

CAREER TRANSITION

CASE STUDY: JOCKEY to FINANCIAL PLANNER

Name: Ben Swarbrick **Age:** 36
From: Gloucestershire

Riding Career Summary:

Ben rode as an apprentice Flat Jockey for five years. In that time, he had over 1000 rides and 69 winners, including riding a double at Goodwood. Realising his lack of riding opportunities and wanting to broaden his horizons, he retired from riding in 2006 to pursue his second career.

New Career: Financial Planner

Support from Player Association:

When Ben first approached JETS (Jockeys Education & Training Scheme) about what he wanted to do, they talked through the options and advised him that he needed to gain a degree. He had left school at 16 so he first needed to complete an Access course to allow him to go to University. JETS helped fund his Psychology degree course and subsequent financial exams to qualify as a Financial Planner.

Career Transition Highlights:

- Becoming the first jockey to gain a place on the BHA Graduate Programme.
- Enjoying a more varied lifestyle and opportunity to pursue things outside of work.
- Winning the Richard Davis Achievement Award in recognition of the career development of jockeys.

Career Transition Challenges:

- Adjusting to life outside of the racing community.
- Not having the same sense of adrenaline that you get as a jockey.



“ Having always wanted to be a jockey it was a huge decision to turn my back on a life which had consumed my mind from the age of five. I know some jockeys find it difficult to find something that gives them the same buzz as racing so I feel very lucky to have found a career that I really enjoy. ”