

Small claims

Claims not exceeding £5,000 will normally be allocated to the small claims track in the County Court and do not require legal representation.

The small claims track can be utilised by many unhappy horse owners due to the average cost of your 'everyday' horse being in and around £5,000.

The small claims track is designed to provide a procedure whereby claims of not more than £5,000 can be dealt with quickly and at minimal cost to parties. The reason for this is that, costs to be recovered by a successful party are extremely limited and therefore, it is usually uneconomic for solicitors to represent the parties in the county court proceeding on the small claims track.

The preparation of a case and conduct of the hearing are designed to make it possible for a litigant to conduct his own case without legal representation if he/she so wishes.

Cases generally suitable for the small claims track include consumer disputes (eg buying a misdescribed horse); accident claims (eg personal injury to employees or visitors); and disputes about ownership of a horse.

A substantial amount of administrative form filling is still required in such cases and it is normal for the average litigant to find these extremely time consuming and confusing. It is often useful for a solicitor to deal with the pre-court administrative matters in such cases.

Contact

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