



The Blue Cross Horse and Pony Care Mini Championships 2024

Team Number:	
Assessor:	

Round 1 – Loading

		Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	Tell me when a pony might need to travel somewhere	5		
2	Talk about the equipment a pony needs to wear when travelling. Why is it needed?	15		
3	What protection does a person loading and unloading a pony need to wear?	5		
4	Who should load and unload the pony?	5		
5	Where should you stand so that you're safe when a pony is being loaded?	5		
6	Show how you would load and download a pony into this trailer. One team member is the pony, one is the handler and one is the helper	15		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 2 – Equipment Identification

	As a team identify these items and explain their use	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	Equipment 1	5		
2	Equipment 2	5		
3	Equipment 3	5		
4	Equipment 4	5		
5	Equipment 5	5		
6	Equipment 6	5		
7	Equipment 7	5		
8	Equipment 8	5		
9	Equipment 9	5		
10	Equipment 10	5		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 3 – Grass Kept Pony

		Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	What daily checks should be made on a grass kept pony?	10		
2	Look at the pictures of water given in the field. Each team member to choose one and say why it's good or not suitable.	5		
3	Explain how you catch a pony and turn it out in a field	5		
4	Explain why it is important for ponies to have turnout and to have friends	5		
5	When is shelter needed and how do ponies shelter?	5		
6	How does growth differ in winter and summer? Discuss grass growth and safety & welfare of the pony	10		
7	What are these and what would you do if you found any of them? (Poisonous plant picture x 6)	10		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 4 – Mucking Out and Yard Safety

		Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	How often should a stabled pony be mucked out and yards cleaned?	5		
2	Why do you tie a pony up to muck out?	5		
3	All team members - Tie a quick release knot			
	Member 1	5		
	Member 2	5		
	Member 3	5		
4	Name these pieces of mucking out equipment. What are they used for?	5		
5	What is meant by skipping out? Why is it done?	5		
6	Look at this equipment. Which are safe to use when working with and around ponies? Which are not safe to use when working with and around ponies?	5		
7	What do we mean by the pony is bargy or barging out?	5		
8	Why is it important to close the bottom bolts on a stable door?	5		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 5 – Pony Clothing and Bandages/Rugs

		Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	Each member to Identify and talk about a rug	10		
2	Each member to Identify and talk about a boot/pair of boots	10		
3	Fasten and unfasten the rug straps in the correct order for putting on and taking off the rug.	5		
4	Show on this pony how you would measure for a rug	5		
5	Each member to identify and talk about one of these bandages	10		
6	Look at pictures and explain when and if the ponies need a rug	10		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 6 – Training the pony and understanding what your pony needs

	(Horse in this stable)	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	How does a pony learn?	5		
2	How can you use rewards to train a pony? Each team member to give an example of one reward and explain how and when it would be used	15		
3	Explain what Positive reinforcement is.	5		
4	What are the 5 Freedoms or Domains?	5		
5	Why should you not punish a pony when they do something you don't want them to?	5		
6	How does the pony show that they're in pain?	5		
7	How would you get a pony used to something scary?	5		
8	Why do ponies like to be with other ponies?	5		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 7 – Tack

	(Horse in this stable)	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	Name parts of bridle - 3 each	10		
2	Name parts of saddle - 3 each	10		
3	Look at the bridle on this Pony and talk about a correctly fitting bridle	5		
4	Look at the saddle on this Pony and talk about a correctly fitting saddle	5		
5	When putting the saddle on, how should you do the girth up?	5		
6	After riding the pony, what should the basic care of your tack be?	5		
7	Name the Tack cleaning equipment and how is it used	5		
8	Why should you clean tack?	5		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 8 – Grooming

	(Horse in this stable)	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	List names and uses of the items of grooming kit - 3 each	15		
2	Why is it good to groom Ponies?	5		
3	Show how to use Member 1 - Body brush and metal curry comb Member 2 - Dandy brush Member 3 - Brush on the offside	10		
4	Talk about how you should brush a pony's face	5		
5	Show how you brush the tail	5		
6	How often should a pony's feet be picked out? What equipment is used?	5		
7	What are the most important parts of the pony to groom and why?	5		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 9 – Points of Horse and Colours and Markings

		Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1	Name points of horse – 3 each			
	Member 1	5		
	Member 2	5		
	Member 3	5		
2	Markings – 2 each			
	Member 1	5		
	Member 2	5		
	Member 3	5		
3	Colours – 3 each			
	Member 1	5		
	Member 2	5		
	Member 3	5		
	What is a Whorl and where are they found	5		
	Total	50		
	Outstanding Individual			



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Round 10 – Blue Cross Equine Welfare (Feeding, Care of Foot, and Pony Health)

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Who sponsors the Horse & Pony Care competition?	5		
2 – Tell me 6 signs of good health in a pony	5		
3 – What are the basic needs of the pony to stay healthy and happy?	5		
4 – Each member to name 2 parts of the foot	5		
5 - What should a healthy foot look like?	5		
6 – What problems can a pony have with their feet?	5		
7 - What is fibre and why is it essential to the Pony's diet?	5		
8 - What are these? (Hay/Haylage/Straw/Chaff/Salt)	5		
9 - Why is "Clean fresh water available at all times" essential to the pony?	5		
10 - How would you feed hay safely in the field to more than one pony?	5		
Total	50		
Outstanding Individual			