



Foreword

Over the past decade, I have had the privilege of working in professional racing yards at every level, from riding as a jockey to serving as Assistant Trainer to Paul Nicholls. That experience has given me a strong understanding of the discipline, standards and commitment needed to succeed in a professional yard and build a lasting career in racing.

At Haddon Training, we deliver apprenticeship programmes designed around the realities of the racing industry. Our training is practical, structured and tailored to fit the demands of a working yard, giving individuals the opportunity to develop their skills,

grow in confidence and build long-term careers within the sport.

We work closely with trainers, employers, and both aspiring and current racing professionals to support staff development, improve retention and create clear progression pathways. By investing in people, we aim to raise professional standards and support the future of racing.

Charlie Davies,
Racing Specialist, Haddon Training



About us

Haddon Training was established in 1997 with the vision of enabling more people access to the professional training needed to care for horses, and to raise the training standards within the equine industry. Our excellent reputation has enabled us to excel within the horse care industry, establishing us as the preferred apprenticeship provider for renowned organisations including British Showjumping and British Eventing.

Our racing groom qualifications are approved and supported by The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) and include the Certificate of Competence in the Welfare

of Transporting Horses on short journeys; ensuring that aspiring individuals receive the necessary training and education to support them in every aspect of their career within the racing industry.

Our incredible staff are paramount to the success of our organisation; all our Trainer Coaches are experienced through working in their specialist sector and are trained to meet the educational needs of employers and learners.

Our commitment also extends beyond skills development in the workplace. We aspire for individuals to not only gain job-specific skills and knowledge but

also to thrive in all aspects of their lives, by providing the necessary space and encouragement for them to build self-confidence and establish independence.



Our racing qualifications

All training occurs at the apprentice's place of employment, with no day release to college or training schools required.

Individuals will learn the core apprenticeship components, taking part in monthly sessions with their Trainer Coach, accessing different learning systems and spending time learning skills, knowledge, and behaviours whilst at their workplace.

Our Level 2 Racing Groom qualification meets the requirements for jockeys in England, who must hold a relevant qualification at this level to compete.

Our Level 3 Senior Racing Groom qualification meets the requirements for trainers in England, who must hold a relevant qualification at this level.

We also pride ourselves on working closely with some of the best horseracing employers throughout England, including; Station Yard Racing, Seamus Mullins Racing, Paul Nicholls Racing, DML Racing, Harriet Dickin Racing and Ralph Beckett.



The benefits of our racing apprenticeships:

- **Hands-On Learning:** Practical, on-the-job training, allowing individuals to develop their skills by doing the work.
- **No day release:** All learning takes place at the employer's premises.
- **Industry Experience:** Apprentices gain direct exposure to the industry, its nuances and demands.
- **Recognised Qualifications:** Our apprenticeships are fully accredited and widely respected in the racing industry.
- **Additional Courses:** All our racing learners are offered the additional qualification of the Principles of Transporting Horses on Short Journeys at no charge to employer or learner.
- **Career Advancement:** Qualified staff can progress to more advanced roles and training with their chosen employer.
- **Personalised Support:** Consistent guidance is given from our Trainer Coaches and supporting experienced professionals.
- **Robust Assessment:** Guided by our Trainer Coaches our apprenticeships are awarded through the successful completion of an Apprenticeship Assessment, ensuring individuals demonstrate the skills and knowledge learnt.

Level 2 Racing Groom

Entry conditions

Applicants should be of school leaver age or above.

Minimum apprenticeship duration: 12 months (plus 3 months to complete assessment).

Functional Skills

Maths and English at level 1 will be undertaken for those who have not previously achieved this level at GCSE but for those aged 19 and over these skills are optional.

Apprenticeship Assessment requirements

An online, multiple choice knowledge test. A practical observation – where an Independent Assessor will watch and assess the learner completing a variety of tasks in the workplace. Professional discussion – which

will take place immediately after the observation and will involve a discussion with the Independent Assessor to further examine the learner's knowledge.

Course overview

A Racing Groom will gain a comprehensive understanding of different topics and learn how to utilise them, including:

Knowledge Development

- The Thoroughbred racehorse as a high-performance equine athlete
- The specific exercise regimes used in the racing industry to prepare and train horses to race
- The specific routines for working in a racing yard and taking horses racing
- Technical racing terms and

vocabulary, the racing industry structure, and key organisations

- The industry protocol for taking a horse racing and how to lead up a racehorse at the races

Skills Enrichment

- 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
- Prepare and lead up a racehorse at the races in line with industry practice and the Rules of Racing
- Provide exercise regimes to racehorses as directed and effectively care for horses prior to and after work and racecourse performance

The Principles of Transporting Horses on Short Journeys

As part of this qualification, for those aged 17 and over, we offer the opportunity to also gain a certificate of competence in the welfare of transporting horses on short journeys at no extra charge. This additional qualification enables our apprentices to be assessed and meet the legal requirements for transporting horses on journeys over forty miles but taking less than eight hours.



Level 3 Senior Racing Groom

Entry conditions

Applicants should be of school leaver age or above with some previous experience of working with racehorses.

Minimum apprenticeship duration: 15 months (plus 3 months to complete assessment).

Functional Skills

Maths and English at level 2 will be required for those who have not previously achieved this level at GCSE but for those aged 19 and over these skills are optional.

Apprenticeship Assessment requirements:

An online, multiple choice knowledge test. A practical observation – where an Independent Assessor will watch and assess the learner completing a variety of tasks in the workplace.

A professional discussion – which will take place immediately after the observation and will involve a discussion with the Independent Assessor to further examine the learner's knowledge.

Course overview

A Senior Racing Groom will acquire an extensive grasp of various subjects and master their application, including:

Knowledge Development

- The supervision of the Thoroughbred racehorse as a high-performance equine athlete
- 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, vocabulary, industry structure and organisation

Skills Enrichment

- Handle Thoroughbred racehorses in and out of full training, including young horses
- Contribute to the early education and training of the horse to prepare for, and improve performance
- Assist in introducing young horses to equipment and tack
- Ensure compliance with all industry regulatory requirements at the races or sales

- Prepare horses at the race and assist with saddling up and the parade ring procedures
- Prepare and lead up a racehorse at the races in line with industry practice and the Rules of Racing

The Principles of Transporting Horses on Short Journeys

As part of this qualification, for those aged 17 and over, we offer the opportunity to also gain a certificate of competence in the welfare of transporting horses on short journeys at no extra charge. This additional qualification enables our apprentices to be assessed and meet the legal requirements for transporting horses on journeys over forty miles but taking less than eight hours.



Level 3 Business Administrator within Racing

This qualification is run in partnership with The British Horseracing Authority (BHA).

Entry conditions

Applicants should be of school leaver age or above.

Minimum apprenticeship duration: 15 months (plus 3 months to complete assessment).

Functional Skills

Maths and English at level 2 will be required for those who have not previously achieved this level at GCSE but for those aged 19 and over these skills are optional.

Apprenticeship Assessment requirements

An online knowledge test. A professional discussion in which

the learner is questioned on the knowledge learnt throughout the apprenticeship. A short work-based presentation submitted on the assessment day. The presentation topic is centred on a project they have completed or a process they have improved.

Course overview

A Business Administrator within Racing will develop a varied range of abilities, including:

Knowledge Development

- Gain in-depth knowledge of the Racing Industry and its structure
- Recognise applicable laws and legislation with horseracing administration
- Understand how to administer

billing, process invoices and purchase orders

- Learn the way that the political/economic environment affects the organisation
- Engage and foster relationships with suppliers and partner organisations

Skills Enrichment

- Demonstrate agility and confidence in communications, carrying authority appropriately
- Manage relationships with stakeholders and other key people in the organisation
- Update and review databases, record information and produce data analysis where required

- Build and maintain positive relationships within their own team and across the organisation
- Use relevant project management principles and tools to scope, plan, monitor and report

This course also includes attending an industry recognised BHA 'Overview of British Racing' day, as well as a day visiting a racecourse or established racing yard and shadowing their staff.



Alongside racing, we also offer a range of other apprenticeships for the equine sector and beyond, including:

Equine



Our equine apprenticeships offer horse enthusiasts a unique opportunity to delve into the world of equine care, management, and training. Participants in these apprenticeships work closely with experienced professionals in various equine-related settings such as stables, studs, riding schools, and veterinary clinics. Through practical learning, apprentices gain invaluable skills in horse handling, grooming, feeding, health care, and riding if desired.

Level 2 Equine Groom

Level 3 Senior Equine Groom



Equestrian Athletes



We also provide a unique tailored training programme for equestrian athletes, focused on rider development in areas including physical performance, safe practice, nutritional performance and communication skills. This apprenticeship also includes six camps throughout the course, focused on developing knowledge including tactical and technical skills, with specialist Coaches, led by renowned Trainer Corinne Bracken.

Level 3 Apprenticeship in Equestrian Sporting Excellence (AESE)



Animal Care



Our animal care apprenticeships offer individuals the opportunity to gain hands-on experience and knowledge in caring for a variety of animals while working under the guidance of experienced professionals. These apprenticeships typically involve a combination of practical training and theoretical learning, covering topics such as animal welfare, nutrition, health, and handling techniques.

Level 2 Animal Care and Welfare Assistant

Level 2 Dog Groomer

Level 3 Animal Care and Welfare Manager

Level 3 Keeper and Aquarist



Business



Our business qualifications work across our industries, including equine and racing, to enable individuals to develop transferable skills that they can carry with them throughout their working life. Apprentices engage in a blend of training and education, acquiring knowledge in areas such as project management, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making.

Level 2 Customer Service Practitioner

Level 3 Customer Service Specialist

Level 3 Business Administrator

Level 3 Team Leader

Level 4 Learning and Skills Mentor

Level 4 Associate Project Manager

Level 5 Operations Leader





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