Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with RGR Racing Training Package Version 1.0. |

| RGRPSH304 | Identify factors that affect racehorse performance |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to identify signs of fitness in horses, detect abnormalities and problems, and communicate options to improve horse performance.  The unit applies to individuals who work in a broad range of occupations involving racehorses.  Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit. Users are advised to check with the relevant Principal Racing Authority for current requirements.  Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary in each state/territory jurisdiction. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Performance Horse (PSH) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Identify and recognise factors that affect horse movement | 1.1 Observe and identify features of racehorse conformation  1.2 Observe and describe gaits of racehorses  1.3 Identify and report lameness and other abnormalities  1.4 Identify reasons for use of corrective gear and select options to improve horse performance  1.5 Explain factors that influence speed and strength |
| 2. Identify and recognise signs of fitness in racehorses | 2.1 Identify behavioural and physical indicators of fitness  2.2 Observe and report signs and symptoms of distress in racing horses during exercise  2.3 Observe and report horse post-exercise recovery |
| 3. Determine basic fitness requirements for racehorses | 3.1 Profile fitness and health of individual horses  3.2 Identify and implement methods to evaluate performance  3.3 Identify indicators of poor adaptation to training program  3.4 Evaluate factors affecting performance for individual horses |

| Foundation Skills  This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Oral communication | * Use clear language, accurate concepts and industry terminology to explain and report features of horse performance |
| Navigate the world of work | * Build knowledge of horse performance to keep up to date and improve own role and responsibilities |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| RGRPSH304 Identify factors that affect racehorse performance | RGRPSH304A Identify factors that affect racehorse performance | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  New element and minor changes to performance criteria for clarity | No equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for RGRPSH304 Identify factors that affect racehorse performance |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has observed and identified factors that affect the performance of at least three different racehorses, including for each racehorse:   * recognised conformation features and detected normal and abnormal gaits * checked signs and symptoms of fitness and distress during handling or exercise, taking action to address horse distress * determined and profiled basic fitness requirements for each racehorse * observed and reported on post-exercise recovery. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:   * features of racehorse conformation * types and features of gaits of a horse * indicators of lameness in horses * common horse behaviour, social traits and vices * behavioural or physical indicators of horse fitness * basic fitness requirements of racehorses * factors that influence speed and strength in racehorses * signs and symptoms of distress in working horses * types and purpose of different items of corrective gear * racing industry standards and expectations relevant to factors that affect racehorse performance: * racing industry animal welfare requirements * racing industry safety requirements including safe operating procedures and safe horse handling techniques * relevant rules of racing related to horse performance. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * a workplace or simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting * resources, equipment and materials: * various standardbred or thoroughbred racehorses with different conformation, levels of fitness and performance issues * appropriate corrective gear and equipment for individual, horse and activity * racing industry approved PPE, correctly fitted and appropriate for activity for individual.   Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of guidance provided in the Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training.  Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. |

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