

Overview

This standard is for those who are involved in the preparation of horses for competitions.

You should be able to care for the horse while at the event and present the horse for competition at the appropriate time.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

You will need to be able to recognise hazards and assess risks in the workplace.

Note - This standard does not include the transportation of horses to competitions, which is covered in standard LANCS65.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity
2. comply with competition regulations and etiquette at all times
3. ensure the horse is cared for while at the event
4. handle and restrain the horse in a manner that does not compromise animal welfare, avoids behaviour giving rise to welfare concern and maintains health and safety
5. prepare the horse for the competition by fitting appropriate tack and equipment for the specified discipline
6. present horses for competition at the correct time
7. communicate with others to ensure procedures are followed
8. assess the health of the horse before and after the competition
9. recognise and report any problems with recovery rates, cuts, swelling, shoes, loss of appetite, and dehydration
10. keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by competition regulations and the organisation you work for
11. monitor and maintain the health and safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. the relevant governing authorities and competition rules and regulations
3. the types of competition and venue
4. the relevant registration procedures
5. horse passports and identity requirements
6. the required health and welfare checks
7. the prohibited substances
8. the importance of using appropriate handling and restraint techniques, and minimising stress to the horse and risks to yourself and others
9. the problems that may occur with horses in a competition environment
10. the pre-performance warm-up procedures
11. the factors that affect the use of tack and equipment
12. the types of climate, going, terrain and their effect on performance
13. what records should be maintained and their importance
14. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
15. your responsibility under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

Scope/range

Care for horses at two different competitions

Undertake preparation with the following types of horse:

- Experienced
- Inexperienced

Care for horses after competition by:

- removing tack and equipment,
- walking off
- warming down
- washing off
- application of rugs/bandages

Glossary

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