



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for SISO EQU003 Ride horses on tracked trail rides

Release: 2

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Modification History

Unit Release 2. No change to unit content from Release 1; mapping updated for accuracy.

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- complete two different trail rides, each lasting for a minimum of one hour, on two different compliant and manageable horses
- ride within a group of minimum five and maximum ten participants during each trail ride
- during each ride:
 - walk, trot and canter the horse under control on the flat
 - negotiate ascending and descending inclines of mild grades under control
 - provide direction to the horse using the following aids:
 - legs
 - reins
 - seat
 - voice
 - ride the horse through this range of movements:
 - turns
 - halts
 - ride towards and away from the group
 - ride towards, around and away from hazards
 - consistently use safe horse riding practices and techniques to effectively control the horse.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- organisational safety and emergency response procedures for riding horses in tracked environments
- organisational policies, procedures and codes for minimal impact of horse riding activities to the environment
- factors that affect the selection of horses, tack, especially saddles, and personal protective equipment to suit trail guides leading groups in tracked areas
- communication protocols for group trail rides in tracked environments

- the meaning of safe zone for group trail rides in tracked environments and techniques used to maintain gaps between horses
- common behaviour patterns of horses during group trail rides
- horse riding techniques used to control horses safely and effectively in tracked environments to include those for:
 - mounting and dismounting without assistance in the open
 - starting and stopping
 - different seat positions for ascending and descending inclines which are not steep
 - walking, trotting and cantering horses on the flat
 - negotiating ascending and descending inclines of mild grades
 - aids to direct the horse:
 - legs
 - reins
 - seat
 - voice
 - riding movements:
 - turns
 - halts
 - riding towards and away from the group
 - riding towards, around and away from hazards
- typical hazards and obstacles found in tracked environments and techniques used to safely negotiate these.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in a horse trail riding environment meeting the following conditions:

- tracked areas with reasonably level terrain
- no steep ascents, descents or gullies
- known simple terrain hazards.

Horse matching prior to all assessments involving horse interaction is essential. Assessors must:

- complete, participate in or validate a risk assessment of both the candidate's and other participant riders' characteristics and level of horse handling and riding skills
- match, or validate the matching of, horses of suitable history, size and temperament to both the candidate and other participants to ensure that rider and horse combination is safe.

Assessment must ensure use of:

- a group of minimum five and maximum ten riders, including the candidate

- compliant and manageable horses, matched to the candidate as above, and educated for trail ride conditions
- calm, consistent and obedient horses, matched to participant riders as above, and educated for trail ride conditions
- grooming equipment to include:
 - dandy and body brushes
 - plastic or rubber curry combs
 - mane or tail brush
 - hoof picks
- tack to include:
 - saddles which can be stock, hybrid or western saddles
 - saddle cloths
 - bridles
 - reins
 - bits
 - stirrups with safety features
- personal protective equipment to include:
 - riding boots
 - Australian Standard, or equivalent, compliant helmets
- organisational safety and emergency response procedures for riding horses in tracked environments
- organisational policies, procedures and codes for minimal impact of horse riding activities to the environment.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- breastplates and cruppers
- human and equine first aid equipment
- communication equipment for emergency response.

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors, and:

- hold a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes this unit of competency, SISOEQU003 Ride horses on tracked trail rides, or a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes a unit of competency that has been superseded by this unit, and
- hold a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes the unit SISOEQU009 Instruct the advancement of recreational horse riding skills, or a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes a unit of competency that has been superseded by that unit, and
- have at least three years' experience as a trail guide or trail boss where they have applied the skills and knowledge covered in this unit of competency, and

- hold accreditation relevant to assessing riding skills covered by this unit; accreditation refers to:
 - accreditation offered by equine sporting organisations recognised by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), or
 - certification offered by equine organisations which are Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) or whose training is managed by an affiliated RTO.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1ca50016-24d2-4161-a044-d3faa200268b>