

Deer Management Qualifications

Deer Stalking Certificate Level 2 (DSC 2)

THE ROLE OF LEVEL 2 APPROVED WITNESSES

DSC 2 Approved Witnesses are the key element in the level 2 qualification. The role of the Approved Witness (*formally known as an accredited witness*) is to give candidates opportunities to demonstrate their competence and to confirm their knowledge, and record that they have done so according to set standards.

Requirements - To be considered as an Approved Witness you must:

- apply to a DMQ Approved Assessment Centre
- hold DSC Level 2
- hold the Large Wild Game Meat Hygiene certificate or a “blue” DSC 1 certificate
- be technically competent. Your knowledge and skill may only relate to certain Performance Criteria (PC) within an Individual Cull record (ICR) and if so you should only undertake to observe and witness such PC's. For example a Meat Hygiene Service Inspector may undertake the witnessing of PC's 3.1 to 3.8 and 4.1 to 4.6
- have relevant experience
- attend an introductory briefing
- accept the conditions of witnessing
- have an e-mail address
- provide 2 references

Registration with only one assessment centre is allowed. To prevent multiple registration the fact and result of your application will be shared with other assessment centres.

Assessment Centres will reserve the right to seek further information about an applicant or to reject any application without explanation.

For witnesses to remain on the list they must attend re-briefing sessions which may be as frequently as every 2 years.

Witness name and contact details (telephone and e-mail) will be published on a list provided to registered DSC 2 candidates

Conditions - Approved Witnesses must:

- be prepared to respond to requests for advice from candidates prior to witnessing
- be prepared to witness candidates while stalking:
 - observe candidate performance against portfolio criteria and accurately record the matching of relevant activities against portfolio PC's

- where the PC requires, ask questions of the candidate and record answers, as appropriate
- be prepared to record the questions asked, write a short narrative for each stalk and sign off candidate portfolios as appropriate when the required level has been met by the candidate
- expect to be contacted by Assessors who might wish to confirm items of evidence
- be prepared to have their name and contact details will be published on a list made available to DSC 2 candidates

Further guidance and assistance can be downloaded from www.dmq.org.uk or obtained from any of the Accredited Assessment Centres listed there.

Accredited Assessment Centres

British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) www.basc.org.uk

British Deer Society (BDS) www.bds.org.uk

Borders College www.borderscollege.ac.uk

Barony College www.barony.ac.uk

Forestry Commission www.forestry.gov.uk

Sparsholt College www.sparsholt.ac.uk

Elmwood College www.elmwood.ac.uk

North Highland College www.nhcscotland.com