

## HIPPOLOGY CONTEST



**Contact Person:** Ms. Suzanne Boarts, Armstrong County, (724) 548-3447

### **Purposes:**

This event is designed:

1. To support the county 4-H horse program.
2. To broaden the 4-H interaction experiences of youth and adults from across the Commonwealth.
3. To challenge 4-H'ers skills and knowledge in hippology.
4. To recognize 4-H'ers demonstrated abilities in the horse program.
5. To better acquaint 4-H'ers with the faculty, services, and facilities of The Pennsylvania State University.

### **Objectives:**

1. To stimulate 4-H'ers to learn and improve their knowledge of horses, horse management, horse training and horsemanship.
2. To stimulate 4-H'ers to evaluate and make decisions.
3. To develop self-confidence in the 4-H member.
4. To select a team to represent Pennsylvania at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup.

### **Eligibility:**

There are two divisions of competition in this contest: junior and senior. Both divisions are conducted simultaneously in competition, but both are scored and placed separately within their own divisions. The junior division is conducted primarily as a training ground for eventual senior division participation or to allow counties with no seniors to participate in the competition.

#### Both Divisions:

1. Contestants must be currently enrolled in a 4-H horse project.
2. Previous National 4-H Hippology contestants are not eligible to compete in future Pennsylvania 4-H Hippology Contests. Contestants must not have participated in the Eastern or Western National 4-H Hippology Contest.
3. Contestants must not have participated in any official post secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) Hippology Contest.
4. When four contestants are entered as a team, the three highest overall scores will make up the team's total.

### Junior Division:

1. Contestants must have passed their 13th birthday and must not have passed their 16th birthday on January 1 of the current year.
2. Each county may enter one of the following combinations:
  - one (1) team consisting of four (4) people
  - one (1) team consisting of three (3) people
  - two (2) individuals
  - one individual

### Senior Division:

1. Contestants must be 13 years old and must not have reached their 19th birthday on January 1 of the current year. See NOTE under Opportunities.
2. Each county may enter one of the following combinations:
  - one (1) team consisting of four (4) people
  - one (1) team consisting of three (3) people
  - two (2) individuals
  - one (1) individual

### **Contest Organization and Content:**

The Hippology Contest uniquely blends a variety of educational activities offered in the 4-H Horse Program into one unified event. The contest will include the following:

1. Judging - 150 to 250 points - This phase of the contest may consist of placing live classes of horses or classes shown on slides or video. One class of hay may be judged.
2. Written Examination - 100 points - This exam will consist of questions posed in a variety of ways including multiple choice, fill in, definitions, true and false, and matching columns. Subject matter in general will be limited to genetics, nutrition, conformation, health, behavior and history. This may also include slides.
3. Identification, Anatomy - 100 points - Contestants will be asked to identify tack, equipment, feed samples which may be ingredients commonly used in commercial feed or grains or hays. Contestants may be asked to identify or tie some of the more common knots or hitches. A knowledge of anatomy of the horse, breeds, breed history, colors, color patterns and equine activities will be tested.

### **Scoring:**

Team scores will be determined by the scores of the three highest individuals on the team.

### **Awards:**

1. The members of the high scoring team will be awarded plaques.
2. The high scoring individual will be awarded a plaque.
3. The top team and top individual will be announced at the Recognition Assembly during the Penn State 4-H Achievement Days.
4. Team ribbons will be awarded to maximum of ten (10) teams.
5. Merit ribbons will be awarded to all judging participants (33 percent blue, 33 percent red, 33 percent white).

### **Opportunities:**

The winning team will be eligible to represent Pennsylvania at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup at the North American International Livestock Exposition at Louisville, January 2005

Kentucky (provided that all members meet the contest rules) and the Congress Youth Horse Event at the Quarter Horse Congress.

Counties representing team members eligible to attend out-of-state contests will work with appropriate specialists involved to make travel arrangements.

NOTE: Contestants must be at least 14 years of age but not yet have achieved their 19th birthday as of January 1 of the current year to participate in national competition. You may want to consider this in selection of team members. A first place team with any members not meeting this eligibility requirement will not be allowed to compete in this opportunity.

**References:**

The Dictionary of the Horse, Fleet Street Corp., 1986

The Illustrated Veterinary Encyclopedia for Horsemen, Equine Research Publications

Feeding and Care of the Horse, Second Edition, by Lon Lewis

Horses - A Guide to Selection, Care, and Enjoyment, (Second Edition), by Evans, W. H. Freeman Co.

Horse Industry Handbook, American Youth Horse Council, 1994

The Horse, by Evans, Borton, Hintz, and Van Vleck, (Second Edition), W.H. Freeman Co.

Catalogs distributed by Libertyville Saddle Shop, 306 Peterson Road, P.O. Box M., Libertyville, IL 60048, and Eisers, Inc., North Broad Street, Hillside, NJ 17205

Horse Science, National 4-H Council Publication. Revised and expanded by Ray J. Antoniewicz, 2001.

Horse and Horsemanship. Revised and expanded by Ray J. Antoniewicz, 2001.

ANY 4-H HORSE PROJECT MATERIALS AND RESOURCES CAN BE USED AS REFERENCE SOURCES.