



Australian Government

RGRPSH411 Drive horses in trials

Release: 1

RGRPSH411 Drive horses in trials

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 prepare and drive horses in trials. It includes complying with rules of racing, following instructions, judging pace, and adjusting driving technique according to track conditions.

The unit applies to individuals who are able to drive fast trackwork and use specialised knowledge and practical harness driving skills 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:

- RGRPSH402 Drive horses in pacework and fast work.

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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
RGRPSH402 Drive horses in pacework and fast work	RGRPSH305 Develop driving skills for trackwork
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	RGRPSH201 Handle racehorses

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
driving tasks	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. Comply with and complete trial procedures	1.1 Confirm horses to be driven in trials according to trainer instructions 1.2 Follow directions from stewards and starters 1.3 Verify and follow trainer instructions 1.4 Confirm licence and racing documentation are complete and submitted according to required timeframes
2. Apply trial driving skills	2.1 Carry out warm-up and score-up as directed 2.2 Assess potential risks related to track, gear and equipment and horse condition 2.3 Use driving skills according to track conditions and situations 2.4 Judge pace of horse during trial and maintain for required times and distances, according to trainer instructions
3. Use safe driving skills	3.1 Apply rules relating to safe, compliant and competitive trial driving during a trial 3.2 Apply appropriate whip use and comply with rules relating to whip use

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 written trainer instructions, workplace documentation, and relevant rules of racing
Numeracy	Estimate and calculate speed, distance and time relevant to horse pace and driving
Oral communication	Listen to instructions, respond to requests and convey information using clear language and industry terminology relating to handling and racing horses
Navigate the world of work	Adhere to rules of racing and race trial protocols, and follow safe and ethical horse handling and work practices associated with own role
Interact with others	Follow racing communication protocols and practices when interacting with a range of racing personnel
Get the work done	- Plan and prepare strategies for race trial, considering trainer and racing official instructions, and taking responsibility for decisions - Anticipate and respond rapidly to changed circumstances in a trial, including emergency situations

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSH411 Drive horses in trials	RGRPSH411A Drive horses in trials	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages.	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 RGRPSH411 Drive horses in trials

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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 prepared for and demonstrated safe driving skills, in trials on at least three occasions with standardbred horses, including for each occasion:

- followed instructions from trainer and complied with directions of racing officials
- assessed potential risks related to track conditions, gear and equipment and horse
- controlled horses during trials using appropriate and safe driving techniques, including:
 - warming up and scoring up
 - driving horses to and from barriers
 - judging and maintaining pace
 - using whip effectively, following rules of racing and animal welfare guidelines.

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:
 - behaviour of trialling horses
 - pace of trialling horses
 - track rules
 - track condition and surfaces
 - driving skills and techniques for different track conditions, surfaces and situations
- harness trial procedures and protocols:
 - Australian and local rules of racing relating to trial driving, including for whip use
 - classes of trials
 - industry terminology related to handling and racing horses
 - starting procedures
 - responsibilities of stewards and racing officials
- racing industry standards and expectations:

- communication procedures with stewards, barrier attendants and trainers
- animal welfare requirements
- safety requirements, including safe operating procedures.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - racing training establishments, training and racetracks, and barrier trials
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various standardbred horses assessed as suitable for the skill and experience of the individual
 - appropriate racing industry-approved gear and equipment for individual, horse and activity
- specifications:
 - trainer and racing official instructions and rules of racing.

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

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