



USEF TRAINING LEVEL RIDER TEST

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

Updated Dec. 1, 2014

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.

<p>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.</p> <p>READER PLEASE NOTE: Anything in parentheses should not be read.</p>	<p>CONDITIONS Arena: Small/Standard Actual Average Time: 3:30/5:00 Recommended Scheduled Time: 6:00/8:00 Maximum Possible Points: 100</p>
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TEST		DIRECTIVE IDEAS
1. A X C	Enter working trot Halt, Salute Proceed at working trot Track left	Rider's alignment, symmetry, steady, elastic rein contact. Straightness on centerline; smooth transitions to balanced halt and active trot. Bend and balance through turn.
2. E-B Near center line B	Half circle left 20 meters 3-6 steps of walk Proceed working trot 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.
3. HXF	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 Near center line	Circle right 20 meters Working canter right 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.
5. KXM X	Change rein 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. C	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 KA	Free walk 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. A	Working trot	Rider shows correct mechanics in rising trot; steady, elastic rein contact. Horse moves willingly into an active trot.
9. B-E Near center line E	Half circle left 20 meters 3-6 steps of walk Proceed working trot 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.
10. A Near center line	Circle left 20 meters 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 X	Change rein 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. C Before C C	Circle right 20 meters allowing the horse to stretch forward and downward Pick up the reins Working trot	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.
13. B-X G	Half circle right 10 meters Halt, Salute	Riders posture, alignment and symmetry; steady, elastic rein contact. Straightness on centerline; smooth transition to balanced halt.

Leave arena at A in walk on a long rein

UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION : 4047 IRON WORKS PARKWAY : LEXINGTON, KY 40511

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