National Hedge Laying Society

Assessor Marking Sheet Midland Style

NHLS Accreditation Scheme Documentation

Document AS3.1

Document Information

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ASSESSMENT MARKING SHEET

Assessment Details

Date: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Location: _

Specific Location: _ *What3Words or Map Grid Ref.*

Assessment Level: Bronze / Silver / Gold *Circle one*

Assessor(s)

Name: _ Name: _

Signed: _ Signed: _

Candidate

Name: _

Date of Birth: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Chainsaw Certificate No: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ *Required if using a chainsaw*

Issuing Authority: Lantra / NPTC / Other Other: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Declaration: I have read and understood the risk assessment relating to the training and assessment days. I declare that I am physically fit enough to take part and that I will inform the assessor of any medical condition that may effect my ability to complete the assessment. I have also been made aware of the assessment appeals procedure.

Signed: _

By signing this form you are confirming that the details provided are correct and you confirm the conditions laid out in the declaration above.

Assessment Marking Sheet

Section	Max.	MARKS	Pass Mark			Notes
			Bronze	Silver	Gold	
1 Pleaching • Starting the cut at the correct height for the size of the stem, thinning the stem down in an even manner with no splitting back. • Cuts to run down as low as possible. • Smooth finish to the cut with no “hacking”. • Pleachers laid at a 30° to 45°. • Hedge “laid off” between 20–25cm (8”–10”) from front stems to stake line.	20		10	12	15	
2 Stool & Heel • All heels taken off low to the ground (30mm/1.5” high at most). • The cut sloping away from the stem finished with a clean upward cut. • Smoothness of cut with no damage to the bark below.	20		10	12	15	
3 Stakes & Binders • Good stake line, evenly placed at 40cm to 50cm (15” to 20”) intervals and straight. • Stakes cut off facing slightly outwards, matching the cuts. • Binders correct for style, level and rolling correctly between stakes.	20		10	12	15	

Section	Max.	MARKS	Pass Mark Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
4 Appearance • If available, good “flying brush” running evenly above the back of the hedge. • No stems used from too far out of the line. • Finished hedge should be 1 metre (39”) wide. • Bushy and stockproof on the rear.	30		15	18	23	
5 Tools • Billhooks and axes must have a sharp edge with no cracks or chips. • Billhook cutting edge to have a narrow shoulder. • Use the tool appropriate for the job in hand. • If a chainsaw or other power tools are used, they must be in good working condition.	10		5	6	7	
6 Gateway Start & Finish (Gold only) • Satisfactory interface of the laid hedge to a gateway or other gap at start and finish of length.	20				15	

Section	Max.	MARKS	Pass Mark Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
7 Questions and Answers (Bronze only) (See Q&A form on page 5)	10		5			
8 Health and Safety • Correct PPE for tools being used. • Safe use of tools and placement while working. • Work area safe and clear of brash. • Good awareness of possible risks.	Pass/ Fail		–	–	–	
9 Root lay, Back lay & Side Lay (Silver and Gold only) • Gold and Silver candidates will be expected to be able to demonstrate all three techniques	20			12	15	

Assessment Q&A (Bronze only)

10 Questions should be picked from the AS4 document for this section.

	AS4 Question No.	Pass/Fail	Notes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			