



Level 1 Entry Requirements for 2022

The purpose of the qualifications scoring system is to provide a method of verifying an applicant's prior knowledge, experience, and suitability to the HSI Level 1 Coaching Pathway.

Applicants are asked to provide verifiable evidence as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) from the items listed in the table below. Each item is allocated a number of points. To qualify for course entry, applicants must provide enough evidence to achieve a full score of 100 points or more.

Qualification Scoring Requirements	
<i>Applicants must be 18 years or older from the course start date. Applicants must provide evidence of at least two of the RPL items listed below. Combined scores of each item must be equal to, or greater than 100 points.</i>	
i. BHSQ Stage 3 Complete Horsemanship / BHSAI	80
ii. BHSQ Stage 2 Complete Horsemanship / BHS PTT	70
iii. IPC Foundation Coach (formally B+)	70
iv. Minimum pass in level 8 degree in equestrian related subject	60
v. BHS Stage 2	60
vi. HSI Introduction to coaching	50
vii. Letter of recommendation from HSI Level 2 Coach (or above) or BHSQ Level 3 accredited Coach**	50
viii. Competition record of CCI3* or above, 1.20 SJI or above, DI medium or above	50
ix. Pass in QQI Level 5 / 3 rd level diploma in equestrian related subject	40
x. Minimum 3 years' experience in equestrian employment with accompanying reference (** <i>employment reference must be different from letter of recommendation as outlined in item vii</i>)	40
xi. Green Cert in Equine Studies	40
xii. IPC B Test	30
xiii. Competition record: AIRC Advanced Intermediate, IPC Open Eventing/Dressage, IPC Senior Show Jumping, SJI 1.10/Amateurs, DI Novice, EI90 / EI100	20

Scoring Explanation

BHSAI/BHSQ Level 3 BHSQ Level 2	80 60	Candidates holding the BHSQ level 2 and/or Level 3 Coach and Complete Horsemanship will have prior knowledge and experience of coaching principles, rider progression, problem solving and introducing new subjects up to Novice level. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended for BHSQ L2
IPC Foundation Coach (formally B+)	70	Candidates holding the IPC B+ test will have a Junior IPC Coaches qualification. This specifies that they can coach up to & including “C” test level riders in a safe, fun & educational manner within the IPC. As part of their assessment, they will have covered 4 hours of shadowing a senior coach and completed a logbook of 10 sessions. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended
Minimum Pass in Level 8 Equestrian Degree course	60	A Level 8 degree is also known as an honours degree and typically takes 4 years to complete. A candidate holding a minimum of a pass level degree will have demonstrated the knowledge and understanding required to attain a minimum of a pass grade in their relevant subject area. However, it is not guaranteed or expected that a candidate would have the practical experience required for the coaching programme and therefore must provide supporting evidence of same. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended
Letter of recommendation	50	Should a candidate have the relevant practical experience and knowledge but lack the supporting evidence of a BHS, IPC or NFQ certification, a letter of recommendation from an accredited HSI Level 2/3 Coach (or BHS equivalent) can be provided as proof of suitability for the course. This letter can be used to support other forms of RPL. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended
HSI Introduction to Coaching	50	It may occur that some applicants will have the practical knowledge and expertise to gain entry to the Level 1 NPC/ NDC Pathway without completing the Introduction to Coaching Course providing they produce the relevant supporting evidence of same. Where candidates cannot provide sufficient evidence of prior learning/experience the HSI Introduction to Coaching course will be recommended.
High Performing competition record	50	Candidates may submit evidence of a relevant competition record of CCI3* or above, 1.20 SJI or above, DI medium or above. Candidates competing at this level should demonstrate the technical knowledge and understanding of industry standards. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended

Employment reference	40	<p>Candidates can provide a letter of recommendation/reference from an employer providing they have a minimum of 3 years' experience in equestrian related employment. Candidate's will not be permitted to submit a letter of recommendation and employment reference from the same individual. This reference can be used to support other forms of RPL.</p> <p>HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended</p>
Green Cert in Equine Studies	40	<p>Candidates who hold a Green Cert in Equine studies should have completed both a Level 5 and Level 6 Teagasc programme in Equestrian related subjects, including Horsemanship and Stud Management. However, candidates may not have practical coaching experience and should provide supporting evidence of suitability for the course.</p> <p>HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended</p>
IPC B Test	30	<p>Candidates holding the IPC B test will be capable of demonstrating and understanding the correct way of going of the pony/horse and will have practical experience and knowledge of the care of the stabled pony/horse. Additionally, they will have demonstrated the ability to ride a pony/horse on the flat and make a realistic assessment of their way of going using the scale of training.</p> <p>HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended</p>
Competition record	20	<p>Candidates may submit evidence of a relevant competition record to the standard required for the Level 1 NDC/NPC Pathway. It is expected that candidates who have competed in minimum of AIRC Advanced Intermediate, IPC, SJI 1.10/Amateurs, Novice Dressage, or EI90 / EI100 will have some the basic technical knowledge and understanding of industry standards.</p> <p>HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended</p>

Please note, candidates who can provide any other relevant qualifications or evidence of relevant experience will be considered on a case-by-case basis.