

# 4-H Horse Judging Contest

## Rules and Regulations

### *Objectives*

- To train 4-H'ers in evaluating conformation and performance of horses
- To teach the correct terminology in describing these horses
- To develop self-confidence through the decision-making process of placing classes and giving reasons

### General Information

1. Contest will be held June 23, 2008, at the Garrison Arena in Clemson, SC. Registration at 12:00 p.m. The contest begins at 1:00 p.m.
2. The awards program will be held upon completion of the contest.
3. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY May 16, 2008.** No late entries will be accepted. Corrections and substitutions will be accepted the day of the contest. Send entries to:

**Margaret L. Shelton**  
**4-H Horse Specialist**  
**PO Box 248**  
**Camden, SC 29021**  
**Phone: (803) 432-9071 ext. 111**  
**Fax: (803) 425-7120**

### Contestants and Eligibility

1. Teams may consist of three or four members. In teams where there are four members, all will compete, but the member receiving the lowest overall score will automatically be declared the alternate. The scores of the alternate will not be included in any of the team totals, but will be considered in making all individual awards. Teams consisting of three members will have no alternate and all members' scores will count in determining individual and team awards. If a county does not have enough participants to make a full team, individuals are welcome to compete.
2. Teams may be selected by any means appropriate to the county they represent and must be certified as eligible by the County Extension Agent.
3. **Junior Division** – Juniors must be at least 9 years of age, but not yet 14 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
4. **Senior Division** – Seniors must be at least 14 years of age, but not yet 19 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
5. Contestants **must** be enrolled in 4-H during the current year.
6. Contestants may not have participated in an official, post-secondary hippology, horse bowl, or horse-judging contest, nor have been in training in preparation for one of these contests. Any 4-H'er who has previously participated in the National 4-H Horse Judging Contest at the Eastern (or Western) National 4-H Horse Roundup as a team member or alternate is **not** eligible to compete at the state horse judging competition.

### The Contest

1. Hats are prohibited in the judging arena.
2. The contest will consist of halter and performance classes. All classes will be comprised of four animals. Animals will be designated by numbers 1-2-3-4. Conformation classes may be Quarter Horse, Stock Type, Hunter Type, Arabian, or Morgan Mares or Geldings, Hunter-in-Hand, or Walking Horse Model Halter. Performance classes may be Western Pleasure, Reining, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack, Pleasure Driving, Plantation English Pleasure Walking Horse, Saddle Seat Equitation, Saddlebred Three Gaited, or Country English Pleasure.

3. Contestants will be given fifteen minutes to judge non-reason classes and seventeen minutes for reason classes. Cards will be taken up at the conclusion of each class. Maximum points will be 50 for each placing and 50 for each set of reasons.
  4. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between the contestants or anyone else except as directed by the Contest Officials.
  5. Juniors and Seniors will judge the same classes of animals. All contestants will be required to give reasons. Juniors only give one set of reasons. Seniors will give reasons on two classes – one halter and one performance. Classes in which reasons will be required will be announced.
  6. All contestants may use a clipboard and/or note pad of their choice. *Horse judging guides, notes, and other judging information will be allowed except during time when giving reasons.*
  7. Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons to the reasons judge. Contestants may use notes when judging, but should not use notes while giving reasons. Seniors using notes, while giving oral reasons, will be severely penalized. Contestant's placing cards will be returned to them when they give reasons on that class.
  8. Ties for team or individual awards will be broken by the following sequence:
    - Team or individual with the highest reasons score will be first.
    - If still tied, the team or individual with the highest placing in reason classes will be first.
    - If still tied, the team or individual with the highest single reason score will be first.
    - If still tied, the youngest contestant or team with youngest member shall be first.
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## **Awards**

1. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the contest.
2. All participants will receive ribbons.
3. Members of the top Junior and Senior teams will receive awards.
4. The top ten individuals in Junior and Senior Divisions will receive awards.
5. The top Senior Team will be invited to compete at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Event. In the case of team member dropouts from this team, alternates will be selected from the top individuals in the state contest.
6. The top senior team will be awarded a trip to compete at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup in Louisville, Ky.

**South Carolina 4-H Program Official Entry Form**

***Horse Judging Contest***

**Must be postmarked by May 16, 2008**

**Complete and return to:**

Margaret L. Shelton  
 4-H Horse Specialist  
 PO Box 248  
 Camden, SC 29021  
 Or  
 Fax to (803) 425-7120

County \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISION (JR, SR)	TEAM NO./ IND.	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY STATE ZIP	RACE/ SEX	AGE	DOB (MO/DAY/YR)
	1						
	1						
	1						
	1						
	2						
	2						
	2						
	2						
	3						
	3						
	3						
	3						
	Ind.						
	Ind.						