



# HM NEWS

MARCH 2009

## HORSE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZER'S UPDATES FROM USPC ANNUAL MEETING

This year the Annual meeting was held in Greenville, SC. It was well attended by the Southwest Region. There was much to see and do, but I tried to stay focused on HM.

I give you a brief synopsis of some of the information given at the HMO seminar. All of these are listed in the Spring HM Newsletter which can be downloaded from the USPC website at: <http://hm.ponyclub.org>. It is very important you download the Spring 2009 Newsletter and put it in your HM Rulebook.

1) There is now a job description for the **HM Impartial Observer**. Basically, this is a person who has horse knowledge and an ability to observe situations that occur during a rally. This is purely optional, but would give the competitors someone who will listen to any possible grievances.

2) **Attire**: In an attempt to standardize the length of shorts at a competition, the committee has developed the 'Fist' Test. This is: The competitor stands up straight and points their fingers to the ground, then makes a fist. To be acceptable, the hem of the shorts should fall at or beyond the end of their fist, no shoulder hunching allowed.

3) **Feed and Feeding**: added- Plastic is not allowed for pre-packaging feed except for the plastic bags specifically made for packaging feed and often used for feed with high fat content (holes for aeration thus releasing humidity and reducing risk of mold/mildew) are allowed.

4) **Water**: Two (2) or more buckets should be hung if necessary to insure that there is an adequate supply of fresh water at all times. In unusual situations, such as the use of a muck bucket for water, the competitor must discuss this with the HM staff

5) **Saddlery**: Buckle/billet guards are not required on saddles with long billets

6) **Required Equipment list**: Antibacterial properties will be accepted along with antimicrobial and antiseptic.

7) **Saddlery**: Leather tabs on peacock stirrups are recommended but not required

8) **At rallies, an H-B or C+ will compete as a C2 for their HM**

9) **Portable music devices** are allowed in the stable area and should be docked to speakers. If ear buds are used, they are allowed only in one ear for safety.

10) **Jewelry not permitted**: add- jewelry in any facial piercing: dangling earrings or jewelry of any kind with the exception of Medic alert jewelry.

11) **Attire**: D rated competitors wearing jodhpurs and paddock boots must wear either knee straps (garters) and/or pant clips.

12) **Longeing**: At the discretion of the CHMJ, any competitor may longe his or her mount directly supervised by a non-competing adult approved by the CHMJ

13) **Rope Halters**: Should members choose to use rope halters, a hemp twine, or leather loop, tab, or section shall be added to provide a breakaway feature. Halters must fit according to the guidelines found in the HM Rulebook. Training style rope halter are not allowed.

**There is to be a new HM Rulebook in 2010.**

## Medical Armbands At Rallies –

Starting with Championships 2008, Arm Bands which include a current copy of the individual's medical release form, must be worn at all times while on the competition grounds. Starting in 2009, this procedure will be enforced for all regional rallies as well.

Quiz will carry their medical releases in their Name Tag holders or in an armband. Tet will not be required to wear them while actually shooting or swimming, but must have them visible and next to them for these activities and must be wearing them at all other times.

The armbands must be worn on the upper arm. If the competitor has small arms, they may need to safety-pin the armband to their sleeve in the area of the upper arm.

Armbands are available for purchase from the USPC Bookstore.

All officials are encouraged to work with the competitors to remind them of this requirement. Competitors repeatedly found not wearing their armbands could result in a penalty at the discretion of the GJ.

**The 2009 Standards of Proficiency** are now available and are more explicit in their expectations. I have created a document that illustrates the changes but only in Horse Management. It covers just the D1-C2 standards .

### CHANGES IN 'D' STANDARDS

Old Standards	2009 Standards
<b>D1 Turnout and Tack</b>	
Expanded expectations beyond 'safe and neat attire':	Rider in safe and neat attire: collared shirt with long or short sleeves, long pants with shirt tucked in, short or tall ridingboots or shoes that cover the ankle and have a boot heel, PC pin and an ASTM/SEI approved helmet. Long hair tied neatly up or back. Half chaps, gloves, show coat and belt optional. No inappropriate jewelry
<b>Stable Management</b>	
Added:	Bring a stall card for own mount to test
<b>D2 Turnout and Tack</b>	
Expanded expectations beyond 'safe and neat attire':	Same as D1 with the change from 'long pants' to 'breeches, jodhpurs, or riding tights'.
Expanded expectations for mount clean and neatly groomed:	Mount to be clean and well brushed, with feet picked out, showing farrier care. Eyes, nose, lips, and dock wiped off

Added to 'tack to be safe and clean':	No obvious jockeys or heavy dust
Added	Name and locate 15 parts of saddle and bridle. Identify 3 different bits
<b>Stable Management</b>	
Change: Name 5 grooming tools and 'explain' how to use them to:	Name 5 grooming tools and 'demonstrate' how to use them
Added	Bring a stall card for own mount to test. Discuss what we put on a stall card
<b>D 3</b>	
<b>Turnout and Tack</b>	
Expanded expectations for 'rider in safe and neat attire':	Same as D2 except for the collared shirt (polo, turtleneck, dress shirt or rat catcher), belt (if belt loops), tall boots or paddock boots with or without half chaps. Gloves, neckwear and show coat optional
Expanded expectations for 'mount to be neatly groomed':	Mount to be well brushed (no sweat), clean (no dirt), with feet picked out, showing farrier care. Mane and tail brushed and eyes, nose, lips, and dock wiped off
Expanded expectations for 'tack to be safe and clean':	Tack to be safe- especially stitching on stirrups/ girth-and clean-no jockeys or dust, stress points clean, stirrup pads (if used) clean, and bit clean
Added:	Describe proper adjustment of the snaffle bridle with cavesson noseband. Describe proper adjustment of curb chain, if appropriate
<b>Conditioning/ Nutrition</b>	
Added:	Know vital signs mount at rest
<b>Stable Management</b>	
Expanded expectations for 'how to clean and bed a stall':	Demonstrate and discuss how to clean a dirty/soiled stall. Demonstrate the proper steps and methods for removing manure and wet areas, how to bank a stall, and discuss the reasons for and benefits of regular stall cleaning for health and safety of your mount.
Expanded expectations for 'how to hang a haynet and dangers of improper use':	Demonstrate and discuss the proper methods of hanging a water bucket and haynet/ haybag, hanging both at a proper height for your mount, at either a trailer or stall. Discuss the different needs of your horse during a day rally or clinic, or overnight stay
<b>Leading &amp; Longeing</b>	
Delete: Lead correctly, moving mount forward with whip or assistance (if necessary)	Change to: Demonstrate correctly jogging mount, moving mount forward with whip (if necessary)
Delete: Do walk/trot/walk transitions in hand	
<b>B a n d a g i n g</b>	

Delete: Apply stable wraps with assistance	
<b>CHANGES TO 'C' STANDARDS</b>	
<b>Old Standards</b>	<b>2009 Standards</b>
<b>C1</b>	
<b>Turn Out / Tack</b>	
Added to 'Attire to be correctly formal or informal'	Pony Club pin. Long hair neatly up or back. No inappropriate jewelry
Deleted:	or as designated by the DC
Expanded expectations for 'Mount to be well groomed, reflecting regular care	Mount to be well groomed, reflecting regular care with a healthy coat; no sweat or dirt. Mane and tail well brushed with little, if any, dandruff. External areas around sheath/udder clean. Feet picked out and reflecting regular farrier care. Eyes, nose, lips, dock clean.
Expanded expectations for 'tack to be safe, clean, and well adjusted, reflecting regular care'	Tack to be safe, properly adjusted, supple and reflecting regular care. No jockeys or dust. All stress points clean. No cracked leather. Metal clean and polished and stirrup pads clean.
Added:	Identify tack on own mount and discuss fit.
Added:	Demonstrate proper adjustment of blanket/sheet and halter.
<b>Travel Safety</b>	
Change from 'Know trailer safety Checklist'	To: Demonstrate trailer safety check from trailer safety checklist (on USPC Website under forms)
<b>Teaching</b>	
Reworded: Under direct supervision of Examiner, perform and explain reasons for a safety check and tack inspection for a D Pony Club member	To: Demonstrate a safety and tack inspection for a D Pony Club member under the direct supervision of Examiner.
Added:	Explain to the D member the reason for the check, the process, and any safety issues found.
<b>Leading &amp; Longeing</b>	
Added	Demonstrate jogging mount, moving mount actively forward from the whip, with smooth transitions.
<b>Bandaging</b>	
Change from 'Be able to apply a shipping bandage with assistance'	To: Apply a stable bandage under direct supervision and with assistance of Examiner
<b>C2</b>	
<b>Turnout / Tack</b>	
Expanded expectations for 'Attire..'	Same as C1 with the addition of 'Boots polished and in good repair. Spurs (if used) polished and put on properly

Expanded expectations for 'Tack..'	Tack to be safe, <b>clean</b> , and properly adjusted, reflecting regular care/conditioning with metal polished. No jockeys or dust, no cracked leather, and all stress points clean.
Added	Demonstrate proper adjustment and reason for tack used on mount
<b>Conditioning</b>	
Added	Know vital signs of own mount at work
<b>Teaching</b>	
Expanded explanation for assisting a D1 or D2 to prepare for turnout'	Demonstrate knowledge of safe grooming, handling and tacking up by assisting a D1 or D2 to prepare for turnout under the direct supervision of Examiner. Explain to the D member what the appropriate steps are and what safety procedures should be followed. Assess turnout and equipment for safety and explain to the D member any safety concerns and how to fix them.
<b>Land Conservation</b>	
Added:	Name the zoning requirements for the county in which you keep your horse. <i>Example: A minimum of 10 acres is required to keep one horse.</i>
Added:	Know what public land is available to ride on in your county.

**This is a rework of the document handed out at the HMO seminar. It is called  
Rules at a Glance**

<b>Then</b>	<b>Now</b>
Velcro on leg bandages or wraps	Velcro is allowed on wraps and bandages
Double ended snaps must have clips facing down	Good idea but not a rule
Mixed metal bits are not allowed	Allowed
Bit keepers required on all full or ½ cheek snaffles	Only for Games: full and ½ cheeks are not allowed for PLX
No rubber stirrup pads w/rubber Soled shoes	Allowed
Glycerin bar soap doesn't count As saddle soap in Tack Cleaning Kit	Glycerin in bar or liquid form is acceptable
No manure in stalls at any time	Stalls should show signs of regular cleaning and picking w/minimal

Only real stock ties and dress boots allowed

Pre-tied stock ties and field boots allowed for formal turnout

Everything hung in a stall must be hung with twine

Twine is not required

Nylon haybags are allowed

Bridles should be hung neatly but are not required to be hung figure 8 style

Belts do not have to be leather, in fact no material is specified

Extra items in kits: Teams may have additional items in their kits as long as they have all the required items and can explain the use of the extra items.

**On another note,** I am pleased when clubs are actively teaching Horse Management to their members. Kudos to Watermelon Mountain for instituting a plan whereas once a month they announce a topic. They hope to have guest speakers from time to time. This month they discussed the safety check, bit and bridle fit. Keep up the good work!

Also Watermelon Mountain's Alice Lloyd organized a CT rally attached to the Horse Trials in Las Cruces, NM. It was well attended with 3 full teams consisting of Los Alamos, Watermelon Mountain, Diamondback and Durango competitors. Lisa Reader was the Chief and I was told the competitors did well and had fun. Isn't that how it should be?

Another Club, which should be recognized, is STAR PC for having their HM seminar. Besides STAR, members from Desert Wings attended. We had great weather! We covered jog outs, Turn out Inspections, the Equine First Aid Kit, trailer set up and feeding at an overnight rally. The next day we didn't have the best weather, but the members learned how to take vital signs and getting their horse/ponies ready for camp. Kerry Benedikt talked about expectations at a National Championship. Finally, The members were taught how to stretch and then fall off a horse, or in this case a barrel, safely. Because of their enthusiasm I have asked Madeleine Carey to teach vaulting at camp. But the best part was that I was picked up and dropped off at the airport in a Limo! I have a great photo of the DC of STAR, Maureen Mariscal and myself standing in front of the limo, but my skills are limited and was unable to put it in the newsletter. It was a treat and I even sent the photo to the HM committee. They are all envious! Finally, I hope you have joined the USPCriders.ning.com website (as long as you are over 12 years old). Sign up on line at USPCriders.ning.com and if you have any trouble, contact Nancy Ambrosiano for details at [nancy@horsekeeper.com](mailto:nancy@horsekeeper.com)

Just a reminder of those in the region who are great HM resources:

CHMJJs:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>CELL PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Nancy Mac Isaac	505/867-3367	302/270-2842	<a href="mailto:nmacisaac@mac.com">nmacisaac@mac.com</a>
Lisa Reader	505/662-1966	505/660-6391	<a href="mailto:lisaandgarth@cs.com">lisaandgarth@cs.com</a>
Barbara Sweet	928/632-7601	928/458-9039	<a href="mailto:bsweet@ormeschool.org">bsweet@ormeschool.org</a>

**Additional Resources:**

Kristen Young	<a href="mailto:kristenyoung48@yahoo.com">kristenyoung48@yahoo.com</a>
Judy Kosanovich	<a href="mailto:jkosanov@swcp.com">jkosanov@swcp.com</a>