



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

RGRPSH302A Supervise handling of horses

Release: 1

RGRPSH302A Supervise handling of horses

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor

This unit of competency specifies the outcomes required to direct, assist and oversee others to identify and safely catch, control and handle horses.

To undertake this unit the candidate will be able to apply safe horse handling skills and workplace OHS standards. It is recommended that RGRPSH201A Handle horses be delivered in conjunction with or before this unit of competency.

The competencies operate in work environments of racing stables, paddocks, yards, racecourses and public areas.

Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements may apply to this unit. Check with your State Principal Racing Authority for current license or registration requirements.

Application of the Unit

Application of the unit

This unit of competency supports senior stablehands, leading hands, trainers and others authorised to oversee the safe handling of horses.

Competencies attained in this unit apply to the harness and thoroughbred codes of the industry. Consequently when performance criteria are applied they will relate to the harness or thoroughbred code and statements of attainment will reflect this distinction.

This unit can be contextualised for other industries while also maintaining the integrity of the unit.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Refer to Unit Descriptor

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units

Prerequisite units

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Direct, assist and oversee others to identify and safely catch, control and handle horses.	1. Instructions are given to others regarding catching, controlling and general handling of horses as required by stable. 2. Assistance is provided to others in identifying and handling horses. 3. Competence of other workers with regard to handling individual horses is determined. 4. Tasks are delegated according to current competence and animal and staff welfare. 5. Use of different gear to control and handle horses is explained and demonstrated. 6. Opportunities are provided for practice and skill development for inexperienced staff.

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- applying safe handling and work practices when dealing with horses
- assessing individual's capability to perform specific tasks
- catching, leading and handling horses
- coaching and mentoring
- communicating with employer, supervisor, co-workers and others using assertive communication techniques to gather and relay information related to horse handling activities
- completing duties in accordance with safe operating procedures and nominated time frame
- delegating tasks
- evaluating risks associated with catching and handling horses
- identifying and correctly using different items of handling gear
- identifying features of horses using industry standards
- identifying horse behaviour, social traits and vices
- incorporating safe operating procedures into all instructions
- giving, receiving and interpreting instructions
- leading and handling horses in enclosed spaces

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- providing opportunities for staff to practise skills development
- reading and interpreting workplace documentation, including relevant rules of racing
- relating to people from a range of social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds and with varying physical and mental abilities and adapting instructions, and practice and skills development opportunities to suit these varying needs
- supporting others in handling horses in the appropriate manner.

Required knowledge

- industry terminology related to handling horses
- communication procedures within stable and wider racing industry
- common horse behaviour, social traits and vices
- effective working relationships, including teamwork
- handling techniques for horses
- industry terminology related to handling horses and wider racing industry
- purpose of using appropriate personal protective equipment
- racing industry animal welfare requirements
- racing industry safety requirements, including safe operating procedures
- range and purpose of gear
- relevant rules of racing
- relevant road safety rules
- safe work practices when giving instructions
- staff management.

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy all of the requirements of the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge and the range statement of this unit and include evidence of the following:

- knowledge of the requirements, procedures and instructions that are to apply when supervising the handling of horses
- implementation of procedures and timely techniques for the safe, effective and efficient handling of horses
- working with others to undertake and complete horse handling procedures that meet required outcomes.

Evidence should be collected over a period of time using a range of racehorses of different ages and sexes, and at different stages of preparation in racing stable and track environments.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Competency must be assessed in a racing workplace that provides access to the required resources or simulated environment approved by the relevant State Principal Racing Authority. Assessment is to occur under standard and authorised work practices, safety requirements and environmental constraints. It is to comply with relevant regulatory requirements or Australian Standards requirements.

Assessment of the practical components of this unit will be by observation of relevant skills.

The following resources must be available:

- a variety of harness or thoroughbred horses
- materials and equipment relevant to assessing candidate's ability to supervise handling of horses
- safe handling areas, such as racing stables and racetracks
- work instructions and related documentation.

Method of assessment

Assessment methods must satisfy the endorsed Assessment Guidelines of the Racing Training Package.

The suggested strategies for the assessment of this unit

EVIDENCE GUIDE

are:

- written and/or oral assessment of candidate's required knowledge
- observed, documented and firsthand testimonial evidence of candidate's application of practical tasks
- simulation exercises conducted in a State Principal Racing Authority approved simulated environment.

Evidence is required to be demonstrated over a period of time, therefore where performance is not directly observed any evidence should be authenticated by supervisors or other appropriate persons.

This unit may be assessed in a holistic way with other units of competency relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role.

Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role is recommended, for example:

- RGRCMN201A Follow OHS procedures and observe environmental work practices.

Guidance information for assessment

Assessment methods should reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy and numeracy demands) and the needs of particular target groups (e.g. people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women, people with a language background other than English, youth and people from low socioeconomic backgrounds).

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording in the performance criteria is detailed below.

The range statement provides details of how this competency can be used in the workplaces of the racing industry to supervise the handling of horses. Workplaces include harness and thoroughbred racing stables and racecourses, training tracks and public areas.

RANGE STATEMENT

- Instructions** to others may cover:
- approved gear
 - individual horse behaviour
 - relevant rules of racing
 - road safety, including:
 - crossing roads
 - using reflective strips on rugs and vests
 - using underpasses or overpasses
 - safe horse handling and leading procedures.
- Assistance** in identifying or handling horses may be provided to:
- farriers
 - float drivers
 - other stable employees
 - swab attendants
 - stewards
 - trainers
 - veterinarians or therapists.
- Competence** of other workers may be determined by:
- observing successful completion of graduated tasks
 - questioning.
- Factors to consider when tasks are **delegated** may include:
- adhering to responsibilities under OHS legislation and workplace practices
 - adhering to responsibilities under national and state codes of practice; federal, state and territory legislation; and local government regulations covering animal welfare and transport of horses
 - adhering to rules of training tracks and public venues
 - approved gear for horses
 - assessing competence of individual workers
 - considering variables that influence behaviour of horses, such as:
 - fences and equipment
 - other persons or animals
 - vehicles
 - wind and noise
 - identifying potential hazards and applying risk control measures
 - individual horse behaviour
 - relevant road safety rules
 - wearing approved personal protective equipment, including approved Australian

RANGE STATEMENT

Different gear may include:

- Standard helmet, vest, clothing and footwear.
- general horse gear:
 - bandages
 - blinkers
 - floating boots
 - nosebands
 - pacifiers
 - shadow rolls
 - tongue ties
 - winkers
- harness-specific gear:
 - bits
 - bridles
 - deafeners
 - driving boots
 - hobbles
 - hobble shorteners
 - jog vehicles
 - lugging poles
 - pull up blinds
 - reins
 - removable deafeners
 - saddles
 - shoes
 - sulkies
- thoroughbred-specific gear:
 - bits
 - breastplates
 - bridles
 - girths
 - reins
 - rings
 - saddles
 - shoes
 - stirrup irons and leathers
 - surcingles
 - working boots.

RANGE STATEMENT

Different gear may be used to:

- address behavioural problems
- address conformation or anatomical faults
- correct action.

Practice and skill development
opportunities may include:

- graduating difficulty of tasks
- mentoring
- staff initially working with less difficult horses, for example:
 - horses returning from spelling
 - lead ponies
- training courses.

Unit Sector(s)

Unit Sector

Harness and thoroughbred racing codes

Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units

Functional Area

Functional Area

Racing performance services