



Australian Government

SISO EQU012 Assess horses for sport or recreational performance

Release: 1

SISOEQU012 Assess horses for sport or recreational performance

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to assess horses for their potential to perform effectively in equestrian sport or recreational riding programs. It requires a fundamental knowledge of horse anatomy and physiology and the impacts of conformation on horse performance.

This unit applies to a range of organisations involved in equestrian sport, instructional and recreational riding programs. It applies to experienced senior staff who work autonomously but in consultation with others to acquire, condition and train horses for programs. This can include trainers, guides, trail bosses, instructors and coaches.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

SISOEQU001 Handle horses

SISOEQU010 Identify hazards, assess and control safety risks for horse handling and riding activities

Competency Field

Equine

Unit Sector

Outdoor Recreation

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Identify the impact of conformation on horse performance.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1.1. Identify the functions of the respiratory, circulatory, musculoskeletal, digestive, nervous and reproductive systems in horse performance.

1.2. Identify connection between horse conformation,

performance and soundness.

2. Assess horse suitability for intended use.
- 2.1. Identify intended sport or recreational use and performance requirements of horses.
 - 2.2. Use safe practices and follow organisational safety procedures during horse assessment to avoid injury to self, others and horse.
 - 2.3. Examine horses for functional conformation and observe movement.
 - 2.4. Identify functional conformation faults and potential to affect performance of horses.
 - 2.5. Assess suitability of individual horses for different sport or recreational uses according to their conformation and movement.
 - 2.6. Evaluate and complete written reports on performance potential for intended sport or recreational use.

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.

SKILLS	DESCRIPTION
Reading skills to:	interpret detailed familiar organisational procedures for assessment of horse performance.
Writing skills to:	develop reports on horse assessments containing factual and conceptual information using correct terminology to describe anatomy, physiology and condition.
Oral communication skills to:	provide unambiguous descriptions of horse conformation issues using complex anatomical and physiological terminology.

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide -

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

Assessment Requirements for SISOEQU012 Assess horses for sport or recreational performance

Modification History

Not applicable.

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:

- develop a portfolio of information on the key features and functions of the following anatomical and physiological horse systems and their role in effective horse performance:
 - respiratory system
 - circulatory system
 - musculoskeletal system
 - digestive system
 - nervous system
 - reproductive system for male and female horses
- assess three different horses for conformation and movement suitable for their sport or recreational purpose and cumulatively use the following techniques:
 - visual and physical examination
 - flexion test
 - observing the horse being ridden
 - observing the horse being trotted up
- during all horse assessments, consistently use safe horse handling practices
- write a brief report, on each of the three horses, to include:
 - intended sport or recreational use and performance requirements
 - description of horse including age, breed, height
 - functional conformation assessment, positive and negative features
 - any indicators of horse unsoundness
 - evaluation of potential performance problems
 - recommendations on the suitability of the horse for particular sport or recreational activities and performance requirements.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- organisational safety procedures for handling horses

- safe horse handling and restraint techniques specific to examining horses for movement and conformation
- points of a horse and correct terminology
- key features and functions of the following anatomical and physiological horse systems and their role in effective horse performance:
 - respiratory system
 - circulatory system
 - musculoskeletal system
 - digestive system
 - nervous system
 - reproductive systems of male and female horses
- features and factors of horse anatomy and physiology used to determine the suitability of individual horses for different sport or recreational purposes
- functional horse conformation to perform well in a range of sport or recreational activities
- common conformation faults for sport or recreational horses and the effects on horse movement, soundness and performance
- examination techniques used to assess horse movement and conformation:
 - visual and physical examination
 - flexion test
 - riding or driving the horse; observing horse being ridden or driven
 - trotting up the horse; observing horse being trotted up
 - lunging the horse or observing horse being lunged
- meaning of horse soundness and indicators of unsoundness that can be observed during horse movement and conformation examinations.

Assessment Conditions

Skills can be demonstrated in any indoor or outdoor environment where horses are examined and assessed for their potential to perform effectively in sport or recreational activities.

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

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

Assessment must ensure use of:

- horses of differing conformation matched to the candidate as above; these can be
- calm, consistent and obedient horses or
- compliant and manageable horses
- halters and leads

- organisational safety procedures for handling horses.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- 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, SISO EQU012 Assess horses for sport or recreational performance, or a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes a unit of competency that has been superseded by this unit, and
- have at least three years' experience in a role involving the assessment of sport or recreational horses where they have applied the skills and knowledge covered in this unit of competency.

Links

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