

Racehorse Trainer

(Most commonly the business owner)

Job Summary:

A Racehorse Trainer is responsible for the preparation, conditioning, and overall management of racehorses to compete successfully on the track. This senior role requires in-depth equine knowledge, leadership skills, strategic planning, and regulatory compliance. The Trainer oversees every aspect of the horse's routine from fitness and feeding to health, behaviour, and race planning, while managing a team of staff and maintaining communication with owners, jockeys, vets, and racing authorities. In addition to horse welfare and performance, Trainers are responsible for the professional reputation, financial sustainability, and operational efficiency of the training yard. They must hold an official licence granted by the sport's governing body.

Main Duties:

- Develop and implement training programmes tailored to each horse's needs and career stage
- Supervise and lead a team of grooms, riders, vets, farriers, and admin staff
- Monitor horse fitness, behaviour, soundness, and general welfare on a daily basis
- Plan race entries and liaise with owners regarding form, progress, and race placement
- Ensure regulatory compliance with industry rules and welfare standards
- Maintain secure, high-quality stable facilities and working practices
- Build and manage strong relationships with owners, syndicates, and other stakeholders
- Oversee budgets, invoices, and yard administration (or manage with the help of a secretary)
- Attend race meetings, represent the yard, and oversee race day logistics and preparation
- Recruit, train, and develop staff to meet the high demands of a successful yard
- Promote the yard to potential clients and maintain the professional reputation of the business

Competencies (Behavioural):

- Leadership, resilience, and decision-making under pressure
- Excellent communication and relationship-building skills
- Attention to detail and high standards of care and presentation
- Strategic mindset and long-term planning ability



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Core Skills:

- Advanced knowledge and expertise of all aspects of racehorses and care
- Leading, mentoring and motivating staff
- Building trust with owners, jockeys and the wider team
- Expert all-round understanding of racing and regulation
- Financial oversight: budgeting, invoicing, payroll (directly or via support staff)
- Client relations
- Compliance with employment law, health and safety and safeguarding

Education/Certification:

- Must complete the licensing process under the British Horseracing Authority

Experience:

- Extensive hands-on experience in the racing industry at a high-level
- Understanding of business operations and client management
- Working Conditions:
 - Long hours, early mornings, evenings, weekends and travel
 - Outdoors in all weathers and some office work
 - High-pressure results-driven environment
 - Leadership and public facing responsibilities
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Pay and Benefits:

- Earnings vary widely depending on success and yard size
- Trainers earn income via training fees and percentages of prize money
- Reputation and results strongly influence income potential



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