



## **Beekeeping for Beginners**

Cost: £40

Whitstone School, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5PF  
Somerset Beekeepers' Association - Central Division



The course runs for six Wednesday evenings 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Dates: *February 26<sup>th</sup>; March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>; April 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.*

Plus a practical hands-on session on *Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020* starting at 2.30pm

An introduction to the honey bee and its life cycle, beekeeping, equipment, pests, diseases and colony management.

Tea/coffee on arrival – note: we aim for a prompt start at 7.30pm

A discount will be offered upon completion to membership of Central Division SBKA

If you would like further information about the course please contact Maggie Norris on 01749 831155 or by email [maggienorris@btopenworld.com](mailto:maggienorris@btopenworld.com)

Note: No refunds will be made of fees paid in advance unless we are able to resell your place. Numbers are limited to a maximum of 30 attendees.

***Book early to avoid disappointment***

<b>Booking Form – Beekeeping for Beginners Course 2020</b>		
Salutation Mr/Mrs/Miss etc.	First Name	Surname
Address		
Post Code		
e-mail address	Home Tel No	Mobile Tel No
Do you currently have any hives? Yes/No	Payment enclosed Yes/No	Paid on line Date

Payment is required in full in advance to secure your booking

Please pay £40 per attendee on line to SBKA Central Division; CAF Bank; Sort code 405240; a/c 00013248 with your name and reference 'course'.

Alternatively make cheques to 'SBKA – Central Division' and enclose with the booking form

*Please send booking form(s) to Maggie Norris, Long Close, Shapway Lane, Evercreech, BA4 6JS*

**SBKA CENTRAL DIVISION**  
**BEGINNERS COURSE OUTLINE**

**Session 1 Introduction**

- What is a honeybee ?
- A beekeeper has to ...?
- Why keep bees ?
- How much time will it take ?
- How much will it cost ?
- Will I get stung ?

**Session 2 About the Bees**

- The castes
- Honeybee Anatomy
- The life cycle of the individual
- The life cycle of the colony

**Session 3 Equipment**

- Which Hive ?
- Frames and Foundation
- Hive Stands
- Apiary Siting and Layout

**Session 4 Principles of Bee Handling**

- Basic rules
- Personal requirements
- Tools of the trade
- Opening the hive
- What to look for
- Swarming

**Session 5 Bee Forage and Honey**

- Bee forage
- Honey production
- Harvesting the crop
- Extracting and extractors
- Preparation for winter

**Session 6 Diseases, Pests, Predators and General Recapitulation**

- Diseases.
- Pests and predators
- Veterinary Medicines Regulations
- General recapitulation and open forum

**Practical Course and typical Central Division's summer programme**

- Assembling Frames and Hives
- Meeting a few thousand bees
- Swarm Prevention & Control
- Making a Nucleus
- Queen Marking
- Clearing the Supers
- Honey Extraction
- Feeding & Treating