

C* Proficiency Certificate Assessment Sheet

The C* Certificate must be assessed by a qualified assessor from your State panel, who is not connected to the candidate's Club or Centre. (See syllabus for exceptions to this). Candidates must be able to demonstrate all the following in order to qualify for the C* Certificate. A journal in an appropriate format of the year's riding and training is required for assessment.

RIDER		DATE OF BIRTH	
CLUB/CENTRE		VENUE	
EXAMINER		DATE	

OVERALL RESULT		
	COMPETENT (Y/N)	COMMENT
<i>RIDER'S TOOL KIT</i>		
<i>ON THE GROUND</i>		
<i>IN THE SADDLE</i>		
<i>LUNGEING</i>		
<i>HORSE MANAGEMENT</i>		
<i>JOURNAL</i>		
<i>WRITTEN ASSESSMENT</i>	/130	<i>Completed online or hard copy; must score 75%, ie. 97/130</i>
<i>RESULT OVERALL</i>		

PRESENTATION		
	(YES/NO)	COMMENT
Rider in clean, tidy, formal Pony Club or Centre uniform, including discipline-appropriate uniform for all practical tests.		
Horse and rider as for Pony Club competition, including plaiting.		
Gear clean and correctly fitted		
Punctuality, courtesy, overall impression		

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RIDER'S TOOL KIT		
REQUIREMENTS (per page 11 of Syllabus)	(YES/NO)	COMMENT
Rider can discuss the 10 principles of training designed to protect the horse's welfare, based on how a horse's memory and intelligence operate.		
Briefly explain the evolution and changing role of horses within human society.		
Discuss the horse's memory, ability to form habits and intelligence.		
Have a very thorough understanding of pressure-release and reward training.		
Explain conditioned reinforcers and their use.		
Understand punishment and habituation.		
Explain overshadowing.		
Show a developing understanding of the shaping process.		
OVERALL IMPRESSION		

ON THE GROUND (GROUND WORK to be completed in a bridle for C* level)		
REQUIREMENTS (per page 11 of Syllabus)	(YES/NO)	COMMENT
Understand the importance of clear, obedient responses on the ground.		
Demonstrate an understanding of the shaping process throughout ground work.		
Discuss the process of training a horse to step backward from voice cue.		
Know the difference between steps and strides.		
Demonstrate a developing ability to move the horse's hindquarters.		
Demonstrate park and head down.		
Complete the C* ground work dressage test with accuracy and control (p.34 of manual)		
OVERALL IMPRESSION		

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IN THE SADDLE (RIDDEN COMPONENT)		
REQUIREMENTS (per page 11-12 of Syllabus)	(YES/NO)	COMMENT
Discuss how a metronome can be used in horse training		
Demonstrate stop, slow and step back from light aids.		
Understand the biomechanics of turn.		
Ride a turn on the forehand.		
Ride with reins in one hand at walk, trot and canter.		
Ride without stirrups at walk, trot and canter.		
Demonstrate correct position.		
Be fluent with diagonal changes and be developing a feel for the correct diagonal.		
Be proficient in cantering – able to achieve correct leads most of the time and correct them when they are incorrect.		
Know the footfalls of all gaits.		
Use and discuss two-point and three-point position.		
Ride at 220, 350, 400 and 450 metres per minute with a degree of accuracy.		
Discuss warming up and cooling down.		
Discuss how to manage the horse when they first start going to events and competitions and have a clear understanding of safe practices in this situation.		
Discuss the etiquette for the warm up arena.		
JUMPING (per page 12 of the Syllabus)		
Understand two different forms of rein release (i.e. crest and automatic (direct) release)		
Negotiate small show jumps with calmness and an understanding of good training practices, height and width of 85cms		
Relate a discussion of shaping and punishment to jumping		
Demonstrate riding over small cross-country obstacles (at least 85cm)		
Know the different types of cross-country obstacles		
OVERALL IMPRESSION		

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LUNGEING (per page 12 of the Syllabus)		
Discuss the reasons for lungeing		
Discuss correct and safe attire and tack for lungeing		
Demonstrate correct, safe lungeing practices		
OVERALL IMPRESSION		

HORSE MANAGEMENT		
REQUIREMENTS (per page 12-13 of Syllabus)	(YES/NO)	COMMENT
Discuss the Five Freedoms		
Demonstrate how to neatly plait a mane and tail		
Discuss trimming and clipping styles. Understand the reasons for not trimming horse feathers and vibrissae (whiskers)		
Discuss correct hoof management practices (shoeing, trimming etc.)		
Know the farrier's tools (rasp, knife, cutters, hammer, buffer and pincers).		
Discuss the requirements for safe transportation of horses		
Know the paddock checklist		
Know the daily checklist for the paddocked horse		
Understand the care requirements for both a paddocked and stabled horse		
Discuss stable bedding types		
Discuss feeding guidelines		
Discuss different types of hay and basic feeds appropriate to the local area		
Discuss letting the horse down for a spell		
Discuss the process of getting a horse fit after a spell		
Know when to call the vet		
Know how to take the following observations for the vet: heart rate, respiration rate, temperature, manure		
Know the signs of a healthy horse		



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Describe a well-stocked first aid kit and the use of each item of contents		
Bandage a minor leg wound		
Be able to detect lameness		
Discuss the identification and treatment of common ailments including laminitis, colds, greasy heel and seedy toe		
Discuss parasite control appropriate to the local area		
Discuss vaccinations for tetanus and strangles, plus other vaccinations needed for the local area.		
Discuss dental care		
Be able to tell a horse's age by looking at the teeth		
Demonstrate an understanding of correctly fitted tack including martingales		
Understand the different types of bits		
Discuss how to fit leg protection to the horse		
Explain how to maintain rugs and grooming equipment		
OVERALL IMPRESSION (Candidate's safety, knowledge and proficiency)		

ASSESSMENT DETAILS	
EXAMINER (PRINT NAME)	
EXAMINER (SIGNATURE)	

NEXT:

- This sheet is to be handed to the Club Secretary or Centre manager and will be given to the candidate in due course.
- The results are to be filled in on the separate Assessment Report and emailed to your state and Pony Club Australia via info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au (Put 'Certificate Assessments' in the Subject)
- Pony Club Australia certificates are available in packs of five from the [MyPonyClub](#) member store