

Mounted Skills (D-3 Eventing)



***RIDING EXPECTATIONS:** Candidate rides in a basic balanced position with control at the walk, trot, and canter. Candidate is developing a secure base of support, balance, and a steady position over fences. Fences to 2'3".*

The D-3 check-list is a valuable tool to evaluate a member's readiness to test. It is recommended that this check-list be used to evaluate a candidate no earlier than 90 days prior to the certification. The evaluator should sign the "Signature" block when a candidate satisfactorily performs the necessary skills while demonstrating both horse management and riding expectations for the standard without instruction/coaching. If the member is not able to demonstrate the standard, the evaluator should provide detailed comments on what improvements the candidate needs to make in order to demonstrate the standard. An evaluator must be able to give an impartial evaluation of the candidate's proficiency at the standard. The "D-1 through C-2 Examiner's Handbook" and the last page of the "Standards of Proficiency" outlines the qualities of an examiner that is appropriate to use.

Signature
&
Date

Riding on the Flat

- Ride on flat using Riding Expectations.
- Demonstrate correct mounting, using mounting block if necessary.
- Adjust stirrups and girth with feet in the stirrups while mounted at the halt.
- Perform balancing and supplying exercises for rider at walk and trot.
- Demonstrate mount's warm-up routine for everyday work .
- Ride mount at walk, rising trot with correct diagonals, sitting trot, and correct canter leads.
- Demonstrate 20 meter circles showing correct bend in both directions at all gaits.
- Ride without stirrups at the sitting trot.
- Discuss and demonstrate arena etiquette for riders at different gaits and traveling in different directions.
- Demonstrate a halt.
- Discuss aids for and demonstrate a simple step back of 1-2 steps.
- Discuss performance including rider's basic balanced position, whether or not circles were round, and if natural aids correctly influenced the mount.

Evaluator's Comments:

Riding Over Fences

- Ride over small gymnastic grid of trot poles followed by a cross rail, then a vertical set at, but not exceeding, 2'3". Grid to be set at appropriate distances for mount's stride.
- Ride a simple stadium course at the canter consisting of 5 –7 obstacles, including a simple oxer in an enclosed area. The majority of fences set at, but not exceeding, 2'3".
- Discuss reasons for adjusting stirrups for different types of work.
- Discuss performance and reasons for any disobediences.

Evaluator's Comments:

Mounted Skills (D-3 Eventing) cont.

Riding in the Open

- Discuss ways to control a mount in the open.
- Ride safely with a group on a suitable mount, at the walk and trot, over varied terrain, through shallow water and small ditches as occur in natural terrain, as local conditions allow.
- Ride over 4-5 simple cross-country obstacles ranging from 2' - 2'3". The majority of fences set at, but not exceeding, 2'3".
- D-3 speed should not exceed 300 mpm, as appropriate for the size of the mount.
- Discuss performance and pace.
- Rider demonstrates development of a secure base of support, steady position, and balance over cross-country fences.

Evaluator's Comments: