

Pony Club Association of South Australia

Technical Criteria Document 2010-2011

Patch: Care of Saddlery

Name			Date	
Item	How the rider must present	C	NYC	Examiners notes
Wear pony club uniform	The rider must wear full official uniform (rally uniform allowed) for their club, and must be clean and tidy.			Encourage the CI to ensure the Rider is satisfactorily turned out before presenting
	Clean boots (as permitted by the rules)			
	The helmet must be of current standard and correctly fitted			
	The rider must not be wearing any jewellery (except per the rules).			
Item	What the rider must demonstrate	C	NYC	Examiners notes
General Leather Care	The correct use of Saddle Soap			Wet soap, not sponge (after its first rinse). Rub soap into leather saddle and buff with dry cloth to shine. Note: lather means soap/cloth is too wet. Use on underside of leather, adding until Leather no longer soaks up oil.
	Correct use of Oil			
Leather Saddle	Remove Stirrup Leathers from saddle and from irons Clean off any 'jockey boys' preferably with use of horse hair (knotted) or fingernail Clean stitching with use of an old toothbrush			'jockey boys' – collections of black grease spots - dirt and sweat forming a hard bump on leather
Leather Bridle	Dismantle Bridle (and after cleaning) assemble bridle Clean Bridle using saddle soap (or damp cloth if Synthetic) taking care to use an old toothbrush (or similar) to clean dirt and grease from stitching			Rider needs to know how to dismantle/assemble Bridle correctly
Bit	Clean bit using warm soapy water			Rider must understand why it is important to always provide a clean bit to the horse (build up of food and dirt can hurt the horse's mouth)
Irons/Treads	Wash irons and rubber treads in warm soapy water Riding boot fits Iron correctly (per PCASA rules)			
Synthetic Saddle/bridle	Wipe over with damp cloth			
Stitching check	Rider checks stitching on both bridle and saddle as part of the 'care'			Rider should demonstrate that stitching is sound on bridle and saddle. Rider must in particular ensure girth points are sound (often missed).
Saddlecloth	That the use of a clean saddlecloth is important			Check the Rider understands the purpose of a saddlecloth is to keep the saddle clean and not make the saddle fit the horse better.
Item	What the rider must know	C	NYC	Examiners notes
Cleaning Frequency	How often to clean gear			After every use. It is not necessary to strip the bridle after each use but once a week if used regularly.
Saddle Soap	The purpose of saddle soap			To clean and (if used correctly) shine leather.
Leather Oil	Recommended oils Purpose of oil			Olive oil, Castor or Neatsfoot oil. Oil is only needed to soften leather after it has had a real soaking, for new leather, or for old leather being brought back into use.
Iron Size	Current regulations re Stirrup Iron size			Rider must know current PCASA rules on Iron size regarding boot width
General	The reasons saddlery is cleaned regularly			1. To maintain good care of equipment 2. To ensure comfort of horse from build up of dirt and grease 3. To help identify parts which may need repaired or replaced.
Examined By			Date	