



National Agricultural Youth Show

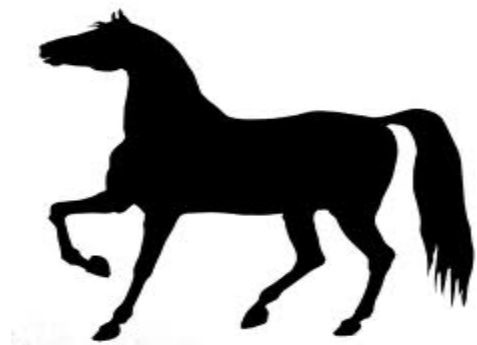
Horses Manual



2024

INDEX

1. INTRODUCTION
2. AIM
3. STABLE MANAGEMENT
4. ROUTINE GROOMING OF THE HORSE
5. WATER
6. NUTRITION
7. HANDLING OF HORSES
8. HEALTH
9. DISEASES OF HORSES
10. PARASITES
11. TEETH, HOOVES AND BASIC CARE
12. EQUIPMENT
13. POINTS OF THE HORSE
14. FINAL PREPARATION FOR THE SHOW
15. GENERAL
16. GUIDELINES FOR WASHING
17. GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION
18. GUIDELINES FOR THE SHOWMANSHIP CLASS
19. GUIDELINES FOR GROUP SHOW CLASSES
20. GENERAL INFORMATION



1. INTRODUCTION

In order to show a horse, you as a rider or competitor must be convinced that the horse you are going to show will be acceptable to the judge. The fact that the horse has excellent conformation and movement is of little importance if the horse is not worthy to be shown. In other words, the following aspects should be correct:

- Condition of the horse
- Quality of the coat
- Hooves
- Manageability
- Preparation etc.

2. AIM

The aim of this guideline is to provide general guidelines for the preparation of a horse for the Youth show, specific to In hand classes. It also provides the base of the Knowledge exam written at the Youth show.

3. STABLE MANAGEMENT

3.1 INTRODUCTION

It should be the ambition of every rider to strive for the highest standard in the condition of their horse, the organized management of their stable, care or tack exercise and rest of the horse, as well as hygiene of the stable yard. Good stable management is the ability to keep a horse fit and healthy ~ while maintaining hygienic environment.

3.2 STABLES

a) Requirements for stables: The following aspects are important:

- It must be big enough
- Dry foundations
- Good drainage
- Good ventilation
- Adequate light
- Good water access
- Security – the stable yard should be fenced with lockable gates.

b) Size of stable

Horses range from 14.3 hh to 16.2 hh and should have a stable big enough to turn around and lie down. The following measurements comply with the above requirements.

- Floor surface: 9 m²
- Height of walls: 3.6 m
- Double brick walls are ideal and moisture resistant

c) Stable floors

The floors should comply with the following:

- Cement floors are the most popular. They are quite affordable and last well.
- Cement floors must be roughened as to avoid becoming slippery.
- The stable floor should not retain water. In other words, it should have a drainage system. This can be done by sloping the floor slightly towards the door.

d) Stable Appliances

The following items should be found in a stable:

- **Door:** High enough so that the horse cannot jump over it, and equipped with a latch that the horse cannot open.
- **Metal ring:** All rings should be firmly attached. There should be two rings in the stable. One at ± 1.5 m above floor level to tie up the horse and one at ± 2 m above floor level; to tie the hay net which should be 1.8 m off the ground at its middle. (These measurements can be adapted depending on the height of the horse).
- **Feed Bin:** A built in feed bin should be in the front corner of the stable away from the door. It should be approximately the height of the chest of the horse. The manger should be shallow enough that the horse does not bang his jaw, but deep enough so that the horse cannot throw the food out.
- **Hay rack:** A metal hay rack the same height as the hay net is a good idea as it is less labor intensive and easier to fill than the hay net.

3.3 CLEANING OF THE STABLES

Careful and thorough management is essential for stables which are cleaned every day.

The following steps can be helpful:

- Place all necessary equipment outside the stable.
- Tie up the horse or remove him to a safer area before starting to clean.
- Remove the water container to prevent waste falling in and contaminating it.
- Remove all dung and wet bedding with a pitchfork or eight pronged fork. Remember to always work away from the horse.
- Separate the dirty and clean bedding and work the dirty bedding towards the door.
- The clean bedding should be stacked against the sides of the stable to give the floor an opportunity to dry.
- The heaped bedding is used to make the middle of the bed while new bedding is added to the sides to replace the bedding that was removed.

3.4 BEDDING

If the horse is to survive the stable environment, then a good quality bed is important for the following reasons:

- It will encourage the horse to lie down and therefore relieve pressure on his legs.
- A deep soft bed will prevent injuries to the heels when lying down and standing up.
- It will help by keeping the cold out.
- It will encourage the horse to urinate. It is important for the horse to urinate regularly.
- It serves as a drainage medium and absorbs moisture.
- It helps to keep the horse clean.

3.5 PADDOCKS

Fencing is an important subject. It is not only essential to keep a horse inside, but it must be done safely. The following aspects should be considered:

- The best type of fencing for horses is post and rail wooden fences that have been treated with creosote. It lasts a life time and therefore is economical in the long term.
- The paddock must be big enough to allow 0.5 hectares per horse. It is important to use gates sturdy and easy to open and close. Latches should be effective and functional.
- All gates and rails should be smooth with no nails and bolts sticking out which could injure the horse.

3.6 STORAGE OF FEED

The correct method of storing feed is very important:

- It must be kept clean and dry
- It must be protected from pests and insects (mice, mites etc.)
- New feed must be kept separately from old feed
- Old feed should be used first. **First in - First out.**

4. ROUTINE GROOMING OF THE HORSE

- a) When horses are stabled usually 12 hours per day, they are taken out of their natural habitat and therefore it becomes the responsibility of the handler to take care of them and make sure they are kept clean. Cleaning the horse comprises the daily attention that should be given to the skin, mane, tail and feet of a stabled horse. To clean and groom a stabled horse should take 30 - 45 minutes, depending on the condition of the horse, the time of the year and the work done on that specific day by that horse.

Horses are kept clean for the following reasons:

- To promote good health
 - To maintain condition
 - To prevent illness
 - To promote hygiene
 - To improve appearance
- b) **Cleaning of hooves:**
- Remove all material from the hoof with the hoof pick.
 - Work from the heel down towards the toe.
 - Inspect the frog for any signs of foot rot.
 - Hooves should be oiled at least once per week. This should be done more often in dry sandy areas.
- c) **Removal of mud and sweat**
- Use the curry comb in a circular motion.
 - Do not use the curry comb on bony areas of the body.
 - Do not use excessive pressure on the spine or kidney areas.
 - Clean the curry comb regularly by tapping it against your shoe.

d) Massaging of the muscles

- Work with the curry comb in the direction of the hair growth.
- Give special attention to the areas where the muscles are hard and flat.
- Avoid bony areas.
- Work softly over sensitive areas.

e) Removal of dust

- Stand next to the forequarters and look in the direction of the hindquarters.
- Hold the soft body brush in the hand nearest the horse and the curry comb in the other hand.
- Use reasonable pressure on the brush and remove the dust by brushing in the direction of the hair growth.
- Clean the brush with the curry comb after every few strokes.
- Clean the curry comb by tapping it against the heel of your shoe or boot.

f) Cleaning the head

- Place the halter around the horse's neck.
- Stand beside the head and look in the same direction as the horse.
- The arm nearest the horse is placed under the jaw with the hand over the nose.
- The soft brush is held in the other hand.
- Brush the head gently so as not to injure the sensitive and bony areas of the head.
- Repeat on the other side and replace the halter.

g) Brushing the tail

- Stand next to the hindquarters and hold the tail in the hand nearest the horse with a soft brush in the other hand.
- Work only with a few strands at a time.
- Brush the tail thoroughly using the fingers to loosen any knots.
- A hard brush is not used as it breaks the hair.

h) Use of a sponge or cloth

- Rinse out the cloth in a weak Savlon solution.
- Clean the eyes by working from the corner outwards.
- Rinse the cloth out after each eye.
- Clean the lips as well as the inside and outside of the nose.
- Lastly lift the tail and clean under the dock.

5. WATER

Horses must be fed and watered daily. Although horses can go without food for some time, but they must have water.

Why must we give water?

The largest portion of a horse's body consists of water. A foal consists of 80% water and a full-grown horse 50%. The horse uses water for the following reasons:

- The circulatory system and the digestive system cannot work correct without water.
- Lime in the water helps with the building and formation of bones and other tissues.
- Water is essential to quench thirst and helps with excretion.

Water intake and rules for giving water

- A horse drinks about 30 - 50litres a day.
- A horse produces about 30 liters of gastric juices per day to help with digestion.
- Water should be freely available.
- The horse should get water 3xdaily in winter and 6x daily in summer.
- Give water before feed.
- If water is not freely accessible then the horse should only be given water 1 hour after a feed.
- If the water bucket is in the stable, it should be cleaned and filled 2x daily.
- If a horse has been without water for a long period of time, then it should be given small amounts until its system can manage larger amounts.
- Remove the water 2-3 hours before hard work - a full stomach will press on the diaphragm and impact on breathing.
- During hard work, the horse should be allowed about 10 sips of water every 2 hours.

The following watering equipment can be found in a stable complex

Water trough in the yard:

The horse has full access if he is in that paddock. If the horse is stabled and the water trough is the only water point, then he should be taken regularly to drink.

Automatic Water feeder:

It is a good system if it is kept clean and in good working order. The amount of water consumed per day cannot be estimated with this system. Water intake should be monitored as a reduction in intake can indicate illness.

A bucket or drum in the stable:

This is an effective system. The drum or bucket must be in the corner of the stable away from the feed crib. The container should be able to be seen from the stable door. The containers should be cleaned and filled 2x a day.

6. NUTRITION

The amount of feed required for a horse in a day depends on the following factors:

- Whether the horse is stabled or grazed in a paddock.
- The size, age and temperament of the horse.
- The time of the year.

Ration scales

Every horse should be given feed according to a specific routine. The amount of work that the horse is doing will determine which routine to follow.

Rules for feeding

- **Feed small amounts regularly:** Horses eat small amounts regularly because their digestive systems do not have the ability to manage large amounts of food. If done correctly and well controlled, feeding can be restricted to 3x a day.
- **Give large amounts of fodder:** Without large amounts of fodder, the digestive system cannot function correctly. Fodder should be freely available. A horse should not be left in a stable for more than 2 hours without a hay net.
- **Feed according to work, age, temperament, condition and size:** When a horse is doing heavy work he needs energy rich foods like Oats and concentrates. If he is doing light or no work, the concentrates should be restricted as the horse can become unmanageable or start bad habits. Remember to give more fodder if you reduce concentrates.
- **Give water before feed:** If water is given too soon after feed, the feed can be washed through the stomach too fast causing the nutritional value not to be absorbed and it can cause colic. Feeding should be done in the following order:
 - a. Water
 - b. Fodder
 - c. Concentrates
- **Give only clean good quality feed:** A horse can only make use of what is in the feed. Therefore feed should be given that is easily digestible and has a high nutritional value.
- **Avoid sudden changes in feeding times:** Regular feed times based on a routine are important to keep a horse in good condition. If a horse is used to a certain feeding time, his system begins to automatically secrete digestive juices and he becomes physiologically as well psychologically prepared to eat at this time. He is relaxed and ready to eat.
- **Don't make sudden changes in the type and amount of feed:** Changes in the quality and type of feed should be accompanied by a change in workload. Changes should be done over a period of weeks to avoid upsetting the horse's system. Concentrates can be reduced without problems, but should be increased gradually.
- **Don't work a horse immediately after a feed:** The blood supply to the digestive tract is increased and if exercise requires blood supply to the muscles this can result in cramps and incomplete digestion of the food in the stomach and bowel. For the same reason, a horse should not be fed directly after exercise. Allow the horse to cool down slowly before he gets his food.

- Also feed something juicy every day.
- Feed at the same time every day. A horse likes routine.
- Know what the quantity of your scoop is (in kg's).
- Never throw feed on the ground.
- Watch out for moldy food.
- Mice carry disease and their droppings are dangerous for horses.
- Supplements can be given in the form of Molasses (500g per day), saltlicks, vitamins and minerals. Apples and carrots are also very good.

7. HANDLING OF HORSES

Horses need to be handled and approached calmly at all times to prevent them getting a fright and injuring themselves or the rider.

Approach

- In a paddock:** The following procedure should be used if the horse is in a paddock.
 - Sum up the horse to decide if he is tame or wild.
 - Try to corner him.
 - If possible, the horse should be approached from the front on the left.
 - Use your voice to calm the horse.
 - Watch his eyes, nostrils and ears for any signs of restlessness.
 - Don't carry any strange things in your hands.
 - Never move quickly towards the horse.
 - When you are next to the horse stroke him on the neck and shoulder, while speaking softly to clam him.
 - Stand next to the left front leg and place your arm around his neck.
 - Never run.
- In the stable:** Just as above, make sure that the horse is aware of your presence before you touch him.
- Putting on the halter:** A halter is put on as follows:
 - Place the lead rein over the neck with the right hand.
 - Take it on the other side of the neck with the left hand under the neck and place the loose point with the rest in the right hand.
 - Place the noseband of the halter over the nose with the left hand.
 - With the right hand over the neck, take the halter strap and place it in position behind the ears and crown and buckle it.
- How to catch a horse**
 - Catch him daily, even if just to feed him a tidbit. This will make him easier to catch tomorrow.
 - Have a tidbit.
 - Halter and lead rope over shoulder.
 - Walk to within calling distance and "call".
 - Walk up to his left shoulder.
 - Give him a bite of tidbit.
 - Slide lead rope over his neck.
 - Put the halter on while standing next to the pony's neck.

- Do up strap behind the ears.
- Give the rest of the tidbit.
- Say "Walk on" and walk.

e. Turning a horse loose in the field

- Never with a bridle.
- Go into the paddock.
- Shut the gate.
- Walk away \pm 5 m and turn the pony around.
- Take the halter off.
- Let him walk away.
- Don't chase him, this will make him harder to catch the next time.

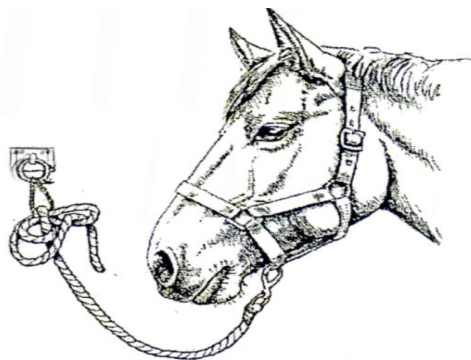
f. Leading the horse with a halter or bridle

The following is appropriate when leading a horse:

- Hold the lead rein in the right hand about 15 cm from the halter.
- The loose end of the rope rolled up and held in the left hand
- Command the horse to walk forward and lightly pull on the rope.
- Well trained horses will walk immediately when the handler does.
- Never jerk the lead rope or frighten the horse.
- If the horse resists or backs away, do not let go the rope.
- Ask an assistant to help by encouraging the horse from behind.
- When the horse is led with a bridle, the reins are split with the index finger between them.
- Take the reins about 15 cm from the bit so that your finger nails face downwards.
- Hold the point of the reins in your left hand.
- If the horse rears or backs away, don't hang on the reins. Move with the horse while you try to calm him.

g. Tying up the horse

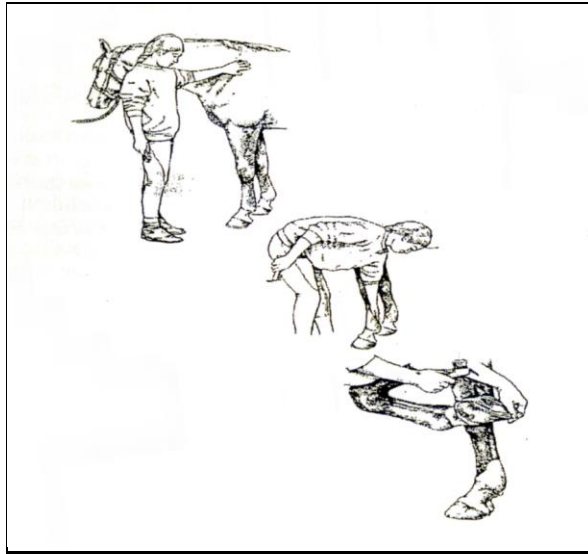
A horse may only be tied up if there is someone with him. To prepare him or for him to eat, etc. You may not leave him alone if he is tied up. It may only be done with a slip knot as follows:



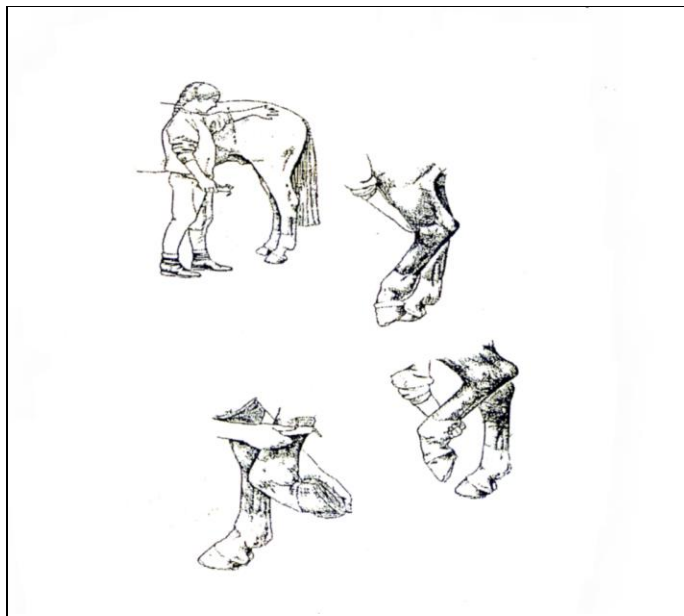
h. Lifting the legs

- Put your hand on top of the horse's shoulder or hindquarter.
- Move downwards with the shoulder of hindquarter, without breaking contact with your horse.
- Give the instruction, "Foot" and place a little pressure with your shoulder to encourage the lifting of the leg.

Lifting up the front legs



Lifting up the back legs



8. HEALTH

Signs of good Health

- An alert, awake expression on the face.
- Clear eyes. The membranes pink.
- No secretion from the nose or eyes. In summer there may be a secretion from the eyes from fly irritation.
- Twitching ears.
- Shiny coat lying flat.
- A loose skin which moves easily over the underlying bones.
- The horse stands comfortable on all four legs or resting a back leg.
- No signs of sweating at rest except in hot humid conditions.
- Legs are cool with no unusual swellings.
- Fairly opaque and colorless or pale-yellow urine several times a day.
- Dung that is free of unusually unpleasant odors and that is regularly excreted. Color will vary depending on feed.
- Normal appetite and water consumption.
- Temperature of 38°C (can vary with 0,5° up or down in morning and evening).
- A Pulse of 36 to 42 beats per minute at rest (walk - 75 bpm, trot 127 bpm).
- A respiration of 8-12 respirations per minute.

9. DISEASES OF HORSES

9.1 AHS – AFRICAN HORSE DISEASE

Cause:

It is a viral disease that only occurs in Africa. The disease is usually deadly. The disease is spread by Midges from horse to horse. The State exercises strong control over the disease and the dangerous time is January to March.

Symptoms:

- Swelling of the head
- Secretions from the nose
- Horse still eats well
- Temperature
- Red foam out of mouth and nose just before death anorexia
- Difficulty in breathing
- Swollen legs

Action to be taken:

- Remove horse immediately from the herd
- Contact the vet

Prevention

Vaccination

9.2 EQUINE FLU

Cause:

It is caused by a virus that is inhaled and affects the respiratory system. It is highly contagious. It can affect the heart in the later stages.

Symptoms:

- Cold and flu symptoms
- Cough and nasal secretions (yellow and green)
- Eats little or not at all
- Temperature and raised pulse.

Action to be taken:

- Isolate the horse immediately
- Contact the vet

Prevention:

Vaccination

9.3 STRANGLES

Cause:

- Bacterial infection of the lymph

Symptoms:

- Temperature
- Nasal secretions - first clear and then slimy and thick
- Loses appetite
- Difficulty in swallowing
- Difficulty breathing
- Enlarged glands

Action to be taken:

- Isolate horse as quickly as possible
- Contact the vet

Prevention:

Vaccination

9.4 TETANUS

Cause:

Deep wounds that remain closed e.g., on a rusty nail.

Symptoms:

- Sensitivity to light
- Locked jaw
- Doesn't eat at all
- Unsteady on legs (no co-ordination)
- Can't stand up

- Nervous and aggressive

Action to be taken:

- Contact vet
- Look for wounds

Prevention:

- Vaccination
- Where someone works a lot with horses, it is important to be vaccinated as well.

9.5 COLIC

Cause:

- Sudden and uncontrolled access to large amounts of rich feed.
- Change in routine (new stable, environment, etc).
- Change in feeding routine
- Working on a full stomach
- Exhaustion
- Moldy food
- Teeth problems
- Internal parasites
- Greedy eaters
- Earthen floors in stables
- Feed and drink too soon after exercise.

Symptoms:

- Rolling around
- Biting and kicking at other horses
- Hard dung or no dung
- Sweating
- High temperature
- Discomfort
- Aggressive behavior

Action to be taken:

Contact the vet

Prevention:

- Inspect teeth regularly
- Deworming
- Gradual change in feed or routine
- Cool horse down before food or water
- Fresh, clean water
- Enough fodder (roughage)
- Be careful of too much concentrate
- Watch out for moldy food

9.6 BILLIARY FEVER

Cause:

- Several types of ticks play host to the *Babesia* parasite.
- Ticks carry the disease from one horse to another especially the Bont tick.

Symptoms:

- Temperature
- Anemia
- Depression
- Loss of appetite
- Pale mucous membranes (gums and eyelids)
- Urine red in color
- Dung is small, hard balls with a clingy film on them
- Swelling of head, legs, lower abdomen and chest.

Action to be taken:

Contact the vet

Prevention:

Regular dipping to kill ticks.

9.7 DEHIDRATION

Cause:

Too little water especially with heavy exercise or together with other illnesses.

Test for dehydration

- Pinch the skin on the neck and it should retract immediately.
- Press your thumb into the gums for 2 seconds and release. The color should return within ½ second.

Action to be taken:

Ensure enough clean water always available.

9.8 THRUSH

Cause:

It is a degenerative condition of the frog of the foot forming a black smelly secretion which collects in the hollow of the hoof. If it continues and spreads to sensitive tissue it can cause lameness. This condition is caused by poor hoof hygiene - not cleaning out hooves and standing in damp conditions.

Treatment:

- Remove the cause
- Clean hooves regularly
- Have feet trimmed regularly
- Scrub hoof with antiseptic solution
- Use an antibiotic spray on infected areas.

Prevention:

- Good hygiene
- Daily cleaning of hooves
- Clean and dry bedding
- Toes must remain short.

9.9 LAMINITIS (Inflammation in the tissues of the feet)**Cause:**

- Poor nutrition, e.g., too much carbohydrates cause excess acid production and the formation of toxins.
- Mechanical, e.g., poor maintenance and trimming of the hooves or working on hard surfaces.
- Stress caused by travelling far distances.
- Cortisone use.

Signs:

- Hoof pain and lameness
- Hooves are "hot"
- Shifting weight between legs and standing uncomfortably - prefers to lie down.

Action to be taken:

- Contact vet
- Remove the cause as soon as possible
- The farrier should work with the vet
- Balanced diet
- Exercise is important to keep circulation if laminitis not acute.

9.10 AZOTURIA**Cause:**

It occurs in animals that, after being engaged in continuous work, are given a long rest with continuation of the high-protein diet and then return to work.

Symptoms:

- Slightly stiff back legs, to serious pain and inability to move. Excessive sweating and dark brown urine.

Action to be taken:

- Cease all exercise
- Keep horse warm
- Give water and hay - no concentrates

Prevention:

- Give less concentrates on off day
- Warm up and cool down carefully
- Ensure enough calcium phosphates and salt in feed
- Cut down high protein concentrate.

10. PARASITES

10.1 INTERNAL PARASITES

Symptoms:

- Pale mucous membranes (anemia)
- Tail rubbing
- Cough
- Colic
- Dull coat
- Lose condition or don't pick up weight.

Types:

Pupae - Larvae of flies, mainly horseflies that lay their eggs on the hair of the horse (yellow nits). The horse licks and ingests the pupa into the stomach where the larvae live on the food in the bowel. They secrete a substance that is bad for the horse.

Tape worms - Live in the small or large bowel. Segments come out in the feces and cause further infection. The host is a small mite which lives in the grass and is ingested by the horse. They absorb digested food and therefore rob the horse of its nutrition.

Roundworms (Ascarids) - large worm that lives in the small intestine. It can get as big and thick as a pencil. It is found often in young horses where it influences their growth and causes a dull coat, colic and diarrhea.

Control:

- Deworming
- In high risk horses (large numbers in one camp): should be done every 4 weeks.
- Medium risk (few together but contact with other horses): should be done every 3 months.
- Low risk - stabled or little contact with other horses: every six months.

10.2 EXTERNAL PARASITES

Types:

Ticks: Suck blood and can transmit diseases in horses.

Midges: Transmit horse sickness and irritate the horse.

Flies and horseflies: irritating and can transmit Anthrax.

Symptoms:

Anemia, wounds, damaged skin, illness

Control:

- Tick Grease / Vaseline
- Smear between legs, under tail, behind hooves and in ears
- Spray or dip

Vaccinations:

NB: read the label!

Use a vet to do the vaccinations

African Horse sickness: September to November annually. Under the skin injection in the neck.

Equine Flu: March/April annually

Tetanus: March /April annually

Strangles: September/November annually. Ensure with pregnant mares that they can in fact be inoculated.

11. TEETH, HOOVES AND BASIC CARE:

- Inspect your horse's legs, back and feet daily for heat and swelling.
- Never ride a lame horse.
- Clean feet daily and check for cuts and stones.
- Apply new or used sunflower oil to hooves from hair to the end of the hoof.
- Check the sides of the mouth for swellings which could indicate a sharp tooth.
- Remain sensitive to the temperature of the horse so you can pick up a fever.
- Make sure your horse is eating well.
- Apply sunblock to the sensitive white and pink spots on the horse's face.

Teeth:

The teeth should be checked regularly. A horse's grinding teeth work laterally against each other and can develop sharp points which prevent the horse from grinding the food correctly. It can also happen that he will bite his cheeks and later on refuse to eat. If a horse chews with his mouth open and food falls out, it is an indication that the teeth should be attended to.

First Aid kit:

It is important to keep a first aid kit handy in the tack room or with you on a journey. It should be kept in a small watertight container. The contents are for the management of small injuries that can happen in the paddock or at a show. For serious injuries, first aid is temporary and a vet should be contacted.

Contents of the First Aid kit:

- Antiseptic solutions for cleaning wounds like Iodine and Dettol
- Wound powders and sprays
- Ointments like Betadine, Savlon or Dermisol
- Bandages and plasters
- Sterile non-adherent dressings
- Cotton wool
- Scissors (curved, blunt edged)
- Poultices - warm or cold
- **Warm** improves blood supply
- **Cold** reduces inflammation which is associated with swelling and bruising after a kick
- Thermometer

12. EQUIPMENT

How to put on a bridle

In the showring, a bridle is used to show big horses and stallions, while a leather halter is used to show foals.

- Check that the cheek pieces are equal on both sides and the correct size for the horse.
- Take off halter and fasten it around the horse's neck.
- Place the reins over the horse's head on the neck.
- Hold the head piece in the right hand.
- Hold the bit in the left hand, press the thumb of your left hand into the mouth on the side so that the horse opens his mouth.
- Push the bit gently into the mouth ensuring that you don't bang the teeth.
- Pull the bridle over the horse's face and push gently over right and then left ear.
- Fasten the throat lash. Ensure you can fit your hand horizontally between the cheek and the throat lash.
- Fasten the nose band (different types are fastened differently).
- Do not just leave the horse when you are finished. Hold onto him, or tie him up with the halter over the bridle. Never tie a horse up with reins.

Basic knowledge of correctly fitting bridle:

Bridle (with a snaffle bit and cavesson noseband)

- **Noseband:** two fingers must fit between the nose band and the point of the cheekbone.
- **Bit:** must be high enough in the mouth to make one wrinkle in the corner of the mouth.
- **The bit** must be wide enough not to pinch the lips.
- **The bit** must also not be too big as this is uncomfortable for the horse.
- All loose pieces must be neatly fastened in the runners and keepers.
- Make sure everything is straight and neat.

Basic care of equipment

a) Bridle

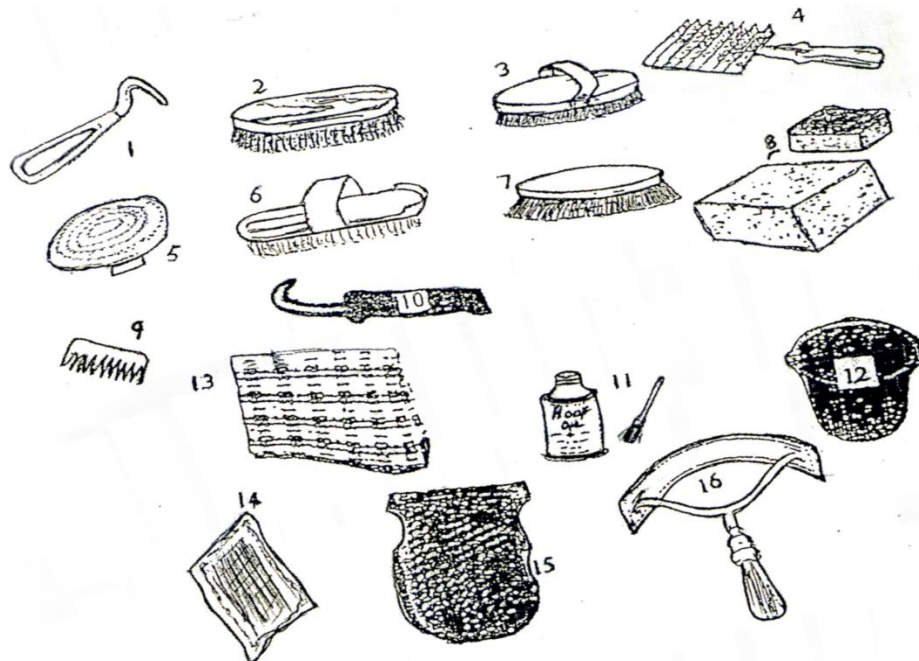
- Always wash the bit
- Hang up the bridle neatly
- Place the reins through the throat lash

b) Cleaning

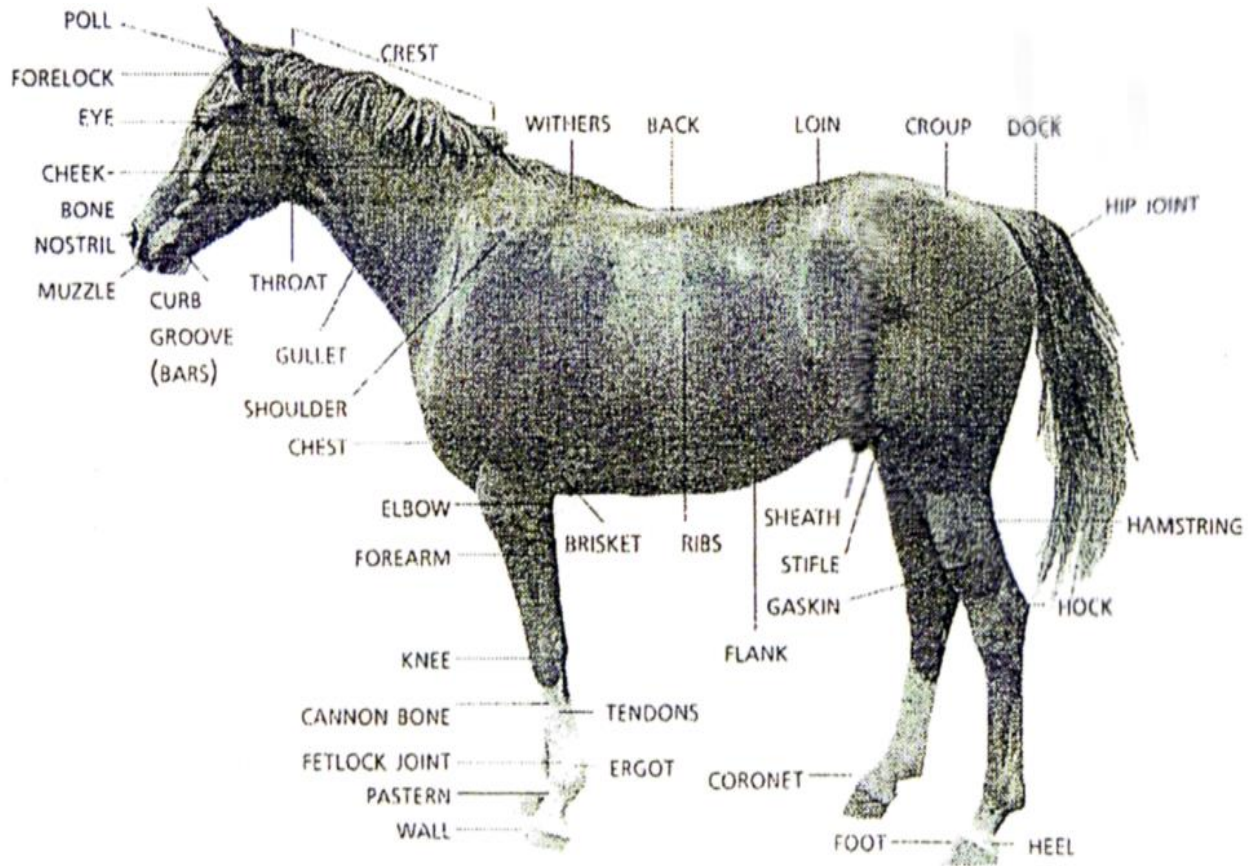
- Leather - use saddle soap and leather oil to clean leather and keep it soft.
- Material - wash regularly to keep soft and clean.

Names and uses of essential grooming kit:

1. **Hoof pick** - for cleaning out feet
2. **Dandy brush** – for removing dried mud or sweat
3. **Body brush** – for removing dust, scurf or grease from the coat, and for brushing the head, mane and tail.
4. **Metal curry comb** – primarily intended for cleaning the body brush (Never to be used on a pony's body)
5. **Rubber curry comb** – for removing caked mud and sweat
6. **Plastic curry comb (sarva brush)** – for removing caked mud and sweat and also to get the winter coat out in spring
7. **Water brush** - for washing the feet and for "laying" the mane and tail (An old dandy brush or scrubbing brush will work)
8. **Two sponges** one for cleaning the eyes and muzzle and one for cleaning the dock
9. **Mane comb** - for pulling the mane and tail and plaiting
10. **Bot knife or bot block** – for removing bot eggs
11. **Hoof oil and brush** - for special occasions and brittle feet
12. **Small plastic bucket** - for water to dampen mane and tail
13. **Towels** for drying off a damp pony
14. **Stale rubber (piece of sheepskin or cloth)** for finishing touches
15. **Washing mitt** - for curry combing while pony is being bathed
16. **Sweat scraper** - for removing water from the coat



13. POINTS OF THE HORSE



14. FINAL PREPARATION FOR THE SHOW

Physical preparation of the horse

To get a horse ready for a show, he needs to be groomed thoroughly every day as described in the stable management section. The tail and mane need to be cared for carefully so that it looks its best. Show horses of any age but must be over 6 months.

Two weeks before the show: Clip fully or according to the breed standards.

Two days before the show: Bath the horse from head to toe. Use anti-dandruff shampoo.

The day before the show:

Ears

Clip all hair from inside the ears to emphasize the shape of the ear.

Head

- a) Clip all long hair around the nose and mouth. A razor works well around the mouth area
- b) Long hair under the jaw should be singed with a candle flame. This should be done about 3 days before the show as the singed hair looks discolored if it is done the day before the show.

Legs

- a) All long hair around the fetlock must be trimmed.
- b) Hair must be trimmed from the coronet as well.

Hooves

- a) The hooves must be clean and smooth. Sandpaper may be used to smooth the hooves.
- b) The length of the hooves should not be more than 10 cm.

Body

- a) The body, mane and tail should be washed at least two days before the show to allow return of oils, washed out by the shampoo.
- b) Prevent the horse getting dirty again by putting a light blanket on.

Tail

- a) The tail must be brushed out thoroughly. Any knots or bedding in the tail in the showring is inexcusable.

Mane

(to be in good condition like the tail).

- a) If the mane is shown unplaited, then it should be free of dirt and knots.
- b) Never cut uneven points straight with scissors. Unevenness is corrected by pulling out the longer hairs. Ask somebody with experience to help you.
- c) Long manes can be protected by plaiting it with a crepe bandage between shows. This will prevent the hair breaking.

15. GENERAL

How do you measure a horse

The unit is "HANDS". One hand is 10.6 cm. The horse is measured from the highest point of the wither. A pony is smaller than 15 hands. A horse is 15 hands or bigger.

What are the basic necessities for a happy and satisfied horse?

a) Care

- Good grazing
- Clean, cool and fresh water
- Shade
- Safe fencing
- Shelter from the wind
- No poisonous plants
- No sharp objects that can injure a horse
- No deep holes in the ground

b) Exercise

- Ensure that the horse is dry after riding before going back into the paddock
- Don't use the curry comb too much, as this strips oil from the coat
- The oil makes the coat waterproof so that he doesn't get wet when it rains

16. GUIDELINES FOR WASHING:

STEP 1

- a) Lead your horse to the wash bay and tie him/her to the post assigned to you.
- b) Unpack your equipment somewhere safe and practical to reach (somewhere easily accessible and not in the way of you and your horse).
- c) Stand away from your horse and wait for the signal from the Ring Steward to start the washing process.

STEP 2

- a) Start by grooming your horse thoroughly. Use your curry comb. Brush in circular movements from *top to bottom and front to back* to remove loose hair, dirt and dead skin cells on the skin.
- b) Use the dandy brush to remove loose hairs and impurities.
- c) Use a comb or brush of your choice (one that won't damage or break the mane and tail). Brush/comb the mane and tail thoroughly to remove hay/ dirt/ etc. Remove all tangles. To remove tangles, start by the ends of the mane/tail and work your way up. Thereafter brush mane and tail from top to bottom without damaging the hair unnecessarily.
- d) Carefully lift your horse's legs and clean each hoof. Use your hoof pick/ hoof scraper to remove dirt and dry manure.

STEP 3

- a) Now take the water pipe, slowly open the tap – the water flow must NEVER be too strong, the water flow must be just right to wet your horse thoroughly. Be careful not to frighten your horse or other horses around you.
- b) Start by the hooves, let the water run over the hoof (always start by the hooves to get your horse used to water and to ensure that he/she is comfortable and also to soak the hooves). Work your way up the front leg towards the neck area and over his/her back to make sure the horse is comfortable with the water and washing process.
- c) Be very thorough with wetting your horse in order to rinse away the loose hairs and impurities you loosened during the grooming process. NB – DO NOT SPRAY/RINSE YOUR HORSE'S FACE OR EARS WITH RUNNING WATER.
- d) Wet the mane and tail thoroughly. The shampoo you are using must foam well in order for you to be able to properly wash the mane and tail. The mane and tail can be washed with the method of your choice.
- e) Close the water tap and place the water pipe in a safe place to avoid obstruction.

STEP 4

- a) Apply your shampoo to the mane and tail first. Make sure that you apply the shampoo to the roots of the hair. Massage the shampoo into the hair to remove dandruff and impurities.
- b) Now apply shampoo to the rest of the horse's body, neck and legs. REMEMBER to apply shampoo to the inside of the legs as well.

STEP 5

- a) Fill your bucket half way with water, add a few drops of shampoo.
- b) With a wet, soft sponge or cloth clean your horse's face and ears. Ensure that the area between the ears and the forelock is cleaned properly.
- c) Thoroughly clean the nose and eye area to remove any dirt.

TAKE NOTE: *If you decide to loosen the halter in order to clean the face, place the halter around his/her neck. When you are done gently place the halter back over the horse's head. **Your horse must NEVER and under NO circumstances stand loose!***

- d) Gently move to the back of your horse. Stand next to the hind quarters of your horse to pick up the tale. Clean the area under the tail with a soft sponge/cloth. Remove all the impurities, manure and dandruff.
- e) Use the same water in you bucket to scrub the hooves with a hard brush/ dandy brush (around and under the hooves). Clean away all dirt and manure.

STEP 6

- a) Take your pipe, slowly open the tap and start to rinse your horse. Again, start by rinsing the hooves then the front legs and move upwards towards the neck area to ensure your horse is comfortable with the water and rinsing process. Rinse from *top to bottom and front to back*.
- b) The mane must be rinsed thoroughly to remove all of the shampoo, make sure you rinse the roots properly.
- c) Move over the back of the horse towards the tail area. As you move over the body of your horse use your other hand (or a rubber scraper) to scrape/remove all the foam and shampoo from the coat.
- d) Ensure that you rinse the tail thoroughly, start by massaging the top of the tail while the water runs over the tail, stroke the tail from top to bottom to remove all the soap.

STEP 7

- a) When you are satisfied that your horse is rinsed thoroughly, take a moment to make sure that the hooves are rinsed properly and all the soap is removed from the hairline of the hooves.
- b) Spray off your wash bay to clean away all the foam.
- c) Close your water pipe and place the pipe out of the way.

STEP 8

- a) Use the rubber/ sweat scraper to remove excess water. Start by the top neck area, at the back of the ears. With long even movements scrape your horse from *front to back and top to bottom*. Remember to also scrape your horse's legs, bum and belly. (Properly scraping your horse will save you a lot of time).

STEP 9

- a) Use your towel to dry your horse, again start by the back of the ears and move towards the back of your horse (*front – back, top – bottom*).
- b) Make sure that you dry the mane properly as well as the area beneath the mane (the side your horse's mane falls to).
- c) Remember to thoroughly dry the belly.
- d) Rub the tail gently with the towel to dry out the tail, also dry underneath the tail and between the hind legs.
- e) When you are satisfied that your horse is dry, you can then dry the face and head of your horse.
- f) Lastly dry the legs, fetlock and hooves.

TAKE NOTE: When drying your horse with the towel make sure that you smoothen the coat (in the direction the hair naturally falls). By doing this the horse will look neat and your preparation class will be easier. You can also use a **CLEAN DRY** soft/body brush to tidy up your horse's coat.

STEP 10

- a) When your horse is dry and neat, clean the wash bay. Pack up your washing kit and make sure everything is neat and tidy.
- b) Roll up your pipe and place it out of the way of you and your horse. Rinse out your bucket and dry your sponge and cloth.

WHEN THE TIME IS UP:

- The Ring Steward will give a signal and you must stop immediately – whether or not you are finished!
- Prepare for inspection by the Judges.
- Tidy yourself: clean your shoes, tuck in your shirt and neaten your cap and hair.
- Loosen your horse and move towards the inspection area OR stay by your post until the Judges call you for inspection.
- AFTER inspection, when the Judges are done – remove your equipment and safely take your horse back to the stables.

WASHING – handy tips

- Roughly 2 days before the show wash your horse.
- Wash the mane and tail to remove dandruff.
- Treat the mane and tail with coconut oil – this will help clear up any dandruff. By doing this you will save a lot of time during the washing process. REMEMBER to thoroughly clean the forelock as well.
- The horse may be clipped before the show, but stick to the breed standards. Should you clip of the mane you must supply a sufficient reason therefor.
- Before each class, take a few minutes to inspect the area you will be using. Familiarize yourself with the space and adapt accordingly.

Take note of:

- The flow of the water – NEVER place your equipment near the off flow of the water,
- The strength of the water flow,
- Length of the pipe,
- The post where you will tie your horse. See that it is safe and sturdy – should your horse spook.

TAKE NOTE: It is of great importance that your horse **arrives at the show FREE FROM PARASITES**. Inspect your horse **everyday** to ensure there are no ticks on your horse (Inspect the ears, tail, beneath the tail, mane, groin area, chest and the area between the fetlock and hoof).

- Focus on the process as well as the technique you are using.
- **Eye contact has little to no value during the washing process.**
- Make sure you know who the head Judge is. This is very important during the inspection process.
- During the inspection process you must focus **not to move between the head Judge and your horse. Eye contact** should be kept during the inspection process.
- If your horse is not comfortable to be tied to the wash post, you may arrange **ahead of time** with the Ring Steward to elect a person who is comfortable with handling horses to help you. This must be a **neutral person** – not someone from your team or Province.
- It is important to clean your horse's droppings immediately. Either use a 'poop scoop' or a normal house cleaning scoop to remove the droppings. This will ensure that your horse's hooves and legs stay clean and your wash bay tidy. Do not use water to rinse away the droppings, you will just make more of a mess!

17. GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION:

STEP 1

- a) Bring your horse to the preparation area and tie your horse to post assigned to you by the Ring Steward.
- b) Unpack your equipment somewhere safe and practical to reach.
- c) Stand back and wait for the signal to start. Make sure you know who the head Judge is. Just like the washing process eye contact carries little to no value during this process **but** carries much value during inspection.

STEP 2

Start by grooming your horse.

- a) Use the rubber curry comb to groom your horse in circular movements. Remove all dirt, manure or loose hair. (Thorough grooming with the curry comb will save you time with the rest of the process.
- b) Use your dandy brush/body brush to remove loose hairs and impurities. Brush your horse's body thoroughly. Remember to also groom the legs.
- c) Take your soft brush/ body brush. Thoroughly brush your horse from *top to bottom, front to back and left to right*. REMEMBER to brush all 4 legs (remember to brush the inner legs).
- d) Use as brush or comb of your choice (one that won't damage or break the mane and tail). Comb out the mane and tail – start by the roots and gently comb downwards. Remove all impurities and loose hair.
- e) Loosen the halter and move it down the neck of the horse to properly clean the face area. **Under no circumstances may the horse stand completely loose.**
- f) Dampen a soft cloth and wipe your horse's face. Ensure that the horse's eyes are clean, usually there will be impurities from dirt, etc. Clean the ears – inside and out.
- g) Clean underneath the tail with a soft damp cloth.

STEP 3

- a) Now it's time to clean the hooves. Use a 200-grade sand paper piece (not too coarse), lightly scour the outside of the hooves. When you are done with the scouring take a damp cloth and wipe down the hooves to remove dust and dirt from the hooves.
- b) Oil and/ or polish the hooves either with a sponge or a small paint brush. It will be of much help to put the hoof on a small matt – this will prevent dirt and grass sticking to the sponge or brush.

Take note: *of the colour of the hooves, use black oil/polish for black parts and a clear/white for the white parts of the hooves – polish/oil these parts with precision and care. **DO NOT USE spray paint!** Spray paint will smother the hooves and prevent them from 'breathing'. Rather use hoof oil or shoe polish.*

STEP 4

- a) For the MANE; use your fingers and gently comb through the mane.
- b) Use a product of your choice and lightly spray the mane. Comb through the hair with the brush/comb.
- c) Remember to do the same with the forelock – **do not** spray the directly onto the forelock, this will upset and spook your horse. Rather spray the product onto the brush/comb you are using.
- d) Do the same with the tail.

STEP 5

- a) Use a wool mitt or a soft cloth to apply the product to the horse's body. Never spray directly on the body, spray the product onto the mitt and apply to the coat (*top to bottom, front to back*).

STEP 6

- a) Take a few drops of baby oil, rub it between your hands and apply to the nose and muzzle (this will give a nice shine). Take care not to use too much oil as it will result in dirt sticking to your horse, this will affect you negatively during inspection.

STEP 7

- a) When you are done and satisfied with how your horse looks. Neatly pack up your equipment.
- b) Tidy up your hair and cap, clean your shoes and tuck in your shirt. **TIP:** wear showing gloves, it is neat and will keep both you and your horse clean.
- c) Loosen the halter and move it down the neck of the horse.
- d) Place your leather show halter/ bridle gently over the horse's head and fasten it properly. Now you may remove the halter around the neck, place it neatly inside your grooming kit and get ready for inspection.

WHEN THE TIME IS UP:

- The Ring Steward will give a signal and you must stop immediately – whether or not you are finished!
- Move towards the inspection area OR stay by your post until the Judges call you for inspection.

PREPARATION – handy tips

- Inspect the preparation area ahead of time. Familiarise yourself with the space and adapt accordingly (for example; if you notice that the area is very dry and dusty, avoid the use of too much oil products).
- If your horse is not comfortable with being tied up, you may arrange **ahead of time with** the Ring Steward to elect a person who is comfortable handling horses to help you. This must be a **neutral person** – not someone from your team or Province.
- NEVER spray your coat shine products directly onto the horse, it will result in greasy and uneven spots and dirt will stick to these spots. Rather use a cloth or mitt. Spray the product onto the mitt and gently rub over the body. **TIP:** Mr Min or vehicle dashboard spray are good products to use as it prevents dirt from sticking to the coat and gives the coat a nice shine (this is only a handy tip – you may use any product of your choice).
- Clean the ears (inside and out) and area around the ears 2-3 days before the show. Make sure there aren't any ticks and filth.

TAKE NOTE: Due to safety reasons the use of CLIPPERS OR SCISSORS are strictly PROHIBITED DURING THE PREPARATION CLASS. All clipping must be done BEFORE the show.

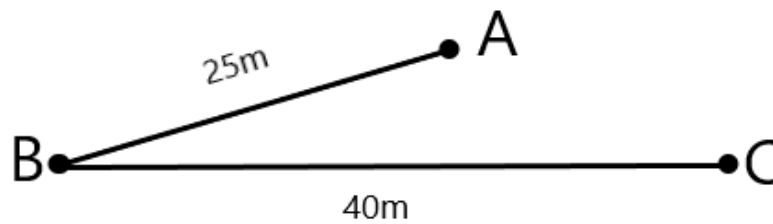
- Neatly shave the ears and whiskers around the mouth **ahead of time**. You are also allowed to do a bridle cut ahead of time. Do not use clippers or scissors close to the eyes.
- Horses may be clipped before the show but stick to the breed standards of the horse, a solid reason must be provided if not on standard.

- DO NOT USE spray paint or clear lacquer spray. The hooves will suffocate and this will harm the hoof. Use Hoof Oil or shoe polish.
- Make sure you know who the head Judge is.
- Keep **eye contact** during inspection.
- **Never** move between the horse and the head Judge.

18. GUIDELINES FOR THE SHOWMANSHIP CLASS

- a) Assemble at the appointed area.
- b) Wait for the Ring Steward to give you more information on the procedure of this class.
- c) You will be judge from the moment you set foot in the arena, throughout the whole class and until you hear the head Judge say "*the class may relax*".
- d) Most arenas differ, familiarise yourself with the arena and the size of the arena.
- e) Ensure that your horse is clean, neat and ready for the Showmanship class. Ensure that you too are neat and ready. Shoes must be clean, shirt tucked in, hair tidy and cap on.
- f) A leather show halter, gloves and a crop will count in your favour as it presents very well.
- g) Line up at the appointed area and get ready for individual inspection.
- h) **EYE CONTACT IS VERY IMPORTANT.**
- i) **Never** move between the head Judge and your horse.
- j) The head Judge will ask you questions answer each question with confidence and be proud of yourself and your horse.
- k) After the individual inspection you will be asked to do the triangle-test
- l) Listen carefully to the instructions given by the head Judge about how the test must be completed. They might ask you to do two tests or just one.

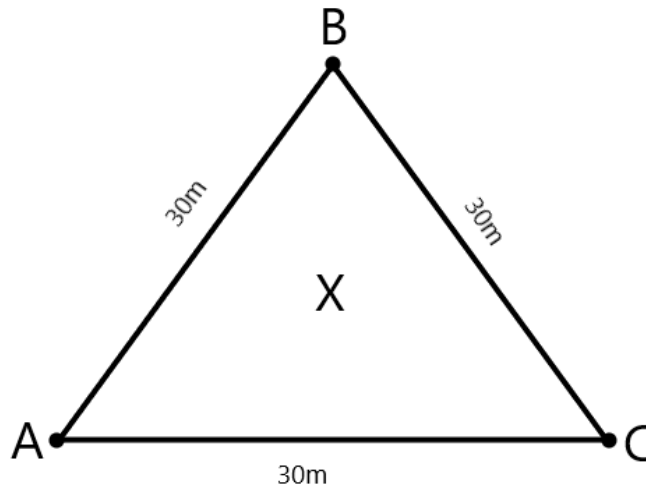
Figure 1:



- Head Judge will stand at point A.
During this activity you **may** move between the Judge and your horse, it is also your choice to decide on which side of the horse you will be to complete this activity, whichever is more comfortable for you and your horse.
- The main idea during this activity is to establish a solid platform to show how the movement of your horse and to showcase your horsemanship skills.
- **Eye contact is very important.** You must find a good balance between the way you perform the test AND the relationship with your horse AND the **eye contact** with the Judge.
- The Ring Steward will ask you to move toward point A.
- Line up at point A and make sure you are standing up straight next to your horse – ready to start your test.
- The Judge will give the signal that you may start.
- Walk from point A in a straight line towards point B.
- Stop at point B line up and get ready to trot to point C.
- Trot towards point C.
- Trot past point C and line up next to the other contestants.

TAKE NOTE: When moving from point B to point C, trot with coincidence, trot at a good speed to show movement. Be proud of yourself and your horse. This is your chance to 'show off' your horse and your skills.

Figure 2:



- The head Judge will always stand at point X – in the middle of the triangle.
- During this test it should not be an issue to move between the Judge and the horse.
- Once again **eye contact is very important**. You must find a good balance between the way you perform the test AND the relationship with your horse AND the **eye contact** with the judge.

- The Ring Steward will ask you to move towards point A.
- Line up at point A.
- Walk towards point B in a straight line.
- Stop at point B, line up and get ready to move to point C.
- Trot from point B to point C and from point C back toward point A - this must be done in a well-balanced, flowing movement.
- Stop at point A after completing the triangle test.
- Only after the head Judge give the signal you may walk back to the assembly point and line up with the rest of the contestants.

TAKE NOTE:

- ❖ Junior-Juniors may be asked to walk from point A to point B, walk again from point B towards point C and only trot from point C back to point A. This will depend on the arena and how the Judges summarise the class. Mainly it will all depend on the safety of both horse and handler as well as the safety of the rest of the contestants. *It often happens that the kids are not familiar with the horse, it might be a horse they are lending, hence this reason it is of utmost importance to ensure the safety of the child.*
- ❖ The question whether to stop at each point arises a lot. The answer is simple – when transitioning from one pace to another, STOP, line up and move into the next pace. This will ensure that you have control of the horse all the times and it also rounds off the activity well.

- ❖ The Judge may ask all the contestants to walk clockwise in a circle around the triangle.
 - The Judge also may ask all of you to walk/ trot/ halt or to change direction (anti-clockwise) at the same time.
 - There will be looked at the distance you keep between you and the next horse, how you control your horse in the group, and especially how you react in these circumstances.

AT THE END OF THE CLASS:

- The Ring Steward will ask the group to line up at the assembly point.
- The Judge will make the finale judgements and instruct the group to relax. Only then you may relax and wait for the Judges to announce the placements.

SHOWMANSHIP CLASS – handy tips

- Inspect the area where this class will take place. Familiarise yourself with the arena and adapt to the circumstance.
- You are allowed to practice there, in your own free time, before the class. This will help you and your horse to get comfortable with the space and environment.
- You may communicate with the Judges **through the Ring Steward**. For instance, if you are standing next to a horse that kicks or aren't controlled well.
- SAFETY of the horse and handler is of utmost importance.

- During the triangle test, confidently walk next to your horse. Lead your horse with your hand at a comfortable distance from the head of the horse. Make sure you hold on tight to the lead rein.
- Keep your distance from your horse with the elbow closest to the horse to ensure you don't get stepped on.
- Always walk or trot in a straight line. This will show the Judge that you have confidence AND have good control over your horse.
- Walk with good posture next to your horse.
- When you move into a trot DO NOT pull on the lead rein. Stay next to the shoulder of your horse and push your hand forward to encourage your horse to walk/ trot. Use a command like 'trot-on', 'up' or making a 'cluck-cluck' sound to encourage your horse to move. The way you control your horse is important. Training and practising ahead of the show will definitely benefit you during the whole show.

- The Judges are aware that some contestants are borrowing horses.
- If your horse starts to get restless when you are lined up at the assembly point – move out of line and walk in a circle back to your place and line up again. This way you are keeping your horse busy and avoiding him/her to get annoyed. Classes can get very long and your horse might get annoyed. **You may NOT do this when you are lined up for inspection or during the tests.**

- **Another handy tip** - spray your horse with fly spray before the class starts (Flygo or something similar). Apply the spray to the hooves and legs (inner and outer leg). Also spray the fly spray on the body and back of the horse. Spray some of the fly repellent on a soft cloth and wipe our horse's face with the cloth (especially around the ear and eye area). It will definitely be in your favour.

- Important terms to know during the showmanship class: LINE UP – this means that you need to bring your horse to the assembly point or point assigned to line up.
- Always ensure that your horse is standing square and that he/she is standing comfortably. Lift your horses head and be proud of him/her. Always 'show off' your horse.

19. GUIDELINES FOR GROUP SHOW CLASSES:

1. Choice is very important. Choose the right horse and the right routine. Judges are aware that some horses are being borrowed which may complicate things.
2. The arena or area assigned for group classes may differ in size. As a group familiarise yourself with the environment and the size of the arena. Creativity and the ability to improvise is very important!! This will benefit the team to show that have good horsemanship.
3. The horses must be prepared **very well** for this activity. As with the Showmanship class both you and your horse (and in this case your team) **MUST BE NEAT** and try to be uniform (wearing the same jeans, shoes, caps, gloves, belts etc) The smallest details will definitely be in your favour.
4. The Ring Steward will ask the groups to line up at the assembly point. TIP: make sure the 3 of you are standing in a straight line, evenly spaced next to one another.
5. Make sure the whole team knows who the head Judge is. **Eye contact is very important.**
6. You may ask the Ring Steward to show the Judges where you and you team want them to stand in order for you to perform your routine. It is your choice where the Judges are placed.
7. Start your routine and when you are done, walk back to the assembly point.
Each team is in complete control of their own tailer made routine – therefor there are no prescribed rules and regulations. However, creativity is key!!

20. GENERAL INFORMATION

DRESS CODE: NO participants with mobile phones, earphones, watches, jewellery, chewing gum or make-up will be allowed in the rings or areas.

- Normally the Management of the show will give shirts and caps that needs to be worn during the show.
- **Washing** - Cap, shirt, jeans and shoes (either gumboots or leather show shoes)
- **Preparation** - You will start the class by wearing your cap, shirt, jeans and gumboots. If you wear your gumboots, take them off and switch into your show shoes. Always make sure that your show shoes are spotless.
- **Showmanship** - Cap, Shirt and dark blue Jeans with leather showing shoes. The cut of the jean (skinny/ bootleg/ straight/ etc) does not matter, as long as you are comfortable.
- **Group classes** - You and your team **MUST look the same**. Cap and shirts as mentioned above. Same cut and colour blue jeans (dark blue). You can add anything to your clothing that will benefit you and your team and make you look uniform, e.g.; matching belt buckles/ matching brow bands/ matching gloves etc.

TAKE NOTE: *The Judges are aware that it is not always possible to find the EXACT same jean as your team mates. That's why we say **its beneficial but not compulsory.***

JUDGING THE CONTESTANTS:

- Judging will be fair and will be done according to the rules and regulations of the show, and within the scope of the current approved manual.
- Under no circumstances will there be unfairly discriminated against a contestant. There will only be judged upon the points stipulated in the manual and guidelines.
- Every Judge judges differently, according to what they look at and how they give points. This must be done fairly and always in line with the rules and regulations of the show and the manual. Judges must **AT ALL TIMES** ensure that they are judging to the benefit of the participants and the organisation. You are being trained according to the manual and guidelines; the Judge will judge accordingly.
- After each class the Judges will pick a time and spot to review the class. Judges will **NOT** react upon issues that has not gone through the right canals. Judges will react to issues given by the Management of the show.

The show is a learning process. Enjoy it and make the best of it. It is more about learning and participation than winning!



Addendum A - Horses

In a situation where your horse gets difficult or fidgety during the show, **you must always act in the best interested of your own and your co-participants' safety.**

Should the horse get difficult/ fidgety during the line-up in the Horsemanship class, the participant must move forward, out of the line-up, walk around the other participants and move back into his/her line-up space.

In a case where the participants are all walking behind each other and a horse gets fidgety/ difficult the participant must turn out of the line and move to the back of the line. The participant in front must make sure to make space for the other participant to move into the back of the line.

It is very important that you always use your own discretion in all circumstances where an animal gets difficult. This will show the judge your true 'Horsemanship Skills'. Participants can call the ring steward at anytime if they have a problem. The steward will then discuss the problem with the judges.

If you feel at anytime that your horse is a danger to you or the other participants, you can ask the steward or judges to leave the ring. If the participant fails to act in the best interest of everyone's safety the judge has the power to ask the participant to leave the ring. The participant has to leave the ring and is done showing in that class. The participant will be judged on the time he/she spent showing the horse.

The judge may ask the participant to use another participants' horse to make a decision on the final placements. Once again it is all about the safety of the all participants. In doing so, we ensure that all participants are judged fairly.