



Senior Racing Groom – Level 3 Apprenticeship

At level 3 the role is advanced and ensures that upon completion an apprentice has:

The knowledge of:

- The supervision of the Thoroughbred racehorse as a high-performance equine athlete and the specific exercise regimes used in the racing industry to prepare and train horses to race.
- The early education of the racehorse including the breaking and training process.
- The effective supervision of horses and staff in the racing yard, on the gallops, at the races and at public sales venues.
- The Orders and Rules of Racing, technical racing terms and vocabulary, racing industry structure and organisation.
- Racecourse procedures including saddling up and parade ring protocol.

The skills to:

- Handle Thoroughbred racehorses in and out of full training.
- Fit a variety of specialist racing equipment and tack.
- Carry out the specific routines required in a racing yard and in taking horses racing, complying with industry regulatory requirements, policy, and practice. Provide exercise regimes to racehorses as directed and effectively care for horses prior to and after strenuous work and racecourse performance.
- Prepare and lead up a Thoroughbred racehorse at the races in accordance with industry practice and the Rules of Racing.
- Provide after race care including compliance with industry regulations and post-race dope testing procedures.

In addition to the above specialist Racing knowledge and skills, Equine Groom apprentices taking the Racing Route will be required to select one of the two racing pathways as follows:

Senior Racing Exercise Groom - Ride racehorses effectively to improve performance including riding at speed, on all types of surface or any type of horse including young horses, unfit and race fit horses and those with training problems. Ride alone, in groups and in a string. Ride fast work and school horses through the stalls or over obstacles. Provide accurate feedback on horse performance. Maintain own health and fitness to adhere to industry weight requirements and physical demands of riding for up to six hours a day.

Senior Yard Based Groom - Contribute to the design, implementation, evaluation, and modification of individual training programmes for racehorses. Assist with preparing a horse to race fitness through careful consideration of correct work, feeding and healthcare. Assess a horse's current condition, fitness, and educational needs prior to planning an appropriate work programme. Assist with the implementation of training programmes. Supervise the effective organisation and maintenance of facilities and resources used to train horses in the commercial racing premises.

All apprentices will be entering professional employment in this popular industry; receiving a contract of employment and being paid in line with the [Apprentice National Minimum Wage](#) and current [Government guidance](#). Working in the equine industry requires dedication and commitment, as well as, learning and adhering to safe working practices, being flexible and prepared to work in all weather conditions.