



BETA SAFETY CONFERENCE

21st April 2026

Holywell Park Conference Centre, Loughborough University & online

<https://beta-uk.org/conferences/>

Reducing the risk to make riding safer
A day for riders, equestrian professionals and all in the retail and manufacturing
trade

Timetable

08.30 Registration & Refreshments. Exhibition stands open.

09.25 Welcome & Opening: *Claire Williams, BETA*

09.30 **The state of research into rider safety equipment – past, present and future**

Dr. Stephanie Bonin PhD, MEA Forensic Engineers & Scientists

10.00 **Analysis and prevention of spinal injuries in horse racing.** *Daloni Lucas*

10.30 **Designing Safer Helmets: Understanding Rotational Protection.** *Robin Spicer, Lemieux Ltd*

11.00 Morning Break

11.30 **Safety Versus Comfort: A Preliminary investigation into the impact of body protectors on comfort, rider position and considerations for female riders.** *Lorna Cameron Senior Lecturer, Department of Equine Sciences, Hartpury University*

12.00 **Understanding Repetitive Head Loading: Sub-concussive impacts in football and their relevance to equestrian head protection.**

Megan Barnes-Wood, KTP Associate, Champion Mfg

12.30 Lunch - Exhibition stands open

13.30 **Fitting a diverse rider population.** *Jade Faulkner, Dave Derby, Charles Owen, Lydia Heywood and Jayda Everett from Cool Ridings, Kathryn Jaquet, RB Equestrian*

14.10 **“Safety” Stirrups- attitudes toward and the need for standards.** *Claire Williams, BETA*

14:30 **Rider attitude to safety and the FEI’s position & approach to rider safety now and in the future.** *Dr. Mark Hart, CMO, FEI*

15.00 Afternoon Break (30min)

15.30 **An eventer’s perspective on safety.** *Laura Collett, MBE, European Champion, Gold medal winner at Paris and Tokyo, courtesy of Zebra Products, distributor of Uvex.*

16.00 **Innovation Forum Discussion Panel / Q & A**

Innovation leads: Zoe Bryant, Racesafe; Robin Spicer, Lemieux; Meghan Barnes-Wood, Champion manufacturing.

16.30 **Question & Answer discussion panel all speakers**

16.55 Conference Concludes **17.30** Exhibition Stands Close

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