

Upstate New York



# Jason M. Settlemoir

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Jason Settlemoir's entire life has been devoted to harness racing. He was 13 years old when he announced his first race at the Hartford Independent Fair in Licking County, Ohio. He later did the same at numerous other county fairs in Ohio as well as the West Virginia State Fair. His ability to describe the action eventually found him as a backup announcer at Scioto Downs and Northfield Park.

Settlemoir got his first full-time management position as assistant to the assistant general manager (Jerry Kalb) at Scioto Downs in 1996, but he was soon promoted to simulcast program manager. Shortly after that he took on several more jobs at the raceway, including track announcer, simulcast director, and assistant race secretary.

In 2005 he was hired by the USTA as director of advertising. But his tenure there was brief because he was offered the opportunity to be a part of a racing renaissance in New York State.

Jeff Gural brought Settlemoir on board to help bring one racetrack back from the brink of extinction and oversee the rebirth of another track that had been shuttered for 28 years.

While expending endless hours of work building a staff, planning promotions and growing simulcast outlets, Settlemoir was an integral part of keeping Vernon Downs alive and guiding Gural's new track, Tioga Downs, to be one of the finest racing facilities in New York.

Currently, Jason Settlemoir is vice president of Racing and Simulcast for American Racing and Entertainment (Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs). He is also simulcast director for the Little Brown Jug, vice president of Harness Tracks of America, a director for the United States Trotting Association District 8 and president of the U.S. Harness Writers Association. Settlemoir is also active in the sport as a standardbred owner. He was awarded the 2006 U.S. Harness Writers Association's Lew Barasch Breakthrough Award for his work in opening up Tioga Downs and making sure Vernon Downs survived.