Thank you for your interest in the The Jockey Club newsletter, “On the Lead.” Each edition will provide insights into The Jockey Club and its family of companies. We will share what our companies are working on, the initiatives we support, and other pertinent information to help you better understand The Jockey Club and its role in Thoroughbred breeding and racing.

If there is something particular you’d like to see included in the newsletter or if you have questions for us, please click here to let us know.

Sincerely,
Jim Gagliano
President and COO

Initiative Spotlight

Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation (Grayson) was established when the Grayson Foundation merged with The Jockey Club’s research foundation. The Grayson Foundation’s aim was to support research for all breeds of horses at existing institutions through funding, which is still the goal of Grayson.

Since 1983, the foundation has provided more than $30.6 million to fund 397 projects at 45 universities in North America and overseas.

All research is vetted by the Research Advisory Committee (RAC), which includes 32 individuals representing various research specialties and veterinary practices from across North America. Each year, the committee convenes

The research Grayson has funded over the years has led to numerous breakthroughs in equine health and welfare, including:

- First Equine Influenza Vaccine
- Development of The Field of Biomechanics
- Control of The Shaker Foal Syndrome
- Gene Therapy for Equine Arthritis
- Cause and Diagnosis of Placentitis In Mares
- Equine Viral Arteritis Vaccine
- Laminitis Study Leading to Cryotherapy Treatment Protocols
- PET Scan Project
- Messenger RNA Molecule to Treat Rhodococcus Equi

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in January after reading all proposals submitted by the research community. The RAC spends three days poring over the projects from top to bottom and rating them, recommending the best to the board of directors. The board then meets to determine how many projects can be funded that year.

For the past seven years, Grayson has allotted more than $1 million each year, including a record $1,638,434 in 2021 to fund 12 new projects at 12 universities, 12 continuing projects, and two career development awards worth $20,000 each.

This year, Grayson issued a formal call for research focused on the development of a nucleic acid-based vaccine against equine herpes virus (EHV). Dr. John Ballantyne and Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation have committed $2 million to fund this research.

There are multiple strains of EHV, and they can affect all breeds of horses. Although the effects are often similar to those of a common cold in humans, the disease can have much more serious outcomes, including death, in horses. EHV-1 and EHV-4 live in a latent form in a horse’s system for life. If a horse is stressed, the infection can cause another bout of illness and be transferred to other horses. This is one reason EHV research is so important – an outbreak can happen with no warning, even in a closed herd. Grayson is devoted to helping all breeds of horses. To learn more about Grayson and the important research it funds, visit grayson-jockeyclub.org. The research Grayson will help fund in 2022 will be announced in early March.

On the Lead with Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation

Jamie Haydon, President

How did you get into horse racing?
My love for horse racing started on April 4, 1987. I was on spring break for school, it was snowing and my mother would not get out of bed so my dad and I went to the track. With all this in mind I wagered $5 to win on She’s A Sleeper in the $20,000 claiming race, and when I got back more than $50 for her win, I was a fan.

Racing Resume:
Summer of 1992 and 1993: Keeneland Maintenance Crew
Summer of 1994: Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders and Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, intern
1996 – 1999: Breeders’ Cup, intern racing, nominations and marketing departments
1998: Ascot Racecourse, intern marketing and sales departments
1999 – 2004: National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Promotions Manager
2004 – 2006: Four Star Sales, Sales Director
2006 – 2008: Kentucky Horse Racing Authority, Director of Incentive and Development
2008 – 2017: The Jockey Club, Manager of Industry Initiatives
2017 – 2019: Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, Vice President
2020 – present: Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, President

What do you enjoy outside of work?
My outside interests are golf and spending time with my family.
InCompass Solutions is the industry’s leading technology solutions and software provider for racetracks and simulcast facilities throughout North America.

Its Track Manager system has streamlined operations in the racing and horsemen’s bookkeeper offices and provides additional services to horsemen and other industry stakeholders.

InCompass’ central database also serves as a platform for several industry initiatives that promote the integrity and safety of horse racing, including the Equine Injury Database and the Jockey Health Information System.

A recent initiative is the roll-out of the Exceptional Performance Reference Tool (EPRT), which is housed in InCompass’ Track Manager system.

The goal of the EPRT is to enable racetrack customers and regulators to use the toolset’s diagnostics to help identify significant performance changes in racehorses that might merit closer examination.

The system was developed with input McKinsey & Company, data scientists, and third-party speed figure experts.

“InCompass became involved later when it was determined that InCompass Track Manager would be an optimal place for this product to live,”

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suggested Chris Dobbins, senior vice president of InCompass. “We then had to figure out how to use the data available to us, plus add in the Thoro-Graph figures, to build the concept from McKinsey into a true reporting tool that can be recreated on a daily basis for each track.”

While controlling for factors such as changes in trainer, surface, or age, the EPRT establishes a baseline performance number for an individual horse. Using this information, the tool identifies horses when a racing performance significantly changes from that baseline.

While the output of the EPRT cannot identify a particular reason why a performance was exceptional, it can help racetrack management and regulators identify horses for further inquiry. The greater focus afforded by the EPRT puts management and regulators in a much better position to conduct time-sensitive integrity and safety reviews while lessening their resource burdens.

The Jockey Club team has shared this tool with the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) in support of its anti-doping and medication control and safety programs under the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act of 2020.

The integrity and safety issues that have become even more prominent over the past two years have demonstrated the need for racetracks and regulators to have additional toolsets to help them face these challenges. With the EPRT, they now have access to a potentially invaluable product to promote integrity and safety in horse racing.

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**On the Lead with InCompass**

**Chris Dobbins, Senior Vice President**

*How did you get into horse racing?*

My interest in horse racing started at an early age helping on the small farm I grew up on in Oklahoma raising mainly racing Quarter Horses at the time before transitioning to Thoroughbreds. I accompanied my father to so many tracks, large and small, across the Midwest and enjoyed being around the horses and the sport. When it came time to choose an occupation it was between petroleum engineering and horse racing. Horse racing ended up winning out in the long run.

*Racing Resume*

1999 – 2001: Track Management, Director of Racing and Simulcasting, Will Rogers Downs  
2001 – 2006: Track Management, Simulcast and Mutual Manager, Sam Houston  
2006 – 2011: Senior Wagering Analyst, Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau  
2011 – 2020: Vice President of Business Development, InCompass  
2021 – present: Senior Vice President, InCompass

*What do you enjoy outside of work?*

My outside passions are golf and fly fishing. Both allow me to enjoy the outdoors and share that time with my wife, Jess, who also loves both sports.

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**What’s Coming Up**

- **Internship Applications Due** - February 11  
- **Online Fact Book Updated** - mid February  
- **Virtual OwnerView Conference Session 1** - March 8  
- **Equine Injury Database 2021 Statistics Released** - late March  
- **2022 American Racing Manual Available** - early April
Fact Book

The Jockey Club has produced its annual Fact Book as a service to the industry since 1990. Since 2013, the Fact Book has been provided online, and it has been updated quarterly since 2020. In 2021, a free PDF of the American Racing Manual was added as a link in the online Fact Book.

The Jockey Club now produces the American Racing Manual and will continue to provide a free PDF version on its website under the Fact Book section. Individual state fact books are also available.

Click here to visit the Fact Book.

Registration Services

It’s that time of year! Below are links to resources to help you microchip and register your foals and manage digital certificates.

Registration Overview (FAQ)

How to Microchip Your Foal (video)

How to Manage Digital Certificates (video)