



Irish Pony Club

Riding & Road Safety Test

Disc colour: **Brown**

Aim

The aim of the Riding and Road Safety Certificate Test is:

- To alert riders to the potential dangers of riding on roads
- To ensure that candidates have sound knowledge of the precautions that must be taken to minimise these dangers
- To test the candidates' reaction to situations as they arise
- To test the candidates' control over their horses and the ability to ride safely
- To test their understanding of their responsibilities as road users

The Test

THIS IS A TEST OF THE RIDER AND NOT OF THE HORSE OR PONY

However, should the examiners consider that a candidate's horse or tack are, in their opinion, unsafe to carry out the road test, they are empowered to refuse to allow that candidate

to proceed. The test is made up of three parts:

Part 1 – Theory

- The theoretical test is designed to test the candidate's knowledge of the rules, regulations and advice contained in the "Rules of the Road" and other reading material listed overleaf.

Part 2 – Field (Simulated Road – Enclosed Field/Arena) Test

This is designed to test in artificial and safe 'road' conditions:

- A rider's precautions against, and reaction to, the behaviour of the candidate's horse when confronted by a variety of potentially alarming sights and noises of a sort which might be expected locally.
- To test their ability to demonstrate the correct signals and their position on the road. Some varying junctions must be incorporated into this section of the Test.

Part 3 – The Road Test

- This is to test in practice on the public road the subjects that have been covered in Parts 1 and 2.
- Candidates will be tested on horseback, on roads carrying a reasonable amount of traffic. Candidates must instantly obey the examiner's instructions during this part of the test.

Marks

- Each part of the test will be allotted the same number of marks. The pass mark in each part will be 80% and candidates will be required to pass in each part to be successful in the whole. Candidates MUST pass all three parts of the Test on the same day.

Examiners

Part 1 – Theory

- One of the Examiners for this part of the Test must be Irish Pony Club Riding and Road Safety Examiners, listed in the current yearbook or on an up-to-date list from Irish Pony Club Headquarters and not be the candidate's trainer. *The second Examiner may be a Garda.*

Part 2 – Simulated Road Test

- The Examiners for this part of the Test will be the Examiners for Part 1 or Part 3.

Part 3 – Road Test

- One of the Examiners for this part of the Test must be Irish Pony Club Riding and Road Safety Examiners, listed in the current yearbook or on an up-to-date list from Irish Pony Club Headquarters and not be the candidate's trainer. *The second Examiner may be a Garda.*

Reading Material

1. Irish Rules of the Road
2. AIRC Leaflet
3. Junior Road Rider – Please note that the road signs are English road signs RSA Horse Road Safety Booklet

Note: Bear in mind the Rules of the Road when reading material is published outside of Ireland.