

Pony Club

Where it all begins



USPC D-Level Traditional (Eventing) COMPARISON Flow Chart (for D Standard Revised January 2016)

Thank you to Susan Amendola for compiling this information

	D-1	D-2	D-3
Riding Expectations	Candidate should ride in an enclosed area without lead line, demonstrating basic balanced position at the halt and walk, and control at the walk and trot.	Candidate should ride in an enclosed area, demonstrating control while maintaining a safe basic balanced position at the walk and trot, and should begin to develop the canter and jumping position. No need to canter over fences.	Candidate should be able to ride in a basic balanced position with control at the walk, trot, and canter. Candidate should be developing a secure base of support, balance and a steady position over fences.
Riding on the Flat	<p>Ride on flat using Riding Expectations. Mount and dismount, with assistance if necessary.</p> <p>Pick up and hold reins correctly at halt. Pick up stirrups at halt.</p> <p>Shorten and lengthen reins correctly at the halt.</p> <p>Demonstrate basic correct position at the halt and walk.</p> <p>Ride at the walk and trot, with control, keeping mount on rail.</p> <p>Demonstrate simple change of direction at the walk and trot.</p> <p>Perform gradual transitions from walk to trot and walk to halt.</p>	<p>Ride on flat using Riding Expectations. Mount and dismount independently (using mounting block if necessary).</p> <p>Shorten and lengthen reins at halt and walk. Perform balancing and suppling exercises for rider at walk and halt and discuss 1 or 2 reasons for doing this.</p> <p>Ride at the walk, performing simple turns and large circles.</p> <p>Ride without stirrups at the walk.</p> <p>Demonstrate emergency dismount at the walk. (Horsemasters may instead discuss conditions in which an emergency dismount is to be performed).</p> <p>Ride at the trot on correct diagonal, performing simple turns and large circles with proper bend.</p> <p>Ride at the canter in both directions in an enclosed area and be aware of leads.</p> <p>Discuss how to pass others safely while riding in an enclosed area.</p> <p>Discuss performance with Examiner. Candidate should be aware of diagonals & mount's leads.</p>	<p>Ride on flat using Riding Expectations. Adjust stirrups and girth with feet in stirrups while mounted at the halt.</p> <p>Demonstrate mount's warm-up routine for everyday work under examiner supervision.</p> <p>Perform balancing and suppling exercises for rider at walk and trot.</p> <p>Ride mount on flat at walk, rising trot with correct diagonals, sitting trot & canter with correct leads.</p> <p>Demonstrate 20-meter circles showing correct bend in both directions at all gaits.</p> <p>Ride without stirrups at the sitting trot.</p> <p>Discuss arena etiquette for riders at different gaits and traveling different directions.</p> <p>Demonstrate passing others safely while riding in an arena or ring at the walk & trot.</p> <p>Demonstrate a halt.</p> <p>Discuss aids for and demonstrate a simple rein back of 1-2 steps.</p> <p>Demonstrate emergency dismount at the trot. (Horsemasters may instead discuss conditions in which an emergency dismount is to be performed).</p> <p>Discuss performance with Examiner including rider's basic balanced position, & whether or not circles were round & natural aids correctly influenced the mount.</p>
Riding over Fences	<p>Ride over fences using Riding Expectations. Walk over poles on the ground in jumping position.</p> <p>Discuss with Examiner the reason for different positions when riding on the flat and over fences.</p>	<p>Ride over fences using Riding Expectations. Maintain jumping position at the trot on the flat and over ground poles.</p> <p>In an enclosed area, ride a simple stadium course of four to five obstacles of crossbars and verticals (no spreads). The majority of fences should be set at, but not to exceed, 18".</p> <p>Discuss with Examiner ways to improve ride.</p>	<p>Ride over fences using Riding Expectations. Discuss reasons for adjusting stirrups for different types of work.</p> <p>Ride over small gymnastic grid of trot poles followed by a cross rail, then a vertical set at, but not exceeding, 2'3" and set at appropriate distances for mount's stride.</p> <p>In an enclosed area, jump a simple stadium course at the canter consisting of five to seven obstacles, including a simple oxer. The majority should be set at, but not exceed, 2'3".</p>

			Discuss performance, reasons for any disobediences.
Riding in the Open	Not applicable.	Ride safely and considerately, on a suitable mount, on public or private property, in a group, at the walk and trot. Ride with control, up and down hills, if available, at the walk and trot. Jump a minimum of 3 simple & natural obstacles. The majority of fences should be set at, but not exceed, 18" in height or 18" in width. No ditches, banks, or water. All fences may be jumped at the trot. Speed should not exceed 240mpm appropriate for size of mount.	Discuss ways to control a mount 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, if available. Jump 4-5 simple cross-country obstacles ranging from 2'-2'3". The majority of fences should be set at, but not exceed, 2'3". D-3 speed should not exceed 300 mpm, appropriate for the size of mount. Discuss performance with Examiner.
Horse Management Expectations	The candidate is a beginning-level horse manager, willing to learn the simple routines necessary for safe handling of quiet, well-trained horses. His or her knowledge will vary widely depending on age, educational level, and experience.	The candidate should be able to demonstrate simple skills, with assistance if necessary, and should understand the basic reasons for the everyday routines of caring for his or her own mount.	The candidate should be able to demonstrate simple skills without assistance, and to discuss care of the mount, beginning to using common horse terms.
Turn-out /Tack	Rider in safe and neat attire: collared shirt with long or short sleeves, long pants with shirt tucked in, short or tall riding boots or shoes that cover the ankle & have a boot heel, Pony Club pin, USPC or USEA medical armband or bracelet, and a properly fitted equestrian helmet, securely fastened (see USPC Policy 0125A). Long hair neatly up or back. Half-chaps, gloves, show coat & belt optional. No inappropriate jewelry. Mount neatly brushed; hooves picked out (with assistance if necessary), showing farrier care. Tack safe and neat (properly adjusted with assistance, if necessary).	Rider in safe and neat attire: collared shirt with long or short sleeves, breeches, jodhpurs or riding tights with shirt tucked in, short or tall riding boots or shoes that cover the ankle & have a boot heel, Pony Club pin, USPC or USEA medical armband or bracelet, and a properly fitted equestrian helmet (see USPC Policy 0125A). Long hair neatly up or back. Half-chaps, gloves, show coat & belt optional. No inappropriate jewelry. Mount clean and well brushed, with hooves picked out and showing farrier care. Eyes, nose, lips, & dock wiped off. Tack to be safe and clean (properly adjusted with assistance if necessary), with attention to stitching, girth, and stirrups. No obvious jockeys or heavy dust. Name & locate 15 parts of saddle & bridle. Name 3 different bits.	Rider in safe, neat, & clean attire: collared shirt (polo, turtleneck, dress shirt or ratcatcher) with long or short sleeves, breeches, jodhpurs (with garters) or riding tights with shirt tucked in, belt (if belt loops), tall boots or paddock boots with or without half chaps, Pony Club pin, USPC or USEA medical armband or bracelet, and a properly fitted equestrian helmet (see USPC Policy 0125A). Long hair neatly up or back. Gloves, neckwear & show coat optional. No inappropriate jewelry. Mount to be well brushed (no sweat), clean (no dirt), with feet picked out, showing farrier care. Mane & tail brushed & eyes, nose, lips, & dock wiped off. Tack to be safe -- especially stitching on stirrups/girth -- and clean -- no jockeys or dust, stress points clean, stirrup pads (if used) clean, & bit clean. All tack must be properly adjusted Describe formal attire, informal attire. Describe proper adjustments of the snaffle bridle with cavesson noseband. Describe proper adjustment of curb chain if appropriate.
Conditioning	Know one reason for cooling out mount after exercise.	Describe ways to know if mount is properly cooled out. Describe condition of own mount (e.g. thin, fit, or over weight).	Describe care of mount after strenuous work, to include cooling out, inspection of legs, watering and feeding Know vital signs of mount at rest & what TPR stands for. Describe two indications a mount may not be fit enough for the work asked of him/her.
Nutrition	Know how to give water, grain, hay, and tidbit to a mount safely.	Know 3 basic rules for feeding and explain feeding schedule for own mount.	Know 5-7 basic rules of feeding. Discuss the amount of roughage and the amount of concentrates per ration for own mount.
	Groom mount with brush and curry comb, pick out feet, with assistance.	Groom mount; pick out hooves with assistance if needed.	Demonstrate & discuss how to clean a dirty/soiled stall. Demonstrate the proper

Stable Management	Tack up and untack mount, with assistance. Name 10 parts of saddle and bridle Know two reasons for cleaning tack	Name five grooming tools and demonstrate how to use them. Tack up and untack with assistance if necessary. List three examples of unsafe equipment. Name three common stable vices.	steps & methods for removing manure & wet areas, how to bank a stall, & discuss the reasons for & benefits of regular stall cleaning for the health & safety of your mount. For testing purposes, a soiled horse trailer may be used. Demonstrate & discuss the proper methods of hanging a water bucket & hay net/hay bag, hanging both at a proper height for your mount, at either a trailer or stall. Discuss the different needs of your horse during a day rally or clinic, or overnight stay.
	CONTINUED ON REVERSE	CONTINUED ON REVERSE	CONTINUED ON REVERSE
	D-1	D-2	D-3
Mount Parts, Conformation, Lameness	Name any 10 parts of the mount (such as mane, tail, legs, eye, etc.) Know color and breed of own mount.	Name and locate any 15 parts of the mount. Name and describe six colors of mounts. Name and describe five markings of mounts. Name four horse or pony breeds.	Name six horse breeds, four pony breeds, & five draft horse breeds. Describe how to measure height of mount. Identify at least 20 parts of the mount, to include hock, gaskin, withers, croup, fetlock, & pastern. Know common conformation faults of neck, back, shoulder, head and pasterns. Describe the characteristics of a strange mount clearly enough for another person to recognize it within a group. Include: color, breed, markings, size, sex, and obvious conformation characteristics. Describe location of eyes & how this affects the mount's vision.
Travel Safety	Know basic rules of safe riding in a group, in an enclosed area.	Know the basic rules for riding on public roads in your state. Name two ways you can help your mount be safe in a trailer.	Know rules for riding safely on public roads in your state. Know procedure for mounted group crossing a public roadway. Discuss the proper procedure for loading and unloading a horse.
Record Book	Bring a stall card for own mount to show examiner.	Bring a complete stall card for own mount to show examiner. Discuss what is included on a stall card.	The D-3 is expected to keep careful records of veterinary visits, and general health of mount. Record Book must be brought to the test. A minimum of three months of records is required.
Intro to Sports	Not applicable.	Name two horse sports	Name five horse sports that are offered in USPC.
Health Care & Veterinary Knowledge	Discuss what a veterinarian is. Give one reason the vet might treat your mount.	Give two reasons to have your mount routinely checked by a veterinarian.	Name some symptoms of a sick or injured mount that would cause you to seek help
Teaching	Not applicable. (See D-3 Teaching.)	Not applicable. (See D-3 Teaching.)	D-3s are encouraged to assist D-1s and D-2s during unmounted Pony Club activities, not mounted activities.
Land Conservation	Verbally list three different places in your area where you see horse activities taking place. Include where you have your Pony Club mounted meetings.	Talk with grandparents, parents, instructors and/or older friends/neighbors about where they rode when they were young and what is not available today.	Name three important rules when riding across privately-owned land. Write thank-you notes to two landowners who support your club and tell them why you appreciate being able to use their land. If you ride on public land, write a thank-you note to the manager or contact person.
Leading & Longeing	Approach mount safely, put on halter, lead and turn correctly & safely.	Lead mount correctly in hand & while tacked up. Do walk-half-walk transitions in hand.	Demonstrate correctly jogging mount, moving mount forward with whip (if necessary). Lead safely from both sides.

		Lead mount in and out of stall safely, tie up in appropriate place with quick release knot.	
Foot & Shoeing	Give one reason to pick out feet. Tell whether your mount wears shoes or not.	Know reasons for daily foot care. Give two reasons why the farrier regularly checks your mount.	Name three parts of the hoof. Describe obvious signs of a foot needing shoeing or trimming. Discuss signs of thrush.
Bandaging	Not applicable.	Give two reasons why you would bandage a mount's leg(s). Demonstrate (with assistance of examiner) how to apply protective boots & bell boots to mount's legs if regularly used.	Describe critical areas are protected by shipping bandages or boots, and give reasons for their use. Describe a stable bandage & give two reasons they can be used. Apply polo wraps with assistance.
Volunteerism (Horsemasters Only)	Discuss what being part of a volunteer organization means to you. Explain two ways you might be able to volunteer for the club/center you belong to.	Describe how you have volunteered for your pony club or center. Explain two leadership opportunities for adult volunteers at local & regional levels.	
Safety	Name two pieces of clothing or equipment that you should wear for your safety when you ride.	Describe what you should do for yourself when you fall off a horse. Name at least three items that should be included in a human first aid kit.	Explain 2 ways to cool off a rider during a hot day. Give at least 2 examples of when riding helmet needs replacing. List some common injuries that may happen when a rider falls off a horse.
RETEST INFO	Retest must be recommended by original examiner. Those testing during the current year have until Dec. 1st of the following year to retest. HM: Retest to cover not more than five sections of the test. Riding: Retest to cover not more than two sections of the test. Failure of any section on that day will require retaking the entire test. Retests must be arranged through DC/CA.	Retest must be recommended by original examiner. Those testing during the current year have until Dec. 1st of the following year to retest. HM: Retest to cover not more than four sections of the test. Riding: Retest to cover not more than two sections of the test. Failure of any section on that day will require retaking the entire test. Retests must be arranged through DC/CA.	Retest must be recommended by original examiner. Those testing during the current year have until Dec. 1st of the following year to retest. HM: Retest to cover not more than four sections of the test. Riding: Retest to cover not more than two sections of the test. Failure of any section on that day will require retaking the entire test. Retests must be arranged through DC/CA.

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