#72653

# Hunter/Jumper Optional Focus Area Skills Checklist

Member's name:_____

Safe development of the hunter-jumper requires that both the horse and rider acquire specific knowledge and skills. The following are suggested skills for different age/skill levels. The Hunt Seat & Jumper publication (Learning to Jump with Your Horse – PNW 488) is available as a Leader Guide for this optional focus area. Each Level may take 2 or 3 years to complete; emphasis should be placed on being able to consistently perform these skills.

| **Level 1** | **Date Completed** | **Approved By** |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Identify different type of bits, bridles, saddles and personal attire used. | | |
| 2. Explain why horses younger than 4 years of age should not be jumped. | | |
| 3. List at least four (4) essential traits that the horse and rider each need. Why? | | |
| 4. Why is it important to do lots of bending, turning, lateral work and change of pace exercises on the flat before and during jumper training? | | |
| 5. What is the difference between a 2-point and 3-point jump position? When are each used? | | |
| 6. Why is cavaletti and flat work important before jumping? How much time daily and times per week should be spent actually jumping fences? | | |
| 7. What major problems occur if stirrups are forward or behind vertical? | | |
| 8. List causes and solutions for refusals, runouts, rushing, and bucking. | | |
| a. Properly saddle, bridle, and adjust all tack for correct fit. | | |
| b. Calm control of the horse at all gaits and transitions (including simple changes, halts, and backing). | | |
| c. Correctly post and change diagonals in a serpentine and figure 8. | | |
| d. Proper jump position (2-point) while working all three (3) gaits on a lounge line, both directions; first with stirrups, then without stirrups. | | |
| e. Crest release while doing cavaletti work in proper jump position. | | |
| f. Cavaletti work in jump position, plus a single 15-inch jump located 9 feet beyond last cavaletti. | | |
| g. Cavaletti plus a series of three jumps (grid or bounce) set 9 feet apart at 12, 15, or 20 inches in height with no problems. | | |
| h. Trot in jump position over single jumps 15 to 18 inches | | |