

## Groundsperson

### Job Description

#### REPORTS TO

Clerk of the Course

#### MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

To be an integral part of the Groundstaff Team that whose main purpose is to perform the key duties of racetrack preparation, maintenance, and improvement of the racing surface and all the associated tasks this role requires. There is also further estate management required, and buildings maintenance. As a small team there will be extra associated tasks as required by the Clerk of the Course or Chief Executive.

#### Key Requirements of the role:

- Assisting the Clerk of the Course in ensuring the track, stables, racecourse grounds and external spaces are in pristine condition day to day and particularly for racedays.
- Possess IOG or NVQ Qualifications in Turf Management and/or Pitchcare (desirable).
- Have familiarity, experience or qualifications in the use of grounds machinery.
- Turf Management including but not limited to: through grass cutting, slitting, scarifying, spraying, rolling, fertilizing, filling, vert-draining, tractor driving , hurdle and fence maintenance.
- Stables maintenance, cleaning and care ready for raceday use and compliance with the rules of racing. Have familiarity, experience or qualifications in the use of irrigation systems.
- Building maintenance, grounds upkeep, room set-up, weighing room set-up on raceday.
- Health & Safety responsibilities including but not limited to water flushing, fire alarm testing, record keeping.
- To provide solutions to problems encountered on the track and found with the racing surface.
- To report all maintenance defects and ensure remedial works are completed promptly, whether performed by the racecourse team themselves or a third party.
- To ensure all machinery used at the Racecourse is cleaned and maintained in accordance with the established routine, or as required. And to ensure the responsible, safe, and competent use of machinery & equipment
- To maintain the racecourse to a high standard of presentation, and so assisting with all grass mowing, flowerbed preservation and presentation, painting and so forth.



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RACECOURSE

- To be prepared to go over and above and take pride in ensuring that racecourse fixtures can proceed as necessary, that they take place on the best possible surface and are presented in as safe but as aesthetically pleasing format as possible.
- To assist with non-raceday activities as required, including but not limited to: Cleaning, painting, salt spreading and weeding.
- To undertake any other duties as may reasonably be determined by the Head Groundsman/Clerk of Course, or from time to time from the Chief Executive.

### Personal Characteristics

- Hard working and able to turn their hands to a variety of tasks.
- Personable and friendly – the position requires interaction with clients and third parties on a regular basis.
- Accepts that around racedays the time demands are considerable and early mornings are inevitable.
- Ability to lead a team as well be part of a team and to keep staff motivated.
- Show initiative and communication skills – searching for solutions and not just problems.
- Health & Safety qualifications, NVQ's, CRB checks are all desirable but not essential.
- Able to multi-task, use initiative and work with minimal supervision.
- Excellent time keeping and prioritisation. There will be times where more than one job is requested of you and so these are key skills.
- Be willing to work under pressure and on occasions in trying circumstances.

### About Plumpton Racecourse

Plumpton Racecourse is a National Hunt Racecourse that races from September to May each season, hosting a minimum of 16 racedays. Set at the foot of the South Downs and with a circuit of only 9 furlongs, it is a fantastic viewing track with a beautiful setting. Feature racedays include the Sussex National Raceday in January and our Easter Festival, playing host to the Sussex Champion Hurdle and Sussex Champion Chase.

Racing originated at Plumpton in 1884 and so there is a rich history associated with the racecourse. We value our history but also try and move with the times and so Plumpton Racecourse is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to high standards all round our site, from customer service to recycling.