



Australian Government

RGRROP407 Perform duties of thoroughbred race starter

Release: 2

RGRROP407 Perform duties of thoroughbred race starter

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with RGR Racing and Breeding Training Package Version 3.0.
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 thoroughbred 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 thoroughbred 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 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 and distances with racing club officials or

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	instructions 1.2 Note past problems with particular horses during loading of barriers 1.3 Confirm operation of barriers and other start equipment prior to commencement of race meeting 1.4 Organise contingency plans 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 and allocate race meeting duties and instructions to staff
2. Supervise pre-start activities	2.1 Identify and verify starters and note approved gear and colours 2.2 Send horses to start under supervision of clerk of course 2.3 Confirm race start time with stewards 2.4 Determine order of loading barriers, and relay to staff 2.5 Carry out barrier loading within time and safety constraints using approved methods and personal protective equipment and with consideration to public perception of non-verbal signals and handling techniques 2.6 Manage incidents to minimise risk of injury to staff and horses and report to stewards and veterinarian 2.7 Declare non-starters after conferring with stewards
3. Start race and complete post-race activities	3.1 Report possible delay in race time to stewards 3.2 Seek race start permission from stewards 3.3 Initiate race start as soon as starters are loaded and ready 3.4 Provide feedback on staff performance in a timely and positive manner 3.5 Present barrier loading and race start reports to stewards according to race club protocols 3.6 Check barrier or start equipment for damage and/or maintenance requirements prior to shutting down 3.7 Report repairs or maintenance requirements to race club in

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	required reporting format

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 safety and animal welfare 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
RGRROP407 Perform duties of thoroughbred race starter Release 2	RGRROP407 Perform duties of thoroughbred race starter Release 1	Corrected typographical error in Knowledge Evidence	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 RGRROP407 Perform duties of thoroughbred 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 thoroughbred 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 thoroughbred race
- completed post-race activities
- communicated with and reported to stewards, veterinarian and other racing personnel.

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 thoroughbred race starts
 - race fields, distances and start types
 - approved gear for thoroughbred racing and features of damaged or defective gear
 - operation of start equipment and procedures for operation and maintenance
- race meeting communication procedures, including:
 - protocols for communicating with stewards, race officials, riders and others
 - allocating duties to other staff
 - reporting requirements for irregularities and problems
- working with racehorses:
 - range of behaviour traits and body language exhibited by horses relevant to thoroughbred 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, riders and horses
 - safe horse handling and controlling techniques
 - organisational safe operating procedures
 - work 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 thoroughbred horses at race meetings
 - starting equipment for race meeting
 - personal protective equipment correctly fitted and appropriate for activity for individual
- relationships (internal/external):
 - access to riders, 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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