybe 12 times and there has never been any question" of deportation.

He said: "You have to be convicted. It doesn't matter if you get charged, you can be arrested and charged and that doesn't even come up on the DBS check."

The vegan activists were told they mustn't "laugh" at the angry general public despite it being "hard" not to.

Two of the activists in the session were arrested during a police raid on the Haggerston training location. One of these activists, Kylie a "dog healer" from Essex in her mid-forties, told the training session she was willing to be one of the drivers for the Epsom demonstration.

The mother-of-two said both her children did not eat meat and that they would be a force to be reckoned with they grew up.

After the chaos at the Grand National two months ago, Animal Rising - an offshoot of militant eco-group Extinction - threatened a summer of action.

Last week's injunction, granted by Sir Anthony Mann "prohibits acts intended to disrupt The Derby Festival at Epsom Downs Racecourse on June 2 and 3, 2023."

It warns that anyone in breach of the order or anyone helping them could be "held to be in contempt of court and may be imprisoned, fined, have your assets seized".

Mr Truesdale added: "Judge Sir Anthony Mann's decision to grant us that injunction last week means that anyone who chooses to breach security will not only be dealt with robustly by our security teams and the police but could also now be subject to contempt of court proceedings which may result in a fine and imprisonment.

"As such I now urge Animal Rising to abandon any plans to breach security at right of the thousands of people who will ioin us at Epsom Downs and the millic world to enjc **BREAKING NEWS**

CLOSE 🗙

"We will sim <u>Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc</u> fro (https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave forecasts)

Would you like to receive notifications from this site?

307

 \otimes

A Surrey Police spokesperson said: "The Epsom Derby is one of the largest events we police in Surrey, and thorough planning takes place to ensure we are able to keep the public safe.

POWERED BY mantis **DON'T MISS** 'Why would you want to do that!?' 70 firefighters tackle huge blaze as SNP deputy confronted over wish to residents told to stay indoors quit UK trade market (https://www.express.co.uk/news/politic/a/thes2/65/5/Sakpress.co.uk/news/uk/17 Scottish-independenceblaze-residents-indoors? referendum-Indyref2-Nickint source=mantis rec&int medium= Robinson-today-John-Swinney-vn? int_source=mantis_rec&int_medium=w_https://www.express.co.uky-(https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1785 (https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/1632655/SNP-Scottish-independence-refereWGRPRer) COMMENTS (https://www.express.co.uk) Indyref2-Nick-Robinson-today-John-Swinney-vn? int source=mantis rec&int medium=web&int campaign=more like this comments#comments-

"The guiding principles of policing protests are the safety of protesters, the public and police officers involved, preventing criminal behaviour or disorder and deescalating tensions.

"Our officers are well-trained in responding to protests and will be on hand throughout the day to police the event.

"Where lawful, we will seek to facilitate peaceful protests. Any criminal activity or risk to public safety will not be tolerated, and we will take robust action in response to this."

Just Stop Oil (/latest/just-stop-oil)

138253833198

\otimes

BREAKING NEWS

Would you like to receive notifications from this site?

CLOSE X

<u>Deadly 48C heatwave hits Europe - latest forecasts for Spain, Franc</u> (<u>https://www.express.co.uk/news/weather/1790664/Deadly-heatwave</u> forecasts)



138253833198

Login

News Royals U.S. Sport TV&Showbiz Femail Health Science Money Travel Best Buys Discounts Home Breaking News Australia Video Russia-Ukraine China Debate Meghan Markle Prince Harry King Charles III Weather Most read ADVERTISEMENT

Militant animal rights activists plotting to sabotage the Epsom Derby could be jailed for contempt of court under **High Court injunction as world-famous** racecourse takes legal action against Animal Rising, which disrupted the **Grand National last month**

· Racecourse is taking legal action after the group disrupted the Grand National

• READ MORE: Animal Rising to send 'one thousand' protesters to Epsom Derby

By ANDREW LEVY and SABRINA MILLER PUBLISHED: 01:00, 23 May 2023 | UPDATED: 01:00, 23 May 2023

View comments

Barbie premiere

Militant animal rights activists plotting to sabotage the Epsom Derby could be jailed for contempt of court after the Jockey Club announced it is applying for a High Court injunction.

The owner of the world-famous racecourse is taking legal action after Animal Rising who disrupted the Grand National last month - warned they would disrupt the Surrey meeting on June 3.

The application in London on Friday will seek to prohibit individuals from blocking the racetrack, entering the parade ring or any other acts that could d proceedings. Leicester Souare abuzz with fairs for London's

Site ○Web Enter your search

ADVERTISEMENT

Animal Rising has boasted Epsom is 'almost unpoliceable' because sections of the course are open and accessible to the public.

Members are planning to use glue and lock-on devices to secure themselves at different locations.



The owner of the world-famous racecourse is taking legal action after Animal Rising - who disrupted the Grand National last month (pictured here) - warned they would disrupt the Surrey meeting on June 3

Alison Hammond breaks her silence amid reports her relationship with This Morning costar Dermot O'Leary is 'strained'

Rishi Sunak hails teachers dropping strikes after signing off 'final' 6.5% pay award and urges junior doctors to do the same as they get 6% - but warns there WI...

EXCLUSIVE Pictured: Vile dog owner who was filmed punching a puppy in the head and throwing another small dog across the street

Looking for the PERFECT summer glow? This vitamin C enriched body cream leaves your skin looking radiant - with up to 48 hours of hydration*! AD FEATURE

ADVERTISEMENT

Husband pays tribute to 'lovely' wife, 50, who he found dead from hypothermia after falling outside their front door on the way home from the pub

EXCLUSIVE Maura Higgins' new lover Bobby Holland Hanton

Leicester Square abuzz with fans for London's Barbie premiere

Animal Rising has boasted Epsom is 'almost unpoliceable' because sections c open and accessible to the public (pictured: Animal Rising activists attemptir race course ahead of the Randox Grand National Handicap Chase) #5 View gallery

Members are planning to use glue and lock-on devices to secure themselves at different locations (pictured: Animal rights protesters are apprehended by police officers ahead of the Grand National Handicap Steeple Chase)

TRENDING



Jockey Club chief executive Nevin Truesdale said: 'We respect everyone's right to peaceful and lawful protest and, with that in mind, have offered Animal Rising a space for this purpose directly outside the racecourse during the Derby Festival.

'However, Animal Rising have made it explicitly clear that they intend to breach security and access the track itself in an attempt to stop racing taking place and it is our duty and obligation to do everything we can to protect everyone's safety and prevent a repeat of the illegal and reckless protests we saw at Aintree in April.'

Mo Metcalf-Fisher, from The Countryside Alliance, added Animal Rising - an offshoot of Extinction Rebellion - 'routinely cross the line between what any rational person would consider to be legitimate protest and dangerous stunts'.

He said: 'When the lives of horses, riders and spectators are even remotely put at risk by their selfish behaviour, it is no longer a protest, but an act of disorder.'

The fall and death of Hill Sixteen at the Grand National was blamed on the 14-minute delay caused by the animal rights zealots. Horses were left agitated in hold-up.

A total of 118 people were arrested at Aintree after the **Mail on Sunda plot to wreck the race**.

Up to 1,000 protesters from the extremist vegan group are feared to ruin the Derby to publicise their cause, despite the risk of up to two y heavy fines if the injunction is granted.

Animal Rising spokesman Nathan McGovern warned it would not pro as the 'issues that we are facing are too big to be ignored'. Dele Alli reveals he spent six weeks in rehab for addiction: Footballer also describes how he was molested by a friend of his mother

▶ Trans activist and convicted attempted murderer who told a cheering crowd at Trans Pride rally to 'punch TERFs in the face' is arrested for 'incitement to viole...

KEYOLUON/E

Leicester Square abuzz with fans for London's Barbie premiere

they leave bar hand-inhand

Up to a THIRD of people with a slim BMI might actually be fat, researchers claim here's how experts say you can truly tell if you're obese

ADVERTISEMENT



A total of 118 people were arrested at Aintree after the Mail on Sunday exposed the plot to wreck the race

Share or comment on this article: Animal rights activists plotting to sabotage the Epsom Derby could be jailed for contempt of court

Leicester Square abuzz with fans for London's Barbie premiere