

Middle California Region USPC
Preparing For Your HB Test
Record Books – Health, Maintenance & Immunizations

For the HB test, The USPC HB Standard requires that:

- **Candidates supply an accurate and detailed outline of candidate's (or borrowed) mount's health care, feed schedule, hoof care, conditioning and competitive schedule so, in case the candidate were laid up or called away for a prolonged period, the mount could be properly maintained.**
- **The candidate needs to present a written outline supplying the above information.**
- **Candidates may use the USPC Pony Health & Maintenance Record Book or, preferably, their own record system.**
- **Records should reflect the appropriate depth of knowledge for this level.**
- **Must have records for at least 1 year prior to test.**
- **Records may reflect more than one horse.**

Be sure that you take time to prepare a Record Book that is easily read and has all of the necessary information. Many candidates come to the testing with their incomplete Record Books and try to fill them in at the last minute. Or wait until the night before the test to complete it. Don't do this!

It is not required to use the USPC Health & Maintenance Record Book. As long as the information below is included, you can use whatever format you choose. Your book should be specific, professional and neat. Your book is a reflection of you and your attitude toward the testing. You can keep your records on computer and print it when testing time comes.

Put your Record Book in a binder so it is neat. Use tabs for each of the sections listed below. Give each section a title page with appropriate information. Type or use pen, don't use pencil. Be sure you have all the necessary sections. Be sure you know what is in the book. Examiners will ask you about the contents and you want to know what you have in there!

Examiners like to see costs totaled when brought to a test. Total the veterinary costs, farrier costs, feed/board costs, and any others on their respective pages. At the end of the record book include a page where all of these can be added together for your total cost of keeping your horse. When totaling up for a rating, write the totals in pencil. At the end of the year, when you're ready to start a new record book, write them in pen, or print on computer.

Organize your record books so that they are divided by years. One year's worth of records is sufficient for any test. If you have multiple years or multiple horses just choose one horse and the most current year's records. If you are a very neat record keeper, it doesn't hurt to bring the past years as well. Organize them so that the most current year is on top. If you haven't had your horse for a year, or are borrowing a horse, just explain the situation to the examiner, and bring some sort of record keeping paperwork either for the borrowed horse or another one you take care of.

Record Book Checklist:

General Information about the Horse

- Horse's name/registered name
- Breed/registration number and papers if applicable
- Current color photograph of horse – front, sides and hind, *without* tack (or detailed description)
- Resting temperature/pulse/respiration
- Horse's sex (please don't list "M," that could mean mare, or male; just write it out)
- Horse's height
- Approximate weight (remember to list units, pounds or kilograms)
- Known vices (for example, cribbing, kicking, girthy etc.)
- Any known medical conditions or allergies
- Foaling date (or approximation)
- Owner's name/address/phone
- Rider's name/address/phone
- Boarding stable's name/address/phone. Please indicate in which stall the horse is stabled.
- Veterinarian's name/address/phone
- Farrier's name/address/phone
- Other names/address/phone numbers of people who have worked with your horse (for example, equine dentist, chiropractor, etc...)
- Insurance company's name/address/emergency phone and insurance papers (if uninsured, be sure to note that too so someone doesn't go hunting for an insurance policy that isn't here)

Veterinary Records

Give the Vet's name, address and phone number again, even if it is in the Horse Information section. It can't hurt! Organize this into routine and non-routine care sections. Vaccinations, and tooth floating would be routine, and any other sickness or wound care visits fall under non-routine unless your horse is being treated for a chronic illness such as Cushing's disease.

- Pre-purchase exam papers (if any)
- Veterinary bills and other veterinary paperwork
- Vaccination dates and which vaccines given
- List the date the next vaccination is due

NOTE: Please do not record a vaccine as "4-way vaccination". Please list which vaccines were included in the 4-way vaccination, for example it might include: influenza, tetanus, eastern equine encephalomyelitis, and western equine encephalomyelitis.

Keeping a more accurate record of the vaccination will help you know exactly what your horse is being given and when. Also note what company made the vaccine, lot number, and where the injection was given (for example, left side of neck.) A horse may be allergic to a carrier in one company's vaccine, but not another company's. If you buy the vaccine yourself, include the tag and receipt in your record book.

Deworming

- Include dates, brand names, and drug names of all dewormers used.
- List the next scheduled deworming date and dewormer to use

NOTE: It's very important to list the dewormers by both drug and brand names. This way you will be sure you are rotating dewormers. For example, did you know that Zimectrin, quimectrin, Equivalan,

and Rotectin I, all contain the exact same dosage of the active drug Ivermectin? You will also be able to track any allergies your horse may develop to certain drugs or carriers. It is not always necessary to rotate dewormers, but it's generally a good idea and a way to save some money in the long run.

Farrier Records

Please list the farrier's name and phone number. Describe the type of shoeing done to your horse and why. Make a shoeing schedule. Include:

- Dates, cost, and any changes made
- List the next scheduled appointment as well
- Include enough information at the beginning so that a new farrier could shoe or trim your horse in accordance with what you have found works

Other Procedures

Use this space to include any other treatment dates, descriptions, and costs such as work by an equine dentist, chiropractic, acupuncture, massage, etc

- Include names and phone numbers
- Include a description of work being done and why it is being done
- Record if you noticed any differences after the work!

Feed Records

- Approximate feeding times (may change according to the season)
- Amount fed in pounds, or ounces for smaller supplements (in addition you may also convert weights to a volume measure, for example flakes or scoops)
- Type/brand of feed
- Any feed tags or labels
- Any receipts or bills from the feed store (if feed is included with the horse's board, include in board section below)
- Dates of any changes in diet, including reasons and any reactions the horse may show
- Location of feed where horse is stabled.

Conditioning Records and 8 WEEK CONDITIONING SCHEDULE

List conditioning activities for an average week. Please include:

- Goals and objectives appropriate to the current horse
- Flat and jumping equipment required and application: saddle, bridle, pads, jump boots, etc. and their location in stable area
- Activity (dressage, show jumping, gallops, trail ride, trot sets, etc.)
- Specifications (for example, in dressage you may be working on training or first level movements, for show jumping you may be working on 3'3" courses, and for trot sets you could be doing 3, 10 minute trots with 3 minute rests between.)
- Average minutes you spend on each activity
- Times per week you work on each activity
- Horse's resting temperature/pulse/respiration
- Horse's temperature/pulse/respiration immediately after strenuous work
- You may include t/p/r rates at 5 or 10 minute intervals after strenuous work to determine what his or her recovery rate is (how long it takes to return to the resting t/p/r.) List any changes in conditioning schedule to include:
- Dates of changes

- What you're changing from and to, for example: 3, 10 minute trots with 3 minute rests between to 3, 12 minute trots with 3 minute rests between.
- Record new t/p/r rates for each work increase**

NOTE: Pay attention to how feeding schedule changes may correlate to conditioning. You may also want to keep track of your actual conditioning schedule in a calendar format. Please plan to transfer the information to a computer program to print out, or find some other method of keeping it neat. An examiner hates to get piles of dog-eared calendars with the candidates saying, "It's all in there!"

Activity Records

These include any shows, clinics, lessons, rallies, etc.

- Date of activity
- Description of activity
- Comments about how you did or what you worked on
- Cost

Boarding Records (if applicable)

- If you board your horse, list costs paid to the boarding facility by month
- Total costs before your rating and at the end of the year.

Income

This section will not necessarily include information directly related to your horse. It is where you, the Pony Clubber, can keep track of how much money you earn. It can be anything from baby-sitting and mowing lawns to exercising horses.

Include:

- date
- description
- amount of income

Breeding Records (if applicable)

This section is useful to record a mare's heat cycles, breeding dates, anticipated foaling date, and any other related activities. Most Pony Club mounts will not need this section.

Sale Records

Bill of sale or purchase/lease agreement paperwork

Expense Summary

Include a page where all your yearly or year-to-date expenses and income are compared. This is a great way to start learning how equine businesses are run and to make you appreciate what your parents are putting into your horse habit!

Do Not Include

- Anything unrelated to the horse, for example, past ratings certificates, or Pony Club study material. Income records are excepted.
- Any loose papers. All should be snug in a 3 ring binder or similar system. Plastic page protectors work well for keeping loose items secure. Records for more than 1 horse (keep each horse's records separately for Pony Club purposes.)

- Excessive pictures. A few for identification purposes are fine, or conformation photographs from each year could be useful. Photographs of injuries could be especially useful.

Sources:

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HMO and C-3 Examiner, Sierra Pacific Region USPC

USPC Guidelines for C-3's Record Book