

KEEP SKILLS EVALUATION

Novice Intermediate Level

Member _____ Club _____

The skill requirements for competition at the Fair are based on the rider. The horse is a “tool” for the member to display the skills they have mastered. All scoring should be on the abilities of the member; i.e. does the member recognize when the horse is on the wrong lead and does the member attempt to correct the lead; how does the member react to what the horse does, etc.

Dismounted Abilities

Leaders: Please date AND initial beside each box verifying the member has learned these skills.

	Demonstrate how to safely clean out a horse/pony’s front feet
	Demonstrate/describe how to safely wash a horse/pony.
	Demonstrate/describe how to safely put a blanket on a horse/pony.
	Demonstrate/describe how to correctly clean out and bed down a stall
	Demonstrate/describe the safe height to hang a bucket up for water and/or grain.
	Demonstrate how to safely put on and adjust a halter (to fit correctly); and remove it safely
	Demonstrate/describe how to safely catch a horse/pony
	Demonstrate how to correctly tie a horse/pony with a safety knot
	Demonstrate how to safely hold the excess of the lead rope.
	Demonstrate how to safely use a lead rope (chain) as a means of control under the jaw.
	Demonstrate how to correctly bridle a horse/pony.
	Demonstrate how to correctly handle a saddle when the saddle is not on the horse/pony.
	Demonstrate how to correctly untack horse/pony.

Mounted Abilities

- Horse should be led as in a showmanship class, with the rider between the horses head and shoulder.
- Before mounting rider should perform a safety check of the saddle and bridle to assure girth is tight, stirrups secure, and bit on correctly.
- Rider may use a mounting block to step quietly onto the horse. Points should be deducted for a rider who plop heavily onto the horses back. The dismount should be a step down, not a leap away that may startle the horse.
- All circles should be round. Trot circles should be the same size, as should canter circles. Direction changes should include 3-5 straight steps between the circles. Riders should not be penalized for developing canter 1st quarter of circle.
- The rider should maintain a classic equitation position with head, shoulder, hip and heel in a vertical line perpendicular to the ground. Aids should be given softly, primarily through the seat and leg.

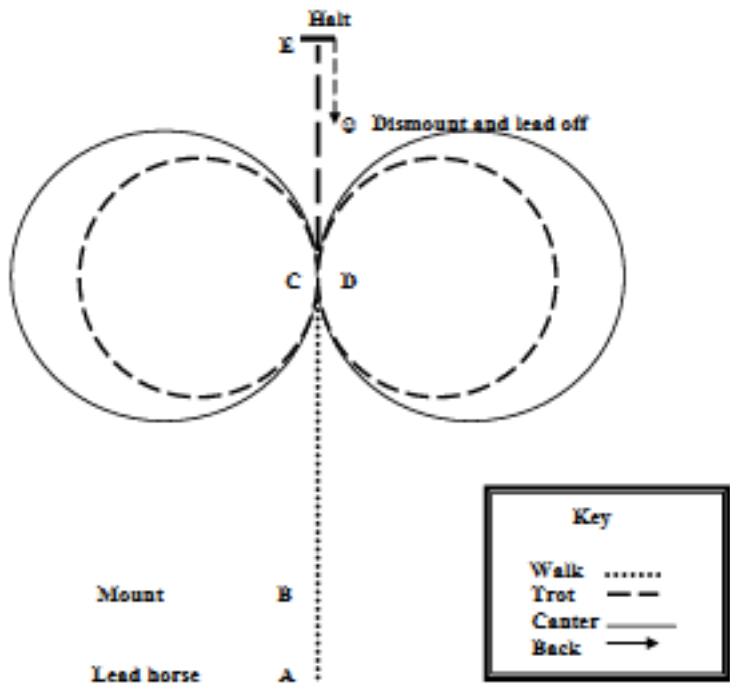
Skills tested

Previous: leading, mounting, walk, trot, back, communication between horse and rider

New: canter with correct leads

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Movement	Score (1-10)
1. Lead horse from cones A to B.	
2. Mount and settle	
3. Walk from cone B to cones C/D	
4. At center, circle right at a trot/jog.	
5. At center, circle right at a canter/lope.	
6. At center, circle left at a trot/jog.	
7. At center, circle left at a canter/lope.	
8. At center trot/jog straight to cone E.	
9. Halt at E and settle for 10 seconds	
10. Back 4 steps	
11. Settle, dismount	
12. Riders position and use of the aids	
Total Points (120 points possible)	
Passing score ≥ 96 points	

Member's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Leader or Evaluator's Signature _____ Date _____