Notice: Phyllis Court Club autumn time trial 2018: river restriction notice

River Thames restriction information for Sunday 14 October 2018.

Notice: Cookham Regatta 2018: river restriction notice

River Thames restriction information for Saturday 1 September 2018.

Press release: Top football agent scores £1.2 million tax avoidance own goal

Former football agent Jerome Anderson has lost his $\pounds 1.2$ million tax battle with HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

The case, heard at the Upper Tribunal, shows that Anderson and 8 others failed in their attempt to avoid large amounts of tax.

The scheme involved investments in the recruitment and training of young footballers at the Bafana Soccer Academy in South Africa.

Anderson attempted to use this investment to claim a £3 million artificial trading loss to reduce his tax bill by huge amounts of money.

Thet tribunal found that Anderson's activities were more like those of an investor, and this didn't show that he was trading.

This decision means he could not claim a trading loss and tax was due.

Penny Ciniewicz, HMRC's Director General for Customer Compliance, said:

The court has made it clear that these schemes don't work.

Our public services rely on everyone paying their taxes and it's

unfair for people not to pay their share.

Anyone who's caught up in tax avoidance and wants to put it behind them should come forward now and settle what they owe.

This latest victory continues HMRC's excellent record of winning 9 out of 10 tax avoidance cases taken to court, with many more settling what they owe before reaching that stage.

Further information

You can read the **Upper Tribunal decision**.

This was the first case to consider section 74B of the Income Tax Act 2007, an anti-avoidance provision that denies an individual any sideways loss relief claimed where that individual carries on a trade in a 'non-active' capacity and where that loss arises in connection with tax avoidance arrangements.

An image of Penny Ciniewicz, Director General of HMRC's Customer Compliance Group, is available on Flickr.

Notice: The Skiff Championships regatta 2018: river restriction notice

River Thames restriction information for Sunday 26 August 2018.

Press release: Amnesty event chance for illegal car breakers to make fresh start

Illegal car breakers in the Portsmouth area are being invited to find out more about becoming 'legit' at an amnesty event being staged all this week by the Environment Agency.

The Environment Agency is encouraging those interested in making a fresh start to visit their incident vehicle parked next to Mick's Burgers on Portsdown Hill.

Visitors will be able to talk to staff in person and find out how to get a permit — with no catches or comebacks. The officers will be there from 8am until 3pm every day until Friday July 20.

The impact of illegal waste sites is estimated at £98 million, with illegal car breakers among the worst offenders. The Environment Agency has new powers to clamp down on illegal breakers, such as by blocking their yard, seizing their van and confiscating their profits.

Those choosing to hurt the reputation of the car-breaking industry by operating illegally without the necessary paperwork and infrastructure might save money in the short term. However, they cause pollution, fires, illegal hazardous waste, and take business away from the 'good guys' who are doing their best to run a professional operation to support their family.

Environment Agency officers are already out looking for illegal operators, on the roads of Portsmouth and Chichester, and online.

Vic Jennings, from the Environment Agency's Hampshire and Isle of Wight Regulatory Waste Team, said:

We're trying to make it as easy as possible for local car breakers to get legit. We're using our incident vehicle up on Portsdown Hill from 8am to 3pm all this week so people can drop in discretely, and anonymously if they wish.

We can answer their questions, or even start them on the process if that's what they want. Our message is simple: 'show us you're trying, and we'll help you all the way'.

Free help is also available online or by calling 03708 506 506.

The Environment Agency will be holding another amnesty week 15 to 19 October 2018, on the Chichester bypass, next to the Pass Street Café, P019 7RT.