

Rider 1 Overview

Riders at Level 1 should be in the beginning stages of their equestrian development. At this stage, riders are well started with the basics of riding and are able to demonstrate a good position, knowledge of “aids” and an appreciation for “safe” habits.

Riders at Level 1 should **not** be balancing on the horse’s mouth. Hands should be independent at walk. The use of a neck strap in the absence of a standing martingale (neck strap) is allowed to be used periodically at the trot. Contact is applied to stop, turn and slow down, reins are then returned to an inactive state.

At this stage riders must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI/BS EN approved helmets, with safety harness correctly fastened, at all times while mounted as well as hard soled, heeled, ankle boot or higher and fitted, seamless pants. Half chaps are permissible. Spurs are not to be worn at this level. A well-fitted, collared shirt tucked into the pants or breeches is recommended with a belt that is visible. Gloves are recommended at all levels. Hair must be either tucked into the helmet or kept tidy with a hair net. A single braid is acceptable if hair is very long.

Tack should be used as it is normally for the rider/horse combination. It is important that the horse have a correctly balanced and fitted saddle. Standing martingales are acceptable as are protective boots etc. so long as they are clean and properly fitted. In the absence of a martingale, a neck strap may be worn.

The horse and all equipment must be clean and neat. Horses need not be braided or clipped, but good grooming should be evident.

The test is to be conducted in a ride format, and it is recommended that the test organizer appoint a person, (possibly the regular instructor), to give the directions and control the safety of the group during the testing. This gives the evaluator freedom to write comments without jeopardizing the safety of the group.

Rider 1 – Written Test

Starting at Rider 1, the written test will become an increasingly important part of the evaluation. Test organizers are encouraged to have the written tests completed well in advance of the riding evaluation.

The Rider 1 will be questioned on content from the Rider 1-2 Manual and should be familiar but not limited to: parts of the horse, colours, grooming, safety, aids, and arena markers, parts of tack.

Rider 1 – Practical Horse Knowledge

In the practical horse knowledge phase of this test, the riders should demonstrate that they are aware of the basic parts of the horse and of their equipment, and that they can, with assistance, be involved in the daily care of their horse.

The evaluator can observe and assess much of this phase while candidates are preparing for their ride and likewise upon their return to the stable. Candidates should be advised in advance that this may happen. This enables the evaluator to easily accommodate the riding school where time is often limited for extras therefore encouraging the use of rider levels in the riding school program.

Turnout should be neat and workmanlike. Paddock boots, work boots, or riding boots are acceptable. Loose or baggy jeans or shirts are not acceptable. Neat sweat pants or slush pants over breeches are also acceptable. Hair should be tied back. Ball caps that cover the eyes are discouraged.

Safety and a willingness to learn about the horse/pony should be emphasized at this level.

The Rider 1 evaluation is comprised of a written test, a practical horse knowledge component and a flat riding component.

Who May Examine Candidates?

English Rider Level 1-2 Evaluators

- ✓ Equine Canada current certified Instructor or Coach
- ✓ May be evaluated by own current certified Instructor or Coach.
- ✓ *May be evaluated by a single evaluator.*



English Rider 1 – Evaluation Requirements

A. Practical Horse Knowledge

No.	Requirement	Evidences
A.	Practical Horse Knowledge	
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approach and halter horse, lead horse out of stall, lead back to stall, remove halter and exit. ▪ If cross ties are used, safety an important factor. ▪ Applicant to be observed for safety leading the horse out to the riding ring, ability to halt the horse, handling of reins. 	<i>Riders must enter the stall, approach the horse/pony safely and put the halter on. Riders are to lead the pony or horse out of the stall properly, turn it correctly, take the horse/pony back into the stall and remove the halter. A lead line with or without chain should be attached correctly and the rider must not lead the horse without a lead attached.</i>
2	Tack up the horse (with assistance)	<i>Riders should attempt to tack up. Evaluators may assist but must be directed by the student.</i>
3	Describe the colour of the candidate's own horse	
4	How and what to feed as a treat	<i>Riders must demonstrate how to feed a treat and what types of foods are best to offer as treats. Riders may feed the treat by hand or use the feed tub (Rules may differ as per stable policy).</i>
5	Carry tack to tack room area, put up bridle in figure 8. Discuss cleaning the bit.	<i>Riders must put the bridle up in a figure of eight arrangement. Riders need not polish the bit but be aware that the bit should be rinsed to rid it of any dirt that may harden and become uncomfortable for the horse the next time it is used.</i>
6	General Impression: Presentation of candidate, overall confidence and awareness of safety	

B. Riding Phase

No.	Requirement	Evidences
B.	Riding Phase	
1	Mount and Dismount: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mount in the correct, safe manner ▪ Dismount, run up stirrups, reins over head, lead in hand 	<i>Mounting (from ground or block)</i>
2	Tack Adjustments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pre-Mounting: Adjust stirrups from ground, tighten girth, put reins over head ▪ While mounted, adjust girth, stirrups); while reins are held correctly 	<i>Assistance allowed with adjustments at this level</i>
3	Position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At walk and rising trot 	<i>Riders at Level 1 should not be balancing on the horse's mouth. Hands should be independent at walk. The use of a neck strap in the absence of a standing martingale (neck strap) is allowed to be used periodically at the trot.</i> <i>Contact is applied to stop, turn and slow down, reins are then returned to an inactive state.</i>
4	Drop and retake stirrups at walk	<i>Upper body should remain still, practicing independent use of legs.</i>
5	Transitions, Diagonals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Change rising diagonal when asked ▪ Transitions 	<i>Riders at Level 1 should be able to change their diagonals when asked but may not necessarily know if they are rising on the correct diagonal.</i> <i>Transitions: halt /walk, walk /halt, walk/trot, trot/walk</i>
6	Figures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Turn down centerline at walk ▪ Across the school in walk ▪ Long diagonal in rising trot ▪ Identify direction of travel (i.e. left rein, right rein) 	<i>Look for awareness and use of arena figures.</i>
7	General Impression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall authority, safety and confidence, rider conduct, ability to maintain safe riding distance in ride formation. ▪ Applicant turnout and horse presentation 	<i>Safety, knowledge of aids and a willingness to learn about the horse/pony should be emphasized at this level.</i>

Rider 2 Overview

Riders at Level 2 will demonstrate more polish and knowledge than Riders at Level 1 and will be more independent in both riding and stable management skills.

At this stage riders must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI/BS EN approved helmets, with safety harness correctly fastened, at all times while mounted as well as hard soled, heeled, ankle boot or higher and fitted, seamless pants. Half chaps are permissible. A well-fitted collared shirt tucked into the pants or breeches is recommended with a belt that is visible. Gloves are recommended at all levels. Hair must be either tucked into the helmet or kept tidy with a hair net. Spurs are not to be worn at this level. A single braid is acceptable if hair is very long.

Tack should be used as it is normally for the rider/ horse combination.. It is important that the horse have a correctly balanced and fitted saddle. At the evaluator's discretion, if they feel a particular piece of equipment is inappropriate the evaluator should work with the candidate to educate him/her as to more appropriate options. Running and standing martingales are acceptable as are boots etc. so long as they are clean and properly fitted. A neck strap is permitted but should only be used periodically at the canter.

The rider's understanding of contact should be as per Rider Level 1, except that now **no use** of a neck strap at trot is permitted. The rider should exhibit a balanced position in trot, not balancing on the horse's mouth.

Horse and all equipment must be clean and neat. Horses need not be braided or clipped, but good grooming should be evident.

The test is to be conducted in a ride format. It is acceptable for the test organizer to appoint a person, (possibly the regular instructor), to give the directions and control the safety of the group during the testing. This gives the evaluators freedom to write comments without jeopardizing the safety of the group.

Mounting, adjusting tack and dismounting are to be evaluated at every level.



Rider 2 – Written Test

The written test is an important part of the candidate evaluation. Test organizers are encouraged to have the written tests completed well in advance of the riding evaluation.

The Rider 2 will be questioned on content from the Rider 1-2 Manual and should be familiar but not limited to: uses of grooming items, parts of the hoof, common hoof ailments, parts of the saddle and bridle, basic tack fitting, bedding and rein aids, markings.

Rider 2 – Practical Horse Knowledge

Turnout should be neat and workmanlike. Paddock boots, work boots, or riding boots are acceptable. Loose or baggy jeans or shirts are not acceptable. Neat sweat pants or slush pants over breeches are also acceptable. Hair should be tied back. Ball caps that cover the eyes are discouraged.

The Rider 2 evaluation is comprised of a written test, a practical horse knowledge component and a flat riding component.

English Rider 2 – Evaluation Requirements

A. Practical Horse Knowledge

No.	Requirement	Evidence
A.	Practical Horse Knowledge	
1		
2	Demonstrate the technique of using the dandy brush, body brush and safely using the hoof pick.	
3	Tie a quick release knot.	<i>There are slightly different methods that are all acceptable.</i>
4	Tack up (unassisted). Describe how to position the saddle and saddle pad on the horse and where the girth should lay on the horse.	<i>The evaluator will use discretion and aid where necessary. Riders should recognize how to place saddles, pads and girths correctly on the horse</i>
5	General Impression: Presentation of candidate, overall confidence and awareness of safety.	

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B. Riding Phase

No.	Requirement	Evidence
B.	Riding Phase	
1	Mount and Dismount: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mount in the correct, safe manner (<i>from ground or block</i>) ▪ Dismount, run up stirrups, reins over head, lead in hand 	
2	Tack and Adjustments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Show knowledge of adjusting girth and stirrups (unassisted) ▪ Hold and use of whip correctly 	
3	Position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Position (basic seat) at all paces ▪ Walk with and without stirrups ▪ Drop and regain stirrups at trot 	<i>Focus is on stability of position and confidence. Without stirrups at walk – make sure the leg position does not change (i.e. knee pinching, leg raised or drop toe); upper body stays on vertical. Whip, if used, should be held with hand centered on handgrip, and whip should rest on thigh. If not used, candidate should be able to demonstrate. Maintain upper body when dropping stirrups.</i>
4	Transitions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transitions (progressive) at all paces (except canter) ▪ Canter brief distance showing basic knowledge of aids ▪ Halt, recognize that their horse is in a balanced and immobile halt 	<i>Knowledge of canter lead not required at this level. However riders should be able to recognize leads by observing another horse. The goal is to see that the canter can be achieved if only briefly. Riders should have knowledge of how to prepare for the transition but a prompt accurate transition is unlikely at this stage.</i>
5	Figures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Circles in trot (20M minimum) ▪ Turn across ring away from ride, rider independence 	<i>Circles should be of correct size (i.e. Go to tangent points) not necessarily bent, or rhythmic. At this level riders should be beginning to demonstrate the ability to ride independently.</i>
6	Jumping Position <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate jumping position (half seat) at trot ▪ Correct use of rising diagonals 	<i>Trot course of poles to demonstrate ability to control direction, approach and ride to the end of the lines and use corners. They should be able to focus on direction, and use of eyes to plan where to turn for next fence.</i>
7	Jumping Control and Straightness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trot a simple course of poles, rising trot ▪ Show evidence of control and straightness over course 	<i>Course should be “simple” with 2 changes of direction and nothing related. For example a single pole at B, diagonal, diagonal and a single pole at E. The candidate is to execute the course in rising trot with correct use of diagonals. The standards should be left at the ends of the poles to encourage horse and rider to go through the standards and over the middle of the poles.</i>
8	General Impression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall authority, safety and confidence, rider conduct, ability to maintain safe riding distance in ride formation. ▪ Applicant turnout and horse presentation 	

Rider Level 1

(Information based on Rider Level 1-2 Manual)

Parts of the horse	Colors of Horses
Parts of the Saddle	Cleaning of tack
Reasons to groom your horse	Grooming tools and their use
Safety rules in stables	Safety around the horse
Tacking up the horse	Care of tack
Natural and artificial aids	Arena markers
Rider fitness	Riding in hot weather

Rider Level 2

(Information based on Rider Level 1-2 Manual)

All of topics from Rider 1	Parts of the hoof, function of each
Horse Coat	Care of tack
Bedding – use and types	Parts of the saddle and bridle, fitting of same
Rein Aids	Markings of legs and face
Exercises on horseback – how they help the rider	

About the Rider – Levels 1 and 2

Like other sports, participants in equestrian sport have varying motivations and degrees of engagement, from very leisurely participation to more serious competitive involvement. Regardless of level of ability or type of engagement, both the horses and the riders are athletes. In both riding for pure enjoyment and riding for better performance, the horse and the rider benefit by appropriate preparation. The horse and rider that are both fit for what they are doing, enjoy the activity more and have better ability to accomplish their goals and avoid injury. Horse and rider are two athletes working together.

Riders have a particular responsibility for being physically and mentally prepared, because everything a rider does on the horse affects the horse's way of going. The rider has an enormous impact on the horse's performance, soundness and long term potential either positively or negatively. Riders can influence their horse to improve his movement and performance, or they can unknowingly block him from being his best.

Horses often compensate for riders' lack of self-preparation without the rider ever knowing. When this happens, the horse can take on more strain than he should in movements, and his long term soundness can be affected. The best way to help the horse perform in the freedom of movement he was designed for, is for the rider to be balanced, free of tension and able to control their own movements as needed. A balanced and relaxed rider with good posture and body awareness can give nice clear aids to the horse and allow the horse to move properly. The rider can also respond better and is more likely to avoid injury.

At these beginning stages of a rider's development, being prepared is not complicated. Riders in Levels 1 & 2 are in a phase of development as a rider which is most benefitted by improvements in general athletic ability, such as posture, body awareness and nicely balanced muscle tone. In the Long-Term Equestrian Development model, riders at this stage are in the early Learn to Ride phases. More information on Long-Term Athlete Development is available in other Equine Canada resources.

It is important to be involved in a variety of activities outside of riding that promote the basic athletic abilities mentioned. It is also equally as important to sample different equestrian disciplines. Riding is classified as an "early start, late maturation" sport where riders are best to start with very broad experience and only specialize much later. The more the rider at this stage can learn about different ways to use their body on and off the horse, and the more they can learn about horses in general, the more successful they will be in their riding. At this stage, children and adults alike should be involved in other sports and activities, and sampling different equestrian disciplines.

The more the rider at this stage can learn about different ways to use their body on and off the horse, and the more they can learn about horses in general, the more successful they will be in their riding.

Depending on age, riders in levels 1 & 2 would be expected to start out with riding once a week, and gradually increase practice times to a few times a week. Riders in this stage do not have the muscle memory or postural stamina to sustain many hours of riding in a week or at one time, without fatiguing, falling into bad habits and causing the horse to be uncomfortable or to compensate for the riders' lack of self-carriage and accurate aids. At this stage, riding more and more is not the best way to become better. Being fitter and more prepared with lots of exposure to horse learning and experience will help the rider progress from lesson to lesson. Parents can be assured that keeping their child involved in other sport activities is the best way to help your child be ready to excel at riding later. Adult riders can enjoy the riding experience while balancing the rest of life, knowing that acquiring new muscle memory patterns and skills takes time. The brain and body work best at this stage with variety. Levels 1 & 2 are a skill acquisition stage when riding should be fun and safe for both the rider and the horse.

There are simple things riders of all ages can do to be prepared for their riding sessions and to be a better athlete. Getting enough sleep is one of the most important things a rider can do. Being tired makes the body less able to react quickly and may increase the risk of falling off of the horse. Fatigue also influences mood. Horses are very sensitive to moods, especially when the mood is blocking the rider from understanding the lesson or applying clear and fair aids.

Simple Keys to Safer Better Riding in Levels 1-2

- ✓ Be active in a variety of ways to improve
 - Self-carriage (ability to keep posture and use body correctly, through muscle tone, core strength, good posture habits)
 - Balanced strength and core muscle tone
 - Body awareness (proprioception)
 - Flexibility and joint mobility
 - Balance
- ✓ Warm up your body before your ride
- ✓ Learn all you can about horses and try different disciplines
- ✓ Get enough sleep
- ✓ Stay Hydrated
- ✓ Eat sensibly and regularly to keep consistent mood, energy levels and attention-span

Nutrition is another easy to manage factor in enjoyment and success with riding. Drinking plenty of water and eating healthy foods affect both physical and mental ability to learn and perform. Nutrient timing can also have a significant impact on riding. Riding on a completely empty stomach is a bad idea. Whether a rider is aware of being hungry or not, their body will respond to low blood-sugar levels. Not only does being hungry affect concentration, but low blood sugar compromises the tone in the core muscles which are needed for a rider to maintain good posture while riding. Concentration and posture are very important for safe riding.

Usually, riders are not aware of dehydration in the early stages. Drinking fluids in the hour before riding, whether the rider feels thirsty or not, will help prevent dehydration. Extreme dehydration or heat stroke are not the most common problem. Water levels are needed in the body for neural transmission and neuro-muscular efficiency. Being dehydrated affects concentration, learning and muscular control well before the state of dehydration becomes obvious or alarming.

In warm or hot weather, it is even more important that the rider is well hydrated before their riding session. Riders and coaches should be aware of the signs of heat stroke. The first signs of heat stroke are feeling hot, not remembering instructions and not thinking clearly. If the rider starts to have a headache, feel dizzy, is sick to their stomach or their legs feel wobbly they should see a doctor immediately.

Physical elements required to ride efficiently and effectively at this stage include suppleness, stamina, proprioception and co-ordination (accuracy with body placement and response), balance and postural stability. Posture in riding is dynamic, meaning that the rider has to maintain good biomechanic alignment while in motion and while the horse is in motion. The ability to maintain good posture and alignment while doing an activity is not something that can be mastered just in training sessions. Basic starting posture in the saddle is greatly affected by the way a rider carries themselves through the rest of their day and other activities.

Training posture in a variety of ways through the day and week will contribute to being able to maintain good posture while riding, without tension. Ideally, a rider should not have to think about posture at all. At beginning stages such as these levels, the rider may need to think about it quite a lot, and constantly fix issues as they ride. Achieving the subconscious ability to maintain posture without thinking about it, takes ingrained muscle memory patterns, which only come from good posture and good biomechanics with every ride, and practiced throughout the day and week in all other activities.

A goal for riders in Levels 1 & 2 is to develop balance and comfortableness on and around horses.

An easy adjustment to poor posture can be made by simply keeping the eyes up and looking forward, not looking down at the horse. There are many resources for good posture, both in classical equestrian literature, as well as other modalities such as Centered Riding®, Pilates™, yoga, dance, Feldenkrais, Tai-chi, martial arts, voice training technique and gymnastics. Good posture for a rider should be relaxed and natural to allow the spine and hips to follow the horse's motion, while maintaining the ability to guide and control the horse through thighs, seat, head and torso adjustments, primarily, and legs and hands secondarily.

A goal for riders in Levels 1 & 2 is to develop balance and comfortableness on and around horses. Building ability methodically will help a rider master new techniques in a relaxed and confident manner, which keeps them supple and free of tension. Pushing too fast or trying too hard introduces tension which is counterproductive and will have a negative impact on skill progression, especially for children.

As with any physical activity or performing art, warming up before riding is important. Exercising for three to five minutes before riding will warm up your muscles, prevent injury and improve balance and coordination. Choose warm-up activities that activate muscles, promote balance, mobilize joints and help with mental preparation for focusing on the ride. There are some warm up routines specific for riders, but riders generally would benefit by doing any balanced warm up they are familiar with which achieves the above goals.

Each rider`s warm up will vary depending on personality and on discipline and other sport involvements. One rider may need a calming and slow warm up to prepare to ride with focus and without tension from their day. Another may need more active warm up exercises, or specific exercises to undo negative tightness patterns from a day seated at a desk, or other sports. Most adults do not move enough on a daily basis to bring a balanced body to their ride, without a warm up. Children used to be more active, but trends in drops in activity and increase in sedentary ‘screen’ time pursuits are causing children to be less active generally as well. These trends for both adults and children make deliberate warm up preparation even more critical in all sport, including and especially riding.

A rider who gets on their horse without warming up and stretching, will cause their horse to have to compensate for the rider`s tension patterns. Tension patterns in joints affect the horse`s movement, even if the rider does not feel particularly tense psychologically.

Note that holding stretches is very out of date with current conditioning practice. Stretching before activities, including riding, should be dynamic (stretches that flow in and out), not static (stretches that are held) or bouncing. Static stretches and bouncing in a stretch pull on muscles and ligaments which are not warmed up.

There are also warm up exercises that can be done while mounted. Some suggestions are indicated toward the end of this book.

Equine Canada's Comprehensive Program for Rider Development

Objectives

To create a national program that offers levels of achievement for all riders from recreational to competitive. The program encourages riders to ride, learn and enjoy the equestrian sport, and promotes a continuous and progressive path of learning towards safe and knowledgeable horsemanship. The program encourages participants to continue learning in the sport by offering various attainable levels of achievement that are recognized by certificates. The English Rider Level 1-10 program is a preparation for future Equine Canada certified instructors and coaches. This program will compliment programs offered by riding schools across Canada and provide guidelines to coaches and instructors.

The EC Rider Level program provides NCCP certified Instructors and Coaches a complete and progressive program of instruction to their students. This program is also an important component to aid in the continued promotion, development and recognition of qualified instructional programs and will compliment the national stable registry system as it is developed.

In addition to providing a national standard recognized from coast to coast, this program offers enough levels to maintain the interest of a rider over an extended period of time. For example, the young student starting riding at age 8 can potentially participate in the program for a number of years. This program also meets the needs of achievement and goals for the adult rider.

Note: *This program is also tailored for those riders who seek to further their riding skills on the flat but who may not wish to continue over fences. Therefore, the option opens at Rider Level 3 to take either the full riding phase or only the flat phase. This option is continued through Rider Levels-4-10.*

If a candidate elects not to do the gymnastic/jumping phase at a particular level, and has indicated this choice on their application form prior to the test, the evaluator is only to mark the flat phase of the riding test.

Candidates, who have elected to complete solely the flat phase of evaluation, will be issued a certificate of achievement stating that it is for the flat phase.

Candidates intending to pursue their instructor or coach levels should carefully consider the following:

Those candidates who wish to attain their instructor certification must successfully pass either the full riding OR the flat phase at Rider 6.

The Practical Horse Knowledge/Written/Lunging Phases must also be completed. If an instructor candidate wishes to teach over fences then the candidate would be required to complete the full Rider 6 exam.

Those candidates who wish to attain their Competition Coach certification will need to ensure they complete full rider levels up to and including Rider 8.

History and Schedule of Development

At the National English Coaching Committee meeting in January 2003, Jill Barker, Nova Scotia Master Course Conductor, was tasked to develop a pilot program within a four year timeframe.

In 2003, the initial program was developed and a pilot program was run at the Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers – a full-fledged riding school with adult and junior programs with certified instructors and coaches. By 2004, a draft of the Rider Level program was presented to the National English Coaching committee. Concluding the presentation, the initial Rider Level program received approval as a pilot program for selected riding schools across Canada. The program was met with great enthusiasm by instructors/coaches, students, parents and evaluators.

Valuable feedback was obtained during the pilot phase and the program was revamped. In February 2005, The National English Coaching Committee approved the program as a national program in transition until March 31, 2007.

In February 2007, Rider Level 1-8 was approved as a national program. Revisions and changes are to occur every five years thereafter.

In 2009 Rider 9 and 10 were first piloted in Halifax.

The Rider Level Program has been met with enthusiasm across the country and the number of equestrians participating grows yearly.

The 2012 revised Rider Levels reflect a number of exciting developments. The program now complements the LTED – Long Term Equestrian Development Plan that has been a joint venture between Equine Canada and Sport Canada.

Our resources continue to expand – this revision provides riders with an awareness of themselves as athletes and how to become more aware of their physical body's needs.

Whom May Evaluate English Rider Levels

Quick reference March 2014

English Rider Level 1-2

- Must be an Equine Canada current certified Instructor or Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- May be evaluated by own current certified Instructor or Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- *May be evaluated by a single evaluator.*

English Rider Level 3-4

- Must be an Equine Canada current certified Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- May be evaluated by own current certified Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- May be evaluated by current *IOB with Jump Module (if not their own students)* who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- *Note: If candidates are NOT doing the Jump Module, then a current IOB may evaluate (not their own students)*
- *May be evaluated by a single evaluator.*

English Rider Level 5

- Must be an Equine Canada current certified Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- Evaluators may not evaluate their own students.
- *May be evaluated by a single evaluator.*

English Rider Level 6-7

- Must be an Equine Canada current certified Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- Evaluators are approved only after they have attended two training events. One may be a classroom presentation of the levels and one event must be to shadow a Rider Level evaluation completing their own set of marking papers to the satisfaction of the Mentor Evaluator (who is a transitioned evaluator at that level). The candidate evaluator may shadow two evaluations as an option.
- Evaluators may not evaluate their own students.
- *May be evaluated by a single evaluator.*

English Rider Level 8

- Must be an Equine Canada current certified Coach Level 2, Competition Coach Specialist or High Performance Coach who is trained to evaluate the rider levels.
- Evaluators are approved only after they have attended two training events. One may be a classroom presentation of the levels and one event must be to shadow a Rider Level evaluation completing their own set of marking papers to the satisfaction of the Mentor Evaluator (who is a transitioned evaluator at that level). The candidate evaluator may shadow two evaluations as an option. It is highly recommended that the evaluator be mentored by a Competition Coach Master Evaluator for this level.
- Evaluators may not evaluate their own students.
- *May be evaluated by a single evaluator.*

English Rider 9-10

- Must be an Equine Canada current certified Coach Level 3, Competition Coach Specialist or High Performance Coach, one of which to be discipline specific according to elective of candidate
- *Must be evaluated by two evaluators*

Transitioning from Old System - If an evaluator was approved in the old system to evaluate at any level, they need only be current and presented with the new paperwork in a training event to be eligible to evaluate the same levels in the new system; except where additional training is noted.

Note:

1. *All evaluators must have had a full overview of the Rider Level Program 1-10 presented to them prior to any testing. The list of approved evaluators is to be maintained in the provincial office and all evaluation organizers must use a current approved evaluator.*
2. *Please contact your Provincial Equestrian Federation/Council for additional information on clinics in your region. Failure to do so in advance of the testing date may jeopardize a candidate's results.*
3. *With each revision released, evaluators must attend a provincially approved review to establish a new provincial list of approved evaluators.*

DO NOT JEOPARDIZE A CANDIDATE'S RESULT BY NOT BEING A CURRENT APPROVED EVALUATOR, OR BY NOT USING THE MOST CURRENT TEST SHEETS, FORMS AND WRITTENS.