



Mile Hi Pony Club
D-3 Rating Prep Guide
(Revised for January 1, 2002 Standard)

How to Use This Guide

There are two sections to the Guide to help you prepare for your rating.

Riding Expectations. This section tells you the riding skills you will be tested on at your rating. You may want to take this list to your instructor and make sure you are comfortable with all aspects of the riding skills needed for your rating.

Horse Management. This section has all the horse management standards you will need to know for your rating. There is space for you to fill in the blanks and answer the questions. Be complete as possible, and share the information with your other Pony Clubbers. Feel free to have the DC, or higher level members help you completely fill in the answers. This is a study guide for you, so you have the complete picture on each aspect of horse management. For sections that have multiple parts, like unsoundness, horse parts, etc., try to make a complete list, rather than just writing down a few answers.

When you are done with the rating, keep your Prep Guide. Each rating builds on the other, so you will see similar standards for the next level, just more detail, or a different aspect of the subject.

Best of luck on your rating!

Riding Test Expectations

Overall Position

Candidate should ride in a basic balanced position with control at the walk, trot, and canter.

Key Point: Position should be solid and correct at all three gaits.

Candidate should maintain a **secure base of support** while **developing balance** and a steady position over fences.

Secure base of support means you have a correct lower leg (i.e. quiet, still and HEELS DOWN)

Developing balance means that your position is basically correct, but you may not always be consistent.

Instructor Comments on Overall Position

Instructor Name
Date
Comments

Riding on the Flat

Skill to be Demonstrated	Instructor Comments
Demonstrate emergency dismount at the halt and walk.	
Adjust stirrups and girth while mounted at the halt.	
Perform balancing and suppling exercises for rider at walk and trot.	
Discuss at least three reasons for doing balancing/suppling exercises.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
Ride without stirrups at the sitting trot.	
Demonstrate a simple step back.	

Skill to be Demonstrated	Instructor Comments
Perform round 20-meter circles, in both directions, at walk, at trot sitting and rising with correct diagonals, and at canter with correct leads.	
Demonstrate increase and decrease of speed at the trot by passing riders on rail and taking the lead.	
Discuss performance with Examiner on whether or not circles were round and natural aides were used correctly.	
Rider should show a basic balanced position through the flat work.	

Riding Over Fences, Riding in the Open

Skill to be Demonstrated	Instructor Comments
<p>Riding over Fences Trot over ground poles, follow by crossrail.</p>	
<p>Riding over Fences Jump a simple stadium course of five to seven obstacles, height not to exceed 2' 6". Discuss performance and any reasons for disobedience.</p>	
<p>Riding 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 (ditches to be unrevetted).</p>	
<p>Riding in the Open Jump simple cross-country obstacles, not to exceed 2' 6". Discuss ways to control pony in the open. Discuss performance with Examiner. Speed you not exceed 240 mpm or 300 mpm, appropriate for the size of the horse.</p>	
<p>Riding in the Open Rider should show a secure base of support while developing balance and a steady position over fences.</p>	

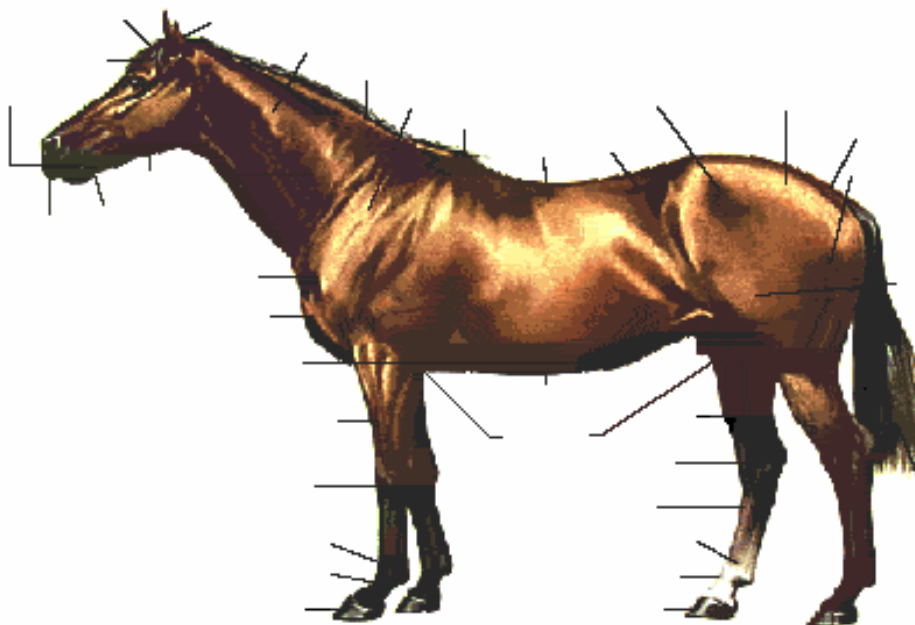
Horse Management Expectations

The candidate should be able to demonstrate simple skills without assistance, and to discuss pony care, using common horse terms.

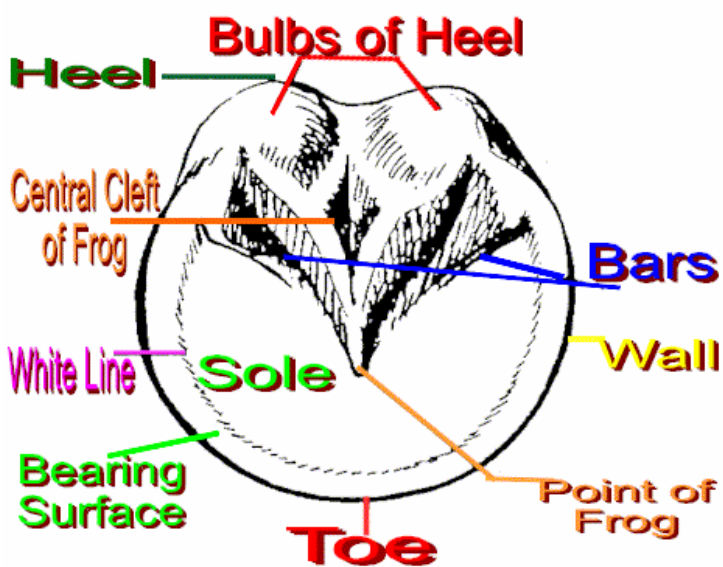
Horse Management Expectation	Answers
<p>Turn-Out Rider in safe and neat attire.</p>	<p>Wear your Pony Club polo or any other shirt with a collar and sleeves.</p> <p>Wear riding breeches or jodhpurs, no chaps. If wearing jodhpurs, be sure to have knee garters or elastic under shoes. If you are wearing riding breeches, you should have high boots.</p> <p>Wear a properly fitted ASTM helmet.</p> <p>Wear appropriate boots – smooth sole with a heel.</p> <p>Wear your Pony Club Pin.</p> <p>For girls: Your hair should be neatly pulled back in a hair net (no show bows), or braided.</p> <p>No extra jewelry. Stud earrings are OK.</p> <p>Other Tips:</p>
<p>Turn-Out Pony to be clean and neatly groomed, with feet picked out, showing farrier care.</p>	<p>Pony should be brushed, with no dirt or sweat marks showing.</p> <p>Mane and tail should be clean, with no dandruff.</p> <p>Nose and dock should be wiped clean.</p> <p>Hooves should show no dirt anywhere.</p> <p>Hooves picked out and perfectly clean. Shoes in good repair. If pony does not have shoes, know why and if they are put on certain times, etc.</p> <p>Other Tips:</p>

<p>Turn-Out Tack to be properly adjusted, safe and clean.</p>	<p>Bridle should fit properly with noseband and cheek piece correctly fitted. No dirt, dust or jockeys should show.</p> <p>Pad should show no dirt (get as clean as you can) and fit with the saddle.</p> <p>Saddle should properly fit horse. If school tack explain any fit problems.</p> <p>Saddle should be clean (no jockeys, dirt or dust), well-conditioned and supple. If the saddle is new, explain to instructor what you have done to condition it so far.</p> <p>If you are using a martingale, it should be clean and properly fitted. Take it off for flat work.</p> <p>Leathers should be adjusted for flat work. They should show no signs of wear or breakage.</p> <p>Stirrups should be shining. Pads should be white.</p> <p>Other Tips:</p>
<p>Turn-Out Describe formal and informal attire.</p>	

Horse Management Expectation	Answers
Parts of Pony/Conformation & Lameness Identify at least 20 parts of the pony to include withers, hock, fetlock, pastern, gaskin, croup, loins, etc.	Fill in diagram below.



Additional picture of foot (FYI)



Horse Management Expectation	Answers
<p>Stable Management Know how to use a haynet and dangers of improper use.</p>	
<p>Longeing & Leading Lead correctly, moving pony forward with whip or assistance (if necessary).</p>	<p>What side of the pony should you be on?</p> <p>Where should your hands be?</p> <p>How should you hold the lead rope?</p> <p>How do you turn your pony?</p> <p>How do you get your pony to move forward if they don't want to?</p>
<p>Longeing & Leading Do walk-trot-walk-halt transitions in hand.</p>	
<p>Longeing & Leading Lead safely from both sides.</p>	

Horse Management Expectation	Answers
<p>Health Care & Veterinary Knowledge Apply protective boots and bell boots on own pony (with supervision).</p>	<p>Have boots available to apply on horse.</p> <p>Know what the boots protect and why those areas need protection.</p>
<p>Health & Veterinary Knowledge Apply stable wrap, with assistance.</p>	<p>Have materials available.</p> <p>Make sure stable wrap properly fits pony.</p> <p>Make sure wraps are long enough and have proper closures (velcro or safety pins/masking tape).</p>
<p>Health & Veterinary Knowledge Describe obvious signs of foot needing shoeing or trimming.</p>	
<p>Travel Safety Know rules for riding safely on public roads in your state. Know procedure for mounted group crossing a public roadway.</p>	<p>Should you ride facing the cars, or with your back to the cars?</p> <p>Other laws:</p> <p>Procedure for crossing a road in a group:</p>

Horse Management Expectation	Answers
<p>Travel Safety Discuss the proper procedure for loading and unloading a pony.</p>	
<p>Introduction to Horse Sports Name five horse sports offered in USPC.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
<p>Record Book The D-3 candidate is expected to keep careful records of veterinary visits, and general health of pony. Record Book must be brought to test. (A minimum of three months is required).</p>	<p>3 months of records written in book (provided by club).</p> <p>Book must be filled out completely. If the horse is leased, get records from owner.</p>