

Media Release

The Hon Anthony Carbines MP

Minister for Police
Minister for Crime Prevention
Minister for Racing



Wednesday, 25 October 2023

FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR NEW JOCKEY WELLBEING APP

Jockeys will soon have access to an online platform that will support their mental health thanks to funding from the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Racing Anthony Carbines today announced the platform which is being jointly funded with a \$40,000 contribution from the Labor Government's Victorian Racing Industry Fund and an additional \$40,000 contribution from Racing Victoria.

The Jockey Wellbeing app and website will prompt jockeys to check-in on their mental health through self-assessments and personalised activities.

The app and website can be customised with tailored content from the Victorian Jockeys Association and jockeys will be able to connect with other members to receive and provide social support, mentoring and guidance.

The app will also connect jockeys to the Jockey Assistance Program, Stable Line and other free third party support options such as Financial Counselling Australia.

Designed by Australian-based company Readiness in partnership with the Swinburne Centre for Mental Health, the platforms will provide a clear blueprint for jockeys to manage their mental and physical wellbeing.

It will provide a much-needed resource for jockeys facing the mental challenges of participating in a high-risk sport that is both physically and mentally demanding.

The Jockey Wellbeing app and website is expected to be live from February 2024.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Racing Anthony Carbines

"This vital tool will provide jockeys with a platform designed and dedicated to their profession to better support their mental health and wellbeing."

"We know that having access to support can have a profound impact on someone's health and wellbeing, and we want our jockeys to know that help is at hand if they need."

Quote attributable to Victorian Jockeys' Association Chief Executive Officer Matthew Hyland

"I would like to thank the Victorian Government for their investment in this project for our jockeys. The platform will allow our jockeys to self-monitor their wellbeing and have access to resources customised to support their ongoing needs."

Quote attributable to Racing Victoria Chief Executive Officer Andrew Jones

"Our industry is built on the hard work, dedication and passion of all racing participants. We thank the Victorian Government for their ongoing support through the Victorian Racing Industry Fund and for their commitment to this initiative."

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