

William M. Lear Jr.  
Vice Chairman  
The Jockey Club

William M. Lear Jr. has served as vice chairman of The Jockey Club since 2015. He has been a member of The Jockey Club since 2010.

Lear is the chairman emeritus of Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC, the Kentucky-based law firm that counts among its clients Keeneland, Breeders' Cup, The Jockey Club, the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, and a number of Thoroughbred breeding and racing operations.

Over the past 40 years, Lear's law practice has focused on litigation, real estate development, government relations, and equine law. His involvement in the Thoroughbred industry dates back to the early 1980s and has included litigation, negotiation of horsemen's contracts with racetracks, state and federal legislation, and medication regulation. Lear is one of the principal draftsmen of the Horseracing Integrity Act, which would standardize racing medication regulation throughout the United States.

Lear currently serves as a trustee of Keeneland Association and a board member of Commonwealth Seed Capital LLC. He is a past chair of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Lexington Chamber of Commerce, and he has been inducted into the Kentucky Economic Development Hall of Fame, the University of Kentucky Law School Hall of Fame, and the Bluegrass Business Leaders Hall of Fame.