



Australian Government

RGRPSH402 Drive horses in pacework and fast work

Release: 1

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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 drive horses for pacework and fast work using a range of standardbred horses in training.

The unit applies to individuals, with experience in drive jog work, who use specialised technical harness driving skills and knowledge in the racing industry.

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.

Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit. Users are advised to check with the relevant Principal Racing Authority (PRA) for current requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- RGRPSH305 Develop driving skills for trackwork.

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also apply to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
RGRPSH305 Develop driving skills for trackwork	RGRPSH204 Prepare to drive jog work
RGRPSH204 Prepare to drive jog work	RGRPSH203 Perform basic driving tasks
RGRPSH203 Perform basic driving tasks	RGRPSH201 Handle horses 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. Prepare for trackwork	1.1 Confirm and clarify exercise instructions with trainer 1.2 Assess and control risks associated with trackwork activity 1.3 Warm up and cool down horses according to trainer instruction and individual horse exercise requirements 1.4 Handle horses safely and ethically, and monitor horse welfare during and after exercise
2. Exercise horses in pacework	2.1 Select and fit gear and personal protective equipment (PPE) for pacework 2.2 Achieve and maintain pacework speed for exercise period according to trainer instruction and safe work practices 2.3 Measure speed and distance using industry-recognised methods
3. Exercise horses for fast work	3.1 Select and fit gear and PPE for fast work 3.2 Drive safely to achieve and maintain fast work speed for exercise period 3.3 Develop racing skills of horses according to trainer instruction
4. Care for horses post-exercise	4.1 Carry out post-exercise care of horses and gear according to stable procedures 4.2 Report horse response to trackwork to trainer

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
Numeracy	Estimate and use basic arithmetic to calculate speed, distance and time

Skill	Description
Navigate the world of work	Follow rules of racing and workplace procedures, including work health and safety and animal welfare requirements, associated with own work and role
Interact with others	- Adhere to track driving etiquette in interactions with others - Follow industry accepted practices and protocols for receiving trainer instructions and reporting horse performance
Get the work done	- Follow instructions, sequence tasks and prepare equipment required for trackwork driving and care for horses - Take responsibility for and make routine decisions relating to safety, safe horse handling and trackwork driving within limits of own role

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSH402 Drive horses in pacework and fast work	RGRPSH402A Drive horses in pacework and fast work	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Revised elements and performance criteria to clarify intent.	Equivalent unit

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 RGRPSH402 Drive horses in pacework and fast work

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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 the individual has driven standardbred horses, of different experience and temperaments, at pacework and fast work, on at least five occasions, including for each:

- interpreted and implemented trainer's trackwork instructions and assessed safety risks, including checking track and weather conditions
- selected and fitted approved gear and aids according to trainer instructions and rules of racing
- prepared horses for exercise and provided post-exercise care to horses
- exercised horses, maintaining fast work or pacework speed throughout exercise period, including:
 - driving singly and in company of others
 - complying with driving etiquette and track rules
 - reported horse response to exercise to trainer and/or others.

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:

- principles and practices of driving horses in pacework and fast work, including:
 - driving etiquette
 - gear and equipment
 - gait, paces and speed of horses
 - aids to control speed and direction of a horse
 - poor response to exercise that may indicate horse injury or fatigue
- harness racing industry safety requirements, including:
 - safe operating procedures
 - safety risks and hazards, including track and weather conditions

- safe zones for driving
- private road and track rules
- types and purpose of personal protective equipment
- racing industry standards and expectations relevant to driving horses in pacework and fast work:
 - communication procedures within stable and wider racing industry
 - racing industry animal welfare requirements
 - relevant rules of racing for harness pacework and fast work.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - racing training facilities and racing or training track
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various standardbred horses currently in training, assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate and correctly fitted racing industry-approved gear and equipment for individual, horse and activity
- specifications:
 - trainer instructions and reporting requirements.

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.

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