

# 2016 Riding Hat Standards

## Overview

- Due to a change by the European Commission regarding EN1384 and BSEN1384 no longer being an accepted standard, all hats which **ONLY** meet the standard EN1384 or BSEN1384, and do not comply with another accepted standard **WILL NOT** be permitted for use.
- Hats which bear EN1384 or BSEN1384 **ALONG WITH** another accepted standard, will be permitted. For example, BSEN1384 & PAS015 (1998 or 2011) along with the Kitemark will be acceptable, but not BSEN1384 on its own.

## FAQs for Approved Centres, Registered Instructors and BHS Members

**Q:** I am a BHS Gold member. Will I be expected to wear a hat which meets the new requirements?

**A:** The BHS Gold members' policy does not have a particular stipulation regarding the type of hat that needs to be worn. However it does have a reasonable precautions condition. This means that all reasonable precautions need to be taken to prevent an incident at all times. Therefore should an accident arise, insurers may feel that you have not taken the relevant precautions by not wearing the most up to date safety hat. It may not mean that they would not pay out, it may just mean that any damages could be reduced due to contributory negligence.

**Q:** I run a riding school. What if a riding school client comes for a lesson, with the riding school instructor, and appears with their own hat. The Instructor checks the hat and it is not of the correct standard, the instructor tells the client but the client refuses to use a hat from the school and to replace their own hat. How does the riding school stand from an insurance point of view if the client rides in the lesson?

**A:** For our riding schools the insurers have said, in this situation, the riding school should still insist the rider wears a hat up to the current standards. The reason being is that the riding school is the 'professional' in this situation and if they have not insisted on them wearing the correct riding hat and an injury occurs the third party solicitors could use this against the riding school and they feel it would be difficult to defend a claim in this situation.

**Q:** I am a freelance instructor and I have a client who does not want to replace her hat to comply with the new requirements for 2016. Where do I stand if I teach a client knowing their hat is not to the required standard?

**A:** The instructors should be checking the rider hats as part of their risk assessment and advising individuals if their hat is not to current standard, if a rider does not have the correct standard hat but still wishes to continue with the lesson then this must be documented by the instructor that they have chosen to continue the lesson using that hat.

**Q:** I run a livery yard, should I make sure that all of the liveries wear a hat to the 2016 requirements?

**A:** If there are yard rules which stipulate the type of hat to be worn then these should be updated to specify that hats should be to the current standard. If you do not have yard rules regarding hats then you should be advising your livery clients that there has been a change in hat standards and recommend that individuals get their hats checked.

**Q:** I don't want to insist that my clients wear the correct hat, can I ask them to sign a disclaimer?

**A:** No. Our insurance company have advised that this is not recommended as case history suggests that a disclaimer does not stand up in a court of law should an individual be prosecuted

**Q:** I am taking a BHS Exam in 2016, will I need to wear a hat to the 2016 standards?

**A:** All BHS examinations are covered by the BHS third party liability insurance, therefore it is a requirement that all candidates must wear hats to the required standard. For 2016 any candidate who is taking an exam from Stage 3 or above will have their hat tagged at the exam. Fixed peaks will not be permitted for any cross country element of an exam.

**Q:** I will be taking a BHS exam at an international centre. What are the requirements?

**A:** The hat standard requirements are exactly the same as those for the UK and will be applied to international exams. All international BHS exams are covered by the BHS third party liability insurance, therefore it is a requirement that all candidates must wear hats to the required standard.

**Q:** I am a BRC member, will the changes in hat standards affect me?



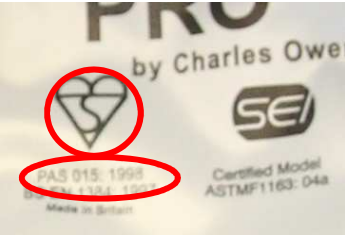



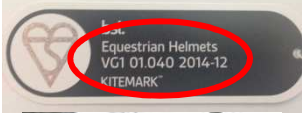
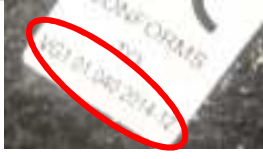

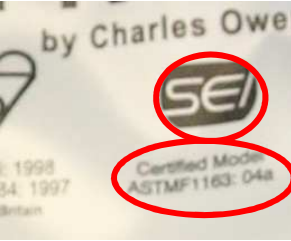








**A:** Yes. The 2016 hat standards will apply to all BRC members. Members who take part in Area Qualifiers and Championships will have their hats checked and tagged before each competition.

# BHS Approved Centres Hat Guidelines 2016

Hats must meet ALL of the requirements of one of the following rows:

**IMPORTANT UPDATES FOR 2016:**

Due to a change by the European Commission regarding EN1384 and BSEN1384 no longer being an accepted standard, all hats which ONLY meet the standard EN1384 or BSEN1384, and do not comply with another standard from the below list, WILL NOT be permitted for use at any BHS Approved Centre. Hats which bear EN1384 or BSEN1384 ALONG WITH another standard from the below list, will be permitted. For example, BSEN1384 & PAS015 (1998 or 2011) along with the Kitemark would be acceptable. but not BSEN1384 on its own.

	Standard and Date	Quality Assurance Mark	Examples		
1	PAS 015 (1998 or 2011)	<b>AND MUST HAVE</b> BSI Kitemark 			
2	VG1 01.040 (2014-12)	<b>AND MUST HAVE</b> BSI Kitemark 			
3	ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards)	<b>AND MUST HAVE</b> SEI mark 			
4	SNELL E2001	<b>AND MUST HAVE</b> Official SNELL label and number 			
5	AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards)	<b>AND MUST HAVE</b> SAI Global mark 			

**NOT  
ACCEPTED**

~~BSEN1384  
&  
EN1384  
(any date)~~

**Hats with  
ONLY this  
standard are  
NOT  
accepted**

