

## LEVEL 4 REQUIREMENTS

To complete the Level 4 you must be able to pass each of the following requirements. This can be done by performing the Level 4 Ring Test, which includes all the movements in it (or an alternate test made up by your instructor). or by having your CHA instructor may check off each required item as you pass it. This can be done in regular riding lessons, as a group test or in an individual test.

western instructors may prefer to make up a test incorporating western gaits and movements.

### RIDING REQUIREMENTS

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Demonstrate Level 4 riding in the following ways: (*without roughness*)  
(*showing correct form, smooth and effective control, good balance and correct use of aids*)
  - \_\_\_ a. Demonstrate the walk:
    - \_\_\_ 1. on simple contact
    - \_\_\_ 2. on a loose rein
    - \_\_\_ 3. lengthen stride at the walk
  - \_\_\_ b. Demonstrate the trot in the following ways:
    - \_\_\_ 1. working trot
    - \_\_\_ 2. medium trot
    - \_\_\_ 3. lengthen stride to strong trot.
  - \_\_\_ c. Demonstrating a simple change of leads at the canter on a figure 8  
\_\_\_ or while changing directions on the diagonal.
  - \_\_\_ d. Demonstrate a turn on the forehand.
  - \_\_\_ e. Execute a halt from any gait.
  - \_\_\_ f. Demonstrate a transitions from one gait to another smoothly and promptly on command.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Ride through turns and circles with the horse bending correctly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Explain and demonstrate:
  - \_\_\_ a. Direct flexion (getting the horse to flex in the poll and jaw).
  - \_\_\_ b. Correcting a faulty head set or head position.
  - \_\_\_ c. Proper use of artificial aids (crop or bat, dressage whip, spurs).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ride a ring test, dressage test, program ride, or one of the western performance patterns.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Explain proper hoof care and demonstrate safely picking up and cleaning the feet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Take a horse's pulse and respiration rate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Know and explain the signs of health and illness in horses.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Evaluate a horse's conformation.  
(pointing out desirable and undesirable points and any visible blemishes and unsoundness)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Make up a conditioning program for a horse.  
If possible, carry out the conditioning of a horse according to your program.

### TRAIL REQUIREMENTS

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Explain (*demonstrate if possible*) how to:
  - \_\_\_ a. Plan an overnight trail ride, including what to take.
  - \_\_\_ b. Secure horses for an overnight campout  
(using a picket line or other method approved by your instructor, showing tying safely).
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. Demonstrate or explain the care of horses and equipment on arrival in camp for an overnight stay.

## JUMPING REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: Jumping is not required to pass any CHA level.

Some Instructors programs may wish to include jumping in their testing or offer a special Jumping :  
(CHA offers an unmarked badge picturing a jumping rider  
which may be used as a Jumping award by programs that wish to do so.)

This is an optional Jumping Checklist.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Demonstrate Level 4 jumping form and control: (*without interfering with horse*)  
over single fences at least 2' 6" high (*not to exceed 3' high*).  
(*correct form and jumping position, good timing, proper release and effective control*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Jump low gymnastics at a trot:
  - \_\_\_ a. Low single fence with placing pole.
  - \_\_\_ b. Bounce or no-stride combination (*not to exceed 2' high*).
  - \_\_\_ c. Jumping grid of three or more fences (*not to exceed 2' high*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Jump low gymnastics at a canter:
  - \_\_\_ a. Low single fence with placing pole.
  - \_\_\_ b. Bounce or no-stride combination (*not to exceed 2' high*).
  - \_\_\_ c. Jumping grid of three or more fences (*not to exceed 2' high*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Jump combinations; in and out or triple combination (*not to exceed 2' 6" high*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Jump simple fences cross-country with good control at trot and canter (*not to exceed 2' 6" high*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Jump a course of fences (*minimum height 2' 6", maximum 3'; lower for ponies*) to be scored as:
  - \_\_\_ a. Equitation Over Fences
  - \_\_\_ b. Working Hunter Over Fences
  - \_\_\_ c. Open Jumper or Stadium Jumping

## WESTERN REQUIREMENTS

(CHA offers an unmarked badge picturing a western performance horse.

Some programs may wish to use this badge as an additional award for achievement in western riding

This is an optional western performance checklist.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Holding the reins in either split-rein style or California style,  
ride with correct western form and good balance both ways of the ring,
  - \_\_\_ a. At the walk.
  - \_\_\_ b. At the jog.
  - \_\_\_ c. At the lope.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Execute the following western movements, using correct aids:
  - \_\_\_ a. Stop from the lope (*need not be a sliding stop*).
  - \_\_\_ b. Pivot on the hindquarters
  - \_\_\_ c. Roll-back
  - \_\_\_ d. Figure 8 with simple change of leads at center.
  - \_\_\_ e. Figure 8 with flying leads at center.  
(*Only if the horse is trained and capable of executing correct flying changes.*)
  - \_\_\_ f. Back one horse length in a straight line.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Ride a western gymkhana pattern.  
(*cloverleaf barrel race, pole bending, keyhole pattern or flag race or other gymkhana pattern*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ride a western performance pattern.  
(*either reining pattern, western riding pattern or stock seat equitation test pattern*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Demonstrate two training methods of holding the reins.