

UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS FOXHUNTING CERTIFICATION AWARD



(Examiner is to be a member of the participating Hunt Club)

The passing of the Hunting Test should confirm that the Pony Club Member has the knowledge of safely hunting; this should be present in the Examiner's mind throughout the testing process. The Pony Club Member either passes or fails the test at the discretion of the Examiner; there are no partial passes, although Section One of the Award may be a standalone program. Section One must be completed prior to attempting Section Two (can be completed on the same day).

Examiners are encouraged to explain to the Pony Club Member what takes place during a hunt, and informally ask the Pony Club Member questions. Examiners may then ask the Pony Club Member as many of the following questions as are appropriate for his/her hunting experience.

It will be the responsibility of the Pony Club member to submit all information to the Pony Club National Office, 4041 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511. Questions should be directed to the USPC Activities & Events Director, activities@ponyclub.org.

Candidate Name (*please print*) _____ Phone _____

Candidate Club/Center _____ Region _____

Candidate Address _____

SECTION ONE (Unmounted Portion): **Upon successful completion of this Section, the candidate will earn a Fox Pin to be worn on the lapel.

1. Attend one session to learn about a Hunt Kennel of your choice; this must include a talk from a Huntsman, Field Master, Whippers-In, or MFH, *and* a tour of the kennels & stables.
Date: _____ Location: _____
2. Attend one foxhunting clinic to learn about foxhunting conduct while hunting at either the kennels or another suitable site. Date: _____ Clinician: _____
3. Attend one morning hunt accompanied by a suitable adult member of the Hunt.
Date: _____ MFH Signature: _____

DEFINITIONS:

Dog Hound	Young Entry	Line	Hold Hard
Bitch	Drag Hunt	Fixture Card	Brood Bitch
Entered Hounds	Hound Opening	Covert	Fixture
Babbler	Lay a Trail	A Couple	Mute Hound
Red Ribbon	Green Ribbon	Draw a Covert	Check
Cast	The Field	"Ware" (hole/hare/noise)	MFH
Puppy Walking	Heel Line	Meet	Lark
Scent (good/poor/catchy)	Tongue	Brush	Away

ORAL QUESTIONS:

A. History:

1. What year was the _____ Hunt Club formed?
2. Where are the Hunt Kennels situated?
3. Who are the Masters of the _____ Hunt?
4. What is the Field Master's role while foxhunting?
5. When is the Hunting Season for the _____ Hunt?

B. The Hunt Staff (Note: The following is relevant to only *your* Hunt)

1. Who is the Huntsman?
2. Who are the Whippers-in?
3. Who is the Kennel Man?
4. Who is the Secretary?

C. Hunting Logistics/Etiquette

1. When and where is the Opening Meet for this year's season?
2. What time does the Hunt meet?
3. What does a visiting member wear?
4. What are colors?
5. What do members with colors wear within their own hunt (male/female/junior)?
6. What do you do when you first arrive at a Meet?
7. What should you do before you go home?
8. What might be carried in a sandwich case or pocket?

ESSENTIAL READING: Riding to Hounds in America - An Introduction for Foxhunters by William P. Wadsworth, M.F.H. (Published by The Chronicle of the Horse, Inc., 1962)

MFH Signature _____ Hunt Club _____

DC/CA Signature _____ DC/CA Name (Printed) _____

SECTION TWO (Mounted Portion): **Upon successful completion of both sections of the USPC Award, the candidate will earn a USPC Mounted Foxhunting Certificate and USPC Foxhunting Pin to be worn on the lapel.

The passing of the Hunting Test should confirm that the Pony Club Member is capable of safely hunting; this should be present in the Examiner's mind throughout the testing process. The Pony Club Member either passes the whole test or fails the whole test at the discretion of the Examiner.

If the Pony Club Member fails the test, it is recommended that he/she accompanies the Hunt for another day of foxhunting. Examiners are encouraged to explain to the Pony Club Member what is taking place throughout the day and informally ask the Pony Club Member questions.

1. Hunting day to include:

- *Saying good-morning to the Master(s), Secretary, and Hunt Staff
- *Demonstrating appropriate conduct while riding in the field
- *Shutting a gate using a hunting whip (if available)
- *Saying good-night to the appropriate Staff/members

MFH Signature _____ Hunt Club _____

DC/CA Signature _____ DC/CA Name (Printed) _____