

BHS/BSPS SHOW GROOM EXAMINATION CRITERIA

Required Level: Candidates must be practical, workmanlike and be able to work to an employable standard within the showing industry.
They must show a sympathetic, consistent and logical approach towards horses/ponies.

Course Work: Candidates will have to gain experience in a Showing Accredited Yard with an Accredited Trainer by working for a minimum of 4 days to include a Show day.

An Accredited Trainer will assess the candidate and provide a detailed report on the course work achieved which will carry 50 marks.

The course work will consist of:-

- Practical knowledge of strapping (including banging) to improve an animal's shape.
- Practical knowledge of producing animals to show standard including how to plait different types of animal for the show ring.
- Practical knowledge of trimming animals for the show ring.
- Practical knowledge of how to produce tails for the show ring.
- Practical knowledge of what is expected during the In Hand phase of a showing competition.
- Practical knowledge of pre class and pre show preparation including attending a Show with ponies/horses.
- Practical knowledge of lungeing for exercise.

Stable Management Theory:

This section will last 1 ½ hours at an examination centre and carries 30 marks. Candidates will be assessed in groups of no more than four in a group discussion, which may include some of the following

- Basic knowledge of conformation for the showing ring.
- An ability to discuss the production of animals to show standard including plaiting and tail preparation.
- An ability to discuss the requirements of the In Hand phase of a showing competition and pre class and pre show preparation.
- Basic knowledge of feeding different types of show animals.
- An ability to recognise signs and symptoms of an animals not working at its best and possible reasons why.
- An ability to assess the effects of stress situations on animals condition and performance and a sound knowledge of adjustments that may be needed in animals routine to alleviate these
- How to teach difficult or young horses to load
- A detailed knowledge of the showing year.

Multiple Choice Paper

This section will last no longer than 30 minutes and will consist of a written multiple choice paper on stable management, show production and BSPS rules. This paper will carry 20 of the marks.

There will be a maximum of 12 candidates per examination.

Fee: **Show Groom £50.00**

BHS/BSPS ASSISTANT TRAINER

EXAMINATION CRITERIA

Pre Requisites: BHS/BSPS Show Groom or BHS Stage 3 or Accredited Prior Learning (APL)
If candidates do not hold the BHS/BSPS Show Groom, they are required to have completed a practical day at an Accredited Yard
All candidates must submit a detailed CV stating their showing experience.
Candidates must have attended a Child Protection Course.
Candidates must hold either a Health or Safety at Work or Equine Specific First Aid Qualification.

Required Level: Candidates must be practical, workmanlike and be able to work to an employable standard within the showing industry. They must also be able to recognise training problems and be able to offer possible solutions that will lead to an improvement in the rider and/or animal. Candidates must be able to assess the need to ask for specialist advice when they consider necessary.

Candidates will be assessed in the following areas:-

Stable Management Practical:

This section will last 1 ½ hours. Candidates will be assessed in groups of four.

This section will be assessed by the candidates observing 4 animals, three ridden and one in hand. In addition to the required criteria for the Show Groom, the following points will be discussed...

- How to turn out a rider and animal correctly and safely for competition.
- A sound knowledge of correct attire for different classes.
- Correct tack for different classes
- An in depth knowledge of correctly fitting tack.
- An ability to assess rider and mount (or lead partnership) to ensure tack and bit are suitable for the partnership.
- An in depth knowledge of registration requirements for different societies
- The ability to confidently assess person and horse/pony combinations as to their suitability for different classes.
- An in depth knowledge of different types of display for different classes.

Schooling

This section will last one hour. Candidates will be assessed in groups of four.

- The candidate will be assessed in their ability to school, either from the ground or ridden, two different types of animal to ring standard, recognising problems and offering possible solutions that will lead to improvement.
- In discussion analyse and evaluate the above session in terms of the animals way of going and the progression made and future steps required.
- Show empathy with the animals they are working.

There will be a maximum of eight candidates per examination.

Fee: Assistant Trainer - £100

BHS/BSPS ACCREDITED TRAINER EXAMINATION CRITERIA

Pre Requisites: BHS/BSPS Show Trainer/Head Groom **OR** Applications can be made to the BSPS for Accredited Prior Learning (APL)

Required Level:

- To have successfully and consistently trained riders, horses and ponies to RIHS/HOYS/National Championship level in all types of classes for at least five years.
- To have a thorough and sound knowledge of the training and production of show animals to National level. This knowledge should encapsulate the rules and regulations for all British Show Pony Society classes.
- To attend a Child Protection Course.
- To hold either a First Aid at work or Equine Specific First Aid qualification.
- To have a current CPR check, or to agree to obtain one after qualification

If the APL route is undertaken then a comprehensive CV must be submitted which will be put to the BSPS and BHS for acceptance. This CV should highlight previous training experience and successes both individually and client based. Any further relevant qualifications / learning should also be presented within the CV with dates included.

The Examination:

To achieve BHS/BSPS Trainers status a comprehensive half day assessment will be undertaken. Candidates will be expected to discuss and exhibit the required criteria for the Assistant Trainer and in addition to this will be assessed on the following areas...

- Candidates will discuss and/or demonstrate breaking in techniques and progressive training of the animal
- Train horses to show improvement in preparation for the show ring, either from the ground or ridden.
- Post training be able to discuss the session and evaluate the horses performance and the possible progression.
- Teach a 1:1 ridden lesson to show rider and horse improvement.
- Post tuition be able to discuss and evaluate the lesson and the horse / riders ability and progress.
- Be able to discuss a showing plan for individual clients / ponies which will incorporate their individual needs and requirements.

Yard Status

Candidates who wish their Yard to be considered for Accredited Yard approval can be assessed for Accredited Trainer at the same time on their own premises.

Freelance Trainers may apply to undertake the Trainers qualification and will be assessed at an Approved Yard.

Accredited Trainers will be required to attend a BHS Biennial Instructors Convention details from the BHS Training Department.

**Fee: Accredited Trainer and Yard - £200.00 (combined price)
Accredited Trainer - £150.00**