



**PCQ Horse Trials Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) for
Horse and Rider Upgrading
(Seniors to also complete – see information on next page)**

Name: _____	*Club: _____	*PCQ Ride# _____
*Horse Registered Name: _____		* PCQ Horse# _____

Current Grade of horse and rider	State the Upgrade being requested
*	*

Date	Competition/Championship/State Event	Dressage Test %	Showjump Penalties	XC Fence & Time Penalties

*This completed form, PLUS copies of the actual competition result for Horse/Rider combination, for the events listed in the 3 MER qualifiers, MUST be emailed to the PCQ Officer: admin@ponyclubqld.com.au

Please note that a Q is not the same as a MER – do NOT send copies of the performance card.

Please note, that if the form is not completed and results attached, the upgrade application will not proceed.

*If the upgrade is approved, the rider will be emailed information and be responsible for getting their HT card marked as upgraded at their next PCQ Official competition.

Extract from 2026 Horse Trials' Rule book, sections 8 and 11.

8. GRADING OF HORSES

- d. Once a horse has one (1) qualifying result or Minimum Eligibility Requirement at an EA level, they are termed qualified at that level in Pony Club. A qualifying result/MER as specified in 11(b). Refer to 11(a) for procedure to upgrade. Please note, EA requires MERs to compete at 1* and 2*.

11. UPGRADING

- (a) *Should you wish your horse to be upgraded horse and rider combination must have 3 qualifying results (Minimum Eligibility Requirements – MER) before you can choose to go up a level. Horses can compete up to the highest grade shown on the card. It is the responsibility of the rider to inform PCQ of any EA qualifying result.*

To upgrade your horse's competition level, an "Application for Horse Trials' Upgrade" form needs to be completed and emailed to PCQ with copies of the relevant MERS Performance card will be upgraded by the PCQ TD at the next Official competition.

(b) Minimum Eligibility Requirements

A Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) is achieved by completing a Competition within minimum parameters of all round performance as follows:

- (a) *Dressage Test: not more than 45 penalty points (or 55%)*
- (b) *Cross Country Test:*
 - *A clear round at cross country obstacles*
 - *Not more than 75 seconds exceeding the optimum time in the Cross Country Test (30 penalties)*
- (c) *Jumping Test: not more than 16 penalties at obstacles.*

(All MERs obtained in the previous 2 years will be counted according to the rules in place at that time)

For a horse and rider to progress from Introductory to Preliminary, they must have 3 qualifying results (MERs) in their current official class.

For a horse and rider to progress from Preliminary to One Star, they must have 3 qualifying results (MERs) in their current official class, except one of these results may not have more than 20 Cross Country jumping faults.

For a horse and rider to progress from One Star to 2*, they must have 5 qualifying results (MERs) in their current official class, except one of these results may not have more than 20 Cross Country jumping faults. All other requirements re dressage score, XC time faults and showjumping penalties as above.

Club Secretary: _____ Date: _____
Print Name

Signature: _____

In lieu of Club Secretary completing this, please cc this form to your Club, when you email it to PCQ.

SENIORS – To compete at Preliminary and above:

- This form needs to be completed and sent with copies of 3 MERs
- When upgrade is approved, please register your horse on the JustGo database and purchase an ODE card
- This performance card will note the grade that you may compete in and is to be shown to the club where you are competing
- No results are to be recorded in this card
- For further upgrades please complete this form and email it, with copies of 3 MERs, to the PCQ Office for upgrading.