

Kentucky 4-H Horse Program

Official Rules for the State Horse Contest

In all things related to the Kentucky 4-H Horse Program it is important to remember the objectives and goals of our program. We ask that all leaders, parents, and participants read and understand these objectives so that they may benefit fully from our program and have better comprehension of why these programs and rules exist.

Objectives

The objectives of the Kentucky 4-H Horse Program are to provide opportunities for 4-H members to:

1. Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship and other desirable traits of character.
2. Be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities through working in groups and supporting horse projects and activities.
3. Promote a greater love for animals and a humane treatment toward them.
4. Experience the pride of working with a horse, pony, or mule and being responsible for its management and welfare.
5. Develop an appreciation for horseback riding as a health and wholesome form of recreation.
6. Enhance their horsemanship skills and knowledge as well as understanding the business of breeding, raising, and training horses, ponies, and/or mules.
7. Increase their knowledge of basic safety precautions in order to prevent injury to themselves, their horse and others.

This rulebook provides a uniform set of rules and regulations which are intended to generate positive youth development. The rules are in place to insure uniformity, integrity in the competition, safety, and fair play. These rules apply to the State 4-H Horse Contest and may or may not be adopted by county and district competitions.

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General Horse Contest Rules

1. The judge's decision is final for all Horse Contest events. Tabulation corrections must take place within three working days of the event. Any inquires by 4-H'ers, parents, leaders, or extension professionals must be made in writing (can be sent by e-mail) within three working days of the event. If a tabulation error has occurred then the corrected placings will be made and any senior level champion(s) affected by the change will be notified so that the correct individual or team may receive the invitation to compete at the regional event.
2. Regional and National Representatives: All senior level champions in knowledge contests (excluding crafts and photography) are eligible to represent Kentucky at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships, the All-American Quarter Horse Congress, and the Eastern National 4-H Horse Round-Up.
 - **Communications Contests-** The top 2 individuals in Senior Public Speaking, Senior Individual Presentation, and the top 2 teams in Senior Team Presentation will be invited to represent Kentucky at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships. The National representative in each communication category will be chosen after Southern Regionals.
 - **Horse Bowl-** The overall High Team and the top 4 individuals (that are not part of the overall high team) will be invited to represent Kentucky at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships. Performance at both Southern Regionals and the State Contest will be considered when choosing the team to represent Kentucky at the national competitions.
 - **Horse Judging and Hippology:** The overall High Team and the top 4 individuals (that are not part of the overall high team) will be invited to represent Kentucky at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships. Scores from the Southern Regional and the State Contest will be evaluated to determine the team that will represent Kentucky at the national competitions.
3. Once a youth competes at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Round-Up, they will no longer be eligible to compete in the same event at the State, Regional or National contest again.
4. A youth may compete in two (2) events at the Southern Regional competition, however, they may only compete in one event at Quarter Horse Congress and Eastern Nationals.
5. To compete in any event at the state level, 4-H'ers are required to complete 6 hours of education through their 4-H club by the contest entry deadline.

Horse Bowl

Horse Bowl is a quiz bowl or jeopardy type game that runs in a double elimination tournament format. Each round pairs two team against one another to answer a series of horse related questions. Horse science, breeds, colors, history, and general horse knowledge plus speed are required for this event.

1. The State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest is divided into the following two divisions with categories based on the age of the 4-H member as of January 1st of the year the contest is held:
 - Junior Division Age 9-13
 - Senior Division Age 14-18
2. Four (4) people will play at a time, however teams must consist of at least three (3) people and no more than five (5).
3. In preparation of the contest, contestants may secure assistance from anyone.
4. The State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest does not require prior qualification in order to compete.
5. Contestants lose their eligibility in the State Horse Bowl Contest if they have previously competed in a post-secondary Horse Bowl Contest.
6. Only the participants that have competed at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Round-Up Horse Bowl lose their eligibility to compete at the state level in Horse Bowl. Junior champions and any other horse bowl participant that has not competed at Eastern Nationals are allowed to compete at the state level the following year as long as age rules permit.
7. Awards are given through 10 places in the individual categories and through five places in the team categories.
8. The decision of the judge(s) and or moderator is final.
9. **Equipment**
 - a. Game Panels- An appropriate device is used to provide a clear indication of the first contestant to respond to a question.
 - b. Time Recorder- A stop watch or other appropriate timing device is required.

- c. **Signal Device-** The signal device is controlled by the time keepers and must have a distinctly different sound from that of the game panel. If such a device is not available, the time keeper(s) will respond vocally.
 - d. **Score Keeping Device-** Two devices are used. One, such as a blackboard, flipchart or electronic light display, etc. is used to record team scores, which are visible to the contestants, and if possible, to the audience. A second device is used to record individual contestant scores.
 - e. **Questions-** The questions will be taken from the resource publications listed below. There are two types of questions: toss-up and bonus. Toss-up questions are worth one point during the first half of each match and two points during the second half of each match. All bonus questions are worth two points throughout the entire length of each match. At least 25 percent of all toss-up questions will have a bonus question attached.
1. Questions generated for use in the Junior section will be limited to topics covered in Level 1 and Level 2 in the Kentucky 4-H Horse Program Horse Academy Workbooks. The information in the workbook refers to material found in your county horse kit or is available online. Those resources include:
 - **Alberta Horse Manual, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, 2015.**
 - **Saddle Up Safely, Safety Booklets, Saddleupsafely.org**
 - **Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets, University of Kentucky, <https://publications.ca.uky.edu/>**
 - **Horse Discovery Webpage, <https://afs.ca.uky.edu/horse-discovery>**
 - **eXtension.org**
 2. Resources for the Senior horse bowl questions-
 - a. **Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms**, New Horizons Equine Education Center, Inc., Alpine Publications, P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537.
 - b. **The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy**, by Robert Kainer and Thomas McCracken, Alpine Publications Inc., P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537.
 - c. **Horse Industry Handbook** by the American Youth Horse Council, The Equine Collection-Dept. AYHC, PO Box 1539, Fort Lee, NJ, 07024-1539
 - d. **Feeding and Care of the Horse (2nd edition)** by Lon D. Lewis, paperback version from Williams and Wilkins, P.O. Box 1496, Baltimore, MD 21298-9724.
 - e. **The Horse (3rd edition)** by Evans, Hoffman, Petersen, Van Vleck, Waveland Press, Inc, 4180 IL Route 83 Suite 101 Long Grove, IL 60047-9580
 - f. **Horse Smarts, an Equine Reference and Youth Activity Guide**, by American Youth Horse Council.

11. Officials

- a. Moderator- The moderator is responsible for directing each match, asking all questions and accepting or rejecting any corresponding answers unless the questions and/or answers are challenged. The moderator will also declare the winner of each match.
- b. Referee Judge- The use of at least two referee judges is recommended and both should be knowledgeable horsepersons.
- c. Time Keeper- This duty may be accomplished by the moderator or a referee judge, the time keeper monitors all intervals and indicates when the time for a response to a question has been exceeded.
- d. Score Keeper(s)-Two individuals are responsible for recording all points and scoring. One individual records team scores during the match and keeps a record of team playoff advancement. The second individual records and computes individual team member scores during the team competition.

12. Teams

- a. Each team consists of four or five members with the fifth member serving as an alternate.
- b. Only four contestants may be seated at the game panel at any one time.
- c. During any match, one team member only may be replaced. The alternate may be used if the moderator deems it impossible for one of the seated members to continue the match or if the team captain requests replacement of a team member. The team member that is removed is not eligible to return to that particular match.

13. Procedures of Play

- a. The State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest is a double elimination contest, thereby allowing each team a minimum of 2 games to play.
- b. Each match is divided into two halves based either on time or number of questions.
- c. During the first half, the moderator will read “one-on-one” questions specifically to players 1, 2, 3, and 4. During the second half of each match the moderator will read “toss-up” questions, and any player from either team has the chance to answer the question, after activating the buzzer and being acknowledged by the moderator.
- d. Teams are seated with the team captain in the number one (1) chair, seated closest to the moderator. Team members have the opportunity to check their equipment before play begins.
- e. The moderator reads each question until competed or until a contestant activates a buzzer. If the allowed time elapses without a contestant activating a buzzer, there is no loss or awarding of points to either team. If a buzzer is activated during the reading of any question, the moderator immediately ceases the reading of the question and the contestant activating the buzzer has five seconds after being recognized by the moderator to begin to answer the question. The repeating of the question by the contestant is not considered the initiation of an answer. It is the responsibility of the moderator and/or

timer to determine if the actual answer has been started within the five-second period.

- f. If the answer to a question begins during the five-second period and the answer is incorrect, that team and individual do not lose any point(s) associated with the incorrect answer. However, the other team or individual will be given an opportunity to answer the same question to earn points. If the question was not read in its entirety then the question must be re-read for the other team or individual before beginning their five-second answer period.
- g. If the question is correctly answered and initiated within the five-second time period, that team and individual scores the one or two point(s) associated with that question.
- h. If a bonus question is attached to a correctly answered toss-up question, the moderator reads the bonus question to completion. Upon completion, the team has a 10-second period to confer to determine the answer. Following the consultation period, the team captain is given the normal five-second period in which to begin to answer the bonus question. Successful completion of the answer results in that team being awarded the two points associated with the bonus question. Failure to either answer the bonus question correctly or to initiate the answer within the five-second period following consultation does not result in any loss of points for that team.
- i. No part of the bonus question may be repeated nor may any additional information be given to contestants.
- j. Team members are not eligible to score individual points from bonus questions regardless of whether there is consultation among the team members to determine the answer.
- k. Either a team captain or the moderator may call for a time out for a rule clarification, to replace a team member or to allow for any unexpected problems. However, time must be called following the answering of a question and before the next question is started.
- l. The moderator continues to read all toss-up questions and any bonus questions until all of the questions in the packet have been used.
- m. Following the final question, the team with the highest number of points is declared the winner. Once the winning team has been declared, there may be no protests of any questions and/or answers.
- n. Final individual team member scores are computed using the highest number of questions answered correctly in 2 matches.
- o. Ties between team scores at the end of regulation time are broken by the asking of five additional toss-up questions, each being worth one point. If a tie still exists following the five-question overtime period, the moderator continues to read toss-up questions, each being worth one point. The first team to win a point is declared the winner.
- p. Ties among individual team member scores are broken by the following system: (1) highest average score for the entire contest; (2) highest individual round or match score; or (3) total number of points earned in the contest.

14. Protests

- a. A protest of a question or answer may be made only by the team captain or designated coach of either team and then only at a time when a question is read or the answer is given. There may be only one recognized coach for each team. The moderator and judge(s) consider the protest and their decision is all cases is final.
- b. If a protest is sustained, the moderator then takes one of the following actions as deemed appropriate: (1) if a question is protested before an answer is given and the protest sustained, the moderator discards the question with no loss or gain of points for either team. (2) If an answer is protested (given either correctly or incorrectly), the moderator and referee judge(s) determine the validity of the protest. The question may then be discarded with no loss or gain of points or the question may be allowed with the appropriate loss or gain of points.
- c. Abuse of the protest provision will result in one or more of the following: (1) dismissal of the team coach from the contest area; (2) dismissal or replacement of the team captain; (3) dismissal of an entire team with forfeiture of any points withstanding.
- d. Spectators, parents and visitors may not protest any question, answer or procedure during the course of play. They may, however, submit in writing to contest officials any recommendations at the conclusion of the contest.

15. Equipment Failure

- a. If a device malfunctions during a match or is believed to be malfunctioning, time may be called by any contestant, the moderator or either coach. If, after checking, it is determined that there is an equipment malfunction, the system will either be replaced or the faulty parts replaced and the match resumed.
- b. Scores accumulated up to the point time is called stand and all further points awarded during the remainder of the match are added to or subtracted from this total. However, if the moderator and referee judge(s) deem it proper, any points awarded for the two questions asked immediately prior to the calling of time may be recalled and two additional questions used. Under no conditions will a match be replayed due to equipment failure.

Hippology Contest

1. The State 4-H Hippology Contest is divided into the following two division with categories based on the age of the 4-H member as of January 1st of the year the contest is held:
 - Junior Division (9-13 years old): Individual and Team*
 - Senior Division (14-18 years old): Individual and Team*
2. Teams may consist of three or four members. If four contestants are on a team, all will participate, and the lowest scoring individual overall is automatically designated as the alternate. The three highest scores are then used to compute the team's overall final score. Alternates are eligible for individual awards.
3. Contestants may secure assistance from anyone or any material in preparing for the contest.
4. The State 4-H Hippology Contest requires no district qualification in order to compete.
5. Contestants may not have competed previously in any post-secondary hippology contest.
6. Junior State 4-H Hippology Champion teams (including alternates) and individuals are eligible to compete in the junior age category again as long as age permits.
7. The top team along with the top four individuals (not on the top team) in Senior Hippology become eligible for regional and national competitions. Once a 4-H'er has represented Kentucky at the national competition, they will not be eligible for that same event in the future at state, regional, and/or national level.
8. Components of the Contest
 - a. **Witten Exam**-The written exam consists of questions posed in a variety of ways. Subject matter is limited to genetics, physiology, tack and equipment, colors, markings, breeds, nutrition, health and behavior-as well as vocabularies associated with these subjects. Questions will be multiple choice. A portion will be on paper, with another section will be presented on a series of slides with associated pictures.
 - b. **Identification**- Stations will be set up where contestants will be asked to identify horse related items which may include but are not limited to : tack and equipment, feed samples or feedstuffs commonly used, knots, hitches, parts of rope, internal and skeletal anatomy using scientific and/or common names, internal organs and systems, parasites, and appropriate anthelmintics, common diseases, breeds, breed history, colors, patterns, disciplines, farrier tools, among others.
 - c. **Judging**- Contestants are required to judge up to four classes. These may be either live classes or previously recorded.

9. Only the three highest individual scores overall count toward the team score. Ties are broken for teams and individuals in the following priority: written test scores, identification score, and highest scores in the judging classes.
10. Awards are given through 10 places in all individual categories and through five placed in all team categories.
11. The decision of the judge(s) is final.
12. Questions generated for use in the Junior section will be limited to topics covered in Level 1 and Level 2 in the Kentucky 4-H Horse Program Horse Academy Workbooks. The information in the workbook refers to material found in your county horse kit or is available online. Those resources include:
 - **Alberta Horse Manual**, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, 2015.
 - **Saddle Up Safely**, Safety Booklets, Saddleupsafely.org
 - **Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets**, University of Kentucky, <https://publications.ca.uky.edu/>
 - **Horse Discovery Webpage**, <https://afs.ca.uky.edu/horse-discovery>
 - **eXtension.org**
13. Material used for the Senior written exam, tack identification and equine anatomy will be taken from the following references:
 - a. **Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms**, New Horizons Equine Education Center, Inc., Alpine Publications, P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537.
 - b. **The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy**, by Robert Kainer and Thomas McCracken, Alpine Publications Inc., P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537.
 - c. **Horse Industry Handbook** by the American Youth Horse Council, The Equine Collection-Dept. AYHC, PO Box 1539, Fort Lee, NJ, 07024-1539
 - d. **Feeding and Care of the Horse (2nd edition)** by Lon D. Lewis, paperback version from Williams and Wilkins, P.O. Box 1496, Baltimore, MD 21298-9724.
 - e. **Horse Smarts, an Equine Reference and Youth Activity Guide**, by American Youth Horse Council.
 - f. Dover Saddlery-Apparel, Tack, and horse care items for the English rider. To request a free catalog, please visit www.doversaddlery.com
 - g. Smith Brothers- Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the western rider. To request a free catalog, please visit www.smithbrothers.com
 - h. Other- Grains, forages and feed preparations used in this contest will be representative of feeds utilized in horse rations.

Horse Presentation Contest

1. The State 4-H Hippology Contest is divided into the following two division with categories based on the age of the 4-H member as of January 1st of the year the contest is held:
 - Junior Division (9-13 years old): Individual and Team*
 - Senior Division (14-18 years old): Individual and Team*
2. Presentations in both the junior and senior individual divisions must be presented within 9 to 12 minutes. Presentations in both the junior and senior team divisions must be presented within 10 to 15 minutes. For both junior and senior contestants, three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under or over the allotted time.
3. Contestants may secure assistance from anyone in preparing and setting up the presentation.
4. All presentations must in some way relate to the horse industry.
5. Contestants may participate in both the individual and team categories within their respective age division; however, a different presentation topic must be used for each presentation.
6. The presentation may be a demonstration or illustrated talk. All references to the term "presentation" in these rule include either demonstration or illustrated talk. A demonstration is defined as a presentation of a step by step procedure with an end product or result. An illustrated talk is defined as a presentation of an idea or topic that uses visual aids to convey the message. Both presentations forms are acceptable and will be evaluated equally, although the delivery methods are different as defined above. Both should utilize visual aids to help convey the major points of the presentation and more than one type of visual aid is preferable. Visual aids may include but are not limited to: handouts, posters, props, videos, slides, and computer generated media (PowerPoint, websites, etc.). No live animals may be used.
7. Senior contestants are required to introduce themselves by name, state (for regional and national competitions), and presentation title and the beginning of the speech. Juniors are allowed to choose whether or not to introduce themselves, points will not be deducted either way. Both junior and senior contestants should not provide additional information such as years in 4-H, number of projects completed, etc.
8. Contestants may use notes. However excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge(s).
9. A public address system will NOT be used during the contest.

10. Participants must supply their own props. Two tables and chairs will be provided for the presenter's use. Contestants must provide all of their own equipment.
11. Creative audio-visual aids may be used but the contestant must be involved in making or designing them.
12. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation. This will not be counted in the allotted time.
13. No coaching from parents or coaches during the presentation.
14. Contestants may use video recorders to tape their own presentations. It is the responsibility of the team/individual/coach to provide all recording equipment.
15. No videotaping or photographing of other presentations. Coaches, parents, or other designated individuals may only record the presentation of the individual or team with which they are associated.
16. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant in the contest. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question then answer it.
17. Two or three judges will be used, and judges will score each entry independently and assign scores. After all presentations are presented and scores are tabulated, judges may confer and discuss evaluations. Each judge assigns his or her final scores and then cumulative final scores are tabulated to determine the final placings. Contest superintendents may review and check tabulation of scores for mathematical accuracy.
18. Contestant order will be determined at random and will be posted before the contest starts.
19. Ties will first be broken by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges' accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.
20. The judges will consider the questions listed under each section. The points on the score card will be as follows:

1. Introduction 10 points
 - Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
 - Was the introduction short and to the point?
2. Organization 25 points
 - Was only one main idea demonstrated?
 - Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
 - Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation or was a thorough explanation given?
 - Could audience see each step and/or visual aids?
 - Were the materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
 - Were visual aids used if and when they were needed?
 - Were the key points for each step stressed?
3. Content and Accuracy 25 points
 - Were the facts and information presented accurate?
 - Was there enough information presented about the subject?
 - Were approved practices used?
 - Was credit given to the sources of information, if it was appropriate?
 - Was the content appropriately related to the horse industry?
4. Stage Presence 10 points
 - Were the presenters neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the presentation?
 - Did the presenter speak directly to and look at the audience?
 - Was the presentation too fast or too slow?
5. Delivery 15 points
 - Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving the presentation?
 - Did the presenter have good voice control?
 - Were all words pronounced correctly?
 - If notes were used, was it done without detracting from the presentation?
 - Did the presenter seem to choose the words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized presentation?
6. Effect on Audience 5 points
 - Did the audience show an interest in the presentation?
 - Could the audience go home and carry out the idea?
7. Summary 10 points
 - Was the summary short and interesting?
 - Were the key points briefly reviewed?
 - Did the summary properly wrap up the presentation?
 - Could the presenter handle questions easily?

21. The State 4-H Horse Presentation Contest does not require district qualification in order to compete. 4-Hers are encouraged to present their talk at any county and/or district communications event. If interested in presenting at another event make sure to check the rules for said event to ensure your presentation meets the criteria. Not all 4-H competitions with operate with the same set of rules.
22. Junior State 4-H Horse Presentation Champions (individual and team) are eligible to compete in the junior age category in subsequent years as long as the person's age permits.
23. Senior State 4-H Horse Presentation Champions (individual and team) become eligible for regional and national competition. Once a 4-H'er has represented Kentucky at the national competition, they will not be eligible for that same event at the state, regional or national level in future years. Champions choosing to not compete beyond the state or regional level can only return to the state competition if they present a new presentation.
24. Awards are given through 10 places in the individual categories and through 5 places in the team categories.
25. The decision of the judge(s) is final.

Horse Public Speaking Contest

The State 4-H Hippology Contest is divided into the following two division with categories based on the age of the 4-H member as of January 1st of the year the contest is held:

-Junior Division (9-13 years old): Individual and Team

-Senior Division (14-18 years old): Individual and Team

1. Speeches given by junior contestants should range between 3 and 5 minutes. Speeches given by senior contestants should range between 7 and 10 minutes. For both junior and senior contestants, three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under or over the allotted time.
2. Participants may secure assistance from anyone in preparing the speech.
3. All speeches should in some way relate to the horse industry.
4. Senior contestants are required to introduce themselves by name, state (for regional and national competitions), and speech title and the beginning of the speech. Juniors are allowed to choose whether or not to introduce themselves, points will not be deducted either way. Both junior and senior contestants should not provide additional information such as years in 4-H, number of projects completed, etc.
5. A contestant should not use any type of visual aid(s) during the talk. The use of note cards is permitted, but not encouraged. Excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
6. No coaching from the parents or coaches during the speech.
7. A public address system will not be used during the contest, but a podium will be provided.
8. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their speech. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question then answer it.
10. Contestant order will be determined at random and will be posted before the contest starts.
11. Two or three judges will be used and judges will score each entry independently and assign scores. After all presentations are presented and scores are tabulated, judges may confer and discuss evaluations. Each judge assigns his or her final scores and then cumulative final scores are tabulated to determine the final placings. Contest

superintendents may review and check tabulation of scores for mathematical accuracy.

12. Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges' accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.

13. Improper attire will be a violation and appropriate points deducted on the scorecard. Improper attire will be determined at the discretion of the judges.

14. The judges will consider the questions listed under each section. The points on the score card will be as follows:

- A. Introduction 10 points
 - Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
 - Was the introduction short and to the point?
- B. Organization 15 points
 - Were the main points easy to follow?
 - Were the main points arranged in the best order?
 - Were the sentences short and easy to understand?
 - Was the speech interesting?
- C. Content and Accuracy 20 points
 - Were the facts and information accurate?
 - Was there enough information concerning the subject?
 - Was credit given to the sources of information, if it was appropriate?
 - Was the content appropriately related to the horse industry?
- D. Stage Presence 15 points
 - Was the speaker neat and appropriately dressed?
 - Did the speaker talk directly to and look at the audience?
 - Was the speaker's posture erect, but not stiff?
 - Did the speaker refrain from leaning on the podium?
 - Did the speaker seem relaxed and at ease?
- E. Delivery 20 points
 - Did the speaker have appropriate voice control?
 - Were all words pronounced correctly?
 - If notes were used, was it done without detracting from the speech?
 - Did the speaker seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to memorized or a ready-type delivery?
- F. General 10 points
 - Did the speaker convey to the audience a sense of wanting to communicate?
 - Did the speech reflect the thoughts and personality of the speaker?
- G. Conclusion 10 points

15. The State 4-H Horse Public Speaking Contest does not require district qualification in order to compete. 4-Hers are encouraged to present their speech at any county and/or district communications event. Check specific event rules to make sure your speech is in compliance with the county or district event.
16. Contestants may give no more than one speech in their respective divisions during a given contest.
17. Junior State 4-H Horse Public Speaking Champions are eligible to compete in the junior age category in future competitions as long as age rules apply, however a new speech must be presented each year.
18. Senior State 4-H Horse Public Speaking Champions become eligible for regional and national competition. Once a 4-H'er has represented Kentucky in the national competition, they will not be eligible for that same event in the future at the state, regional and national levels. Champions choosing not to compete beyond the state or regional level can only return to the state competition if they present a new speech.
19. Awards are given through 10 places in each division.
20. The decision of the judge(s) is final.

Horse Crafts Contest

The State 4-H Horse Crafts Contest is separate from the county/state fair competitions. 4-H'ers should recognize that different requirements may be in place to enter an item into a county or state fair competition. Please refer to the respective competitions rules to make sure an item will comply with multiple competitions if you desire to enter your item in events other than the State 4-H Horse Crafts Contest.

The 4-H Horse Crafts Contest is designed to allow youth to express their skills and creativity in all things horse. All entries should in some way be related to horses. The following rules are in place to assist in fairness and ease of judging.

1. The craft divisions will be divided into two age 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 old): Individual and Team*
 - Senior Division (14-18 years old): Individual and Team*
2. All craft articles, regardless of division, must, in some way relate to the horse. Crafts must be constructed since the last State 4-H Horse Contest event.
3. All craft items must be made primarily, if not entirely, by the 4-H member.
4. An information sheet must be turned in with each item at the competition. The information page on all crafts must indicate age (junior or senior), category entered, and explain the work done on the entry. These sheets should accompany crafts when they are delivered for evaluation at the State 4-H Horse Contests.
5. As applicable, craft items are judged on the quality of the product, effort of construction, creativity/originality, use of color/texture/pattern, suitability of design, suitability of materials, quality of workmanship, neatness, overall effect, and *for clothing and equipment: serviceability*.
6. Items will be disqualified if the subject matter is not "family friendly" in context.
7. Previous State 4-H Horse Crafts Champions in any division may compete in that division again with a new craft.
8. The State 4-H Horse Crafts Contest does not require district qualification in order to compete.
9. Awards are given through 10 places in each category in each division.
10. The decision of the judge(s) is final. Each judge will turn in a separate score sheet, the total score will be the average of all judges' sheets.
11. 4-H'ers are allowed to enter up to two items in each category.

The State 4-H Horse Crafts Contest is divided into Junior and Senior for the following categories:

- **Art (kit/pattern/blue print)**—Craft articles made from items prefabricated in kit form; paintings, drawings, wall hangings, etc. Craft articles made from a pattern or blue print; wood working, cloth articles, leather crafts, etc.
- **Art (original design)**—Craft articles made from items not acquired in a kit or constructed from a pattern/blue print: free hand paintings, drawings, original design wall hangings, original sculpture/design ceramics, etc.
- **Equipment**—Leather (halters, bridles, etc.), cloth (saddle pads, bridle bags, halter bags, etc.), wood (grooming boxes, saddle racks, etc.), metal (boot rack, organizers made from horse shoes, tack box, etc.), or other materials. Products should have a use.
- **Clothing & Sewing**—Leather (belts, chaps, etc.), cloth (shirts, jackets, bags, quilts, etc.).

Craft/Equipment/Clothing Information Card
(Print this page and complete for each entry)

Entry # _____ (to be assigned at check in)

Name: _____ County: _____

Age: _____ Junior (9-13 as of Jan. 1st) _____ Senior (14-18 as of Jan. 1st)

Check one: _____ Kit/Pattern/Blue print _____ Original Design
 _____ Equipment _____ Clothing/Sewing

Describe the work done on this entry including materials used, techniques, etc.

Craft Judging Criteria: A scoring rubric will be used to judge this contest based on these topics.

- Quality of Product
- Effort of Construction
- Creativity/Originality
- Use of color/texture/pattern
- Suitability of Design
- Suitability of Materials
- Quality of Workmanship Neatness
- Overall Effect
- For clothing/equipment: Serviceability*

Photography

The State 4-H Horse Photography contest does not align with county/state fair categories. If you wish to enter a photo in a county or state fair, please seek rules for that particular event to ensure compliance.

1. Each exhibitor may have up to two entries per class.
2. There are no age divisions within the photography competition.
3. Participation in the State 4-H Horse Photography competition does not require qualification at district.
4. All photos must be equine related.
5. All photos must have been taken since the previous State 4-H Horse Contest.
6. Photos may be color or black and white unless otherwise stated.
7. Single photographs are limited to a maximum size of 8" x 12". Minimum size is 3.5"x5".
8. Classes with only 1 photo must be mounted on a 10"x16" matt board.
9. Classes with multiple photos must be mounted on 16"x 20" matt board.
10. Each photo must be mounted securely. Rubber cement or dry mounting tissue is recommended. Do not use photo mounting corners.
11. Each judge will turn in a separate score sheet, the total score will be the average of all judges' sheets.
12. Photos may be cropped but must still fit the size requirements.
13. There should be no writing on the front of the mounting board.
14. Horse Contest Information and ID sheet should be completed and attached to the back of the mounting board.
15. Photography will be judged on but not limited to:
 - Technical- Focus, exposure
 - Impact-Eye catching, distinctive
 - Composition-Selection and arrangement of subjects within the picture, general elements of composition
 - Creativity-Originality in the way the subject is used, use of lighting and shadow, perspective, depth of field

- Presentation-Mounted according to regulations, overall neatness (this will not over rule above components)
- Multi-photo- Ability to show a theme through all photos, well defined stages, logical progression, flow
- Ability to tell a story

Horse Photography Classes:

1. **Single Photo:** personal interest (10"x16" matt board)
2. **3 Photos of an event:** the series should tell a story with a clear beginning, middle, and end.
3. **Black and White:** A black and white photo that shows texture, shape and composition, as well as light shadow contrast.
4. **Portrait and Candid:** 2 photos, one should be posed and taken as a still portrait, the other should be a candid shot of the same subject. The portrait should emphasize clarity, and the position of the subject should be specific. The candid photo should show the subject with a natural look.

(INFORMATION SHEET ON NEXT PAGE)

State 4-H Horse Photography Information Sheet and I.D. Form

(To be completed for each photo entry and attached to back)

Reminders:

1. All photos must be equine related
2. The decision of the judge(s) is final
3. Single photos must be on 10" x 16" mat board.
4. Multiple photos must be on 16"x20" mat board.

Entry #: _____ (to be assigned by state office)

Name: _____ County: _____

Brief description of photo: _____

Check Photography Class:

- Single Photo
- 3 Photos of an Event
- Black and White Photo
- Portrait and Candid

Judging Criteria:

- Technical –Focus Exposure
- Impact— Eye-catching, distinctive
- Composition— Arrangement of subject(s)
- Creativity—Originality, use of lighting and shadow, perspective, depth
- Presentation— Mounted according to regulations specified, photo not curling off backing, mat board cleanly cut, neatness
- Sequence or Collection—Theme in photo/stages in photos well defined, logical progression of order, flow of subject matter.
- The ability of the photo(s) to tell a story.

Placing (if top 10) _____

Horse Poetry Contest

Rules & Guidelines:

1. The State 4-H Poetry Contest is divided into two divisions with categories based on the age of the 4-H member as of January 1st of the year the contest is held:
 - i. *Junior Division (9-13 years old)*
 - ii. *Senior Division (14-18 years old)*
2. Limited to one entry per contestant.
3. Must be related to horses or the horse industry.
4. May be written in any poetic style.
5. Entries should be typed and single spaced in Times New Roman, size 12 font.
6. Must be between 3 and 26 lines (including stanza breaks).
 - a. This count does not include the title.
7. Please do not include your name on the poem. An informational sheet should be attached (see next page) including the author's name and county. This will ensure the judge does not know the identity of the author.
8. Poems containing inappropriate language will be thrown out.
9. Plagiarism and use of AI is **strictly prohibited**. Submissions written by either of these methods will be disqualified.

(INFORMATION SHEET ON NEXT PAGE)

State 4-H Horse Poetry Contest Information Sheet and I.D. Form

(To be completed, printed, and attached to each entry)

Reminders:

- All poems must be equine or equine industry related.
- Plagiarism or use of AI is **strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification.**
- The decision of the judge(s) is final.
- Please ensure your poem meets the format requirements as listed in the rules.

Entry #: _____ (assigned by state office)

Name: _____ County: _____

Judging Criteria (total of 100 points):

- Content (30 points) – Equine related and thought-provoking ideas are presented.
- Originality (40 points) – Unique and creative.
- Grammar (20 points) – Correct grammar is used.
- Format (10 points) – Single spaced, typed, & 3-26 lines (including stanza breaks).

Placing (if top 10): _____

Horse Judging

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

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Contestants may not have previously competed in any post-secondary horse judging contest beyond the high school level.
6. Junior State 4-H Horse Judging Champions or members of champion teams ARE eligible to compete in the junior age category again.
7. 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.
8. Contestants are eligible to compete in Horse Judging and Hippology during the same year.
9. Contestants will judge at least 6 but no more than 10 classes at the State Judging Contest.

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 (KY 4-H Rules)
Western Country Pleasure Walking	Working Western Rail (KY 4-H Rules)
Showmanship	

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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

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

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

8. 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.**

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

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

11. 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.

12. 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.

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

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