



Australian Government

RGRPSH420 Participate in implementing racehorse exercise programs

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 relate the principles of education and conditioning to the fitness and skill requirements of racehorses; monitor and report horse responses to the program; action trainer exercise programs; and comply with rules of racing and animal welfare responsibilities and related protocols.

The unit applies to individuals who are experienced in caring for, handling and working with horses in the harness or thoroughbred codes 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

Nil

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. Determine fitness to race requirements for racehorses	1.1 Profile fitness and health of individual horses following consultation with with veterinary practitioner where necessary

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.2 Investigate and implement methods to evaluate performance 1.3 Determine indicators of poor adaptation to training program 1.4 Evaluate factors affecting performance for individual horses
2. Implement training program	2.1 Determine stages of training programs for individual horses 2.2 Evaluate methods used to condition horses 2.3 Use industry standard terminology and clarify individual trainer instructions 2.4 Interpret daily, weekly and longer-term conditioning and education plans over duration of horse preparation 2.5 Record information on a daily training plan according to individual responsibility
3. Review horse performance	3.1 Report trackwork, and trial or race performance, and compare results with current fitness, behaviour and temperament, preferred distance and track conditions 3.2 Report status of horse post-exercise, trial or race 3.3 Update performance records and record changes in behaviour and recovery rate 3.4 Evaluate methods and equipment used to improve performance 3.5 Evaluate methods used to manage individual horse temperament and behaviour
4. Review race performance	4.1 Assess horse recovery after exercise 4.2 Assess horse form and race performance 4.3 Prepare future race and training plans based on previous horse form and performance goals

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
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Skill	Description
Reading	Locate and interpret key information in workplace documentation, relevant rules of racing and individual horse records
Navigate the world of work	Follow safe, ethical and humane horse handling industry practices associated with own role
Interact with others	Work collaboratively and communicate effectively with others to implement exercise programs and evaluate horse performance and progress
Get the work done	- Plan and sequence strategies for horse exercise programs; monitoring progress and adjusting activities to achieve outcomes in consultation with trainer - Analyse problems, recommend solutions and reflect on approaches taken to manage individual horse performance

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSH420 Participate in implementing racehorse exercise programs	RGRPSH420A Participate in implementing racehorse exercise programs	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Minor changes to performance criteria for clarity.	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 RGRPSH420 Participate in implementing racehorse exercise programs

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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 implemented, evaluated and modified an exercise program for at least two racehorses, including for each:

- determined individual horse fitness for racing requirements
- followed trainer instructions and conditioning and training program for individual horse
- monitored and reviewed horse behaviour and positive and negative responses to exercise
- reviewed individual horse's race performance
- modified exercise program based on analysis of horse performance in consultation with 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 racehorse exercise programs:
 - industry terminology related to preparing horses for racing
 - stages of fitness and skill development that racehorses must undergo before they are ready to race
 - types of conditioning and training programs for racehorses
 - types and methods of exercising and conditioning horses for racing
 - benefits and disadvantages of exercise and conditioning techniques and equipment used
 - features of daily training or exercising program
- when to consult a veterinary practitioner
- factors affecting horse performance:
 - indicators and signs of horse poor performance, response to program and recovery
 - common illnesses and injuries of racing horse, and impacts on performance

- signs and symptoms of normal and distressed behaviour in horses
- roles and responsibilities of trainers, staff and officials in the care, exercise and management of racehorses:
 - stable protocols and procedures for pre-exercise and post-exercise or race care of horses
 - reporting requirements to stewards regarding post-race or post-trial performance
- racing industry standards and expectations relevant to implementing racehorse exercise programs:
 - communication procedures within stable and wider racing industry
 - workplace health and safety obligations and racing industry safe operating procedures
 - animal welfare requirements
 - relevant rules of racing.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a racing training establishment workplace
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of standardbred or thoroughbred horses
 - trainer instructions and workplace information, data and records on individual horses used in assessment activity.

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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