

Horses:

Minimum of three horses = 1 rotation for each group of three candidates. As many as 12 horses, but all must be equally quiet to handle.

Example: 6 candidates: three horses each used twice, or six horses.

8 candidates: four horses used twice, or eight horses.

12 candidates: four horses used three times, six used twice, or twelve horses.

Tack Room

A normal assortment of commonly used tack to include bridles, nosebands, saddles (dressage, jumping and all purpose), pads, girths, martingales, breastplates, crupper (if available) and boots (no more than three different types of each piece).

Snaffle, Pelham and curb bits. Bits must include 3 to 6 common snaffle varieties, 2 to 4 common pelhams (kimberwicke included), and one curb (shown in a double bridle is acceptable but not necessary).

Bridles for Horses:

Each horse used for the test must come with a reasonably clean snaffle bridle with a commonly used noseband. It may be slightly mal-adjusted (one to three items) in order for the candidate to demonstrate their understanding of correct fit.

Nutrition

An assortment of normally found feeds (grains, pellets and mixes), hay samples (in good condition - if a bad sample is shown a good one must also be present) and bedding will be provided for the test. Ten to 15 samples total is sufficient. The samples should reflect what is commonly available in the area.

Stable Management/Travel Safety

Five examples of toxic plants will be provided for the test by the organizer. If they are not available, the organizer may utilize a photo catalog of toxic plants provided by the test committee which is available on the USPC website. All examples must be commonly found in the region of the test.

Conditioning

Organizer must provide a thermometer (digital is acceptable) and a stethoscope for the use of the candidates. If it is a large test, several sets would be needed. Candidates may bring and use their own if desired.

Candidates will have prepared an eight week conditioning schedule and present it in their record books. The test committee will provide the directions and the model for the conditioning schedule.

Veterinary Knowledge and Record Book

Candidates will provide all necessary information about their horse in their record book, to include health care, feed schedule, hoof care, conditioning schedule, and parasite control.

NOTE: Candidates will refer to several sections of their Record Books in order to answer questions.

Foot and Shoeing

Organizer will provide 5 to 8 commonly used farrier's tools (pullers/pincers, trimmers/nippers, clinchers, hoof knife, rasp, hammer, clinch cutter/buffer, pritchel) and 5 to 10 commonly used shoes. The shoes must show the features listed if possible- fullered grooves, heel features, clips, concave surface, bar features, studs. An example of shoes made of at least two different materials should be provided (i.e. steel, aluminum, plastic).

Organizer will provide a horse suitable for candidates to imitate the removal of a shoe using tools provided.

Teaching

Organizer will provide a minimum of three D-1 to D-3 students for the teaching phase.

Example: 4 candidates = 3 students

8 candidates = 6 students

12 candidates = 9 students

More students may always be utilized. A reasonably comfortable space or spaces will need to be provided so that candidates may give their best lesson. Candidates must make prior arrangements if they have any unusual requests, otherwise they are responsible for bringing all materials used in the lesson.

On application, the DC will attest that the candidate has taught at least 6 hours in club or other lessons. This teaching is assisting in a mounted instruction program for the D level or equivalent with supervision.

Candidates will also present in their record books two 20 minute written lesson plans (one flat and one jumping) up to C-1 level, which should be prepared prior to the test.

Dress

Candidates may participate in this entire test in working attire. Proper barn footwear is required at all times. Long khaki pants and a sleeved shirt will be worn for the Station sections. Helmets are optional. In the non-horse portions candidates may wear shorts of conservative nature if weather dictates (temps over 90). Appearance should always reflect a professional and success oriented attitude.

Candidates should wear a watch suitable to use while taking TPRs.

Other Information

The test will be run in one day (7:45 – 5:30).

Three examiners will be used for 9 – 12 candidates and two examiners will be used for 8 candidates or less; 1 examiner will be used for 4 candidates or less.

HB testing fee is \$150. Application deadline will be April 15th, or 8 weeks prior to test date for earlier testings.

Retests

If a candidate DNMS on up to 4 sections, the candidate may retest just those sections not passed. It will be the candidate's choice whether to retest at another scheduled H-B testing or arrange for a retest outside of a testing. If they choose that option, it is the candidate's responsibility to check the National Office List on the website to find an examiner who can retest them on the necessary section(s). If they wish to retest at another scheduled testing, they must contact the National Office within 4 weeks of their testing to make arrangements. Retests must take place within the calendar year. Any exceptions to that deadline must be approved by the National Office and the National Testing Committee. There is no charge for retesting.