



AGRIFOOD  
SKILLS AUSTRALIA



## National Training Package Horse Industry Skills update

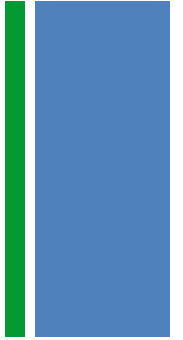
Presenters:

Michele Jackson and Jenny Carroll

Mintrac Rural Skills Australia

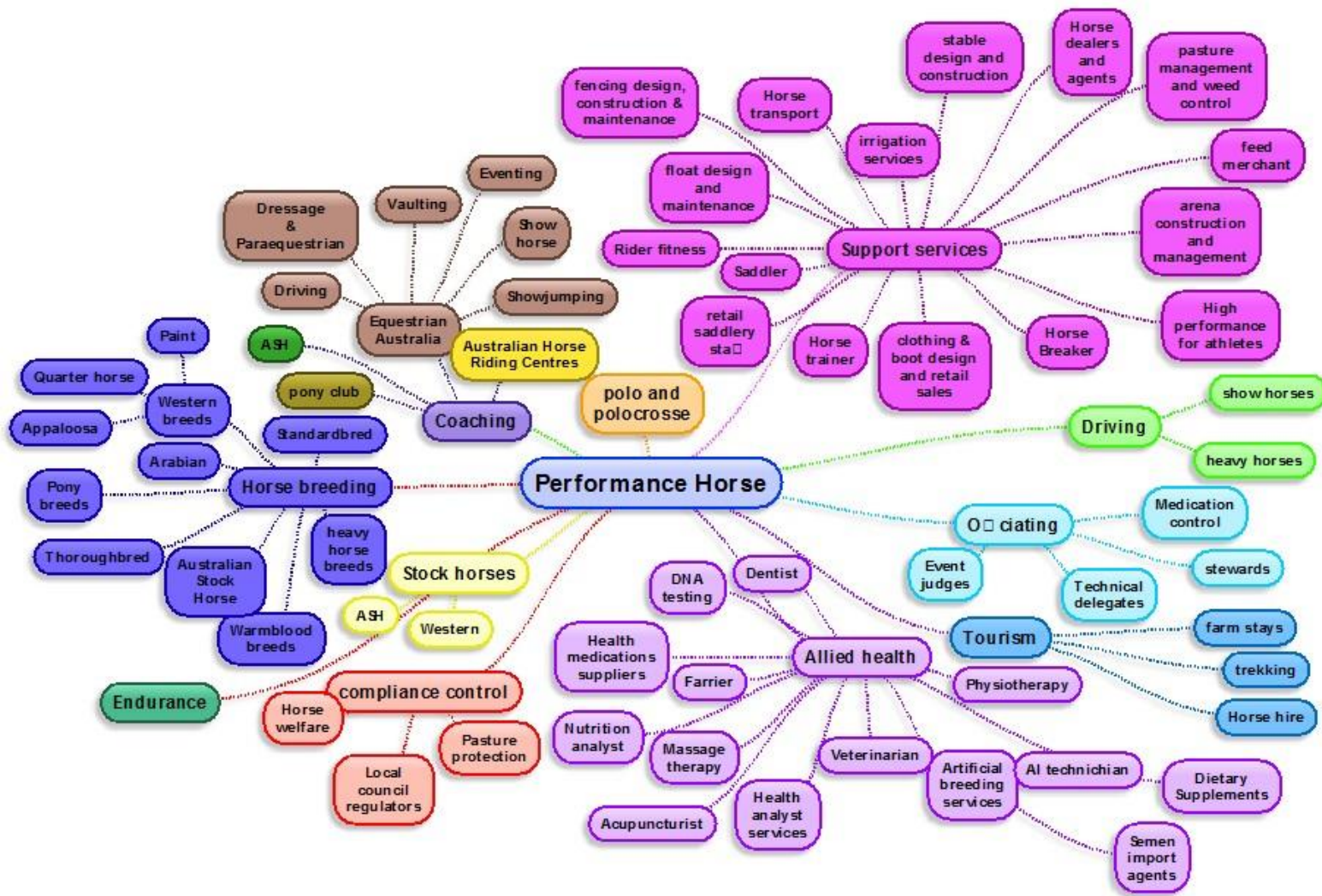
Paddock to Plate National Meat Industry  
Training Conference - 25/26 March 2015

# + Horse industry skills



- Across a range of National Training Packages including:
  - RGR Racing
  - AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation Land Management
  - Sport, Fitness and Recreation (incorporating Outdoor Recreation)
- Task to review current qualifications and define industry need for a generic Certificate II in Horse Care

# + Scope - “non-racing” horse sector







# Job roles

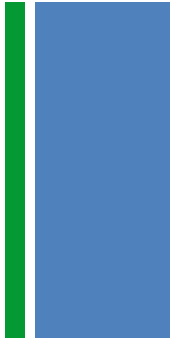


# + Horse business is risky business





# Horse industry public perception, legislative & regulatory issues



WHS	Animal Welfare	Governing body regulations
Student welfare Child welfare Work experience <i>Guide to managing risks when new and inexperienced persons interact with horses</i>	Australian Horse Animal Welfare Strategy Prevention of Animal Cruelty Biosecurity State codes of conduct Horse welfare	ASH EA AQHA Local council regulations ARB





# Safe Work Australia Guide

## INSTRUCTION

Instructing new riders is a specialised skill and requires a formal qualification as an instructor. Instructors should know how to organise and respond to different types of riders.

Beginners can get confused and nervous which may cause horses to become agitated. They often have no natural instincts in how to communicate with or control horses and are likely to have difficulties translating instructions into actions. Instructors should know how to assess and help beginner riders understand the effect their behaviour has on the horse.

Instructors should be qualified to teach riding—not just in horse husbandry or performance skills—and need a good understanding of communication, risk management, horse control, group control, an ability to teach skills in a natural sequence and use safe procedures for every step in riding and horse handling activities.

## 3.3 Supervisor and instructor competencies

Supervisors and instructors for new and inexperienced riders need to understand their special needs. Knowing how to ride does not make a person competent to supervise or train new riders. Often experienced riders are not aware of their own poor habits or unsafe practices.

### Fit for purpose horse

#### SUITABLE HORSE

PCBUs should ensure the horse provided for a new or inexperienced worker or other person at the workplace is suitable and safe for that person.

New and inexperienced riders should be given a quiet, steady horse. The horse should be well trained to slow down in response to pressure on the reins. Incidents can easily be caused by a new or inexperienced rider who may make sudden movements and noises upsetting or frightening the horse, so the horse needs to be tolerant of these behaviours.

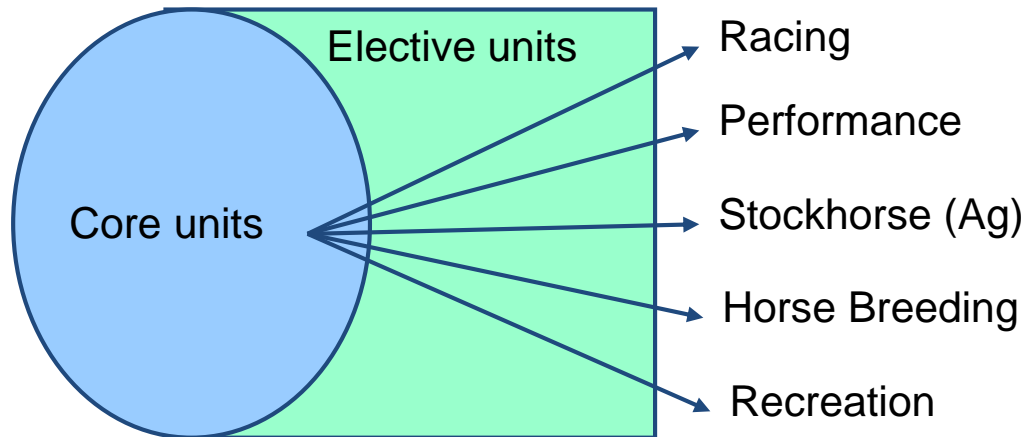
The PCBU should be familiar with the characteristics of the horse and how the horse reacts to different types of riders and the likely situations it will face, for example people behaving inappropriately and the need to stand still without getting restless. If travelling in open areas the horse needs to be calm around obstacles and traffic.

Horses used for new or inexperienced riders should be thoroughly tested both in the area to be ridden and for their social behaviour as part of the herd involved in the activities.

## GUIDE TO MANAGING RISKS WHEN NEW AND INEXPERIENCED PERSONS INTERACT WITH HORSES

JUNE 2014

# + Proposed Certificate II in Horse Care





# + Proposed Certificate 11

## Core

- Work safely with horses
- Work in the horse industry
- Handle horses
- Provide daily care for horses
- Attend horses during exercise
- Assist with transport of horses
- Apply first aid
- Participate in workplace communications

## Riding electives

- Perform horse riding skills at walk and trot
- Perform horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter
- Develop riding skills for flat work
- Develop basic trackwork riding skills
- Ride horses in tracked areas



# Sector Electives



## **Stockwork / General electives**

- Handle livestock using basic techniques
- Carry out basic fencing operations
- Install, maintain and repair fencing
- Maintain properties and structures
- Operate basic machinery and equipment
- Undertake operational maintenance of machinery
- Operate quad bikes
- Use hand and power tools

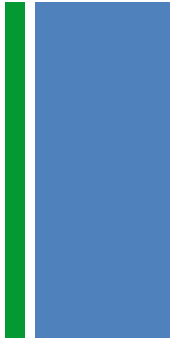
## **Racing electives**

- Perform basic driving tasks
- Prepare to drive jog work
- Develop driving skills for trackwork
- Comply with rules of racing and related protocols
- Attend horses at trackwork
- Attend horses at race meetings and trials

## **Horse work electives**

- Provide non-riding exercise to horses
- Monitor horse health and welfare
- Manage personal health and fitness
- Assist with mating procedures and parturition of horses

+ Activity:  
What skills does your industry  
sector need?





# Are trainer qualifications a critical factor in your learners' success?



What are the minimum skills and qualifications for trainers?

Years of horse handling/riding experience?

Meat industry relevant experience?

Experience teaching beginners?

Experience teaching riding?

Formal agriculture/meat industry/horse industry qualifications?



# + Where to from here

- Work with Industry Reference Group
- Finalise draft qualification packaging and associated units of competency
- Conduct Stakeholder Consultancy
- Review / refine units
- Conduct Industry Validation
- Seek National Endorsement - TARGET JUNE 2015

