

# Arabian Horse Hippology Contest

## GENERAL RULES AND THE CONTEST:

1. Each state may enter two (2) 4-H teams and/or two (2) FFA teams. Each Arabian Horse Association (AHA) member organization may enter two (2) teams. Each team will consist of at least three (3) members but no more than four (4). If four contestants are designated, all will participate and the overall lowest scoring individual will be automatically be designated as an alternate. The alternate's scores will not be included in team scores, but alternates will be eligible for individual awards.
2. Teams may be selected by any means appropriate to the state they represent and must be certified as eligible by the State 4-H or FFA Leader, Extension Horse Specialist, or AHA member organization representative.
3. The contest is open to youth who have not passed their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. Contestants may not have participated in an official collegiate Hippology, Horse Bowl, or Horse Judging Contest, nor have been in training in preparation for one of these contests.
4. Contestants may also participate in the Horse Judging Contest in the same year. Contestants are eligible to compete in this contest in subsequent years if they were not the high individual overall or on the high team overall.
5. Entry Deadline: September 22<sup>nd</sup> of current year. Entry must be made on the form provided, signed by your State 4-H or FFA Leader, State Extension Horse Specialist, or AHA member association representative, and accompanied by payment (checks can be made out to the Arabian Horse Association) in the amount listed on the entry form. Entries submitted after September 22<sup>nd</sup> will be assessed a late entry fee.

All ties, individual and teams, will be broken using the following sequence: 1) Written exam scores, 2) Station scores 3) Judging scores

Examination Phase – approximately 200 points

- a. This phase of the contest will include a written exam. May include breed, health, maintenance, training, conformation and other horse related questions.

Station Phase – approximately 200 points

- a. This phase will consist of a series of stations or tables where at each, all contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Contestants will be given a score sheet and two minutes at each station. Examples of stations which might be used include identification of:
  - Various types of saddles (actual or pictured) and parts of saddles
  - Tack, bits, bridles, horse shoes, and parts of shoes
  - Tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment
  - Grains and forages used in equine rations including various forms and methods of preparation

- Internal and external parasites based on actual samples, pictures, life cycle chart and/or damage caused
- Blemishes and unsoundness
- Ages of equines based on teeth
- Breeds, colors, markings
- Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc to assess horse health
- Measurements such as, but not limited to, wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length, etc may be required

#### Judging Phase – approximately 200 points

- a. Contestants will be required to place at least four classes consisting of conformation and/or performance classes. Every effort will be made to use the same horses used in the judging contest, with placings to be simultaneous to the judging contest. In extreme emergency, pictorial, video and/or movie classes may be used, in which case they would be especially prepared for the event.

#### Team Problems Phase – approximately 200 points

- a. All teams will be presented with the same problem. 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 each team is encouraged to contribute to the oral presentation. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, 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 presentation. Team responses may be prepared or impromptu.
- b. Examples of possible team problems might include:
  - Balancing a horse's ration
  - Farm management recommendation for specific (i.e., breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up, etc.) horse operations.
  - Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose)
  - Recommendations for selecting, locating and purchasing horses for specific uses.
  - Behavior problems-causes, management of and corrections
  - Training and conditioning problems; equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance.
  - Breeding and/or leasing contracts – specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.
  - Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9-11 year old beginner youth where, how long, how much information, hands-on experience, reinforcement, testing evaluation.
  - Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment will be considered.
  - Demonstrate skill or ability to use specific equipment

- c. 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.

**REFERENCE MATERIAL:**

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

Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms, New Horizons Equine Education Center, Inc.

The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy  
Dr. Robert Kainer and Dr. Thomas McCracken

AYHC

Horse Industry Handbook – by the American Youth Horse Council

<http://www.ayhc.com/>

Horse Smarts – by the American Youth Horse Council

<http://www.ayhc.com/>

US Equestrian Rule Book 2018 – AR Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian Division

[https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/GsE\\_juylyuk/ar-arabian-half-arabian-and](https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/GsE_juylyuk/ar-arabian-half-arabian-and)