



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FARRIERS

SYLLABUS FOR FELLOW OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FARRIERS (FWCF)

GENERAL

1. The award of the Fellowship recognises the highest level of technical competence that can be achieved by a farrier. Having proved by gaining the Associateship that they are master craftsmen, candidates must demonstrate the widest possible knowledge of farriery matters and the ability to lecture and instruct on that knowledge.
2. As in the Associateship examination, an aspiring Fellow is expected to demonstrate a very high level of forging ability, particularly in the area of corrective and remedial shoes. In addition the aspirant is expected to be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of anatomy, physiology, and conformation as they affect the horse's lower limbs.
3. The candidate is expected to have undertaken, as part of their professional development, some form of personal research or study on a farriery related subject. This study, based on the candidate's personal experience, would normally be the one used as the basis for the dissertation to be submitted as part of the examination. Copyright of dissertations submitted for FWCF Examinations belongs to the WCF.
4. Candidates will be required to be able to talk to a small audience with confidence on a wide range of farriery related subjects. The reason for this is that Fellows are expected to act as ambassadors for the Craft and help with the development and training of less experienced farriers. Being able to lecture or instruct on training courses and at seminars is an important part of the role of a Fellow within the Company.
5. The FWCF is an English language examination. All farriery and specialists terms are to be understood as in the current UK English usage.
6. The total time for the Practical Part is **2 hours (but see para 17)**, and the total time for the Communications Part is **2 hours and 30 minutes**, including the oral part of the examination. Candidates must achieve 50% in each section of both parts of the examination and 60% overall to pass the Examination.
7. The examinations are held twice yearly in April and October at a Forge in England. Occasionally examinations may be arranged overseas. Dates and details may be found at www.wcf.org.uk. The FWCF Examination may now be taken in either order. For those not taking the Practical part first the examination is conducted in stages as follows:
 - (a) Stage One is the Written Submission, which is undertaken in the candidate's own time.
 - (b) Stage Two is the Practical Shoeing Test, the lectures, and the oral part of the examination.
8. Only after successful completion of the complete examination will candidates be permitted to use the post nominal FWCF.

THE WRITTEN SUBMISSION (50 Marks)

9. The candidate will be required to submit a dissertation of between 3,000 and 5,000 words on a subject related to the principles and practice of farriery. The subject matter is to be of his/her own choice based on information or data gained by personal experience, and should include any relevant new methods or techniques which are likely to be of benefit to farriery. Specific guidance as to the style, format, and content of the dissertation is available on application from the Registrar. Experience has shown that this guidance should be studied carefully.
10. The dissertation, which can be illustrated with diagrams, graphs, photographs, radiographs etc. should be sent to the Registrar to the Company at least 3 months before the date of examination. Submission dates for the next two examinations are shown on www.wcf.org.uk. A minimum of five hard copies will be required, and an electronic (soft) copy is also to be submitted.

11. When the examining panel is satisfied that a dissertation has reached the standard expected by the WCF they will grant permission to proceed to Stage Two of the examination. This is an assessment that the dissertation is capable of defence at the examination, and not an assessment that it is a 'pass'. The examiners may request clarification, correction or further discussion in the dissertation in order to ensure that if the candidate achieves their FWCF the dissertation is in a publishable state following the examination.

12. This permission will be valid for three years from the date of the FWCF examinations immediately following it being given, ie six normal sessions of the Higher Examinations. A candidate is expected to make every reasonable effort to attain the Fellowship within that period, but only three attempts at the FWCF are allowed in that three year period. Candidates will be notified at least 8 weeks before the date of the examination whether they have been given permission to proceed to Stage Two. Candidates who do not reach the required standard in their Dissertation will be directed as to areas for future improvements. Candidates may submit their new or revised dissertation on one further occasion in either of the following two sessions (ie about one year) for the original examination fee. After this time a further application will require payment of the examination fee.

13. All candidates will be required to make a 20 minute presentation on their dissertation at the time of examination and should bring with them such specimens, diagrams, charts or other visual aids that will help to illustrate the subject matter. Power Point or similar may be used. No additional preparation time is allowed in the programme before this presentation.

14. **Myerscough BSc(Hons) students.** A 3,000-5,000 word summary of all dissertations, if they have been accepted by UCLAN, will be accepted for submission for Stage One of the FWCF examination.

15. **Candidates holding a Post Graduate Degree.** Candidates who hold a Post Graduate Degree relevant to farriery may submit a summary of their Dissertation, of between 3,000 and 5,000 words.

THE PRACTICAL MODULE (100 Marks)

16. The candidate will produce a representative selection of corrective/remedial shoes of their own making for inspection at the time of examination; the shoes to be either of their own design or a recognised design and made by them in their own time. A minimum of six and maximum of 12 shoes are required.

17. The candidate will be required to make a conformational and clinical assessment of the allocated horse. Where relevant a veterinary diagnosis will be provided. The candidate will then complete a live shoeing test making, fitting and nailing on a pair of shoes (front or hind) to accommodate the individual conformational and clinical requirements of the allocated horse, but both shoes must require fire welding. The time allowed will be 2 hours, although examiners will use discretion in assessing the time required to complete the task. The making of aluminium shoes may be requested.

18. Strikers will not be provided. Candidates may make their own arrangements for a striker if required, but a person who holds the Fellowship, or has passed the Practical part of the FWCF Examination, may not act as a striker. Candidates and strikers must wear eye protection at all times for Company examinations when working on or around the anvil and in the forge area.

THE LECTURES (100 Marks)

19. For the 20 minute formal presentation on the candidate's dissertation, the candidate may bring with him/her to the examination a portfolio of any material in the form of visual aids or PowerPoint style IT support of a general or specific nature which the candidate feels might be of use to illustrate points in the lecture. (25 Marks)

20. In addition to the 20 minute formal presentation on their dissertation, the candidate will be given a subject selected by the examiners on any area of farriery. The candidate will be allocated a separate room in which to prepare a 20 minute lecture on the given subject, using whatever delivery method they are comfortable with. PowerPoint, whiteboards, or other readily available visual aids may be used. The preparation time allowed will be one hour.

21. Once the preparation time has expired, the candidate will be invited to present the lecture to the Examiners, or a small audience. This presentation will be made in a different room to that used for preparation. (75 Marks)

THE ORAL (50 Marks)

22. Following the lectures, the candidate will be subjected to an oral part of the examination which may cover any aspects of farriery.