



IRISH PONY CLUB STANDARDS OF EFFICIENCY TEST SHEET 2017 'C+' STANDARD

GENERAL

Candidates must have the IPC or BHS Riding Road Safety Certificate before taking this test. The test centre must be prepared in advance, ready for Show Jumping and Cross Country course walk by candidates before the test begins.

OBJECTIVE

- To become practical horseperson.
- To ride over simple show-jumping and cross country fences at trot and canter.
- To gain practical skills, experience and basic knowledge of the care of a stabled pony and basic care of fields.
- To ride sensibly and with due regard for others on the roads and in the countryside and with a knowledge of pace, distance and discipline when riding alone and in groups.
- To be capable of riding another pony/horse on the flat in the test.

RIDING

- Discuss own horse's way of going and tack used.
*Candidates will be asked to ride another candidate's pony/horse on **the flat only and comment on observations of how the brief went.***
- Mount and dismount correctly.
- Show a balanced position at walk, trot, canter and gallop. Demonstrate and show regular rhythm in walk, trot and canter while maintaining an even contact with the bit.
- Knowledge of first steps of training scale.
- Work without stirrups at: walk, trot and canter at Examiners' discretion.
- Know the various means of communicating with the pony/horse (aids) and be able to carry out:-
 - Increases and decreases of pace. Lengthened strides in canter and trot.
 - Circles – 10 metres in walk; 15 metres in trot; 20 metres in canter.
 - Sitting trot, rising trot on correct diagonal.
 - Loops and serpentines.
 - Work towards turn on the forehand (quarter or half turn).
 - Leg yielding.
 - Change of leg at canter through trot.
 - Free walk on a long rein or loose rein.
 - Halt and salute.
- Know the sequence of legs at different paces.
- Rules of the riding school and how to apply them.

SHOW-JUMPING

- Show a secure and balanced jumping position on the flat and over show jumps.
- Know what to look for and how to walk a show-jumping course (course plan).
- Jump a show-jumping course to include a one or two stride double including a straight line and bending line distance of not less than five strides at canter. (90 cm – 1 meter).

CROSS COUNTRY

- Be able to ride over undulating terrain at various speeds suitable for cross country with regard to ground conditions.
- Ride over a variety of fixed cross country fences (not greater than 1 meter) at a suitable speed.

HORSEMASTERSHIP

- Knowledge and practical care and working of pony/horse off grass and the stabled pony/horse.
- Know the importance of regular teeth inspections.
- Have knowledge of the different items of forage in common usage and importance of roughage, hay, haylage, chaff.
- Know the rules and principles of watering and feeding.
- Identify feeds in common use and their preparation. (bran mash mix and prepare beet pulp).
- Describe own mounts feeding programme at different time of year including nutrients (salt, electrolytes) required to maintain good health. Devise feed chart for own horse/pony.
- Know about types of bedding and how to maintain them.
- Worms – know the indications of a pony suffering from worm infestation, state when to worm and why. Have a general knowledge of how to get a horse fit for Pony Club rallies and competitions and relate to feeding.
- Have a knowledge of types of bit in everyday use.
- Be able to fit a bridle and saddle and discuss findings.
- Different types of martingale and nose bands. Which type and when to use and how they should fit.
- Care and management of a pony/horse before, during and after a day's activity including a strenuous days works.
- Travelling – discuss equipment used and be able to show how to protect the legs. How to load and care for a pony/horse on a long journey (inland, 5-6 hours journey).
- The foot and shoeing – have a knowledge of the parts of the shoe and be aware of the type of shoes normally used. Be able to know the name of the farrier's tools and what they are used for. Basic knowledge of the structure of the horse's foot (internal and external). Know when a pony/horse is lame and what to check for, i.e. trot up. Know the common cause of lameness in the hoof, i.e. drop, stone bruise.
- Clipping – know the names and uses of the different types of clip and how to prepare a pony for clipping.
- Rugs – have a knowledge of the different types of rugs and their uses, i.e. exercise sheet, cooler rug, turn-out rug. Advantages and disadvantages of rug roller and blanket.
- Know how to put on a stable bandage, travel bandage and tail bandage and know how to put on boots for exercise (tendon, over-reach boots and brushing boots).
- Know the main indications for health in a stabled or grass kept pony/horse.
- Recognise when your pony/horse is sick and know how to care for a sick pony/horse, i.e. know how to take temperature, pulse, respiration.
- Have a basic knowledge of the treatment of wounds, i.e. puncture, laceration, over-reach, girth-galls, etc.
- Know about tying up/azoturia, cracked heels, laminitis, sweet itch, mud fever, colic and rain rash, etc.
- Poultice – Animalintex – how to prepare and apply.
- Know the essentials of a veterinary/medicine cupboard.
- When to call the vet and what to tell him (vaccinations) and know when to ask for adult help.
- Explain requirements of a suitable field/pasture for pony/horse outlining poisonous plants and management of horse sick field.

READ

Notes for Taking C⁺ Test by Anthea Rainsbury
Pony Club Publications:
'The Manual of Horsemanship'

VIEW

Top Rider DVD Park 1 and 2

Minimum Age 14 years (in year of test)

Disc Colour - Pink