Massachusetts 4-H Horsemanship Standards
English Riding Level 1 (ER -1)

4-H Member:_____ **County:**_____

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard MS = Meets Standard DNMS = Does not Meet Standard

HORSE MANAGEMENT	
Approach a horse safely and put on a halter.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Lead and turn horse safely in hand.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Demonstrate proper grooming techniques, including picking out hooves (with assistance if needed).	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Comments:	

HORSE AND RIDER TURNOUT	
Rider in safe and neat attire with an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Mount to be neatly brushed, feet picked out (with assistance if needed), and showing regular farrier care.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Discuss how to safely approach another horse and rider while mounted.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Comments:	

TACK	
Tack safe, neat, and properly adjusted, with assistance if necessary.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Demonstrate how to check fit of girth.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Comments:	

RIDING	
RIDING EXPECTATIONS: Throughout the entire testing, candidate demonstrates control while maintaining a safe, basic balanced position at the walk and trot in both directions.	
Mount and dismount, with assistance and mounting block if necessary.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Hold the reins correctly at the halt, walk, and trot.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Shorten and lengthen the reins correctly at the halt.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Drop and regain stirrups at the halt.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Demonstrate a simple change of direction at the walk and trot.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Perform gradual transitions from a walk to trot and walk to halt.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Walk over appropriately spaced ground poles.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Complete English Riding Pattern 1 (Appendix A) demonstrating a safe, balanced position and use of natural aids, as well as proper execution. Discuss and evaluate pattern with Examiner and re-do if necessary.	ES _____ MS_____ DNMS_____
Comments:	

ES:_____
MS:_____
DNMS:_____

Overall comments/suggestions:

_____ _____ _____
Examiner Name Examiner Signature Date

Sections Requiring Retesting:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

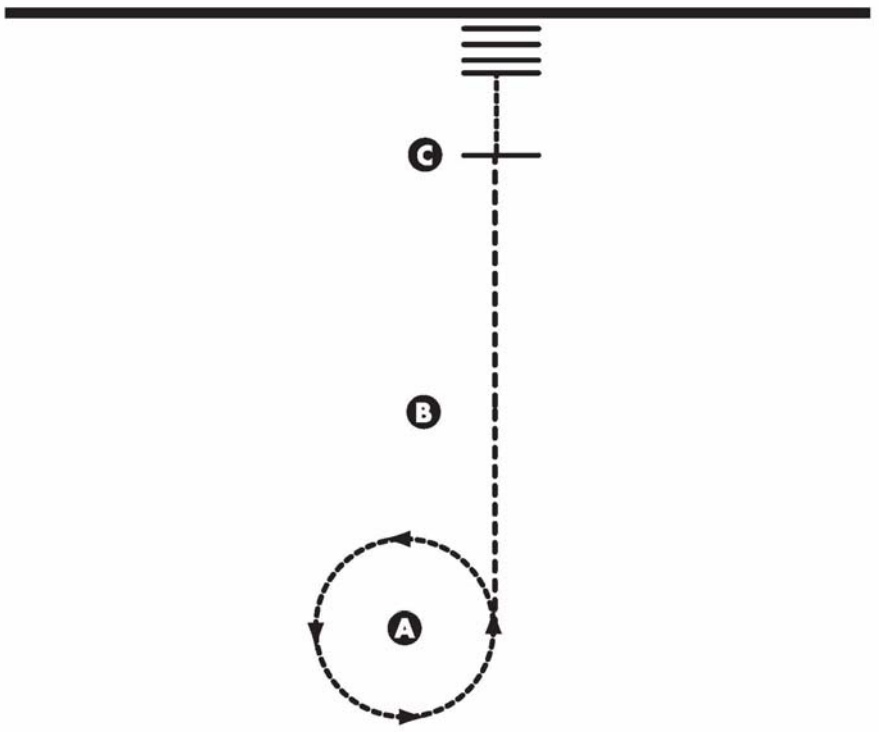
A candidate may be retested as follows:

- Retest to cover not more than 1 or 2 sections of the test. Retest must take place within 3 months but no sooner than 1 month.
- Not meeting standards of any section on that day will require retaking entire test.
- Retest must be conducted by original Examiner.

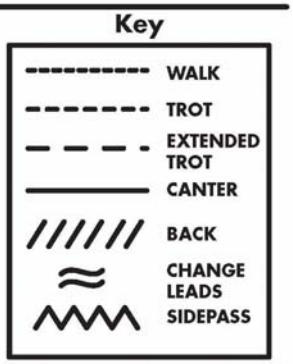
ES_____MS_____DNMS_____
Signature_____

Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards Appendix

Appendix A: English Riding Level 1 Pattern



INSTRUCTIONS
1. Begin on right side of cone A.
2. Stop and walk circle around cone A.
3. Trot left diagonal to cone B.
4. Trot right diagonal to cone C.
5. Halt at cone C.
6. Walk over ground poles.



English Riding Level 1 Pattern