



The Blue Cross Horse and Pony Care Mini Championship 2023

Team:	
Assessor:	

Round 1 – British Native Breeds and Colours & Markings

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
Ask each team member to pick 2 pictures of ponies and name the breed and colour. Place on the map where the pony is from.			
1 - Picture 1 – (Highland – Dun)	5		
2 - Picture 2 – (Shetland – Piebald)	5		
3 - Picture 3 – (Connemara – Grey)	5		
4 - Picture 4 – (Fell – Black)	5		
5 - Picture 5 – (Welsh Cob – Chestnut)	5		
6 - Picture 6 – (Exmoor – Bay)	5		
Markings – one each			
7 - Picture 7 – (Name the Leg marking)	5		
8 - Picture 8 – (Name the Face marking)	5		
9 - Picture 9 – (Name of Blue Eye)	5		
10 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 2 – Equipment Identification

Ask each member of the team to pick out three pieces of equipment, describe the 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 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 3 – Grass Kept Pony

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Put in order which needs checking most often and why: Bucket, Stream, or Trough.	5		
2 - How do you feed a carrot to a pony – on your hand	5		
3 - Show pictures of 3 types of fencing. Give a good and bad point about each.	5		
4 - Give 6 signs a Pony looks healthy	10		
5 - What are these and what would you do if you found any of them? (Poisonous plant picture x 6)	5		
6 - What are the 3 major needs of a Pony - the 3 Fs (<i>Freedom, Friendship and Forage</i>)	5		
7 - Look at these pictures and talk about which one is suitable for a Pony with laminitis	5		
8 - What is the name of the condition that makes your pony rub/itch in the summer? How can you help the pony?	5		
9 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 4 – Plaiting, Clipping and Trimming

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Member 1 plaits with string whilst Member 2 helps by holding the string. Member 3 plaits on the plaiting board.	10		
2 - Why might you plait a pony's mane or tail?	5		
3 - Give 3 reasons why a horse or pony might need clipping.	5		
4 - What does a clipped pony need if it is to live in a field?	5		
5 - Why may a pony be nervous or jumpy when being clipped? What might it do? Who should clip?	10		
6 - Do all horses and ponies need their manes pulling? If not, which type / breed of horses and ponies do not?	5		
7 - Which parts of the pony should not be trimmed?	5		
8 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 5 – Safety

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Look at the field sheet - what dangers can you see?	5		
2 - Look at the stable yard sheet – what dangers can you see?	5		
3 - All team members - Tie a quick release knot	10		
4 - What Fire Fighting equipment should you have on your yard?	5		
5 - What safety equipment should you wear when riding on the road?	5		
6 – Why do you never enter a field of ponies with food, a feed scoop or other food container?	5		
7 – Look at this equipment and see if it's safe to use.	5		
8 – Identify what type of footwear is suitable for riding and what footwear is unsuitable and dangerous.	5		
9 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 6 – Pony Clothing – Bandages and Rugs

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Identify three rugs	5		
2 - Point to the places that flies irritate ponies	5		
3 - Sort the pictures into two piles with ponies that possibly do or do not need a rug	5		
4 - Fasten and unfasten the rug straps in the correct order for putting on and taking off the rug.	10		
5 - What is this (Brushing Boot) and what is it used for?	5		
6 - What is this (Travel Boot) and what is it used for?	5		
7 - What is this (Overreach boot) and what is it used for?	5		
8 - Pick the Tail Bandage out of this pile of Bandages. Talk about when and how you would use a Tail Bandage.	5		
9 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 7 – Tack

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Name three parts of the saddle (3 each team member - 9 parts in total)	5		
2 - Name three parts of a snaffle bridle (3 each team member - 9 parts in total)	5		
3 - Give three things you would check to know that a bridle fits correctly.	5		
4 - Give three things you would check to know that the saddle fits correctly.	5		
5 - What sort of bits are these? Two each	5		
6 - When putting the bridle on, what should you do with the headcollar and rope?	5		
7 - Name these - Martingales/Nosebands and why are they used	5		
8 - Show three safety checks you would make to this Saddle to see if it is suitable for use.	10		
9 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 8 – Grooming and Points of Pony

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Why should you groom a Pony?	5		
2 - Identify these items of grooming kit and explain their uses - 3 each. Which can you use on a grass kept pony?	10		
3 - On the Pony, point and speak about the most important places you should groom on a grass kept pony before riding the pony in the winter	5		
4 - How do you groom the tail?	5		
5 - How often do ponies need their hooves picking out?	5		
Points of Pony - Where is the?			
6 - Member 1 – Crest, Fetlock Joint, Hock.	5		
7 - Member 2 – Dock, Coronet band, Stifle	5		
8 - Member 3 – Withers, Cannon Bone, Loins	5		
9 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 9 – Pony Behaviour and Learning Theory

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Look at the pictures and pick out - Excited, Angry, Happy and Sad	10		
2 - Why is it important for ponies to have turnout and friends?	5		
3 - What happens when a pony becomes nervous or worried?	5		
4 - Tell me about 1 of the 5 Freedoms of pony welfare.	5		
5 - Why is a pony's health and happiness important?	5		
6 - Explain how a pony learns new things	5		
7 - Give three examples of how you can reward a pony	5		
8 - Give three examples of things that a pony can be rewarded for doing	5		
9 - Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			



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Round 10 – (Blue Cross) Equine Welfare

	Marks Available	Marks Given	Comments
1 - Who has sponsored the Horse & Pony Care competition? What do they do for Horses and Pets?	5		
2 - What are the names of the horse's teeth?	5		
3 - How often do you need the Equine Dentist?	5		
4 - What are these feeds? (Hay/Haylage/Chaff)	5		
5 - What is this? (salt)	5		
6 - When picking out feet what are you looking for as you do it?	5		
7 - Name the parts of the foot (6 for full marks)	5		
8 - Names these pieces of equipment – (Fork, Yard Brush, Skip/poop scoop)	5		
9 - What are these? (Straw/shavings) When and why may you use each one?	5		
Teamwork	5		
Total	50		
Best Individual			