Handle and load racehorses into starting stalls prior to a race



Overview

This standard is about handling and loading racehorses into starting stalls prior to a race. It requires liaison with officials and jockeys, handling horses prior to and during their stalls entry and ensuring safe procedures are followed at all times.

The standard covers the requirements for close team working during the lead up to a race start and the requirements for timely and accurate working arrangements.

This standard also covers the general maintenance, use and movement of starting stalls on a racecourse.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 Clearly establish your role and responsibilities with the starting stall team
- P2 Check starting stalls for safety and operation
- P3 Select allocated horses and liaise with officials and jockey for correct order for loading
- P4 Confirm arrangements with jockey and officials including assisting if final tack/shoeing checks need to be made
- P5 Load horses into starting stalls safely and within agreed timescales
- P6 Respond to requests from other team members when loading difficult and inexperienced horses
- P7 Close starting gates ensuring safety and security of self, horses and others
- P8 Carry out all loading procedures in accordance with relevant health and safety requirements and legislation
- P9 Complete after race checks and records

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1	Your responsibilities in relation to race start procedures		
K2	The use and general maintenance of starting stalls		
K3	The importance of accurate and timely loading procedures		
K4	The basic psychology of horses under stress		
K5	How to handle and load horses with due regard to time, safety and welfare		
K6	How to handle and load difficult or inexperienced horses		
K7	Your responsibilities under health and safety and other relevant legislation and how to identify and assess risks		
K8	How to work effectively within a team		
K9	How to communicate effectively with colleagues, officials and jockeys		
K10	How to recognise and deal with problems with horses and tack.		

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