Ratings Q & A

Q - I show Hunters rather than Event, does that make a difference at my Rating?
A - No, It should not matter what discipline you ride, it is the effectiveness of your riding that is evaluated. Many times I have heard statements to the effect of "my examiner was a Hunter, Dressage or Event (fill in blank) person and it was harder to please them. Examiners are put through extensive evaluations before they are allowed to test and effectiveness is the bottom line, not style.

Q - What happens if I fall off during my test, do I not meet standard?
A - A fall does not make or break your rating, it is how you deal with the situation, understand the cause and correct the situation. If multiple falls happen, then there is a problem

Q - How important are Record Books?
A - Very important, they are designed to be a manual for someone else to continue to care for and ride your horse if a situation arises that you are unable to care for your horse for a period of time. It should be workmanlike and easy to follow, keep it simple and don't put in a lot of unnecessary photos or information.

Q - Must I pass every part of each section on my test?
A - Most sections have multiple parts to them and you are expected to meet standard in a majority of them. No one is perfect and we do not expect that (that is what "exceed standard" is for.)

Helpful Hints:
Make sure Examiner is aware of any issues with either you or your horse PRIOR to start of test (the briefing is good time to discuss w/Examiner) We DO read your paperwork and Medical history but many times things are omitted when you send it in and things happen between when you send in and actually get to the test. Don't wait until after the fact as many times it is viewed as an excuse at that point. Examiners, contrary to urban legend are Examiners not two headed ogres who want to make life miserable for you at a Rating. We really want to pass everyone and the bottom line is, the more prepared you are the easier the test will be.

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