4-H HIPPOLOGY CONTEST
Rules and Regulations

General Information:

1. Contest will be held February 21, 2016 at the Poole Agricultural Center at Clemson University. Registration is at 9 a.m. in the lobby. The contest begins at 9:30 a.m. Teams may finish at different times depending on the schedule. Please be cognizant of this and pick your youth up timely after they are finished the contest prior to awards.

2. The awards program will be held approximately between 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. Please consult with contest coordinators to confirm the time for the awards. Please leave your cell phone contact information with the registration check in volunteers in order to receive text messages with confirmed awards time.

3. ALL ENTRIES AND REGISTRATION FEES MUST BE COMPLETED ON-LINE BY FEBRUARY 5, 2016. Go to: http://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/kids_families/projects/agriculture_and_animals/horses/index.html to register or directly to https://secure.touchnet.net/C20569_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=341. No late entries will be accepted. Corrections and substitutions will be accepted the day of the contest.

4. Cost is $10 per individual (all age divisions: cloverbud, junior and senior). Entry fees are non-refundable. Coaches will be responsible for providing meals/snacks for their youth. All youth will need at least one #2 pencil for filling out scantrons. Entry fees can be paid via credit card through the registration portal under the Hippology Contest section of the above website.

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 placing 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. Youth that are registered members of a club may compete on another club’s/county’s team only if there are insufficient numbers of youth to make a team within their own club. Please list all counties that make up the team on these mixed club teams.

3. Cloverbud Division – Individual Cloverbuds ages 5 to 8 will be provided the opportunity to take an age/content appropriate written exam, slide ID, stations phase and judging class exam. There will be no team problem. This is a non-competitive division, but participation ribbons will be awarded.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. Contestants must be enrolled in 4-H during the current year. Eligibility will be verified by County 4-H Agents.

7. 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 Hippology Contest at the Eastern (or Western) National 4-H Horse Roundup as a team member or alternate is **not** eligible for the state Hippology contest.

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

**Junior and Cloverbud References:**
- “Horses and Horsemanship”, National 4-H Council Publication, Item # CO-200. $3.95
- “Horse Science”, National 4-H Council Publication, Item # CO-201. $3.95
  The set, item # CO-200 is available for $7.50. Contact your local extension agent for a copy of the catalogue, or it is available on the web ([www.4-Hmall.org](http://www.4-Hmall.org)) or phone 1-301-961-2934
- “Equine Science: Basic Knowledge for Horse People of All Ages” by Jean T. Griffiths
  [www.HorseBooksEtc.com](http://www.HorseBooksEtc.com) or phone 1-800-952-5813 or ISBN #978-1-929164-42-4 to order from your local bookstore

**Senior References:**
- “Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms”, New Horizons Education Center, Inc.
  Alpine Publications Inc., PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537  Phone: 1-800-777-7257
- “The Horse” (Second Edition) by Evans, Borton, Hintz, and Van Vleck
  W.H. Freeman and Company, 600 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 Phone: (414) 391-5870
- “Equine Science: Basic Knowledge for Horse People of All Ages” by Jean T. Griffiths
  [www.HorseBooksEtc.com](http://www.HorseBooksEtc.com) or phone 1-800-952-5813 or ISBN #978-1-929164-42-4 to order from your local bookstore
- “Horse Anatomy: A Coloring Atlas”
  Kainer, McCracken
  Alpine Publications Inc., PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537  Phone: 1-800-777-7257
- “Horse Industry Handbook” by the American Youth Horse Council
  The Equine Collection – Dept. AYHC PO Box 1539, Fort Lee, NJ 07024-1539  Phone: (800) 952-5813
- “AYHC Youth Leaders’ Manual” by the American Youth Horse Council
  The Equine Collection – Dept. AYHC PO Box 1539, Fort Lee, NJ 07024-1539  Phone: (800) 952-5813
- “State Line Tack Catalogue”
- “Feeding and Care of the Horse” (Second Edition)
  Lon D. Lewis
  Williams and Wilkins, PO Box 1496, Baltimore, MD 21298-9724
  Phone: 1-800-638-0672

Other: Grains, forages and feed preparations as well as general horse management and tack used in this contest will be representatives of feeds utilized in horse rations and those found within the broader horse industry.

**The Contest**

1. **Examination Phase** – approximately 200 points – This phase of the contest will include:
   1. A written exam.
   2. Projected slides to be identified as to breed, color, color pattern, activity, proper appointments, equipment, and other horse related items.

2. **Station Phase** - approximately 200 points – This phase will consist of a series of stations or tables where (at each), all contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Each contestant will have 2 minutes at each station. Senior Stations will have 10 -15 items per station. Junior Stations will have 7 – 10 items per station. Cloverbuds will have 5 – 7 items per station. Examples of stations which may be used include:
   1. Identification of:
      a. Various types of saddles (actual or pictured) and parts of saddles
      b. Tack, bits, bridles, horse shoes and parts of shoes
c. Tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment

d. Grains and forages used in equine rations, including various forms or methods of preparation

e. Internal and external parasites based on actual samples, pictures, life-cycle charts and/or damage caused

f. Blemishes and unsoundness

g. Ages of equines based on teeth

h. Anatomy which may include external, skeletal, internal organs, parts of the gastrointestinal tract, male and female reproductive organs, detailed anatomy of the foot and detailed anatomy of the lower limbs

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

3. Measurements such as, but not limited to, withers 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 at least two classes consisting of conformation and performance classes. No reasons are required. Video classes may be used.

4. **Team Problems** – approximately 200 points – All teams will be presented with the same problems. Each team will have equal time 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 and completeness of 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. Team responses may be prepared or impromptu.

Examples of possible team problems might include:

1. Balancing a horse’s rations
2. Farm management recommendations for specific (i.e. breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up, etc.) horse operations
3. Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose)
4. Recommendations for selecting, locating and purchasing horses for specific uses
5. Behavior problems – causes, management of and corrections
6. Training and conditioning programs – equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance
7. Breeding and/or leasing contracts – specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, etc.
8. Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9 – to 11-year old beginner 4-H’ers – where, how long, how much info, hands-on experiences, reinforcement, testing evaluation
9. Explanation of use of assembly of specific equipment will be considered
10. 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 standing.

**Awards**

1. Awards will be presented to the top Junior and Senior Individual in the Examination Phase, Station Phase, Judging Phase and Overall. Cloverbuds will receive a participation flat ribbon only as it is a non-competitive division.

2. Each member of the top Junior and Senior Team in the Examination Phase, Station Phase, Judging Phase and Overall will receive awards.

3. Danish Ribbons will be awarded to all contestants based on individual performance.

4. The top eight high Senior Individuals (Overall) will be eligible to compete in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships and will be assigned to a team based on SC 4-H Horse Program management. Youth
will be assigned to a team based on SC 4-H Horse Program management decision. Contracts must be signed and adhered to in order to participate at Southern Regionals (SR). Being a top 8 individual at the state contest does not automatically allow participation at SR if the contract and practice schedule has not been adhered to by participating youth.

5. Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup Hippology Contest participants will be chosen at the SC 4-H Horse Program management discretion based on performance and preparedness/practice leading up to the competition.

6. The SC 4-H Horse Program management team will choose individuals based on their performance preparing for and competing in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships and Eastern Nationals 4-H Horse Roundup (ENRU) to represent South Carolina at the ENRU in Louisville, KY.

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**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.