***Winter Program is a wrap and it’s time for members, who wish to test, to put their knowledge to the test☺. 2023 CPC WRITTEN TESTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED by the branch and we will be forwarding study material as well as scheduling test writing in the near future.***

**Remember testing is NOT a requirement of pony club but it is a good way for members to assess their progress and challenge the levels in their riding and SM knowledge thru the eyes of an examiner. It’s also important for the members to understand that this is not the same as a show. At a show, like a jumper show, you are not being evaluated or marked on your ability or how you handle or deliver your horse to a jump, it is merely a timed event (fastest time with least faults wins) . At testing you are being evaluated on your riding skills as well as your ability to handle all sorts of situations that might arise. Remember to always take into consideration your horse.  You may be riding at a “C” level but if your horse is green or hasn’t jumped or done cross country he may need some work at the lower levels before he is ready for C level. If you attempt a test and don’t meet the standard set by Pony Club, remember that sometimes we just have bad days and you can always try again.**

**60% ATTENDENCE IN CLUB ACTIVITIES IS ONE OF THE FIRST REQUIREMENTS THAT YOU HAVE TO MEET IN ORDER TO TEST.**

**For anyone new to testing, (never tested before) all members who wish to test, start by writing their D level and over the years proceed to D1, D2, C, C1, C2, B, B2, A. A *challenge of levels or multiple level test*, is also an option for some members who may be above the starting D level (see note below)**

**Testing is done in the following order.**

**Phase #1 = Written (if passed move on to phase #2) (if you don’t pass the written you can try again at a later date but you cannot move onto phase #2)**

**Phase #2 = Stable Management (if passed move on to phase #3)**

**Phase #3 = Riding**

***What does challenge levels mean? Sometimes called Multiple Level Test.***

***For a member who has never tested you may challenge several levels at the same time. For example let’s say you were jumping 2’6” and had worked through the workbooks, passed the written tests, received your coaches verification that you were jumping at the level stated and met the age restriction imposed by CPC, you may want to challenge several levels at one time.*   Most members choose to do D, D1, D2, however a challenge can simply be D and D1 if you feel that is what you are ready for.  There is no rush and you can simply do D if you like with NO challenge.  If you plan on challenging have a look at the CPC study guides for all levels you decide to challenge to figure out what level works best for you. *A multiple level test counts as one test.***

***Does a member who has never tested have to challenge levels?***

**There is absolutely no requirement to challenge levels. You can simply work at one level at a time if that is what you wish. You are allowed to be in front of an examiner twice (2 times) in one year. So you could potentially do 2 levels in one year without going the challenge route.**

**As a new member you should have received a red passport book in the mail from CPC. You need to have this book to record testing results and signatures of examiners so don’t lose it. We will collect these when we get to Phase 2 and Phase 3 of testing. Remember Phase 1 is the written so we have to get over that hurdle first before moving onto the next phase.**

This year we will be charging a testing fee to help cover costs of examiners $70 for D, D1. $80 for D2 & C. $100 for C1.

**On a final note and for your information - IF A MEMBER FEELS THEY ARE NOT READY FOR RIDING THEY CAN SIGN UP TO DO THEIR STABLE MANAGEMENT ONLY. However remember you are only allowed to test two levels or be in front of examiners twice in one year so if you split up the SM and Ride on different days that counts as 2 times in front of examiners.**

**EACH MEMBER ON CROSS COUNTRY must have an approved safety vest. ASTM 1937-04 or Beta Level 3 2009 or earlier.**

***FOR MEMBERS WHO HAVE ALREADY TESTED LEVELS.***

***THERE IS NO CHALLENGE AVAILABLE ONCE YOU HAVE TESTED, however, you can be in front of examiners 2 times in one year so you could potentially do 2 levels in one year if your coaches felt you were ready. JUST be sure to write both exams in the spring as sometimes CPC does not produce fall written exams. Tests are valid until Dec 31 of the following year.***

**The same applies whether you are new to testing or have tested before. Testing consists of 3 phases**

**Phase #1 – written (must pass with 65% before moving onto Phase #2)**

**Phase #2 – SM (must pass SM before moving on to riding)**

**Phase #3 – Riding**

**Of course with all testing you must be signed off by a coach to verify that you are successfully riding at the level you wish to test.**

**Attached with this email is a chart which shows the heights for each phase. Also attached is an age chart for each level.**

**Testing can be hard to understand. Just take it one phase at a time and don’t hesitate to ask a million questions.**

**Talk soon**

**Lois Booy, Test Rep**

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**P.S. Tanja will be sending out a date, time and location for phase #1 written shortly.**