

Why not try . . . ?

The Discipline  
of the Month



**No 8.**

# Jumping Equitation

## Five reasons to try Jumping Equitation

**1.** This is a jumping event where you also gain points for presentation and riding ability.

**2.** Your horse benefits because you learn to ride at an even, calm pace.

**3.** There is no jump off - it's one round only. So you don't need to have a fast horse, or be worried about increased fence height.



**4.** Having to think about your position and how you are riding makes for a better rider - and happier horse.

**5.** The equipment is the same as for showjumping - if you have some show jumps you can do this variation.



Photo: Vicki Tapper, Vickiphotos; PCAWA

# Jumping Equitation - What is It?

The perfect Equitation round should be one of rhythm, fluency and precision. The rider should look like they are doing very little to maintain the flow. If these components of the 'invisible ride' are not achieved then look for what is causing the jarring role.

Jumping Equitation is rather like dressage over jumps. Not only do you have to complete the course, you are marked on other aspects as well, including your presentation (judged before the test), your position, your accuracy, your control of the horse and more.

It doesn't require you to ride fast, or do a jump off over heightened fences.

It does require you to do one round, preferably clear, and jump all the fences PLUS do some of the following, which should not disrupt the flow:

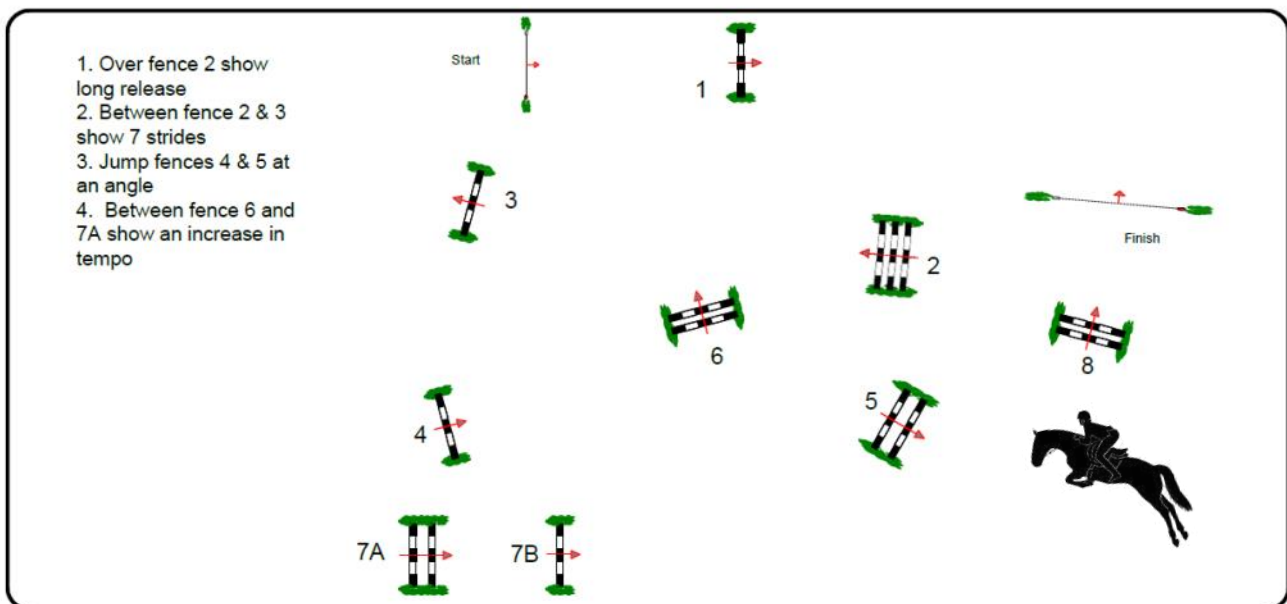
1. Show long/short crest release over fence
2. Show increase of pace between two fences
3. Jump a fence from the hand gallop
4. Jump a fence on an angle
5. Show a stipulated number of strides between two fences
6. Show a short turn between two fences

Alternative Tests, depending on your level:

1. adjustment of stirrups – at the halt / at the walk  
(To be done before starting the jumping round)
2. Drop and pick up stirrups – at the halt/at the walk  
(To be done before starting the jumping round)
3. Pick up a stipulated lead – from the walk/trot to the canter
4. Change lead through the trot
5. Downward/upward transition at a marker
6. Canter on counter lead (i.e. counter canter)
7. Halt and rein back, maximum four strides (to be done after the finish or before the start)
8. Flying change
9. Jump a fence from the trot. (Preferably this test to be done at Fence 1)



## Sample JE Course



Above: This sample jumping equitation course supplied by PCANSW was from an event at Sydney Royal Easter Show and shows the type of extra requirements JE requires. The course designed by John Vallance is one round, untimed.



## Jumping Equitation as a Teams Event

Some States hold (or used to hold) Jumping Equitation as an event at their State Showjumping Championships. Here's an example of how to make this a team event—taken from the rules for PCAWA's State Championship equitation class.

### **Presentation & Equitation**

The event is for a team of four. Two riders jump 80cm and two riders jump 95cm. All Presentation and Equitation scores are added together for a total. Team with the overall highest value places 1st.

### **Presentation**

- Riders present in team height pairs and are judged on their presentation i.e. gear, mount and the riders.
- This is NOT an exercise in having the same, or brand new, gear.
- It is expected that horses/ponies would be plaited for presentation.
- The judging is held before the riders commence their showjumping round in the jumping arena.
- A matrix and the scoring sheets is provided to the Presentation Judges, and two Judges score each rider. We want to encourage neat, clean riders correctly attired in their Pony Club uniform. We do not encourage excessive makeup or matching coloured gear.
- The marshal presents a team of two riders at a time, who will already have been officially gear checked and will be mounted.
- Judges have approximately five minutes to review and give a score out of five in each section (there are four sections). The final total is out of 20 points. This total is then added to the riders' equitation showjumping round score, judged in the SJ arena.

### **Equitation**

See the (attached) score sheet. We have one judge who scores this.

- Adapted from the article provided by Jeanette Hatch, Chair of the PCAWA SJ Committee





# How is Jumping Equitation scored?

This scoresheet kindly provided by Pony Club Tasmania

**PONY CLUB TASMANIA Inc.**

**OFFICIAL JUMPING EQUITATION SCORESHEET** (adapted from the EA)

Rider's name:	Club:	Event/venue:
Rider's number:	Date:	Judge:
Horse's name:		

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	MAJOR FAULT	MINOR FAULT	Mark	Positive Comments
	Pencilers should underline the fault noted		(out of 10)	
10	<b>Presentation and Gear</b>			
1	<b>LEG</b> - Ineffective/ loss of stirrup/ loose calf or knee/ lacks deep heel/ leg too far forward or back/ stirrups too long or too short/ stirrup on tip of toe or home		<b>X2</b>	
2	<b>EYE CONTACT</b> - Not looking at line/ looking down/ looking for leads			
3	<b>SEAT</b> - inappropriate use of 2 point or 3 point/ unstable/ too far forward or too far back in saddle/ uneven			
4	<b>HANDS</b> - Rough/ fixed/ under-release/ elbows fixed/ throwing reins away/ inappropriate bit/ too high/ too low/ uneven/ reins too long or too short/ over-release			
5	<b>UPPER BODY</b> - Getting left (a miss)/ behind motion/ ahead of motion/ stiff/ twisting/ ducking/ leaning out			
6	<b>RHYTHM AND TEMPO</b> - Lacking impulsion/ break in gait/ uneven/erratic/ rushing/ leaving out strides/ adding strides/ too fast/ too slow		<b>X2</b>	
7	<b>CONTROL</b> - Refusal/ resisting aids/ under-riding (passive)/ overriding (active)/ horse pulling/ on forehand/ above bit			
8	<b>APPROACH AND LINE</b> - Not follow track/ wrong lead/ disunited/cut corner/ drifting/ incorrect bend and lines/ weaving			
9	<b>TAKE OFF</b> - deep spot/ long spot/ not centre of fence/ propping fence / propping			
	<b>TASK</b> – If any			
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b> Maximum good marks: 120			Knockdown (4)
	<b>LESS PENALTIES</b>			1 <sup>st</sup> Disobedience (4)
				2 <sup>nd</sup> Disobedience (8)
	<b>FINAL SCORE</b>			3 <sup>rd</sup> Disobedience (Elim.)
	<b>PLACE</b>			Fall of horse / rider (Elim.)
				<b>TOTAL PENALTIES</b>

**SCALE OF MARKS**

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 10 = excellent   | 4 = insufficient  |
| 9 = very good    | 3 = fairly bad    |
| 8 = good         | 2 = bad           |
| 7 = fairly good  | 1 = very bad      |
| 6 = satisfactory | 0 = not performed |
| 5 = Sufficient   |                   |

Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# How is the Jumping Equitation 'Presentation' component scored?



These are the general requirements expected of Pony Club riders and their horses for Presentation.

Riders present in pairs, each judge assesses one rider. Each Judge has approx 5 minutes with a rider, so Judges can pick a few items from each section below to assess or have a general review of all. Judges are welcome to talk to the riders and ask questions about their horses or why they are using certain gear. Judge to complete the score sheet supplied.

## RIDER

Helmet	correctly fitted
Helmet cover	clean
Hair	tied back with hairnet
Jewellery	studs only
Shirt & tie	clean, tied correctly
Jumper	clean
Badge	centre of jumper v
Jodhpurs	clean
Boots	sole okay, clean, polished
Gloves	clean
Whip	appropriate length
Body protector	correct fit
Chaps Gaiter/chappettes	clean
<b>Total points rider (out of 5)</b>	

## HORSE

Condition	appropriate
Body	clean, well groomed
Underbody	clean, well groomed
Head	clean, well groomed
Mane	clean, platted
Tail	clean, brushed
False tail (not compulsory)	no metal parts showing, secure
Eyes/nostrils/dock	clean, no discharge
Hooves	cleaned out, good condition
Boots	clean, well fitted
<b>Total points horse (out of 5)</b>	

## GEAR

Bridle	correct fit, good stitching condition
	keepers, runners good condition/used correctly
Leather	clean/supple
OR Synthetic	clean
Bit	clean, appropriate
Noseband	clean
<b>SADDLE</b>	
Saddle cloth	fit, clean
Saddle	fit, clean
Stirrup bar (dependant on Saddle)	down
Stirrup leathers	stitching good condition, clean, supple
Stirrup irons	size
<b>GIRTH</b>	
Girth	correctly attached, clean
Girth straps	stitching complete, safe
Martingale (not compulsory)	fit, stoppers
Breast plate (not compulsory)	fit, clean
<b>Total Points Gear (out of 5)</b>	
<b>OVERALL impression (out of 5)</b>	

**AIM: Neat and tidy Club Members, wearing the correct Club Uniform,**

**A clean horse with well maintained gear**

**IT IS NOT ABOUT Makeup, matching expensive gear or matching horses.**

Kindly provided by the PCAWA State Showjumping Committee



Photo: Vicki Tapper, Vickiphotos, PCAWA

# More things to know



The 'track' you ride for a jumping equestrian course is important

## Not Following Track

Rider deviates from the ideal track.



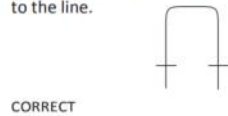
## Cut Corner

The horse cuts the corner into an obstacle or line of obstacles. This can be caused by rider not looking to line, an evasion of, or lack of application of inside lateral aids. It can cause a horse to be unbalanced on take-off, jump to one side of the obstacle or to run out.



## Drifting Out

When a horse drifts on a corner he is no longer following a fluent track. It is a lateral evasion of a rider's aids or the lack of outside lateral aids. Often drifting is caused by rider not looking to the line.



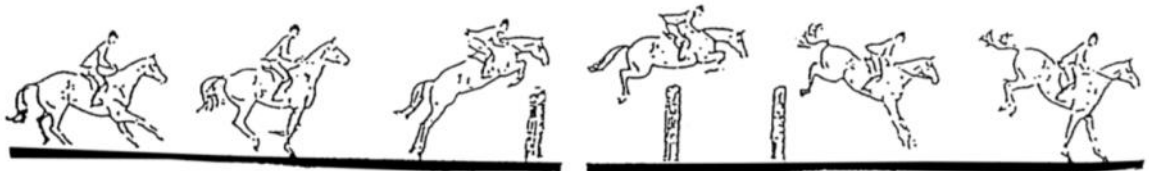
## Do you know these take off terms?

Off Centre  
Deep Spot  
Long Spot

Propping  
Dangerous

If not, ask your coach to explain them to you.

## Ideal Jump Sequence



- Horse lowers head and neck and begins to engage hocks
- Hocks are engaged and forehand raised, like a coiled spring ready for take off
- Spring released, horse shows very good bascule
- Horse stretching neck from withers and shoulders
- Horse maintaining good follow through with hind legs
- Horse landing with good balance ready for departure to next obstacle

## Resources

[Pony Club Tasmania Inc. Handbook V4.3](#)

[Queensland rules for Jumping Equitation](#)

[PCANSW Guide to Jumping Equitation](#)

Don't forget to share, and also send us, your photos or videos so we can see and share them in our newsletters and on Facebook too!

Each month in 2020 we are bringing you a 'Discipline of the Month' - it is up to you when you try it out.

[You can find them all on our website](#)