

## H/HA PREP GUIDE

This prep outline is prepared to help you cover the Horse Management aspects of the H/HA test. It does not cover the actual practical experiences that you need such as showing a horse in hand, bandaging, teaching, or longeing, and you must review the Standards of Proficiency to know that you are properly prepared in all areas.

It is helpful for you to do this exercise because it not only gives you a great review format, it forces you to organize your thoughts by putting them on paper. This reinforces the knowledge and helps you to verbalize your thoughts in a testing situation. Please practice verbalizing your answers. Show your guide to anyone that you can corner because they will add bits and pieces of their experience and aspects you may not have considered.

Remember that you must have a complete Horse Health/Maintenance Record book prepared for the test. It should be a written outline for your own or borrowed horse showing health records, vital statistics, feed schedules, expenses, and any other related expenses such as barn repairs and training fees. You may use the USPC Maintenance Book or your own format as long as it includes the required information.

Best of luck. Hope this helps you to study. Review the Standards D1- B and you will be prepared for this part of the H/HA test.

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Old Dominion Region

## HA Prep

Learning is a process of not only gathering facts but putting that knowledge into real life situations. It is the test of your true abilities. You need to go outside the books experience and apply what you know. Many people learn best from seeing, touching, hearing and then responding to what they are seeing, touching, and hearing. Any life experiences that you can gather will add to your learning.

This is a framework and is certainly not binding. Increase your life experience!!!

Spend two weeks with an equine vet. Observing their routine and calls.

\_\_\_\_\_ Vet's Signature

Get an interview or spend some time observing the work of someone in the horse health support world such as an equine nutritionist, equine chiropractor, or equine physical therapist.

Spend five days with a farrier. Observe their routine and calls.

\_\_\_\_\_Farrier's Signature

Go to a Farrier's Supply House and identify all the tools and different shoes that are on display. Ask for help until you could become the salesman.

Review all Exercise Bandages, Shipping Bandages, Stable Bandages, Tail Bandages ( use sheet cotton and flannels)

Put on 20 A+ Spider Bandages

Put on 20 A+ Figure Eight Bandages

Put on 20 A+ Sweat Bandages

Put on 20 A+ Poultices

Put on 20 A+ Hock Bandages

Put on 20 A+ Knee Bandages

\_\_\_\_\_ Instructor's Signature

Spend at least three weeks at a riding stable or a training barn. Employment would be nice but volunteering will also get you the experience that you need.

Observe the stable management routine. Vet calls. Farrier routine. Pasture management and Feeds. Grooming schedule. Equipment maintenance. Conditioning and training schedules. If you are at a riding stable, observe the lessons and how the instructor teaches (body position, voice, directions, expectations of the students, number of students in the lesson, etc.).

\_\_\_\_\_ Barn Owner, Trainer or Manager's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Facility

Scenario- You are the barn manager of 15 horses with 16 stalls and three pastures, (and any other variables that you want to incorporate into the scene) Now work out the feeding needs, fence repair, exercise schedule, training schedule, lesson schedule, income and expenses and all aspects of managing this barn for a month. Talk to your local training or boarding barn owner/manager to discover aspects of management that you may have over looked. Write your plan on separate paper.

Groom for a friend at a show or event that is outside your normal experience.

\_\_\_\_\_ Friend's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of show/event

Spend a few hours at barns which focuses on a different breed of horse that is not like your regular experience, (ie Arab, Saddlebred or Quarter Horse ,Welsh pony )..

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of barn

\_\_\_\_\_ Barn

\_\_\_\_\_ Barn

\_\_\_\_\_ Barn

Go to a horse auction or sale with a trainer or buyer. Pretend you are buying three horses that you think would make a good horse for you. Know what qualities and conformation points help you make your choices. Compare your decision with the buyer or trainer.

Go to a horse show with an experienced horseman. Play judge, except not only judging performance but include way of going, conformation and conformation faults and any other aspects of evaluation you can add to demonstrate a knowledge of ability level of the horse and its suitability to the activity. Compare your notes with the experienced horseman.

Accompany a vet when they do a jog for soundness at an event. Watch as many horses as possible with a critical and knowledgeable eye. Discuss your evaluations with the Vet.

Volunteer to prepare a horse for sale in exchange for critique on your presentation. A barn manager or boarder may be thrilled to have their horse totally cleaned, mane pulled (check any cosmetic changes of borrowed horse before actually carrying it out) and other aspects of getting a horse ready for presentation.

Visit your local tack store and repair shop. Go through every shelf and display testing your knowledge as to use of each item and bit. Be able to tell how you would know if it fit a particular horse. Watch the repair process of as many items as you can.

Contact the local barn builders and write for brochures in the horse magazines who can send you general plans for professionally built barns

Volunteer your help in setting up jump courses with a professional teacher for your Pony Club, for a Show or for a riding stable.

\_\_\_\_\_ Course Designer's Signature

Visit the local Agriculture Extension Service or local college of agriculture . Find out the procedure of getting and submitting a soil sample.

Visit a local feed store. Compare the different feeds and hays. Find out how you can determine the nutritional values of each. Where are they processed, grown etc. (If it is the proper time of year, go to your state fair and look at the winning hays and grains. Note the qualities that probably caused the judges to give them first place. Find out where in your state they were grown)

Visit the farm where the hay you buy is grown. Check the fields and crops before, during growth, during harvest, and after harvest. Note the management of the land where it is grown.

Go shopping for a new trailer, check the trailer for safety and features which would be desirable .

If you do not have a horse that is in your total care at your home, arrange to be responsible for the care of five horses for at least three weeks. Feeding/Watering, stall cleaning, grooming, turn out. etc.

**Teach, Teach, Teach Longe, Longe,  
Longe**

Do not limit your experiences by this list. The world is your teacher!!!!

## **HA Prep-Standards of Proficiency**

Please record your notes and return

Include in your answer not only the general rules but how it applies to your own experience whenever possible. You do not need to write in complete sentences but you do need to reference your information by book and page number.

### **Stable and Pasture Management**

#### **Part 1 Presentation- practice!**

What is the proper attire for you when showing a horse in hand?

How do you show a horse in hand?

Choose four different horses

Discuss general condition of a horse. Give an evaluation of age, breeding, and shoeing.

Horse 1

Horse 2

Horse 3

Horse 4

Discuss suitability for a specific activity and the performance level that can be expected, based on conformation and disposition.

Horse 1

Horse 2

Horse 3

Horse 4

Discuss suitability and fit of tack used on the horse.

Horse 1

Horse 2

Horse 3

Horse 4

Demonstrate how to determine a horse's age by his teeth on all four horses. Include Xerox copies of information and diagrams on teeth.

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### **Stable and Pasture Management**

**Part 2 -Tack-** Include cutouts from tack store catalogues and any diagrams which would help you describe the areas following.

Describe in detail the inspection of saddlery for safety and fit, to determine need for adjustment, repairs and/or padding.

Bridle

Saddle

Pads

Girths

Martingales

Cruppers

Breastplate

Halter

Other

Describe Procedure for reclaiming neglected tack

Describe procedure for storing tack. Include changes of environment. Travel.

Know how to make temporary adjustments in ill-fitting tack such as:

Saddle on withers

Cantles too low

Leathers too long

Reins too long

Bit too large or small

Tree Broken

Recognize types of bits and saddles. Indicate to what discipline and/or rider each is appropriate.

Dressage

Three Day Eventer

Games

Tetrathlon

Cross Country

Show Jumping

Foxhunting

Hunter over fences

Hunter on the Flat

Polo

Trail Riding

Driving

Beginning Rider

Handicapped Rider

Any other areas you'd like to cover

Discuss correct fitting, uses and misuses of different types of:

Bits

I

Saddles

Girths

Martingales

Overgirths

Draw Reins

Side Reins

Boots

Cruppers

Breastplates

Describe an inspection procedure to ensure the safety of stable and horses to determine if problems have arisen during the night.

Describe an inspection procedure to ensure the safety of stable and horses in pasture for the night.

Describe ways to aid a horse that is cast in his stall.

Describe a horse in poor condition and suggest several possible causes.

Outline a complete parasite control program for a stable, give reasons for the program, including deworming drug classification relative to parasite cycles.

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## **Stable and Pasture Management**

### **Part 4- Stable Construction/ Pasture Management**

Discuss good stable construction for safety and health, with attention to: Ventilation, Drafts, Light, Drainage, Protection of pipes in freezing weather, Rodent and insect control and storage of feed, Bedding, Stable Equipment and Tack

Discuss proper grazing and paddock management, including watering systems, fencing, mowing, shelter, and poisonous plants in your area.

Discuss the importance of soil testing, fertilizers and seeding for proper soil management.

## HA Prep – Standards of Proficiency

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### **Stable and Pasture Management**

#### **Part 5 - Nutrition**

Discuss the ability to purchase feed responsibility by discussing the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of different types of:

Oats

Pellets

Sweet and Mixed Feeds

Bran

Corn

Discuss common sources of the following in typical equine rations-

Protein

Fat

Carbohydrates

Discuss interpretation of the nutritional value of feed available from label information and know resources to expand this information.

Discuss appropriate rations, including percentage of protein for horses:

Aged

Growing

Working

Idle

Breeding

Discuss cost or and safe storage methods for different varieties and quantities of feed.

Discuss criteria used to determine whether or not feed supplements are needed, benefits and dangers of their use.

Discuss differences in care, as related to seasonal weather changes for horses at grass.

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### **Veterinary Knowledge**

#### **Part 1- Health/Systems/Diseases**

Include all necessary Xeroxes of anatomical diagrams and pictures of systems.

Identify major anatomical parts and describe the basic functions of the following systems:

Respiratory

Urinary

Circulatory/lymphatic

Nervous

Digestive

Reproductive

Skeletal

Locate and discuss the following disorders according to the anatomical system involved and know causative agent, signs and treatment of these diseases:

Colic

Choking

Heaves

Laminitis

Azoturia

Periodic Ophthalmia

Rhinopneumonitis

Influenza

Encephalomyelitis

Tetanus

Strangles

Equine Infectious Anemia

Rabies

Potomac Horse Fever

Equine Venereal (viral) arteritis

EPM

botulism

Discuss the following predisposing factors, including symptoms and treatment of the following:

Fever

Inflammation

Edema

Arthritis

Shock

Dehydration

Discuss diseases associated with travel and exposure to strange horses.

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### **Veterinary Knowledge**

#### **Part 2 Bandaging**

Discuss the proper application of:

Shipping Bandage

Exercise Bandage

Stable Bandage

What are the benefits of using sheet cottons and flannels? ( they are the recommended materials and candidates may be asked to demonstrate with these as well as with other materials brought)

Discuss the application and how to maintain any of the following bandages:

Discuss values and potential dangers when any of them are prescribed.

Sweat

Poultice

Pressure

Spider

Figure Eight

Knee

Hock

Cold Water

Ice

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### **Veterinary Knowledge**

#### **Part 3-Special Care**

Discuss common tranquilizers, using "trade" names; when their use might be necessary and the dangers involved. Specifically:

Ace (Prom-Ace)

Rompum (Xylazine)

Banamine

Azium

Butazolidin

Torbugesic

Ketoprofen

Dormosedan

Dipyrone

Aspirin

Discuss specific precautions when shipping, feeding and restraining a sedated horse. Relate this discussion to the tranquilizers listed above.

Discuss both benefits and dangers of using twitches

Discuss other methods of physical restraint, from mild to aggressive.

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### **Veterinary Knowledge**

**Part 4- Travel Safety** Discuss techniques for loading and unloading difficult horses.

Discuss possible causes for loading problems.

Discuss a year's overall maintenance program for keeping a trailer/van operationally safe

Discuss ways to transport mares and foals.

## HA Standards of Proficiency

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### **Veterinary Knowledge**

#### **Part 5- Conformation and Lameness**

Discuss lameness which might be associated with conformation faults, to include:

Base Wide

Base Narrow

Cow Hocks

Sickle Hocks

Toe-in

Toe-Out

Contracted heels

Camped out in front

Long Sloping Pasterns

Straight upright pasterns

Standing Under

Bench Knees

Knock Knees

Calf Knees

Over at the Knee

Bow Leg

Straight Stifle

Describe a horse in action and assess his athletic ability as it may be affected by any of the conformation faults listed below (and add to the faults list above)

Straight Shoulder

Long Back

Parrot mouth

Too long neck

Too short neck

Mutton/high withers

Various slopes of croup

Slab sided

Overshot jaw

Ewe Neck

Shortness of stride

Observe a horse move and describe his way of going, including good and weak points

Discuss the anatomy of the leg (front and hind) and foot, including bones, principal tendons and ligaments. Include copies of anatomical drawings and diagrams.

Bones

Principal tendons

Ligaments

Choose the best horse of a selection of horses for a specific purpose. If you can't get to a barn, use a video.

## HA Prep – Standards of Proficiency

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### **Teaching and Training**

#### **Part 1- Teaching Techniques**

List 10 teaching ideas included in the Instructor's Handbook and relate how these ideas were useful to you when you taught.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Discuss ways to handle the following situations:

Mixed age or skill group

Effective use of assistant

Interfering coach or parent

Unsuitable Mount

Disobedient Mount

Fall of Rider

Arguing Student

Uninterested Student

Fearful Student

Discuss techniques to discover if students have:

physical handicaps

Visual handicaps

Learning disabilities

Problems beyond a teacher's ability or training to solve

Discuss what skills would be covered in teaching a C Pony Clubber to longe a horse safely and effectively.

On another paper, prepare a lesson plan for on the flat and over fences for:

D1, D2, D3, C1, C2, C3 and B. Include in the lesson plan a course design that had appropriate distances between fences or cavaletti's.

Discuss first aid equipment and emergency preparedness suitable for a teaching situation. ( Human and Equine)

HA Prep-Standards of Proficiency

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## **Teaching and Training**

### **Part 2 Teaching a Class**

Be prepared to teach a safe lesson on the flat and/or over fences. Practice, practice, practice

Choose one of your good lessons

Was the teaching objective achieved?

How could the lesson have been improved?

Choose one of your less successful lessons

How could the lesson have been improved?

Discuss a student's riding position on the flat.

## HA Prep-Standards of Proficiency

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### **Training/Longeing**

Discuss and demonstrate proper fit and use of equipment, including side reins.

Discuss and demonstrate safe, confident, effective longeing techniques.

Demonstrate techniques for longeing appropriate to the mount's level for exercise, training, and/or warm-up

Discuss additional safety precautions to be taken when longeing with a rider.

Evaluate performance and level of mount before, during and after longeing session.