



Massachusetts 4-H Horsemanship Standards Western Riding Level 4 (WR-4)

4-H Member: _____ County: _____

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

HORSE MANAGEMENT	
Apply a stable bandage (one front or one hind). Evaluate bandage with Examiner. Be prepared to discuss materials, techniques, and differences between front and hind application. Horse handler may be used.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Discuss reasons for lunging, necessary equipment, and safety procedures for horse and rider.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Demonstrate appropriate longe line attachment to the horse.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Comments:	
HORSE AND RIDER TURNOUT	
Rider's attire to be neat in discipline of choice, schooling show attire minimum, and should be safe and neat. Rider must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Mount to be well groomed, reflecting regular care with a healthy coat; no sweat or dirt. Mane and tail brushed with little, if any, dandruff. External areas around sheath/udder clean. Feet picked out and reflecting regular farrier care. Eyes, nose, lips, and dock clean.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Comments:	
TACK	
Tack to be safe, properly adjusted, supple, and reflecting regular care. No grease, sweat, or dust. All stress points clean. No cracked leather. Metal clean and polished and stirrup pads clean.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Describe three artificial aids and their use.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Comments:	

RIDING

RIDING EXPECTATIONS: Throughout the entire testing, candidate rides with confidence and control at the walk, jog, and lope, demonstrating a safe, basic balanced position and use of natural aids. Candidate is freely moving the horse's body in both directions and is beginning to establish balance and rhythm.

Perform basic suppling exercises for the rider. Discuss benefits to riders.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Ride at the walk, jog, and lope, showing smooth transitions and performing large circles and figure 8's with a correct bend at each gait, showing simple changes of lead.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Demonstrate aids for moving a horse away from the rider's leg at the walk to the left and right.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Demonstrate aids pivoting the horse's front end 90 degrees left and 90 degrees right from a halt.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Ride without stirrups at the walk and jog while performing large circles in both directions and performing changes of direction.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Discuss and demonstrate the difference between lengthening stride and increasing speed at each gait.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Discuss correct distances between jog and lope poles for both horses and ponies, as used in a trail class.	ES _____ MS _____ DNMS _____
Complete Western Riding Pattern 4 (Appendix S) demonstrating a safe, basic 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

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) _____



Sections Requiring Retesting:

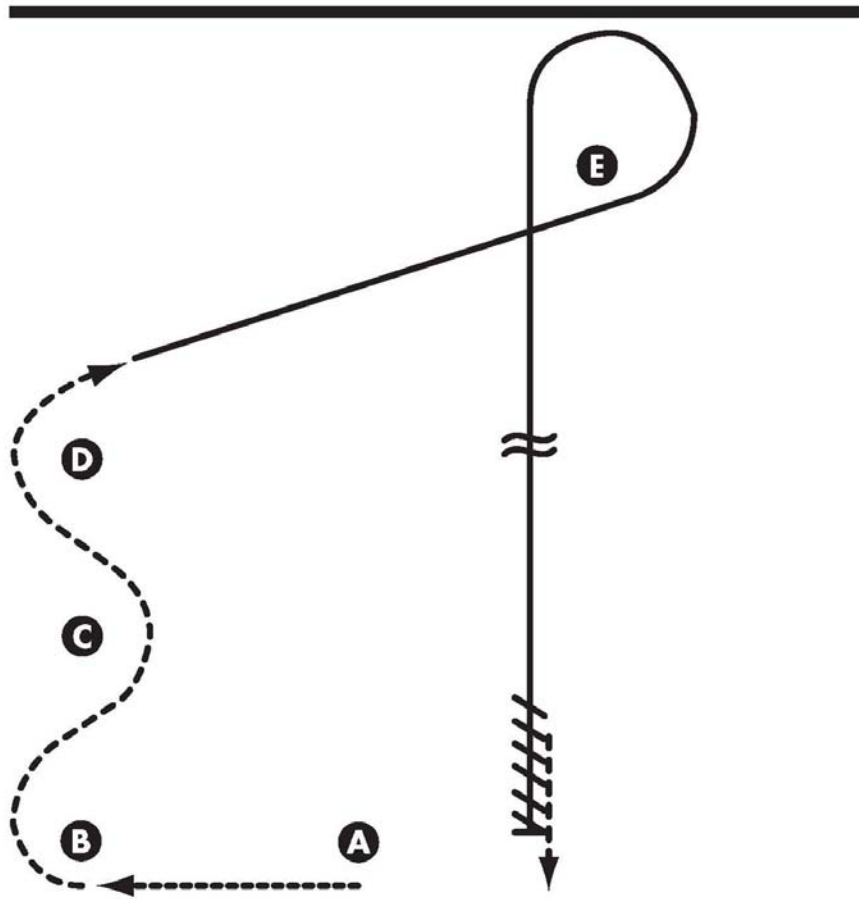
A candidate may be retested as follows:

- 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_____

Appendix S: Western Riding Level 4 Pattern



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Start at A. Walk to B.
2. At B, jog a serpentine through B, C & D.
3. When Past D, lope on left lead.
4. Lope a small circle around E and back towards gate.
5. When even with D, execute a simple or flying lead change.
6. Continue on right lead until even with A. Stop.
7. Back 5 steps. Pivot left and pivot right. (90° L, Center, 90° R)
8. Exit arena at a jog.

Key

-----	WALK
-----	JOG
- - - - -	EXTENDED JOG
—————	LOPE
//////	BACK
≈	CHANGE LEADS
~~~~~	SIDEPASS

**Western Riding Level 4 Pattern**