

## **Career Assistance**

No matter how talented a jockey may be, this is not a career for life. Most will retire from the saddle by the age of 40. Weight catches up, injuries take their toll. A riding career can be cut short at any time, at any age. And then what will you do?

At Racing NSW we think it's very important that you plan for the future. Riding is your life and your business, but it won't always be that way. It's never too soon to make those plans, to get a better education, to learn new skills, or to work out ways of running your own business once you stop riding racehorses.

Racing NSW has put a system in place to help and advise you, to encourage you, and to guide you.

With our partners TAFE NSW – Western Sydney Institute and the NSW Jockeys Association, Racing NSW can help you to make the right decisions and to make sure you're in a strong position to start a new career when eventually the day comes that you decide it's time to move on.

New careers can be launched through the Open Training and Education Network, or more commonly known as OTEN. It's part of the Western Sydney TAFE Institute. There are 65,000 students enrolled here, but you won't find any classrooms or lecture theatres inside. Everything is done by correspondence, by distance education, mainly by using the internet, and in such a way that you can complete courses, without pressure, in your spare time.

The range of courses on offer is simply amazing. The many teachers, talking to students by phone, or communicating via the internet, are here to help students of all ages and all backgrounds, who want to learn new skills or improve their chances of success in a new career. Within the horse industry there are certificates in equine nursing and how to run an agistment property, saddle making and stud work. In horticulture there are courses in landscape gardening, running a nursery and racetrack maintenance. Perhaps you like working with computers, or fancy yourself as a builder, a mechanic, or a fitness trainer – working with children or running your own small business.

You may not know what you want to do apart from being a jockey – and that's where the assistance of careers counsellor Paul Colwell comes into play. Paul's an educational counsellor, who can sit down with you, listen to you and give you his ideas on how you can improve your skills.

### **Contact Us now**

For more information on how you can learn extra skills or prepare yourself to build successfully on your career as a jockey, contact the Racing NSW/TAFE NSW – WSI Training Partnership on 1800 200 724. Or, you can contact OTEN careers counsellor Paul Colwell direct on (02)