

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. Contestants will be judging live horses. Therefore NO open toed shoes will be permitted in the judging ring. 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 – Contest starts promptly at 8:00am and should be completed by 1:00pm. Supplies: contestants need to bring 2 pencils and clipboard. Contestants may bring snacks and drinks.

1. Only those contestants who participated in regional contests are eligible for the state contest.
2. Only Senior and Junior divisions will be held at the state level. Age descriptions will be the same as for Regional Contests.
4. 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.
5. 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:

NEWHOR

Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms, New Horizons Education Center, Inc.
Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027, Loveland CO 80537
Phone - 1-800-777-7257 FAX - 970-667-9157

EVANS 2nd

The Horse(2nd Edition) by EVANS, BORTON, HINTZ, VAN VLECK
W.H. Freeman and Company
660 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94104.

A special price may be available if ordered from publisher.

Phone number-(414) 391-5870

VHPS Holtzbrinck Publishers, 16365 James Madison Highway, Gordonsville, Va 22942
(888) 330-8477.

KAINER

The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy

Dr. Robert Kainer and Dr. Thomas McCracken

Alpine Publications Inc. P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, Co 80537
1-800-777-7257

AYHC 1st

Horse Industry Handbook-by the American Youth Horse Council

The Equine Collection - Dept. AYHC, P.O. Box 1539 Fort Lee, NJ 07024-1539

Phone - 800-952-5813 FAX - 201-840-7242

AYHC

Youth Leaders Manual-by the American Youth Horse Council

The Equine Collection - Dept. AYHC, P.O. Box 1539 Fort Lee, NJ 07024-1539

Phone - 800-952-5813 FAX - 201-840-7242

Lewis 2nd

Feeding and Care of the Horse(2nd edition)

Lon D. Lewis, Williams and Wilkins

P.O. Box 1496, Baltimore, MD 21298-9724

Phone Number-(800)-638-0672

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Other: Grains, forages, and feed preparations used in this contest will be representatives of feeds utilized in horse rations.

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