

Vancouver Pony Club Branch Level Testing Guidelines

These Guidelines are in effect as of: September 2009

These Guidelines are intended to:

1. Guide the operations of the Vancouver Pony Club with respect to Branch Level testing.
2. Bring clarity to the membership and their parents on the testing process and requirements.

These Guidelines apply to:

1. Members of Vancouver Pony Club who are over the age of ten upon first time registration and those returning members intending to test in either the full (Riding and Horsemastership/Stable Management) stream or the singular Horsemastership/Stable Management stream.

These Guidelines are supported by and are consistent with the following VPC Position Statements on Testing:

1. Consistent with Canadian Pony Club, the VPC Branch Executive believes that “Pony Club tests are to be regarded as steps toward the aims and objects of the Canadian Pony Club. Tests are offered as encouragement for members to advance; and to provide an efficient method of determining that members have a good, all-round, sound and practical knowledge of horsemanship and horse mastership”.
2. The VPC Executive, through the Test Representative(s) will ensure that an opportunity exists for all members to move through the Pony Club Levels at a rate of one or two levels per year provided they have satisfied all testing pre-qualifications.
3. Every effort will be made to ensure that testing opportunities are provided at times of the year that not only encourage the members’ growth but also promote participation in other Pony Club activities such as Rally and National/International Pony Club Competition.
4. Requests from members to test in ways that are not consistent with these guidelines, must be made in writing to the Branch Test Representative(s) who will bring all requests with a recommended action to the Executive for approval.

The Guidelines:

1. Testing Overview Session

In the fall of each year the VPC testing Committee will communicate the following:

- An overview of Canadian Pony Club testing Procedures
- An overview of the VPC testing process. This will include:
 - ✓ A graphic illustration of testing levels

- ✓ A presentation on all elements of testing including, but not limited to: the 'Declaration of Intent to Test', the 'Lesson Log', Horsemastership/Stable Management requirements and the Canadian Pony Club age requirements for each level of testing.
- The communication will be directed to members and their parents.
- ✓ A meeting for members and their parents will occur. The meeting is mandatory for new members and strongly encouraged for returning members.

5. Declaration of Intent to Test Form

- A 'Declaration of Intent to Test' (DIT) must be made by every member. The information contained on this form is required to ensure that members are enrolled in the correct stable management lessons and that appropriate testing arrangements can be made.
- The DIT form will be included in the VPC Registration Materials, with a set of instructions for its completion.
- The DIT form must be completed and submitted by each member, signed by their parents by early October each year.
- Full instructions on how to complete the DIT will be given at the fall Testing overview Session.

These Guidelines will be reviewed and revised by the VPC Executive from time to time and any revisions will be communicated to the targeted members and their parents.