

Level 1 Entry Requirements

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 tables 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.

Applicants must provide evidence of at least one item from Group 1 and one item from Group 2 of the RPL items listed below. Combined scores of each item(s) must be equal to, or greater than 100 points.

Qualification scoring requirements	
Group 1	
1. IPC Foundation Coach (formally B+)	70
2. BHS Coach; BHSQ Stage 3 Complete Horsemanship	60
3. BHS Coach; BHSQ Stage 2 Complete Horsemanship	50
4. Minimum pass in level 8 degree in equestrian related subject	50
5. QQI Level 5 and above / 3 rd level diploma in equestrian related subject	50
6. HSI Introduction to Coaching course	40
7. Green Cert in Equine Studies	40
8. BHS Level 2 / IPC B Test	40
Group 2	
1. Letter of recommendation from HSI Level 2 or 3 Coach or BHSI/BHSII Coach (please see notes below)	50
2. High Performing competition record of CCI3* or above, 1.20 SJJ or above, DI medium or above	50
3. Minimum 3 years' experience in equestrian employment with accompanying reference(s) (please see notes below).	40
4. Consistent competition record: AIRC Advanced Intermediate, IPC Open Eventing/Dressage, IPC Senior Show Jumping, SJJ 1.10/Amateurs, DI Novice, EI90/EI100	20

Notes

1. Applicants who can provide evidence of relevant qualifications or experience not listed may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
2. Employment references and letters of recommendations must be provided on the official reference forms available from the HSI Coaching Department.
3. For employment references, applicants must demonstrate consistent full-time employment over a 3-year period. Where an applicant has held one or more employment positions over the 3-year period, reference letters must be provided from each employer.

Scoring Explanation

Group 1		
Irish Pony Club 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
BHSAI/BHSQ Level 3 BHSQ Level 2	60 50	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 80cm jumping and Novice level dressage. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended for BHSQ L2
Minimum Pass in Level 8 Equestrian Degree course QQI Level 5 (or higher) /3rd Level Diploma in Equine related subject	50	A candidate holding a minimum of a pass level degree/diploma 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
HSI Introduction to Coaching course	40	It may occur that some applicants will have the practical knowledge and expertise to gain entry to the Level 1 Coach course 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.
Green Cert in Equine Studies	40	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. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended
BHS Level 2 IPC B Test	40	Candidates holding BHS Level 2 / 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. HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended

Group 2		
Letter of recommendation	50	<p>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.</p> <p>HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended</p>
High Performing competition record	50	<p>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.</p> <p>HSI Introduction to Coaching Recommended</p>
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 full-time 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>
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>

