



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

SISOEQO410A Guide overnight horse trail rides in tracked areas

Release: 2

SISOEQO410A Guide overnight horse trail rides in tracked areas

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to guide or lead clients on overnight horse trail rides on terrain or conditions not exceeding personal skill level in tracked or easy untracked areas. This unit focuses on the application of planning skills to make suitable arrangements to safely guide groups on overnight riding activities.

Application of the Unit

This unit applies to current or aspiring individuals operating as outdoor guides who are responsible for safely guiding overnight rides in a controlled environment. This may include those working for private horse riding companies or group leaders in school outdoor education programs.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.

Pre-Requisites

Nil

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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.

1. Plan an overnight horse trail ride.

- 1.1. Establish ***participant's needs and characteristics*** and assist with participant's disclaimer where required
- 1.2. Select trail ride route suitable for participants and identify rest stops to minimise impact on the terrain and other trail users according to ***relevant legislation*** and ***organisational policies and procedures***.
- 1.3. Assess the capacity to acquire additional or new horses, as required according to organisational policies and procedures.
- 1.4. Identify ***hazards*** associated with the ride and minimise ***risks*** to ensure personal safety of participants.
- 1.5. Access ***relevant sources*** to interpret detailed ***weather and environmental information*** to determine activity plan.
- 1.6. Determine ***food and water requirements*** for participants according to ***principles of nutrition*** and ***contextual issues*** of the activity.
- 1.7. Develop and document a ***plan*** for the ride, according to relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures, to meet participants' needs.
- 1.8. Identify and plan for the ***care requirements*** of horses according to relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures.
- 1.9. Obtain permits as required and inform ***appropriate authorities*** of route and anticipated ***duration*** before commencing the ride.

2. Select equipment for the ride.

- 2.1. Select horses of suitable size and temperament to suit individual rider's needs, abilities and attitude.
- 2.2. Select and organise ***equipment*** according to contextual issues and organisational policies and

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- procedures.
- 2.3. Select and pack first aid supplies for horse and rider.
- 2.4. Perform and document appropriate safety checks suitable for the **ride**, according to relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures.
- 2.5. Adjust and fit equipment to ensure personal comfort.
- 2.6. Pack saddle bags to ensure they are balanced and comfortable for the horse.
3. Brief participants.
- 3.1. Communicate instructions and **relevant information** about the ride in a manner suitable to the participants.
- 3.2. Demonstrate correct horse handling and riding techniques.
- 3.3. Establish a suitable **communication system** for participants to use during the ride.
- 3.4. Outline **safety procedures** and safe areas and or boundaries for the ride.
- 3.5. Check and confirm participants are properly equipped for the ride.
4. Lead an overnight ride.
- 4.1. Provide clear and concise direction and advice to group during the ride.
- 4.2. Identify potential hazards and decide how they can be overcome or avoided.
- 4.3. Monitor individual **participant's performance** and provide appropriate feedback.
- 4.4. Implement appropriate **modifications** to the ride in regard to all **variable factors** that are monitored.
- 4.5. Respond to **emergency or non routine situations** according to organisational policies and procedures.
5. Select and maintain a temporary overnight site
- 5.1. Assess and select suitable sites to minimise impact on the local environment
- 5.2. Explain relevant minimum impact practices to group and monitor their compliance
- 5.3. Arrange shelter appropriate for prevailing weather conditions
- 5.4. Check condition and health of horses at completion of the day's ride and manage problems that arise from wear or injury according to organisational policies and procedures
- 5.5. Monitor the security and safety of horses through

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
6. Complete post trip responsibilities.	the night.
	5.6. Return site to an equal or greater standard on departure according to relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures
	6.1. Notify relevant authority of ride completion
	6.2. Retrieve, inspect, repair and store equipment according to organisational policies and procedures
	6.3. Check and deal with injuries or wear to horses according to organisational policies and procedures
	6.4. Evaluate relevant aspects of riding activity.
	6.5. Identify potential areas of improvement for future overnight trail horse riding activities
	6.6. Review own performance and identify potential improvements.

Required Skills and Knowledge

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

Required skills

- communication skills to:
 - consult with participants to plan overnight rides that meet their needs
 - liaise with relevant authorities regarding the route,
 - convey information about the safety aspects of rides
 - interact with participants to create a safe and positive riding environment
- problem-solving skills to:
 - plan suitable riding activities according to participant's needs and abilities
 - assess different variables affecting the ride
 - respond appropriately to non routine situations and manage the group effectively
- planning and organising skills to source, allocate and coordinate resources, equipment and a suitable trail ride route with easy access to a suitable site for short stops
- language and literacy skills to:
 - produce plans for the riding activity
 - complete post-activity participant and self evaluations
- personal horse riding skills to a high level of technical correctness to demonstrate and explain requirements to participants
- river reading skills, such as direction and speed of flow, currents, eddies and other hydrological features that may impact on safety during the ride
- navigation skills to lead a group on a planned overnight horse riding activity along a certain route and or to a chosen destination
- first aid and emergency response and rescue skills appropriate to the location to enable initial response to emergencies for both participants and horses.

Required knowledge

- relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures to enable safety of participants and horses during the riding activity
- minimal impact codes to enable protection of the environment
- horse handling techniques and behaviour patterns and characteristics of horses to ensure safety of participants
- symptoms, treatment and prevention of hypothermia, hyperthermia and dehydration to assist in planning riding times and distances and assist participants in self monitoring
- location specific information to assist in the planning process and enable management of potential hazards and any special restrictions applying to the area
- characteristics and purposes of equipment and gear used to control and handle horses to enable its safe and efficient selection, use and maintenance

- clothing requirements such as wet weather gear and sun protection
- care and maintenance of riding equipment to ensure prolonged life span and safety requirements
- waterproofing and stowing techniques to enable protection of equipment that is not required on hand during ride
- communication systems and signals used to communicate during the ride
- principles of nutrition to maintain health during the riding activity
- camp craft to establish overnight site to ensure comfort and safety of participants and horses weather and environmental information to identify forecast conditions and their effect on the riding activity
- hazards, obstacles and risks commonly experienced when undertaking overnight rides and ways to avoid or negotiate these
- emergency response, first aid and rescue procedures appropriate for horse riding, to ensure prompt response to manage injuries to self, group and horses.

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.

Overview of assessment

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

Evidence of the following is essential:

- plans overnight ride within activity constraints and applies effective group management techniques to guide and monitor participants in a safe and professional manner, according to relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures
- monitors the progress of the ride and applies effective contingency management techniques to make adjustments in response to changing conditions, such as negotiating hazards, changing weather conditions and illness or injury
- encourages and responds to group feedback and evaluates and reflects on own performance to identify strengths, weaknesses and areas that need improvement.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment must ensure planning and leading overnight rides that reflect the needs of a range of participants to demonstrate competency and consistency of performance.

Assessment must also ensure access to:

- resources and information regarding participants and location to accurately plan, guide and document overnight rides for a variety of participants
- suitable horses
- a route or location suitable for the conduct of overnight horse trail rides
- a suitable temporary site, if required
- a group of participants to take part in overnight rides
- horse riding equipment such as saddles, navigation equipment and rescue and first aid equipment.

Method of assessment

A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit:

- observation of planning and guiding processes and interaction with a group of participants, including conveying information for safe participation

- oral and or written questioning to assess knowledge of relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures to enable safe conduct of overnight rides
- observation of dealing with contingencies such as changing weather conditions and equipment failure
- portfolio of plans for overnight ride
- third-party reports from a supervisor detailing performance.

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

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, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

Participant's needs and characteristics may include:

- skill level
- previous experience
- fitness level and physical capabilities
- age
- injuries and illnesses
- medical conditions.

Relevant legislation may include:

- occupational health and safety
- permits or permission for access
- environmental regulations.

Organisational policies and procedures may include:

- occupational health and safety
- time and budget constraints
- use and maintenance of equipment
- communication protocols
- confidentiality of participant information
- guide and participant ratios
- emergency and safety procedures
- notification of illness or injury to participants or horses
- alteration of routes
- code of ethics.

Hazards may include:

- temperature extremes
- slippery or unstable terrain
- dangerous animals and insects
- stinging trees and nettles
- dense vegetation
- group management hazards.

Risks may include:

- hypothermia
- heat exhaustion
- injuries
- exhaustion
- lost party or party member
- equipment and course failure.

Relevant sources may include:

- Bureau of Meteorology
- media

Weather and environmental information may include:

- land managers or agencies
- local knowledge.
- satellite images
- daily and weekly forecasts
- maximum and minimum temperatures
- weather warnings
- event warnings
- river levels
- synoptic charts
- high and low tide predictions.

Food and water requirements may include:

- range of foods
- perishability
- energy content.

Principles of nutrition may include:

- essential nutrients
- individual food requirements and allergies
- hydration.

Contextual issues may include:

- weather extremes
- slippery or unstable terrain
- dangerous animals and insects
- stinging trees and nettles
- dense vegetation
- group management hazards

Plan may include:

- ride's aims and objectives
- date, time and duration of ride
- location, planned route and or destination
- guide and participant ratios
- route and meeting points for support vehicles
- group management
- resources
- equipment
- food and water
- weather details
- risk management
- permits and permission.

Care requirements of horses may include:

- food
- water
- corralling
- tethering
- shelter
- security.

Appropriate authorities may

- authorities

include:

- supervisors.

Equipment may include:

- saddles and associated horse equipment:
 - backpack or saddlebags
 - overnight shelter
 - sleeping bags
 - cooking systems and utensils.
- navigation equipment
- safety equipment
- watch
- ropes
- knife
- communication equipment

Relevant information may include:

- logistical details
- safety procedures
- symptoms, treatment and prevention of hypothermia, hyperthermia and dehydration
- behaviour patterns and characteristics of horses
- equipment requirements
- preventative measures for risks
- horse handling and riding techniques
- rules and codes
- responsible and safe behaviour.

Communication system may include:

- calls
- radio
- hand signals
- whistles.

Safety procedures may include:

- serviceable equipment
- correctly fitted equipment
- communication systems
- use of safety and rescue equipment.

Participant's performance may include:

- use of appropriate communication system
- riding technique
- riding pace and space
- attitude
- negotiation of hazards
- use of equipment.

Modifications may include:

- riding pace.

Variable factors may include:

- change of weather
- equipment failure

Emergency or non routine situations may include:

- participant's needs
- riding conditions.
- illness of participants or horses
- injury of participants or horses.

Relevant aspects may include:

- objectives
- planning process
- activity site
- weather
- equipment selection
- clothing selection
- food selection
- instructional content
- instructional technique
- assessment technique
- group feedback
- directing techniques
- rescue techniques employed.

Unit Sector(s)

Outdoor Recreation

Competency Field

Equestrian activities