



Australian Government

RGRROP406 Perform duties of harness race starter

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 safely and efficiently conduct race starts, including preparing for race starts, working closely with other race meeting staff, reporting to stewards and race club personnel, and completing post-race activities.

The unit applies to individuals who act as starters for race meetings as part of their job function in the harness 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.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Racing performance (ROP)

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 race starts	1.1 Confirm race fields, distances and start types according to requirements 1.2 Note past problems with particular horses during race starts 1.3 Confirm operation of mobile and other start equipment prior

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	to commencement of race meeting 1.4 Organise contingency plan in case of malfunction in start equipment 1.5 Interpret and comply with rules of racing relating to starting a race 1.6 Identify hazards and assess and control risks associated with the start of a race to minimise risk of injury according to safe operating procedures 1.7 Relay race meeting protocols and instructions to mobile driver and other staff
2. Start harness race using mobile barrier or standing start conditions	2.1 Verify starters and note colours and approved gear 2.2 Send horses to warm up 2.3 Confirm race start time with stewards 2.4 Call horses to score-up under clerk of course supervision 2.5 Request drivers to assume start positions within time and safety constraints 2.6 Manage incidents to minimise the risk of injury to staff and horses, and report to stewards and/or veterinarian 2.7 Declare non-starters after conferring with stewards 2.8 Confirm permission to start race with stewards 2.9 Initiate race start and operate gates once horse position is stable or when mobile barrier is at appropriate place on track
3. Complete post-race activities	3.1 Provide score-up and start reports to stewards 3.2 Update notes on problems with starters for personal records 3.3 Check barrier or start equipment for damage and/or maintenance requirements prior to shutting down 3.4 Report repairs or maintenance requirements to race club

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 racing documents relating to race distances, race fields, track conditions, horse identification and performance records
Writing	Prepare reports accurately and legibly according to steward or racing club requirements
Oral communication	Use clear language, accurate information and appropriate tone for audience when giving instructions or reporting information to others
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for complying with applicable rules of racing, and animal welfare and workplace health and safety requirements in carrying out role
Interact with others	Follow communication protocols and practices for reporting and responding promptly to issues with racing officials and other personnel, including the use of discretion and confidentiality
Get the work done	Make effective decisions and resolve problems within the bounds of the duties and responsibilities of a race meeting starter

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRROP406 Perform duties of harness race starter	RGRROP406A Perform duties of harness race starter	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 RGRROP406 Perform duties of harness race starter

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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 performed duties of a harness race starter at a minimum of three race meetings or trials, including for each:

- conducted pre-race preparations, including identifying risks associated with race meeting start
- followed process to start harness race using mobile barrier or standing start conditions
- completed post-race activities
- communicated with and reported to stewards.

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:

- race meeting and race start requirements, including:
 - relevant rules of racing for harness race starts
 - race fields, distances and start types
 - approved gear for harness racing and features of damaged or defective gear
 - operation of mobile and other start equipment, and procedures for operation and maintenance
- race meeting communication procedures, including:
 - protocols for communicating with stewards, race officials, drivers and others
 - reporting requirements for irregularities and problems
- working with race horses:
 - range of behaviour traits and body language exhibited by horses relevant to harness race starts
 - methods for identifying individual horses
 - common features of injury, illness and distress in horses

- racing industry animal welfare requirements
- racing industry safety requirements, including:
 - identification and assessment of hazards and risks
 - personal protective equipment
 - control measures to minimise injury to staff, drivers and horses
 - safe horse handling and controlling techniques
 - organisational safe operating procedures
 - workplace health and safety requirements relating to interacting with horses.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - safe handling and approved race starting and associated facilities
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various standardbred horses at harness race facilities
 - mobile or other start equipment for race meeting
 - personal protective equipment correctly fitted and appropriate for activity for individual
- relationships (internal/external):
 - access to drivers, stewards and other staff.

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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