

# FOR THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE MOMENT

MAKE YOUR **PASSION**  
YOUR **CAREER.**



FUNDED BY  
HORSE  
RACING  
IRELAND

equuip



# What is equuip?

We are the People Behind the People in the Irish Horse Racing & Breeding Industry

Equuip is the education, training and people welfare department of Horse Racing Ireland.

## What do we do:

- Information and access for those trying to get into the industry.
- Education and training for those trying to get on in the industry.
- Health and wellbeing services for everyone who wants it.

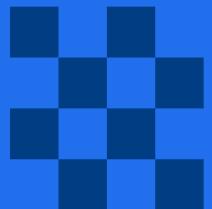
## This Includes:

- Industry Job Board
- HGV Licence Grant
- Wellness Supports
- Jockey Supports & Services
- Parent, Teacher & Employer Advice

- Education & Training Grant
- Career Development Support
- Bespoke training courses
- Employment and Health & Safety Guides
- Career Profiles & Case Studies



## Background to the Thoroughbred Industry



**30,350**  
jobs linked directly & indirectly to racing

**1.2m**  
attendees at racemeetings

**26**  
racecourses in Ireland

**6000+**  
breeders

**4000+**  
owners

**300+**  
racehorse trainers

**9000+**  
foals born every year

### Horse Racing Ireland

Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) is the national authority for thoroughbred racing in Ireland, with responsibility for the governance, development and promotion of the industry.

### Irish Horse Racing Regulatory Board

The I.H.R.B. is the Regulatory Body for horseracing in Ireland. Ensuring the reputation of Irish Horse Racing and confidence in the sport is protected by robust and transparent regulatory practices, implemented with integrity, by a professional and progressive team.

### Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association

The ITBA is the official representative body of the Irish thoroughbred breeding industry at Government level both at home and internationally. It aims to work with and for the good of all Irish breeders to ensure Ireland continues to be one of the most renowned and successful breeding industries in the world.



SUPPORTED BY  
HORSE  
RACING  
IRELAND

Racing  
Instructor

Sports  
Psychologist

Lecturer

Accounting

Marketing

Sales

Business

Veterinary  
Nurse

Farrier

Lab  
Technician

Horse  
Welfare

Steward

Raceday  
Official

Security

Sport  
Administration

Teaching



Racing  
Instructor

Sports  
Psychologist

Lecturer

Find  
Passion  
Through  
Industry

Hospitality  
& Event  
Managing

Operations  
Manager

Groundstaff



CAREER

your  
in the  
ghbred  
stry

Professional  
Jockey

Fitness  
Instructor

Work Rider

Athlete



Betting  
Services



Bookmaker

Customer  
Service

Information  
Technology

Racehorse  
Training



Racehorse  
Trainer

Racing  
Secretary

Stable  
Staff

Media



Photographer

TV Presenter

Journalist

Breeding &  
Bloodstock



Stud Manager

Nominations  
Executive

Stud Groom

ER MAP





# Getting Started



## ▼ **HRI Racing Juniors:**

HRI Racing Juniors is an initiative from Horse Racing Ireland, providing a platform where children can learn more about horses in a child-centred way.

## ▼ **The Road To Racing Video Series:**

Four part video series about horse racing taught by jockey Danny Mullins bringing kids on a journey through horse racing. Worksheets included.

## ▼ **Agri Aware Dig In – Equine Modules:**

“Dig In! Learning about Life on the Farm and Countryside” is an interactive agricultural curriculum designed by Agri Aware for primary school students.

## ▼ **Junior Academy:**

Free one day course at the R.A.C.E for 10 to 17 years who are dreaming of becoming a jockey or riding a racehorse. Riders are grouped by their age and experience so that everyone is of a similar level of ability. Includes practical riding training, strength & conditioning. Riding & non-riding options available.

## ▼ **From Foal To Race Transition Year Programme:**

12-week (1 hour per week) programme, both teachers and students will gain insight into the horse racing industry with a strong focus on increasing awareness of the careers that feature throughout the foal to race story.

## ▼ **ITBA Next Generation:**

Junior wing of the ITBA, aimed at students and young breeding enthusiasts. They provide a platform to educate young people with an in-depth insight into the thoroughbred industry. Join today to access exclusive events, opportunities, and networking.



# The Racing Academy & Centre of Education

The Racing Academy & Centre of Education is the national training academy for the Irish horseracing industry offering courses for jockeys, trainers, stable staff, breeders and others in the thoroughbred industry.

## **Trainee Jockey Course (Level 4):**

The world-renowned Trainee Jockey Course has been running since 1977. A large number of graduates are leading successful careers in every aspect of the racing and breeding industry around the world. The most important attributes to help gain a spot are a love for horses, a high level of fitness and a good attitude.

## **Junior Academy:**

There are several Junior Academy days every year for young people aged from 10 to 16 years, with a dream of becoming a jockey. They are free days funded by equuip. Riders are grouped by their age and experience so that everyone is of a similar level of ability. Activities for each day are planned around each level of experience and RACE aim to make these days a lot of fun. Places are limited to 10 riders per academy day.

-  Horsemanship (Level 5)
-  Bespoke Short Courses
-  Basic Computer Literacy
-  Pony Club Jockey Taster
-  Jockey courses & assessments
-  Equine Transport
-  Mobile Simulator Unit



# How to become a Jockey

To become a professional jockey, you must first become an experienced exercise rider and groom in a racing yard. Talent alone is not enough to become a jockey; exercise riders have to earn the support of a trainer to begin the process of applying for a license.

## Types of jockeys:

### ▼ **Apprentice Jockey**

An apprentice jockey rides on the flat  
Must 16 years of age.  
Should not weigh more than 9st (126 lbs).

### ▼ **Conditional Jockey**

A conditional jockey rides in National Hunt races.  
Must be 16 years of age.

### ▼ **Qualified Rider**

Those applying for a Category A1 (bumper) must be 16 years old and those applying for a Category A3 (Point-to-Point) must be 17 years old.

To obtain their license applicants will have to complete a number of tasks depending on their license type such as a 2-day induction course in RACE, an interview, a medical examination and baseline concussion test and a practical test/assessment.



# Jockey Supports & Services

## The Jockey Pathway

The Jockey Pathway is a completely FREE SERVICE funded by equuip, which is open to all professional jockeys in Ireland. It includes access to Strength & Conditioning Training, Dietitian, Sports Psychologist, a Career Support & Transition service and On-Course Physiotherapy.

## The Irish Jockeys Trust

Provides care, support and financial help to injured, incapacitated & aged jockeys and apprentices.

## Jockey Coaching

Qualified jockey coaches provide mentoring & specialised skills coaching to support and enhance the career development of all licensed jockeys in Ireland.

## Irish Injured Jockeys

The IIJ was set up in 2014 to increase awareness and raise vital funds to support injured jockeys. Funds raised are used to provide appropriate support, financial or otherwise, in a prompt and sympathetic manner to jockeys past or present who are injured, unable to ride or generally in need.

## Irish Jockeys Association

They represent Professional Jockeys in Ireland & work on their behalf to represent their interests eg. Jockeys Pension Scheme and the Jockeys Accident Fund.

## Continuing Professional Development

Every rider to obtain their licence the following year must take part in a set number of CPD hours each year.







# Your next steps

## Would you like to begin your career in the Irish Racing & Breeding Industry?

We are here to help you with any questions you have or advice you seek. We are your go-to resource and expert support group. Get in touch to learn about job vacancies, education opportunities, and the many career paths the industry has to offer you.



### Follow us on Social

To stay up to date with our latest news and updates be sure to follow us on Instagram, TikTok, Facebook & Twitter where we will update you on the latest news and initiatives as well as showcasing and celebrating the wonderful stories and people working in the thoroughbred industry.



### Subscribe to our Newsletter

Don't miss a beat! Sign up to our ezine and let us keep you updated with industry news, education and training opportunities, supports, services, competitions and more.



### Check out our website

Our website is a one stop shop for all the information you might need to begin your career journey in the thoroughbred industry. Head to [www.equip.ie](http://www.equip.ie) and get exploring.



### Watch & Learn

We have a plethora of insightful interviews and feature videos on our equip youtube channel profiling many different individuals working in the industry. Be sure to check them out to hear the stories straight from the people behind the moment.



# Testimonial

Racing is not just a job for me. It is a vocation and a way of life. It takes hard work and dedication to make your way, but the opportunities are there and with a bit of luck you can make a success of it. Racing has really shaped my life, but I would be nowhere without the people around me. The many people that work in my yard every day are vital to everything we do. We are only as good as our staff and I would be lost without them.

There are wonderful opportunities for education and training in Ireland, such as RACE or the Irish National Stud course. Especially for people new to the sport, there is a great structure there to build on, as well as opportunities to grow and develop a successful career.

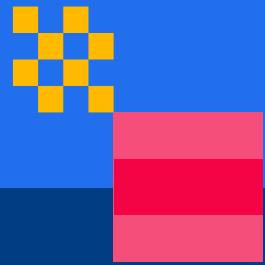
Here in Ireland we are lucky to have everything you need for a world-class racing and breeding industry. We have the horses, the farms, the land, and the breeding stock, but really it is all about the people. The people in Irish racing are special. They work in racing because they love it and as Ted Walsh often says, "Do what you love and you will never work a day in your life."

**"Do what you love and you will never work a day in your life."**

**Mick Halford**



# Equine Courses



## CAFRE

- BSc (Hons) Degree in Equine Management
- Foundation Degree in Equine Management
- Certificate of Higher Education in Equine Science & Management
- Equine Management (Level 3)
- Equine Care (Level 2)
- Farriery Upskilling Programme
- Apprenticeship in the Equine Industry (Level 2 & 3)
- Award in Horse Handling & Behaviour in Equine Assisted Therapies
- Horse Care Certificate (Level 2 & 3)

## Kildalton Agricultural College

- Horsemanship / Equitation Programme
- Horsemanship / Stud Management Programme

## Irish National Stud

- Thoroughbred Breeding Management

## Godolphin Flying Start

- Thoroughbred Industry Leadership Programme

## Dunboyne College

- Horsemanship and Equine Business
- Advanced Certificate / Level 6 in Equine Business

## Gurteen College

- Level 5 Certificate in Stud Management
- Level 5 Certificate in Horsemanship/Equitation

## Farriery Ireland

- Introduction to Equine Healthcare
- SOLAS Apprenticeship QQI Advanced Certificate in Craft – Farriery

## Racing Academy & Centre of Education

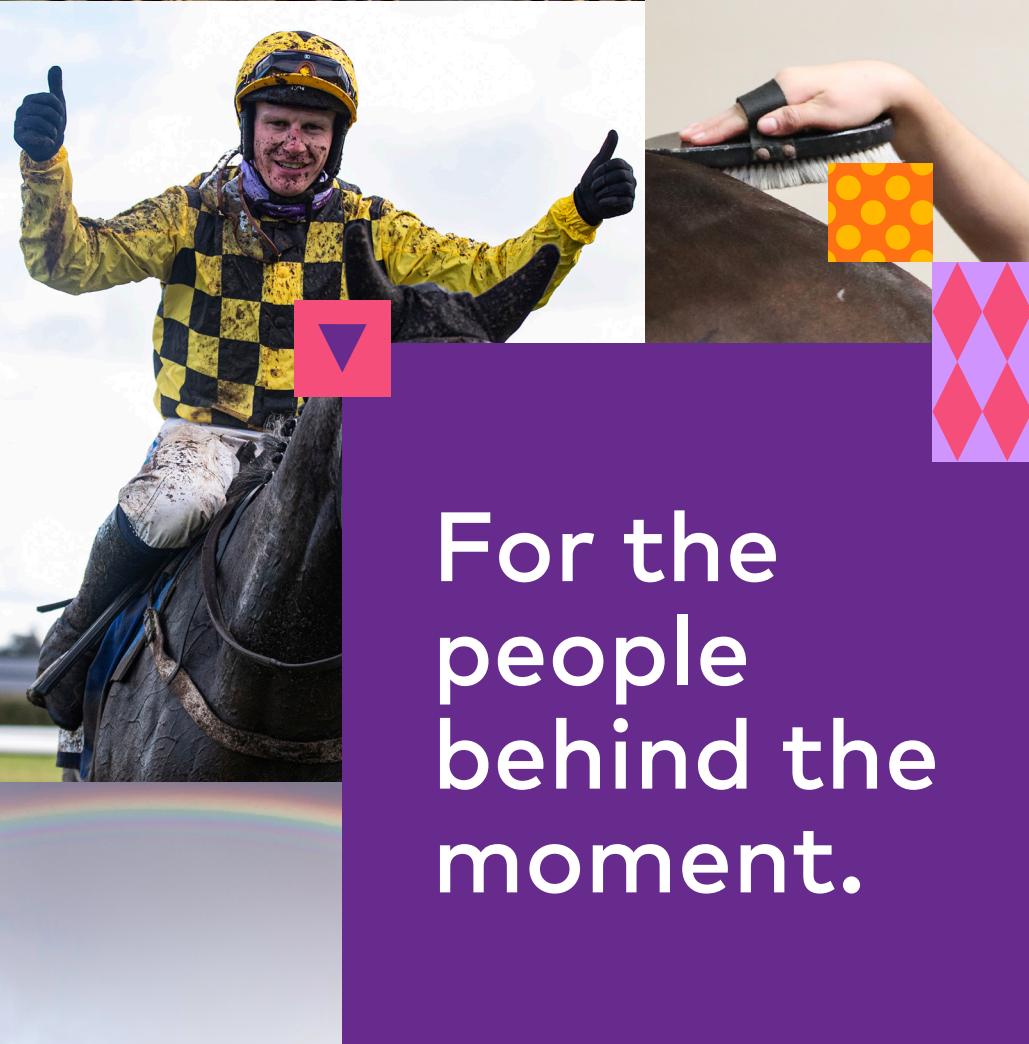
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## University College Dublin

- Animal Science – Equine (level 8)

## University of Limerick

- Equine Science (Level 8)



# 30,000 People, One Passion.



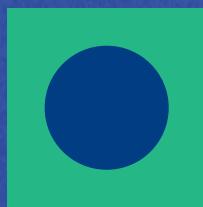
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County Kildare  
Ireland

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GET CONNECTED



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