

Jim Gates, Jr.

Jim Gates' 25-year career in the thoroughbred industry includes a variety of roles in many aspects of the business. As a result, he has in-depth knowledge and experience in track operations, horsemen and customer relations, safety and integrity pursuits, trainer and broodmare farm operations and finance, and regulatory and legislative issues.

His 14 years at Churchill Downs Incorporated (CDI) included 7 years as General Manager of Churchill Downs Racetrack and 3 years as Vice-President, Development during which he oversaw mergers and acquisitions activity. As General Manager, Jim spearheaded CDI's "Safety from Start to Finish" initiative. This effort to increase safety for human and equine athletes resulted in Churchill Downs being the first track accredited by the NTRA Safety & Integrity Alliance. For the last decade, Jim has performed safety accreditations for the Safety & Integrity Alliance at racetracks around the country, learning and espousing best practices in all areas of equine and human safety.

Subsequent to his time at CDI, Jim spent several years as the CFO/COO of Dale Romans Racing Stable. Jim has also served on the Boards of Directors of the Racing Medication & Testing Consortium, Racing Officials Accreditation Program, Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory and Thoroughbred Racing Associations.

As a principal of Gates Consulting LLC, Jim currently has a book of consulting business focused on finance and operations with non-profit and for-profit clients in a variety of industries.

Jim is a CPA with a B.S. from the University of Dayton and an MBA from the University of Notre Dame.