HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

OBJECTIVES: The primary objective of the Hippology contest is to provide, in a friendly but competitive setting, an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of equine science and management, and in particular, the practical application of this knowledge and skill. It is hoped that this contest will generate new friendships and be a rewarding experience for the contestants. Each county may enter multiple teams. The highest scoring senior team will be eligible to represent Arkansas at the All American Quarter Horse Congress. The two highest scoring teams overall (junior or senior) will be eligible to represent Arkansas at the Southern Regional Contest. Funding will be provided if available. The second place senior team will be eligible to represent Arkansas at the Southern Regional Contest.

1. CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:

   a) Each county may enter teams of three (3) or four (4) contestants. In teams in which there are four members, all will compete, but the member receiving the lowest overall score will be automatically 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.

   b) The teams may be selected by any procedure that the county deems to be appropriate. Team members must be enrolled in 4-H in the county they represent. Their eligibility must be certified by the county agent or 4-H leader.

   c) There will be a Junior division and a Senior division.

2. REFERENCE SOURCES to be used:

   NEW HORIZONS - DICTIONARY OF EQUINE TERMS. By New Horizons Equine Education Center, Alpine Publications, Inc.
   P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537


   KAINER – THE COLORING ATLAS OF HORSE ANATOMY
   Dr. Robert Kainer and Dr. Thomas McCracken, Alpine Publications, Inc.
   P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537 1-800-777-7257

   AYHC 1st – HORSE INDUSTRY HANDBOOK-by the American Youth Horse Council,
   American Youth Horse Council
   4093-A Iron Works Pike, Lexington, KY 40511-8434

   AYHC YOUTH LEADERS MANUAL – by the American Youth Horse Council

   Lewis 2nd– FEEDING AND CARE OF THE HORSE (2nd edition), by Lon D. Lewis, 456 pgs. Williams and Wilkens, P.O. Box 1496
   Baltimore, MD 21298-9724 1-800-638-0672

   State Line Tack Catalog

Grains, forages, and feed preparations used in this contest will be representatives of feeds utilized in horse rations.
3. THE CONTEST:
   A. Examination Phase, up to 200 points – This phase of the contest will include:
      1. A written Exam
      2. Projected slides to be identified as to breed, color, color patterns, activity, proper appointments, etc.
      3. Anatomy which may include external, skeletal internal organs, parts of gastrointestinal tract, male and female reproductive organs, detailed anatomy of the foot and detailed anatomy of the lower limbs
   
   B. Station Phase, up to 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. Examples of stations which will be used include:
      1. Identification of:
         a. Various types of saddles (actual or pictured) and parts of saddles
         b. Tack, bits, bridles, horseshoes 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 form and methods of preparation
         e. Internal and external parasites based on actual samples, pictures, life cycle charts and/or damage caused
         f. Blemishes and soundness
         g. Ages of equines based on teeth
      2. Use of pulse rate, respiratory rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc. to assess horse health.
      3. Measurements such as, but not limited to: wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle, etc. may be required.
   
   C. Judging Phase, up to 200 points – Contestants will be required to place at least four classes consisting of conformation and performance classes. Every effort will be made to use the same horses as being used in the judging contest, with placings to be simultaneous to the judging contest. Pictorial, video and/or movie classes may be used, in which case they would be especially prepared for the event.
   
   D. Team Problems, up to 200 points – All teams will be presented with the same problems. Each team will have equal time to discuss the problem among themselves, 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 the presentation.

EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE TEAM PROBLEMS MIGHT INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
   1. Balancing a horse’s ration.
   2. Farm management recommendation 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 locating, selecting, and purchasing horses for specific uses.
6. Training and conditioning programs: equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, and problem avoidance.

7. Breeding and/or leasing contracts – specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.

8. Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9-11 year old beginner 4-H'ers (i.e. where, how long, how much information, hands-on experience, reinforcement, testing evaluation.)

9. Explanation of use or 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.

4. TIEBREAKING:
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 tiebreaking is needed, the scores at each station (in order) may be used.