

Mounted Skills (C-2 Hunter Seat Equitation)

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Date

RIDING EXPECTATIONS: Candidate should ride with confidence and control on the flat and over fences, demonstrating a secure hunter seat equitation position and progress toward an independent seat and coordinated use of aids. The candidate should begin to initiate free forward movement, establishing balance and rhythm while developing a light contact.

The C-2 check-list is a valuable tool to evaluate a member's readiness to test. It is recommended that this check-list be used to evaluate a candidate no earlier than 90 days prior to the certification. The evaluator should sign the "Signature" block when a candidate satisfactorily performs the necessary skills while demonstrating both horse management and riding expectations for the standard without instruction/coaching. If the member is not able to demonstrate the standard, the evaluator should provide detailed comments on what improvements the candidate needs to make in order to demonstrate the standard. An evaluator must be able to give an impartial evaluation of the candidate's proficiency at the standard. The "D-1 through C-2 Examiner's Handbook" and the last page of the "Standards of Proficiency" outlines the qualities of an examiner that is appropriate to use.

Riding on the Flat

- Discuss the meaning of the Riding Expectations. Ride consistently demonstrating riding test expectations. Demonstrate warm-up for flat work including rider exercises.
- Discuss candidate's warm-up for rider and mount.
- Work mount at walk, trot and canter, changing directions at least twice in each gait, using coordinated aids, maintaining even rhythm, balance and impulsion and smooth transitions.
- Demonstrate circles, half-circles, figure eights, and serpentine to develop suppleness and straightness.
- Demonstrate a free walk on a long rein, returning to a walk on contact.
- Demonstrate a halt and stand quietly for five seconds.
- Ride mount without stirrups at all gaits.
- Discuss aids for and demonstrate a rein-back of 2-3 steps.
- Move mount away from leg laterally.
- Develop a hand gallop from a canter and return to canter smoothly.
- Discuss performance with examiner including the rider's position, and whether mount was moving forward in balance and rhythm .

Evaluator's Comments:

Riding Over Fences

- Ride over fences using Riding Expectations.
- Discuss reasons for adjusting stirrups for different types of work.
- Perform simple gymnastic grid exercises set at appropriate distances for mount's stride at trot, finishing with an ascending oxer set at 3'. Fences not to exceed 3'.
- Develop a plan of how to ride a hunter seat equitation course. Course to consist of 8-10 jumps. The majority of fences should be set at, but not exceed, 3'.
- Ride course according to plan.
- Discuss performance with Examiner, including rhythm maintained throughout the course.

Evaluator's Comments

Riding in the Open

- Ride in a group at the walk, trot, and canter on a suitable mount.
- Discuss performance with Examiner, including reasons for any disobedience.

Evaluator's Comments: