



Alabama 4-H State Horse Show

Active Educational Contests

HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

OBJECTIVE: To provide, in a friendly and competitive setting, the opportunity for Alabama 4-H members to showcase the breadth of their knowledge and skills of equine science and management.

1. There will be two levels of competition: Junior and Senior. At both levels, competition will be for individuals and for county-based teams that shall consist of a minimum of three members. Counties with more than four 4-H members must designate team members at registration. With the lowest score being dropped, the three highest scoring (overall score) team members will serve as the official team. The Team Problem–Solving phase score will not count for individual's scores.
2. Individuals, those not part of an official team, will not participate in the Team Problem–Solving phase of the contest.
3. Talking or conferring during the contest is prohibited, except as allowed in the Team Problem–Solving phase.
4. The judging classes will be the same classes for both the Hippology Contest and the Judging Contest. For contestants in both contests, the judging classes will be counted for both contests.
5. The Hippology Contest is projected to consist of four phases (three individual divisions and one team division): Examination, Station, Judging, and Team, with approximately the number of points available, as noted below.
 - Examination Phase: (200 points)
 - A written exam (75 questions; 2 points each)
 - Projected slides to be identified as to breed, color, color patterns, activity, tack, and anatomy (25 slides; 4 points each)
 - Station Phase: (200 points)
 - 10 stations, 10 questions each, 2 points per question
 - Identification:
 - Types and parts of tack (saddle bridle, etc.), tools, and equipment
 - Common grains and forages
 - Parasites (life cycle chart, pictures, or classes of dewormers)
 - Blemishes and unsoundnesses
 - Age of equines based on teeth
 - Use of pulse, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, etc., assess horse health
 - Measurements such as, but not limited to, tack fit (for example, seat length of saddle), shoe size, wither height, etc. may be required
 - Judging Contest: (200 points)
 - Judging of two classes (placings only). One class will be a Halter Class and one will be a Performance Class. This phase will take place at the same time as the Horse Judging Competition. Classes used for Hippology Scores will be noted during the Horse Judging Competition. Oral reasons will not be a part of the Hippology Judging Contest.
 - Team Problem–Solving Phase: (200 points)
 - Two team problems will be presented, one prepared and one impromptu (100 points each; can use 1/2 point increments).
 - Prepared TP – the team is given a hard copy of the TP and sent to the preparation room. They have 10 minutes to discuss and formulate an answer. Once the time is up, they will be moved to the TP presentation room where they have 7 minutes to deliver their and 3 minutes of Q&A (10 minutes total). They may write notes during the 10 minutes of preparation to have with them in the presentation room. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of the logic used in solving the problem/issue, and teamwork of the oral presentation.

- Impromptu TP – As teams enter the TP presentation room they are given a hard copy of the TP. After receiving the TP they will have 7 minutes to discuss and present their response, after which there will be 3 minutes of Q&A.
- All team members must participate in the solution of the problem/issue.
- Examples of problems/issues are as follows:
 - Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment will be considered.
 - Demonstrate skill or ability to use specific equipment.
 - Set up an annual health program.
 - Design a training program for a specific type performance horse.
 - Set up a business to give riding lessons.
 - Conduct a 4-H equine field day.
 - Disinfect a horse stall.
 - Identify blemishes or unsoundness on a horse.
 - Discuss conformation of a horse.

TIE BREAKING

1. All ties overall, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence:
 - Examination scores
 - Station scores
 - Judging scores
2. 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, in the team problem phase and overall will receive awards.

HORSE JUDGING CONTEST

1. There will be two levels of 4-H competition: Junior and Senior. At both levels, competition will be for individuals and for county teams that shall consist of a minimum of three members. Counties with more than four 4-H members must designate team members at registration. With the lowest score being dropped, the three highest scoring (overall score) team members will serve as the official team.
2. Talking or conferring during the contest is prohibited. A contestant cannot wear any markings, clothing items, or jewelry that in any way reveals identity or area of residency. Personal communication devices are prohibited.
3. Notes may not be used while giving oral reasons.
4. Typically, this contest has four classes: two halter or in-hand classes and two performance classes. Juniors will give one set of reasons—either halter or performance. Seniors will give two sets of reasons—one halter class and one performance class. Classes may deviate from this format.
5. A maximum 50 points will be awarded for class placings and 50 points will be awarded for reasons.
6. Contestants will have 17 minutes to judge classes. Contestants have two minutes to present their oral reasons to the judge.
7. Conformation classes that may be included in the contest are the following:

Quarter Horse	Stock Type	Hunter Type
Arabian	Morgan	Hunter in Hand
Walking Horse	Pony Breeds (hunter or stock)	

8. Performance classes that may be included in the contest are the following:

Western Pleasure	Reining	Western Riding
Hunter Under Saddle	Hunt Seat Equitation	Western Horsemanship
Hunter Hack	Pleasure Driving	Saddle Seat Equitation
Saddlebred 3-gaited (trotting)	Pleasure	Country English Pleasure
Plantation	English Pleasure	Walking Horse
Working Western Rail		

TIE BREAKING

- Ties for team or individual awards will be broken by the following sequence:
 - Team or individual with the highest oral reasons score will be first.
 - If still tied, the team or individual with the highest placing in reasons classes will be first.



For more information, contact your county Extension office. Visit www.aces.edu/directory.

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