



Australian Government

ACMPHR503 Evaluate performance horse conformation

Release: 1

ACMPHR503 Evaluate performance horse conformation

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to assess the conformation of horses for various performance horse sports. It covers the implications of conformation on performance and the development of corrective measures and action plans for young horses to minimise future problems.

The unit applies to individuals who have managerial responsibilities within performance horse training and breeding organisations for selecting horses for various performance horse sports. They work independently within organisational guidelines, applying extensive knowledge of horse conformation and industry skills to achieve outcomes.

No occupational licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Performance Horse (PHR)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
----------	----------------------

<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Research key features of horse conformation	1.1 Analyse and report on the conformation of horses using objective, standard conformation terminology 1.2 Observe and identify desirable conformation of horses relevant to breed standard or performance discipline 1.3 Observe and identify unsoundness and blemishes of horses 1.4 Identify the essential elements of the movement of the horse relevant to breed standard and performance discipline 1.5 Design and apply conformation and movement selection criteria indices when assessing horses
2. Analyse the relationship of conformation to specific performance horse sports	2.1 Establish ideal sport-specific conformation according to sport or sector guidelines 2.2 Apply ideal sport-specific conformation to horse selection procedures according to organisation guidelines 2.3 Identify undesirable sport-specific conformation traits, and determine the implications of these traits on performance 2.4 Implement strategies to resolve or manage undesirable conformation traits to reduce negative impacts on performance horses
3. Assess conformation in young horses and develop correction plan	3.1 Assess and report on the conformation of foals using standard conformation terminology 3.2 Assess and report on foal and young horse conformation against established breed and sport standards 3.3 Identify undesirable characteristics of foal and young horse conformation
4. Develop conformation correction plan for young horses	4.1 Develop corrective action plan to rectify undesirable characteristics in consultation with industry professionals 4.2 Ensure strategies in corrective action plan meet organisation objectives and comply with animal welfare and work health and safety requirements

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	- Undertake independent research to access key information on horse conformation and requirements of performance horse sports - Analyse written information in a range of technical veterinary and/or scientific reports
Writing	Collate data and observations for monitoring, reviewing and reporting on horse conformation
Navigate the world of work	- Take responsibility for complying with regulatory requirements including work health and safety and animal welfare within own role and area of work - Follow safe, ethical and humane horse handling industry practices
Interact with others	Use industry concepts, terminology and protocols for communicating with a variety of people in undertaking work
Get the work done	- Plan and sequence strategies for analysing, researching and correcting horse conformation - Analyse problems and risks, devise solutions and reflect on approaches taken relevant to evaluating performance horse conformation

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMPHR503 Evaluate performance horse conformation	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>

Assessment Requirements for ACMPHR503 Evaluate performance horse conformation

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0

Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has observed, examined and evaluated the conformation of at least three horses, including at least one foal or other young horse, including:

- handling horses safely and humanely during examinations and observations
- reporting on the conformation of horses covering:
 - desirable and undesirable conformational features
 - requirements of established breed and sport standards
- developing corrective action plans to manage undesirable characteristics and rectify conformation traits of individual horses
- using health care practices, including bandaging and hoof care as part of corrective action strategies
- complying with regulatory requirements and workplace and industry procedures and practices relevant to role and evaluating performance horse conformation, including:
 - animal welfare and prevention of cruelty to animals
 - work health and safety.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- techniques for analysing horse conformation
- desirable and undesirable conformation characteristics of horses
- performance horse breeds and conformation characteristics
- breed conformation standards of excellence
- industry standard conformation terminology
- performance horse sports and requirements

- normal and abnormal features of horse gaits and movement
- features of unsoundness and blemishes in horses and foals
- veterinary procedures for correcting abnormal conformation, including for young horses
- farriery procedures for correcting abnormal conformation, including for young horses
- key features of horse husbandry practices
- key requirements of work health and safety regulations and guidelines relating to:
 - risk assessment, control and review
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)
- key requirements of animal welfare standards, policies and procedures relevant to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live horses, including foals and young horses – note that young horses can be less compliant and highly reactive, and should be assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - materials and information about horse conformation, or technology to access the information.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>