



QCMP SAR RIDER AND EQUINE EVALUATION (REE)

The objectives of the proficiency examination are to reduce liability, eliminate inhumanity, and promote safety and good horsemanship.

The proficiency examination is designed to evaluate basic equestrian skills necessary for safely conducting search and rescue operations.

All exercises must be attempted. Should the rider fail to complete an exercise, notate their attitude: how they respond in general, how they work through a refusal from their horse, etc.

The rider and equine will be immediately disqualified, if at any time:

- The equine is lame, seriously ill, disabled, or seriously injured.
- The rider loses control of the equine.
- The equine starts bucking, trying to bite another equine or kicking.
- The rider shows a lack of adequate balance and control while riding or handling the equine.
- The rider refuses or is unable to follow the examiners' instructions.

Equine/Rider List of Exercises

1. TRAILER LOAD/UNLOAD:

Mount must be observed loading and unloading from an unfamiliar horse trailer. Mount should load within one minute and unload within one minute.

2. GROUND LEADING:

Rider will lead their mount a suitable distance. The objective is to demonstrate ground manners and that the mount follows the rider respectfully.

3. TYING UP:

Tie un-mounted equine in the arena, saddled and ready for examination, while the proficiency directions are read. The objective is to demonstrate ground manners and that the mount will tie and stand quietly.

4. PICK UP EACH HOOF:

Raise and lower all four of the equine's feet, one at a time, without resistance. This demonstrates the equine's tolerance while remaining under control.

5. MOUNT/DISMOUNT BOTH SIDES:

Rider must mount and dismount the equine, from flat ground on both sides of the equine while the equine remains under control. The objective is to demonstrate the rider's ability to mount in a terrain limiting situation and the equine's tolerance of being mounted/dismounted from the offside.

6. FLAGS:

Remain under control while flags are being presented to and touching the equine. The objective is to demonstrate the equine's tolerance and the rider's ability to maintain control.

7. LOAD AND CARRY SADDLEBAGS:

While untied, mount must remain under control while rider places saddlebags with approximately 25 pounds of distributed weight behind the saddle. Rider must then mount and ride to a point 60 feet away and back with the pack on the equine. The objective is to demonstrate the mount's ability to carry the necessary supplies.

8. DON/DOFF ARTICLE OF CLOTHING:

While mounted, remain in control while donning and doffing a rain type jacket/windbreaker. Jacket will be handed to rider by a person on the ground and rider will return jacket to a person on the ground. The objective is to demonstrate the equine's tolerance and the rider's ability to maintain control and balance.

9. CROSS OBSTACLES:

Cross over wooden bridge. The objective is to demonstrate the equine's ability to clear a typically sized obstacles found on the trail.

10. OPEN AND CLOSE ROPE OBSTACLE:

While mounted, approach, open, ride through and close a gate while always keeping control of the gate and the equine's movements. The objective is to demonstrate the rider's control of both the equine and the gate's positions and rider's balance.

11. TURN IN TIGHT QUARTERS:

Rider will maintain control and turn equine inside of a box. Without going outside of the box, turn the equine 360 degrees.

12. PONY LEAD/PONY LED:

The equine/rider team must lead another equine and rider by a lead rope for 60 feet (without the led rider using the reins). The equine/rider team must be led by another equine/rider team using a lead rope for 60 feet (without the led rider using the reins). The objective is to demonstrate the team's ability to work with other teams in close proximity.

13. ONE MILE RIDE:

This and the following three exercises will be completed during the 1 mile ride. The objective of these exercises is to demonstrate control and trust while facing obstacles frequently encountered during call-outs. The entire two mile ride will include various degrees of terrain and everyone participating must remain with the group.

14. CROSS WATER (IF AVAILABLE):

One mounted rider at a time shall ride through water and return while remaining under control. The objective is to demonstrate the equine's ability to cross water and leave the group.

15. GO UNDER A BRIDGE/TUNNEL:

One mounted rider at a time shall ride under and through the bridge tunnel and return while remaining under control.

16. LEAVE THE GROUP:

Rider will maintain control while the equine/rider team leaves the group. The rider will leave group at a trot. If lack of terrain or vegetation prevents the rider from traveling out of sight, the rider will proceed approximately 100 yards from the group and return at a walk.