



Canadian Pony Club



HORSEMASTERS HANDBOOK

Horsemasters

A guide to running an adult Horsemasters Program



CANADIAN PONY CLUB

Horsemasters Handbook

2018

Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

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General Information

Horsemasters is an initiative by Canadian Pony Club to help educate people on the best practices for caring for our equine partners. The Canadian Pony Club aims to develop both riding and stable management skills to develop well rounded equestrians. CPC aims to develop character, loyalty and sportsmanship. We teach leadership, responsibility and the value of teamwork. All of this is developed through a program that teaches best practices surrounding equine welfare, riding and mounted sports. Education and safety of the members and their equine partners is one of the main focuses of this program.

The Horsemasters program is an opportunity for Adults who support the aims and objectives of Pony Club to continue to educate themselves as well as give back to the Pony Club Community. Horsemasters will be encouraged to volunteer within their branch and region and to share their skill sets with the broader community. Each Branch, Centre and Region can tailor their Horsemasters Program to suit the needs of their members.

No Branch, Centre or Region is required to participate in the HM program.

Activities

The following are some suggestions of activities you could organize for your Horsemaster members:

- Monthly Potluck with Horsemasters Members
- Weekly, Bi-Weekly or Monthly Stable Management Lectures (This could be facilitated by someone in the group or bring someone in)
- Field trips to local Equine Events such as clinics or symposiums
- Social Activities such as wine tours, tack shop crawl etc.
- Guest Speakers on various topics of interest
- Test driving a new discipline like Western Trail, Horseball, LeTrec or Driving
- Alumni speaking about their experiences with CPC
- Presentations on the various aspects of Pony Club and all the activities we offer
- Riding Lessons
- Product Reps coming in to talk about products specific to equines
- Fire Department to talk about local codes and safety



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Criteria

1. Must be an Associate member of a CPC approved Branch, if joining a Branch. May join a Centre without being an Associate Member.
2. Must be a Pony Club Parent, or Alumni, or someone willing to volunteer at Branch\Centre and Regional activities.
3. Membership in the Horsemasters Program is a privilege, not a right. All members are expected to be familiar with all our policies and to adhere to our rules and philosophies.
4. Must be at least 21 prior to Jan.1 of the year in which they wish to become a member. May not be both an Active Member and a Horsemasters member at the same time.
5. Must have a current PTSO membership in the Region in which they reside, prior to joining.
6. Must pay the Branch/Centre, Regional and National fees, as set out by the Branch/Centre, Region and National from time to time.
7. Members of the Horsemasters Program will have access to lessons, clinics and camps (mounted and unmounted) offered by a Branch, Centre or Region, providing the needs of all Active Members have already been met. The cost of such activities will be set by the Branch/Centre or Region hosting the activity.
8. HM Members will be expected to give back to PC with volunteer hours. Branches/Centres and Regions may set an acceptable number of volunteer hours that will be expected for each HM.
9. Branches/Centres and Regions are encouraged to invite HM members to any activities deemed appropriate.
10. DC's/Centre Administrators will collect the fees and applications and submit them to the Regional Membership Chair just as they do for Active Members.
11. Adults who are **not** Horsemasters Members may **not** participate in any clinics, lessons, camps or other activities provided for the Active Members. This does not include volunteers who are supervising activities, or open horseshows.
12. Regions are encouraged to offer a HM Division in their Regional Discipline Championships, where ever possible.
13. Prospective HM members may attend one Pony Club activity prior to joining. The activity cannot be longer than 1 day, the prospective member must have their PTSO membership and they must sign the non-member Risk Form.
14. National Championships may offer a HM Division if suitable numbers can attend and if facilities and/or borrowed horses allows for this.



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15. National Quiz offers a HM Division. See Quiz Handbook for details.
16. HM Members will have full access to the testing system, where Branches/Centres and Regions allow. Fees for National Testing will be the same as for Active Members. Branches/Centres and Regions may set their own fees for testing. Testing requirements will be as written in the Testing Procedures and other Testing documents. Horsemasters are not required to test.
17. As CPC is now offering a full program to our HM Members, they will pay the same National Fee as Active Members. Regions, Branches and Centres may still set their own fees.
18. As HM Membership grows in the Regions, each Region is encouraged to add a HM rep or chair to their Regional Committee and make the appropriate amendment to their R&R's. The Regions are encouraged to grant the HM rep voting privileges.
19. HM members in any Region may join together to form a Regional Group to plan events for all HM in the Region, as well as form teams for Regional and National events. Active members should be invited to participate whenever appropriate.
20. Testing
 - a) Horsemasters are welcomed to test under the same requirements as active members.
 - b) New Horsemasters never having been CPC members in the past, similar to new active members, may make one use of the Multiple Level First Test (MLFT).
 - c) New Horsemasters who are returning to CPC membership may return to testing:
 - i) at the level achieved as an active member
 - ii) choose a lower level to resume testing
 - iii) make one use of the MLFT if the Horsemaster has not been an active member for at least 10 years.
21. Branches with only Horsemaster Members may retain the Branch Charter, providing that Active Members are always welcome to join. In order to start a HM only Branch, there must be at least four members, each willing to take on a position on the executive committee.



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Suggested Reading List

- USPC **D** Manual of Horsemanship
- USPC **C** Manual of Horsemanship
- USPC **AB** Manual of Horsemanship
- The Manual of Horsemanship (British)
- Conditioning Sport Horses
- All Horse Systems Go
- Horse Conformation Handbook
- USPC Conformation Handbook
- Grooming to Win
- Maximum Hoof Power
- Saddlery
- USPC Bandaging your Horse
- USPC Conformation Handbook
- USPC Longeing and Ground Training
- 101 Arena Exercises for Horse and Rider
- Horse Owner's Veterinary Handbook
- Schooling and Riding the Sport Horse
- Centered Riding
- Jumping Course Design Manual

Ideas for Stable Management Lectures

1. Basic Horse Terms
 - Colours, markings, how to measure a horse, parts of the horse, describing a horse, breeds
2. Handling and Leading
 - How to safely lead a horse, basic horse behavior and body language, tying a quick release knot
3. Feeding and Watering
 - Uses of water, methods for watering horses, identify concentrates and forages, feed storage and processing, essential nutrient, feeding rules, when/how much to feed,



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4. Conditioning

- Advanced methods of conditioning; care of horse before, during and after competition

5. Saddlery

- Parts of the saddle, parts of the bridle, how to safely tack-up a horse, bit identification, bit designs and actions, bit evasions and solutions, saddle fit (horse and rider), other riding equipment purpose and fit (martingales, breastplates etc.), cleaning tack

6. Boots, Bandages and Blankets

- Types of boots (fit and purpose), types of bandages (stable, shipping, tail bandages), Types of blankets (purposes and fit)

7. Foot and Shoeing

- Internal and external structure of the foot, different types of shoes, types of traction devices, parts of a shoe, role of the farrier

8. Teeth

- Types, numbers of teeth, general care, floating (when and why)

9. Conformation and Unsoundness

- Conformation faults, evaluating a horse's conformation, causes and locations of (bursal enlargements bony enlargements, sprains and strains), how to trot horse up for vet to check for soundness

10. Lunging

- Lunging techniques, equipment used to lunge (condition, fit and purpose), safety, handling of line and whip, purpose of lunging

11. Grooming

- Grooming tools, grooming routines, pulling the mane, body clipping, reasons to clip, types of clips, sheath and udder cleaning, hot toweling and other grooming procedures, preparing for a horseshow (mane and tail braiding, trimming etc.)



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12. Vet and First Aid (Horse Health)

- First Aid Kit (items found in a kit and their uses), symptoms and treatment of common diseases (colds, colic, heaves), how to stop severe bleeding, types of wounds and their causes, common parasites and life cycles, TPR, Body Condition Scoring, routine care (vaccines and deworming),

13. Stable and Pasture

- Good and bad features (stable and pasture), construction and design, safety, types of bedding, appropriate tools, manure management, pasture management, poisonous plants

14. Systems

- Digestive, Skeletal, Muscular, Reproductive etc.

15. Other miscellaneous topics

- Trailering (truck and trailer safety, how to load horses etc.), horse welfare and the code of ethics, stable vices, biomechanics of horse movement