

THE ACADEMY OF CHOICE FOR JOCKEY TRAINING



The South African Jockey Academy

WE KNOW PERFORMANCE

The South African Jockey Academy is a non-profit company (NPC) which offers youth an academic, experiential, and practical learning programme to qualify as professional jockeys.

Our vision

The Academy of choice for jockey and equestrian training

Mission statement

In an environment of courage and integrity, hard work and responsibility we aim to produce leading international jockeys and riders of excellence who are academically well rounded and equipped with skills for life.







Located in Summerveld, the heart of South Africa's thriving horse racing industry the South African Jockey Academy with a wealth of experience has been educating and training professional jockeys over the last 66 years.

The South African Jockey Academy has produced dozens of supremely talented jockeys who have gone on to win big races on every continent. They've become sporting idols in South Africa and champion winners in places as far flung as the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Macau, Mauritius, Singapore, and Australia.

We operate with a vision to produce world-class jockeys who are not only skilled in horsemanship but also well-versed in the technical and strategic aspects of horse racing.















Jockey Apprenticeship

In an environment of courage and integrity, hard work and responsibility, we aim to produce leading international jockeys of excellence who are academically well rounded and equipped with skills for life.

During a jockey apprenticeship, lasting five years, aspiring jockeys receive comprehensive training in practical riding and horsemanship. This program is administered by our prestigious Academy, which oversees all aspects of the apprenticeship. Upon successfully completing the five-year duration, apprentices will emerge as fully-fledged professional jockeys, equipped with the necessary skills and expertise to thrive within the esteemed racing community.

Within the framework of the National Senior Certificate, the South African Jockey Academy offers a specialized and tailored educational curriculum with a strong emphasis on career development. Our Apprenticeship program also includes Module 1 and 2 of the Equestrian Qualification of South Africa (EQASA).







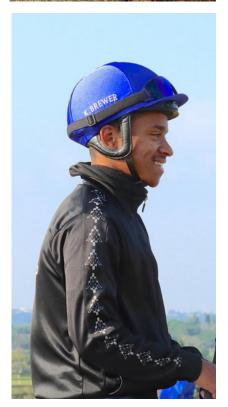














In the first three months at the Academy, individuals undergo a period of intensive riding tuition. The Academy carefully assesses their abilities to determine whether they possess the talent, character, and motivation necessary to become successful jockeys.

The duration of basic training ranges from six months to a year, contingent upon the individual's abilities and determination to excel. After completing basic training, individuals are prepared to partake in "ride work" sessions at the training tracks. These sessions involve riding various racehorses in order to provide them with their daily exercise and training. Apprentices are ready to start race riding after eighteen months of training under the supervision of the Academy Riding Masters.

Upon successful completion of the course, individuals will be granted a jockey license from The National Horseracing Authority of South Africa (NHA) and be awarded a Diploma in Jockeyship from the South African Jockey Academy (SAJA).

The South African Jockey Academy operates as a boarding school and the daily life of an apprentice jockey is a very tough one that entails long and hard hours of work and great effort. Apprentices must be 100% committed, dedicated and focused in order to endure the rigors of an apprentice schedule. An average day for the apprentice jockey is outlined below.

04h00: Wake Up and prepare for work riding

04h30: Depart the Academy to ride work at the Summerveld Training Centre

05h00: Work Riding begins under the supervision of the Riding Master and the horse's Trainer

09h00: Work Riding ends for the day and the apprentice returns to the Academy

09h30: Shower, dress and eat breakfast in preparation for school

10h30: School day starts

13h10: Lunch

13h40: Return to School

14h40: Last lesson ends for Grade 10 & 11

15h40: Last lesson ends for Grade 12

15h00: Stable Duties, Riding Lesson and Video Analysis

17h00: Free Time until Supper

17h30: Supper

18h30: Prep (Homework time)

19h30: Free Time

21h00: Lights Out



















Education - FET Phase

The South African Jockey Academy combines the apprentice training programme with an academic component. This component is tailor-made for a career in jockeyship.

We offer the following subjects from Garde 10 to Grade 12:

English home language isiZulu first additional language or Afrikaans first additional language

Equine studies

Life Orientation

Mathematical Literacy

Consumer studies

Business studies

Each day begins with riding lessons at the Academy or work riding at the training tracks, prior to beginning the school lessons for the day. Accredited by Umalusi and registered with ISASA, the South African Jockey Academy has enjoyed a 100% pass rate each year.

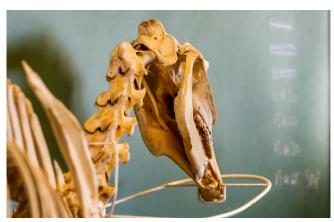
















Work Rider Courses

The Academy is perfectly poised to offer world class training, with our established reputation, dedicated staff and facilities. Our Work Rider programmes aim at formalising the training for those in the profession, and by offering the opportunity to improve the standard of work riding skills. Our courses focuses on developing the fundamental skills required for work riding, including equine care, horse riding techniques, and physical fitness. The foundation program lays a strong groundwork for students to progress into more advanced programs. On successful completion of the course, riders will be awarded certification from the South African Jockey Academy.

BEGINNER WORK RIDER COURSE INTERMEDIATE WORK RIDER COURSE ADVANCED WORK RIDER COURSE













Support Team

The South African Jockey Academy has embraced the 21st Century technology and adopts a scientific and holistic approach to our training methods.

Through focusing on the process of continual development of skills and appreciation of the sport, we place each apprentice at the core of the programme and ensure they are equipped to rise to the needs and demands required of an elite athlete.















RIDING COACHES

The riding department consists of experienced riding masters who are passionate about coaching and passing on their invaluable knowledge and experience to the next generation of riders.

RIDER SUPPORT TEAM

The Academy adopts a scientific approach to the training of our riders. Our team of experts, known as the rider support team includes a nursing sister, dietician, sports scientist, biokineticist and sports psychologist.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

The academic department consists of dedicated and motivated teachers who are passionate about ensuring the academic success of each student while allowing them the opportunity to pursue their riding dreams.



Our Facilities

The Academy has world-class facilities that provide an optimal learning environment and training experience for our students. Our facilities have been designed to ensure that our students receive the best practical and theoretical training required to be successful in the horse racing industry. Ideally located adjacent to the Summerveld Training Centre our students have access to grass, sand and poly tracks.

Riding facilities	Academic Facilities	Rider Support Facilities
400m Round Track	Classrooms	Rehabilitation Room
Indoor Arena	Auditorium	Clinic
Full Sized Dressage Arena	Laboratory	Gymnasium
Jumping Arena	Computer room	
Lunge Ring	Library	Recreational Facilities
15 Paddocks		Multipurpose Court
37 Stables	Boarding Establishment	Swimming Pool
Audio Visual Room	Dormitories	Squash Court
Simulator Room	Dining Hall	Billiard Table
3 Racewood Equicisers		Trampoline





















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