



Australian Government

RGRPSH412 Drive horses in races

Release: 1

RGRPSH412 Drive horses in races

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 follow pre-race and post-race routines, plan and use race strategies and driving skills, and report on races.

The unit applies to individuals who have driving skills suitable for race driving in races conducted on racetracks in the harness code of 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:

- RGRPSH410 Prepare for race driving.

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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
RGRPSH410 Prepare for race driving	RGRPSH402 Drive horses in pacework and fast work
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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
RGRPSH203 Perform basic driving tasks	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. Follow an appropriate pre-race and post-race routine	1.1 Prepare race gear and check for safety prior to race day and immediately prior to a race 1.2 Apply pre-race and post-race procedures 1.3 Apply starting procedures
2. Plan and use appropriate race strategies and driving skills	2.1 Study form and racing behaviour of own horse and other horses and drivers 2.2 Warm up and warm down horses from racing pace according to trainer instructions 2.3 Use driving skills that are appropriate to a variety of track conditions and situations 2.4 Modify strategies appropriately as required during races, and according to pace and how race is being run 2.5 Ensure whip use and technique complies with rules of racing and industry standards
3. Report on race	3.1 Evaluate and report horse race performance 3.2 Report critical incidents of races 3.3 Apply protocol for communicating performance 3.4 Carry out post-race assessment of own performance

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
Learning	Reflect on own performance to determine areas of strength and improvement
Navigate the world of work	Comply with rules of racing and race protocols, and safe and ethical horse handling and race driving
Interact with others	Follow racing protocols and practices for written and oral communication when reporting to and interacting with a range of racing personnel
Get the work done	- Use a range of information and instructions to plan and strategise race - Make appropriate judgement calls on driving strategies based on a range of common racing scenarios and contingency situations

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSH412 Drive horses in races	RGRPSH412A Prepare to drive horses in races	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Title change to reflect intent of unit.	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 RGRPSH412 Drive horses in races

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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 driven in races on at least four occasions with different standardbred horses currently in training, over at least two different distances, including:

- prepared for race, including:
 - checked items of gear and equipment
 - evaluated track features and conditions
- demonstrated sound driving strategies and skills during race, including:
 - controlled horses safely
 - stands, mobile starts, push out and leading
 - judged and maintained pace
 - used whip effectively, following rules of racing and animal welfare guidelines
- reported race incidents and evaluated own and horse performance.

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:
 - track features, surfaces and conditions
 - warm-up procedures
 - starting procedures for standing and mobile starts
 - score-up procedures
 - common racehorse behaviour traits
 - predicted behaviour or racing style of opposition horses in race
 - types and purpose of race gear and personal protective equipment
 - rules of racing and techniques for whip use
 - race driving strategies
 - types of race injury to horses

- harness race procedures and protocols:
 - Australian and local rules of racing and regulations relating to race driving
 - types and classes of races
 - drug testing procedures
 - form of racing horses
 - handicapping system
 - industry terminology related to handling and racing horses
 - race meeting documentation
- racing industry standards and expectations relevant to driving horses in races:
 - communication procedures with race meeting personnel and wider racing industry
 - 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, racetracks and registered race meetings
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various standardbred horses currently in training and 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.

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