



Australian Government

RGRPSH501 Plan and adapt training and conditioning programs for racehorses

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 develop training and conditioning plans for racing horses, assess horse adaptation to the plan and modify the program for individual horses.

The unit applies to individuals who have specialist knowledge, skills and experience in caring for and managing racing horses safely in various environments.

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. Evaluate current fitness and education of individual horses	1.1 Assess behavioural indicators of fitness and health of the horse 1.2 Analyse and assess physiological indicators of horse

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	fitness and health 1.3 Evaluate performance indicators of horse fitness and adaptation to workload of current education program
2. Prepare conditioning programs for horses	2.1 Determine options for training horses in first preparation 2.2 Determine options for training horses returning from injury 2.3 Evaluate options for adapting training programs for improved fitness status 2.4 Prepare and document conditioning program for individual horses according to relevant regulations, including for racing, safety and animal welfare 2.5 Appoint driver or rider, giving due consideration to capabilities of horse in order to maximise horse performance
3. Review performance of individual horses and modify programs	3.1 Analyse and monitor trackwork times and recovery rate 3.2 Gather feedback and reports on horse condition and performance from riders or drivers and other relevant personnel 3.3 Determine the need for any corrective or remedial gear to improve individual horse performance 3.4 Review diet and modify to achieve optimum performance 3.5 Compare individual horse performance to racing goals 3.6 Modify conditioning program in response to review of 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
Reading	Extract technical information relating to individual horse performance and rules of racing from a range of documentation

Skill	Description
Writing	Prepare written training and conditioning programs and specifications for individual horses using clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure
Numeracy	- Interpret trackwork times and distances - Calculate quantities of feed and supplements for conditioning program - Interpret ratios, percentages and comparative data relating to individual racehorse performance
Oral communication	Participate in verbal exchanges to obtain, explain and clarify information about individual horse training and conditioning programs using language and terminology appropriate for audience
Navigate the world of work	- Work independently and collectively, taking responsibility for plans, decisions and outcomes relating to individual racehorse training and conditioning programs - Follow regulatory requirements, including for racing, safety and animal welfare, relevant to own role and area of responsibility
Interact with others	Select and use appropriate communication protocols and conventions when seeking or sharing information with others
Get the work done	Organise and plan programs for multiple racehorses; monitoring actions against stated goals and adjusting plans and resources in response to changing conditions

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRPSH501 Plan and adapt training and conditioning programs for racehorses	RGRPSH501A Plan and adapt training and conditioning programs for racehorses	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Minor changes to performance criteria for clarity and to address safety.	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 RGRPSH501 Plan and adapt training and conditioning programs for racehorses

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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 planned and adapted a training and conditioning plan for at least one standardbred or thoroughbred horse in first preparation stage and one returning from injury, including for each:

- analysed and evaluated current fitness and education of individual horse
- prepared and implemented conditioning program
- reviewed performance of individual horse and modified program.

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:

- behavioural, physiological and performance indicators of horses:
 - types of behaviour, body language and social traits, including normal, abnormal and distressed horse behaviour
 - types and features of physiological indicators
 - performance indicators to evaluate horse response to current workload
 - horse health and emergency care procedures
- principles and practices of racehorse conditioning programs:
 - impact of diet, nutrition and general health on horse performance
 - variations in conditioning program requirements for various ages and classes of horses
 - factors to consider for horses in first preparation and other stages of racing preparation
 - considerations for horses returning from injury
 - symptoms and signs of adaptation to training and conditioning programs
 - types and purpose of corrective and remedial gear
- current industry performance requirements for racing:
 - current trackwork times for various distances and stages of racing preparation
 - classes and types of racing in Australia

- industry terminology related to training and conditioning programs for racing horses
- protocols for trackwork on licensed tracks
- racing industry standards and expectations relevant to training and conditioning racehorses:
 - communication procedures within stable and wider racing industry
 - racing industry animal welfare requirements
 - workplace health and safety obligations.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - racing training establishments, training and racetracks
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - at least one standardbred or thoroughbred horse in first preparation
 - at least one standardbred or thoroughbred horse returning from injury
 - materials and equipment to plan, adapt and modify training and conditioning programs for racehorses
- specifications:
 - work instructions and related workplace documentation on individual racehorse performance.

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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