



University of Idaho Extension

Idaho 4-H Hippology Procedures and Rules ***(Effective: October 1, 2016)***

This publication was designed to provide a consistent protocol in conducting club, county, district and state hippology events throughout Idaho.

OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the Hippology contest is to provide, in a friendly but competitive setting, an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of equine science and management, and in particular, the practical application of this knowledge and skill. It is hoped that this contest will generate new friendships and be a rewarding experience for the contestants.

ELIGIBILITY

Contestants must be currently enrolled in the Idaho 4-H program. All ages as of January 1 of current year. As Hippology is designed specifically as a team event, teams shall consist of Junior (8 to 13) and Senior (14 to 18) divisions. Mixed age teams are permitted; however, the age of the oldest team member will determine in which division the team competes. At the club, county and district level, individual participation is permitted at the discretion of that contest's management in order to help form teams.

GENERAL

1. A team may have three (3) or four (4) members; when four (4) are entered, the three (3) highest overall scores will make up the team totals. At the club, county and district level, individual participation is permitted at the discretion of that contest's management in order to help form teams.
2. Participants may only work together during the Team Problem phase. All other phases will be individual.
3. Coaches and parents cannot remain in the immediate area surrounding the contest proceedings.
4. Contest materials (quizzes, etc.) will not be returned.

CONTEST

1. **Examination Phase** -- approximately 200 points -- this phase of the contest may include:
 - a. Written Exam

b. Visuals/projected slides to be identified as to breed, health conditions, conformation faults, color, color pattern, activity, proper appointments, anatomy which may include external, skeleton, internal organs, parts of gastrointestinal tract, male and female reproductive organs, detailed anatomy of the foot and detailed lower limbs.

2. Station Phase -- approximately 200 points -- this phase will consist of a series of stations or tables where all contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Members will be allowed two (2) minutes at each station. Examples of stations may include, but are not limited to:

a. Identification of:

1. Various types of saddles (actual or pictures) and parts of saddles.
2. Tack, bits, bridles, horse shoes and parts of shoes.
3. Tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment. Grains and forages used in equine rations including various forms of methods of preparation.
3. Internal and external parasites based on actual samples, pictures, life cycle charts and/or damage caused.
4. Blemishes and unsoundnesses.
5. Age of equines based on teeth.
6. Breeds, colors, markings

b. Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc., to assess horse health.

c. Measurements such as, but not limited to, wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle, etc. may be required.

3. Judging Phase -- 200 points -- contestants will be required to place four (4) classes, consisting of two (2) halter or conformation classes and two (2) performance classes. Planning committees are strongly encouraged to incorporate this phase with the horse judging contest; however, in extreme situations, pictorial and/or video classes may be substituted.

4. Team Problems -- approximately 200 points -- all teams will be presented with the same problem(s). Each team will have equal time (approximately 10 - 15 min.) 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 the team is encouraged to contribute to the oral presentation. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of the response, 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.

The following is a list of possible team problems, but not limited to:

- a. Balancing a horse's ration.
- b. Farm management recommendations for specific horse operations (i.e., breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up, etc.).

- c. Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose).
- d. Recommendations for selecting, locating, and purchasing horses for specific uses.
- e. Behavior problems - causes, management of and corrections.
- f. Training and conditioning programs - equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance.
- g. Breeding and/or leasing contracts - specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.
- h. Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of beginner 4-Her's: where, how long, how much information, hands-on experience, reinforcement, testing evaluation.
- i. Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment.
- j. 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 three phases to determine overall team rank.

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 tie breaking is needed, the scores at each station, in order may be used.

RECOGNITION

1. Recognition is encouraged for the top individual for each phase: Examination, Station and Judging, within each team division (Junior and Senior). If a club, county or district offers an individual participation option, they should consider recognizing the top Junior (8-10), Intermediate (11-13) and Senior (14-18) individual within each of the three phases noted above.
2. Recognition should be given to the top five (5) individuals competing on Junior teams and the top five (5) individuals competing on Senior teams.
3. Where team competitions are held, recognition is encouraged for the top three (3) Junior and top three (3) Senior teams.
 - a. On teams consisting of four members, all will compete; the lowest individual overall score will be dropped from overall team score, but will be included in determining individual awards. For those teams consisting of three members, all members' scores will count in determining individual and team awards.

STATE CONTEST ELIGIBILITY *(for reference only)*

Each of the four 4-H Extension Districts may enter ten (10) teams *{preferably five (5) Junior teams and five (5) Senior teams}*, consisting of 3-4 members per team. The use of 4 member teams is strongly encouraged, but not required. Teams may consist of members from the same club, county or multiple counties within that district at the discretion of their district coordinator. Each contestant shall be eligible for individual and team awards.

HIPPOLOGY REFERENCE LIST / SOURCE ABBREVIATION

*NOTE: In an instance where there is a conflict of information between sources, the most recent source (publication date) will prevail.

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

- H & H** Horses and Horsemanship #72670, 2001 Edition (order from www.4-Hmall.org)
- HS** Horse Science #72671, 2001 Edition (order from www.4-Hmall.org)
- IDET** Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms - New Horizons Equine Education Center. Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537 Ph: (800) 777-7257
- Evans** The Horse - Evans, Borton, Hintz, and Van Vleck. Second Edition. W. H. Freeman and Co., 660 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 Ph: (415) 391-5870
- Lewis** Feeding and Care of the Horse - Lon Lewis Williams and Wilkins. Second Ed., PO Box 1496, Baltimore, MD 21298-9724 Ph: (800) 638-0672
- HIH** Horse Industry Handbooks - American Youth Horse Council; The Equine Collections – Dept AYHC, PO Box 1539, Fort Lee, NJ 07024 Ph: (800) 952-5813
- YLM** Youth Leaders Manual - American Youth Horse Council; The Equine Collections – Dept AYHC, PO Box 1539, Fort Lee, NJ 07024 Ph: (800) 952-5813
- ES** Equine Science – Jean Griffiths; Equine Network/Source Interlink Media, 656 Quince Orchard Rd. #600, Gaithersburg, MD 20878 Ph: (800) 952-5913
- CAHA** The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy – Robert Kainer and Thomas O. McCracken; Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537 Ph: 800-777-7257

The Horse Learning Laboratory materials (Ohio State) may also be used to conduct the contest.

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

Prepared by Jim Wilson, Regional Youth Development Educator, in grateful consultation with the Idaho 4-H Horse rules subcommittee comprised of Andrea Thompson, Bobbi Flowers, Cindy Kinder and Sue Walker. Reviewed and recommended for adoption by the Idaho 4-H Youth Horse Council on September 22, 2016.

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