



Scottish Racing Academy

Annual Update 2021

Your career in racing
starts here.

scottishracingacademy.scot



Welcome to the Scottish Racing Academy

The Scottish Racing Academy has been developed to be a catalyst for the development and delivery of a strategic, ambitious, innovative, and joined-up model of education and training provision for people entering the racing industry, existing racing staff and their trainers.

In addition, it was important that the Scottish education and training offer reflected the excellent racecourses and trainers that operate in Scotland and highlighted the impact of Scottish racing on the racing industry in the U.K. and the Scottish economy.

Until the development of the Scottish Racing Academy, the only available horseracing specific, training opportunities were in England. Therefore, there was a requirement for a Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) qualification to be written, in consultation with employers. The five new horseracing qualifications were written and validated in five months, further highlighting the appetite for the horseracing specific training in Scotland.

The approach of the Scottish Racing Academy seeks to build on existing good practice and assets. It does not intend to replicate existing provision, but instead to complement, utilise and improve upon it. Our qualifications support and promote opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds and our core ethos and values highlight this.



“We have a lot of people in Scotland who love horses and riding but don’t know how to get into racing - with the SRA, they can now learn at every level.”

Lucinda Russell, Trustee

2020 has been the first year of delivery for the Scottish Racing Academy and, although it has been an extremely challenging landscape due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have received an encouraging number of applications across all the provisions. The inaugural year of the Scottish Racing Academy has exceeded all expectations, given the unprecedented impact of Covid. More specifically, it has been particularly challenging due to the variable landscape as a result of safety measures being regularly reviewed. Therefore, the reduced group sizes and online learning platforms have been implemented to enable the different courses to be delivered.

I am immensely proud to be the Manager of Scottish Racing Academy, with encouraging student numbers and highly qualified staff who are committed to providing the very best of themselves to the students and training partners. We are strongly supported in this by the excellent Scottish Racing Academy Trustees and employers.

I hope that this Scottish Racing Academy Annual Update will provide you with all the information you require about the different opportunities available and what makes the Scottish Racing Academy unique.

Dr E. Boden

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To find out more please contact us:

Telephone: **07908 716564**

email: **info@scottishracingacademy.scot**

Creating a sustainable future for British horseracing

The Scottish Racing Academy (SRA) was formed in 2019 to enhance horseracing education and training provision in Scotland and the north of England with the support of the Racing Foundation.

Its vision is to nurture sustainable talent to meet the needs of world class racecourses and trainers.

The SRA is a collaboration between Scottish Racing, Scottish and British horseracing partners, and educational institutions to overcome the challenges in recruiting and retaining high quality, skilled racing staff.

It aims to provide learner-based training for people wishing to pursue a career in racing as well as supporting those already working in the industry who wish to upskill their knowledge and expertise. Building on existing good practice and assets, the SRA has created a series of innovative new qualifications which have been written to provide choice to learners whilst nurturing talent.

Its formation reflects the importance of Scottish horseracing to the global sport and its contribution to the British and Scottish economies. The Scottish Racing Academy has been supported by the Racing Foundation, which is committed to investing in skills and education and the SRA has been endorsed by the British Horseracing Authority.



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Mission Statement

The Scottish Racing Academy aims to implement inclusive, sustainable education and training programmes that can provide opportunities within horseracing by identifying gaps in provision, promoting mutual support and up-skilling current stable staff. The ultimate aim is to encourage more staff into the industry and develop the existing staff.

Vision

The long-term vision is to create both sustainable education and training to improve recruitment, skills and staff retention in Scotland, and consequently help the sport flourish and grow in Scotland. The work of the SRA will also benefit people across Britain who will have the opportunity to access education and training in Scotland. It will also benefit the industry more broadly, with Scotland playing its part in attracting, developing and retaining racing staff.

Ethos & Values

The Scottish Racing Academy sees itself as:

- Caring and respecting people's individuality
- Promoting people's individual learning styles
- Enabling and empowering people to consider working with horses within Scottish horseracing
- Valuing all learner and employer contributions to the provision
- Demonstrating how enjoyable and fulfilling a career in horseracing can be
- Seeking and gaining the respect of professional colleagues
- Working collaboratively
- Open, transparent and communicative
- Knowledgeable, with a 'can-do' approach to problem solving
- Committed to safeguarding individuals



The SRA Board



Eleanor Boden
PhD, PGCE, FHEA
Manager

Dr Eleanor Boden is responsible for Managing the Scottish Racing Academy and its education provision which includes recruitment strategies and employer engagement. Previously, Eleanor was a Senior Lecturer at Myerscough College where she earned the Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy status as well as multiple nominations for her outstanding teaching delivery. Eleanor has completed her PhD at Durham University researching the experiences of females from different education streams and employment in the horseracing industry.



Delly Innes
Chair

Delly Innes is founding Chair of the Scottish Racing Academy. She has been Manager of Scottish Racing since 2016 and also sits on the British Horseracing Authority's Public Affairs Steering Group which develops and implements agreed racing industry strategy on political engagement in both Westminster and Holyrood. Delly is also a member of the Racecourse Association's Steering Group for the Return of Spectators during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Dena Merson
Trustee

Founder of consultancy Simply Racing, Dena has extensive experience in coaching and mentoring in the horseracing industry, working with individuals across the sport. She devised and developed the Women in Racing Mentoring Programme and Racing Home Project. A former Managing Director at Credit Suisse, Dena is an owner/breeder. She sat on the Racehorse Owners Association Executive and Council, various boards and racing committees and blends an understanding of horseracing politics with business and leadership expertise.



Morag Gray MBE
Trustee

Morag Gray MBE, has worked in sports administration for over 30 years. She was the first female Clerk of Course in Britain and was Chief Executive of Hamilton Park Racecourse for four years. She is Chair of the horseracing community programme, Racing Together. Morag chairs the Welfare Committee at Racing Welfare and was Chair of the BHA Welfare and Training Group. Morag was a Racing Director of Racecourse Association and a non-executive director of the British Horseracing Authority for seven years.



Lucinda Russell
OBE
Trustee

Since 1995 Lucinda Russell has been training National Hunt horses including more than 700 winners and nine graded winners and winners at the Cheltenham and Aintree Festivals. Lucinda trains in the beautiful Kinross countryside near Edinburgh with her partner Peter Scudamore MBE, an eight time champion jockey who rode 1,678 winners in a record breaking career. Together they have formed a partnership which has produced the most successful racing yard in the history of Scottish jump racing.



Ken McGarrity
Trustee

Ken McGarrity is a Chartered Accountant and a highly regarded member of the racing community. He holds the Scottish seat on the council of the Racehorse Owners Association (ROA). Ken has extensive financial knowledge and leadership experience through director positions at Nairns Oatcakes, Lothians Racing Syndicate and Queen Margaret University. Ken brings together a fusion of education and horseracing knowledge with a specialism in finance.



Jonathan Garratt
Trustee

Having ridden in point-to-points at an early age, Jonathan developed a passion for horseracing that continues to grow. He has managed the racecourses at Worcester, Fontwell Park, Cartmel and Kelso and is a Director of Racecourse Media Group as well as operating his own company, Making Great Tracks.



Staff Members



Emma Sayer
BA (hons)
Level 5 Lecturer
and Assessor

Emma is the level 5 instructor and assessor for the Scottish Racing Academy. She has been involved with horses all her life and has worked within the horseracing industry for the past 12 years. She has worked all over the world including Australia for Ciaran Maher, France for Guillame Macaire and America for Graham Motion, and rode 59 winners as an amateur jockey and as a conditional/apprentice.

Her highlights in the saddle include-

- Being selected to be the Fegentri representative for GB in 2012 and riding a winner in both Oman and Qatar.
- Winning the ladies Diamond Necklace race at Cartmel for her Uncle and Grandfather.
- Winning the Longines lady rider race at Ascot for her Mother – Dianne.
- Being nominated for a Lester award for jump ride of the year.
- Winning the ATR ride of the month award.
- Finally retiring from the saddle in 2019 with a winner on ladies night at Carlisle racecourse.

She is a qualified PE teacher and has spent a couple of years working at Ullswater Community College as well as gaining work experience at a number of other schools in the local area. She is thrilled to have joined the SRA and cannot wait to see what the next few years may bring.



Stacey MacPherson
School Coordinator
and Level 4
Course Tutor

Stacey MacPherson is the School coordinator and Level 4 course tutor for the Scottish Racing Academy. Stacey has experience within a wide variety of different equine sports and is a Level 3 British Equestrian Vaulting Coach – spending a lot of her free time coaching young athletes from grassroots to international level. Stacey also enjoys helping out with a local point-to-point trainer and attending the Northern Area Point-to-Points as a groom. She is hugely excited to be part of the SRA team and the opportunities that are available for all. Stacey also works for our sister organisation, Scottish Racing.



Hannah Farrell
Communications
and Promotional
Events Team

Hannah has a Level 3 apprenticeship qualification in horse care and management. She started working at a busy pony trekking yard when she was still at school and from there began her apprenticeship. Hannah began her career with Cumbrian based trainer, Dianne Sayer – firstly undertaking yard work and later progressing to riding out. Her favourite part of the job is taking horses to the races. She enjoys spending time with her own retrained racehorse, Sarge, and is involved with the charity, Racing to School.



Michael Armstrong
Scottish Racing
Academy Social
Media and
Communications
Consultant

Michael runs a Digital Marketing and Social Media Management Company called Parade Ring Marketing. Following his graduation from University, he took a place on the highly regarded British Horseracing Graduate Development Programme where he worked for the British Horseracing Authority. Following this placement, he moved into Racecourse Marketing and Sponsorship where he gained experience in managing the delivery of brand sponsorship contracts. Today, he works directly with and on behalf of businesses and public services in order to help develop, improve, maintain and manage their marketing, communications and public relations including the Scottish Racing Academy.



Alison White
Level 6 Course Tutor
and Placement
Support

Ali started her equine career doing an old fashioned youth training scheme at a busy riding school and trekking centre, working her way through SVQ levels and BHS stages on the job. She then went onto Oatridge Agricultural college where she achieved an H.N.D in horse management passing with distinction and being awarded the best practical student prize. Ali went on to do some more trekking centre and stud work before falling in love with the racing industry. She has eighteen years worth of experience in racing. Starting as a racing groom at Lucinda Russell's yard working up to being head girl, a position she held for sixteen years. She brings with her a vast wealth of experience covering a wide range of aspects of the racing industry. She is a big believer in continual personal development. She gained her HGV while at Lucinda's, also completing a Head Travelling Groom course at British racing school and an Assistant trainers course at the Northern Racing college. She has had a career break to bring up her three children. Ali is very excited about the Scottish Racing Academy and delighted to be part of it. She still has two of her own ex-racehorses who she looked after and rode at work at home with her as family pets.



Rachael McDonald
Level 5 Lecturer
and Assessor

Rachael McDonald is the lecturer at SRUC for horse care specialising in horseracing, teaching and helping students gain skills and employability for the racing industry. She is still currently riding as a professional jockey and working in the racing industry on days where she is not at the college. Over the summer, she been working her way through the British Horseracing Authority Level 4 learning programmes which she has thoroughly enjoyed. She is looking forward to helping the SRA and the racing course grow and provide a successful route for students to take on their way into the horseracing industry.

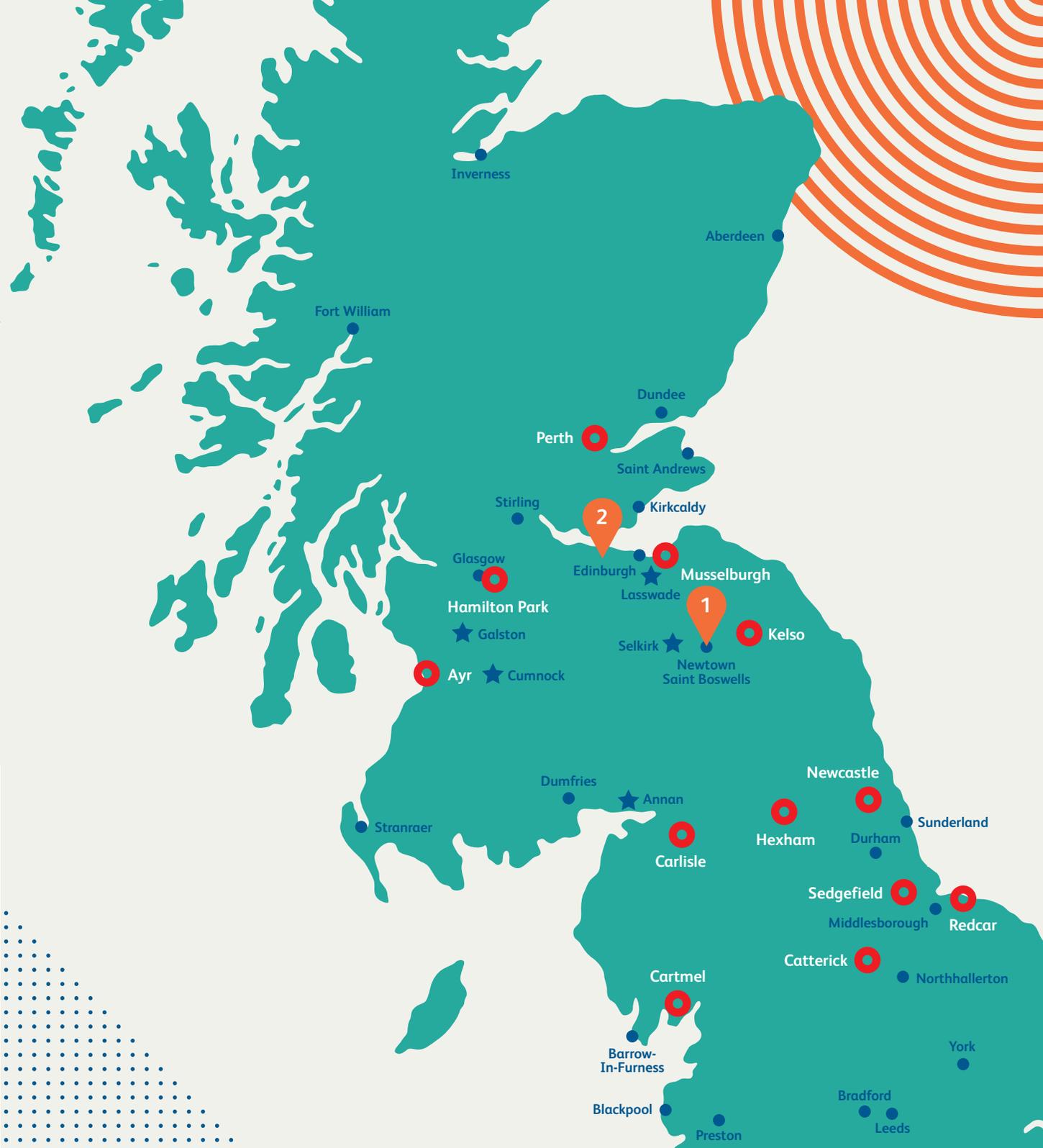
How do we operate

We are committed to addressing the gap in horseracing education and training provision available in Scotland and the north.

It has been estimated that there are more than 50 different career paths in the horseracing industry, and we want to help attract individuals from all walks of life to fulfil those roles.

The Scottish Racing Academy has partnered with leading educational centres to help people learn the skills and knowledge to pursue a career in horseracing.

Our courses are recognised by the British Horseracing Authority for the delivery of specialist racehorse care qualifications in Scotland. They provide students with vital knowledge, skills and expertise in racehorse care, riding, exercise, and industry regulations to progress and develop a career within the industry. The courses have been designed to cater for all abilities, from individuals already working within the sector and wishing to upskill to new entrants and school leavers.



To find out more please contact us:

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email: **info@scottishracingacademy.scot**



Working Partnerships



BORDERS
COLLEGE

The Scottish Racing Academy has partnered with Borders College to deliver specialist racehorse qualifications. Borders College operates from three main sites Galashiels, Hawick and St. Boswells and is the regional college for the Scottish Borders.



SRUC

The Scottish Racing Academy has partnered with Scotland's Rural College to deliver the SCQF Level 5 National Progression Award in Racehorse Care from its Oatridge campus.

Oatridge campus stands on its own 283-hectare estate in the West Lothian countryside and is home to the Scottish National Equestrian Centre (SNEC) - a new state of the art venue for equestrian sports and activities.

★ Delivery Partners

- Dryden** – Selkirk
- Ian Stark Equestrian Centre** – Selkirk
- Lasswade Riding School** – Lasswade, Edinburgh
- Fossilfield Racing** – Cumnock
- West Loudoun Equestrian Centre** – Galston
- Jenny Mills Riding Stables** – Annan



Scottish Racing promotes and supports the five racecourses in Scotland and assists in the development of a sustainable Scottish horseracing industry and its success on a global scale.

The five Scottish racecourses are Ayr, Kelso, Musselburgh and Perth and Hamilton Park and unlike anywhere else in the world, horseracing in Scotland is a uniquely year-round sporting attraction.

National Hunt racing takes place at Ayr, Kelso, Musselburgh and Perth and Flat racing takes place at Ayr, Hamilton Park and Musselburgh.

To attract the best horses from the major training centres south of the border, Scottish tracks offer proportionately higher prize money and invest consistently in their hospitality.

Scottish Racing also represents and promotes all sectors of the horseracing industry north of the border by lobbying on political issues in Westminster and Holyrood, generating coverage in the media and social media, updating seasoned racegoers on the latest news and campaigning to attract new audiences.

Scottish Racing plays an integral part in delivering long-term prosperity and sustainability to the sport in Scotland.

It recognises and embraces the support from the Racing Foundation and the wider racing industry for the formation of the Scottish Racing Academy and careers in the Scottish horseracing industry.

For more information on the career opportunities within the horseracing industry visit:

scottishracingacademy.scot
careersinracing.com

Career Opportunities

All Scottish Racing Academy qualifications have been designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge required to gain employment working with racehorses in the horseracing industry.

Throughout these qualifications you will develop skills and an understanding of how to care for racehorses as well as how clean and groom horses and monitor the well-being of horses.

The qualifications will give recognition to the abilities, for example, of those people who work at racehorse training yards as racing grooms, assist with taking horses racing and will provide the employers/racehorse trainers/head stable staff with the opportunity to formally address the health and safety requirements of working around horses.

The qualifications provide practical skills and theoretical knowledge that meet the needs of employers and they have been written with significant input and feedback from Scottish racing stakeholders.



Jonathan Garratt

Managing Director,
Kelso Racecourse

“My enthusiasm for racing started at an early age while I was riding ponies and developed further through point-to-pointing and attending race meetings.”

My first job on a racecourse was treading in the divots, at Lingfield Park, after the horses had gone by.

I later worked as an announcer at various racecourses and undertook customer research for Ascot Racecourse before taking a role within a PR agency managing race sponsorship projects throughout Britain.

Each raceday requires a large workforce including stable staff, catering staff, vets, officials and doctors in addition to our own racecourse team. Having fulfilled many of the raceday roles at some point in my career, I still enjoy the variety that racecourse management offers - different challenges every day.



Jaimie Duff

Travelling Racing Groom/
Assistant Trainer,
Lucinda Russell Racing

I started working for Lucinda whilst still at school so spent my weekends and all my time there... basically I never left!

My job entails lots of different things but mainly going racing. Tracy, our Secretary, sends all the entries through 6 days ahead of each race meeting. This gives me an idea of how many runners we have at each racecourse, how many staff/lorries will be needed and what time we need to leave in the morning.

After declarations I start loading the lorries. This involves sorting each horses owners colours, passports, bridles, bits, headgear, quarter sheets, pads, girths etc... the list is endless!

The main thing I love about my job is being around the horses, it's a real privilege, they all have such different characters. There is nothing better than seeing horses progressing from babies onto the racecourse, racing again after being off through injury and of course winning, although it's not always about the winning!

I have also met lifelong friends and some incredible people through racing, it's like a big extended family.

I really don't see my work as a job, it's more a way of life and for anybody coming into racing I can't recommend the racing life enough.



Charlotte Jones

Conditional Jockey,
Jim Moffat Racing

My job has two roles, working at the yard and race riding.

The yard work is predominately work riding where I ride out and do a lot of the schooling with the horses. I'm also a big part of the stable staff team, so I'll muck out in the morning, groom the horses in the evening and carry out general yard duties.

The race riding can be very busy with lots of early starts but it's worth it, especially when I get a winner. I'm lucky to have access to a jockey coach, my agent and Jimmy which really helps. When at the races, if another member of staff is there, I concentrate on the race riding, walk the track and prepare for the ride. If Jimmy brings the horse himself, I'll usually go to the stable yard and prepare the horse, fitting the bridle, grooming and then concentrate on the race.



Gary Sharp

Head Groundstaff,
Cartmel Racecourse

I've worked at Cartmel Racecourse since 2002. I started not knowing anything and worked my way up to Head Groundstaff.

The job includes preparation of the racing surface plus getting the fences and hurdles ready to BHA regulations. I have a great team around me that helps with this preparation.

Our racing season is only short, running from May-August, fitting in 9 race days over 4 separate weekends. The track is very small so doesn't have a lot of room for movement. This requires a lot of pre-planning between meetings so each set up helps the next. It's always pleasing to have the track ready for racing and receive positive comments from the jockeys, trainers and connections that are running that day.



Graeme Anderson

Clerk of the Course
and Head Groundstaff,
Ayr Racecourse

"I enjoy my job although at times it is very full on. On days like Coral Scottish Grand National Saturday and Ayr Gold Cup day it can be stressful but ultimately highly rewarding."

I've worked at the track for more than 20 years. I became Head Groundstaff in 2011 and also took over the duties of Clerk of the Course in 2017.

Ayr races all year round. Flat season runs April - October and jump racing October - May, totalling around 35 meetings. I ensure the track is in the best possible condition for every fixture and during the busy summer months this can entail the team working round the clock to maintain the best possible ground, often watering through the night.

As Clerk of the Course I liaise with trainers, jockeys and BHA officials on racedays ensuring all runs smoothly. I'm also heavily involved in race planning.

Level 4 & Level 5 - Schools

SCQF Level 4/5 - Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulations (OFQUAL) Level 2 equivalent to meet regulations under the British Horseracing Authority

The purpose of this qualification is to provide the candidates with an understanding of the principles for caring for racehorses and how they can be applied in practise.

The course will introduce the learner to the routine care, healthcare, feeding and exercise requirements of racehorses.

They will also be able to prepare, load and unload horses as would be required ahead of escorting a horse to the races. Throughout this qualification the emphasis will be on safe working and skills required for initial employment in the racing industry.

The course delivers the skills and knowledge required to care for racehorses and carry out general routines.



Level 4

The NPA in (Race) Horse Care Level 4 is made up of four units:

- Horse Identification and Handling a Quiet Horse
- Assist with Grooming a Quiet Horse
- Tack and Tacking Up
- Stable Routine

Level 5

The NPA in Racing Yard Routine Level 5 is made up of four units:

- Horse Care Horse Health
- Feeding and Watering
- Safe Working Practices
- Specialist Racehorse Care



Lucky Eduwu

**Level 4 Schools
Academy Student**

Hi, I'm a student of the Scottish Racing Academy. I haven't finished the course yet but I am loving it. I really liked the horse behaviours topic.

In the future, I see myself moving on to level 5 and entering the breeding or racing industry. The course has helped me in many ways and has allowed me to understand alot more about horses.

To find out more visit
scottishracingacademy.scot
or email info@scottishracingacademy.scot

Level 5 - Full Time

The full time courses have attracted a variety of school leavers who were attracted to the unique nature of the qualifications offered by the Scottish Racing Academy and the strong employability theme that runs through all provision.

The two full time course options run in a traditional academic year (August to June), and on a full-time further education model however, we recognise that people like to learn in different ways and therefore, the Scottish Racing Academy has two options to suit different learning styles and career aspirations.

The courses both place a heavy focus on developing learners' practical skills and their ability to apply their knowledge to the relevant environment. The qualifications have been developed to ensure that there is a balance of both theoretical and practical units within the frameworks. The theory will underpin the knowledge required to complete the practical elements and gain employability skills.

Both full time Scottish Racing Academy options:

- Offer qualifications that were written in consultation with the Scottish Trainers
- Meet the requirements of the British Horseracing Authority (BHA)
- Can be completed in one academic year
- Have work placement/experience expectations
- Have access to additional and pastoral support via the partner training providers

In addition, we work hard to ensure that the learners have access to a wide range of activities and enrichment that support future career goals and promote a well-rounded individual in preparation for the workplace.



Rhianna Neuwirth

**Level 4 Schools
Academy Student**

My overall highlight of the course would be learning and doing all the practical involved as it was something different rather than just on paper assessments.

I would love to get a job in the racing industry later on in life and am thinking about getting a part-time job on a racing yard once I turn 16.

This course has really helped me figure out what I want to do once I leave school and give an insight on what working in the racing industry would be like.





Borders College

Borders College operates from three main sites (Galashiels, Hawick and St. Boswells) and is the regional college for the Scottish Borders. Each year, around 4,600 students enrol for a wide range of courses and programmes, both day and evening, in subject areas that will enable them to dovetail into local employment opportunities. The College has developed its provision in line with local needs and has extensive links with industry and commerce by way of its industrial liaison network. Working closely with its local partners, the College has shaped its curriculum in line the needs of the local labour market.

The full time option at Borders College is classed as a work-based delivery model although, the course follows an academic calendar (August- June). The learners are required to work in a placement for the duration of the course and attend online sessions with the Scottish Racing Academy and Borders College tutors for one full day a week.

The full time students are required to complete the units listed below:

Racehorse Yard Routine (Mandatory)

- Horse Care: Horse Health: An Introduction
- Racehorse Care: An Introduction
- Horse Care: Watering and Feeding: An Introduction
- Horse Care: Safe Working Practices

Thoroughbred Preparation (Mandatory)

Mandatory Units

- Racehorse Care: Preparation for Ridden Work
- Racehorse Care: Safe Handling of Thoroughbred Horses
- Personal Wellbeing and Exercise

Optional Units

- Horse Care: Equitation 2
- Horse Care: Equitation 3
- Escort Racehorses Race Meetings

Specialist Racehorse Care (Mandatory)

- Horseracing Regulation and Controlled Substances: An Introduction
- Horse Rehabilitation and Therapy: An Introduction
- Racehorse Care: An Introduction
- Horse Care: Horse Health: An Introduction

Thoroughbred Exercise and Performance Optional riding route)

- Racehorse Care: Preparation for Ridden Work
- Providing Non-ridden Exercise for Horses
- Riding Racehorses for Routine Exercise
- Riding a Racehorse to Improve Performance

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Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) - Oatridge Campus

Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) exists across six campuses Scotland to deliver comprehensive skills, education and business support for Scotland's land-based industries. Founded on sector-leading research, education and consultancy, the integration of these three complementary 'knowledge exchange' services is of significant value to learners, businesses and communities alike.

The Scottish Racing Academy works with the SRUC Oatridge team. SRUC Oatridge campus stands on its own 283-hectare estate in the West Lothian countryside and is within easy reach of the motorway network.

The National Certificate (NC) in Racehorse Care is the generic equine qualification with the optional elements replaced with the racing units from the National Progression Award in Racing Yard Routine and Specialist Racehorse Care. All the practical teaching is carried out at the SRUC Oatridge campus yard, which is well situated due to the 4 furlong all weather gallops and the Scottish National Equestrian Centre.

This course is particularly unique because it is the only full-time, racehorse care option available at a land-based college in Britain and is delivered in an academic year (August-June).

The units that are covered in the National Certificate (Racing) are:

- **Racehorse Care: An Introduction**
- **Escort Racehorses to Race Meetings**
- **Horse Rehabilitation and Therapy: An Introduction**
- **Horseracing Regulation and Controlled Substances: An Introduction**
- **Equitation 1**
- **Horse Care: Grooming and Clothing**
- **Horse Care: Preparation for Ridden Work**
- **Horse Care: Safe Working Practices**



Level 6 - Senior Racing Groom

As a direct result of the uptake for stable staff training, the Level 6 qualifications are in development to encompass all elements of the varied role of a Senior Racing Groom.

The Level 6 qualification has been designed to mirror the traditional skills associated with caring for racehorses whilst embracing technology and innovation seen within the Scottish workforce.

The structure of the qualifications allows for a high degree of flexibility in the delivery mode. The awards could be offered on full-time, part-time, block-release, day release or evening modes. A distance learning delivery mode is possible providing adequate materials, tutorial support and assessment facilities exist. Combination of delivery modes is also a possibility.

The learners completing these qualifications can expect to handle and provide exercise for a variety of horses in different working environments. They must adhere to safe working practices, be prepared to work in all weather conditions and often in 'out of hours' situations. They will be required to have dedication and commitment to the role as well as being capable of offering advice, support and guidance to their team, whilst possessing appropriate people skills.





Max Jenkins

Groom/Work Rider,
Iain Jardine Racing

Working in racing gives me the privilege to work with great horses everyday, there's nothing more rewarding as the bond you develop with racehorses.

On a typical morning I would ride 5 lots but we could be doing anything from schooling to jumping out of stalls and working around the grass gallop.

The Level 6 is made up of:

National Progression Award in Horse Care at SCQF Level 6 - Mandatory

- Horse Care: Watering and Feeding
- Horse Care: Tacking up for Ridden Competition Work
- Horse Care: Trimming, Turnout and Clipping
- An introduction to Anatomy and Physiology (SCQF Level 6) (Part 1 of Horse Health)
- Injuries & Ailments (SCQF Level 6) (Part 2 of Horse Health)

Level 6 NPA - Leadership for the Racehorse Industry - Mandatory

- Level 6: Stable Management
- Level 6: Sustainable Development in Practice in the Horseracing Industry
- Level 6: Skills for Customer Service in the Horseracing Industry
- Level 6: Leadership in Practice

Level 6 NPA in Racehorse care and Management - Mandatory

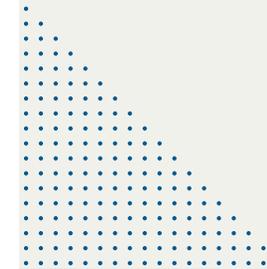
- Horse Care: Horse fittening FV9P 11 (SCQF Level 5)
- Working with young horses (SCQF Level 6)
- Contribute to the design and implementation of training programmes for racehorses (SCQF Level 6)
- Observation of work practice contribute to the evaluation and modification of training programmes for racehorses (SCQF Level 6)

NPA in Racehorse Exercise and Performance (Level 6) (OPTIONAL)

- Racehorse Care: Preparation for Ridden Work
- Providing Non-ridden Exercise for Horses
- Riding Racehorses for Routine Exercise
- Riding a Racehorse to Improve Performance

Professional Development Award (PDA) in Equine Breeding at SCQF Level 7 (OPTIONAL)

- Equine Studies: The Brood Mare
- Equine Studies: The Stallion
- Equine Studies: Equine Youngstock



Courses: Stable Staff / Work Rider Coaching

To find out more visit
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Stable Staff

The stable staff courses aim to develop the skills to work in the thoroughbred industry, either racing or stud, while at the same time developing stable staffs' personal, interpersonal and workplace skills.

The content includes core modules in work experience and communications as well as a range of practical units including stable and yard routine, racehorse care and exercise, horse conformation and preparation for ridden work which will be carried out in the workplace.

Stable staff are already undertaking early mornings and weekend yard duties and do have hands-on experience in the racing industry. An acceptable level of fitness is required to enable stable staff to ride effectively (if riding route selected) and carry out yard duties.



There are 4 National Progression Awards to choose from:

Racehorse Yard Routine

- Horse Care: Horse Health: An Introduction
- Racehorse Care: An Introduction
- Horse Care: Watering and Feeding: An Introduction
- Horse Care: Safe Working Practices

Thoroughbred Preparation

- Racehorse Care: Preparation for Ridden Work
- Racehorse Care: Safe Handling of Thoroughbred Horses
- Personal Wellbeing and Exercise
- Horse Care: Equitation 2
- Horse Care: Equitation 3
- Escort Racehorses Race Meetings

'OR'

Specialist Racehorse Care

- Horseracing Regulation and Controlled Substances: An Introduction
- Horse Rehabilitation and Therapy: An Introduction
- Racehorse Care: An Introduction
- Horse Care: Horse Health: An Introduction

'OR'

Thoroughbred Exercise and Performance (optional riding route)

- Racehorse Care: Preparation for Ridden Work
- Providing Non-ridden Exercise for Horses
- Riding Racehorses for Routine Exercise
- Riding a Racehorse to Improve Performance



Gemma Smith

Stable Staff,
Racing Yard Routine

My overall highlight of the course has been becoming more involved in the racing industry and having the opportunity to ride and jump national hunt horses.

I would love to see myself becoming a jockey in the future and I am now prepared to work towards that goal. The course has benefitted me hugely as it has really improved my knowledge, confidence in myself and my abilities. It has allowed me to set future goals that I never thought would have been possible.

It has also shown me no matter what age you are, a career change is possible if you're prepared work for it.



Work Rider Coaching

Building on the success of the Jockey Coaching Programme, senior staff can apply to train as a Rider Coach, giving them the coaching skills to support young or inexperienced colleagues in their yards.

The Rider coaching course was rolled out in England as part of the Regional Staff Development Programme (RSDP) and in 2020, this was extended to include Scotland. The Scottish Coaching qualifications are industry recognised and enable senior members of stable staff to become instrumental in the development of key skills of those just starting out in their careers in racing.

The Equestrian Assistant Coach Certificate (Level 1 Racing) is being rolled out in early Autumn and the Equestrian Coach Certificate (Level 2 Racing) course is being developed for a 2022 rollout.

The assistant coaching course is delivered using a model of blended learning with a mix of self-directed learning and face to face sessions. Assessment is carried out ongoing throughout your course by the tutor, through observations of coaching, discussions and assignments.

Not only does the work-rider coaching opportunity increase the skills of the workforce, it also increases the wider understanding of equality and diversity through the completion of the following:

- Current First Aid Certificate
- PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups)
- Completion of Child Welfare and Protection Course
- Completion of Scottish Disability Sport module - 'STEP' (Space, Task, Equipment and People) and 'AIM' (Activity Inclusion Model)



Casey Finlay

**Studied at Borders College
2020-2021**

**Casey is currently on
placement at
Katie Scott Racing**

What was your overall highlight?

During the course I really enjoyed watching horses being scoped and learning about it.

Where do you see your future in the racing industry?

My goals for the future would to hopefully become a travelling racing groom.

How did the course benefit you?

I have learnt a lot on the course and looked into racehorses in more depth and how to care for the horses if an injury arises.



Scottish Racing Academy

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