



Rider assessment for first time Riders and those who have not ridden over fences or hurdles since 1st December 2021

Who will need to take part?

If you have not ridden in a Point-to-Point or a race over hurdles or fences since 1st December 2021.

What type of assessments are available?

- Riders can be assessed locally by their PPA approved Jockey Coach (£20 fee)
- Riders who have successfully completed a Category A (Dual or Jump) or Category B permit to ride assessment since 1st December 2021 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. Assessments should take place on a mutually agreed date and 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 Approved Jockey Coaches, their location and contact details can be found at [Jockeys - GBPointing](#)

How much will an assessment cost?

Assessments are mostly funded by the PPA. Your cost is £20 to the Jockey Coach. You will need to cover any other expenses 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
- Schooling in an open area over chase fences

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-Point 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. For example: Stop race and hazard ahead flags, as well as directional markers for bypassing and whip rules.

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 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.