

# Northeast Regional 4-H Horse Judging Contest



8:30 a.m.

October 27, 2019

Judging at:

Reasons at:

Superintendents: Deb Danforth ([Deborah.danforth@castleton.edu](mailto:Deborah.danforth@castleton.edu)) and Lori Wunderlich ([wunspot@ao.com](mailto:wunspot@ao.com))

## **Educational Objectives:**

*To provide a place for youth to compete regionally while encouraging teamwork and self-confidence and focusing on the 4-H Mission of Mandates of Science, Healthy Living and Citizenship.*

*To hold an event that is a capstone experience in itself; to provide a pathway to a future national experience. The event will provide a realistic warm up event for those planning to attend the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup.*

*To develop leadership by encouraging decision-making, teamwork, critical thinking and independence.*

## **Rules and Regulations:**

1. Each state is invited to enter up to two 4-H horse judging teams and/or up to two individuals.
2. Teams may be selected by any procedure which a state deems appropriate.
3. Contestants must be at least 13 years of age, but not yet have achieved their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. 13 year old members are allowed as the second representative of a state or as the sole representative(s) if no members, age 14 and over, have been selected to participate.
4. All contestants must be members of 4-H in the state they are representing during the year in which this event is held and eligibility must be certified by the State 4-H Extension Office.
5. Any 4-H member who has previously participated in the National 4-H Horse Judging Contest as a team member or alternate is not eligible for this event. Contestants are ineligible to participate if they are currently enrolled in college courses that provide specific training for horse judging, serve on a collegiate horse judging team or have participated in intercollegiate horse judging events.
6. Contestants (including alternates) may participate in only one contest per year at the Northeast Regional Contest. Contestants may participate in any specific contest no more than three times.

7. Each state is requested to provide one adult to assist the contest for each team or partial team entered.
8. Each team is responsible for transportation to and from the venue(s).

### **The Contest:**

Directions to the judging site are enclosed. The farm may or may not have an indoor facility. Plan accordingly. Following the judging of classes, we will proceed to the school for reasons and awards. Lunch will be available at the school and is included in your registration fee. Oral reasons start after lunch. If a contestant misses their assigned reasons time, they will forfeit that reasons score.

1. A team may have three or four members; when four are entered, the three highest scores in each category (placings, reasons, overall) will make up the team's total.
2. All contestants must report to the superintendents at the designed farm by 8:30 a.m. At 8:30 sharp, orientation will be at the site. Each will be assigned a number and be given placing cards.
3. Contestants shall not wear any clothing, pins or badges that will in any way reveal their identity or the state they represent while giving reasons.
4. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between the contestants or anyone else except as directed by the contest superintendents or their representative.
5. There may be two to three halter classes and two to three performance classes. Contestants will give reasons on one halter class and one performance class. All halter classes will be judged as sound of limb, eye, wind, mouth and reproductive organs. Performance horses will be judged as seen (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly). All tack and attire is considered legal. Horses will be designated 1-2-3-4 worn by the handler/rider.
6. Horses will not be handled by the contestants, but time will be provided in halter classes for close inspection and observation of the horses at the walk and trot.
7. Fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed to the contestants to judge non-reason classes and seventeen (17) minutes will be given to the contestants during reasons classes to make their observations, take notes, and fill out their placing cards.
8. Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons to the judge. Contestants may use notes when judging, but are not permitted to use notes while giving oral reasons. The contestant's placing card will be made available to them upon entering the reasons room if they request it.
9. Coaches who are willing will serve as official judges for classes and reasons. Judging decisions will be done by consensus of those serving in this role. Coaches (or a designated volunteer) not serving as judges will serve in other contest roles such as tabulating scores, monitoring the holding room, etc.

### **Contest Superintendents:**

1. It shall be the duty of the superintendent(s) to see that all rules and regulations are carried out.
2. They shall have charge of all records and shall have all scores received, tabulated and totaled.
3. The superintendent(s) will be responsible for monitoring all cuts on official placings.

### **Determination of Ratings:**

1. Fifty (50) points shall constitute a perfect mark on placing and fifty (50) points a perfect mark on reasons.
2. Breaking ties (priority order):
  - a. If tied for a placing award, the contestant or team having the highest reasons score will be listed first.
  - b. If tied for an award in reasons, the contestant or team having the highest overall placing score will be listed first.
  - c. If tied for an individual or team award, the contestant or team having the highest overall reason score shall be listed first.
  - d. If still tied for any of the above, the contestant or team having the highest score in placing reason classes shall be first.
  - e. If still tied, coaches will consult.

### Cuts to be used:

Cut	Description
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- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Horses are extremely similar; no obvious reason why one should be placed over the other; or both horses have numerous faults and none supersedes the others; placing is strictly a matter of personal preference; placing varies among official judges  |
| 2  | Horses are very close, but one horse has one or two qualitative or quantitative advantages; the majority of official judges would not switch the pair, but half of the contestants could logically switch the pair.   |
| 3  | Horse of similar quality, but there is some logical placing in favor of one horse; either one horse has several advantages or one has several faults; all official judges would agree on the placing; no more than one third of contestants would be expected to switch the pair.                     |
| 4. | Horse are not of similar quality; one horse has several decided advantages based on many points; all experts would quickly see the placing; no guesswork or personal preference required to make placing; no more than 10% of the contestants would be expected to switch the pair.                   |
| 5  | Large number of extreme differences between the horses; placing is obvious to everyone on first, quick observation; careful study not required for the placing; pair consists of an inferior horse versus a consistent winner; only very inexperienced, uninformed contestants would switch the pair. |
| 6  | Horses not even comparable; differences reflective of a champion quality horse or performance versus a horse or performance that is not of show quality.  |

### Awards:

1. The top 8 individuals in classes, reasons and overall will receive ribbons.
2. Each member of the top 8 teams will receive awards in the same categories.

# ORAL REASONS SCORESHEET

Final Score _____
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Participant # \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Circle ONE score in each section.

Criteria Ex-Excellent Gd-Good Fr-Fair NI-Needs improvement	Ex	Gd	Fr	NI	Comments
<b>PRESENTATION (total of 15 points)</b>					<b>Subtotal</b> _____
Grooming (hair, attire), professional appearance	3	2	1	0	
Posture and body language (stance, appropriate distance)	3	2	1	0	
Poise, confidence, eye contact, facial expression	3	2	1	0	
Voice clear, audible, inflection used effectively	3	2	1	0	
Smooth, persuasive delivery; no long pauses	3	2	1	0	
<b>ORGANIZATION (total of 9 points)</b>					<b>Subtotal</b> _____
Introduction and conclusion	3	2	1	0	
Logical order, top, middle, bottom pairs used, smooth transitions to pairs	3	2	1	0	
Correct grammar, used comparative terms	3	2	1	0	
<b>KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT (total of 21 points)</b>					<b>Subtotal</b> _____
Stressed major strengths	3	2	1	0	
Covered all important differences between each pair	3	2	1	0	
Grants used appropriately, covered important facts, faulted bottom horse only	3	2	1	0	
Terms relevant to class being judged, used correctly	3	2	1	0	
Used descriptive adjectives for class	3	2	1	0	
Accuracy of statements	3	2	1	0	
Sufficient content used, appropriate length	3	2	1	0	
<b>OVERALL IMPRESSION (5 points)</b>					<b>Subtotal</b> _____
Convincing, well delivered style of presentation	5	4	3	2	

Total of scores (one score from each section) \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator(s) \_\_\_\_\_