Contestant ___________________
CSHA HORMASTERSHIP GROOMING & HANDLING TEST
JUDGE’S SCORE SHEET

For test purposes all tasks to be performed in sequence on near side of horse. Verbalize procedure to judge. Grooming attire shall be clean and of same type as riding attire. Clean, protective clothing (smock/apron) may be worn over riding attire. Hats/helmets are optional.

Necessary Equipment
- Halter & Lead Rope
- Curry Comb
- Hoof pick
- Stable Sheet/blanket
- Root Brush (hard, stiff bristles)
- 2 pails, 1 with water
- Saddle Pad
- Body (Dandy) Brush
- 2 sponges
- Saddle & Bridle
- Finishing Brush (long, soft bristles)
- Grooming Cloth
- Extra rope for bowline knot (optional)

1. Prepare to Groom  Maximum Points: 4
   Was on time and ready to start grooming 1 ______
   Attire clean and appropriate 1 ______
   Equipment and tack clean and set up efficiently 1 ______
   Horse tied with appropriate knot 1 ______

   Comments:

   Total Section
   One _______

2. Remove Stable Sheet/Blanket  Maximum Points: 3
   Unfastened sheet: buckles rear to front 1 ______
   Removed sheet/blanket with lay of hair 1 ______ Turned inside out; shook and hung inside out 1 ______

   Comments:

   Total Section Two _______

3. Clean Feet in Sequence  Maximum Points: 9

   Near Fore
   With left hand/shoulder against horse, ran right hand down leg 1 ______
   Picked up hoof and held foot with left hand (or placed on left knee) 1 ______
   Cleaned foot with hoof pick – heel to toe strokes 1 ______
   Cleaned cleft and commissures and inspected whole foot 1 ______
   Carefully and safely placed foot down 1 ______

   Near Hind
   With left hand near point of hip, ran right hand down leg to middle of cannon and lifted leg 1 ______
Used his/her left leg to support fetlock 1 ______
Cleaned foot with hoof pick – heel to toe strokes 1 ______
Cleaned cleft, commissures and inspected whole foot;
Carefully and safely placed foot down 1 ______

Comments:

Total Section Three ________

4. Curry and Brush Body in Sequence  Maximum Points: 8

Curry Horse
Used correct equipment (curry comb). Curried with irregular,
back and forth motions 1 ______
Curried in sequence: high on neck, withers, chest
shoulder, arm, forearm to knee, inside and outside of knee 1 ______
Then back, barrel, abdomen, loin, flank, rump, hind leg to
hock, inside and outside 1 ______
Frequently cleaned curry by hitting against boot heel 1 ______

Brush Horse
Used correct equipment (body brush). Brushed
with lay of hair in sequence 1 ______
High on neck, withers, chest, shoulder, arm, forearm
to knee, inside and outside of knee 1 ______
Then back, barrel, abdomen, loin, flank, rump, hind
leg to hock, inside and outside 1 ______
Frequently cleaned brush by drawing across curry 1 ______

Comments:

Total Section Four ________

5. Brush/Clean Face  Maximum Points: 6

Untied lead rope; placed over arm or shoulder 1 ______
Removed halter and fastened around horse’s neck
as neck strap 1 ______
Used correct equipment (finishing brush). Brushed
in sequence 1 ______
Head, face, ears, poll, cheeks, complete jaw 1 ______
Used damp sponge to clean face in correct sequence: eyes,
face, ears, lips & nostrils; frequently rinsed sponge
by pouring water onto sponge; did not rinse in pail 1 ______
Replaced halter and retied lead with slip knot 1 ______

Comments:

Total Section Five ________
6. **Clean Lower Legs & Dock Area**  Maximum Points: 10
Used different sponge than on face      2 ______
Cleaned in correct sequence: elbows, knees, hocks   2 ______
Cleaned teats/sheath, then between hind legs and under tail  2 ______
Frequently rinsed sponge by pouring water onto sponge;
did not rinse in pail  2 ______
Bent over when cleaning legs; did not kneel down  2 ______

**Comments:**

Total Section Six ______

7. **Clean/Brush Mane & Tail**  Maximum Points: 6
Used correct equipment (root brush)  2 ______
Cleaned in sequence: mane, then tail; started at ends and worked upward to roots  2 ______
Used fingers to untangle hairs if necessary  2 ______

**Safety Awareness:** Groomer had hand on horse’s rump when changing sides.

**Comments:**

Total Section Seven ______

8. **Finishing: Polish Coat**  Maximum Points: 6
Used correct equipment (grooming cloth)   2 ______
Used correct sequence: high on neck, withers, chest, shoulder, arm, forearm to knee, inside and outside to knee   2 ______
Back, barrel, abdomen, loin, flank, rump, hind leg to hock, inside and outside to hock  2 ______

**Comments:**

Total Section Eight ______

9. **Saddle Horse (English or Western)**  Maximum Points: 10
(a) **Western Saddle**
Shook out saddle pad and checked underside for foreign matter; placed high on horse’s back then pulled backward with lay of hair until slightly forward of final position; checked if both sides equal  1 ______
Checked lining of saddle for foreign matter  1 ______
Placed off side (right) attachments over saddle seat  1 ______
With left hand in gullet and right hand on cantle/skirt, lifted and gently placed saddle on horse’s back 1 ______

Went to off side and eased down attachments. Checked that nothing is twisted. Returned to near side 1 ______
With right hand on saddle horn and left hand holding pad, shook saddle into place. Pulled at withers up into fork 1 ______
Placed left stirrup over horn/seat 1 ______
With left hand on horse’s shoulder, reached under belly and grasped cinch. Ran latigo through D-ring and tightened cinch until snug 1 ______
Secured cinch by tying into D-ring with girth hitch or used cinch buckle. If double rigged, secured back cinch in safe manner 1 ______

OR

(b) English Saddle
Shook out saddle pad and checked underside for foreign matter; placed high on horse’s back then pulled backwards with lay of hair until slightly forward of final position; checked if both sides equal. Checked underside of saddle for foreign matter. Irons already secured at top of stirrup leathers. 2 ______
With left hand in gullet and right hand on cantle, lifted and gently placed saddle on horse’s back. If pad is used it may be secured either before or after placing on horse. 2 ______

Went to off side and attached girth. Checked for proper placement of saddle; nothing twisted. Returned to near side 2 ______
With left hand on horse’s shoulder reached under belly and grasped girth with right hand; secured girth into buckles and tightened girth. 2 ______
Left irons secured at top of stirrup leathers 1 ______

Safety Awareness (western or English – a OR b): Groomer had hand on horse’s rump when changing sides 1 ______

Comments:
Total Section Nine_________

10. Bridle Horse Maximum Points 7
(a) Western
With bridle over shoulder or within easy reach,
untied horse and placed lead over arm/shoulder  1 ____
Removed halter and fastened around horse’s neck
as neck strap   1 _____
Held crown of bridle (throat latch open) in right hand;
mouthpiece supported and positioned under muzzle
with left hand  1 _____
With right hand hear horse’s forehead, drew bridle upward
with left hand guiding bit into mouth without banging teeth;
may use thumb to open horse’s mouth   1 _____
Placed crown over ears, right ear first, then left;
gently bent ears forward; did not crumple or bend ears
backward.   1 _____
Fastened throat latch, put ends through keeper;
checked that cheek pieces not twisted; straightened
forelock  1 _____

OR

(b) English (sequence of fastening): Throat latch,
cavesson/nose band, curb chain/strap

Stated reason for walking horse prior to mounting;
Checked cinch/girth, lowered stirrups/irons as if ready to ride  1 _____

Comments

Total Section Ten _______

11. Unbridle Horse    Maximum Points 5
With reins over arm, fastened halter around horse’s neck;
unfastened throat latch. English – unfastened in sequence:
curb chain/strap, cavesson/nose band, throat latch  1 _____

Used hand to steady horse’s head and eased crown down
over ears, removing bridle without hanging horse’s teeth  1 _____
Hung bridle over shoulder and replaced halter  1 _____
Retied horse using slip knot  1 _____
Rinsed bit by pouring water over bit  1 _____

Comments:

Total Section Eleven _______
12. **Unsaddle Horse**  **Maximum Points 7**  
(a) **Western**
Unfastened cinch and gently let it down. If double rigged, unfastened back cinch first. Unfastened front cinch and pulled latigo through through D-ring
Went to off side and placed cinch(es) and right stirrup over saddle seat
Returned to near side and lifted saddle off horse. Pad may be removed separately or with saddle.
Turned pad upside down to air dry
Brushed where saddle and bridle disturbed hair

**OR**

(b) **English**
Secured irons, unfastened and removed girth; placed over seat
Lifted saddle off horse. Pad may be removed separately or with saddle.  
Turned pad upside down to air dry
Brushed where saddle and bridle disturbed hair

**Safety Awareness:** Groomer had hand on horse’s rump when changing sides

**Comments:**  
Total Section Twelve

13. **Replace Stable Sheet**  **Maximum Points 3**
Groomer placed stable sheet across withers
Fastened chest straps and pulled sheet back into place
Fastened body straps front to back

**Comments:**  
Total Section  
Thirteen

14. **Lead Horse Safely & Correctly**  **Maximum Points 4**
Groomer untied lead rope. Held lead rope in right
hand 12-16” from halter with remaining slack in a figure 8 in left hand  
2 ______
Lead horse, walking on its left, slightly behind head; arm held in a natural position  
1 ______
Turned horse safely and correctly and led back, stopping in front of judge  
1 ______

Comments:

Total Section Fourteen _____

15. Demonstrate Bowline    Maximum Points 4
Correctly demonstrated tying bowline knot  
3 ______
Explained reason for use. Optional to use separate rope for bowline  
1 ______

Comments:

Total Section Fifteen ______

16. General Accomplishments    Maximum Points 8
Groomer used gentleness and consideration with horse, yet made horse behave; was courteous to judge  
2 ______
Groomer always had his/her hand on rump when passing from side to side  
2 ______
Verbal explanation of grooming procedure and steps  
2 ______
Overall professionalism and personal presentation throughout demonstration  
2 ______

Total Section
Sixteen ______

Comments:

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________