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 | Capable | Proficient |
| **Overview of the horse** | | | |
| Choice of equine | No or insufficient knowledge of different types of equines conformation or movement to suit the riders needs | Has the ability to choose the correct equine to match the rider and group needs and management regimes | 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 | Can safely manage the environment the equine is working in and has the ability to spot hazards and minimise them where possible | A clear understanding of what a safe environment should look like and can easily spot hazards and acts immediately to minimise them |
| Stresses on the Equine | Has not sufficiently demonstrated an ability to recognise when an equine gets stressed physically or mentally | Can easily identify when the equine is getting physically and mentally stressed and recognises the equine’s limits and take appropriate action | Has a clear and detailed plan of an equine work routine to avoid it becoming physically and mentally stressed or tired |
| **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 | Can clearly describe the equine’s needs in different situations |
| 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 demonstrate and or discuss administration of basic first aid and when to call a vet | Coach can confidently explain and discuss what when and how to administer first aid in different situations |
| 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 | Knows how to fit a range of tack and special equipment and adaptive tack for different disabilities and disciplines across RDA | 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 | Has knowledge of the different equine practitioners /professionals and can discuss when they may be useful and how to contact them | Has a detailed plan for all RDA equines to be visited by equine professionals |
| End of Life Responsibility | No clear plan for the end of life for equines they are responsibility for | Has a clear plan for the end of life for equines that they have are responsibility for  Demonstrates a knowledge of different methods and choices to be made | Has a justified plan and can clearly explain to individuals the equines end of life plan.  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 affect the usefulness to individuals | Knows the different breed characteristics of equines, and understands how to match these to riders and groups for effective rider development and group efficiency | Has a clear understanding of different types of equines and has a more 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 to not only benefit the rider but to improve the equine as well | Can match riders and equines to benefit the rider and equine, taking into consideration the rider needs and the welfare of the equine | Has a clear understanding of how different breeds and types of equines can help improve riders |
| Alternative uses of the Equine | No knowledge of different types of alternative uses of equines to provide therapy | Knows alternative uses of equines within a group to provide therapy, (EAL, vaulting, driving, ground work, hippotherapy) | Has experience of alternative uses of equines and has a plan in place for certain riders to access therapy that might not be riding |
| Training & work plan | Insufficient knowledge of training needs and methods to train and improve the equine | The coach has a clear understanding of training requirements for the equine in order to improve its way of going for RDA and related disciplines.  Understands when and how to train the equine as required within and outside normal riding sessions | The coach has a detailed plan of a series of training sessions to improves the equines way of going in a variety of scenarios including exercises that can be done within the riding group |