

National Qualifications 2006

Senior Moderator Report

Subject: Physical Education

Assessment Panel: Physical Education

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation which has taken place within National Qualifications in this subject.

NATIONAL UNITS

TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS MODERATED

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Many of the centres selected had a spread of presentations allowing moderators to see a sample of evidence from Access 3 to Advanced Higher.

Centres mostly complete the assignment working in skills and techniques or preparation of the body. Many candidates complete their assignment on the same or similar topics rather than adopt a broader approach on their personal development. The overall ability of the candidates' work was of a modest level. The majority was at or around minimum competency. As in previous years the candidates' work was generally strong or satisfactory when answering the parts of the questions which drew on their knowledge of the analysis processes taught.

There were many more centres this year that were completing assignments using a centre devised NAB which had been prior moderated by the SQA. On the whole with one exception they were reasonably completed.

With regard to particular Outcomes candidates continue to answer better in Outcomes 1 + 3 with regards to descriptions of methods used for collecting information and descriptions and monitoring of training and performance development. Outcome 4 was answered satisfactorily. The main area of concern continues to be Outcome 2 which candidates continue to show lack of depth and detail in their knowledge of key concepts selected and how this knowledge could be used in the planning of performance. The majority of evidence submitted in this area only just achieved minimum competence.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Much of the NAB evidence submitted had no or very brief comments from staff to indicate the value of their work or to provide feedback for candidates. This often made the moderation process more difficult leaving moderators to basically access the material from scratch. Centres should be encouraged to comment on candidates' work. This information is important to moderators and will influence their decision about a centre's ability to judge candidates' evidence.

There was still a large number of centres whose work was correctly recorded as having failed the Unit at the level of entry. However, there was no evidence to suggest that these candidates were offered a re-sit opportunity or that their work was considered at the level below.

Centres continue to have problems with Outcome 2. The first part of the question requires candidates to show what knowledge they have acquired from the study of the key concepts chosen and the second part requires candidates to show how this knowledge has been applied to the development of performance.

Centres might like to note that we are currently producing a new NAB at Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2 and Higher levels. This alternative NAB should be available in early Autumn.

The timing of the Unit moderation still is a concern for centres. Centres that are not accepted after moderation also question the practicality of asking candidates to address problems at this late stage as most are already on study leave.

Centres should also note that in the NAB assessment structure not every box requires to be fully filled in. What is essential is that all PC's and Outcomes are achieved successfully.