



# National Horseracing College Prospectus



# WORK WITH HORSES

LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIPS  
AGREED INDUSTRY WAGES

**PAID OVERTIME**

OPPORTUNITIES TO TRAVEL UK & ABROAD

**PENSION SCHEME**

TRADE UNION SUPPORT

INDUSTRY JOB BOARD

LEVEL 3 APPRENTICESHIPS

YARD BONUS SCHEME

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

**ACCIDENT SCHEME**

WORKING OUTDOORS

[www.theNHC.co.uk](http://www.theNHC.co.uk)

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courtesy of  
[www.dephoto.biz](http://www.dephoto.biz)

# Open Mornings

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The National Horseracing College, formerly Northern Racing College, holds Open Mornings every month (except December). They provide young people, their parents, guardians, carers and career advisors with the opportunity to have a look around the College and to meet the learners, who are currently on the foundation course.

It starts with a riding demonstration on the gallops (weather permitting) at 10.00am, a tour around the yards, the chance to have a go on our horse simulators and finishes around 12.30pm after a question and answer session. The majority of the Open Morning takes place outside so please wear clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions.

The National Horseracing College also offers tailored open mornings for individual groups from schools, equine colleges, riding clubs and Pony Clubs. For further information or to book please call 01302 861000 or email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)

Please visit our website for open morning dates  
[www.theNHC.co.uk](http://www.theNHC.co.uk)



A word cloud of horse racing career paths. The text is arranged in a circular pattern, with the most prominent words in the center. The colors used are purple and green. The words include:

- PHOTOGRAPHER
- MEDIA
- JOCKEY COACH
- RACING STARTER
- STUD MANAGER
- CLERK OF THE COURSE
- Jockey
- RACECOURSE
- YARD BASED GROOM
- RACING GROOM
- TECHNICAL
- SCIENTIFIC
- RACEHORSE TRAINER
- HEAD GROOM
- INSTRUCTOR
- WORK RIDER
- BLOODSTOCK AGENT
- AMATEUR/POINT TO POINT JOCKEY
- APPRENTICES/CONDITIONAL JOCKEY
- ADMINISTRATION
- PROFESSIONAL JOCKEY (FLAT/JUMP)
- VETERINARY OFFICER
- BREEDING & BLOODSTOCK
- TRAVELLING HEAD GROOM
- ASSISTANT TRAINER
- RACECOURSE MANAGER
- COACHING & TRAINING
- CAREER PATHS
- RACING
- WORK



When you think of the horseracing industry, what jobs enter your mind? Perhaps you think about jockeys, trainers and the staff in the racing yards. You might think about the stud hands and grooms and the stallion handlers. Have you thought about all the other more obscure positions, which make horseracing the tenth largest employer in the UK.

When a raceday comes, millions of people across the world are watching the spectacle. Horseracing is an international sport and is the second largest spectator sport in the UK. For the 100,000 people who work in the British Horseracing Industry, it's the culmination of years of preparation. From bookmakers to journalists, chefs to jockeys, racecourse managers to trainers, the roles and the career opportunities are endless.

These are just a handful of our learners who are enjoying successful careers in the horseracing industry.

**Adam Ferguson** (Racing Welfare Officer)

**Adrian Stewart** (Winner of the 2018 David Nicholson Newcomer Award Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards)

**Becky Smith** (2018 Lady Flat Champion Amateur Jockey)

**Callum Rodriguez** (Flat Jockey)

**Connor Beasley** (Flat Jockey)

**Danny Cook** (Jump Jockey)

**Danny Tudhope** (Flat Jockey)

**David Allan** (Flat Jockey)

**Dominic Elsworth** (BHA Jockey Coach)

**Gemma Hogg** (Winner of the 2016 Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards)

**Hannah Worrall** (Racing Secretary)

**Hayley Turner** (Britain's Most Successful Female Jockey)

**Hollie Doyle** (Flat Jockey)

**Joe Colliver** (Jump Jockey)

**Katie Frisby** (Point-to-Point Trainer)

**Kieran Schofield** (Winner of the 2018 Go Racing in Yorkshire Future Stars Apprentice Series)

**Lee Swift** (NHC Yard Supervisor)

**Philip Varley** (NHC Instructor)

**Rebecca Menzies** (Racehorse Trainer)

**Russell Kennemore** (BHA Jockey Coach)

**Ryan Colley** (BHA Starter)

**Samantha Trainor** (NHC Roving Instructor)

**Tom Ryall** (2018 International Federation of Horseracing Academies Scholarship Programme Winner)

**Catriona Bissett** (Winner of the 2019 Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards)

A close-up photograph of a purple and green equestrian helmet resting on a bed of straw. A pair of black safety glasses with yellow accents is tucked under the chin strap of the helmet. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

“It was the best decision I made going to the College. I gained so much experience and made so many amazing memories that I will carry with me forever including making so many lifelong friends. It was the best three months of my life by far. I would recommend the college to anyone and just wish I could re-live it all over again”

Ryann

## COURSES

# Residential Foundation Course

## Level 1 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care



The National Horseracing College offers a variety of specialist training courses, all of which are designed to meet the needs of the racing industry. For those people seeking their first taste of racing, our Foundation Course offers both riding and non-riding options, to ensure they have the necessary skills to gain employment in the racing industry.

- **12 weeks residential course at the NHC**
- **6 week work placement at a trainer's yard**
- **No previous equine experience required**
- **No academic qualifications required**
- **Riding and non-riding course**
- **Level 1 Diploma in Racehorse Care**
- **Life skills**
- **Tuition is free to learners**
- **Food and accommodation charges are very low. Bursaries are available.**

Need to comply with BHA ruling? All staff aged 19 or under in racing must be working towards their Level 2 Equine Groom Apprenticeship Standard

### Industry Fast Track Course

For those aged 16 to 18 years old already riding out for a trainer, the NHC offer short-course training tailored to your needs. You will gain a Level 1 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care and start working towards a Level 2 Equine Groom Apprenticeship Standard. Candidates must be recommended by a trainer.

### Exemption course

For those aged 19 and under working in racing, the employer can apply for an exemption from the Level 1 Diploma for a candidate they believe to be working at or above this level. Our Roving Instructors can assess the candidate in the workplace with a view to them enrolling on the Level 2 Equine Groom Apprenticeship Standard. Or, if gaps in mandatory qualifications are identified the NHC may offer a free one week course.

For further information please contact us on  
**Tel: 01302 861000 or**  
**email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)**

## Level 2 Apprenticeship Equine Groom Apprenticeship Standard

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Learners who successfully complete the Foundation Course and demonstrate their aptitude and commitment will be secured properly paid employment in a racing yard and will undertake the Level 2 Apprenticeship. This programme will include a Level 2 Equine Groom Apprenticeship Standard together with Functional Skills in English and Maths at a minimum of Level 1.

- **Completed largely at the learner's place of paid work**
- **Roving Instructors visit regularly to guide and support learners and there is a final one day assessment**
- **Open to anyone aged 16 or over who works more than 16 hours per week in a licensed racing stable**
- **The Level 2 Apprenticeship is linked to the scale 2 racing wage**
- **Successful completion can lead onto the Level 3 Apprenticeship.**





Steve Wall  
Equestrian Photography



## Level 3 Apprenticeship Senior Equine Groom Standard

Level 3 Apprenticeship provides an opportunity to increase your knowledge and improve your options for the future. Completion of this course is a statement of practical competence to perform the required duties in your role. This includes Level 3 Senior Equine Groom Standard together with Functional Skills in English and Maths at Level 2.

- **Completed largely at the learner's place of paid work**
- **Roving Instructors visit regularly to guide and support learners and there is a final one day assessment**
- **Open to anyone aged 16 or over who works more than 16 hours per week in a licensed racing stable**
- **The Level 3 Apprenticeship is linked to the scale 4 racing wage**
- **The Level 3 Apprenticeship is a mandatory requirement for all prospective licensed racehorse trainers and permit holders.**

Visit our website for further details  
[www.theNHC.co.uk](http://www.theNHC.co.uk)



## 14 to 16 Year Old Programme

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This 2 year course is delivered one day each week during term time only. Enrolment is ongoing throughout the academic year, the course costs £650 per term (usually 3 terms per year). Bursaries are available to some learners from the local area. Attendance once weekly during term time is required for a learner to achieve a Level 1 Diploma. Transport to and from the college will be the responsibility of the school/parent or guardian.

Learners on the 14 to 16 Programme will have the opportunity for a scholarship which will enable them to race in Pony Club or Point-to-Point pony races on the NHC racing ponies.

- **No previous equine experience required**
- **Successful completion can lead onto the residential induction programme progressing to an apprenticeship and employment with a racehorse trainer.**



For further information please contact on:  
**Tel: 01302 861000 or email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)**

# Jockey Courses



## Apprentice Licence Course

An Apprentice Jockeys licence allows riders aged between 16 and 26 years old, who are in full time paid employment with a UK based Licensed Racehorse Trainer to ride in flat races against professional jockeys, but with a weight allowance to compensate for their inexperience. As part of the application, the prospective jockey is required to attend, and satisfactorily complete, a two-week course at the NHC. They must also undergo a medical examination and meet the Medical Standards for Fitness to Ride and the Assessment of Concussion protocol. All course reservations are made through the Licensing Team at the BHA.

## Conditional Licence Course

The Conditional Jockeys licence allows riders aged between 16 and 26 years old, who are in full time paid employment with a UK based Licensed Racehorse Trainer to ride in jump races against professional jockeys, but with a weight allowance to compensate for their inexperience. As part of the application, the prospective jockey is required to attend, and satisfactorily complete, a two-week course at the NHC. They must also undergo a medical examination and meet the Medical Standards for Fitness to Ride and the Assessment of Concussion protocol. All course reservations are made through the Licensing Team at The BHA.

## Pre-Licence Assessment Course

All prospective applicants must pass a pre-licence assessment before being considered for a place on the main jockeys' courses for apprentices and conditionals.

The day comprises a fitness test and riding assessment as well as one-to-one discussions with a jockey coach.

The aim of the day is to equip jockeys with improved technical skills necessary for progression through the early stages of their careers and to meet their personal development needs.

## Amateur Rider Category B Permit

Category B Permit holders may ride in Flat Races confined to Amateur Riders, Steeplechase or Hurdle Races, except those confined to Licensed Conditional Jockeys, and in all National Hunt Flat Races. The applicant must attend a five day training course. To be eligible for this training the rider must have had at least 15 completed rides under the Rules of Racing, the majority of which must be over obstacles or at least 20 completed rides in Point to Points and/or under the Rules of Racing. Generally, applications for Category B Permits are made by those who have already held a Category A Permit.

## Amateur Rider Category A Course

There are two elements involved in applying for Category A Amateur Rider's Permit. Applicants are required to attend an Amateur Riders' Training Seminar and also an assessment day when they are assessed before being recommended for a permit.

## Point to Point Pre-Season Training

This course comprises half a day of tuition delivered by the NHC's jumping consultant on the participant's own horse.

Visit our website for further details or contact on:  
**Tel: 01302 861000 or email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)**



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## Other Courses



### Assistant Trainers' Course

The Assistant Trainers' course is a three-day course reflecting the importance of the role within stables and on the racecourse. The course is also suitable for head grooms and pupil assistants.

The course covers aspects of staff management, handicapping, media training, health and safety, Racing Welfare, BHA's licensing and security functions, Weatherbys operations and the rules of racing.

A recommendation from the trainer or a CV proving sufficient experience must accompany an application.

### Trainers' Course

The Trainers' course consists of three modules, each of which take place over four/five days. They are a mandatory part of the criteria for a licence to train, as set by the British Horseracing Authority licensing committee but do not confer automatic right to a licence.

The course does not try to teach the art of training racehorses. It aims to provide individuals who aspire to gain a license with skills and knowledge to run their training business.

The modules:

**Module 1:** Racehorse Management (to be eligible to attend this course applicants must have achieved a Level 3 Diploma in Racehorse Care and Management) or Level 3 Senior Equine Groom Standard.

**Module 2:** Business Skills

**Module 3:** Staff Management

The above modules are made up of a series of seminars, which are delivered by specialist consultants, who each have extensive working knowledge of business management and / or the horseracing industry.

Full details regarding the course criteria and licence application forms can be found at the British Horseracing Authority's website [www.britishhorseracing.com](http://www.britishhorseracing.com)

### Racing Secretaries' Course

The Racing Secretaries' course is designed to provide aspiring secretaries and newly appointed secretaries with a comprehensive understanding of the role of the trainer's secretary, the structure of the racing industry and racing administration.

The two-day course provides a thorough grounding and allows candidates the opportunity to talk directly with key personnel from organisations such as Weatherbys, the National Trainers Federation, the British Horseracing Authority and the International Racing Bureau.



## Pony Racing Training days

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To ensure that junior jockeys participating in pony racing have the necessary race-riding experience, the National Horseracing College holds training days for riders aged 9 – 15. Taking place during the school holidays, training commences at 1.30pm and runs until 4.30pm and is open to all, from those who have no previous experience of race-riding, through to seasoned jockeys.

Ponies of all shapes and sizes are welcome to take part. The overall aim of a training day is to improve the junior jockey's position, technique and confidence whilst riding at speed and to develop their understanding of race-riding and the horseracing industry.

### Training days are run on a level based system:

Level 1 is the introductory level for riders who are attending their first training day, and those who have not ridden in any form of pony race. Progress to the next level is determined by the National Horseracing College jockey coach.

Level 2 is designed for jockeys who have taken part in two or more pony races (on the pony they intend riding during the day); this includes Pony Club races.

Level 3 is open to riders who have taken part in two or more pony races (on the pony they intend riding during the day); this includes Pony Club pony races.

Training at all three levels includes tuition on balance, style, technique, pace, control and awareness. Training takes place on the gallops on the rider's own pony and on the racehorse simulators. Riders receive a certificate and a training report. Riders must have their own personal accident cover and PPE skull hat, body protector (level 3 standard) and boots etc. It is not necessary to purchase racing equipment to attend the Level 1 training day. A general purpose saddle, with sufficient holes in the stirrup leathers to shorten up will be appropriate.

[Visit our website for further details.](#)





## Pony Racing



### Pony Racing Camp

Your pony gives you his all, every day of the year. This summer give him a holiday he'll really enjoy. Pony Racing Camp is a five day experience you and your pony will remember forever. Places are strictly limited to 12, so an early application is essential to avoid disappointment. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis, and are guaranteed upon receipt of an application form and the full camp fee.

### Pony Racing Scholarship

Learners attending the NHC 14 to 16 Programme will have the opportunity for a scholarship which will enable them to race in Pony Club or Point-to-Point pony races on the NHC racing ponies.

Visit our website for further details or contact on:  
**Tel: 01302 861000 or email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)**



## Facilities for Hire

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The National Horseracing College, set in an area of natural beauty, boasts some of the best equestrian facilities Yorkshire has to offer. Easily reached by all major road networks including the A1 and M18, the college offers the ideal location to host a varied range of equestrian pursuits. Individual, group and event bookings welcome. The facilities are available to hire either by hour, half day or on a daily rate. National Horseracing College is approved by the British Horse Society.

### Indoor Riding Arenas

The 60 X 40m indoor riding arena benefits from a silica sand with additive mix surface with generous lighting and communal viewing gallery. The school has access on two sides, and an automatic watering system for dust prevention with full BS standard show jumps and indoor x country fences on request – an excellent venue for hosting competitions.

The 20 x 40m indoor riding arena is positioned next to the 60 x 40m arena and has the communal viewing gallery ideal for a warm up area or hosting competitions.

### Woodchip Gallop

The College boasts an oval, seven furlong gallop which lends itself well to endurance and stamina training, the gallop is fully railed and benefits from furlong markers.

### Grass Gallop

The grass gallop is situated inside the oval all-weather gallop. A set of 10 bay starting stalls and regulation hurdles and steeplechase fences are available adjacent to the grass gallop. The area within the oval gallop is situated in a beautiful setting surrounded by trees, 25 acres of flat, mown grass for rings. Stone access road making it easily accessible. Ideal facility for summer shows, competitions and tournaments.



Amy Griffiths  
Photography



## Facilities for Hire



### Racehorse Simulators

Housed in the Victorian stable yard are two racehorse simulators. The room has mirror facilities and audio visual equipment on which to view previously recorded riding footage.

### Parking Facilities

Adjacent to the indoor riding arenas is the large hard standing car park and horsebox parking area. Access to water is also available as are female and male toilets and washing facilities.

### Corporate Facilities for Hire

Facilities in National Horseracing College's Visitor Centre are available to hire. The Visitor Centre is an ideal place to escape from the distractions of the city. The conference and meeting rooms overlook the gallops, and offer a unique, tranquil environment in which to meet clients and develop your business.

The meeting rooms, which boast air conditioning, natural daylight and disabled access, offer a combination of seating styles to suit your event. A wide range of audio visual and technical equipment, free WiFi and wall-mounted plasma screens are available in the meeting rooms. The car park, which is adjacent to the entrance reception, offers ample, complimentary parking.

Whether you wish to organise a competition, horse show, Pony Club rally or camp, clinic, or simply wish to train your horse in a private and peaceful environment, NHC would be pleased to discuss your requirements. There is a canteen area for hire also.



For further information: **Tel: 01302 861000** or  
**email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)**



# Shop

The National Horseracing College has an onsite shop stocked with all the items required by learners at college, whether on our 12 week residential foundation course or jockeys attending our specialised courses. All items are also available to purchase online via our website.



For further information: **Tel: 01302 861000** or  
**email [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)**



**“Yorkshire based Centre of Excellence  
for the horseracing industry”**

# How To Find Us



## From the M1/M18

1. Leave M1 at junction 32, then join the M18 motorway signposted "The North".
2. Leave the M18 at junction 3, the A6182 exit to Doncaster.
3. At the roundabout take the 3rd exit onto Great Yorkshire Way/A6182.
4. At the roundabout take the 1st exit and stay on the Great Yorkshire Way.
5. At traffic lights slight right onto Bawtry Road/A638, continue to follow A638 towards Bawtry.
6. At the roundabout follow signs for A638 Great North Road.
7. Continue past the Mount Pleasant Hotel on your right.
8. The entrance to the College is signposted and is on your right.

## From the A1 (travelling from the South)

1. Leave the A1 at junction 34. On the 1st roundabout take the 4th exit, then at 2nd roundabout take the 1st exit onto the A614, signposted Bawtry
2. At roundabout take the 1st exit onto the A638 signposted Bawtry

3. Entering Bawtry continue straight on, A638 (Great North Road) signposted Doncaster
4. Keep on the A638 and you will pass a caravan centre on your right, followed by a water tower on your left, and then the Paintball Fields and RSPCA Centre - also on your left. Approximately 50 yards further on you will see the NHC gallops on the left hand side.
5. The entrance to the College is signposted about another 100 yards on your left.



National Horseracing College  
The Stables, Rossington Hall  
Great North Road  
Doncaster  
DN11 0HN

T 01302 861000

E [info@theNHC.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHC.co.uk)

W [www.theNHC.co.uk](http://www.theNHC.co.uk)

Text NHC INFO to 60777 for further information



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European Union  
European Social Fund  
Investing in jobs and skills



Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this prospectus the College reserves the right to make amendments. Some details may also be subject to changes beyond our control, such as those made by Government or awarding bodies. We cannot be held responsible for the consequences of any inaccuracies or omissions but aim to provide updates details to applicants as soon as they are available.

V5 July 2019.

