

SENIOR RIDE LEADER QUALIFICATION

THE TREKKING
AND
RIDING SOCIETY
OF
SCOTLAND

SCOPE

A Senior Ride Leader will be competent to take charge of all treks and hacks of whatever duration or level. He/she is also capable of sole charge of a centre in the absence of the Centre Operator for a period not exceeding one month.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT

Individual membership of TRSS.

H & SE First Aid at Work Certificate or Equine Specific First Aid Certificate.

BHS Riding and Road Safety Certificate.

Attendance at Good Practice and Child Protection Course.

Age at least 18 on day of assessment.

A practical knowledge of all aspects of the Ride Leader and Senior Ride Leader syllabi.

Must hold the TRSS Ride Leader Certificate or BET equivalent, or have worked, occasionally in sole charge, at a riding centre, supported by a signed statement from an employer or by a CV with appropriate references.

REFRESHER COURSE

It is recommended that all candidates attend the refresher course held immediately prior to the one day assessment.

If 21 years of age or over candidates may be exempt from the refresher course provided they have supervised rides for a minimum of 3 years, hold a TRSS Ride Leader, BHSAI, BHS Stage III, or S/NVQ level 3 or equivalent qualification, and a signed statement from a present or past employer that they satisfy all aspects of the syllabus, including leading treks and hacks.

SYLLABUS

The candidate must have a greater in-depth knowledge than required for the Ride Leader qualification, and have practical knowledge of, and/or proficiency in each of the following:

STABLE MANAGEMENT

HORSE HEALTH

Common ailments and how to treat them, including when to obtain veterinary assistance.

Poultice, administer medicine, take temperature and pulse and respiration rates.

When to isolate.

Control of bleeding.

Worming.

Use of restraints for administration of medication, etc.

WATERING AND FEEDING

Maintenance of condition and fitness.

Planning of diets and use of feed charts, based on basic principles of horse nutrition.

Quality of feedstuffs.

CARE OF THE FOOT AND SHOEING

Lameness and whether to call the vet and/or farrier.

Various types of shoe and their uses.

Corrective shoeing for common conditions.

GROOMING

Use of clipping equipment.

Types of clip.

TACK FITTING AND CARE

Be able to demonstrate the fitting of specialist tack e.g. Western.

Show a sound knowledge of tack suitable for leisure horses/ponies.

HORSE CLOTHING

Fly protection equipment.

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Basic knowledge of grassland management.

Identification of a wider range of harmful plants.

Weed control and pasture maintenance.

Roughing off and bringing up to fitness from grass.

Care of horses during the off-season.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

MANNER

Encouragement of first time riders to enjoy riding and the handling of horses and ponies.

Good relationships with the local landowners, farmers, neighbours regarding access etc.

Social skills in dealing with clients, staff, vets, inspectors, feed salesmen etc.

Courtesy to other users of the countryside.

Local history, places of interest, plants and animals to inform clients.

COMPLAINTS

Ability to investigate complaints and deal with them with tact and understanding.

EQUITATION

Candidates will be expected to show a greater degree of competence in all aspects compared to Ride Leader, including riding and improving young horses suitable for leisure riding.

MANAGEMENT

GENERAL

Riding Establishments Act.

Organisation of the duties of yard staff and management of a centre in the absence of the Centre Operator.

Ability to take bookings by personal contact, letter, e-mail or telephone.

Training of staff to gain qualifications.

Legislation relating to use of land, access, by-ways and bridleways.

Basic book-keeping methods.

Administrative work such as making out receipts and VAT invoices, filing etc.

Record-keeping of accidents, incidents, horse health (worming, vaccination), shoeing etc.

TREK AND RIDE

The candidate will be expected to show a higher degree of competence and responsibility in all aspects of the Ride Leader syllabus relating to care of horse and rider.

Planning and conducting day-long rides and treks, including meal stops etc.

TREK AND RIDE (continued)

Organisation of clients and Ride Leaders before, during and after rides, with decisiveness and control.

Breeds and types of horses/ponies suited to the activities of a centre.

SAFETY

Competent handling of accidents on a ride, including lameness or sickness of a horse.

Requirements of RIDDOR.

Riding risk assessment.

Weather forecasts and traffic conditions.

Safety clothing for horse and rider, including hat fitting.

Use of map and compass.