

Challenge Award: Breeding and Foaling (Breeding Part Two)		
Learning Outcomes. Participants will:	Activities	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know what should be considered when choosing a stallion I know the attributes required for a mare to be suitable to breed from I can briefly outline the process followed to try to get a mare in foal I can outline the care required for the mare in foal I know the signs a 	<p>Possible starter or wrap-up activities (approx. 10 mins)</p> <p>If you were to breed, describe the ideal horse you would like to breed. This should include; job in life, size, type, bone and so on.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Images of conformation faults – there are a number of images in the BHS Complete Horsemanship Volume 3. Alternative images should be accessible online. British breeding webinars for showcasing stallions https://british-breeding.com/webinars/webinars-watch-again Stallion directory stallionai.co.uk/the-directory/ Feed companies https://www.dodsonandhorell.com/ https://www.baileymshorsefeed.co.uk/ https://www.spillers-
	<p>Share some experiences. Has anyone had any experience of breeding or known anyone who has bred from their horse. Talk about situations where people may buy a horse and not realise the horse is in foal (this is more common than you might think).</p>	
	<p>Do the participants know any horses that are related? Are there any attributes they share? Discuss horses on the yard that are related and how they are similar.</p>	
	<p>Possible main activities</p>	
	<p>Optional practical session:</p> <p>Deliver a practical session looking at the conformation of horses available on the yard. If you deliver theory only sessions, you could take pictures or videos to look at (have permission from horse owners) and discuss.</p> <p>This may be a recap session if they have previously completed the first breeding challenge Award (To Breed or Not to Breed).</p> <p>Provide images of conformation faults, particularly those where you would avoid breeding from that horse, for example; parrot mouth, deviations in limbs.</p>	

<p>mare is about to foal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can outline the foaling process • I know the timelines to be aware of during and after foaling • I am aware of some potential problems that can occur during foaling 	<p>Ask participants to bring a picture of their favourite mare to the session or provide some images of mares that participants can use.</p> <p>From the picture analyse the mare's strengths and areas for improvement. Make a list of features and then when choosing a stallion, you can consider the stallion's features, so they complement the mare. For example; if a mare has a long back – look for a stallion with a short back. However, beware of going for extreme opposites, as the foal could inherit one or other extreme.</p> <p>Now look through stud books, websites, and videos of stallion profiles with participants. Each participant can then choose a suitable stallion for their mare. They should take into consideration; temperament, conformation, movement, and performance, all of which should complement the mare for the job intended of the foal.</p> <p>British Breeding have several online showcases of stallions (link on the right).</p> <hr/> <p>Go through the process required to put a mare in foal, including pre breeding tests, and a time plan of what time of year to start and why.</p> <p>Describe the different methods of covering including pros and cons for each method. For example, AI with frozen semen - available for use anytime once stored correctly, some stallion's semen does not freeze well, and some mares do not readily take with frozen semen.</p> <p>Discuss the methods they may choose with the mare they discussed in the previous session.</p>	<p>feeds.com/ https://saracenhorsefeeds.com/ https://www.dengie.com/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed bags with ingredient list • Images of signs the mare is going to foal (for example, waxing up), refer to images in the Challenge booklet – there are a number of images in the BHS Complete Horsemanship Volume 4. Alternative images should be accessible online. • Foaling kit • Video clips of each foaling stage – refer to part two foaling the mare (can be found within webinar) - Twemlows 2020 https://british-breeding.com/webinars/web
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	<p>Go through management of the in-foal mare.</p> <p>Go through the nutritional requirements of a horse (in general); 2% of bodyweight, types of food, how this adjusted in line with workload. Look at feeds in the feed room – if bags are available look at contents. Then talk about the requirements of feeding the in-foal mare. Look at the contents of a stud mix and compare.</p> <p>From the mare chosen in the previous scenario, work out a diet for her from conception to the last trimester.</p> <p>In a real situation we would always advise you seek advice from a professionally qualified equine nutritionist, who advises the manufacturer of the food brand you use. Refer to links for feed companies on the right. There are also independent equine nutritionists who can be contacted.</p> <p>Discuss all other care requirements, such as vaccinations and worming, and timings.</p> <hr/> <p>Discuss the signs a mare is about to foal. Use images to show; filled udder, waxing up and relaxation of vulva/ligaments around the top of the tail if possible. Discuss different types of foaling alarms and their pros and cons – images may also be useful here.</p> <p>Put a foaling kit together and let the group look through it, ask the group to choose one or two items each and ask what they think they are for. Then go through each item and its purpose.</p>	<p>inars-watch-again</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Images to show scenarios where intervention is required (e.g., red bag delivery) - refer to images in the Challenge booklet – Alternative images should be accessible online.
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	<p>Talk through the foaling process. It may be useful to use some short video clips here that illustrate each stage (links provided in resources column).</p> <p>Go through the timeline for each stage of labour.</p> <p>Go through the timelines for the foal.</p> <p>Events from each timeline can be written on separate cue cards, participants can work together to put these in order on a table.</p> <p>Describe scenarios when immediate veterinary attention/ intervention is required (mis presentation, red bag delivery). Images may be useful here.</p> <p>Highlight the situations that require action. It is vitally important the owner/carer knows when to call the vet. Highlight the importance of being on hand to break the membrane if needed. Highlight the importance of calling the vet if the afterbirth is not expelled within 3hrs, in this situation the mare is very prone to infection and can die.</p> <p>Discuss what needs to be done if the mare dies as a result of labour, how to care for the foal and the different options available. Could use examples here of adds on social media seeking foster mares – discuss the pitfalls of this.</p> <p>Discuss hand rearing – ask if any of the participants have ever come across a horse that had been hand reared. What might be some of the issues, how can this be overcome?</p>	
	<p>It may be possible to visit a local stud, many will hold open days, look into what is available in your area.</p>	
	<p>Possible wrap up activities (approx. 10 mins)</p>	
	<p>Discuss with the participants their views on foaling at home versus sending the mare to stud.</p>	

	Recap on what has been covered in the session, ask for views and comments from participants and any questions.	
	Participants could come up with local contact details for professionals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BEVA website to locate equine vets• Local feed companies• Nutritionists• Farriers• Studs	
Things to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If anyone in the group has lost a mare as a result of foaling it would be useful to have this knowledge before the session and approach the subject sensitively as required.• Watch any video clips to be used during sessions in full before use to ensure they are suitable		