



ACCREDITATION BOARD (ISSUE 2)

Approved 14th February 2009 by the EFFA board

Objective

To visit and evaluate the training and examination facilities of Member Associations with a view to the accreditation and certification of those meeting the standards of the European Farrier in the 21st Century as approved by the European Federation of Farriers Associations, and thereby establishing minimum acceptable standards for farriery within the European Economic Area.

Common accreditation and certification carried out in this manner will improve the welfare of the horse, enhance the profession of the farrier and offer horse owners a recognised and reliable service.

Terms of Reference

1. The executive members of the Accreditation Board will be appointed by the European Federation of Farriers Associations, and, as a minimum, the Accreditation Board will consist of an independent Chairman, who should have a background in vocational training, a Deputy Chairman and a Registrar.
2. When carrying out initial visits, the team should have 3 members and include:
 - a. At least two qualified farriers, who should be gainfully employed in farriery and be well respected professionals in their own country.
 - b. If possible, a veterinary surgeon familiar with farriery.
 - c. At least one member with experience in education and training

The Registrar will normally accompany the team to provide administrative support, including the drafting and preparation of the final report. The Chairman and Registrar will se-

lect the members of the team, taking into account experience, availability and independence. When carrying out reaccreditation visits, the team should have 2 members, at least one of whom must be a farrier, and may be accompanied by the Registrar depending on the circumstances.

3. The Board will undertake visits to the examination and training facilities of member countries wishing to be accredited. To maintain accreditation, reinspection should be expected within a six-year cycle. If the contents of the education and/or the organisation and/or management of the examinations has been changed substantially within the six-year cycle, the member country must inform the Board, which can decide to carry out a visit sooner.
4. In countries where there are state recognised or sponsored qualifications and training, only these qualifications and training programmes will normally be eligible for accreditation by the EFFA Accreditation Board. Exceptionally, where national educational and training regulations set a lower standard than that acceptable to EFFA, the national association may choose to set its own higher standards, which may be the subject of an Accreditation Board visit.
5. Accreditation visits will normally last four (4) days and will include attendance at an official examination, a review of the written training programme leading up to the examination/qualification, as well as visits to training establishments and, where appropriate, approved trainers (Master Farriers).
6. The purpose of the accreditation visits is to enable Board members to satisfy themselves that the candidates/apprentices meet the standards of the European Farrier in the 21st Century as approved by EFFA. In addition, they will review the organisation and management of the examinations to ensure objectivity, integrity, fairness and compliance with health and safety requirements.



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF FARRIERS ASSOCIATIONS EFFA

7. Following a visit to a member country, the Board will produce a report within twenty-eight (28) days, in which, subject to a satisfactory visit, it will recommend that the Executive Board of EFFA grant accreditation to the Member Association. If the Accreditation Board finds that the standards of the European Farrier in the 21st Century are not being met, it will recommend refusal of accreditation with an explanation of the reasons for this. There will be no appeal against the decision of the Board, which will be final; reexamination will, however, be possible the next year.
8. The recommendation of the Accreditation Board may be conditional on certain requirements being put in place before accreditation is granted, and it may also make recommendations for improvements to the training/examination processes over the next six years.
9. The report will be written in line with the six areas/units previously determined by EFFA for the European Farrier in the 21st Century, namely Equine Knowledge, Determine Care Requirements of the Equine Foot, Maintain Tools, Produce and Modify Shoes, Trim and Shoe Equine Feet as well as Health, Safety and Security.

Methodology

In preparing the report, the members of the Accreditation Board will wish to satisfy themselves in respect of the following:

- a) That any written and oral examinations adequately sample and cover the range of knowledge requirements as listed in the standards, and that the answers given are of a satisfactory standard.
- b) That any practical examinations clearly cover an adequate sample of activities, that they test candidates with regard to the standards, and that the assessments and marks awarded are commercially acceptable and result in high horse welfare standards.
- c) That the course of training leading to the examination fully covers all aspects of the EFFA standards.

Official Address:

The Forge

Avenue 'B', 10th Street
NAC, Stoneleigh Park
Warwickshire
England CV8 2LG

Contact Address:

EFFA

c/o Swiss Metal Union Phone +41 32 391 70 28
Chräjeninsel 2 Fax +41 32 391 70 29
CH-3270 Aarberg www.eurofarrier.org