
HORSEMANSHIP ASSESSMENT: INTRODUCTION

The assessment tools you are about to work through with your leader will give you a better idea of where you are needing to work with your horse for the project year. Regardless of your age and experience, you should work through these tools from the start. New members and experienced riders alike should make certain that all the skills listed have been mastered.

The levels have been set up to ensure safety for the horse and rider and to build a strong foundation for your future in riding, wherever it may take you. One of the project goals is to ensure riders are safe and effective in groundwork and riding skills as well as knowledge of their horse and equipment used. Your love for horses and the skills you gain through your project work will be of great benefit to you for your whole life.

How to use your Assessment Checklists

Keep your checklists up-to-date. Review each level with your leader to determine which skills you have already mastered and highlight the ones you are working on. Keep going back and reviewing the lists. This will be a useful tool to move you to the next level of Horsemanship. Happy riding!

LEVEL SEVEN: **DISMOUNTED SKILLS**

- Assist younger members with grooming and hoof care knowledge.
- Assist in teaching younger members about horse identification, colours, markings, breed conformations and evaluation.
- Be a good safety role model for younger members.
- Assist younger members in finding assistance dealing with horse health problems.
- Assist younger members to identify good and bad feed.
- Assist younger members in reading their horse's body language.
- Help younger members see correctly shoulders in, haunches in and lameness.
- Assist younger members with management of their facility.
- Assist younger members with their tack.

Evaluators signature

Date

LEVEL SEVEN: MOUNTED SKILLS

- Learn to broaden your riding abilities, try different events or disciplines.
- Assist younger members with any of the horse handling skills related to rein effects.
- Assist younger members with any of the horse handling skills related to laterals and collection.
- Be a good safety role model for younger members.
- Assist other members in developing riding patterns.

Evaluators signature

Date