



HORSERACING AND THOROUGHBRED BREEDING INDUSTRY TRAINING

VERSION 2 (AUGUST 2022)



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INTRODUCTION

Following the creation of a training programme in the late 1980s, the British Horseracing and Breeding industries have built up an extensive portfolio of training programmes to support new entrants into the industry and further develop the skills of those already working in the industry.

This training spans a range of subjects from foundation to advanced level.

This resource has been produced to give an overview for employers, employees and those considering entering the industry, of the training available, including a summary of content and availability. It is not an exhaustive list, as many of the training providers will offer bespoke and specialist courses on a needs basis.

This resource can also be used for performance management and to assist those planning to progress their careers.

The final section also provides details on racing and breeding-related qualifications and how they can be accessed.

For ease of reference the training is sub-divided into the following sections:

- **BREEDING**
- **RACEHORSE CARE AND TRAINING**
- **SCOTTISH RACING ACADEMY**
- **JOCKEY**
- **RACECOURSE WORK**
- **GENERAL**
- **RACING2LEARN**
- **PONY RACING**
- **QUALIFICATIONS**



LEVEL 1 ENTRY TO STUD EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

Overview

The National Stud's Level 1 Entry to Stud Employment Programme is fully funded by the Thoroughbred Breeding Association (TBA) and the Racing Foundation. The six-week residential programme is open to those who are 18 years and over with no prior equine experience. It offers a work-based approach, allowing learners to gain hands-on experience with a variety of bloodstock and to develop a basic understanding of key stud practices and equine husbandry.

On successful completion of the six-week residential programme, learners will achieve:

- Level 1 Diploma in Thoroughbred Horse Care
- Relevant online certificates related to health and safety and employment
- Recommendation for employment with a stud farm

Employment and Progression Opportunities

After completing the Level 1 Entry to Stud Employment Programme, trainees can take a number of options:

- Complete an optional three-week work experience placement at the National Stud
- Remain in stud employment to gain more experience
- Remain in stud employment and carry out a Level 2 Diploma in work-based Racehorse Care remotely



Further Information

The National Stud, Newmarket CB8 0XE Tel: 01638 663464 www.nationalstud.co.uk students@nationalstud.co.uk

LEVEL 2 ENTRY TO STUD EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

Overview

The Level 2 Entry to Stud Employment Programme (E2SE) is fully funded by the TBA and Racing Foundation. The nine-week residential programme is aimed at those with some equine experience, and aids the development of industry relevant skills to ensure that learners will understand the theory behind the practice.

During the residential part there will be lots of relevant stud farm experience and horse handling. This culminates in trainees assisting at the December Mare and Foal Sales for either The National Stud or another commercial stud farm. If a trainee on the E2SE Level 2 residential programme achieves the required standard and is considered suitable for recommendation, they will be introduced to a suitable stud farm for a placement interview. The placement duration is negotiable but will be a minimum of six months in order for the E2SE trainee to achieve the Level 2 Work-Based Diploma in Racehorse Care (Breeding option) qualification.

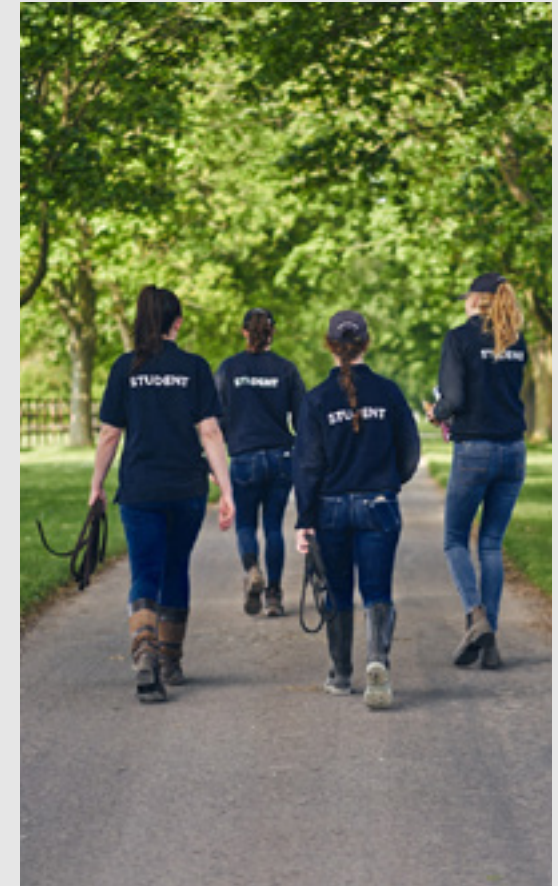
On successful completion of the six-month placement, the learners will achieve:

- Basic Emergency First Aid and manual handling training
- Level 3 Award in Transporting Horses on Short Journeys
- Level 2 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care (Breeding option)

Employment and Progression Opportunities

After completing the Level 2 Entry to Stud Employment programme, individuals have a number of options:

- Level 3 National Stud Diploma
- If employed on a stud farm, the Level 3 Certificate in Racehorse Care (Breeding Option) can be completed remotely



Further Information

The National Stud, Newmarket CB8 0XE Tel: 01638 663464 www.nationalstud.co.uk students@nationalstud.co.uk

NATIONAL STUD DIPLOMA IN STUD PRACTICE AND MANAGEMENT

Overview

The Diploma Programme recruits throughout the year with interviews taking place in the late summer/early autumn for the following mid-January start.

The residential 20-week programme is open to anyone 18 years of age or over. There is no upper age limit, however the nature of stud work is very demanding, and candidates will require a good level of physical fitness in order to complete the programme. Successful applicants will have experience handling bloodstock or racehorses and have the drive to want to forge a successful career in the bloodstock industry.

The course finishes in May with a graduation celebration for students and their families to which many leading figures of the industry are also invited.

Significant prizes are awarded at the graduation event, including the Tim Dunlop Memorial Prize for the Top Student, The Gerald Leigh Trust Travel Scholarship and

The National Stud's Award of Merit, Most Improved and Best Practical student awards.

Students are provided with an opportunity to learn how the processes within a commercial stud are applied and receive an excellent theoretical grounding in the science and management techniques required to make a Thoroughbred Stud a success.

Diploma students work alongside the Stud's staff during the breeding season and will complete daily work as a stud hand in order to achieve practical skills at an accepted industry standard. Achieving the practical competency involves routine yard work and handling of all types of breeding stock.

Students are involved with all areas of stud work, including showing stock to clients, vet rounds, teasing, assisting at coverings and foalings.

Students have contact with industry experts not only on the yards but also in small seminar groups discussing the business, bloodstock, and management

areas of the industry.

The Evening Lecture Programme is a compulsory element of the Diploma course and provides significant technical information for students and paying delegates attending from other local stud farms. The range of attendees promotes discussion at the lectures and provides an informal forum to compare experiences.

Qualifications Gained:

- National Stud's Diploma in Stud Practice and Management
- Level 3 Certificate in Thoroughbred Stud Practice
- Level 3 Award in Transporting Horses on Short Journeys
- Basic Emergency First Aid
- Manual Handling Awareness

Employment and Progression Opportunities

Diploma graduates are held in high regard by the industry and by the time of graduation most, if not all, of the graduates have their next career step confirmed. Many go on to hold senior positions in the Thoroughbred breeding industry.

Further Information

The National Stud, Newmarket CB8 0XE Tel: 01638 663464 www.nationalstud.co.uk students@nationalstud.co.uk

SPECIALIST SHORT COURSES FOR THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS

The National Stud offers a range of short, specialist courses which include:

Stud Administration

A five-day course providing a comprehensive overview of the pivotal role of the stud secretary. Sessions cover all aspects of the post and the workings of the stud office.

Evening Lecture Programme

The National Stud Evening Lecture Programme (ELP) is open to anyone interested in the topic whether they are involved or not in the breeding of racehorses. The lectures encompass a wide range of topics each year, covering the breeding of Thoroughbreds in a

commercial setting, including management issues, disease, conformation and bloodstock management.

The lectures are between 60 and 90 minutes in length and run twice a week, starting promptly at 6pm in the Joan Westbrook Lecture Theatre at the National Stud. There are 35 to 40 lectures in the total ELP and whilst a commitment to attend all may be beyond some delegates, the option to attend just a few can be arranged. Those who attend 75% or more of the total programme will receive a Certificate of Attendance.



Employment and Progression Opportunities:

These short courses provide continuous professional development for those working in the sector.

Further Information

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WORK RELATED LEARNING PROGRAMME (14–16-YEAR-OLDS)

Overview

This two-year course is designed for 14–16-year-olds, currently in full-time education who want to spend one day a week at the British Racing School (BRS) or National Horseracing College (NHC) working towards a Diploma Level 1 in Racehorse Care.

For many, this initial training course leads to an apprenticeship and permanent employment in the horseracing industry upon completion of the learner's full-time studies.

Learners for this course are enrolled following a recommendation made by a member of staff at their school.

No experience is needed, just an interest in horses and a commitment to be reliable, hardworking and motivated.

The three-term course normally commences in September and runs until July the following year. Transport to and from the BRS or NHC will be the responsibility of the school/learner.

NHC also offers these in the workplace for those with racing experience.

Employment and Progression Opportunities

Learners completing this course will be eligible to apply for the apprenticeship course when they leave school. The BRS/NRC will find them a placement in a racehorse trainer's yard, where they will complete the Intermediate Apprenticeship Programme, including a Level 2 Diploma in Racehorse Care. This can lead to the Advanced Apprenticeship, including a Level 3 Diploma in Racehorse Care and Management.



Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU
National Horseracing College, The Stables, Rossington Hall,
Great North Road, Doncaster DN11 0HN

Tel: 01638 665103
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www.brs.org.uk
www.theNHC.co.uk

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RESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION COURSE LEVEL 1 DIPLOMA IN WORK-BASED RACEHORSE CARE



Overview

For those people seeking their first taste of racing, the Racing Industry Foundation Course, which is offered as a riding or non-riding course, will ensure they have the necessary skills to gain employment in the racing industry.

The residential foundation course consists of several weeks' residential training at the British Racing School (BRS) or National Horseracing College (NHC). For those taking the riding option, the training has been designed to ensure learners are competent both on the ground working with horses and also whilst riding a thoroughbred racehorse at exercise. Learners will receive lectures and demonstrations and will work to a routine similar as a racing yard. The aim of this course is to prepare learners for work in a racing stable.

Learners will work towards gaining a Level 1 Diploma in Work-Based Racehorse Care. They may also work towards Functional Skills qualifications, Emergency First Aid Certificate, Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses by Road on Short Journeys and Level 1 Award in the Introduction to the Horseracing Industry. They will gain life skills including cooking, nutrition, fitness, looking after your money and will hear speakers from National Association of Racing Staff (NARS) and Racing Welfare. In addition, learners also improve their self-esteem, independence, self-confidence and resilience.

No previous equine experience or academic qualifications are required to enrol but weight restrictions may apply to those taking the riding option.

Employment and Progression Opportunities

Upon successful completion of the course, suitable learners, with the right aptitude, will be secured permanent, full-time employment in a UK racing yard, where they will become a member of the stable staff team. In addition, they can complete the Level 2 Apprenticeship Programme, including a Level 2 Diploma in Racehorse Care. This can lead to the Level 3 Apprenticeship, including a Level 3 Diploma in Racehorse Care and Management.



Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

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Great North Road, Doncaster DN11 0HN

Tel: 01302 861000

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LEVEL 2 APPRENTICESHIP EQUINE GROOM (RACING)

Overview

Learners who successfully complete the Foundation Course and demonstrate their aptitude and commitment will be secured employment in a racing yard and can undertake the Level 2 Apprenticeship programme. The Level 2 Apprenticeship programme is also available to those applicants who have established a basic level of skills and knowledge as a Racing Groom.

The programme will include a Level 2 Equine Groom Apprenticeship Standard together with Functional Skills in English and Maths at a minimum Level 1.

The Level 2 Apprenticeship is completed largely at the learner's place of work, with a member of the Training Provider's Roving Tutor team visiting every 4–10 weeks with a final one-day assessment.

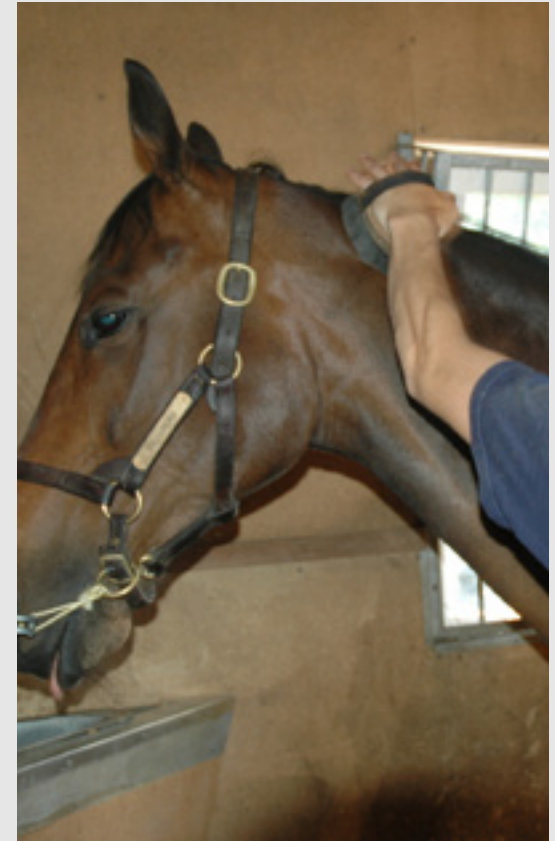
This is open to anyone aged 16 or over, who works more than 30 hours per week in a licensed racing stable. Learners must already have achieved a Level 1 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care OR an equivalent equine qualification OR have relevant occupational experience.

The qualification involves study of horse care, work projects collecting evidence of competency and practical assessments. A Level 2 Apprenticeship is an ideal way to increase knowledge and completion is a statement of competence to perform certain practical duties to a particular standard.

The Level 2 Apprenticeship also prepares individuals for progression onto the Level 3 Apprenticeship. The Level 2 Apprenticeship is linked to the Scale 2 racing wage.

Employment and Progression Opportunities

Successful completion of this training programme will lead to employment as a Racing Groom with opportunities to progress onto a Level 3 Apprenticeship Senior Equine Groom Standard.



Further Information

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National Horseracing College, The Stables, Rossington Hall,
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Haddon Training, 3 Pelhams Court,
London Rd, Marlborough SN8 2AG

Tel: 01672 519977

www.haddontraining.co.uk

enquiries@haddontraining.co.uk

LEVEL 3 APPRENTICESHIP SENIOR EQUINE GROOM (RACING)

Overview

When a learner has completed the Level 2 Apprenticeship programme, they can then progress onto the Level 3 Apprenticeship Senior Equine Groom programme including Functional Skills in English and Maths at Level 2.

As with the Level 2 Apprenticeship programme, the Level 3 Apprenticeship is completed largely at the learner's place of work, with a member of the Training Provider's Roving Tutor team visiting every 4-10 weeks with a final one-day assessment.

Open to anyone aged 16 or over, who works more than 30 hours per week in a licensed racing stable, learners must already have completed their Level 2 Apprenticeship or have relevant occupational experience.

The qualification involves projects and assignments in horse care and management and includes optional specialist areas, collecting evidence of competency and practical assessments. There is a non-riding route for those wishing to concentrate in specialist horse care.

The Level 3 Apprenticeship is an ideal way to increase knowledge and completion is a statement of practical competence to perform the required duties.

Employment and Progression Opportunities

The Level 3 Apprenticeship also prepares individuals for positions of responsibility in a racing yard. It is linked to the Scale 4 racing wage. The Level 3 Apprenticeship is a mandatory requirement for all prospective licensed racehorse trainers and permit holders.



Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

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SPECIALIST SHORT COURSES IN THE RACING INDUSTRY

The British Racing School and the National Horseracing College offer a range of short, specialist courses which include:

Assistant Trainers' Course

The Assistant Trainers' Course is a three-day course reflecting the importance of the Assistant Trainer role within stables and on the racecourse. The course is also suitable for Head Grooms and Pupil Assistants.

The course covers aspects of Staff Management, Handicapping, Media Training, Health and Safety, Racing Welfare, the British Horseracing Authority's Licensing and Integrity functions, Weatherbys' Operations and the Rules of Racing.

Yard Managers' Course

A two-day course covering aspects of communication, handling conflict, employment law, team building, styles of leadership and motivation. This course is aimed at those with a senior position within a racing yard or stud.

Ground Based Yard Staff

This is a six-week residential course designed for anyone who is keen to work in racing but does not want to ride. It covers mucking out, tacking up, travelling horses, use of horse walkers, tractor driving, first aid, feeding and horse health.

Racing Secretaries' Course

The Racing Secretaries' Course is designed to provide aspiring secretaries and newly appointed secretaries with a comprehensive understanding of the role of the trainers' secretary, the structure of the racing industry and racing administration.

The two-day course provides a thorough grounding and allows candidates the opportunity to talk directly with key personnel from organisations such as Weatherbys, the National Trainers Federation, the British Horseracing Authority and the International Racing Bureau. To complement the guest speakers, an existing secretary will deliver a personal insight into the job, including team building and styles of leadership.

Work Rider Training

This two-day course is designed to give competent stable staff the opportunity to learn about riding work. It covers the basic theory of riding work and preparing horses for racing. Practical training is provided both on simulators and on the gallops. To be eligible for this course you need to be working full time for a licensed racehorse trainer and be cantering racehorses on the gallops on a daily basis.

Specialist Skills Development

The British Racing School and the National Horseracing College offer tailored courses to develop practical skills including:

- Horse handling
- Clipping
- Lunging and long reining.

Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

National Horseracing College, The Stables, Rossington Hall,
Great North Road, Doncaster DN11 0HN

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Overview of the Scottish Racing Academy

The Scottish Racing Academy is committed to addressing the gap in horse racing education and training provision available in Scotland and the north. It has been estimated that there are more than 50 different career paths in the horse racing industry, and we want to help attract individuals from all walks of life to fulfil those roles. Horse racing is the second most popular spectator sport in Scotland – and unlike many other countries, it operates as a year-round sport. The five Scottish racecourses are Ayr, Kelso, Musselburgh, Perth, and Hamilton Park which offer both flat and jump events. In 2018, they generated £23.9m, providing 180 full time jobs. The Scottish Racing Academy has partnered with leading educational centres to help people learn the skills and knowledge to pursue a career in horse racing.

Courses on Offer

Schools Academy (Level 4 & Level 5)

- SCQF Level 4/5 – Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulations (OFQUAL) Level 2 equivalent to meet regulations under the British Horseracing Authority
- Designed for 14–16-year-olds who are at schools and have a keen interest in learning about racehorses and how to look after them in a yard environment
- Delivered in conjunction with Borders College, our Schools Academy courses provide an integrated approach to education, where senior phase pupils are given the opportunity to learn a range of vocational skills, both practical and academic. This provides them with a vocational pathway on to further and higher education at a range of different levels.

Level 5 (Stable Staff, Full Time or Part Time)

We offer a range of courses for those just starting out in the industry through to stable staff who are well established within racing. We offer both work-based and college-based routes in conjunction with Borders College and SRUC. These are delivered in a number of ways; for the Full-Time work-based option, learners will complete a minimum of 3 of the NPAs listed below, the Full Time college-based option will complete the National Certificate in Horse Care (Racing Route), and stable staff can complete any of the NPAs listed below alongside working full time, uninterrupted. The various routes can be discussed upon application.



All Level 5 courses are detailed below:

- **NPA in Racing Yard Routine**
- **NPA in Thoroughbred Preparation**
- **NPA in Specialist Racehorse Care**
- **NPA in Thoroughbred Exercise & Performance**
- **National Certificate in Horse Care (Racing Route) (college based)**

All of these qualifications have been developed in consultation with Scottish trainers and aim to provide a pathway into a career in racing whether a learner is a newcomer to the industry, or an established member of stable staff.

Level 6

Following the completion of a Level 5 qualification, and 2 years industry experience, learners can then progress on to our Level 6 qualification. This qualification consists of the following NPAs:

- **Horse Care**
- **Racehorse Care and Management**
- **Leadership for the Racehorse Industry**
- **Racehorse Exercise & Performance**

The Level 6 qualification offers a pathway for career progression into senior yard roles, racecourse work and training opportunities.

Level 1 Assistant Coaching

The rider coaching course was initially rolled out in England as part of the Regional Staff Development Programme (RSDP) which has now been extended to include Scotland. The SRA delivers this course in conjunction with horsescotland.

The assistant coaching course is delivered using a model of blended learning with a mix of self-directed learning and face to face sessions. Assessment is carried out ongoing throughout your course by the tutor, through observations of coaching, discussions and assignments.



All of the Scottish Racing Academy's courses are fully funded for most learners. There are bursaries and grants available, and to find out more about your eligibility please do get in touch.

Further Information

Address:

Scottish Racing Academy c/o The Racecourse

Golf Course Road,

Kelso

TD5 7SX

Tel: 01573 221110

Website: www.scottishracingacademy.co.uk

Email: info@scottishracingacademy.scot

TRANSPORTING HORSES



Overview

Animal welfare legislation requires that those who transport horses in connection with an economic activity on journeys over 65kms must hold a Certificate of Competence, such as a Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses by Road on Short Journeys (formerly CET) or Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses on Long Journeys (Attendant or Attendant/Driver, formerly ACET).

An economic activity is defined as 'any transport of animals undertaken as part of a business or commercial activity, which aims at achieving financial gain, whether direct or indirect, for any person or company involved with transport.' (DEFRA 2007). The training leads to two qualifications, which can be selected as appropriate:

Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses by Road on Short Journeys (formerly CET)

- For those transporting horses on journeys over 65kms and under eight hours.
- For a journey under eight hours which involves a vehicle carrying horses in connection with an economic activity (i.e. a business), the driver must hold a Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses by Road on Short Journeys Certificate of Competence (Attendant & Driver).
- The assessment is conducted by a multiple-choice exam.

Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses on Long Journeys (formerly ACET)

- For those transporting horses on journeys exceeding eight hours.
- Any additional passengers who have a role or responsibility with regards to the horse(s') welfare during transport must also hold a Certificate of Competence (Attendant).
- Assessment is undertaken by practical assessment and a multiple-choice exam.



Further Information

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The National Stud, Newmarket CB8 0XE

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RACEHORSE TRAINERS



Overview

The Trainers Courses consist of three modules, with each taking place over four or five days. They are a mandatory part of the criteria for a Licence to Train, as set by the British Horseracing Authority (BHA), but do not confer automatic right to a Licence.

The aim of the Courses is to prepare those individuals who are on the verge of applying for a Licence to Train, rather than to teach the art of training racehorses.

- Module 1: Racehorse Management (to be eligible to attend this course applicants must have achieved a Diploma Level 3 in Racehorse Care and Management)
- Module 2: Business Skills
- Module 3: Staff Management.

The above courses are made up of a series of seminars, which are delivered by specialist racing consultants, who each have extensive working knowledge of the horseracing industry.

Full details regarding the course criteria and licence application forms can be found at the British Horseracing Authority's website.

N.B. Those applying for a Permit to Train with the aim of training family-owned horses as a past time in National Hunt Races are only required to complete Module 1.

Employment and Progression Opportunities

Successful completion of these modules is essential for those wishing to pursue a career training racehorses.



Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

National Horseracing College, The Stables, Rossington Hall,
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LEVEL 4 LEARNING PROGRAMMES

The BHA has introduced a suite of eight higher-level training programmes in the horseracing and Thoroughbred breeding industries.

These programmes build on the skills and knowledge either gained from lower-level qualifications or by working in the industry and are specific to particular vocational areas of work.

The subjects included in this suite of learning programmes are:

- 1. Operating within British Horseracing Regulations**
- 2. Management of the Education, Training and Development of Young Thoroughbred Horses**
- 3. Development and Implementation of a Horse Care, Welfare and Stable Management Policy for Thoroughbred Horses**
- 4. Management of the Purchase and Sale of Thoroughbred Horses**
- 5. Managing Staff Recruitment, Training and Retention in Horseracing**
- 6. Training Thoroughbred Horses for Performance**
- 7. Management of a Thoroughbred Stallion**
- 8. Management of Thoroughbred Breeding Operations.**

These learning programmes, equating to Level 4, are aimed at those working at, or entering at, a senior level within the regulated British horseracing industry and are externally endorsed by 1st4sport.

The learning programmes are undertaken by guided learning through self-study and completion of a portfolio of evidence, prior to assessment. They are not time-bound and a learner may take as long as they like to complete the portfolio and present for assessment. As a guide, the recommended time that should be taken for each learning programme is between three and nine months. This will ensure that knowledge is current and the learner remains motivated to complete.

The learner will be allocated a mentor who will be on hand to guide the learner through their learning programme. The learner will be provided with a portfolio which they will complete in their own time. The portfolio will consist of written tasks to test knowledge and examples of the learner's own experience.

Assessment is conducted through review of the portfolio followed by a Professional Discussion.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT

British Racing School Tel: 01638 665103

brs.org.uk

National Horseracing College Tel: 01302 861000

www.thenhc.co.uk

The National Stud Tel: 01638 663464

students@nationalstud.co.uk

nationalstud.co.uk

Level 1, 2 and 3 Award in Equestrian Coaching (Racing)

Residential and remote learning courses delivered through the Regional Staff Development Programme (RSDP), which is coordinated by the NHC on behalf of BHA.

Who is eligible and what is included?

- Any senior member of racing staff or anyone with proven experience in the racing industry can apply
- Those who have a passion to support and develop staff within their team
- Three qualifications gained during training – First Aid, Safeguarding and Level 1 Coaching certificate
- Varied learning opportunities
- Employers can nominate a potential coach
- Training is funded with a returnable deposit
- Residential courses provide subsidised accommodation
- First Aid and Safeguarding qualifications are fully funded.



FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT

National Horseracing College Tel: 01302 861000 www.thenhc.co.uk

Overview

Jockey training and development is overseen by the British Horseracing Authority. There is a set curriculum for each stage of a Jockey's career. The curriculum is set across four stages:

- Pre-licence assessment course
- Licence application
- Claiming
- Full professional.

All applicants must pass a Pre-Licence Assessment before being considered for a place on the main jockey's courses for apprentices and conditionals. The

day comprises of a fitness test, riding assessment and one-to-one discussion with a Jockey Coach. If accepted, they must attend a two-week licence course which will conclude in an assessment. They must also undergo a medical examination and meet the medical standards for Fitness to Ride and the Assessment of Concussion protocol.

Once licensed, all apprentice and conditional jockeys will be accepted onto the BHA Jockey Coaching Programme (JCP) and will be required to attend regional training workshops and seminars.

Point to Point and Amateur Rider training is scheduled annually.

Category A and B Course

Riders wishing to ride as Amateurs will need to pass a two day Category A course which includes a Seminar and assessment day. Amateur Riders who have ridden upwards of 15 winners under rules or 20 winners in Point to Points and who wish to ride in Steeplechase or Hurdle races must take a five-day Category B Course. Riders wishing to ride under either category must also undergo a full medical examination and meet the standards for Fitness to Ride and the Assessment of Concussion protocol.

Employment and Progression Opportunities

Apprentice and Conditional Jockeys will be supported through their claiming period to become full professional jockeys.

Point to Point and Amateur riders may consider a career as a professional jockey, subject to status.

Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

Tel: 01638 665103

www.brs.org.uk

courses@brs.org.uk

National Horseracing College, The Stables, Rossington Hall, Great North Road, Doncaster DN11 0HN

Tel: 01302 861000

www.theNHC.co.uk

info@theNHC.co.uk

British Horseracing Authority, 75 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LS

Tel: 0207 1520000

www.britishhorseracing.com

licensing@britishhorseracing.com

Point to Point Authority, 30a Shrivenham Hundred Business Park, Majors Road, Watchfield, Swindon, SN6 8TZ

Tel: 01793 781990

www.p2pa.co.uk or www.pointtopoint.co.uk

info@p2pa.co.uk

Amateur Jockeys' Association, Mrs Sarah Oliver, Crews Hill House, Alfrick, Worcester WR6 5HF

Tel: 01886 884488

www.amateurjockeys.org.uk

sph.oliver@btinternet.com

Arab Racing Authority, Newbury Racecourse, Berkshire RG14 7NZ

Tel: 01635 524445

www.aroracing.co.uk

info@aroracing.co.uk



RACING STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (RSDP)

The RSDP aims to improve the skills of racing's staff, especially work riding and horse care and husbandry. It is expected that improved skills will support staff career development and progression, promote job satisfaction, and improve recruitment and retention, helping address industry staffing challenges.

The RSDP seeks to achieve this through:

- Training and qualifications to become a Rider Coach.
- Work rider training, using specially equipped training vehicles to deliver training by qualified Rider Coaches in yards incorporating arena, gallop and bespoke training, for example stalls training and jump schooling, care and horse husbandry.
- Fitness and team building events.
- Rider coaching.
- Development programmes for senior staff, for example mentoring courses.
- Bespoke yard-based groom training to address identified skills gaps, for example long reining workshops.

The provision is open to anyone within the racing industry and covers the UK, including working in partnership with the Scottish Racing Academy.

The RSDP is coordinated and delivered through the National Horseracing College, in partnership with the BHA and supported by the British Racing School and Scottish Racing Academy.

Twitter: @regional_train

Facebook: @RacingRSDP

For further information on RSDP or Rider Coaching, or to book, contact Samantha Trainor: 01302 861000 | S.Trainor@theNHC.co.uk



RACECOURSE WORK



Overview

Racecourse work covers many different roles. Individual racecourses generally organise their own training programmes in partnership with the Racecourse Association and external training providers. Roles include:

- Racing Officials
- Clerks of Course
- Racecourse Ground Staff
- Support Staff

Training is generally specific to the job role, but many racecourse personnel attend The Racing Industry Course, the Overview of British Racing or the Introduction to Management Course - provided by the British Racing School and the National Horseracing College.

The BHA oversees Clerk of Course Training, where applicants must be sponsored by a racecourse to undertake the training.

Racecourse Groundstaff attend the Institute of Groundsmanship training courses, specifically designed for racecourse personnel.



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Great North Road, Doncaster DN11 0HN

Tel: 01302 861000

www.theNHC.co.uk

info@theNHC.co.uk

Racecourse Association, Winkfield Rd, Ascot SL5 7HX

Tel: 01344 873536

www.racecourseassociation.co.uk

info@racecourseassociation.co.uk

Institute of Groundsmanship, Walker Avenue,
28 Stratford Office Village, Milton Keynes MK12 5TW

Tel: 01908 312511

www.iog.org

info@iog.org

There are a range of professional development courses available to those working in the Racing and Thoroughbred Breeding industries, as well as those considering the sector as a future career. These include:

The Overview of British Racing

This course features talks from key figures in racing, covering many aspects of this complex and historical sport.

Subjects covered include the roles of major organisations, racecourse activity, Rules of Racing, racing administration and funding, betting, media and welfare.

It provides an excellent platform for the BHA's two qualifications: Level 1 Award in An Introduction to the Horseracing Industry; and Level 2 Certificate in The Structure of the Horseracing Industry.

British Horseracing Development Programme (previously known as Graduate programme)

The programme starts with a comprehensive two-week residential course held at the BRS in Newmarket in July. Participants then go on to paid placements which are usually eight weeks but, in some cases, may be longer. Approximately 16 to 20 places are available each year, in a variety of organisations, in locations across the UK. The programme provides an invaluable source of talent to the industry. Many of the programme's alumni have established careers in a wide range of roles; management positions at racecourses, broadcasters, the trade press, bloodstock sales and also at the BHA.

The Racing Industry Course (TRIC)

The Racing Industry Course (TRIC) is a week-long residential BHA programme, planned and delivered by the BRS. The course covers all of the major aspects of the racing industry. The course would be suitable for a wide range of people, ranging from those new to racing through to middle manager level or anyone who simply wants to broaden their knowledge of the British and international racing scene. It includes a combination of different activities, with the programme involving lectures, seminars and exclusive behind-the-scenes tours of destinations of interest such as Tattersalls, a top trainer's yard and a prominent Stud Farm.

The British Racing School Management Academy

This programme will suit those who aspire to more senior roles within an organisation or those who wish to become more effective in their current middle management role. Delegates will typically have been in a management role for a couple of years and demonstrate both promise and potential.

Each person, having been assessed, follows their own individual development plan. This allows them to plan, choose and commit to various activities that will meet their exact individual needs.

Introduction to Management Course

Run by the Peplow Group at the British Racing School, this programme is designed to meet the needs of those who aspire to manage, are about to take on their first management role, or who are already first line managers, but have had no development opportunity. The programme is built around the basic building blocks of effective management. The programme consists of four one-day workshops spread over twelve weeks.

Foundation Degree Course

The Foundation Degree in the Horseracing Industry is a programme that is predominantly delivered by distance learning so anyone who joins the course continue their career development without leaving their place of employment. It is offered by the British Racing School in partnership with Hartpury College.

All foundation degrees have a strong accent on vocational study content with a practical bias, ideal for those whose interests lie in achieving a greater depth of knowledge and understanding as related to the highly practical business of training racehorses, managing facilities and the commercial aspects of training.

English Speaking and Skills Training

The National Association of Racing Staff provides a range of skills development training to help stable staff improve or refresh their skills. The courses include:

- English Functional Skills
- Maths Functional Skills
- Computer Courses
- English Speaking for Other Languages.

The courses are provided free to applicants and can be accessed regionally.

Equine Student Progression Programme

For Equine College graduates this is an intensive training course teaching participants how to ride and look after racehorses. Upon successful completion of the four-week training course, participants will be placed into employment at a Racehorse Trainer's yard.



Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

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Institute of Groundsmanship, Walker Avenue,
28 Stratford Office Village, Milton Keynes MK12 5TW

Tel: 01908 312511

www.iog.org

info@iog.org

National Association of Racing Staff

Tel: 01638 663411

www.naors.co.uk

admin@naors.co.uk

British Horseracing Authority, 75 High Holborn,
London, WC1V 6LS

Tel: 02071 520000

www.britishhorseracing.com

info@britishhorseracing.com

Live. Learn. Race.



Racing2Learn

1st4sport
Learning



Racing2Learn is the racing and thoroughbred breeding industry's online eLearning platform, which provides a range of FREE, flexible eLearning courses which can be accessed anytime, anywhere by everyone working in the British horseracing industry. There is something for everyone, including key areas such as Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Concussion Awareness.



Racehorse Management
and Welfare



Trainers and Jockeys



The Racing Industry



Regional Staff
Development Programme



Thoroughbred Breeding



BHA Policies,
Safeguarding and
Integrity



Racing Staff and Careers



Health and Safety



Coaching



Social Conduct and
Behaviours

For those entering the industry in a hands-on capacity, the Racehorse Care Level 1 eLearning Courses are the perfect starting point. They cover subjects such as:

- Basic Riding Skills
- Catching and Moving Horses
- Washing and Grooming
- Assisting with Feeding and Watering
- Care and Fitting of Horse Clothing
- Tacking Up and Removing Tack
- Prepare and Clean Stables
- Yard Routines
- Points of the Horse
- Identification of Horses.

The courses are self-paced and take between 20 – 60 minutes. You will 'learn by doing', by engaging in learning activities which check and assure your knowledge and understanding. Upon successful completion you'll receive an eCertificate.

Registration is free and takes seconds. Head over to our website and start your Racing2Learn lifelong learning journey now....

<https://racing2learn.com>



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The first regulated Pony Race was at Newton Abbot racecourse in 2004. The Pony Racing Authority was formed in 2007 and since then Pony Racing has gone from strength to strength. The NHC and BRS offer various training opportunities for Pony Racing.

Pony Racing Academy

The Pony Racing Academy is a 12-week programme delivered on Saturdays and is open to 11–15-year-olds who are currently unable to take part in Pony Racing due to financial or other constraints.

The Pony Racing Academy is supported by The Racing Foundation and the Horserace Betting Levy Board. Applicants must already be able to walk, trot and canter unaided and be available and to commit to all 12 Saturdays of the programme. Ponies in the care of the National Horseracing College will be used in the academy. Towards the end of the programme, and if there is a pony race available, junior jockeys who have reached the required standard will be encouraged to take part.

Pony Racing Training Days

Training days are held during the school holidays, open to those with no previous experience of race-riding, through to seasoned junior jockeys, age 9 to 15 years old. Ponies of all shapes and sizes are welcome to take part. The overall aim of a training day is to improve the junior jockey's position, technique and confidence whilst riding at speed and to develop their understanding of race-riding and the horseracing industry.

Training Days are run on a level-based system:

LEVEL 1 is the introductory level for riders who are attending their first training day, and those who have not ridden in any form of Pony Race. Progress to the next level is determined by the Jockey Coach.

LEVEL 2 is designed for junior jockeys who have taken part in two or more pony races (on the pony they intend riding during the training day); this includes Pony Club Pony Races.

LEVEL 3 day is open to riders who have won a pony race or finished second/third in two or more pony races (on the pony they intend riding during the training day); this includes Pony



PONY RACING



Club Pony Races. Level 3 is required for both point-to-point pony racing and Racecourse series.

Training at all three levels includes tuition on balance, style and technique, pace, control and awareness. Training takes place in the classroom, on the racehorse simulators and on the riders own pony. Each session is videoed, with a review concluding each day. Riders receive a certificate and a training report.

Pony Racing Camp

The five-day NHC Pony Racing Camp is open to riders who are aged 11–15 and have:

- Attended a Level 1 day at either National Horseracing College or British Racing School or,
- Competed in at least one Pony Club Pony Race, or a Point-to-Point Pony Race.

The programme includes:

- Daily riding and equisizor tuition
- Instruction from licensed jockeys
- An evening at the races, receiving a behind the scenes tour
- A visit to a racing stable, to include watching the horses at morning exercise
- Team building games and individual sporting competitions
- Racing quiz



Further Information

British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket CB8 7NU

Tel: 01638 665103

www.brs.org.uk

courses@brs.org.uk

National Horseracing College, The Stables, Rossington Hall,
Great North Road, Doncaster DN11 0HN

Tel: 01302 861000

www.theNHC.co.uk

info@theNHC.co.uk

QUALIFICATIONS



Overview

The majority of qualifications available to those working in the Racing and Thoroughbred Breeding industries are provided by 1st4sport Qualifications.

Qualifications range from Entry to Level 3.

The size of a qualification will also vary and range from Award (smallest) to Certificate (middle) and Diploma (largest).

A list of qualifications available as of 1 September 2022 are shown below:

Qualification
1st4sport Entry Level Award in Basic Knowledge of the Horseracing Industry (Entry 3)
1st4sport Entry Level Award In Catching and Leading, Grooming and Rugging up a Horse (Entry 3)
1st4sport Entry Level Award In Recognising, Putting on and Cleaning Saddle and Bridle (Entry 3)
1st4sport Entry Level Award in Assisting with Basic Care of Horses (Entry 2)
1st4sport Level 1 Award in an Introduction to the Horseracing Industry
1st4sport Level 1 Award in Equestrian Coaching (Racing)
1st4sport Level 1 Diploma in Work Based Horse Care
1st4sport Level 1 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care and Riding
1st4sport Level 2 Certificate In Assisting with the Rehabilitation of Horses
1st4sport Level 2 Certificate In the Principles of Horse Care
1st4sport Level 2 Certificate In the Structure of the Horseracing Industry
1st4sport Level 2 Certificate in Equestrian Coaching (Racing)
1st4sport Level 2 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care (QCF)
1st4sport Level 3 Award In Schooling Racehorses
1st4sport Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses by Road on Short Journeys

QUALIFICATIONS



1st4sport Level 3 Award in the Principles of Transporting Horses on Long Journeys
1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Horse Care and Management
1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in Equestrian Coaching (Racing)
1st4sport Level 3 Certificate In Thoroughbred Stud Practice
1st4sport Level 3 Diploma in The Organisation and Administration of the Horseracing Industry
1st4sport Level 3 Diploma in Work Based Racehorse Care and Management
1st4sport Level 2 Equine Groom Diploma (Racing Non-Riding)
1st4sport Level 2 Equine Groom Diploma (Racing Riding)
1st4sport Level 3 Senior Equine Groom Diploma (Racing Non-Riding)
1st4sport Level 3 Senior Equine Groom Diploma (Racing Riding)

Further Information

1st4sport Qualifications, UK Coaching, 2 City Walk Leeds LS11 9AR

Tel: 0113 2907600

www.ukcoaching.org



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London
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Tel: 020-7152 0000
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