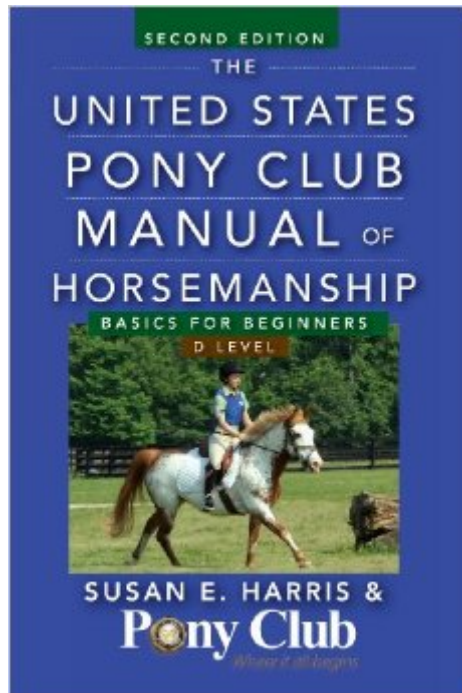


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# The United States Pony Club Manual Of Horsemanship: Basics For Beginners / D Level



## Synopsis

Required reading for every Pony Club Member—now in a valuable new edition! The United States Pony Club (USPC) is among the largest equestrian organizations in the United States, with more than 14,000 members in 600 clubs spread across 49 states, credited with training many current and past Olympic competitors. The USPC Manuals are required reading for every Pony Club Member, and will continue to be required reading into their new editions. This book is written and illustrated for youngsters who want to learn to ride, especially members of the U.S. Pony Clubs, Inc., who want to meet the USPC's Standards of Proficiency. If you're that youngster, you will be able to read this book on your own. This classic guide will show you how to become a careful, thoughtful rider and how to communicate with and understand your pony. Some sections, however, are meant to be read by an adult (a parent or riding instructor), so you can get the extra help you may need to reach your goals. By the time you have read this book you will know a lot about riding in a ring and in the open; beginning jumping; pony care and handling; safety; having fun and meeting challenges; and much more. New information on critical developments in riding, instruction, and competition. The latest research and development in nutrition and veterinary topics. Coverage of land conservation and horse health and safety. All-new photos and a fully updated look and feel. If you're a beginning rider, parent, or instructor, The United States Pony Club Manual of Horsemanship is a solid source of instruction, regardless of whether or not a Pony Club chapter is within reach.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The trainers at my barn recommend this series for the adult beginners too (like me). I have found

this and the 'Intermediate' book highly readable, straightforward and helpful. They are highly instructional and cover aspects of riding, groundwork, horsecare, and tack. They are a great supplement to instruction.

I am not sure why people love this so much. I bought it because I am starting an apprenticeship in MA. I am a relatively new adult rider and I was looking for a very broken-down reference manual. I will be keeping this for its various useful bits but it is not going to be my go-to by any means. Writing: I knew this was supposed to be oriented towards young riders but I find the way this is written just ludicrous. If you're old enough to READ all the words in this book, you are certainly old enough not to be spoken to like a toddler. Organization: This book covers cantering before it covers the parts of a horse. It casually references parts of a bridle without giving any detailed illustration of a bridle. I am not sure who it's supposed to be helping. Real beginners will be using the internet or other books for reference to understand what's going on in many parts here. (Another example: It says don't grip with the knees for a rising trot, and don't push out of the stirrups, but never tells you what part of your leg you SHOULD be using.) Illustrations: Sometimes useful, sometimes not so much. And for a book oriented towards young riders (though see above comment), I can't imagine who thought the very long blocks of text interspersed with the occasional line drawing was the right way to capture kids' attention. All in all, this is a clunky reference manual. It is not an enjoyable read, but it does have some good basic information -- even if it's a bit haphazardly scattered.

I consider this a "must have" book for all new horse owners. If every owner knew what was in this book, there would be a lot more happy horses. The most comprehensive book I've read to get you started with horses, For less than the price of one riding lesson, you will have a huge amount of information at your fingertips. Great illustrations and descriptions. I buy several when on sale, and give to new horse owners.

I've always loved the original USPC manual that I owned (still own), and while I really do think it was high time that the manual be updated, I'm a bit disappointed that the Standards of Proficiency weren't included. I can understand WHY they weren't, but I'm going to miss being able to pull out the D-Level Manual and look at the requirements while IN the section being examined; it was super helpful for myself at the D-Level, and I'd hoped that the new manual would be the same for my younger Pony Clubbers. Ach, well!! I'd also like to caution people who want to use this manual as a guide to learn to ride -- Pony Club comes from the English hunt tradition, which was very much

about forward seat and getting over fences. It's not the best way to teach a child to ride, and it's certainly not something you should use as any sort of manual to train a horse. (I would recommend classical texts, but that's my preference.) However, like my boss is always telling me, Pony Club is the gold standard in horse management (with few exceptions,) and the manual is worth buying for the horse management section alone!

My daughter is working on her D3 rating and this book is an absolute must for learning everything you need to know. It's a great source of information for anyone----even if you are not a Pony Club member.

Every horse owner should have a copy of this- especially if you have young riders. This little book is well laid out and contains more useful information than you would usually find in several books. I have purchased additional copies for our 4-H club library, and public library.

This beginner Pony Club Manual is full of sound information on getting started correctly into horses. Covers learning to ride, pony care and management, pony knowledge, tack and turning your horse out.

I know that new is suppose to be better, but I felt that the issue before this one had more basic information. I am new to PonyClub and so I was looking for a lot of basic stuff. With this new edition they left out some of the things that helped me. If you have ridden hunt seat before, it will be fine, if not, I suggest an older edition.

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