



Sample Comments for Leisure Division (LeD)

Grooming

Not judged (however, an LeD judge can remind a rider to groom for comfort of horse)

Tack

Not judged – watch for safety

Stabling

Evaluated for safety

Trail Equitation

Use leg support to be light in saddle
Better control with shorter reins
Relax ankles and let heels drop down
Use quiet hands
Use more subtle leg cues
Line your heels under your hips for best balance

Mount

Safer to settle horse
Adjust tack before mounting
Use shorter reins for better control
Square up horse before mounting
Use terrain/ natural mounting block
Try to not pull horse off balance
Settle lightly in saddle
Settle before cueing horse to walk off

Uphills

Angle upper body forward from hips
Transfer some weight through thighs to stirrups
Be light in saddle, not out of saddle
Standing in stirrups unnecessary for light seat
Maintain soft rein contact
Allow horse to use head for balance
OK to hang onto mane

Downhills

Distribute weight on thighs, buttocks and feet
Avoid leaning back on loins
Side to side sway tough on horse
Keep waist flexible & upper body still like hula dancer
Maintain soft rein contact

Backup

Settle horse
Think stop, settle, slow
Check behind
Use soft, subtle hands
Give and take with reins
Use leg aids for direction control

Obstacles

Stop, settle, slow
Look ahead, not down

P&R Check

Line up parallel to next horse
Maintain contact/ control of horse
Remain quiet with low energy
Encourage horse to relax
Lead away with permission of next rider

Safety & Courtesy

Keep one horse length between horses
Approach other horses courteously
Pass with permission
After passing, move on to create a quiet pocket
Ask next rider if you need to wait for them at obstacle
Be careful not to spook others with your actions

Horse Trail Ability & Manners

Rushing
Antsy
Fidgeting
Reluctant
Resistant
Head tossing
Buddying
Responsive
Willing