

Manteca Mounted Unit quarterly training standards

The Manteca Police Department's Mounted Unit trainings are once a month. At the beginning of training we warm up the horses by practicing on riding skills, controlled walk, trot, and canter. This is also done in riding formations and riding movements. The team works on sensory items with the horse. For example flares, the smell and sounds of burning and visible flame. We work on different items touching the horse (flags, tarps, pool noodles, banners, and balloons), balls being thrown, people touching them for example. Obstacles are used to help the horse learn hoof placement while walking or standing by the rider. We work on training the horse and rider as if they had encountered something in the environment and they felt needed to be addressed. The maintenance training is to enforce the schooling the team received at the P.O.S.T. class they attend and the riding test they completed. Training is held once a month at various locations throughout Manteca and surrounding areas. Occasionally we train with other local agency mounted units, in case we are ever called on for a mutual aid response.