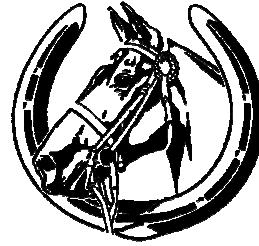


**HORSE KNOWLEDGE CARE & RIDING  
EXAMINATION**



# STAGE 2

**The British Horse Society**

Registered Charity No. 210504

# Syllabus

**Stoneleigh Deer Park  
Kenilworth  
Warwickshire  
CV8 2XZ  
Tel: 08701 202244  
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***Open to members of the BHS who have reached the age of 16 years and are keen to improve their knowledge of horses and riding.***

Pre-requisites - Horse Knowledge, Care & Riding Stage 1  
or S/NVQ Level 2 or 3 (Riding / Schooling Horses)  
BHS Riding & Road Safety Certificate, (*Riding Section*)

It may be possible to apply for direct entry to this examination if you hold recognised equivalent qualifications, (*please contact the Examinations Office for further information.*)

***The Riding and Care sections may be taken as separate tests***

Pre-requisite - Horse Knowledge & Care Stage 1 for Care Section  
Riding Stage 1 for Riding Section

## **FEEES: Apply to the BHS**

**Requirements** - The candidate must understand the general management and requirements of horses for their health and well being. Working under regular but not constant supervision, the candidate should be able to carry out the care of stabled and grass kept horses during all seasons of the year. He/she must have an understanding of how the horse adjusts his balance to carry a rider. The candidate must be capable of riding a quiet, experienced horse or pony in the countryside and on the public highway as well as in a manege, or indoor school.

## STAGE TWO - Syllabus

### Stage 2 – Horse Knowledge and Care

Candidates must be physically fit in order to carry out yard and fieldwork efficiently without undue stress and strain. They will be expected to demonstrate competent use of time. Candidates will be expected to give practical demonstrations as well as be involved in discussion of selected tasks and topics.

Unit code number S2CARE			
Learning Outcomes	Element	Assessment criteria	Influence
<b>The candidate should be able to:</b>		<b>The candidate has achieved this outcome because s/he can:</b>	
<b>Grooming</b>  Know how to:- Strap, quarter and care for the horse after exercise. Plait manes and tails.	1.1.1	Outline a variety of grooming methods including strapping	Supporting
	1.1.2	Demonstrate safe efficient grooming procedures	Compulsory
	1.2.1	Demonstrate competent use of time	Compulsory
	1.2.2	Show efficient working pace	Compulsory
	1.3.1	Explain the importance of after-work care	Supporting
	1.4.1	Demonstrate plaiting routines for the mane	Compulsory
	1.4.2	Demonstrate plaiting routines for the tail	Supporting
<b>Clothing</b>  Know how to:- Fit blankets and various types of rugs. Bandage for warmth and protection. Wash and store rugs. Prepare a horse for travelling.	2.1.1	Identify a variety of rugs in common use	Supporting
	2.1.2	Demonstrate safe efficient rug and blanket fitting	Compulsory
	2.2.1	Demonstrate safe efficient methods of applying stable bandages	Compulsory
	2.2.2	Demonstrate correct travel bandaging	Supporting
	2.3.1	Apply and fit appropriate equipment used for travelling (rugs etc)	Compulsory
	2.3.2	Apply and fit travelling boots	Compulsory
	2.4.1	Show efficient procedures throughout	Compulsory
	2.5.1	Give suitable washing and storing methods	Supporting
<b>Saddlery</b>  Know:- The basic principles of fitting tack in everyday use. The cleaning and care of all saddlery. The inspecting of horses for injury from ill-fitting saddles, bridles, boots etc.	3.1.1	Identify ill fitting and inappropriate tack	Compulsory
	3.1.2	Explain the consequences of using ill fitting tack	Supporting
	3.2.1	Demonstrate safe efficient fitting of tack for riding	Compulsory
	3.2.2	Demonstrate safe efficient fitting of tack for lungeing	Compulsory
	3.3.1	Apply a variety of boots used for protection, found in everyday use	Compulsory
	3.4.1	Show effective fitting of breastplates and or martingales	Compulsory
	3.5.1	Describe how to clean and care for saddlery to be stored	Supporting
<b>Handling</b>  Know and demonstrate safe, efficient procedures when efficiently carrying out practical work.	4.1.1	Identify possibilities of risk and discomfort to self, the horse and others when working in stables	Compulsory
	4.2.1	Apply safe procedures for self, the horse and others	Compulsory
	4.3.1	Show effective safe methods of working to maintain control and confidence in the horse	Compulsory
	4.4.1	Demonstrate efficient use of time	Compulsory
	4.5.1	Maintain a clean working environment	Compulsory
	4.6.1	Candidate turnout and presentation as per guidelines on dress	Compulsory
<b>Lungeing</b>  Know how to lunge a horse for exercise. Side reins, may or may not be used.	5.1.1	Show safe control of the horse	Compulsory
	5.2.1	Demonstrate appropriate work for exercise	Compulsory
	5.3.1	Apply safe efficient handling of the equipment	Compulsory
	5.4.1	Show an effective lungeing method	Compulsory
	5.5.1	Discuss safe efficient lungeing procedures	Supporting
	5.6.1	Explain principles of rhythm and balance	Supporting
<b>Stable Design</b>  Know the basic requirements of size and safe construction of a stable and its fittings	6.1.1	Outline appropriate stable dimensions for horses and ponies	Compulsory
	6.2.1	Give suitable materials for stable construction	Supporting
	6.3.1	Describe the importance of good ventilation and how this may be provided	Compulsory
	6.4.1	Define the importance of good drainage	Supporting
	6.5.1	Give minimum doorway widths	Compulsory
	6.6.1	Describe essential stable fittings and their use	Supporting
<b>Shoeing</b>  Know:- The farrier's tools and their function, how to remove shoes in an emergency and the reasons for regular foot attention.	7.1.1	Give the farrier's shoeing procedure	Compulsory
	7.2.1	Outline the farrier's tools and their uses	Compulsory
	7.3.1	Show how to remove a twisted shoe	Supporting
	7.3.2	Demonstrate effective handling of the horse and tools	Supporting
	7.4.1	Describe problems experienced when shoes are left on too long	Compulsory
	7.5.1	Explain the importance of regular trimming of unshod hooves	Supporting

<b>Unit code number S2CARE</b>			
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Assessment criteria</b>	<b>Influence</b>
<b><i>The candidate should be able to:</i></b>		<b><i>The candidate has achieved this outcome because s/he can:</i></b>	
<b>Clipping &amp; Trimming</b>  Know:- The underlying purposes of clipping and trimming. Essential safety measures and procedures How to maintain clippers in good order. Know when and how to trim.	8.1.1	Demonstrate pulling of manes and tails	Compulsory
	8.1.2	Explain when and when not to pull and trim horses and ponies	Supporting
	8.1.3	Explain trimming using scissors, comb or clippers	Supporting
	8.2.1	Outline the reasons for clipping and frequency of clipping	Supporting
	8.3.1	Give a variety of different clips and their purpose	Compulsory
	8.4.1	Show and or describe the maintenance checks to clippers made before during and after use	Supporting
	8.4.2	Describe how to maintain clipper machines	Supporting
<b>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</b>  Know:- The signs of health and ill-health.  The equine skeletal frame, the position of the horse's main internal organs.  A basic understanding of the horse's digestive system, and the structure and function of the horses foot.	9.1.1	Outline the general health and condition of the horse in-front of you	Compulsory
	9.2.1	Outline the horses digestive system and basic function of individual parts	Compulsory
	9.3.1	Identify the horses main internal organs	Compulsory
	9.4.1	Describe why bulk is important to the horse's digestive system	Supporting
	9.5.1	Give the function of bacteria found in the hind-gut	Supporting
	9.6.1	Identify the parts of the skeleton on the horse in-front of you	Compulsory
	9.7.1	Give the principles of horse health	Compulsory
	9.8.1	Give the horses normal Temperature, Pulse, and Respiration rates	Compulsory
	9.9.1	Describe how breathing, can be an indication of health or ill health	Supporting
	9.9.2	Describe how eating, can be an indication of health or ill health	Supporting
	9.9.3	Describe how droppings, can each be an indication of health or ill health	Supporting
	9.9.4	Describe how posture, can be an indication of health or ill health	Compulsory
	9.10.1	Describe the external parts of the horses foot	Compulsory
	9.10.2	Explain the function of the frog	Supporting
9.10.3	Explain the importance of the white line	Supporting	
<b>Horse Behaviour</b>  Know:- The value of calmness and kindness in establishing the horse's confidence and improving his well being and therefore his work.	10.1.1	Give examples of possible causes of unsettled behaviour in horses at grass during summer months	Supporting
	10.2.1	Give examples of how by stabling the horse we go against his natural lifestyle	Compulsory
	10.3.1	Describe the indications of nervousness in the horse in a variety of situations	Compulsory
	10.4.1	Describe safe methods of handling horses in a variety of situations	Supporting
	10.5.1	Give examples of good yard practice when accommodating a new horse	Supporting
	10.6.1	Describe why a normally stable kept horse may be difficult to catch when he is out in a field.	Supporting
	10.7.1	Give reasons for anti social behaviour in the horse when he is ridden in company	Supporting
	10.8.1	Describe how the horse might behave if the tack doesn't fit	Compulsory
<b>Horse Health</b>  Know when a horse is off colour or is not sound enough to be worked. Know the treatment of minor wounds and basic nursing and when to call the veterinary surgeon. Know the importance of regular worming.	11.1.1	Describe the symptoms of unsoundness in the horse	Supporting
	11.2.1	Describe the treatments for a variety of minor wounds	Compulsory
	11.3.1	Give the rules of basic sick nursing	Compulsory
	11.4.1	Give the indications that would necessitate a visit from the vet	Compulsory
	11.5.1	Give a list of essential basic equine health records	Supporting
	11.6.1	Describe the indications of worm infestation in the horse	Compulsory
	11.6.2	Give an appropriate worm control programme for the horse	Compulsory
11.7.1	Give the signs of a horse having problems with its teeth	Supporting	

<b>Unit code number S2CARE</b>			
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Assessment criteria</b>	<b>Influence</b>
<b><i>The candidate should be able to:</i></b>		<b><i>The candidate has achieved this outcome because s/he can:</i></b>	
<b>Fitting</b>  Know how to relate condition, feeding and progressive exercise when bringing a horse up from resting at grass into regular work.  Know the process of cooling off after work and roughing off a fit horse.  <i>Regular work: Six hours per week At walk, trot and canter without stressing</i>	12.1.1	Give an appropriate fitting programme for use when bringing a horse up from grass and into regular work	Compulsory
	12.2.1	Give the possible causes of coughs and colds when first bringing a horse up from grass	Compulsory
	12.2.2	Give the possible causes of saddle and girth galls when first bringing a horse up from grass	Compulsory
	12.2.3	Give the potential consequences of dust, and or diet change when first bringing a horse up from grass	Compulsory
	12.3.1	Give examples of feeding in relation to the fitting programme and condition of the horse when bringing up from grass and into regular work	Compulsory
	12.4.1	Give a suitable programme for roughing off a fit horse	Compulsory
	12.5.1	Show awareness of the possible causes of concussion injuries when riding out	Supporting
	12.5.2	Show awareness of the possible causes of strain injuries when riding out	Supporting
	12.6.1	Give the procedure for cooling the horse off after work	Supporting
	12.6.2	Outline care of the horse after work	Supporting
<b>General Knowledge</b>  Know:- The Country Code, Safety measures and correct procedures when riding on the public highway. The correct procedures in the event of an accident. Know the aims and structure of the British Horse Society and the benefits of Membership.	13.1.1	Describe safe procedures when riding on the highway	Compulsory
	13.1.2	Describe your procedure when riding onto or turning of a major road	Compulsory
	13.1.3	List high visibility equipment suitable for use when riding on the roads.	Compulsory
	13.2.1	Give examples of good behaviour when riding on bridleways	Compulsory
	13.2.2	Give examples of correct action when meeting others on tracks and bridleways	Supporting
	13.3.1	List the aims of the British Horse Society	Supporting
	13.3.2	List the departments in the British Horse Society	Supporting
13.4.1	Describe the action to be taken in the event of an accident on your yard	Compulsory	
<b>Grassland Care</b>  Have basic knowledge of good pasture and its maintenance. Know plants which are poisonous to horses.	14.1.1	Describe the ideal field that would be suitable for horses	Compulsory
	14.2.1	Give examples of good practice when maintaining good quality grazing	Compulsory
	14.3.1	Describe common poisonous plants that may be found in and around grazing land	Compulsory
<b>Watering &amp; Feeding</b>  Know the advantages and disadvantages of various watering systems and the importance of water to the horse.  Know a variety of common feedstuffs and their respective values.  Have a practical knowledge of how to prepare specific feedstuffs.  Know the basic principles of feeding old, or sick horses, and horses and ponies at grass in all seasons.  Know how to make a simple feed chart.	15.1.1	Give the rules and principles of watering	Compulsory
	15.1.2	Give examples of a variety of watering systems and their advantages/ disadvantages	Supporting
	15.2.1	Give the rules of feeding and describe their importance	Compulsory
	15.3.1	Assess the quality of a variety of feed samples	Supporting
	15.4.1	Give examples of feedstuffs that have a heating effect	Compulsory
	15.4.2	Give examples of feedstuffs that have a fattening effect	Compulsory
	15.4.3	Give examples of feedstuffs that are suitable for horses doing fast work	Compulsory
	15.5.1	Give a suitable supplementary diet for a horse/ pony living at grass during the winter	Compulsory
	15.6.1	Give examples of suitable feed for old horses	Supporting
	15.6.2	Give examples of suitable feed for sick horses	Supporting
	15.7.1	Describe how to prepare sugar beet for feeding	Compulsory
	15.7.2	Describe how to prepare a bran mash	Compulsory
	15.7.3	Give the reasons for feeding soaked hay	Supporting
	15.7.4	Describe how to prepare soaked hay	Supporting
	15.8.1	Name and describe an alternative to hay in the horses diet	Compulsory
15.9.1	Describe how to make a feed chart	Compulsory	

## STAGE TWO - Syllabus

### Stage 2 - Riding

Candidates are required to demonstrate their ability to ride a quiet, experienced horse or pony in an enclosed space without assistance. Their balance and security should indicate the correct foundation for future progress. ***Candidates who are considered to be below the standard may be asked to retire.***

Unit code number S2RIDI			
Learning Outcomes	Element	Assessment criteria	Influence
<b><i>The candidate should be able to;</i></b>		<b><i>The candidate has achieved this outcome because s/he can:</i></b>	
Ride a quiet experienced horse with an appropriate independent balance, depth & security of position.	1.1.1	Demonstrate correct posture in the saddle	Compulsory
	1.1.2	Show basic suppleness as required in the riding position	Compulsory
	1.2.1	Show an independent balance is maintained through turns, circles and transitions	Compulsory
Ride a quiet experienced horse forward at the correct speed for each gait.	2.1.1	Show rhythm and balance are maintained through turns and circles	Compulsory
	2.2.1	Demonstrate ability to ride forward	Compulsory
	2.3.1	Know when and when not to use artificial aids (whip)	Compulsory
Ride a quiet experienced horse with an appropriate rein length both with & without stirrups, and with the reins in one hand.	3.1.1	Show non restricting yet controlling rein contact	Compulsory
	3.2.1	Show balance and security without stirrups in walk, trot and canter	Compulsory
	3.2.2	Show balance, security and harmony without stirrups in walk, trot and canter	Compulsory
	3.3.1	Show co-ordinated aids when riding with the reins in one hand	Supporting
Ride a quiet experienced horse applying correct aids for canter leads and school figures.	4.1.1	Show co-ordinated aid application	Compulsory
	4.1.2	Show preparation when making transitions	Compulsory
	4.2.1	Show correct canter strike-offs	Compulsory
	4.3.1	Show correctly sized school figures	Supporting
	4.4.1	Ride on correct diagonals	Compulsory
Ride in harmony a quiet experienced horse.	5.1.1	Demonstrates calm confident riding in establishing horses' trust	Supporting
	5.2.1	Show fluent unconstrained work of the horse	Supporting
Ride in the open and jump adopting safe procedures throughout.	6.1.1	Demonstrate ability to ride safely in company	Compulsory
	6.1.2	Demonstrate awareness of rules for riding in the open as well as in enclosed areas with others	Compulsory
	6.2.1	Demonstrate an appropriately balanced position when riding over undulating ground	Supporting
	6.3.1.	Show an ability to ride forward and influence gaits appropriately when riding in the open	Compulsory
	6.3.2.	Demonstrate/discuss an awareness of undulating ground and weather conditions on a horses' balance	Supporting
Jump a quiet experienced horse with an appropriate rein length and contact, correct length stirrup and ability to use the legs.	7.1.1	Demonstrate an appropriate length of stirrup for riding over undulating ground and a course of fences	Compulsory
	7.2.1	Show effective use of leg aids when riding over undulating ground and around a course of fences	Compulsory
	7.3.1	Show correct application of rein aids when riding over undulating ground and around a course of fences	Supporting
	7.3.2	Show correct use of the reins during all phases of the jump (approach, take off, flight, landing and departure)	Supporting
Jump a quiet experienced horse with security and balance, showing fold and follow over a fence.	8.1.1	Demonstrate correct forward jumping position when riding over undulating ground and around a course of fences	Compulsory
	8.1.2	Demonstrate a secure position when jumping	Compulsory
	9.1.1	Show effective control of pace	Compulsory
	9.2.1	Identify when and when not to use artificial aids (whip)	Compulsory
Jump in harmony a quiet experienced horse, whilst riding correct lines of approach towards and departures around a course of fences to a max. 2'6" (.76m).	10.1.1	Show effective calm confident riding while jumping	Supporting
	10.2.1	Show a fluently ridden course	Compulsory
	10.3.1	Demonstrate awareness of the importance of correct canter leads	Supporting
Candidate presentation	11.1.1	Candidate turnout and presentation as per guidelines on dress	Compulsory

## **EXAM BOOKINGS - TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. **DRESS:** A properly well-fitted hat to current BSI or Euro standard must be worn. It is **strongly recommended** that hats should have shock absorbing material down to the lower rim. Body Protectors are mandatory in some examinations. **Candidates are strongly advised to read the 'Guidelines on Dress for Examinations' (available from the Examinations Office)**
2. **BOOKING CONFIRMATION:** Candidates will receive written notification of an examination date/venue. Candidates who do not receive written confirmation within 10 working days are asked to contact the Examinations Office as failure to arrive at an examination may result in loss of exam fee.
3. **RETIRING FROM EXAMINATIONS:** Candidates who are well below standard may be asked to retire from the examination by the Chief Assessor, to avoid risk of an accident to candidates and / or to school horses (applicable for all examinations).
4. **BAD WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Candidates are advised that in the event of ice, snow or flood, examinations may be cancelled or postponed. Whilst the Examinations Office will try to notify all candidates, candidates are advised to telephone the centre the day before if there is doubt in view of the weather. If the examination does take place, candidates who fail to arrive for any reason (and this includes the weather conditions), are liable to forfeit their fee. Candidates are, therefore, advised to bear this point in mind when choosing to book their examination during the winter months.
5. **EXAMINATION CANCELLATIONS:** All examinations are subject to cancellation / alteration / postponement should circumstances prove necessary. The Examinations Office will make reasonable endeavours to provide candidates with 10 working days notice in the event of their exam being cancelled, altered or postponed. However, there may be circumstances when it is not possible to provide 10 working days notice. In the event of cancellation / alteration / postponement, the Examinations Office will use their reasonable endeavours to offer a candidate a suitable alternative booking. If the candidate chooses not to accept the alternative booking a full refund of the exam fee will be provided. The Examinations Office is unable to reimburse costs, other than the exam fee (e.g. travel, flight/rail tickets or accommodation) and candidates may wish to arrange independent insurance to cover their costs in the event that an exam is cancelled, altered or postponed.
6. **CONDITIONS FOR CANCELLING OR TRANSFERRING EXAMINATION BOOKINGS:** The following notification in respect of cancelling or transferring exam bookings is applicable to all examination applications. In all cases, written notification must be made to the Examinations Office and should be accompanied by the appropriate fee and medical certificate where applicable.

**Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3, PTT =** Candidates are required to give a minimum of 4 weeks written notice before the exam date if they wish to transfer their examination or obtain a part refund. Candidates wishing to cancel/transfer within 4 weeks of the exam date will forfeit their examination fee unless on medical grounds – see Medical Refunds.

**Stage 4, Int. Teach, BHS SM and E & T =** Candidates are required to give a minimum of 8 weeks written notice before the exam date if they wish to transfer their examination or obtain a part refund. Candidates wishing to cancel/transfer within 8 weeks of the exam date will forfeit their examination fee. **Candidates wishing to cancel on medical grounds within 4 weeks of their examination date will forfeit their fee.**

**Refunds:** All refunds are subject to an administration charge of 50% of the original exam fee. (Subject to the above conditions).

**Transfers:** Candidates wishing to transfer to another examination will be charged a transfer fee of 25% of their original fee. (Subject to the above conditions).

**Medical Refunds:** Candidates who are unable to attend their examination due to medical reasons are required to forward evidence of this (i.e. doctor's note/medical certificate) no later than **5 working days** after the intended examination date, along with a fee of 25% of their original exam fee in order to obtain another exam booking. Alternatively, a refund (less 25% admin charge) may be obtained.

7. All Exam results and certificates will be sent by post from the Examinations Office. Results for all exams will not be issued on the day. The Examinations Office regrets it is unable to give out results over the telephone or by e-mail, therefore please allow **10 working days** for delivery before contacting the office.
8. Non-English speaking candidates may request an interpreter. The Examinations Office requires a minimum of three months written notice and will be responsible for arranging the interpreter. The candidate should then liaise with the interpreter with regards to date, venue and costs.
9. **Candidates may not take any examination if they are pregnant.**
10. **MEDICAL CERTIFICATES:** Assessors are unable to accept any medical certificates produced by candidates on the day. If a candidate wishes an injury or disability to be taken into account by the Assessors, they should complete the Special Adjustments questionnaire, which is sent out with all confirmation letters, and return along with a medical certificate or official report confirming their injury or disability. The Examinations Office must receive these documents at least three weeks before the intended examination date. If a candidate is unable to submit a Medical Certificate in time, they should contact the Examinations Office immediately.
11. In the case of a riding examination, candidates must provide their accurate **height and weight**. Candidates who are found to considerably exceed their stated weight may be asked to withdraw from the exam to ensure that neither they or the exam centre's horses are put at risk.
12. **APPEALS PROCEDURE:** If you consider your examination was not conducted in line with the syllabi requirements, you may wish to appeal against this. To do so please obtain an Appeals Form from the Examinations Office. This must be completed and submitted, along with the relevant fee to the Examinations Office within four weeks of the date of your examination.