

2022 STATE 4-H HORSE JUDGING CONTEST
Wednesday, June 1st, 2022 @ Spy Coast Farm Lexington, KY

General Information

- Registration will open at 7:30am EST
- Contest will begin at 8am EST.
- Entry fees include lunches for all contestants only. Coaches, parents, and other individuals are responsible for their own lunch.
- Oral reasons will begin immediately after lunch for Senior 4-H'ers
- Awards will be presented following the completion of the contest on site
- We need several volunteers for this event to be group leaders, card collectors, tabulators, etc. Please let an agent or volunteer at check-in know if you are interested in helping at the Judging Contest.

Rules and Regulations

1. The State 4-H Horse Judging Contest is divided into the following categories based on age of the 4-H member as of January 1 of the year the contest is held:

-Junior Division (9-13 Years): Individual and Team

-Senior Division (14-18 Years): Individual and Team

2. Teams consist of three or four members. In competition where four members judge, the scores of the three members with the highest total scores are used to compute the team's overall final score.

3. Method of choosing county team members and the number of teams and individuals who may represent a county at the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest is decided by the county and/or District 4-H Horse Management Team.

4. All individuals and teams competing in the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest are not required to have qualified at a District event. All teams competing in the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest must be county, club or mixed teams from their respective district. If the team consists of participants from different counties Cross County Lines forms must be filled out by the participants and the agents. It is strongly suggested that teams and individuals who wish to compete at the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest have attended a clinic prior to the contest.

5. Team members are eligible for individual awards as well as team awards at the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest. You do not need to enter both as an individual and team to be eligible for these awards.

6. Contestants may not have previously competed in any post-secondary horse judging contest beyond the high school level.

7. Junior State 4-H Horse Judging Champions or members of champion teams ARE eligible to compete in the junior age category again.

8. The top overall team and a team made of up the top individuals will be invited to participate at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships. The team that places higher at Southern Regionals will then be invited to participate at Quarter Horse Congress and Eastern Nationals 4-H Horse Round-Up. Once a 4-Her has represented Kentucky at the national competition, they will not be eligible for that same event at state, regional and national level.

9. Contestants are eligible to compete in Horse Judging and Hippology during the same year.

10. Contestants will judge at least 6 but no more than 10 classes at the State Judging Contest.

11. The classes to be judged at the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest will be chosen from the following:

Halter Classes (geldings/mares/fillies)

Quarter Horse

Morgan Horse

Appaloosa Horse

Arabian Horse

Paint Horse

American Saddlebred Horse

Thoroughbred Horse

Tennessee Walking Horse

Performance Classes (geldings/mares/fillies)

Western Pleasure

Working Hunter

Western Riding

Western Horsemanship

Reining

Western Showmanship

Pleasure Driving

English Pleasure (Saddleseat 3 & 5-gaited)

Hunter Hack

Saddle Seat Equitation

Hunter Under Saddle

Plantation Walking Horse

Hunter Seat Equitation

Show Pleasure Walking Horse

English Showmanship

Show Pleasure Saddleseat

Country Pleasure Saddleseat

Ranch Riding (According to KY 4-H Rules)

Western Country Pleasure Walking

Ranch Pleasure (According to KY 4-H Rules)

Showmanship

12. All halter classes are composed of four horses of the same breed or type (example: stock type, hunter type), sex and approximate age. In the event of a horse being unable to show in the competition a class may run with three horses.

13. Horses are numbered one through four from the contestants' left to right as they view the class. Back numbers corresponding to horse numbers must be worn by all handlers or riders. In the case of individual work performance classes (working hunter, reining, etc.) the order of work may be used to number the horses.

14. Only contestants and those individuals assigned to assist with the contest are permitted in the arena during the judging. Judging is done on an individual basis. Any conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone other than the contestant's group leader is grounds for dismissal of the contestant(s) from the contest. This stands in effect from the time the contest is officially started until the final contestant has given his or her oral reasons to the official reasons taker.

15. Neatness of dress is encouraged. All contestants must wear closed-toed shoes. Hats may not be worn while judging the horse, but may be worn when giving oral reasons (senior contestants only). Any contestants who are not dressed in appropriate attire will not be allowed to compete.

16. Thirteen minutes is permitted for the judging of each class (including reasons classes). Contestants view each halter class by the following system:

3 minutes - side view

2 minutes - rear view

2 minutes - front view

5 minutes - way of going

1 minute - side view

17. Contestants may assume all halter class horses to be sound. However, contestants are to consider soundness of all performance class horses.

18. Video performance classes may be used in order for the youth to be challenged on a diverse variety of breeds and disciplines.

19. Senior contestants are to give at least 2 and no more than 4 sets of oral reasons: at least one halter class and one performance class. Contestants will be notified of all reasons classes prior to the start of the class or directly after the class, so contestants are encouraged to take notes on all classes. Participants may carry any resource materials with them during the judging phase, however **notes may not be used during the giving of oral reasons.**

20. Two minutes will be permitted for the giving of each set of oral reasons.

21. Junior contestants may be asked questions in lieu of reasons.

22. Points are accumulated on the basis of 50 points per class for placing and 50 points per set of oral reasons. Ties between individual or team scores are broken by the following system: (1) highest total reasons score, (2) highest total of perfect scores, or (3) highest total halter points. Junior tie breakers will be the following: (1) Highest total of perfect scores, (2) Highest total halter points, (3) questions score.

23. Contestants are responsible for the proper marking of all class placing cards. Cards handed in without a class placing and/or a preassigned number will receive a score of zero. Cards handed in with more than one placing will receive the lowest score of all the placings.

24. Awards are given through ten places in both individual categories and through five places in both team categories.

25. The decision of the judge(s) is final.