Equine Assessment Criteria Advanced Coach Certificate

All skill criteria are essential and must be met in order to be at the required level.

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| **Skill** | **Action Required** | **Proficient** |
| **Overview of the horse** | | |
| Choice of equine | No or insufficient knowledge of different types of equines conformation or movement to suit the rider’s needs. | Has a clear understanding of the different types of equines that would suit certain riders and groups and management regimes. |
| **Equine and Safety** | | |
| Environment and Risk Management | No ability to manage the environment and hazards where spotted. | A clear understanding of what a safe environment should look like and can easily spot hazards and act to minimise them. |
| Stress on the Equine | Has not sufficiently demonstrated an ability to recognise when an equine gets stressed physically or mentally. | Has a clear and detailed plan of an equine work routine to avoid it becoming physically and mentally stressed or tired.  Can easily identify when this is happening, recognises the equine’s limits and take appropriate action. |
| **Horse Health and Management** | | |
| Physical, mental and emotional needs of the equines | Has not demonstrated, by action or knowledge, the needs of the equine. | Has a clear understanding and knowledge of the physical, mental and emotional needs of the equines with regards to their welfare and management needs. |
| First Aid | Has little or no knowledge of how to administer first aid and what should be in the equine first aid kit. | The coach can confidently demonstrate and or discuss administration of basic first aid and when to call a vet. |
| Tack fitting and special equipment | Did not demonstrate sufficient knowledge or skill in identification and fitting of the tack and equipment  needed for different disabilities  and competitive disciplines. | Confidently fits a variety of tack and knows when and how best to use special equipment. Shows a clear understanding on what tack should be used for the different disciplines across RDA. |
| Working with Equine Professionals | Lacks understanding of the roles of others working in the industry and when to enlist their help. | Has knowledge of the different equine practitioners /professionals and has a detailed plan for all RDA equines to be visited by equine professionals. |
| End of Life Responsibility | No clear plan for end of life for equines they are responsibility for. | Has a clear plan for end of life for equines that they are responsibility for.  Demonstrates a knowledge of different methods and choices to be made.  Know who to contact and how to facilitate the plan. |
| **Horse Assessment & Training** | | |
| Type and conformation | Only demonstrates a basic knowledge of different types of equines, and how conformation and movement can affect its usefulness to individuals. | Has a clear understanding of different types of equines and has a detailed knowledge of equine conformation, movement and temperament in relation to their suitability and usefulness for RDA. |
| Rider assessment & horse allocation | Has little or no knowledge of how to match the equine and rider, not only benefit the rider but to improve the equine as well. | Has a clear understanding of how different breeds and types of equines can help improve riders and can match them easily, taking the welfare of the equine into account. |
| Alternative uses of the Equine | No knowledge of different types of alternative uses of equines to provide therapy. | Knows alternative uses for equines within a group to provide therapy,  Has experience of alternative uses of equines and has a plan in place for certain riders to access therapy that might not be riding (Equine Assisted Learning, vaulting, driving, ground work, hippotherapy). |
| Training & work plan | Insufficient knowledge of training needs and methods to train and improve the equine. | The coach has a detailed plan of a series of training sessions to improve the equine’s way of going in a variety of scenarios including exercises that can be done within the riding group. |