



Middle California Region C1 Study Guide



The C Ratings

The C is a Pony Club member learning to become an active horseman, to care independently for mount and tack, and to understand the reasons for what he or she is doing. The C shows development towards a secure, independent seat, and increasing control and confidence in all phases of riding. The C1 and C2 ratings are awarded at the club level. The C3 is a National rating and reflects a basis of competence in riding and horse care that will make possible a lifetime of pleasure with horses.

How to use the Study Guide:

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

Riding Test Expectations: This section lists the riding skills you will be tested on at your rating. Please review them carefully with your instructor to insure you are prepared for the C1 test!

Horse Management Expectations: This section has the Horse Management standards you will need to know for your rating. There is space for you to answer the questions you will be asked at your C1 test. Be as thorough as possible with your answers!

When you are done with the rating, keep your Study Guides. They will help you prepare for the next rating, rally or even your next lesson plan!

Best of luck on your rating!

Testing Information for C-Level Candidates

- Be a Pony Club Member in Good Standing, as defined by club policy, having paid local, regional and national dues and fees.
- Have a record of regular attendance and participation.
- Be recommended by the District Commissioner for each rating.
- Have a thorough knowledge of requirements of level being tested and be able to discuss and/or demonstrate any requirement for all previously attained Standards.
- Attain each rating before the next level is attempted.
- Any special testing requests must be submitted to the USPC National Office, through the DC. These requests will be reviewed on an individual basis and the final decision for any exception will be the responsibility of the D-1 through C-2 Program Committee Chair and the Vice President of Instruction.
- C-1 and C-2: Be a member of Pony Club for at least three months and must be recommended by the DC.
- C-3: Be a member of Pony Club for at least six months. Be at least 13 years of age prior to January 1 of year of application and must be recommended by the DC and RS.
- The C-3 and above Candidate will fulfill the active participation criteria as defined by the region. The criteria will include: teaching; participating in mounted and unmounted instructional programs and activities at the local and regional levels.
- The C-3 candidate is required to compete in at least one mounted rally on a mounted or unmounted basis.
- Have a thorough knowledge of requirements of level being tested and be able to discuss and/or demonstrate any requirements from all previously attained standards.
- *Testing dates are determined by the District Commissioner*
 - Testings may be held every three months or more often if practical for the club, but must be offered a minimum of twice a year.
 - A testing should be conducted in one day, or all requirements tested within a one-month period (D-1 through C-2).
 - A testing shall be an instructional, working session, covering only requirements listed on the Standards.
 - Oral testing is required for all parts of the horse management phase.
 - Written tests are not allowed.
 - Upon recommendation of the Examiner, a candidate who fails not more than one-third of tested sections may be retested within one month on only the requirements not passed including riding sections (D-1 through C-2).
 - There is no set time limit between taking any of the C-level tests, but each level is attained at a separate testing, and rating levels may not be skipped.
 - Sharing of ponies for a C-level testing is not allowed.
 - Any special testing requests must be submitted to the USPC National Office, through the DC (C-1 and C-2 Level) or RS for the C-3 Level. These requests will be reviewed on an individual basis and the final decision for any exception will be the responsibility of the D-1 through C-2 Program Committee Chair or C-3 Program Committee Chair and the VP of Instruction.
- *Attire*
 - Safe, workmanlike attire, including proper footwear, must be worn in the barn area and when working around mounts.

- Correct formal or informal, exceptions to meet local conditions may be designated by the District Commissioner. Refer to the USPC Horse Management Handbook, USPC Rules for Eventing, and the USPC Manual of Horsemanship I and II.
- C-3: Must be correctly formal or informal. Refer to the USPC Horse Management Handbook, USPC Rules for Eventing, and the USPC Manual of Horsemanship I and II.
- ASTM/SEI approved headgear with full harness and with chin strap in place must be worn.
- Formal Dress: Black or dark-colored, uniform-colored coat; white stock tie with plain horizontal pin; white, canary, tan or buff breeches; black boots, Pony Club pin.
- Informal Dress: Riding coat (other than solid black); plain color shirt; choker, necktie or turtle neck; breeches or jodhpurs of any color; appropriate boots as described in USPC Horse Management Handbook, Pony Club pin
- *Equipment*
 - Saddlery and bitting for USPC Testings should comply with the Horse Management General Rule on Saddlery and Bitting and with the USPC Eventing Rules for Saddlery and Bitting. Whips, no longer than 48 inches including lash, will be allowed in the flat section of testings although they are not allowed at the C level and above at Eventing rallies. Any discipline rule change following publication of the current Horse Management Handbook will supersede these rules.
 - C-1 – C-3: All bits with more than one point of attachment (i.e. gag, Pessoa, elevators) must have one rein attached so that the snaffle action of the bit is in effect. If other bit actions are to be used, two reins will be required. At the D level, converters will be allowed on pelham bits. If the Pessoa type bit is used, a single rein may be attached to the first or second ring. If a third or lower ring is used, a second rein must be attached higher so that the snaffle action can be in effect.
- *Appropriate Horse*
 - Sharing of ponies for a C-level testing is not allowed.
 - It is the responsibility of the candidate and his/her parent(s) or guardian to bring an appropriate horse to the testing. The conditioned mount(s) must be capable of completing the flat, longeing and jumping phases at the heights indicted at the appropriate levels. At the C-3 Level, this would include a course at 3'3". The mount(s) must also be available for change of riders for the C-3 Level. Embracing USPC's commitment to safety for all horses and riders is of utmost importance. Failing to follow these guidelines may make it difficult for the candidate to meet the standard on that given day. *Page 6 C Standard January 1, 2004*
- *Presentation of Mount for Inspection (D-1 through C-3)*
 - Braiding is not allowed.
 - All other tack must be clean, well adjusted, and in good repair.
 - Stand by mount, on near side, with Examiner, facing rear, reins in left hand below bit, slack in right, changing sides with Examiner.

Riding Test Expectations

The candidate should ride with confidence and control on the flat and over fences, demonstrating a basic balanced position and use of natural aids. The rider should begin to initiate free forward movement, and begin to establish light feel of mount's mouth.

Riding on the Flat

Ride on flat using Riding Test Expectations.

(C-1 Manual, pages 3-24)

- **Demonstrate mount's warm-up routine for everyday work, to include warm-up exercises. Be able to explain your own warm up routine**
- **Perform suppling exercises for rider without stirrups, at the walk and sitting trot.**
- **Demonstrate aids for moving mount away from the leg, at halt (sideways).**
- **Demonstrate long rein, loose rein, and light contact at walk.**
- **Ride at walk, trot and canter, with smooth transitions, performing circles and figure-8's at each gait.**
- **Discuss performance with Examiner, including whether or not mount was moving freely forward. Discuss performance**
- **Describe three artificial aids and their uses.**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- **Perform emergency dismount at trot.**

Riding Over Fences

Ride on flat using Riding Test Expectations.

(C-1 Manual, pages 24-38)

- **Perform simple gymnastic exercises for rider over trotting poles, followed by small jump (2'3").**
- **Ride over small grid (three fences, not to exceed 2'3").**
- (C Manual, pages 24-38)
- **Ride over jumping course of six to eight obstacles; include a two-stride combination; obstacles not to exceed 2'9".**
- **Discuss performance with Examiner, including steadiness of pace and ways ride could be improved. Discuss performance**

Riding in the Open

Ride on flat using Riding Test Expectations.

(C-1 Manual, pages 38-48)

- **Ride safely with control in a group, on a suitable mount, at the walk, trot, and canter.**
- **C1 speed should not exceed 325 meters per minute to 350 meters per minute.**
- **Discuss and/or demonstrate, if time available, riding safely over varied terrain, including hills, ditches, low banks, flat open area and streams.**
- **Ride over several cross-country obstacles, not to exceed 2'9" in height.**
- **Discuss performance with Examiner giving reasons for any disobediences. Discuss performance.**

Horse Management Expectations

The candidate should show a developing awareness of cause and effect in the care of own mount. He/she should be familiar with local common horse terms. Assistance is recommended in the demonstration of bandaging.

Turn Out/Tack

Attire to be correctly formal or informal, or as designated by the DC.

(D Manual, pages 283-296)

Components of correctly formal attire:

Components of correctly informal attire:

Mount to be well-groomed, reflecting regular care (D Manual, pages 293-295, C Manual, pages 176-180)

Describe a *well-groomed* mount that reflects *regular care*:

Pony:

Mane & tail:

Nose & dock:

Hooves:

Turn Out/Tack

Tack to be safe, clean, and well adjusted, reflecting regular care.

(D Manual, pages 292-293, C Manual, pages 180-181)

Describe tack that is *safe, clean, and well adjusted, reflecting regular care*:

Bridle:

Pad:

Saddle fit:

Saddle wear:

Leathers:

Stirrups & pads:

Conditioning

Discuss what is meant by conditioning and how to condition for a particular Pony Club activity of your choice.

(C Manual, pages 233-249)

What is conditioning?

Conditioning schedule for (activity):

Nutrition

Describe how feeds are measured and weighed.

(C Manual, pages 199-200)

Measures & Weights for Feed:

Know amount and type of feed for own mount.

Amount and feed for pony:

Hay/Alfalfa

Grain:

Oats:

Other Feed:

Describe characteristics of good and bad feed, watering, and pasture.

(C Manual, pages 195-199)

Characteristics for good & bad feed:

Water:

Pasture:

Stable Management

Discuss types of bedding appropriate for your area.

(C Manual, pages 158-160)

Types of bedding:

Stable Management

Be able to put a blanket on mount safely.

(C Manual, pages 162-163)

Describe how it is done the Pony Club way:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Discuss types and causes of stable vices.

(D Manual, pages 180-182)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Describe and give reasons for three types of clipping.

(C Manual, pages 160-161)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Stable Management

Describe conditions which foster internal and external parasites, procedure for parasite control in pasture and stall management, ways to control flies, bot eggs.

(C Manual, pages 208-211)

Conditions which foster internal and external parasites.

Procedures for parasite control – Stall

Procedures for parasite control – Pasture

Ways to control flies, bot eggs

Pony Parts, Conformation & Lameness

Identify good and bad points of basic leg conformation.
(See, Figure 1; C Manual, pages 313-324)

A.

Front Legs
Figure 1

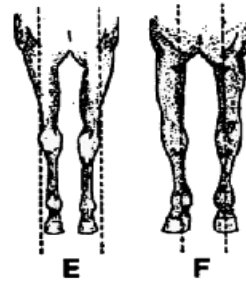
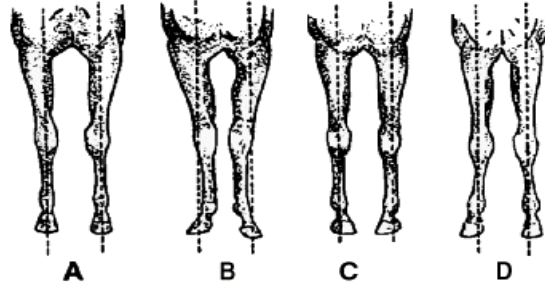
B.

C.

D.

E.

F.



Identify good and bad points of basic leg conformation.
(See, Figure 3; C Manual, pages 313-324)

A.

Figure 3 – Hind Legs
Figure 3

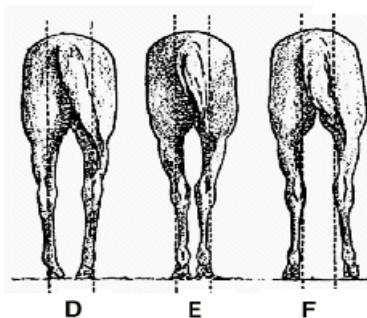
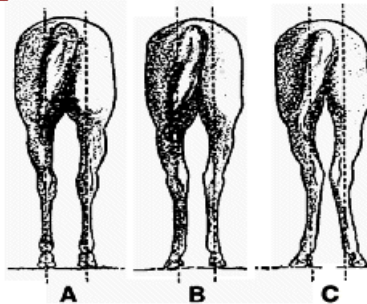
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C.

D.

E.

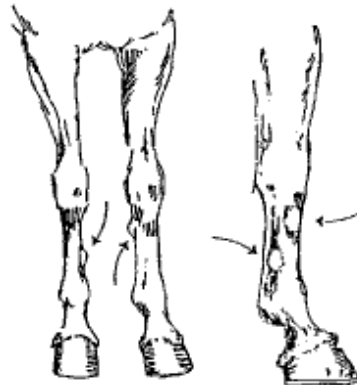
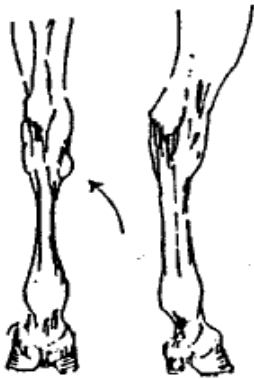
F.



Horse Management Expectation

Describe five common unsoundnesses as to location and outward appearance.
(see illustrations below; C Manual, pages 325-331)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



Travel Safety

Discuss basic equipment needed for mount's safety and comfort during trailer travel.

(C Manual, pages 262-263; C Manual, pages 229 First Aid Kit)

Checklist:

Equipment for care and safety of pony during travel:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Equipment needed for equine first aid kit:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 17.
- 18.

Trailer Safety Checklist:

Record Book

The C-1 is expected to keep a careful Record Book of all immunizations, veterinary visits, farrier visits, etc. The book must be brought to the test for review and critique. Candidate must have records for at least 6 months. Records should reflect appropriate depth of knowledge for this level.

Health Care & Veterinary Knowledge

Describe how to treat minor wounds.

(C Manual, pages 230-231)

Describe steps for minor wound care:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Discuss regular worming control for own mount; how and why to deworm new mounts in barn. (C Manual, pages 205-232)

Regular worming routine:

Health Care & Veterinary Knowledge

Know health care schedule for own mount including dates of inoculations (tetanus, encephalomyelitis, etc.), deworming, floating of teeth, shoeing.
(C Manual, pages 205-232)

Inoculation dates:

Deworming:

Teeth:

Shoeing:

Teaching

Under direct supervision of Examiner, perform and explain reasons for a safety and tack inspection for a D Pony Club member.

(How to Perform a Safety and Tack Inspection, C Manual, pages 303-306)

Describe all steps of a safety check:

Rider:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Saddle:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Bridle:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Teaching

Under direct supervision of Examiner, perform and explain reasons for a safety and tack inspection for a D Pony Club member.

(How to Perform a Safety and Tack Inspection, C Manual, pages 303-306)

Describe all steps of a safety check:

Pony:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Other equipment:

1.

2.

3.

Longeing

Discuss reasons for longeing.

(C Manual, pages 279-281)

Reasons for longeing:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Longeing

Discuss equipment necessary and safety procedures.

(C Manual, pages 281-286)

Equipment:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Safety Procedures:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Foot & Shoeing

Discuss the five steps in shoeing.

(C Manual, page 255)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Foot & Shoeing

Recognize farrier tools and know their uses

(C Manual, page 253)

Rasp:

Pincer:

Hoof trimmer:

Hoof knife:

Clinch cutter:

Pritchel:

Clincher:

Farrier's hammer:

Farrier's apron:

Bandaging

Be able to apply a shipping bandage with assistance.

(C Manual, pages 267-270)

Materials needed (be sure to bring materials to the rating!):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Steps in applying shipping bandages:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Be sure to PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!