



IRISH PONY CLUB STANDARDS OF EFFICIENCY  
TEST SHEET 2017  
**'D' STANDARD**

## **OBJECTIVE**

- To improve and enjoy learning about ponies.
- To achieve confidence in handling and riding a pony.
- To have an understanding of the care and well-being of ponies.

## **RIDING**

- Mount and dismount correctly, using either mounting block or getting a leg-up if required.
- Demonstrate a reasonably correct position in the saddle.
- How to hold and shorten the reins.
- To be able to ride a quiet pony safely, in an enclosed area without the leading rein, in walk and trot.
- To involve some simple games with a fun element to progress the balance and security of the rider in walk and trot.
- Ride over a pole on the ground and demonstrate the jumping position in walk and trot.

## **ROAD SENSE THEORY**

- To know on which side of the road you should ride.
- To understand the Junior Road Rider Code.
- How to ride along a road, cross a road and say 'thank you'.
- To know that it is much safer to ride on the road with parents or adults and the importance of hi-viz clothing.

## **HORSEMASTERSHIP**

- Know the basic needs of a pony in summer and winter.
- Know the hoof pick, dandy brush, body brush and curry comb.
- Know how to approach and catch a pony and put on a headcollar or halter with the help of a parent or adult.
- Be able to demonstrate a safe way to give a pony a treat, i.e. in a bucket.
- Lead a pony in hand and turn correctly in walk.
- Name simple points of the pony.
- Name different parts of saddle and bridle.

**READ**

Notes by Anthea Rainsbury

The following sections in:

'The Manual of Horsemanship'

Points of the Horse

Mount and Dismount (omit 'to dismount

Using the stirrup')

The Correct length of stirrup

The position of the rider in the saddle

Holding single reins

Handling a horse

Fitting a headcollar or halter

To lead in hand

The parts of a saddle

The parts of a snaffle bridle

**VIEW**

Handling and Leading DVD

Health and Condition DVD

**Minimum age 8 Years (in the year of the test)**

**Disc Colour - Yellow**