



Rider assessment for first time Riders and those who have not ridden over fences or hurdles since 1st December 2018

Who will need to take part?

Either:

If you have not ridden in a Point-to-Point or a race over hurdles or fences.

OR:

If you have not ridden in a Point-to-Point or a race over hurdles or fences since 1st December 2018.

What type of assessments are available?

Riders that require an assessment prior to their application for a Riders Qualification Certificate (RQC) – according to the above criteria – have two options:

- Riders can be assessed locally by their PPA approved Jockey Coach (£30 fee)
- Riders can attend pre-determined training days to be assessed (£30 fee which is refundable upon application for an RQC)

When and where are the training days taking place?

- 25th October – Woodway Farm (Lawney Hill Racing) – Alan & Lawney Hill Racing, Woodway Farm, Aston Rowant, Oxford, OX49 5SJ – Jockey Coach Charlie Poste.
- 26th October – Pontispool Equestrian – Pontispool Equine Sports Centre, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, TA4 1BH – Jockey Coach Rodi Greene.
- 24th November – BRS – The British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7NU – Jockey Coach Charlie Poste.
- 13th January 2024 – Martin Keighley Racing – Martin Keighley Racing, Condicote Stables, Luckley, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, GL56 0RD – Jockey Coach Rodi Greene.
- 27th January 2024 – Tim Vaughan Racing – Pant Wilkin Stables, Cowbridge, Wales, CF71 7GX – Jockey Coach Rodi Greene.
- For more information please contact the British Racing School on 01638 675 907.

The above training days have been kindly organised by [The British Racing School](https://www.brs.org.uk/). The sessions will be led by UKCC Level 3 qualified coaches, who will assess your suitability for a Riders Qualification Certificate (RQC). There is the possibility of further training in the new year (2024).

How do I book a place on a training day?

Either download and complete the Course Application Form from the website, and return it to The British Racing School (contact details are on the form), or apply by using the online form at

<https://brs.picsweb.co.uk/app/Guest/SignUp/Applicant/86e7ccf2f7df43e6a2bf79d14d65a50f>

Are there any exemptions?

Riders who have successfully completed a Category A (Dual or Jump) or Category B permit to ride assessment since 1st December 2018 will be granted exemption.

How do I arrange a one-on-one assessment?

You will need to arrange your one-on-one assessment with a PPA approved Jockey Coach. Those assessments should take place at a mutually agreed venue between you and your Jockey Coach. There must be schooling facilities available and an open area where you can be seen riding at walk, trot and canter.

When should I get in touch with my local PPA Jockey Coach?

You should contact your local Jockey Coach at least one month prior to the intended date of your first ride.

Which Jockey Coach should I contact?

This is up to you. A list of Jockey Coaches, their location and contact details can be found by looking at list on website

How much will an assessment cost?

Both assessments are part-funded centrally by the PPA via BHA grant funding. There is a £30 booking fee for both the training days and one-to-one sessions, however the training day fee is refundable upon application for an RQC (the one-to-one session fee is not refundable). You will need to cover any other expenses which you may incur.

Do I need to provide my own horse?

Yes. The horse must have been accepted for inclusion in any of the following:

- 8.3.1 the Stud Book maintained by the Stud Book Authority of Great Britain and Ireland,
- 8.3.2 a Stud Book approved by the International Stud Book Committee
- 8.3.3 the Non-Thoroughbred Register, or
- 8.3.4 the Autre Que Pur Sang (AQPS Register).

Ideally you should attend on the horse you plan to ride in your first race. However this is not a mandatory requirement.

What will happen on the day and what skills will be required?

You will be observed:

- Tacking up
- Warming up
- Riding at walk, trot and canter and schooling in an open area.

You will need to demonstrate:

- That you are in control and can change the speed you are traveling by reacting to instruction.
- That you can maintain your balance and can ride with an independent seat, hands and an appropriate length of stirrup.
- That you can change your hands and gather your horse up.
- That you understand basic whip skills.
- That you understand your responsibilities regarding personal protective equipment
- That you have a basic level of fitness to enjoy the Point-to-Pont experience.
- That you recognise your own limitations and capabilities.

During the session, your Coach will run through some essential Point-to-Point Regulations to ensure that you are safe. E.g. stop race and hazard ahead flags, as well as directional markers for bypassing.

There will be additional topics covered at the training days, including simulator/balance training, fitness and nutrition advice.

What if the Coach is unsure that I have met the required standard?

The assessment will be filmed. If the Coach feels that you may need further experience before race-riding, they will forward footage to a panel of racing school licence course assessors for their view. If, following review of the footage they feel you are of the standard to safely enjoy the sport, your RQC will be issued by the PPA.

What if I do not meet the required standard?

If the panel of racing school licence course assessors feel you do not meet the required standard you will be advised to undergo further training either at a recognised training centre or individually with a BHA Jockey Coach. The additional training is not grant funded and you will need to pay for this yourself.

When your coach is satisfied you have reached the required standard, they will observe you schooling and inform the PPA so that your RQC can be issued.