D1 Rally and Rating Tips By Stormy May, Chief Horse Management Judge, Sierra Pacific Region

Please keep these on file for your future ratings. The questions are ones that give a good indication of the depth of knowledge needed at each level. Only certain sections may be covered.

The guides are not meant to be comprehensive, they are only intended to get you studying on the right track. Many of the answers can be found in the Pony Club manuals. Additional resources include veterinarians, trainers, farriers, and graduate Pony Clubbers.

Memorizing this knowledge from books is a start but the examiners will also want to hear of practical experiences and applications of this knowledge. These guides should be used along with the standards.

Most importantly, I hope there are never any answer keys made for these questions. It isn't necessarily these questions or answers that are the most important part. The studying and questioning that you have to do to find the answers will be the biggest value.

Good luck! ~Stormy

- Why is it important to make sure your pony is cooled out before you stop riding?
- · How can you safely hang a water bucket in a stall?
- How can you safely feed a horse hay in a pasture?
- Should you feed a horse grain from your hand?
- Which is the first tool you should use when grooming?
- How is a curry comb properly used?
- What is the difference between a dandy brush and a body brush?
- How can you tell if your saddle and pad are in the right place?
- How can you tell if your bit is on the bridle correctly?

- Why are people always telling you to clean your tack?
- What are 6 parts of the bridle?
- What are 6 parts of the saddle?
- When another horse takes off in the arena, what should you do if you are riding too?
- When you're in a warm up arena and you're coming towards someone, should you pass them on the left or right side?
- When you're riding how much space should be between your horse and the horse ahead of you?
- When was the last time the vet looked at your horse? What did he or she do with your horse?
- Why is it important to make sure the pony's feet are picked out?
- When you're putting a halter on your pony, where should you be standing?
- What should you do before you actually put the halter on?
- Which side are ponies typically used to being led on?
- Which is the safest direction to turn your pony if you need to turn around when you're leading?