

III - NYS 4-H HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

Rules and Regulations

****Note: National Rule changes will be automatically reflected in New York State 4-H educational event rules in following years.****

The primary objective of this contest is to provide an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H horse projects to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge and their reasoning ability in subject matter related to equine science and management in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. It is hoped that this project contest will generate a rewarding experience for the contestants.

A strict dress code will be enforced. Clean, neat clothing, appropriate for the event and weather conditions will be expected. Remember, contestants are representing 4-H, Cornell, and their county and region. Shirt must have sleeves and cover midriff. No inappropriate language on clothing. Skirts and shorts must be longer than the individual's fingertips when their hands are at their sides.

I. Selection of Teams, Contestants and Eligibility

A. Regional Contests

1. Regions may select their teams in any manner deemed appropriate by the majority of the counties within the region..
2. Regions are encouraged to allow a many youth as possible to participate in regional competitions. Teams should consist of 3-4 members. Teams of one (1) or two (2) individuals may compete but will only be considered for individual awards.
 - a. Seniors - Senior contestants must be 14 years of age but not yet 19 years of age before January 1 of the current calendar year and must never have been a member of an official Hippology team representing New York in an out-of-state contest (see B-4).
 - b. Juniors - Junior contestants must not have achieved their 14th birthday prior to January 1 of the current calendar year.

Please note: For state events, a junior youth must have reached their 9th birthday prior to January 1 of the current year.
 - c. Novice (optional): Contestants must not have reached their 14th birthday prior to January 1 of the current calendar year **and** must never have participated in a Hippology contest at the regional level. At the discretion of the region, exceptions may be made to allow contestants who are 9 years of age or less to compete. Youth 10 years old and older may compete as a novice a maximum of 2 years.
3. All members must be enrolled in a 4-H horse project in the county they represent.

B. State Contest

1. Only those contestants who participated in regional contests are eligible for the

2. Only Senior and Junior divisions will be held at the state level. Age descriptions will be the same as for Regional Contests.
3. Each region may submit four (4) Junior and four (4) Senior teams. If a region decided to split into an A & B, each may send two (2) Junior and two (2) Senior teams. How regions select their teams will be a regional decision.
 - a. A team must consist of three (3) members in order to compete for "team" awards at the State Competition. If a region only fields 1 or 2 members on either the county or regional levels, they may compete but will not be eligible for "Team" Awards. They are, however, considered for all "Individual" Awards including the National Contest. These procedures for selection apply to both Junior and Senior teams.
 - 1) Ages are as A-1.a. and b. above.
4. Members of the team representing New York in out-of-state competition become ineligible for further Hippology competition.

C. National Contest

1. The 4 individuals invited to represent New York in the National 4-H Hippology Contest will be selected from among the high senior individuals in the State Contest based on rank, availability for the contest, and confirmed eligibility.

II. Contest Procedures

Senior Contest consists of four (4) phases, plus three team problems.

Junior Contest consists of four (4) phases, plus three team problems. Of the three problems, the highest score will count toward the team score.

1. **Judging** (approx. 200 points) - at least 2 but no more than 6 classes to be placed -- may be pictures, projected slides, videotapes or live horses. Classes may be all conformation or part conformation, part performance (individual).
2. **Written Examination** (approx. 200 points) - All questions will have been derived from material and sources listed in section III. May include true/false, multiple choice, completion and column matching. Spelling in Senior contest will be considered in scoring.
3. **Station** (100 points) - There are to be 2 to 4 interactive stations (with oral questions) or 2 interactive and 2 reactive (no judge present) stations. The information to be covered will include but not be limited to:
 - a. tack and equipment
 - b. anatomy and conformation
 - c. disease, unsoundness, parasites
 - d. breeds, use, color, sex, size
 - e. feeds and feeding

Amount of time available at each station will depend on number of contestants participating but will not be more than 4 minutes. Fifteen (15) seconds will be permitted

between stations for judges to complete their score cards. At each interactive station each contestant will be asked 3-5 questions which will be used to determine 15 points of the score at that station. Ten (10) points of the score will be based on the amount of additional information which can be provided through additional questions. Total points available is 100. Scoring at the reactive stations will be based on the written responses to the questions posed or information required at the stations.

4. **Identification** (approx. 200 points) - This phase will consist of a series of stations or tables where at each all contestants will respond to the requirements of that station. At least twenty-five (25) but not more than fifty (50) slides will be projected in which color, color pattern, breed, gait and activity is to be identified. Examples of other subject matter that might be included are:

- Types of saddles; parts of saddles
- Tack, bits, bridles, horse shoes and parts of shoes
- Tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment
- Grains & forages used in equine rations, various forms and preparation methods
- Internal & external parasites
- Blemishes & unsoundnesses
- Ages of equines based on teeth
- Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc. to assess horse health
- Measurements such as wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle
- Diseases and unsoundnesses
- Parasites
- Breeds, use
- Poisonous plants
- Anatomy and conformation
- Horse activities, ie: show classes, driving, racing, fox hunting, gaming, jumping...

5. **Team Problems** (approx. 200 points) - All Senior teams will be given the same problems. There will be two types of problems (100 points each). For one problem, each team will have 8 minutes of preparation time to be followed immediately by an 8-minute period with a judge to respond to the problem. The second problem will be an extemporaneous problem which will be presented to the team. The members of each team will have 8 minutes in which to present the solution to a judge. All responses will be oral (no notes may be taken into this judging session.) Examples of possible team problems might include:

- Balancing a horse's ration
- Farm management recommendation for specific horse operations (ie: breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up)
- Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose)
- Recommendations for selecting, locating and purchasing horses for specific uses
- Behavior problems - causes, management of and corrections
- Training & conditioning programs: equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance
- Breeding and/or leasing contracts - specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.

Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9-11 year old beginner 4-H'ers - where, how long, how much information, hands-on experiences, reinforcement, testing evaluation
Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment will be considered
Demonstrate skill or ability to use specific equipment

Team problem scores will not be included in determining the rank of individuals in the contest, but will be added to the team scores of the other phases to determine overall team standing.

Evaluation will be based on apparent understanding of the problem, practicality and probable success of solution presented; thoroughness of response, clarity and logic, style of response and most importantly, the involvement of all team members in making the oral response.

Team problems will normally be of a kind where there is no unique solution or single set of established procedures. However, it MUST be a true team effort -- not one sided. A suggested approach would be that each member state some facts about the problem, in addition to making remarks after another team member's presentation if they can contribute additional knowledge. Responses should include not only "how" but "why", with special attention given to the rationale leading to the responses given.

In preparing, try to use a standard outline form to keep the main points and supporting material in proper sequence designating which team member should start or finish according to the knowledge each individual has in reference to the problem presented. Make major points in reply to the problem. Sources of knowledge should be your own experiences or references from various material you have read.

A summary or conclusion could possibly restate some of these major points made by your fellow team members but briefly. (See score sheet that follows for what the youth will be judged on.)

The judge, if time permits, may ask questions of any or all of the team members to clarify the presentation.

III. Reference Material

All the information covered in this contest may be found in one or more of the following publications: (This excludes some items of tack and feeds utilized in horse rations.)

1. All 4-H horse project materials distributed by the National 4-H Council including "Horses and Horsemanship" and "Horse Science", and all National 4-H horse educational slide sets.
National 4-H Council/Supply Service, c/o First Union Bank, PO Box 75013, Baltimore, MD 21275-5013 Telephone: 301-961-2934

2. The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy - Robert Kainer and Thomas McCracken
Alpine Publications Inc., PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537
Telephone: 800-777-7257
3. Horses and Horsemanship (5th or 6th Edition) - Ensminger
The Interstate Printer & Publishers, Inc., 19-27 N. Jackson, Danville, IL 61832
This reference will not be used at the 2000 National 4-H Hippology Event
4. The Horse (2nd Edition) - Evans, Borton, Hintz and Van Vleck
VHPS Holtzbrinck Publishers, 16365 James Madison Hwy, Gordonsville, VA 22942; Telephone: 888-330-8477 FAX: 800-672-2054
5. Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms - New Horizons Education Center, Inc.
Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537 - \$19.95
Telephone: 1-800-777-7257 FAX: 970-667-9157
6. Horse Industry Handbook - The American Youth Horse Council
Order from: The Equine Collection, PO Box 1539, Ft. Lee, NJ 07024-1539
Telephone: 800-952-5813 FAX: 201-840-7242
7. Feeding & Care of the Horse (2nd Edition) - Lon D. Lewis, 1994.
ISBN #0-683-049674. Williams & Wilkins, PO Box 1496, Baltimore, MD 21298-9724
8. Youth Leader's Manual - American Youth Horse Council
Order from: The Equine Collection, PO Box 1539, Ft. Lee, NJ 07024-1539
Telephone: 800-952-5813 FAX: 201-840-7242
9. State Line Tack Catalog
State Line, 1989 Transit Way, Brockport, NY 14420 www.statelinetack.com
- (New, 2009) 10. Equine Science: Basic Knowledge for Horse People of all Ages - Jean T. Griffiths.
www.HorseBooksEtc.com or 1-800-952-5813, or ISBN#978-1-929164-42-4 to order from your local bookstore.

IV. Scoring

1. If a team consists of four (4) members, the lowest individual score is dropped and the three (3) highest used for scoring TEAM placings. A TEAM MUST consist of at least three (3) members.
2. If a team consists of only one (1) or two (2) members, they will be considered for all individual placing awards but will not be eligible for any TEAM awards.

V. Tie Breaking

All ties overall, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence:

1. Examination scores
2. Station scores
3. Judging scores

Ties within any phase are to be broken using the overall score first and then the same sequence as above. If further ties breaking is needed, the scores at each station, in order, may be used.

VI. Awards (State Contest only, Regional optional)

- A. Rosettes to high ten (10) individuals and to members of high five (5) teams (Junior and Senior).
- B. Verbal recognition of high ten (10) individuals and to members of high five (5) teams in examination, judging, stations and identification.

VII. Contest Policy

- A. No source of information is infallible. There may be at times answers given to questions which are not in agreement with the recommended sources. Therefore, any queries or complaints made must be submitted in writing to the chairperson of the contest, and then only by the coach of the individual or team making the inquiry. Spectators, parents and visitors may not protest verbally or in writing to the chair, but should direct their actions to the coach or agent of their respective county or region.
- B. Unseemly behavior, unsportsmanship-like conduct or any actions which are generally accepted as detrimental to the contest may subject 4-H competitors, parents, and/or coaches to dismissal from the area of the contest.
- C. Unless assisting in the contest, coaches and parents must not remain in the immediate area surrounding the contest proceedings. Every effort will be made to allow viewing from some strategic place where the contest is being held, but in some instances this may not always be possible. Viewing of contest materials will be allowed once the contest is completed.
- D. Contest materials will not be returned. Copies of the written exams will be held at Cornell and will be available for Regional Hippology competitions.

Team ID# _____

NEW YORK STATE 4-H HIPPOLOGY
TEAM PROBLEM SCORE SHEET

	Team Member Number*				Max Points	Score
	1	2	3	4		
GENERAL APPEARANCE: Appropriate dress, visible distractions					4	
DELIVERY: Eye contact, gestures, enthusiasm Articulation, volume, inflection Pronunciation and enunciation					8	
					8	
LANGUAGE EFFECTIVENESS: Skill in using meaningful & appropriate words					4	
ORGANIZATION OF CONTENTS: 1. Introductory statement of key points 2. Sequence of key points 3. Body – development of key points 4. Summary of key points					10	
					10	
					10	
					10	
OVERALL QUALITY: Appropriate topic coverage, originality					16	
OVERALL TEAM PARTICIPATION					20	
TOTAL POINTS					100	

Judges comments and statement supporting score:

*Team member numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 used for marking each individual's contribution in presentation.
Team consists of at least 3 members.