



BASIC ASSESSMENT FORM

**For Support Members: Video examples can be found in the online portal under 'Archives'. **

Date	12/11/2020
Author	Anne-Maree Cowell
Horse	Louie
Breed	Thoroughbred X Australian Stock Horse
Age	15
Sex	Gelding
Pedigree	

LINKS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= VmWS2AMCIE&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gjS8PaEcDA&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLdiLmpsi0c&feature=youtu.be>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kUGLlSkZqw&feature=youtu.be>

GENERAL INFORMATION

MANAGEMENT

Stabling / turnout ratio Also: what surfaces??	Paddock turnout 24/7. Pasture with gravel tracks
Diet Also: grazing vs browsing ratio	Pasture, mineral supplements
Dentist Last visit / any issues mentioned?	October 2020. No issues
Hoof care Barefoot or shod? Intervals?	Barefoot, 4 weekly
Bodywork sessions What type and what intervals?	Bowen / craniosacral. As needed

TRAINING

Main Discipline	Dressage
Training intervals How many times a week? Average duration of a session? Ratio Grounwdwork / Ridden Gaits most used?	4 times per week 40 - 45. Minutes 5-10 minutes groundwork Mostly walk and trot
Tack used Saddle / Barebackpad / Bridle?	Saddle, snaffle bridle, he's very tense in his jaw and bit fitter thinks he doesn't like anything in his mouth - emotional or physical??

MEDICAL HISTORY

Known injuries / accidents	Had mild Australian Stringhalt when he came to our property in 2013
Known diseases / malformations	

GENERAL HEALTH

Eyes & Nostrils	Clear
Breathing pm	12 breaths per min
Heart Rate pm	38
Gut Sounds	Normal
Ulcer points	Not reactive

GENERAL HABITS

Rolling pattern	Presumably rolls over - evidence he rolls on both sides but does so privately
Chewing pattern	Lower jaw opens and goes to left
Grazing / Browsing pattern	Mainly grazing, when I feed hay it is high in a net
Standstill / resting pattern	Forelimbs under

BODILY OBSERVATION

First impression & overall posture Does the horse look happy? With or without pain?	Weak, small hindquarters compared to forehand. Wrinkles above eyes, worries Scar on nasal bone
Skin: blemishes / scars / wounds	Swelling above left knee
Limbs & Feet stance	Turns out hind toes, paddles right fore

Overall (a)symmetry From face to hind	Front end bigger/ stronger
Shoulder-pelvis ratio	Shoulders narrower than pelvis
Vertebral column	Slight roach back
Muscle toning	

PALPATION

General scan any heat, irregularities, swellings?	Swelling above right knee
Jaw & Teeth Incisors aligned? Muscle (a)symmetry Can the jaw move evenly?	Incisors aligned, masseter symmetrical and jaw moves evenly His jaw is very tense when anxious and when ridden
TMJ Does the horse give a reaction? Overall (a) symmetry?	No reaction and symmetrical
Hyoid Is it in the middle? Can you move it?	Hyoid slightly to right. Does feel mobile
Ears Tight or not? Mobile at the base of the ears?	Not tight, mobile
Parotid glands Normal or swollen?	Normal

Poll Tight or not? Boney landmarks?	Not tight
Neck Musculature and mobility	Rhomboids enlarged and tight. Bends more easily to right
Thoracic sling Development and symmetry	Pecs enlarged
Shoulder Muscle development & symmetry Joint mobility Sternum / wither rock Front limbs Muscle development Joint feeling (elbow & carpus etc.) Tendons & Ligaments	Good
Feet (white line, toes, heel bars medio lateral inbalance etc.) General mobility (moving weight left - right, picking up the limb, bending the joints, small circles, abduction / adductions, F/E)	Happy to pick up and hold all feet Left knee not as mobile as right. Other joints seem mobile Wears front toes with break over laterally. Even though balanced medio laterally each trim - the front hooves always end up with the medial walls higher. Right fore hoof is narrower and more upright than left.
Withers Sensitivity and mobility	Not sensitive and are mobile
Spine & Ribs Feeling and space spinous processes Mobility between segments Pelvic articulations Overall mobility: F/E LB & AR Tail mobility and feel How many ribs?	Spinous process at thoracolumbar junction raised and tight Tail mobile I think there are 18 ribs
Hind end Muscle development Joint feeling LS & Hip Pelvic (a)symmetry	Hind end seems weak and under developed for size - in relation to forehand Pelvis seems symmetrical while standing

<p>Hind limbs</p> <p>Muscle development Joint feeling (stifle, hock etc) Tendons & Ligaments Feet (white line, toes, heel bars medio lateral imbalance etc.) General mobility (moving weight left - right, picking up the limb, bending the joints, small circles, abduction / adductions, F/E)</p>	<p>Hind toes seem to point out</p> <p>Happy to lift/hold hind feet. Good mobility in joints</p>
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MOVEMENT

After having assessed your horse you can continue with asking movement in walk and trot on straight lines, circles and finally a back-up. Best would be to do both on hard and soft surface as well as a small angle upwards and downwards. Try to assess for any abnormalities such as lameness, advance in trot as well as the harmony between all the joints (do they bend evenly?) and muscles. Be aware that this is just a very basic assessment as gait analysis in itself is a complete study.

<p><i>Walk Hard & Soft Surface: straight lines, circles, figure of 8 Incline: going up and down straight Gravel: just straight lines and turns</i></p>	<p><i>Not as comfortable on hard surface</i></p>
<p><i>Trot Hard & Soft Surface: straight lines, circles, figure of 8 Incline: going up and down straight Gravel: just straight lines and turns</i></p>	
<p><i>Back-up (straight)BONUS: Canter or ridden/training session to see any difference.</i></p>	

SECOND PALPATION

After the movement you can come back to palpation to check for heat changes as well as changes in swellings and ROM of certain joints of interest to determine whether movement is a good influence or not.

<i>Heat & Swellings: improved or not?</i>	
<i>ROM of joints and softness of tissue: improved or not?</i>	Seems the same

APPENDIXES

<https://youtu.be/VmWS2AMCIE>

<https://youtu.be/6gjS8PaEcDA>

<https://youtu.be/pLdiLmpsi0c>

<https://youtu.be/8kUGLlSkZqw>





Here you can add pictures or video links below. It is really recommend to do this so that you have footage you can compare when you do the assessment again in another movement of time. If you take pictures only than try to make picture from as many angles as possible.

GOOD LUCK