



**Shire Horse Society**  
ESTABLISHED 1871

# **Merit Awards**

## **Shire Horse Grooming and Safe Handling**

*The Applicant to produce a short video (maximum 2 minutes per segment) demonstrating adequate skills in Shire Horse Grooming and General Safety to show Awareness, Knowledge and Understanding of the following when Working from the Ground with Shire Horses*

### **- Approaching a Shire Horse Correctly and Safely from the Ground and Showing Awareness of its Blind Spots**

Demonstrate approaching a Shire Horse correctly and safely and being aware of its Blind Spots and Flight zone.

Show an understanding of the Shire Horse's body language and/or expression, recognising head neck and ear position when establishing the horses mood/temperment to avoid startling or irritating the horse.

### **- Safely Tying up a Shire Horse**

Demonstrate how to tie up a Shire Horse using a quick release knot.

### **- Picking up a Foot**

Show how to approach the Shire Horse safely and how to get the Shire Horse to lift its foot and hold to the correct height for examination/cleaning.

### **- Halters and Leading a Shire Horse**

Show knowledge of how to put on and fit a halter safely and correctly, how to hold a lead rope and how to lead a Shire Horse walking beside him.

Demonstrate how to turn a Shire Horse away from you.

Demonstrate how to safely lead a Shire Horse through narrow openings such as a stable doorway.

Show how to turn a Shire Horse out correctly into a field turning back to the gate before release to prevent any accidents or being kicked or the horse bolting and pulling you over.

### **- Grooming**

Demonstrate safe practice when grooming Shire Horse using a variety of brushes and explain their various uses.

**Safety Note: Please wear suitable PPE where appropriate, including but not limited to, current British Standard Safety Hat, Gloves and Safety Footwear**

