

THE VILLAGE CLUB



Basic Skills Evaluation as a Prerequisite to Jumping

The purpose of the basic skills evaluation is to insure all riders are adequately prepared to begin safely jumping their horse. For a Candidate to pass, the Standards must be met or exceeded in every section.

Rider shall be in safe and neat attire. Horse shall be clean, well brushed with hooves picked. Tack shall be clean and properly adjusted (with assistance from parent or instructor if necessary)

Time for test: Approximately 15 minutes

Skill to Demonstrate	Description of Standard	Comments	Meets Standard	Standard Not Met
Mount Safely	Rider to mount with use of a mounting block.			
Hold reins correctly	Rider demonstrates ability to hold reins for English style of riding with direct rein contact.			
Shorten and lengthen reins at halt and walk	Rider demonstrates ability to shorten reins and lengthen the reins.			
Balanced Position	Rider demonstrates a balanced position. Sitting in the deepest part of the saddle - straight, relaxed back and square shoulders. Balls of the feet rest on the stirrup pads, the heels are pressed down. Ear, shoulder, hip, and heel aligned. Elbows bent & close to the rider's sides.			
Transition from halt to walk	Rider demonstrates ability to apply correct aids for walk transition. Rider follows horse's rhythm with relaxed seat and follows the horse's nodding head with relaxed hands and elbows.			

Transition from walk to halt	Rider demonstrates ability to apply correct aids to halt by sitting more deeply into the saddle, resisting the horse's movement rather than following it and applying pressure on the reins until the horse stops.			
Ride a large circle and figure 8 at walk	Rider demonstrates the ability to steer the horse using direct rein contact and correct seat and leg aids			
Ride a large circle and figure 8 at posting trot	Rider demonstrates the ability to steer the horse using direct rein contact and correct seat and leg aids. Is able to maintain the trot and identify the correct posting diagonal			
Ride a figure 8 at trot in 2 point position. Hold 2 point for 30 seconds	Rider demonstrates the ability to maintain a balanced, secure 2 point position while riding the figure 8 pattern in trot			
Trot to Canter Transition	Rider demonstrates ability to apply the correct aids to transition from trot to canter			
Canter a large circle to the right, then to the left	Rider demonstrates the ability to steer the horse using direct rein contact on a large circle. Rider should be aware of lead		Right	Right
			Left	Left
Canter a large circle in 2 point position. Hold 2 point for 30 seconds.	Rider demonstrates the ability to maintain a balanced, secure 2 point position while riding the canter. Rider should be aware of lead			
Transition from canter to trot	Rider demonstrates the ability to apply the correct aids to transition from canter to trot			

Transition from trot to halt	Rider demonstrates the ability to apply the correct aids to transition from trot to halt. Transition may be made through the walk			
Trotting over Ground pole in 2 point position	Rider demonstrates the ability to steer to the center of the ground pole in trot while maintaining a 2 point position			
Halt at designated point in arena	Rider demonstrates the ability to halt at the designated point marked with an orange traffic cone. Halt may be made through the walk.			

Riders Name _____

Horse Name _____

Date Evaluated _____

Name of Evaluator _____

Meets Standard _____

Does Not Meet Standard _____

Has permission to jump

Is not cleared to jump, may retest

Date of Retest _____

Additional Comments: