

Ohio 4-H Hippology Contest Rules (1/1/25)

GENERAL RULES:

1. Team and Contestant Eligibility

- a. Each county may enter two (2) junior and two (2) senior teams of four (4) contestants. If four contestants are designated, all will participate and the lowest scoring individual will be automatically designated as the alternate. The alternate's scores will not be included in the team scores, but alternates will be eligible for individual awards. The team may be selected by any procedure that the county deems to be appropriate.
- b. Each contestant must be currently enrolled in a 4-H or FFA Horse project, a member in good standing with the county they represent, and have successfully completed the current year's EquiSTEP by the contest registration deadline.
- c. Junior Contestants must be at least 8 years of age and in third grade and under 14 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
 1. Junior Contestants are eligible to compete in this contest in subsequent years.
- d. Senior Contestants must be at least 14 years of age on January 1st of the current year, and not be more than 18 years of age on January 1st of the current year.
 1. As this contest determines which contestants will represent Ohio at national contests, only senior 4-H members are allowed to compete in the senior division to comply with national eligibility requirements.
 2. Senior contestants may be enrolled in or have completed freshman and sophomore level college equine courses. However, senior contestants may not be enrolled in or completed junior or senior level college equine courses. In addition, senior contestants are ineligible to participate in the state contest if they are or were a member of an intercollegiate horse judging or communications team.
 3. Champion teams are expected to represent Ohio 4-H at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup.
 4. Senior contestants are eligible to compete in this contest in subsequent years. However, if a youth participates in the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup, they may not participate in that specific contest at that event in subsequent years.

2. Special Accommodations

- a. An adult will be available for any youth needing a reader for the written exam. If other special accommodations are needed for any youth, the coach, parent, or advisor must submit a written request and copy of the approved Winning 4-H plan to cole.436@osu.edu by the event's registration deadline.

3. Contest

- a. Examination Phase (worth approximately 200 points)

This phase of the contest may include the following a written exam or a slide exam consisting of projected slides to be identified as to breed, health conditions, conformation faults, color, color



patterns, activity, proper appointments, anatomy which may include external, skeletal internal organs, parts of gastrointestinal tract, male and female reproductive organs, detailed anatomy of the foot and detailed anatomy of the lower limbs.

b. Station Phase (worth approximately 200 points)

This phase may consist of a series of stations or tables where at each, all contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Examples of stations which might be used include:

1. Identification of various types of saddles (actual or pictured) and parts of saddles; tack, bits, bridles, horseshoes, and parts of shoes; tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of equipment; various forms of grains and forages used in equine rations; internal and external parasites based on actual samples or pictures; blemishes and unsoundnesses; age of equines based on teeth; breeds, colors, and markings.
2. Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc. to assess horse health.
3. Measurements such as, but not limited to, wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle, etc. may be required.

c. Judging Phase (worth approximately 200 points)

Contestants will be required to place at least four classes consisting of halter and/or performance classes. Every effort will be made to use live horses; however, it may be necessary to use pictures and/or videos of horses that were prepared for use in a judging event.

d. Team Problem (worth approximately 200 points)

All teams must complete the same team problem per age division. Each team will have equal time to discuss among themselves the problem, immediately after which they will have to present an oral solution or series of suggested procedures relative to the problem. Each member of each team is encouraged to contribute to the oral presentation. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of the logic used in making the oral response. The official may ask questions of any or all of the team members to clarify the presentation.

Examples of possible team problems include, but are not limited to:

1. Balancing a horse's ration
2. Farm management recommendation for a specific (i.e., breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up, etc) horse operation.
3. Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose).
4. Recommendations for selecting, locating and purchasing horses for specific uses.
5. Breeding and/or leasing contracts – specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.
6. Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9–11-year-old beginner 4-H'ers.
7. Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment will be considered.
8. Demonstrate skill or ability to use specific equipment.

4. Scoring

- a. All ties, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence: 1) written exam scores, 2) station scores, and 3) judging scores.
- b. 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 three phases to determine overall team standing.

5. Recording of Matches/Contestants/Questions

- a. Recording/transcribing contest questions or stations by any means during the competition is prohibited. Affiliated teams will be eliminated from the contest and possibly from subsequent contests.
- b. Cell phones or any other electronic communication devices (laptops, tablets, cameras, etc.) are prohibited in the contest. Affiliated teams will be eliminated from the contest.
- c. No photographs will be allowed.

6. Reference Material

All of the information in this contest may be found in one or more of the following sources:

AYHC HS

Horse Smarts: An Equine Reference & Youth Activity Guide- by the American Youth Horse Council
AYHC, 1 Gainer Rd, McDonald, NM 88262
www.ayhc.com
Phone: 817-320-2005

NEWHOR

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

KAINER

The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy
Dr. Robert Kainer and Dr. Thomas McCracken
Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027 Loveland, CO 80537
Phone: 800-777-7257 Fax: 970-667-9157

LEWIS

Feeding and Care of the Horse (2nd Edition)
Lon D. Lewis, Williams and Wilkins
PO Box 1496, Baltimore MD 21298-9724
Phone: 800-638-0672

BHM

Ohio 4-H Horse Publication 174: Beginning Horse Management

LHS

Ohio 4-H Horse Publication 175: Light Horse Selection

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