



Australian Government

RGRPSH205 Perform basic riding skills in the racing industry

Release: 1

RGRPSH205 Perform basic riding skills in the racing industry

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with RGR Racing and Breeding Training Package Version 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to achieve basic riding skills on a well-educated, compliant and manageable horse. It includes protecting the welfare of people and horses and providing pre-exercise and post-exercise care of horses.

The unit applies to individuals who are new or inexperienced in riding horses and who need to attain basic riding skills while working in workplace environments of racing stables, paddocks, yards, racecourses and public areas.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, in accordance with applicable state/territory animal welfare and workplace health and safety legislative requirements.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- RGRPSH201 Handle racehorses in stables and at trackwork.

Unit Sector

Performance services horse (PSH)

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. Protect the safety and welfare of people and horses	1.1 Confirm and follow supervisor instructions, including those relating to safety and venue-specific requirements 1.2 Identify potential hazards and minimise risks to self, others and

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	horse 1.3 Select, correctly fit, and maintain appropriate personal protective equipment according to workplace policies and procedures 1.4 Check the fit, wear and suitability of horse gear according to workplace procedures
2. Provide pre-exercise care of horses	2.1 Identify, catch and secure horse following safe handling procedures and supervisor instructions 2.2 Carry out pre-exercise grooming according to workplace procedures
3. Apply basic riding skills	3.1 Saddle horse with designated gear, ensuring correct and comfortable fit 3.2 Mount the horse safely according to supervisor's instructions 3.3 Perform warm-up procedures according to instructions 3.4 Identify and use aids to control movement, speed and direction of a horse at walk, trot and canter 3.5 Follow basic riding instructions 3.6 Maintain a balanced riding position using appropriate saddle and stirrup length 3.7 Dismount horse safely
4. Ride and control horse safely	4.1 Follow instructions and procedures for safety of self, horse and other horses and riders in the vicinity 4.2 Ride alone and in pairs at varying paces using aids appropriate to the horse's training 4.3 Ride within safety zones when riding in company 4.4 Assess potential risks and take appropriate action to reduce impact 4.5 Report problems and seek feedback on riding skill progress
5. Provide post-exercise care of horses	5.1 Perform warm-down and remove riding gear from horse according to workplace procedures 5.2 Perform post-exercise grooming according to workplace procedures 5.3 Release horse safely following workplace practices 5.4 Clean equipment and check and report wear and/or breakage

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	according to workplace policies and procedures

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	Interpret key information in workplace instructions
Oral communication	Use appropriate concepts and terminology when communicating with supervisor
Navigate the world of work	Recognise organisational expectations and follow explicit protocols and procedures when riding
Get the work done	- Assemble resources and follow clearly defined instructions, seeking assistance when necessary - Assess safety hazards and risks associated with riding horses; monitoring and responding to safety at all times

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSH205 Perform basic riding skills in the racing industry	RGRPSH205A Perform basic riding tasks	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Merging of two units. Prerequisite added.	No equivalent unit
RGRPSH205 Perform basic riding skills in the racing industry	RGRPSH206A Develop riding skills for flatwork	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Merging of two units.	No equivalent unit

		Prerequisite added.	
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Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0>

Assessment Requirements for RGRPSH205 Perform basic riding skills in the racing industry

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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, on at least three occasions, and with a minimum of two different well-educated, compliant and manageable horses of different ages and temperaments, the individual has:

- carried out pre-ride requirements, including:
 - clarified instructions
 - carried out a basic safety check
 - organised, checked and fitted racing-approved personal protective equipment and horse gear according to instructions
- caught and prepared the horse for riding
- performed riding skills safely and effectively according to supervisor instructions and safe riding practices, including:
 - safely mounted and dismounted the horse
 - correctly held and adjusted reins
 - adjusted girth and stirrup length while mounted
 - used aids to control movement, speed and direction of horse
 - maintained balance while performing rising trot on the correct diagonal
 - maintained a balanced forward seat in two-point and three-point riding position at canter, identifying correct lead on both reins
 - took up a bridge rein, demonstrating shortening and lengthening of the rein while trotting
 - rode alone and in company of others
- rode and controlled the horse safely in the following gaits:
 - trotted the horse for a minimum of 800 metres or two minutes
 - cantered the horse in a two-point position bridging the reins for a minimum of 800 metres or for two minutes, carrying a whip
- performed post-riding procedures on horse and equipment and released the horse safely.

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:

- communication procedures within supervisor and stable
- characteristics of horses:
 - basic industry terminology
 - common behaviour, social traits and vices of horses
 - types of responses to cues
 - specific, known characteristics of individual horses to be ridden
- types of approved horse gear, including:
 - bridles and relevant components of bridles
 - common bits used for racing
 - rings and running martingales
 - breastplates
 - double clip leads
 - saddles, stirrup leathers, stirrup irons, girths and surcingles
 - saddlecloths and packing
 - corrective gear
 - signs of gear wear and breakage and reporting
- riding techniques relevant to racing industry, including:
 - two-point and three-point, forward seat position
 - bridging the reins
- racing industry safety and animal welfare requirements, including:
 - safe workplace procedures
 - identifying hazards and risks
 - types and purpose of personal protective equipment
 - relevant road and track safety rules
- pre-exercise and post-exercise care and grooming
- basic riding skills, including:
 - riding horses singly or in company
 - retrieving and bridging reins
 - saddling horses
 - stopping and changing direction
 - understanding and correctly using aids
 - warm-up and warm-down procedures for horse
 - controlling horse movement, speed and direction
- avoiding 'getting on heels' and estimating safe riding distance from other horses at different paces:
 - when walking, maintaining approximately two horse lengths

- when trotting, maintaining approximately four to six lengths
- when cantering, maintaining approximately more than six lengths
- safe zones, including:
 - identifying and keeping clear of young or intractable horses
 - techniques for slowing or manoeuvring horses seeking to encroach on space of others
 - width between riders.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - safe handling and controlled riding areas, such as racing stables, and enclosed arena or fenced slow work track
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a variety of well-educated, compliant and manageable horses of different ages and temperaments, assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual and the activity
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) that is appropriate for activity and correctly fitted for individual
 - gear and tack appropriate for horse and activity
- specifications:
 - work instructions and related documentation
- relationships:
 - interactions with supervisor and other relevant people.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence 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.

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