THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FARRIERS
SYLLABUS FOR ASSOCIATE OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FARRIERS (AWCF)

The AWCF Examination will be conducted in two modules, one Practical and the other Knowledge, as detailed in this Syllabus. Modules may be taken in either order. On passing the first module, candidates are encouraged to progress to the next module as soon as they are able. Once each module has been passed, that module is not required to be taken again.

The Practical module has three components, live shoeing, exhibition of shoes (shoe board) and synthetic materials. Candidates must score more than 60% in all three components to achieve an overall pass in the Practical module. If a candidate achieves 60% in any of the three components, this will be carried forward to any subsequent attempts and will not need to be re-taken.

Candidates who achieve 60% or above on their shoe board in the Practical, are exempt from the requirement to bring a shoe board to subsequent exams unless they are taking the Knowledge section where the shoe board will be required for the Oral part of the examination. The shoe board however will not be subject to re-marking.

There are no exemptions for the Knowledge Module; it must be achieved at one sitting.
The modules will NOT be individually certified by the WCF; however the Registrar will record the successful completion of each module and issue an AWCF certificate once both have been completed. Only after successful completion of both modules will candidates be permitted to use the post nominal AWCF.

The total time for the Practical Module is 3 hours, and the total time for the Knowledge Module is 4 hours, excluding in each case any extra time awarded by the examiners. In the Knowledge Module candidates must achieve 50% in each section and 60% overall to pass the module.

However, in the Practical Module, 60% must be achieved overall with 60% in the live shoeing test and 50% in the Synthetic Farriery part.

The AWCF is an English language examination. All farriery and specialists terms are to be understood as in the current UK English usage.

<u>Gateway Qualifications.</u>
Candidates must have held for at least one year prior to sitting any part of the examination one of the following qualifications:-

1 Any qualification recognised by the Farriers Registration Council for Registration as a farrier in the United Kingdom of Great Britain. This includes the USA Journeyman Farrier Certificate.
2 The Diploma of the WCF and currently the UK Farriers Apprenticeship End Point Assessment (STO172) whilst that qualification maintains the standard of the Diploma even if awarded by another examination body.
3 The Candidate must be in ‘good standing’ with any relevant farriery regulatory authority in jurisdiction in which they practice as a farrier.

The AWCF is an advanced qualification targeted at remedial farriery.
It should be noted that the AWCF is an Ofqual regulated level 5 qualification.
It is not intended as a basic qualification for registration as a farrier in any jurisdiction.

1. PRACTICAL MODULE

1.1 Candidates' Exhibition of Shoes. (50 marks/450 scaled down to 100 for 1.1. and 1.2)
Each candidate is required to bring 10 shoes made by him/herself prior to the examination. The detailed requirement can be found under the Knowledge Module at 2.3 Candidates' Exhibition of Shoes.

Candidates may be asked to repeat or make shoes additional to the 10 exhibition shoes produced for the examination. Additional time will be allowed at the examiners' discretion. Tooled and fullered shoes will not be requested, but non-ferrous metals are permissible, subject to the approval of the examiners.

All shoes must be made from original bar stock on the day.

1.2 Live Shoeing & Shoemaking. (400 marks/450 for scaled to 100 for 1.1. and 1.2) Time: 2 hours.

For this skills test, the candidate will make, fit, and nail on one front straight bar shoe and one hind straight bar shoe to one side of a horse, both from steel, with variations selected by the candidates and agreed by the examiners. (Variations can be found under "Practical Test"). All shoes must be made from one piece of straight bar steel, jump welding bars into open heeled shoes is not permitted. Synthetic materials are not permitted for use in this part of the examination. 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. All candidates must follow the WCF examination Health and Safety policy and will be required to certify that they have read and understood the policy and will comply with it prior to commencing the examination. The examiners may ask any candidate not following the health and safety policy to cease work and leave the examination. This will result in failure of the practical module of the examination. The WCF has performed risk assessments on the examination process and these will be made available to candidates upon request.

1.3 Synthetic Farriery (40 marks) Time allowed: 1 hour
The candidate is required have sufficient theoretical knowledge to support his/her practical work. He/she
must be able to discuss and may be requested to perform hoof-curettage, normally on a morbid specimen, or to demonstrate hoof repair, or any other practical farriery treatment, including glue-on shoes* and hoof casting.

Candidates will normally be expected to bring with them a selection of their preferred materials and size 5¼- 5½ inch shoes to deal with a range of problems. A sound knowledge of farriery and its relationship to young stock is essential.
* Lists of Procedures and Technical Processes which may be examined are attached on pages 5 & 6.

2. KNOWLEDGE MODULE
2.1 Written Paper (100 marks) Time allowed: 2.5 hours
The question paper will be divided into 3 sections and will comprise 6 questions. A total of 5 questions, each worth 20 marks, must be answered, thus Candidates must select one question which they do not answer. The sections contain the following subjects:
Anatomy. Outline drawings may be provided to the standard as exemplified by Goody. Candidates are expected to name the parts shown and identify the areas affected by nominated conditions. Candidates are required to be fully conversant with the complete skeletal structure of the equine.
Physiology and Function. Candidates are required to demonstrate a knowledge of the bio-mechanical relationship between the anatomical structures of the limb, and also the pathology of conditions affecting the foot and limb.
Farriery Knowledge. Candidates are required to demonstrate a knowledge of how farriery can affect gait and conditions of the foot and limb.

2.2 Live Horse and Diagnostic Imaging Assessment (60 marks) Time allowed: As required (12-15 minutes per section)
2.2.1 Candidates will have to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of static and dynamic conformation assessment of one or a number of horses. They will have to discuss a detailed shoeing plan for the given horse/horses taking into consideration the candidate's own observations during the assessment. A scenario may be provided by the examiner. This part of the examination will normally be conducted by the Senior Examiner. **(20 Marks)**

2.2.2 The candidates will be expected to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of surface anatomy on a live horse or anatomy using morbid specimens and discuss commonly encountered pathologies related to the practice of Corrective Farriery. Each candidate is expected to have a clear knowledge of, and be able to discuss, diagnostic images of the lower limb, below and including the knee and hock. This will be conducted in two parts separately by the Veterinary Examiner and normally the Farrier Examiner. Veterinary aspects including pathological conditions and diagnostic imaging. **(20 Marks)**; Anatomy and/or surface anatomy, and farriery aspects **(20 marks)**

2.3 Candidates' Exhibition of Shoes (marked as part of the Practical Module)
Each candidate is required to bring 10 shoes to both the oral and the live shoeing parts of the examination. The shoes must be made by the candidate prior to the examination. To achieve the pass mark, the display board must include an example of all six of the mandatory shoes marked with an asterisk (*) in the List of Horseshoes on pages 3 and 4. These shoes must be made from one piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated. At least one of the shoes must be forged from material other than steel, and at least one shoe must show an example of plain stamping. Other shoes may also demonstrate innovation and may be adapted and/or constructed from manufactured items as well as handmade shoes. Used shoes may be submitted if relevant to a candidate's own experience and representative of the candidate's own work. Tooled swaged shoes are not required but may be submitted. Shoes must be removed by candidates after the examination. Candidates should be equipped and prepared to repeat any of the 10 submitted shoes, if required to do so by the examiners. During the oral examination, the examiners may ask the candidate to explain the practical application of any shoe that is submitted. The exhibition of shoes is required for both modules and shall usually remain on display at the Examination Centre until each module for each candidate for that session has been completed.

2.4 Oral Examination (40 marks) Time allowed: As necessary (normally 15-20 minutes)
The oral examination takes place after the written paper and the live horse assessment test when each candidate meets all the examiners involved to discuss and answer questions on any points that the examiners wish to raise, including reference to the candidate's horseshoe exhibition, which must be brought to the oral as well as the live shoeing tests. The oral examination provides the examiners with the opportunity to confirm the marks awarded throughout the examination module.

LIST OF HORSESHOES

A candidate should be expected to be able to make and fit to the required standard any of the shoes specified below. Listed below are the types of shoe, their description, reasons for application, types of horse and material etc.
Shoes marked with an asterisk (*) are shoes which MUST be submitted on the shoe board. These shoes MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated. Failure to submit one of each of the 6 marked shoes (*) will result in a mark of less than 50% (Fail) in the Practical Module.

1. Bar Shoe (Straight Bar Shoe) and variations.
All types in steel or aluminium. Traditional shoe for corns, hoof wall lesions, and stabilising the hoof capsule.

Deep Seated - Flat or dropped sole.
Bar set away from frog
Bar set away from ground
Unilateral Raised Heel Barshoe - Mediolateral imbalance.

2. *Heart Bar Shoe.
A unilateral support shoe (Frog Support Shoe) (All types in steel or aluminium) for localising support to an individual area and used for laminitis in conjunction with dorsal wall resection, hoof wall lesions, lesions to laminal bond for heel damage and mediolateral imbalances.
MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated.

3. Half Heart Bar Shoe.
As above.

4. *Elevated Heel Shoe and variations.
For altering the hoof-pastern axis and foot-limb Anterior/Posterior relationship.
Graduated shoes (front or hind) graduated heels, rolled or set toe.
Graduated Barshoe - Anterior/Posterior imbalance.
Graduated Eggbar - Anterior/Posterior imbalance.
Uni/Bilateral Sidebone shoe - Front, graduated heels, rolled toe.
Wedged heel shoe – Traditional spavin shoe
Unilateral Raised Heel Shoe - Mediolateral imbalance.
MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated.

5. *Eggbar Shoe and variation.
All types in steel or aluminium. As for bar shoe, ovoid in shape (apex to rear) plus extra caudal support and Anterior/Posterior alteration for navicular syndrome/posterior third lameness.
MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated.

6. *Hospital Shoe (Treatment Plate Shoe) all types: steel or aluminium shoe, aluminium plate.
Straight or Egg Bar shoe with removable plate; puncture wounds, post-surgery.
Heart-bar shoe in cases of prolapsed sole or distal phalanx displacement.
MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated.

7. *Patten Shoe (Rest Shoe, Raised Bar Shoe) all types, steel.
Traditional shoe offering elevation and caudal support, deep digital flexor tendon lesion/post-surgery shoe.
Must be made from one single piece of steel.
MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated.

8. Mediolateral Extension Shoe (Medial or Lateral Extension Shoe) and variations.

All types: steel or aluminium for mature horses; aluminium for foals in treatment of Angular Limb Deformity. Shoe extends horizontally medially or laterally to give support and improve medio-lateral foot/limb alignment:
• Full - extension begins at toe and goes all the way round perimeter of foot on side affected to heel. Extension is same width all the way.
• Gradual - extension begins at toe and travels to heel but gradually gets wider on its way to the heel.
• Heel - extension begins at heel quarter on side required and continues to heel. Medial or lateral extension bar, to give full support to conformation abnormality. Medial or lateral extension, as above.

9. *Fishtail (Caudal Extension Shoe) all types, steel, aluminium.
Shoe with bar extending horizontally under fetlock; for flexor tendon lesion, post fracture cast causing toe elevation.
MUST be made from one single piece of steel/aluminium and not jump-welded or fabricated.

10. Unilateral Sidebone Shoe.
Traditional shoe design to follow wear pattern and allow expansion of the hoof capsule.

11. Interference Shoes – Variations.
Dub-toed shoes, hind shoe for forging. Toe preventers and brushing shoes for interference (speedy cutting, brushing and scalping).

12. Rocker Shoe and variation.
Shoe for ringbone, raised at quarters, thinned towards heels and toe, usually with rolled toe, AWCF Syllabus 2024 4 including a Rocker Barshoe.

13. Wide-webbed Shoe and Variations.
Shoe for Pedal osteitis, sole cover, bruised foot.
Wide-webbed Barshoe, to give additional support.
Wide-webbed Deep Seated, to give extra sole clearance.
Wide-webbed Deep Seated Barshoe, as above.
Wide-webbed ground safed Bar Shoe or early breakover shoe.

14. Fracture Shoe (Immobilising Shoe).
Bar shoe with large clips positioned according to fracture site; for distal phalanx fracture (usually wing).

LIST OF PROCEDURES

The following are the procedures which a candidate for the Associateship Examination is expected to perform competently at the examination:

The candidate is required have sufficient theoretical knowledge to support his/her practical work. He must be able to discuss and may be requested to perform hoof-curettage, normally on a morbid specimen, or to demonstrate hoof repair, or any other practical farriery treatment, including the procedures listed below. Candidates will be expected to bring with them a selection of their preferred materials (including size 5¼- 5½ inch shoes that they would use to glue on) to deal with a range of problems. A sound knowledge of farriery and its relationship to young stock is essential.

Listed below are the procedures together with descriptions, materials and equipment etc., which may be requested at the examination.

1. Abscess Search Locate, ventilate and treat; farrier's tools.
2. Hoof Wall Resection Removal of a section of the hoof wall; farrier's tools and/or dremel.
3. Hoof Wall
Repair/Extensions/ Seedy
Toe/White Line Disease
Debride loose and necrotic horn, rebuild with composite repair material; repair kit; Section or curettage of defective; farrier's tools and/or dremel
4. Cracks Repair using own choice of method and materials (screw & wire, screw & fibreglass, compound patch, lace patch), farrier's tools and/or dremel, drill, appropriate materials.
5. Glue on Shoe Steel/Aluminium/Composite (shoe size 5¼- 5½ inch)
6. Hoof-casting Apply a hoof-cast material to the hoof capsule according to the examiner's preferences.

Procedures carried out on sensitive tissue must be performed under appropriate anaesthesia induced and supervised by a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

LIST OF TECHNICAL PROCESSES

A candidate is expected to be knowledgeable about the following technical processes and the general use of acrylics, polymers and silicones. He must be able to discuss and may be requested to perform hoof-curettage, normally on a morbid specimen, or to demonstrate hoof repair, or any other practical farriery treatment from the list below.

1. Glue-on Shoes
2. Degreasing
3. Repair Materials and Adhesives
4. Hoof Treatments
5. Hoof Pads
6. Cushioning material
7. Hoof Casting

Candidates will normally be expected to bring with them to the examination their preferred materials. This includes shoes that they may glue on (Size 5¼ -5½ inches). Alternatively shoes to glue on may be forged, but no extra time is allowed for this in the examination. Candidates will be allowed to use the product with which they are familiar.

Note:
All acrylics, polymers, and silicones etc are to be used strictly in accordance with the requirements of Health & Safety at Work legislation and the manufactures' instructions. This includes the use of rubber gloves and face masks as required.

Knowledge syllabus for AWCF Candidates.

Objectives.
The AWCF examination should be viewed as a major stepping stone towards FWCF. The level of theoretical knowledge required at AWCF is not significantly less than for a FWCF, however teaching and presentation skills are not required at this level nor are candidates

asked to prepare an original thesis. This is the highest level at which a candidate's knowledge will be tested by written as well as oral examination.

The AWCF should have a thorough knowledge of the Anatomy and Physiology of the structures of the limbs. The limb up to and including the carpus / tarsus should be known in detail, and there should be a broad understanding of higher structures.

Candidates should have an understanding of the pathophysiology of the common causes of lameness and be thoroughly acquainted with all the more commonly used corrective shoes, both in traditional materials and in modern synthetic materials.

The examiners will expect candidates to have developed their own approach to common shoeing problems, and to be able to apply their own experience to the Knowledge part of the examination. Candidates will be expected to use theoretical knowledge to solve problems set in the examination. Candidates should also appreciate that Farriery is a constantly developing subject and should be able to demonstrate knowledge of current publications and theories.

The Syllabus includes all the Knowledge elements of the DWCF(Int) examination (and the Apprenticeship End Point Assessment). In addition: -

ANATOMY.
The Candidate must have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the anatomy of the limb from and including the carpus (tarsus) distally.
The topographical anatomy of the bones, blood vessels, ligaments, tendons joint capsules and nerves must be known in detail.

The structures of the foot and variations between the front and hind foot.
The development of the sensitive and insensitive structures of the foot.
The position of growth plates and the times of maximum growth and closure of the growth plates.
The structure, function, and composition of:
• Bone
• Muscle
• Joints
• Tendons
• Blood
• Nerves
• Lymphatics
• Cartilage
• Ligaments
• Bursae
• Skin
• Synovial membranes and Fluid
• The hoof and all its associated structures, particularly the hoof wall and laminae.

Candidates must be able to apply theoretical anatomy to the LIVE horse. They must also

be able to use anatomical knowledge to solve practical problems - e.g. puncture wounds to the sole.

Candidates should appreciate how veterinary surgeons use their anatomical knowledge of the position of the various nerves to perform nerve blocks, and the significance of these in the diagnosis of lameness. Candidates are NOT required to be able to describe the individual blocks - but should have a broad understanding of this subject.

Radiographic Anatomy and Knowledge. All references to diagnostic imaging include MRI scans, radiographs, and other imaging techniques.

Candidates should be able to prepare a foot for diagnostic imaging, including a laminitic foot. Candidates will be expected to be able to identify all the bones of the limb from the distal radius (tibia) downwards on diagnostic images. AWCF are NOT expected to diagnose complex conditions from diagnostic imaging but should be able to discuss knowledgeably commoner diagnostic imaging abnormalities and identify *gross* pathology.

- Laminitis
- Navicular syndrome
- Side bone
- Ring bone
- Arthritis or DJD
- Spavin
- Dorso palmar imbalance
- Latero medial imbalance
- Pedal bone fractures.
- Periostitis /new bone formation

Candidates should also be able to identify the commoner imaging faults

- Over / under exposure
- Exposed fingers
- Poor positioning
- Incorrect / inadequate labelling

Candidates should be fully conversant with the commoner diagnostic imaging terms used by veterinary radiographers

- Dorso palmar
- Latero medial
- Dorsopalmar lateromedial
- Dorsomedial palmar lateral
- Oblique
- Palmar proximal palmar distal

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).

The candidates should be aware that MRI has become a very widely used diagnostic modality in Equine Veterinary Practice particularly in seeking to find the precise diagnosis of distal limb conditions.
Candidates are not required to have an understanding of the physics of how an MRI image is obtained but should broadly recognise that unlike X ray both osseous and soft tissue injuries can be identified by MRI in the same image.
The candidate is NOT required to be able to interpret MRI but should have a basic knowledge of:-

How to prepare a foot for MRI – particularly the importance of ensuring that there is no ferrous metal in the hoof capsule.
The variety of sections that can be examined and understand MRI terminology such as frontal, sagittal and transverse scans.
The candidate should be aware in principle of the different types of scan such as T1, T2 and fat suppressed (STIR) images and why these are used – but is not required to be able to give precise definitions.
The candidate should be aware that the use of MRI has radically altered opinions on pathologies within the foot particularly with regards to formerly commonly diagnosed conditions such as 'navicular disease'.
The candidate should be able to discuss an MRI image with a veterinary surgeon in an interactive and professional manner.

PHYSIOLOGY.
Both normal and variations from normal.
• Blood supply
• Stay apparatus
• Muscles and tendons
• Response to infection and injury.
• Response to pain.
• Function of the nerves and their interaction with muscles
• The processes involved in degenerative joint disease (DJD).
Foot balance.
• Definition of 'correct' balance and at AWCF level be able to discuss the variety of opinions on this whilst applying the WCF standard.
• Common imbalances and their effects.
• Assessment of correct balance both in the moving and stationary horse.
• Appreciate why good foot balance is important.
• Be able to discuss the effects of certain shoeing practices on foot balance e.g. use of studs
• Possible deleterious effects of traditional practices such as 'couping'.

Recognition of lameness
• Signs
• Predisposing causes
Understand and explain a lameness grading system such as the AAEP 5 point scale
• Common types of injury according to use

Growth abnormalities.
Be able to recognise common growth abnormalities in foals and to give sound advice to other farriers and veterinary surgeons as to how these conditions can best be treated. It is important that farriers can also recognise when cases will self-correct and do not need treatment.
• Valgus and varus deformities of the distal radius.
• Other angular deformities (in less detail).
• Ballerina foal syndrome.
• Laxity of the flexor tendons.

• Epiphyseal plate abnormalities.

White Line Disease. (seedy toe)
• Current theories as to potential causes.
• Signs.
• Recognition.
• Treatments and prevention.

Laminitis
• Have a thorough knowledge of the potential causes of laminitis
• The current theories of the causes of laminitis
• The classification of different kinds of laminitis and their prognosis.
  - In particular have an understanding of Equine Metabolic Syndrome as far as it is involved in the aetiology of cases and also Equine Cushings Syndrome.
  - Understand a body condition scoring system and apply this to a live horse.

Navicular syndrome
• Current Knowledge as to the cause
• Signs and diagnosis (in conjunction with veterinary surgeon)
• Treatments available – including shoeing solutions.
  - Appreciate that MRI has radically altered and improved knowledge regarding causes of palmar heal pain and that older concepts of 'navicular disease' are now largely redundant.

Forms of Arthritis / DJD including A & B

(A) Spavin
• Definition
• Potential cause (conformation).
• Signs - how would an affected horse move.

(B) Ring bone (false ringbone and other degenerative joint conditions).
• Definitions.
• Potential causes, e.g. trauma, chronic foot imbalance, inappropriate work.
• Signs, i.e. joint effusion, positive flexion tests, lameness, heat, swelling.

An understanding of the following terms.
• Stringhalt
• Shivering.
• Upward fixation of the patella.
• Dishing.
• Plaiting.

Tendon breakdown.
• Definition.
• Commonly affected tendon overwhelmingly the Superficial Digital Flexor Tendon.
• Breed and type predisposition - i.e. the thoroughbred in training.
• Signs, palmar bowing, heat, pain, dropped fetlock, lameness.

• Why and how tendon breakdown occurs.
• The role of foot balance in tendon disease.

Proximal Suspensory Desmitis.

- Definition
- Signs
- Diagnosis
- Farriery solutions as applied to both fore limb and hind limb cases.

Farriery Knowledge

Foot balance

Shoeing for different functions - an AWCF should have an extensive repertoire.
• The Racehorse
• Hunters
• Show Jumpers
• Leisure horses & ponies
• Driving horses and ponies
• Draught horses
• Eventers
• Hackneys
• Polo ponies
• Dressage horses
• Harness racing
• Donkeys
• Mules
• Mares at stud
Use of pads and wedges.
Use of protective gear – overreach boots; brushing boots; Yorkshire boots; bandages; knee boots; tendon boots.
Use of synthetic materials

Sound knowledge of corrective shoeing especially for the following conditions:
• Laminitis in all its forms.
• Hoof cracks
• Arthritic conditions.
• Seedy toe / white line disease
• Spavin.
• Damaged / broken down tendons.
• White Line disease.
• Keratoma.
• Developmental disorders
• Any other abnormality of gait.
• Fractures of the pedal bone.
• Post operative hospital plate shoes e.g. street nail procedure
• Brushing, speedy cutting, over reaching, and forging.

• Sheared heels and all foot imbalances
• Stumbling – including consideration of medical problems and veterinary involvement.
• Caudal heel pain / navicular syndrome

AWCF candidates should be able to discuss alternate methods of shoeing in particular :-
• Natural balance shoes and foot preparation.
• The pros and cons of natural balance shoeing
• The theoretical basis of natural balance shoeing
• Barefoot management.
• Should be able to discuss the 'Strasser method' of foot care and explain why the WCF and FRC have both expressed concern about this practice.

Horse Management
• Recognition of the common breeds and types of horse.
• Evaluation of the age of a horse by dentition (broad knowledge only).
• Common feeding practices.
• Routine immunisations – particularly tetanus.
• Nutritional additives that may be beneficial for example farrier's formula, glucosamine and chondroitin sulphate. Calcium : phosphate balance.
• Rules of racing as they affect shoeing.
• Preparation of a foot for JMB measurement.
• Restraint - Correct use of twitch, hood, chiffney: when to use sedatives.

THE LAW, HEALTH AND SAFETY, PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS AND TRADITIONS AS THEY AFFECT FARRIERY.

Professional Standards

The AWCF should maintain the highest possible professional standards applicable in the Jurisdiction they practice. Even where there is no national regulatory body the AWCF should model themselves on the behaviours outlined in this syllabus as applied to local circumstances.

• In the United Kingdom of Great Britain - The Farriers Registration Act as amended. The responsibilities that the Act lays upon the Farriers Registration Council and individual Farriers.
• Limitations of corrective farriery - differential between insensitive and sensitive tissues.
• Relationships with other Farriers and veterinary surgeons – for example British Equine Veterinary Association / RCVS Guidance.
• The role of the WCF.
• Role of FRC in the United Kingdom of Great Britain.
• A broad knowledge of the history, traditions and current structure of the WCF.
• An appreciation of the role of the AWCF as an ambassador for the trade, and an example of the highest level of craftsmanship.
• The role and responsibilities of an Approved Training Farrier (United Kingdom of Great Britain) or as a training / master farrier in other jurisdictions.

Communication Skills

The AWCF must have good communications skills both with clients and other professionals. The AWCF must be able to communicate verbally, in writing or via electronic media. Please note reasonable adjustments will be made for candidates with disabilities.
The candidate must be able to demonstrate an ability to communicate complex concepts in understandable lay terminology potentially to clients with limited knowledge.
The AWCF candidate must be able to elicit an accurate and relevant history from a horse owner to enable a shoeing plan to be created.

Behaviours

Health and Safety
• Safe working practices, forge management, vehicle maintenance, and protective clothing.
- Maintenance of tools.
- In particular use of eye protection, safety shoes to BS EN ISO 20345, safety clothing and ear protection.

• Knowledge of the COSSH regulations as they apply to farriery.
• An appreciation of risk assessment. Candidates may be asked in parts of the examination to perform a risk assessment.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity
- An understanding of the Equalities Act as it applies to running a business (United Kingdom), protected characteristics, and unconscious bias.
- An understanding of the concepts of equality, diversity and inclusivity.

Business skills
- The AWCF examination does not directly assess business skills beyond those specifically identified in the syllabus.
- However the importance of good record keeping in the clinical management of cases will be assessed.

Insurance
• Employers liability insurance.
• Professional indemnity insurance.
• Knowledge of the common insurance policies held by horse owners and their limitations. Including full insurance, loss of use insurance and mortality only insurance.
• *Preparing a report for an insurance company on a horse requiring corrective farriery, in conjunction with the attending veterinary surgeon*.

Expert Witness
AWCFs may on occasion be asked to act as an expert in civil litigation or even criminal cases. Alternatively they may be instructed by the Farriers Registration Council (or similar regulator) to prepare an expert statement in a professional conduct case.

- Be aware of the need to only act as an expert within the field of competence of an AWCF.
- Be aware that when acting as an expert an AWCF must maintain strict independence and present an unbiased opinion regardless of the interests of the instructing party.
- Be aware of an experts ‘duty to the court’.

- Appreciate that expert opinions must as far as is possible be based on scientific knowledge and fact and that where opinions are offered the difference between ‘opinion’ and fact must be made clear in the written report.