



LEARNtoRIDE FOUNDATIONS LEVEL 1 EVALUATION

The LearnToRide Foundations Level 1 Evaluation is done in person or virtually using video recordings. There is no written evaluation for Level 1. At this stage, there is no prescribed pattern. The evaluation is conducted in a group lesson style format. Coaches must ensure all required competencies from the Level 1 Rubric are demonstrated in the riding lesson. At Level 1, riders should be riding a horse they are familiar with that is appropriate for their level of development.

RIDER ATTIRE

- ✓ ASTM/SEI or BSI/BS EN approved helmets with safety harness correctly fastened at all times while mounted
- ✓ Hard soled, heeled, ankle boots or higher
- ✓ Fitted, seamless pants/breeches or jodhpurs if riding in an English saddle (half chaps are permitted) OR jeans if riding in a Western saddle
- ✓ Well-fitted, collared shirt tucked into pants with a belt is recommended
- ✓ Gloves are recommended
- ✓ Hair must be kept tidy and out of the way (one or two braids, low ponytail, or low bun are recommended as long as they do not interfere with helmet fit, hair nets are recommended for riders in English tack)

TACK AND TURNOUT

- ✓ Tack should be used as normally for the rider/horse combination
- ✓ Coaches must ensure tack is acceptable and legal for the discipline
- ✓ Saddle should be correctly fitted and balanced
- ✓ Protective boots are acceptable but should be clean and fit correctly
- ✓ Neck straps are permitted at this level
- ✓ Running and standing martingales are permitted
- ✓ Shank bits (including pelhams or curbs) are not permitted at this level
- ✓ Tack must be clean and neat
- ✓ Horse should be well groomed – braided manes are not required but a running braid is recommended for a long mane so the rider's hands are visible to the evaluator

SKILL EXPECTATIONS

- ✓ Demonstrate correct basic position
- ✓ Demonstrate knowledge of aids and understanding of safe riding and horse handling habits
- ✓ Demonstrate independent hands (not balancing on the horse's mouth) – the use of a neck strap is permitted periodically at the trot/jog
- ✓ Demonstrate yielding aids



SKILL EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Go through the checklist below with your coach to determine if you are ready to be evaluated.

Riders should be able to perform the following skills reliably before being evaluated:	✓
Tack up (with assistance)	
Carry tack to/from tack room	
Discuss cleaning the bit	
Lead the horse in tack	
Halt the horse in tack	
Safely handle the reins while leading	
Adjust stirrups and girth/cinch from the ground with assistance	
Adjust stirrups and girth while mounted with assistance (English tack only)	
Mount from the ground or from a block	
Adjust rein length	
Basic position at halt/stop	
Basic position at walk	
Basic position at trot/jog	
Briefly ride without stirrups at walk	
Perform basic mounted exercises	
Reverse to change the rein	
Change rein across the diagonal	
20m/large circle at walk and trot/jog	
Progressive transitions: Halt, walk, trot/jog	
Change posting diagonal when asked	
Discuss arena riding safety rules	
Dismount	
Untack (with assistance)	



LEARNtoRIDE FOUNDATIONS LEVEL 2 EVALUATION

The LearnToRide Foundations Level 2 Evaluation is done in person or virtually using video recordings. There is no written evaluation for Level 2. At this stage, there is no prescribed pattern. The evaluation is conducted in a group lesson style format. Coaches must ensure all required competencies from the Level 2 Rubric are demonstrated in the riding lesson. At Level 2, riders should be riding a horse they are familiar with that is appropriate for their level of development.

RIDER ATTIRE

- ✓ ASTM/SEI or BSI/BS EN approved helmets with safety harness correctly fastened at all times while mounted
- ✓ Hard soled, heeled, ankle boots or higher
- ✓ Fitted, seamless pants/breeches or jodhpurs if riding in an English saddle (half chaps are permitted) OR jeans if riding in a Western saddle
- ✓ Well-fitted, collared shirt tucked into pants with a belt is recommended
- ✓ Gloves are recommended
- ✓ Hair must be kept tidy and out of the way (one or two braids, low ponytail, or low bun are recommended as long as they do not interfere with helmet fit, hair nets are recommended for riders in English tack)

TACK AND TURNOUT

- ✓ Tack should be used as normally for the rider/horse combination
- ✓ Coaches must ensure tack is acceptable and legal for the discipline
- ✓ Saddle should be correctly fitted and balanced
- ✓ Protective boots are acceptable but should be clean and fit correctly
- ✓ Neck straps are permitted at this level
- ✓ Running and standing martingales are permitted
- ✓ Shank bits (including pelhams or curbs) are not permitted at this level
- ✓ Tack must be clean and neat
- ✓ Horse should be well groomed – braided manes are not required but a running braid is recommended for a long mane so the rider's hands are visible to the evaluator

SKILL EXPECTATIONS

- ✓ Demonstrate basic position at trot
- ✓ Demonstrate knowledge of aids and understanding of safe riding and horse handling habits
- ✓ Demonstrate independent hands (not balancing on the horse's mouth) – the use of a neck strap is permitted periodically at the canter/lope
- ✓ Demonstrate yielding aids



SKILL EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Go through the checklist below with your coach to determine if you are ready to be evaluated.

Riders should be able to perform the following skills reliably before being evaluated:	✓
Tack up (with little to no assistance)	
Describe how to position the saddle and saddle pad on the horse and where the girth/cinch should lay	
Adjust stirrups and girth/cinch from the ground	
Mount and dismount safely	
Adjust stirrups and girth/cinch from the ground	
Hold reins correctly	
Basic position at halt	
Basic position at walk	
Basic position at trot/jog	
Basic position at canter/lope briefly	
Ride without stirrups at walk	
Perform basic mounted exercises	
Turn down center line	
20m/large circle at walk and trot/jog	
Progressive transitions	
Ride away from the group	
Demonstrate and discuss basic speed control	
Discuss the warm-up and cool-out	
Name two natural aids	
Name two artificial aids	
Name two rules for safely riding outside the arena	
Discuss arena safety rules	