



BRITISH
DRIVING SOCIETY

Driven by you!



2022

Unit of Competence for Carriage Driving
The Advanced Syllabus

Unit of Competence for Carriage Driving :

The Advanced Assessment Syllabus

Note to Candidates, Assessors and Training Establishments

This is a unit-based competence. In order to achieve a full certificate for the Advanced Competence 2022, a candidate must achieve all of the Units. Candidates may take individual units. They will receive accreditation's for the successful Units completed. This will not constitute a full Advanced certificate until all required Units are in place.

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Prerequisites to Advanced Competence

Prior to registering for this award all prerequisites must be in place:

- BDS Preliminary Competence
- BDS Road Driving Certificate
- BDS Intermediate Competence.

Portfolio

Candidates are required to compile a portfolio, providing evidence of at least one years driving experience between taking Intermediate Competence and Advanced Competence. This experience may be gained in British Carriagedriving competitions, BDS affiliated shows, BDS Pleasure Driving, Instruction with an LHHI (or someone with equivalent qualifications) or training of the driven Equine. The Candidates must provide evidence of a minimum of 20 hours witnessed performance in at least two of the above. This experience must be included in the portfolio, witnessed and signed by the appropriate person. This portfolio can be written work, photos, videos, audio or testimonies.

This should be submitted to the BDS Office before any Units are taken.

Advanced Competence 2022 Units covered:

1. Carry out the Training of the Driven Equine
2. Vehicles and Harness
3. Practical Driving - Single Equine (show turnout)
4. Pair Driving - Advanced Level
5. Driving with 4 reins. - Tandem
6. Driving with 4 reins - Team

Accredited Prior Learning /Accredited Prior Achievement

All practical driving, etc. must be demonstrated. No accreditation will be given for this. However, if candidates feel that they have qualifications or sufficient experience in the equine industry at an advanced level they may apply to the BDS Training Committee for accreditation for other parts of the requirements of the Elements. Candidates seeking accreditation will be required to produce a portfolio of evidence that backs up their claim. The portfolio must be seen to be creditable to the candidate, cover the requirements at the appropriate level and demonstrate a current level of competence.

UNIT 1: Carry out the Training of the Driven Equine

Objective:

Successful candidates will be capable of carrying out the basic training of the young driving Equine and schooling the older Equine.

Element 1.1: Basic Training of the Novice Driving Equine Build a Portfolio of Evidence

Assessor/Candidate Guidance:

Candidates should provide evidence, using video, portfolio and witness statements of having successfully completed the basic training of at least 2 young driving Equines that have previously not been driven in harness. They should produce project work explaining the structure and psychology of their methods.

They should be sent to the BDS Office with their entry.

Candidates will be assessed for this Unit partly by accreditation of prior achievement and partly by questioning the underpinning knowledge at the Examination Centre. Candidates who submit evidence which is inconclusive or suspect will be asked to submit further evidence and may be subject to a full practical assessment of their performance at their own expense.



Element 1.2 : Carry out Schooling and further Training of the more experienced Equine

Assessor/Candidate Guidance:

Candidates should be capable of choosing appropriate equipment from the range and be able to harness up at least 2 driving Equines of different ability and temperament. They should demonstrate how to improve the outline of the animals as well as forward movement and changes of pace. They should be able to improve the animals ability to bend whilst remaining in balance. The candidate should be aware of the performance and concentration levels of the animals with which they are working, and of showing flexibility within their own programme in order to maintain the value of the training session.

Equipment and Location:

Equines

Equines will be provided by the Examination Centre, minimum of 6 years of age.

Equipment

Lunging Cavesson, driving bridle, open bridle, lunge whip.
Numerous items of driving/ exercise harness, lunge lines, long reins, side reins, riding saddle and bridle, protective equipment for the animals provided, brushing boots, etc.

Specialised Training Aids.

A variety of training aids. A variety of bits with a wide range of mouth pieces (Only required for Knowledge item 3, see below. Identify and discuss only).

Location

An enclosed area with a suitable surface (indoor or outdoors).

Time

Approximately 40 minutes (excluding time taken to harness up, warm up and assess the animal).

Performance Criteria

- A. Select the appropriate equipment from the range and fit on the animal. NB This should be completed by the candidate prior to the performance. The animals should then be brought to the training area ready to start.
- B. Lunge the Equine to assess and improve performance.
- C. Long rein the Equine to improve performance.
- D. Ride the Equine to improve performance (Candidates unable to ride or who feel unable to demonstrate training under saddle to this level may use a rider under instruction. The rider will be provided by the Candidate.) The assessment will concentrate on the quality and effectiveness of the training and not on the style of riding.
- E. Health and Safety of Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Identify strengths and weaknesses of the performance.
- 2. Discuss methods used to improve the performance of each animal.
- 3. Identify the range of training equipment and discuss their uses in the context of training or improvement of performance.



UNIT 2 : Vehicles and Harness

Objective

The successful candidate will be capable of identifying and understanding the functions of a wide variety of Equine drawn vehicles, both traditional and modern and recognise the appropriate harness. They will have an in depth knowledge and understanding of the appropriate dress code and the traditions behind them. This Unit will be assessed by oral questioning.

ELEMENT 2.1: Vehicles for Carriage Driving

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

Candidates will be capable of identifying a wide variety of vehicles from the range. They will display a sound knowledge of the method of construction, they will be able to recognise the various parts that go to make up the vehicle. They will understand the method and the importance of general maintenance but will not be expected to demonstrate the degree of knowledge of a coach/carriage builder. They will be capable of identifying the appropriate harness and will understand correct and incorrect turnout with reference to traditions as well as safety.

Equipment and Location:

Vehicles

World wide vehicles for singles and multiples to include; Phaetons and their relations - the family of Gigs - Dog Carts and their off shoots - Brakes, Wagonettes and Omnibuses - Coaches, wagons, coachman driven vehicles and modern/competition vehicles. (Some will be identified from photographs and drawings).

Harness

World-wide origin for singles and multiples (Some harness will be identified from photographs and drawings).

Location

Carriage House / Harness Room

Time

1 hour 30 minutes approximately



Performance Criteria and Knowledge

- A. Identify a wide variety of vehicles from the range and discuss their uses.
- B. Identify parts of the vehicles to include axle types, wheel types, springs, and undercarriages including perches, futchels, etc., and discuss their function, construction, and maintenance.
- C. Identify and explain the workings of the fifth wheel.
- D. Identify and discuss the different systems of obtaining draught.
- E. Discuss the maintenance/servicing of both traditional and modern vehicles (See Code of Practise).
- F. Modern carriages, exercise and competition vehicles are discussed and different methods of construction are identified with reference to the requirements for different phases of modern competition.
- G. Identify and discuss measures taken to ensure the security and condition of a carriage
 - i). In the Coach house
 - ii). During use
 - iii). During transportation
- H. World wide harness appropriate to the different vehicles is discussed and understood.
- I. British dress code, livery and their traditions are discussed.
- J. The availability and use of protective clothing and British Health and Safety standards are discussed.



UNIT 3 : Practical Driving : Single Show Turnout

Objective

The successful candidate will be capable of driving a single turnout to a very high standard of competence and safety. They will be able to handle the reins skilfully using a variety of recognised techniques. They will show style and elegance during the performance.

Candidates will be capable of producing turnouts to a very high standard. The Unit will be assessed by direct observation of the candidate's performance together with oral questioning of the underpinning knowledge.

ELEMENT 3.1 : Preparing the Equine for Driving - Presentation

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The successful candidate will be capable of producing a turnout to a standard suitable for County Shows (see below Range - Carriages). The full turnout will be provided by the candidate but need not be the property of the candidate. The candidate must provide a suitable assistant/groom who will assist only in the putting to. The assistant must be suitably dressed and appropriate for the turnout and will be considered in the assessment of the presentation of the turnout. The Equine/pony may be brought to the Examination Centre bathed, trimmed, with mane pulled if appropriate. All final preparation will be carried out by the candidate at the Examination Centre. The harness and vehicle should be prepared prior to the Assessment. The candidate will present the Equine/pony in harness, put to and ready for the assessment.

Equipment and Location:

Equine

Provided by the candidate - see above.

Carriage

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. The carriage must be of traditional type - 2 or 4 wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistant to be seated through Element 3.2.

Harness

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate.

ELEMENT 3.1 : Preparing the Equine for Driving - Presentation (cont.)

Equipment

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate.

Assistant

A competent groom/assistant who is dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Time

Approximately 40 minutes.

Performance Criteria

- A. The Equine/pony is prepared for Presentation in a suitable style for the turnout.
- B. The style of preparation is suitable for the type of Equine/pony.
- C. The turnout is presented for Presentation.
- D. The Candidate gives a self-assessment of their performance and a full explanation of the turnout.
- E. Health and Safety of the Equine/pony, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Different styles of turnout/presentation is discussed.
- 2. Different methods/styles of plaiting and preparation of the Equine/pony is discussed, including hackney, trade, native and world breeds.

ELEMENT 3.2 : Practical Driving of the Show Turnout

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The successful candidate will drive an 'individual show' (as if you were in the show ring using the Assessor as a Judge), using the British Coaching style of driving (reins in the left hand supported by the right hand) - unless using a trade turnout where reins can be in two hands. Candidates will be expected to show their Equine/pony off as if in a proper County show and drive with a high degree of competence. The successful candidate will have a sound knowledge of the required paces and movements. It is accepted that not all animals can consistently perform or maintain totally correct paces but a performance that shows a certain level of correct pace that would be expected at this level is required.

The assessment is made on overall performance. The candidate must present the animal put to and ready to start. Candidates will drive accompanied by a suitable groom or assistant provided by the candidate.

Equipment and Location:

Equine

Provided by the candidate (minimum of 6 years of age).

Vehicle

2 or 4 wheel traditional type vehicle. The groom/assistant must be seated.

Harness

Any appropriate harness which is suited to the turnout.

Assistant

A competent groom/assistant, appropriate for the turnout and suitably dressed.

Location

Any suitable driving arena or level field.

Time

Approximately 15 minutes.

Performance Criteria

- A. Drive the 'individual show' using the British Coaching style of driving (two hands can be used with a trade turnout) as relevant to a BDS Driving Class.
- B. Control of the animal is maintained at all times.
- C. A high level of style and accuracy is maintained throughout.
- D. The required paces are demonstrated and maintained.
- E. Transitions are executed correctly.
- F. Salutes are performed with style appropriate to gender.
- G. Competent use of the reins and whip is maintained throughout.
- H. Health and Safety of Equine/pony, self and others is maintained throughout.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Identify strengths and weaknesses of the performance in respect of:
 - i. The animal
 - ii. The Whip
- 2. The British Coaching hand is discussed and understood. If using a trade turnout discuss why two hands are used.
- 3. Different methods of salute are discussed.
- 4. Discuss potential and possible training procedures for the Equine/pony to improve performance.
- 5. Discuss planning and carrying out your shows as the season progresses through the year.
- 6. Discuss procedures when competing in a Private Driving class and the criteria for judging Private Driving classes - suitability of animals, etc.
- 7. Suitability of Equines/ponies for other driving work at an Advanced level (Driving trials, etc.) is discussed.



UNIT 4 : Pair Driving - Advanced Level

Notes to Candidates, Assessors and Training Establishments

Candidates should provide their own turnout or one borrowed or hired for the occasion. A pair of Equines or ponies may be used but should be trained and capable of working at the level required.

Objective

The successful candidate will be capable of driving and producing a pair of Equines/ponies to a high standard of competence and safety. They will be able to handle the reins skilfully using recognised techniques. They will show style and elegance throughout their performance and will show a degree of knowledge to back up the level of performance. To be successful the candidate will need experience as well as competence. The Unit will be assessed partly by Accreditation of Prior Achievement as well as by direct observation of the performance and oral questioning of the underpinning knowledge.

Element 4.1 : Carry out Training a Pair of Driving Equines Build a Portfolio of Evidence

Note - This unit will be assessed by Accreditation of Prior Achievement.

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

Candidates should provide evidence of their ability to train and produce a pair of Equines/ponies capable of competing at County shows, BDS Pleasure drives and activities, BHDTA competitions or any other appropriate driving discipline. They should produce project work which will include detailed explanations of the structure and psychology of their training methods, fitness programme and the pros and cons of using training aids as well as methods and techniques used for correcting faults and improving performance. Methods of providing evidence may include videos and tapes but must include portfolio, witness statements and project work. The portfolio should provide sound evidence of proven track record. This work, together with any videos, tapes, etc. should be sent to the BDS Office with entry.

Note - Candidates who submit suspect or incomplete evidence will be asked to rectify and re-submit and an extra charge will be made.



Element 4.2 : Prepare to Drive the Pair of Equines

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The successful candidate will be capable of producing a turnout harnessed up and put to safely and correctly to a standard suitable for entering the show ring. The full turnout will be provided by the candidate but need not be the property of the candidate. The candidate must provide a suitable assistant/groom who will assist in the putting to and at other times when considered necessary in the interests of health and safety. The assistant must be suitably dressed and appropriate for the turnout and will be considered in the assessment of the presentation of the turnout. The Equines/ponies may be brought to the Examination Centre bathed, trimmed, with manes plaited if appropriate. All final preparations will be carried out by the candidate at the Examination Centre. The harness and vehicle should be prepared prior to the Assessment.

Equipment and Location:

Equine

Provided by the candidate - 6 years of age minimum, well shod and working as a pair.

Vehicle

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. The carriage can be of modern or traditional type - with four wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistant to be seated.

Harness

A set of pair harness suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate.

Equipment

All additional equipment required for the turnout is provided by the candidate.

Assistant

A competent groom/assistant who is dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Location - A suitable safe environment

Time - Approximately 20 minutes.



Performance Criteria

- A. The Equines/ponies are bathed, trimmed, groomed, etc. ready to be harnessed up.
- B. The Equines/ponies are well shod, ready to go to work.
- C. The Equines/ponies are harnessed up correctly with laid down procedure.
- D. The Equines/ponies are put to using laid down procedure making use of groom/assistant where necessary.
- E. The drive mounts the vehicle and the reins and whip are taken up in the correct manner
- F. Health and Safety of the Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained throughout.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Candidates give an explanation of what they are doing and why as they harness up and put to.
- 2. Candidates discuss the difference between harnessing up a pair, compared to a single.
- 3. Discuss the harness and vehicle being used.
- 4. Discuss the drivers and grooms attire and why it has been used with this particular turnout.
- 5. Discuss the importance of a competent groom.
- 6. Discuss the possible problems that could be encountered when putting to.



Element 4.3 : Drive a pair of Equines using any recognised style of Driving

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The Equines/ponies will be presented put to and ready to begin. The candidate will be expected to drive the pair to a very high standard in an enclosed area, showing manoeuvres on both reins as requested by the Assessor and to complete a cones course (suitable for a pair) set out by the Assessor at the Examination Centre. It is understood that the animals driven may not be show animals but the candidate will be required to demonstrate the best aspects of their pair to a high standard. The candidate will have harnessed up and put to in such a way as to allow the pair to work together through tight turns as well as through flowing movements.

Equipment and Location:

Turnout -

Provided by the candidate (as in previous elements)

Location

An enclosed driving area of an appropriate size, laid out with cones.

Time - 20 minutes approximately.

Note - The Assistant must be seated in the carriage throughout this element.

Performance Criteria

- A. Plan a route though the course as suitable for a pair, ie. walk the course.
- B. Discuss the course and any foreseen problems with the Assessor.
- C. Drive the pair within the enclosed area as requested by the Assessor. This may include corners, circles, figures of eight, rein back, halt etc.
- D. Drive the pair through the cones course.
- E. Control of animals is maintained throughout.
- F. A high degree of accuracy and style is achieved.
- G. Intelligent use of the ground is demonstrated.
- H. The reins and whip are used skilfully.
- I. This element is completed using any safe and appropriate style of driving.
- J. Appropriate speed and pace is maintained throughout.
- K. Health and Safety of Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Discuss the performance in the cones course and performance and identify strengths and weaknesses.
2. Discuss training procedure for the Equines driven.
3. Discuss the planning needed in order to carry out a show.
4. Procedures when competing in a Private Driving class with a pair and the criteria for judging a pair are discussed.



Element 4.4: Drive the Pair on the Public Highway

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The candidate will be expected to select harness and put to, a pair suitable to be driven on the Public Highway. They will be capable of choosing the correct harness enabling the animals to work comfortably as a pair and be safe on the Public Highway. They will be capable of choosing the correct vehicle for the animals taking into consideration the terrain they will be going on and the length of the drive. The candidate will be capable of driving the pair with confidence, style and accuracy. They will also be capable of making adjustments to pace and direction and employing both animals appropriately throughout the test.

Equipment and Location:

Equines

Provided by the candidate - 6 years of age minimum, well shod and working as a pair.

Vehicle

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. Must be sound and well maintained. The carriage can be of traditional or modern type - with four wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistant to be seated.

Harness

A set of pair harness suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. This can be leather or biothane.

Equipment

All additional equipment required for the turnout is provided by the candidate.

Assistant

A competent groom/assistant who is dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Location

Roads and tracks which must incorporate uphill and downhill gradients, junctions, roundabouts, traffic, etc.

Time - Approximately 1 hour 30 minutes



Performance Criteria

- A. Assess the Equines individually.
- B. Make sure vehicle is prepared for use and you have everything on it ready to drive on the road.
- C. Secure Equines using safe procedure.
- D. Select harness and fit onto Equines/ponies.
- E. Make appropriate adjustments where necessary.
- F. Using assistant, put Equines to the vehicle.
- G. Turnout is checked and any further adjustments are made.
- H. Driver to mount the vehicle correctly.
- I. Driver to take up the reins and whip correctly.
- J. Drive the pair using any Safe Style of Driving recognised by the disciplines on a drive of approximately 1 hour, incorporating downhill and uphill gradients, junctions, traffic lights, etc. (anything that isn't encountered on the public highway is discussed).
- K. The appropriate pace is maintained throughout.
- L. Skilful use of the reins and whip is demonstrated.
- M. The drive is completed with safety, confidence and style.
- N. The turnout is returned to the designated area.
- O. Equines are taken out using laid down procedure making full use of the groom/assistant.
- P. Health and Safety of animals, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Strengths and weaknesses of the performance of the animals is discussed at length.
- 2. Possible suggestions for correction and improvement are given.
- 3. Discuss pole lengths and heights.
- 4. Discuss reasons for varying pole lengths for different phases of Equine driving trials.
- 5. Explain in depth the different types of harness.
- 6. Discuss advantages and disadvantages of quarter, half and full lock on a four wheeler.
- 7. Discuss possible design features on a four wheeler with reference to safe mounting for whips, passengers, etc.
- 8. Discuss hazards and danger whilst out on the public highway and how to make effective use of your groom/assistant.



UNIT 5: Driving With Four Reins - Tandem

Notes to Candidates, Assessors and Training Establishments

Candidates should provide their own turnout or one borrowed or hired for the occasion. A tandem of Equines or ponies may be used but should be trained and capable of working at the level required.

Objective

The successful candidate will be capable of driving and producing a tandem of Equines/ponies to a high standard of competence and safety. They will be able to handle the reins skilfully using recognised techniques. They will show style and elegance throughout their performance. They will also be required to show a degree of knowledge to back up the level of the performance. To be successful the candidate will need experience as well as competence. The Unit will be assessed partly by Accreditation of Prior Achievement as well as by direct observation of the performance and oral questioning of the underpinning knowledge.

Note - This unit will be assessed by Accreditation of Prior Achievement.

ELEMENT 5.1: Carry out training a Tandem of Driving Equines Build a Portfolio of Evidence

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

Candidates should provide evidence of their ability to train and produce a tandem of Equines/ponies capable of competing at County shows, BDS Pleasure drives and activities, British Carriagedriving competitions or any other appropriate driving discipline. They should produce project work which will include detailed explanations of the structure and psychology of their training methods, fitness programme and the pros and cons of using training aids as well as methods and techniques used for correcting faults and improving performance. Methods of providing evidence may include videos and tapes but must include portfolio, witness statements and project work. The portfolio should provide sound evidence of proven track record. This work, together with any videos, tapes, etc. should be sent to the BDS Office with entry.

Note - Candidates who submit suspect or incomplete evidence will be asked to rectify and re-submit and an extra charge will be made.



Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The successful candidate will be capable of producing a turnout harnessed up and put to safely and correctly to a standard suitable for entering the show ring. The full turnout will be provided by the candidate but need not be the property of the candidate. The candidate must provide a suitable assistant/groom who will assist in the putting to and at other times when considered necessary in the interests of health and safety. The assistant must be suitably dressed and appropriate for the turnout and will be considered in the assessment of the presentation of the turnout. The Equines may be brought to the Examination Centre bathed, trimmed, with manes plaited if appropriate. All final preparations will be carried out by the candidate at the Examination Centre. The harness and vehicle should be prepared prior to the Assessment.

Equipment and Location:**Equine**

Provided by the candidate - 6 years of age minimum, well shod and working as a Tandem.

Vehicle

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. The carriage can be of modern or traditional type - with four wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistant to be seated.

Harness

A set of tandem harness suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate.

Equipment

All additional equipment required for the turnout is provided by the candidate.

Assistant

A competent groom/assistant who is dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Location - A suitable safe environment

Time - Approximately 20 minutes.

Performance Criteria

- A. The Equines/ponies are bathed, trimmed, groomed, etc. ready to be harnessed up.
- B. The Equines/ponies are well shod, ready to go to work.
- C. The Equines/ponies are harnessed up correctly with laid down procedure.
- D. The Equines/ponies are put to using laid down procedure making use of groom/assistant where necessary.
- E. The driver mounts the vehicle and the reins and whip are taken up in the correct manner
- F. Health and Safety of the Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained throughout.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Candidates give an explanation of what they are doing and why as they harness up and put to.
- 2. Candidates discuss the difference between harnessing up a tandem, compared to other configurations.
- 3. Discuss the harness and vehicle being used.
- 4. Discuss the drivers and grooms attire and why it has been used with this particular turnout.
- 5. Discuss the importance of a competent groom.
- 6. Discuss the possible problems that could be encountered when putting to.



Element 5.3 : Drive a Tandem of Equines using any recognised style of Driving

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The Equines/ponies will be presented put to and ready to begin. The candidate will be expected to drive the tandem to a very high standard in an enclosed area, showing manoeuvres on both reins as requested by the Assessor and to complete a cones course (suitable for a tandem) set out by the Assessor at the Examination Centre. It is understood that the animals driven may not be show animals but the candidate will be required to demonstrate the best aspects of their tandem to a high standard. The candidate will have harnessed up and put to in such a way as to allow the tandem to work together through tight turns as well as through flowing movements.

Equipment and Location:

Turnout -

To be provided by the candidate (as in previous elements) The Assistant must be seated in the carriage throughout this element.

Location

An enclosed driving area of an appropriate size, laid out with cones.

Time - 20 minutes approximately.

Performance Criteria

- A. Plan a route though the course as suitable for a tandem, ie. walk the course.
- B. Discuss the course and any foreseen problems with the Assessor.
- C. Drive the tandem within the enclosed area as requested by the Assessor. This may include corners, circles, figures of eight, rein back, halt etc.
- D. Drive the tandem through the cones course.
- E. Control of animals is maintained throughout.
- F. A high degree of accuracy and style is achieved.
- G. Intelligent use of the ground is demonstrated.
- H. The reins and whip are used skilfully.
- I. This element is completed using any safe and appropriate style of driving.
- J. Appropriate speed and pace is maintained throughout.
- K. Health and Safety of Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained at all times.



Knowledge and Understanding

1. Discuss the performance in the cones course and performance and identify strengths and weaknesses.
2. Discuss training procedure for the Equines driven.
3. Discuss the planning needed in order to carry out a show.
4. Procedures when competing in a Private Driving class with a tandem and the criteria for judging a tandem are discussed.
5. The British Coaching hand is discussed and understood.



Element 5.4 : Drive the Tandem on the Public Highway

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The candidate will be expected to select harness and put to, a tandem suitable to be driven on the Public Highway. They will be capable of choosing the correct harness enabling the animals to work comfortably as a tandem and be safe on the Public Highway. They will be capable of choosing the correct vehicle for the animals taking into consideration the terrain they will be going on and the length of the drive. The candidate will be capable of driving the tandem with confidence, style and accuracy. They will also be capable of making adjustments to pace and direction and employing both animals appropriately throughout the test.

Equipment and Location:

Equines

Provided by the candidate - 6 years of age minimum, well shod and working as a tandem.

Vehicle

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. Must be sound and well maintained. The carriage can be of traditional or modern type - with four wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistant to be seated.

Harness

A set of tandem harness suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. This can be leather or biothane.

Equipment

All additional equipment required for the turnout is provided by the candidate.

Assistant

A competent groom/assistant who is dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Location

Roads and tracks which must incorporate uphill and downhill gradients, junctions, roundabouts, traffic, etc.

Time - Approximately 1 hour 30 minutes



Performance Criteria

- A. Assess the Equines individually.
- B. Make sure vehicle is prepared for use and you have everything on it ready to drive on the road.
- C. Secure Equines using safe procedure.
- D. Select harness and fit onto Equines/ponies.
- E. Make appropriate adjustments where necessary.
- F. Using assistant, put Equines to the vehicle.
- G. Turnout is checked and any further adjustments are made.
- H. Driver to mount the vehicle correctly.
- I. Driver to take up the reins and whip correctly.
- J. Drive the pair using any Safe Style of Driving recognised by the disciplines on a drive of approximately 1 hour, incorporating downhill and uphill gradients, junctions, traffic lights, etc. (anything that isn't encountered on the public highway is discussed).
- K. The appropriate pace is maintained throughout.
- L. Skilful use of the reins and whip is demonstrated.
- M. The drive is completed with safety, confidence and style.
- N. The turnout is returned to the designated area.
- O. Equines are taken out using laid down procedure making full use of the groom/assistant.
- P. Demonstrate folding of a tandem whip and discuss the technique required to achieve a high standard.
- Q. Health and Safety of animals, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Strengths and weaknesses of the performance of the animals is discussed at length.
- 2. Possible suggestions for correction and improvement are given.
- 3. Discuss choice of whip for use with a tandem.
- 4. Discuss varying types of rosettes, Roger rings and throat lash rings on a wheeler's bridle and discuss advantages and disadvantages of each.
- 5. Explain in depth the different types of harness.
- 6. Discuss the importance and reasons for using a martingale crupper on the leader.
- 7. Discuss the importance and reasons for using a martingale type trace carrier on the leader.
- 8. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of driving a tandem to: a two-wheeled vehicle and a four wheeled vehicle.
- 9. Discuss hazards and danger whilst out on the public highway and how to make effective use of your groom/assistant.
- 10. Discuss in detail the role of the groom/assistant when left in charge of a tandem.



11. Explain the use of tandem bars and discuss advantages and disadvantages.
12. Describe unicorn harness, the method of putting to and problems likely to occur.
13. Describe the harness for a Randem.
14. Describe the rein handling of a randem and identify some problems that may occur with a randem.



UNIT 6 : Driving With Four Reins - Team

Notes to Candidates, Assessors and Training Establishments

Candidates should provide their own turnout or one borrowed or hired for the occasion. A team of Equines or ponies may be used but should be trained and capable of working at the level required.

Objective

The successful candidate will be capable of driving and producing a team of Equines/ponies to a high standard of competence and safety. They will be able to handle the reins skilfully using recognised techniques. They will show style and elegance throughout their performance. They will also be required to show a degree of knowledge to back up the level of the performance. To be successful the candidate will need experience as well as competence. The Unit will be assessed partly by Accreditation of Prior Achievement as well as by direct observation of the performance and oral questioning of the underpinning knowledge.

Note - This unit will be assessed by Accreditation of Prior Achievement.

ELEMENT 6.1 : Carry out Training a Team of Driving Equines Build a Portfolio of Evidence

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

Candidates should provide evidence of their ability to train and produce a team of Equines/ponies capable of competing at County shows, BDS Pleasure drives and activities, British Carriagedriving competitions or any other appropriate driving discipline. They should produce project work which will include detailed explanations of the structure and psychology of their training methods, fitness programme and the pros and cons of using training aids as well as methods and techniques used for correcting faults and improving performance. Methods of providing evidence may include videos and tapes but must include portfolio, witness statements and project work. The portfolio should provide sound evidence of proven track record. This work, together with any videos, tapes, etc. should be sent to the BDS Office with entry.

Note - Candidates who submit suspect or incomplete evidence will be asked to rectify and re-submit and an extra charge will be made.



ELEMENT 6.2 : Prepare to drive a Team of Equines

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The successful candidate will be capable of producing a turnout harnessed up and put to safely and correctly to a standard suitable for entering the show ring. The full turnout will be provided by the candidate but need not be the property of the candidate. The candidate must provide a suitable assistants/ grooms (minimum of 2) who will assist in the putting to and at other times when considered necessary in the interests of health and safety. The assistants must be suitably dressed and appropriate for the turnout and will be considered in the assessment of the presentation of the turnout. The Equines may be brought to the Examination Centre bathed, trimmed, with manes plaited if appropriate. All final preparations will be carried out by the candidate at the Examination Centre. The harness and vehicle should be prepared prior to the Assessment.

Equipment and Location:

Equines

Provided by the candidate - 6 years of age minimum, well shod and working as a Team.

Vehicle

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. The carriage can be of modern or traditional type - with four wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistant to be seated.

Harness

A set of team harness suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate.

Equipment

All additional equipment required for the turnout is provided by the candidate.

Assistant

Competent grooms/assistants (minimum of 2) who are dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Location - A suitable safe environment

Time - Performance Criteria



Performance Criteria

- A. The Equines/ponies are bathed, trimmed, groomed, etc. ready to be harnessed up.
- B. The Equines/ponies are well shod, ready to go to work.
- C. The Equines/ponies are harnessed up correctly with laid down procedure.
- D. The Equines/ponies are put to using laid down procedure making use of grooms/assistants where necessary.
- E. The driver mounts the vehicle and the reins and whip are taken up in the correct manner
- F. Health and Safety of the Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained throughout.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Candidates give an explanation of what they are doing and why as they harness up and put to.
- 2. Candidates discuss the difference between harnessing up a team, compared to other configurations.
- 3. Discuss the harness and vehicle being used.
- 4. Discuss the drivers and grooms attire and why it has been used with this particular turnout.
- 5. Discuss the importance of competent grooms.
- 6. Discuss the possible problems that could be encountered when putting to.



Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The Equines/ponies will be presented put to and ready to begin. The candidate will be expected to drive the team to a very high standard in an enclosed area, showing manoeuvres on both reins as requested by the Assessor and to complete a cones course (suitable for a team) set out by the Assessor at the Examination Centre. It is understood that the animals driven may not be show animals but the candidate will be required to demonstrate the best aspects of their team to a high standard. The candidate will have harnessed up and put to in such a way as to allow the team to work together through tight turns as well as through flowing movements. The assessment will be made on the ability of the Whip to get the best out of the animals driven.

Equipment and Location:

Turnout

To be provided by the candidate (as in previous elements)

Location

An enclosed driving area of an appropriate size, laid out with cones.

Vehicle

Assistants/grooms must be seated in the carriage throughout this element.

Time - Approximately 20 minutes.

Performance Criteria

- A Plan a route though the course as suitable for a team, ie. walk the course.
- B. Discuss the course and any foreseen problems with the Assessor.
- C. Drive the team within the enclosed area as requested by the Assessor. This may include corners, circles, figures of eight, rein back, halt etc..
- D. Drive the team through the cones course.
- E. Control of animals is maintained throughout.
- F. A high degree of accuracy and style is achieved.
- G Intelligent use of the ground is demonstrated.
- H. The reins and whip are used skilfully.
- I. This element is completed using any safe and appropriate style of driving.
- J. Appropriate speed and pace is maintained throughout.
- K Heath and Safety of Equines/ponies, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Discuss the performance in the cones course and performance and identify strengths and weaknesses.
2. Discuss training procedure for the Equines driven.
3. Discuss the planning needed in order to carry out a show.
4. Procedures when competing in a Private Driving class with a team and the criteria for judging a team are discussed.
5. The British Coaching hand is discussed and understood.
6. Discuss varying types of terrets, rosettes, overhead terrets, roger rings and throat lash rings which may be used on the wheelers of a team, giving reasons for advantages and disadvantages.
7. Discuss coupling rein adjustments and leader rein adjustments with reference to:
 - i). Differing head carriages or lengths of neck.
 - ii). Moving animals into draught on the reins.
8. Discuss leader rein adjustment in hand with reference to moving animals in to or out of draught (rein machine may be used to demonstrate).
9. Discuss correct adjustment of breeching with breast collar harness.
10. Discuss correct adjustment of pole straps.
11. Explain the difference between road coach and private drag harness and give reasons for their use. 12. Discuss ceremonial harness for use with a team.
13. Describe harness which could be used for six in hand Equines/ponies in Britain.
14. Describe rein handling for a six in hand (rein machine may be used to demonstrate).
15. Discuss suitable dress codes for use with a team, including livery.



Element 6.4 : Drive the Team on the Public Highway

Assessor/Candidate Guidance

The candidate will be expected to select harness and put to, a team suitable to be driven on the Public Highway. They will be capable of choosing the correct harness enabling the animals to work comfortably as a tandem and be safe on the Public Highway. They will be capable of choosing the correct vehicle for the animals taking into consideration the terrain they will be going on and the length of the drive. The candidate will be capable of driving the team with confidence, style and accuracy. They will also be capable of making adjustments to pace and direction and employing all four animals appropriately throughout the test.

Equipment and Location:

Equines

Provided by the candidate - 6 years of age minimum, well shod and working as a team.

Vehicle

Suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. Must be sound and well maintained. The carriage can be of traditional or modern type - with four wheels. The carriage must allow for the assistants/grooms to be seated.

Harness

A set of team harness suitable for the turnout and provided by the candidate. This can be leather or biothane.

Equipment

All additional equipment required for the turnout is provided by the candidate.

Assistant

Competent grooms/assistants (minimum of 2) who are dressed appropriately for the turnout provided by the candidate.

Location

Roads and tracks which must incorporate uphill and downhill gradients, junctions, roundabouts, traffic, etc..

Time - Approximately 1 hour 30 minutes



Performance Criteria

- A. Assess the Equines individually.
- B. Make sure vehicle is prepared for use and you have everything on it ready to drive on the road.
- C. Secure Equines using safe procedure.
- D. Select harness and fit onto Equines/ponies.
- E. Make appropriate adjustments where necessary.
- F. Using assistants, put Equines to the vehicle.
- G. Turnout is checked and any further adjustments are made.
- H. Driver to mount the vehicle correctly.
- I. Driver to take up the reins and whip correctly.
- J. Drive the team using any Safe Style of Driving recognised by the disciplines on a drive of approximately 1 hour, incorporating downhill and uphill gradients, junctions, traffic lights, etc. (anything that isn't encountered on the public highway is discussed).
- K. The appropriate pace is maintained throughout.
- L. Skilful use of the reins and whip is demonstrated.
- M. The drive is completed with safety, confidence and style.
- N. The turnout is returned to the designated area.
- O. Equines are taken out using laid down procedure making full use of the groom/assistant.
- P. Health and Safety of animals, self and others is maintained at all times.

Knowledge and Understanding

- 1. Strengths and weaknesses of the performance of the animals is discussed at length.
- 2. Possible suggestions for correction and improvement are given.
- 3. Discuss choice of whip for use with a team.
- 4. Explain in depth the different types of harness.
- 5. Discuss hazards and danger whilst out on the public highway and how to make effective use of your groom/assistant.
- 6. Discuss in detail the role of the grooms/assistants when left in charge of a team.
- 7. Discuss different methods of draught for wheelers and leaders.
- 8. Discuss and identify vehicles suitable for a variety of activities with a team.



NOTES:



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