

A native of Atlanta, Dustin got his start with horses at the age of six when he attended YMCA horse camp. From there, Dustin immersed himself in all things equine. He spent countless hours in the saddle as a youth showing at saddle clubs where he rode hunt seat, western pleasure, barrel racing, and pole bending. In high school, Dustin rode in the High School Rodeo Association as a bull rider winning a number of championships.

At age 15 Dustin found his niche when a racehorse trainer noticed his talents and offered a job exercising racehorses on his farm. Dustin fell in love with racing and devoted himself to pursuing a career as a thoroughbred jockey. Dustin's dream became reality in 1990 in Fort Worth, Texas at Trinity Meadows Raceway, when on his first official ride, he brought his horse from off the pace to win by a head at the wire; the horse's name: Incredible Story. Dustin won four out of his next eight starts and was quickly recruited to ride at prestigious Gulfstream Park in Miami, FL.

Dustin enjoyed a 13-year career as a journeyman thoroughbred jockey. Based out of Belmont Park, in New York, Dustin was a regular on the racing circuit traveling between New York, Gulfstream Park in Miami, Arlington International Racecourse in Chicago, as well as riding races in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

In 2003, Dustin's jockey career unexpectedly ended due to an injury. He returned home to Atlanta where he attended Georgia State University and started a business investing in real estate. For the next few years Dustin's hobby was "pin hooking" racehorses, which involves purchasing thoroughbred yearlings, breaking and training them to ride, then reselling at, "In Training" sales. Many of the thoroughbreds Dustin trained went on to have successful racing careers. During this time Dustin also specialized in recognizing and purchasing elite barrel racing prospect horses, improving their performance through his training, then reselling them to WPRA Pro Rodeo women in the western US. Dustin's horses made appearances at the National Finals Rodeo and one horse was sold and exported to Brazil where it won a national championship. Dustin earned a national reputation as an expert source for producing elite barrel racing stock.

However, by 2007 Dustin had become disenchanted with the business of racing. Feeling there was lack of purpose, he decided to leave it behind and liquidated all his stock. For 12 years Dustin had no contact with horses while his family grew, and he built a real estate development business. It was not until his wife encouraged him to volunteer at Chastain Horse Park that horses once again came into his life. Through volunteering, Dustin recognized the incredible healing power of horses for people with disabilities. Having found the purpose he had been missing, Dustin sought his PATH International CTRI certification and recently became the second person to ever successfully complete PATH International's rigorous new CTRI certification process. Dustin is a horseman extraordinaire and passionate about his second professional equine career here at Chastain Horse Park.

Dustin attended Dunwoody High School and Georgia State University. He lives in East Cobb with his wife, Stacy, and their three daughters. When he is not instructing riding lessons, Dustin enjoys real estate investing, boating, and competing in fitness competitions.