

State 4-H Horse Communications Contest Rules (1/1/2019)

GENERAL RULES:

1. Contestant Eligibility

- a. Youth can only participate in one division per contest year. Each contestant must be currently enrolled in a 4-H or FFA Horse project in the county they represent. Senior contestants are eligible to compete in this contest and in the same division in subsequent years as long as they were not the high individual overall (Public Speaking or Individual Presentation/Demonstration) or a member of the high team overall (Team Presentation/Demonstration).
- b. 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.
- c. 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 and/or communications courses. However, senior contestants may not be enrolled in or have completed junior or senior level college equine and/or communications 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 individuals and teams are expected to represent Ohio at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup.
 4. Senior Contestants that were champion(s) overall in their respective division are not eligible to compete in the same division in subsequent years. The only exception would be if they were also on another champion team the same year. In that case, youth must choose which event they will represent Ohio in at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup and could repeat the same division of this contest in subsequent years.

2. **Divisions** – Public Speaking; Individual Presentation/ Demonstration; Team Presentation/ Demonstration. A “team” will consist of two members.
3. **Speeches** – Speech topics must pertain to the horse industry, be horse related, and be original and factual. Visual aids of any kind will not be allowed (posters, items, equipment, etc).
4. **Individual & Team Presentations/ Demonstrations** – Two tables and a chalkboard to display posters will be available for contestants. All presentation subjects must pertain to the horse industry, be horse related, and be original and factual. Because of the indoor facilities, presentations must not involve the use of live animals; however, model animals may be used. A LCD projector and screen will be available. **Internet access via Wifi is not available.**
5. **General Rules** – Brief notes may be used if desired; however, excessive use of notes may be penalized at the discretion of the judges. A public address system will not be used during the contest.

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6. **Time** – The following time limit for the contest divisions are as follows:

Presentation Type	Division	Minimum Time Limit (without penalty)	Maximum Time Limit (without penalty)
Public Speaking	Senior	7:00 minutes	10:00 minutes
Individual Presentation/ Demonstration	Senior	9:00 minutes	12:00 minutes
Team Presentation/ Demonstration	Senior	10:00 minutes	15:00 minutes
Public Speaking	Junior	4:00 minutes	7:00 minutes
Individual Presentation/ Demonstration	Junior	6:00 minutes	9:00 minutes
Team Presentation/ Demonstration	Junior	7:00 minutes	12:00 minutes

A three (3) point penalty will be imposed for being under the minimum time allowed or over the maximum time allowed per division. Only the time recorded by the official timekeeper will be recorded for scoring purposes.

- References** – Contestants should cite their major references at the conclusion of the speech or Individual/Team presentation. Reference time will not be counted in the allotted time.
- Questions** – Only the judges may ask questions.
- Scoring** – Judges will consider applicable questions listed under each section of the score sheet. Ties between contestants will be broken by: 1) the accumulated delivery score, 2) the accumulated organization score, or 3) the accumulated content and accuracy scores.