
Reading Guide

Reading Guide

Purpose: To help navigate the text and organize large amounts of information so comprehension and retention is increased.

Timeline: The goal is to complete the reading of the D Level Manual and corresponding reading guide in a calendar year. This equates to about one chapter a month or 5-6 pages a week.

Credits: Marissa Criswell, District Commissioner, Silver Stirrups Pony Club, Red River Region

DIRECTONS:

Complete the definition or phrases below as best as you can from the D Level Manual. The italicized words emphasizing an important concept or skill you should understand are listed in the order in which they appear in each chapter. Bolded “CAUTION” and “NOTE” information from the reading is also included.

Make sure to read the chapter as you are defining the words. For this list, do not look the words up on-line or in a dictionary. You must read the word(s) in their context. For example, “rating” in chapter 1 is different than “rating” in chapter 2, but both meanings are important in Pony Club. The term Certification is what Pony Club now uses instead of the term ‘rating’

HAPPY HORSEMANSHIP LEARNING!!
A Note from the United States Pony Clubs, Inc.

The USPC’s Mission:

What do the letters stand for in the core values of the USPC?
H -
O -
R -
S -
E -

__________________, ________________, ________________ through Horsemanship.

Chapter 1: About Pony Club, Learning to Ride and Selecting the Right Pony

Pony:

Rating:

Over-mounted:

Must be worn with the chin-strap fastened and properly fitted whenever you are on a horse or pony:

All the time, you should follow:

Every day, you must have the time and interest to:
Chapter 2: Basic Riding on the Flat

Important safety rules are for all riders, not just _______________________.

Always do this type of check before mounting:

Starting on the right side, check:

As you go to the left side, check:

Bight:

You should sink gently _______________________. Never come down _______________________.

Basic Balanced Seat is when good riders ______________________ not by _______________________.

Sit on your seat bones:

To drop your stirrups:

To pick up your stirrups:

Aids:

Aids are ______________________, ______________________, ______________________ and sometimes ______________________.

Riding a track:

When you ride in a ring you should usually stay on the rail or:
On the left hand:

On the right hand:

Inside:

Outside:

To keep your pony on the rail (__________________) look ahead ____________________.

Change of direction:

Trot:

Half-seat:

It is also called 2-point position because:

Half-seat is also called jumping position and it is used for _____________________,
________________________ and for ________________________________

Posting (also called rising) is an ________________________________

Transition:

Up transition:

Down transition:

Rating:
Stop, dismount, and take the time to calm down if you are:

Don’t try to ride a pony when you are upset or angry, and never lose your:

In lessons only, a pony who is very stubborn about eating grass may have to wear ______________________ (called grass reins).

**CAUTION:** Never use grass reins on a pony when __________________ or going over __________________. Grass reins are not allowed to be used in ____________________________.

**Seat:**

*Independent seat:*

This often gets looser as your pony warms up and *always* recheck this before you jump:

**CAUTION:** Just because you have learned __________________________, Do NOT try to __________________________.

Use your *eyes* to:

Use your *inside leg* to:

Use your *inside rein* to:

Use your *outside rein* to:

Keep your *outside leg*:

*A half-circle is:*
Circles are good practice for you and your pony. They help you learn ________________,
and they help your pony with ________________________ and make him
____________________ and easier ________________________.

To ride a good circle, you need to look ahead ________________________ and use your
inside leg ________________________.

Bending cones:

Diagonal:

Left diagonal:

Right diagonal:

You should post on the outside diagonal:

When riding to the right, you rise when the left front and right hind legs go ________ and
you sit when ________________________.

Check the outside shoulder (______________________________).

Canter depart:

To give the signal for a canter depart, put your outside leg (____________________) back a couple of inches and ________________________.

Left lead:

Right lead:
When a pony canters around a ring or on a turn, he should be on the correct lead; his *inside* leg must _______________ so he can __________________________.

To tell which lead your pony is cantering on, take a quick peak at your pony’s *inside* shoulder (______________________________).

Take a quick peek at *both* shoulders. When a pony is on the inside lead, the ______________

**CAUTION:** Just take a quick peek. Don’t ride along with –

Remember, that this (stirrup standing) is an *exercise*, not:

Your *center* is:

It is to learn to ride ring figures of you practice in a *Dressage arena* or:

*A small dressage arena* is:

*A large dressage arena* is:

The aids you use to ride a circle are your legs, seat and hands. Your *inside leg* stays:

Your *outside leg* should:

Swiveling your *seat* tells your pony:

Your *hands* help to:

The *inside rein* asks your pony:
The outside rein tells your pony:

Your eyes are also important. They should:

A 10-meter circle is:

To ride a half-circle, start by riding:

Changing the rein means:

When you are riding with ________________________________, you are riding on the right rein so when you ____________________________, you change the rein.

Changing the rein on the diagonal is a way of:

Center line:

Quarter line:

Rating:

In the walk, use alternating leg aids (______________________________) in rhythm with _______________________________.

Aids:

Natural aids:

Artificial aids:

Any ______________________ (hands, leg or seat) can be active, passive or preventing aid.
An *active aid* is an aid that is:

A *passive aid* is ready, but is not:

A *preventing aid* is one that tells your pony *not*:

One hand moves slightly out to the side – asking the pony to turn in a _______________ without _______________. This is called a *leading rein* because it *leads* the pony _______________.

One hand squeezes and relaxes; straight back – asking the pony to turn in _______________, in a _______________. This is called a *direct rein*.

One hand presses inward against the pony’s neck – a _______________ that asks the pony to _______________. It is called a *neck rein* because _______________.

*Clashing your aids* means:

Having *good hands* means that you can:

You need to ride with _______________ and a secure *independent seat* so that you never need to:

Learning to ride *on contact* will come _______________.

Each of your pony’s _______________ has its own *rhythm* or _______________.

*A beat* is the:

On *good way* to teach your pony _______________ is to use *breathing halts*. 
Repeat the exercise: *breathe, whoa, stop and reward* and your pony will soon learn that when you ___________________ and _____________________, he should and ___________________.

This can become a *calm-down signal* for him and it’s a good thing to do any time ________________________________.
Chapter 3: Learning to Jump

Jumping position is the same as ________________ or ________________ position.

You will need to learn to aim your pony with your head and eyes. Pick out a target that is ________________ (something like a ________________ or a ________________).

You should be in the jumping position every time ________________.

Describe a mane release:

Cavaletti:

Blocks:

Poles:

A ground line:

False ground line:

Cross-rails:

Straight rails / Simple verticals:

Approach:

Undershoot:

Run out:
Overshoot:

Course:

Release:

*Mane release* is also called the ___________ release and is for riders ________________.

*Following through the air / Jumping on contact* is also called the ________________ release. For this release, _____________________________________________________________________________.

**CAUTION:** This is an ________________ release, to be used -

Dropping:

*Trotting grid* is ________________ ground poles or low caveletti with a at the end. This helps your ________________, ________________, and ________________.

**Gymnastic jumping / Gridwork** means:

*Gymnastic jumping line / Grid* trains a pony to ________________, pick up ________________, ________________, ________________, and use his __________ and __________ well when he jumps.

Straight rail:

Cross-rail oxer:

**CAUTION:** If your pony is afraid of a jump -
Getting a lead over a jump:

When you follow another rider over a jump, you must:

This is at least:
Chapter 4: Out and About with Your Pony

Grass reins:

Barn sour:

Herd instinct:

When the whole group starts racing, passing each other or going too fast, causing some ponies to get excited and becoming ____________________________
This is dangerous!

Ware:

Revetted:

CAUTION: It is not safe for –

REMEMBER: Before you ride on a public road, you must know the traffic laws for your area
And ____________________________!

Be safe, not sorry – beware of cars and trucks all the time; even if you have the _____________________________. A driver may not _________ or _________.

Always ask before –
Chapter 5: Handling, Leading and Tying Your Pony

CAUTION: Do NOT take __________ or ___________________ into –

When you lead or hold a pony, always:

Stand square:

Jogging out:

A pony must always be tied up with __________________ and _________________,
never:

A pony must never be tied with:

Safety string:

Panic snap or breakaway snap:

Quick-release Knot:

Cross-tie:

A pony must never be tied up by:

Off-side:

Near side:

Blow up:
Never leave a saddle on a pony with:

For safety’s sake, these *must always be run up whenever the rider is out of the saddle:*

**NOTE:** You should be able to __________________ under all parts of the _________ and a _____________ should fit between ________________________________.

*Head shy:*

Please see the *USPC Horse Management Handbook* for:
Chapter 6: Taking Care of Your Pony

Stable vices:

Soft:

The United States Pony Club Manual of Horsemanship: Intermediate Horsemanship (C Level) covers:

This must be done by an experienced horse person:

When a pony works hard he gets hot and sweaty, just as you do when you run and play hard; he must be:

Cooler:

Anti-sweat sheet:

Mud cracks:

Scurf:

Cactus cloth:

Frog:

Clinches:

Sand colic:

Stall picker:
Cast:

*Picking out* a stall means:

*Hay net: Stable*

*VICES: Cribbing:*

*Cribbing strap:*

*Weaving:*

*Baseline vital signs:*


Chapter 7: Nutrition and Condition

Stabled, in pasture or stabled part of the time AND in pasture part of the time are the:

Colic:

Founder:

5 basic kinds of nutrition a pony needs are: ______________, ______________, ______________, ______________, and ______________

Roughage:

Concentrates:

Succulents:

CAUTION: Never –

Water:

Salt:

Dehydrated:

Impaction colic:

Bales:

Flakes:
Sand colic:

Grazing muzzle:

Condition:

Fit:

Soft or unfit:

Body condition score:

Bloom:
Chapter 8: Your Pony’s Feet and Shoeing

Farrier:

Thrush:

Frog:

Cleft:

Reset:

Corn:

Clinches:
Chapter 9: Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge

Equine veterinarian:

Prepurchase exam:

Internal parasites:

Dewormers:

Potomac horse fever is caused by *Neorickettsia risticii* and is found in a:

*ACT* stands for:

A –
C –
T –

**CAUTION:** All bandages must be -

Leg wraps:

Leg pads:

Fasteners:

Polo bandages:

Polo wraps:
Chapter 10: Safe Traveling and Trailer

The USPC Horse Management Handbook describes in detail the basic items you should carry in an ___________________________ (which will let you take care of a ___________ or ___________________________).

While you are waiting until someone has fastened the tail bar or back door behind him (your pony) before you tie him up, what should you do?

CAUTION: Never –

CAUTION: Always –
Chapter 11: Pony Parts, Colors and Conformation

Color:

Base color:

Points:

Sorrel:

Red dun:

Grullo:

Bay dun:

Mouse dun:

Face mask:

Dorsal stripe:

Leg barring:

Piebald:

Skewbald:

Frosting:

Sclera:
Hands:

Gaits:

Walk:

Trot:

Suspension:

Canter:

Gallop:

Type:

Breed:

Purebreds:

Grade:

Conformation:

Faults of the head:

Clean:
Two faults of the neck are

1. Bull neck:

2. Ewe neck:

Three faults of the back are:

1.
2.
3.

Faults of the shoulder are:

Two faults of the pasterns are:

1.
2.
Chapter 12: Tack

Tack:

Tack her up:

Untacking:

Tack shop:

In Pony Club, English tack is used because:

Halter: Lead

rope: Lead

shank:

Chain-end lead shank:

All-purpose balanced seat saddle:

The stirrup bar is usually kept in the open position so if:

Numnahs: Snaffle

bridle: CAUTION:

Never - Bit:
A Pony Club rider should use a bit that will control his pony. This is usually some kind of snaffle bit. Some may need a Kimberwicke or pelham, or some other kind.

A snaffle bit has:

Snaffle bits work by direct pressure. This means of pressure on the makes of pressure on the.

Kimberwicke bit:

Because it has a curb chain and shanks, a Kimberwicke bit works by leverage and the pressure. For example, of pressure might cause of pressure on the.

Uxeter Kimberwicke:

Pelham bit:

The snaffle ring (Pelham bit):

Curb ring (Pelham bit):

Curb chain (Pelham bit):

A Pelham bit has shanks, which makes it a bit. Long shanks (more than) make a Pelham bit more and are discouraged for riding.

Bit converter or rounding:

Types of Boots: galloping boots, brushing boots, tendon boots, splint boots, ankle boots, fetlock boots.
Sports medicine boots are designed to:

Brushing boots, splint boots and ankle boots protect against:

Splint boots are used to:

Bell boots are used to:

Shipping boots are used when:

There are four words to remember when _________________________________: clean, condition, place, and repair.

Tanned:

Conditioning:

Jockeys:

If ____________ is needed, you can apply it on the underside of the ____________ in a thin coat.

Protecting the _____________ should always be done after ______________ and any _________________________________.

The USPC Horse Management Handbook has more information about:

Saddler:

Dry rot:
Hook stud:

You should check the ___________________________ EVERY TIME you ____________.

Back protector pad:

Dip or seat:

Lift-back, lollipop or riser pad:

Girth extender:

A shaped, contoured, overlay or chafeless girth:

A Balding girth:

A three-fold girth:

A lampwick girth:

A string girth:

A dressage or Lonsdale girth:

An elastic end girth:

A girth cover:

Stirrup leathers:
Stirrup irons are usually made of _______________. They should be ___________ wider (______________) than the rider’s foot.

Girth loop:

Baby pad:

Breastplate (Hunt Style) keeps the _______________ from _______________. The yoke fits around the _______________ and the center strap goes between the _______________ and fastens around the _______________.

Breast collar (Event or Polo Type) keeps the _______________ from _______________.

A standing martingale has a martingale strap that attaches to the _______________ (never to a ________________) and runs between the _______________ to the _______________. The neck-strap buckles on the _______________. It should be secured by a rubber ring at the _______________, so that the martingale cannot hang down in a _______________, which is _______________.

Note: In Pony Club competitions, ________________ are usually allowed only for ________________.

A running martingale is a martingale strap that fastens around the _______________ and splits at the _______________, with each strap ending in a rein ring. The reins run through these _______________. For _______________, the reins must have rein stops, which prevent the _______________ from getting caught on the _______________.

The neck strap (running martingale) buckles on the _______________ and should be _______________ with a rubber ring at the _______________.

Neck-strap:

Dropped noseband:
A flash noseband is a cavesson noseband with a flash strap________________. It is used to_________________________ and hold the__________ in position.

A figure-eight noseband is also used to_________________________, but it rests higher on his face and lets his _______________________ expand better for work. The upper strap goes________________ behind the ____________, inside the bridle. The lower strap buckles________________, in the _________________. A small pad rests high on the ________________, where the straps ________________. Both straps should be ________________ but not ________________. You should be able to slip a ____________________________.

All-purpose balanced seat saddle:

CAUTION: Bridles for ponies should NOT have -

Bight:
Chapter 13: Dress and Turnout

Turnout:

Workmanlike:

Everyday turnout:

Informal turnout:

Formal turnout:

The USPC Horse Management Handbook describes the differences between ________________ and ________________ attire.

Never work around ponies in –

You must wear an ________________ safety riding helmet whenever you are ____________, ________________ or ________________.

_________________________________________ will save your life!

D level Pony Club members may participate in regional Pony Club rallies wearing appropriate ________________ attire except when they are attempting to ________________ or ________________ attire is to be worn. In that case, either correct ________________ or ________________ attire is to be worn. For more information about this, check the USPC Horse Management Handbook.

Check the USPC Horse Management Handbook for complete details regarding attire requirements for _________________. Refer to the current USPC Horse Management Handbook for complete information regarding _________________.

Turnout inspection:
Safety check:

The USPC Horse Management Handbook will list the requirements for inspection of your tack and turnout according to ________________________________.

According to the USPC Rules for Rallies, braiding the mane or tail is not permitted for Pony Club events, except for ________________________________.

The USPC Horse Management Handbook and the USPC Rules for Rallies provides requirements for ________________________________.