



## Middle California Region C1 Study Guide



### The C1 – C2 Ratings

The C-1 and C-2 is a Pony Club member learning to become an active horseman, to care independently for pony and tack and to understand the reasons for what he or she is doing. The C-1 and C-2 show development towards a secure, independent seat and increasing control and confidence in all phases of riding. The C-1 and C-2 ratings are awarded at the club level.

### 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 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**

### **Requirements for All Candidates**

- Be a Pony Club Member in Good Standing, as defined by club policy, having paid local, regional and national dues and fees.
- C-1 and C-2: Be a member of Pony Club for at least 3 months.
- Attain each rating before next level is attempted.
- Have a thorough knowledge of requirements of the level being tested and be able to discuss and/or demonstrate any requirements from all previously attained Standards.
- Candidate must be tested on and pass all sections of the test and in the appropriate area/arena/open terrain before being awarded the new Rating.
- Any special testing requests including exceptions or exemptions 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.

### **Attire**

- Safe, workmanlike attire, including proper footwear, must be worn in the barn area and when working around mounts.
- Correct formal or informal attire will be worn for formal inspection and presentation of mount at rating. Refer to the USPC Horse Management Handbook, section on Attire, 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 at formal inspection, when mounted and when longeing.

### **Equipment**

- Saddlery and biting for USPC Testing should comply with the Horse Management General Rules on Saddlery and Biting. Whips, no longer than 43.3 inches (110 cm) including lash, will be allowed on the flat section of testings. Any discipline rule change following publication of the current Horse Management Handbook will supersede these rules.
- At the C-1 and C-2 levels, 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 levels only, converters are 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.

### **Testing Information (C-1 and C-2)**

- Testings may be held more often if practical for the club, but must be offered a minimum of twice a year. Testing dates are determined by the DC(s). By networking with other clubs within the Region to establish group ratings with other clubs, increased opportunities to rate can be made available to members.
- A testing is designed to and should be conducted in one day if possible, or, if due to unforeseen circumstances such as weather or footing, it is not possible to complete a test in one day, all sections must be tested/completed within a one- month period.
- A testing shall be an instructional working session, covering only requirements listed in the Standards but must not become a “lesson” on each section.
- Oral testing or demonstration is required for all parts of the horse management phases. Written tests are not allowed.
- Upon recommendation of the Examiner only, a candidate who does not meet standards on 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 mounts for the C-level testings is not allowed.

### **Appropriate Horse**

- It is the responsibility of the candidate and his/ her parent(s) or guardian to bring an appropriate mount(s) to the testing. The conditioned mount(s) must be capable of completing the flat, longeing and jumping phases at the heights indicated at the appropriate skill levels. Embracing USPC's commitment to safety for all horses and riders is of the utmost importance. Failing to follow these guidelines will make it difficult for the candidate to meet the standard on that given day.

### **Presentation of Mount for Inspection**

- Braiding is not allowed.
- All tack must be clean, show regular care and suppleness, and be 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.

### **Examiners (D-1 through C-2)**

- D-1 through C-2 Examiners are chosen by the DC(s).
- Examiners should be selected with care, should be completely knowledgeable of the Standards of Proficiency at the level(s) they are testing, as well as the level(s) above and below the one(s) they are testing.
- Examiners should be familiar with the Standards D through A.
- Examiners should be sensitive to young people and conduct the test in an educational framework. Examiners must be furnished a copy of all the USPC Standards, test, and study guides prior to testing.
- The Examiners must set the tone of the testing as a teaching situation, making every effort to draw the best from each candidate, without allowing the test to become a lesson on the skill in question.
- Care should be taken throughout a testing to encourage the candidates to express what they know, rather than what the Examiner knows.
- Examiners should bear in mind that there may be a range from adequate to superior, and anyone within that range, i.e. that meets Standard or better, should pass.
- Refer to the current D-1 through C-2 testing guidelines, test organizers guide, and the USPC Examiners Handbook, available online at [www.ponyclub.org](http://www.ponyclub.org) under Forms and Publications.

### ***Riding Test Expectations***

*Candidate should ride with confidence and control on the flat and over fences, demonstrating a basic balanced position and use of natural aids. The candidate should begin riding mount freely forward in balance and rhythm while developing a light contact.*

### **Riding on the Flat**

**Ride test consistently demonstrating riding test expectations.**

(C-1 Manual, pages 3-24)

- **Demonstrate suppling exercises for rider without stirrups at walk.**
- **Demonstrate mount's warm-up routine for everyday work.**
- **Discuss candidate's warm-up for both rider and mount with examiner.**
- **Work mount at walk, trot and canter, with smooth transitions, demonstrating correct bend, performing straight lines on centerline, 20-meter circles, and figure eights with simple transitions at each gait.**
- **Demonstrate long rein, loose rein and light contact at walk.**
- **Demonstrate a rein back (2-3 simple steps back).**
- **Discuss aids for and then demonstrate a turn on the forehand.**
- **Discuss performance with examiner discussing the following; the rider's basic balanced position, whether or not mount was moving freely forward in balance and rhythm, and whether rider established a light contact.**

### **Riding Over Fences**

**Ride over fences using riding test expectations.**

(C-1 Manual, pages 24-38)

- **Ride over small gymnastic grid of three fences finishing with an ascending oxer set at, but not exceed, 2'9" set at appropriate distances for mount's stride.**
- **Ride over jump course of 6-8 obstacles; include a two-stride combination set at an appropriate distance for mount's stride. The majority of fences should be set at, but not exceed, 2'9". Grid distances and two-stride combination may be adjusted for individual mounts.**
- **Discuss performance with Examiner, including steadiness of pace and ways ride could be improved.**

## Riding in the Open

**Ride 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.**
- **C-1 speed should not exceed 325 meters per minute to 350 meters per minute.**
- **Discuss and demonstrate riding safely over varied terrain, incorporating as many of the following elements as local conditions allow: hills, small/shallow ditches, low banks, flat open areas and shallow streams.**
- **Ride over five to seven cross-country obstacles at appropriate speed (240-350 meters per minute). The majority of fences should be set at, but not exceed, 2'9".**
- **Discuss performance with Examiner giving reasons for any disobediences.**

## Horse Management Expectations

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

## Turn Out/Tack

**Attire to be correctly formal or informal. Pony Club pin. Long hair neatly up or back. No inappropriate jewelry.**

(D Manual, pages 283-296)

**Components of correctly formal attire:**

**Components of correctly informal attire:**

**Mount to be well-groomed, reflecting regular care with a healthy coat; no sweat or dirt. Mane and tail brushed with little, if any, dandruff. External areas around sheath/udder clean. Feet picked out and reflecting regular farrier care. Eyes, nose, lips, dock clean.**

(D Manual, pages 293-295, C Manual, pages 176-180)

## Turn Out/Tack

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

**Pony:**

**Mane & tail:**

**Nose & dock:**

**Hooves:**

**Tack to be safe, clean, and properly adjusted, reflecting regular care. No jockeys or dust. All stress points clean. No cracked leather. Metal clean and polished and stirrup pads clean.**

**Identify tack on own mount and discuss fit.**

(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:

**Demonstrate proper adjustment of blanket/sheet and halter.**

(C Manual, pages 162-163)

## 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:**

**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)

**List conditions which foster internal and external parasites:**

**Procedures for parasite control – Stall**

**Procedures for parasite control – Pasture**

**List ways to control flies, bot eggs:**

## Pony Parts, Conformation & Lameness

**Identify good and bad points of basic leg conformation.**

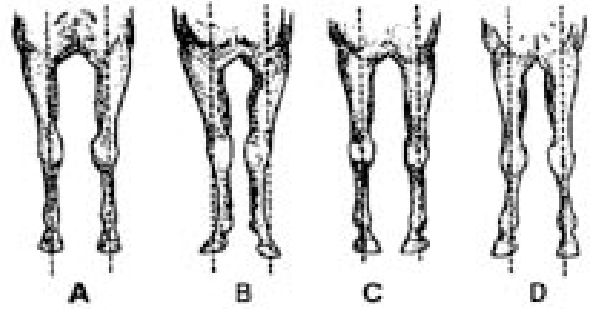
(See, Figure 1; C Manual, pages 313-324)

A.

B.

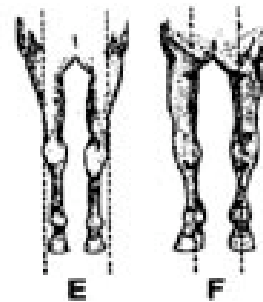
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D.



E.

F.



**Identify good and bad points of basic leg conformation.**

(See, Figure 3; C Manual, pages 313-324)

A.

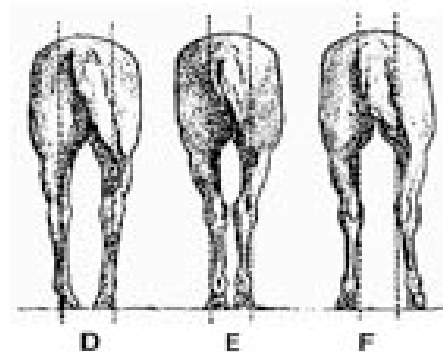
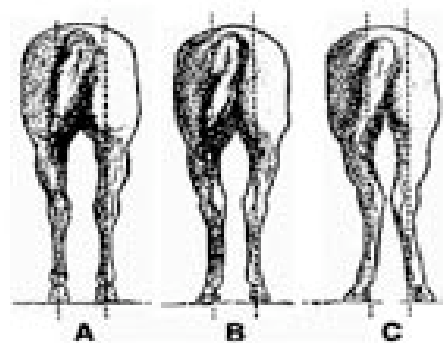
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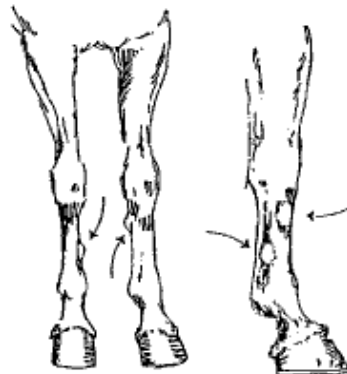
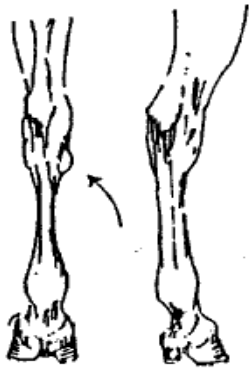
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## Horse Management Expectation

**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)

**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.

**Demonstrate trailer safety check from trailer safety checklist (on USPC website under forms).**  
**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:

**Measure and record pulse, temperature and respiration of own mount at rest with assistance of examiner.**

*Pulse*

*Temperature*

*Respiration:*

### **Introduction to Horse Sports**

List all the horse sports that are offered in USPC.

- |    |    |
|----|----|
| 1. | 5. |
| 2. | 6. |
| 3. | 7. |
| 4. | 8. |

## Teaching

**Demonstrate a safety and tack inspection for a D Pony Club member under direct supervision of Examiner. Explain to the D member the reason for the check, the process, and any safety issues found.**

(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.

## Land Conservation

**Name three different uses of land on which you, or others, ride.**

*Examples: Farmland, fair grounds, crops, etc.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**If your region conducts an Eventing Rally, determine who owns the land where the rally is held and the total amount of acres owned.**

**Identify one place in your area previously used for equestrian activities that is no longer available.**

- 1.

## Longeing

**Discuss reasons for longeing.**

(C Manual, pages 279-281)

**List 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.

**Demonstrate jogging mount, moving mount actively forward from the whip, with smooth transitions.**

## 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!**