

USEF TRAINING LEVEL RIDER TEST

Purpose: To confirm that the rider sits in the correct posture and alignment and shows correct mechanics in walk, rising trot and canter. The seat is sufficiently independent for the rider to maintain a steady, elastic rein contact and encourage the horse to stretch into that contact. The horse is ridden actively forward showing impulsion and balance required for the level, bends equally to the left and right sides on turns and circles, and makes smooth, willing transitions.

All trot work to be ridden rising except for a few steps (4-8) of sitting trot during transitions. Transitions to halt may be performed through the walk.

READER PLEASE NOTE: Anything in parentheses should not be read.

CONDITIONS

Arena: Small/Standard Actual Average Time: 3:30/5:00

Recommended Scheduled Time: 6:00/8:00

Maximum Possible Points: 100

		TEST	DIRECTIVE IDEAS		
1.	A	Enter working trot			
	X	Halt, Salute Proceed at working trot	Rider's alignment, symmetry, steady, elastic rein contact. Straightness on centerline; smooth transitions to balanced halt and active trot. Bend and balance through turn.		
	С	Track left			
2.	E-B	Half circle left 20 meters			
	Near center line	3-6 steps of walk Proceed working trot	Rider maintains posture and alignment in turns and transitions. Horse is bent on half circle; shows smooth, forward transitions with a few well-defined walk steps.		
	В	Working trot			
3.	НХЕ	Change rein, working trot	Rider's posture, symmetry and alignment; correct mechanics in rising trot. Horse is bent through turns and straightened on diagonal; moves with lively activity and is encouraged to reach into the contact.		
4.	A	Circle right 20 meters			
4.	Near center line	Working canter right lead	Rider maintains balanced, vertical postion through transition; shows correct seat mechanics and timing in canter. Horse is bent on circle; makes a balanced transition; moves willingly forward in canter.		
5.	KXM	Change rein			
	Х	Working trot	Correct rider mechanics; balanced, vertical position in transition; steady, elastic rein contact. Horse is bent through the turns; straightened on diagonal; performs a smooth, balanced transition to an active trot.		
6.	С	Medium walk	Rider maintains posture, vertical alignment and steady, elastic contact; seat follows the horse's movements in transition and walk. Horse steps actively forward in walk.		
7.	HXK	Free walk			
	КА	Medium walk	Correct rider mechanics. Rider gives complete freedom for horse to lengthen the stride while stretching head and neck forward and downward. Transitions smooth with obvious difference in length of strides and frame.		
8.	А	Working trot	Rider shows correct mechanics in rising trot; steady, elastic rein contact. Horse moves willingly into an active trot.		
9.	B-E	Half circle left 20 meters			
	Near center line	3-6 steps of walk Proceed working trot	Rider maintains posture and alignment in turns and transitions. Horse is bent on half circle; shows smooth, forward transitions with a few well-defined walk steps.		
	E	Working trot			
10.	A	Circle left 20 meters			
	Near center line	Working canter left lead	Rider maintains balanced, vertical position through transition; shows correct seat mechanics and timing in canter. Horse is bent on circle; makes a balanced transition; moves willingly forward in canter.		
11.	FXH	Change rein			
	X	Working trot	Correct rider mechanics; balanced, vertical position in transition; steady, elastic rein contact. Horse is bent through the turns; straightened on diagonal; performs a smooth, balanced transition to an active trot.		
12.	С	Circle right 20 meters allowing the horse to stretch forward and downward			
	Before C	Pick up the reins	Rider maintains posture and alignment; encourages horse to stretch to a light rein contact. Horse stretches willingly by lowering the neck and rounding the topline; shows smooth transitions to longer and shorter rein contact.		
	C	Working trot	5, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
13.	B-X	Half circle right 10 meters			
	G	Halt, Salute	Riders posture, alignment and symmetry; steady, elastic rein contact. Straightness on centerline; smooth transition to balanced halt.		

COLLECTIVE MARKS	SCORE	Marks from 0 to 10, decimals allowed (e.g. 7.3 or 8.7)	COEF	TOTAL
Rider's Position The rider's ear, shoulder, hip and heel are aligned vertically when sitting at all gaits. The trunk is slightly in front of the vertical in rising trot. When seen from in front or behind the rider is straight and symmetrical with even shoulders, hips and stirrups. The rider sits in harmony with the mechanics of each gait. The hands maintain a steady, elastic contact with the horse's mouth.			2	
Rider's Correct and Effective Use of the Aids The rider prepares for and performs the movements using subtle, tactful and effective aids. The horse is appropriately bent through the turns and on circles and is straight when moving on straight lines. The horse responds willingly giving the impression of clear communication between rider and horse.			2	
Horse's Response and Performance The horse's training appears to be following the principles established by the Pyramid of Training. The horse moves actively forward with a consistent tempo in each gait and reaches confidently to the bit. The transitions are performed willingly and smoothly. The rider demonstrates horse's clear reactivity to both lateral and longitudinal aid influence.			2	
Accuracy of the Exercises The geometry of the movements is correct in terms of their size, shape and placement in the arena. The circles and half circles are round, have the correct diameter and they originate and terminate at the correct place. The corners are performed as one quarter of a 10 meter circle.			2	
Harmony between Rider and Horse Both horse and rider appear calm, focused and confident. They perform competently at the level and are pleasant to watch.			2	
Errors: For Rider tests, the deduction for an error shall be: (1) First error: Score reduced by 0.5 points (2) Second error: Score reduced by an additional 1.0 points (3) Third error: Elimination Marks from 0 to 10, decimals allowed (e.g. 7.3 or 8.7) Percentage is the same as total points but is shown with 3 decimal places (e.g. 65.1 points becomes 65.100%)	Subtotal: Errors: Total Poin Percentag			
Comments:				

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Name of Judge	Points	Name of Rider Final Score	Name of Horse Number	Name of Competition Date of Competition
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