

THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, Inc.



A National Organization to Teach Riding, Mounted Sports, and Care of Horses and Ponies to Those Under Twenty-One

“A HAPPY CHILD ON A HAPPY HORSE” • “HORSEMANSHIP FOR YOUTH”

The Kentucky Horse Park • 4041 Iron Works Pike • Lexington, KY 40511 • (859) 254-PONY (7669)

“D-3” TEST SHEET

Candidate's name _____

Address _____

Name of Pony Club _____

District Commissioner _____ Region _____

NOTE: Before beginning test, Examiners must read “Guidelines for Club Rating Tests – D-1 through C-2” and the D-3 Standard, including “Information for Candidates,” “Testing Information,” and “Examiners.” Comments must give specific reasons if a candidate does not pass any phase. Examiner may ask questions from previous Standard tests. *The test will follow, as far as possible, the order given below.*

RIDING TEST EXPECTATIONS

Candidate should ride in a basic balanced position with control at the walk, trot, and canter. Candidate should maintain a secure base of support while developing balance and a steady position over fences.

RIDING ON THE FLAT

COMMENTS

Demonstrate emergency dismount
at the halt and walk.

ES _____

MS _____

Adjust stirrups and girth (keeping feet in the stirrups)
while mounted at the halt.

DNMS _____

WARM UP

Perform balancing and suppling
exercises for rider at walk and trot.

ES _____

MS _____

Ride without stirrups at the sitting trot.

DNMS _____

Demonstrate a simple step back.

Discuss at least three reasons for doing balancing/suppling
exercises.

MOVEMENTS

Perform round 20-meter circles, in both directions, at walk,
at sitting trot, at rising trot with correct diagonals, and
at canter with correct leads.

ES _____

MS _____

DNMS _____

Demonstrate increase and decrease of speed at the trot
by passing riders on rail and taking the lead.

Discuss performance with Examiner and whether or not
circles were round and natural aids were used correctly.

Rider should show a basic balanced position
through the flat work.

ES _____

MS _____

DNMS _____

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard

M = Meets Standard

DNMS = Does Not Meet Standard

Revised January 1, 2002

D-3 TEST SHEET (Continued)**RIDING OVER FENCES****COMMENTS**

Trot over ground poles,
followed by crossrail.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

Jump a simple stadium course of five to
seven obstacles, height not to exceed 2'6"

ES _____
MS _____

Discuss performance, reasons
for any disobedience.

DNMS _____

RIDING IN THE OPEN

Ride safely with a group, at the walk and trot,
over varied terrain, through shallow water
and small ditches as occur in natural terrain
(ditches to be unrevetted).

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

Jump simple cross-country obstacles,
not to exceed 2'6".

ES _____
MS _____

Discuss ways to control a pony in the open.

DNMS _____

Discuss performance with Examiner.

Speed should not exceed 240 meters per minute or
300 meters per minute, appropriate for the size of horse.

Rider should show a secure base of support while
developing balance and a steady position over fences.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

HORSE MANAGEMENT EXPECTATIONS

The candidate should be able to demonstrate simple skills without assistance, and to discuss pony care, using common horse terms.

TURN OUT**COMMENTS**

Rider in safe and neat attire
Pony to be clean and neatly groomed,
with feet picked out, showing farrier care.
Tack to be properly adjusted, safe and clean.
Describe formal attire, informal attire.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

CONDITIONING & NUTRITION

Know five to seven basic rules for feeding
and explain feeding schedule to include
amount of roughage and amounts of
concentrates per ration for own pony.
Describe care of pony after strenuous
work, to include cooling out, inspection
of legs, watering and feeding.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

PARTS OF PONY / CONFORMATION & LAMENESS

Identify at least 20 parts of the pony, to include withers,
hock, fetlock, pastern, gaskin, croup, loins, etc.
Know common conformation faults
of neck, back, shoulder, head and pasterns.
Describe the characteristics of a strange pony
clearly enough for another person to recognize it
within a group. Include: color, breed, markings, size,
sex, and obvious conformation characteristics.
Describe how to measure height of pony.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

D-3 TEST SHEET (Continued)

STABLE MANAGEMENT

Demonstrate how to clean and bed a stall,
giving reasons for each step.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

Know use of haynet and the dangers of improper use.

LEADING & LONGEING

Lead correctly, moving pony forward
with whip or assistance (if necessary).

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

Do walk-trot-walk-halt transitions in hand.

Lead safely from both sides.

HEALTH CARE / VETERINARY KNOWLEDGE / BANDAGING

Name some symptoms of a sick or injured pony
that would cause you to seek help.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

Describe what critical areas are protected by shipping
bandages or boots, and give reasons for their use.

Apply protective boots and bell boots on own pony (with supervision)

Apply stable wrap, with assistance.

Describe obvious signs of a foot needing shoeing or trimming.

TRAVEL SAFETY

Know the basic rules for riding on public roads in your state.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

Know procedure for mounted group crossing a public roadway.

Discuss the proper procedure for loading and unloading a pony.

INTRODUCTION TO HORSE SPORTS

Name five horse sports
offered in USPC.

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

RECORD BOOK

The D-3 candidate is expected to keep careful records of
veterinary visits, and general health of pony. Record Book
must be brought to test. (A minimum of 3 months is required).

ES _____
MS _____
DNMS _____

COMMENTS (General impressions, suggestions for improvement):

ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____ SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Sections requiring retesting:
(up to total of six; not more than three riding)

A candidate may be re tested as follows:

- This test has a total of 18 sections.
- Retest to cover *not more than* six sections of the test (not more than three riding sections).
- Retest must take place within one month and must be completed in one day.
- Failure of any section on that day will require retaking entire test.
- Retest must be recommended by original Examiner.

ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

(Examiner for portions retested)