

IOWA FFA HORSE EVALUATION AND SELECTION CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

PERSONNEL

Nellie Wilson, Kirkwood Community College, Equine CDE Coordinator
Rhonda Clough, Kirkwood Community College, Production CDE Chairperson

EVENT OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Iowa FFA Horse Evaluation and Selection Career Development Event is to 1) stimulate the study of, and interest in equine science selection, management and production through the Agricultural Education curriculum; and 2) provide recognition for those who have demonstrated skills and competencies as a result of instruction in equine science.

- 1 To install leadership and motivate learning in the classroom while developing student skills in cooperative learning, observation, analysis, and communication.
- 2 To develop and exercise competitive spirit in a team atmosphere.
- 3 To promote career choices by providing an opportunity for participants to become acquainted with professionals within the industry.
- 4 To advance knowledge in selection and management of horses.
- 5 To develop the proficiency to communicate effectively in the terminology of the industry.
- 6 To provide the opportunity to evaluate, make a decision, and justify those decisions on conformation traits and performance of horses.

GENERAL RULES

- 1 Each school shall enter one team composed of three or four participants with the top three scores counting for the team score. Team participants must all be members of the same chapter.
- 2 Each participant will participate in all phases of the event.
- 3 Under no circumstances will any team participant be allowed to touch or handle the horses in the event. Any infraction of this policy will be sufficient reason to eliminate the team from the event.
- 4 Participants shall report to the CDE chairperson at Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. on event day.
- 5 The event will consist of three phases: (a) judging classes – 3 halter and 3 performance; (b) oral reasons on two classes and oral questions on two classes; and (c) a group problem-solving activity on equine science.
- 6 Participants will be given 10-12 minutes per class for halter and performance classes, each class worth 50 points; 60 minutes will be allowed for the group problem-solving activity, worth 100 points per team and two (2) minutes will be allowed for each oral reasons presentation, worth 50 points each.
- 7 Answer sheets and other written materials will be furnished for each event phase. The only materials participants are allowed to bring to the contest are a blank notebook for note taking and a non-programmable calculator.
- 8 All other materials will be furnished for the event.
- 9 A special effort will be made to not use questions or establish situations which might be termed as

controversial. In developing the event, special effort will be made to use materials that are generally accepted nationwide.

- 10 Participants are expected to write “Thank You” letters to the event sponsor, Kirkwood Community College, and other event sponsors who made this state event possible. Names and addresses will be provided the day of the event.

EVENT ACTIVITIES

- 1 Judging Classes – This phase of the event will include the placing of three halter classes (conformation) and three performance classes.

Halter classes may be represented by the following breeds and types: Quarter Horse, Conformation Hunter, Appaloosa, Arabian, Paint, American Saddlebred, and Morgan. A scenario may be used with the halter classes to better identify the class and purpose of the horses being evaluated. All classes will be judged as sound.

The performance classes may include: Western Pleasure, Western Riding (pattern to be provided prior to class and/or event), Reining (pattern to be provided prior to class and/or event), or English. Performance classes will be judged as presented (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly).

Each of the six classes will include four horses to be placed. Participants will check placings on official placing cards. Ten (10) to 12 minutes will be allowed for each class. Each class will be worth 50 points with a total value of 300 points per participant. All attire and tack is legal in the selection classes.

- 2 Oral Reasons and Questions – *Reasons*: The participants will prepare and present their reasons for placing two designated classes as they did. The participants will be given an additional two minutes during the class for evaluation. The participants will be given time of preparation for their reasons before they are to present them to the officials. The official will score each team member on accuracy, terminology, and completeness of the reasons. The participant will receive up to 50 points on each presentation. Two minutes will be allowed for the team member to present each set of reasons. A plain sheet of paper may be used while analyzing the reasons class and for study in preparation of oral reasons. The horse class placing will be marked on the reasons card by the participant to use while giving oral reasons. Then this card will be turned in to the oral reason judge for the oral reason score to be recorded. Oral reasons will be over halter classes and performance classes.

NOTE: Participants will need to write the placing of the oral reasons class on two cards – the class placing card to be judged and the oral reason card. *Questions*: One set of questions each for a halter class and a performance class will be given. The classes will be different than the classes used for oral reasons. Participants will be asked up to ten questions per class with each set of questions worth 50 points (100 points total per team member).

- 3 Problem-Solving – The problem-solving component of the event is a team activity, requiring all team participants to work cooperatively to complete the activity. This will be a 20-item problem-solving activity with multiple choice responses over equine science selection, management, and production. Time allowed will be one hour. The fourth member of the team will be allowed to participate on this activity. There will be only one answer sheet for each team. The 20 problem-

solving questions will be developed by a knowledgeable horse person from the references listed in the following section.

The questions of the problem-solving will test the participant's knowledge and problem-solving skills in any of the following six to ten areas:

- a) Tack use, problems and identification
- b) Basic horse nutrition, feeding, and identification of feed
- c) Breeding, Breeding Management, and Reproductive problems (including foaling)
- d) Disease, parasite, and health control and prevention
- e) Riding problems
- f) Handling problems and vices
- g) Foot care, anatomy, and problems
- h) Breeds, breed use/selection, anatomy, and identification
- i) Horse facilities and stable equipment
- j) Careers, Business Management, and Marketing

One to three questions may be related in an area and/or to the preceding question. One or more problems requiring mathematical calculations may be included. The team will be allowed to work together to solve each problem or sets of problems. Each question will have a point value of five points for a total of 100 possible points per team.

NOTE: Starting in 2007, the Iowa FFA Horse CDE is allowed to include a Middle School Pilot component for 7th and 8th grade FFA members. The CDE Committee is allowed to formulate the rules and will be added to these rules when completed. All participants must be FFA members.

REFERENCES

- 1 Current Official AQHA Handbook, American Quarter Horse Association
- 2 Competitive Horse Judging, First Edition, by James C. Heird and the American Quarter Horse Association, The American Quarter Horse Association, 1990.
- 3 Official Judging Guide from each of the various breed associations and audiovisuals.
- 4 The Horse, Second Edition, by J. Warren Evans, Anthony Borton, Harold F. Hintz, and L. Dale Van Vleck; W.H. Freeman and Company, 41 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 ISBN 07167-1811-1
- 5 Horse Industry Handbook, published by the American Youth Horse Council. Order by calling 1800-Try-AYHC
- 6 Equine Science Curriculum – a special project from the National Council for Agricultural Education
- 7 Interactive Horse Judging [CD-ROM], available from Kansas State University, Extension Service.
- 8 Oklahoma State University website/breeds
- 9 University of Kentucky website/agripedia
- 10 *<http://www.saddleshop.com> – Official reference for terminology for tack/equipment portion of team activity
- 11 Oklahoma Core Curriculum on Equine Science

SCORING AND RANKING OF TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS Phases Scoring

Judging classes – Halter (150) and Performance (150) 300 points

Oral Reasons..... 100 points

Questions 100 points

Total Individual Score..... **500 points**

3 participants total score possible 1500 points

Problem-Solving (Team Activity) 100 points

Total Team Score Possible **1600 points**

- 1 Team scores will be the sum of the top three team participants scores. The total possible points is 1,600. Teams will be ranked into groups: “Gold,” “Silver,” and “Bronze.” Teams which do not have at least three members will be listed as “Participants.” Teams which violate any rules will also receive a “Participation” rating.
- 2 To determine the individual and team winners, the participants will be ranked on the basis of the total score for all areas. The top three scores will count in each division or category regardless of overall individual ranking used in computing the overall team score. All participants are eligible for individual awards.
- 3 Individual and team ties will be broken on the basis of oral reasons scores. If there is still a tie, the halter class number one, two, three; performance class number one, two, three, and then problem-solving.
- 4 The team winner over all areas will be designated as the “Iowa Champion FFA Horse Evaluation and Selection Event Team” and will represent Iowa in the National Horse Evaluation and Selection Career Development Event in Indianapolis at the National FFA Convention the following October.

AWARDS

Awards listed below are at the discretion of the sponsor and pending availability of sponsorship. It is vitally important that participants write thank you letters to sponsors in order to retain their support. A thank you list naming current sponsors will be provided to each participating chapter at the event site.

Award sponsored through the National FFA Foundation:

Champion Team Plaque

Awards sponsored through the Iowa FFA Foundation:

Champion Team..... Cash award for travel to the National FFA Horse CDE
Reserve Champion Team..... Plaque
Top 10 Teams Rosettes
Members of Top 10 Teams..... Rosettes
Top 10 Individuals..... Rosettes
1st and 2nd Place Individuals..... Trophies
Top Team and Top Individual Trophies

- a. Halter Classes
- b. Problem-Solving (Team Only)
- c. Performance Classes
- d. Reasons
- e. Questions

The Iowa FFA Association will award certificates to all Horse teams and participants.

HORSE EVALUATION AND SELECTION REASONS AND QUESTIONS CARDS

NOTE: Reasons and Questions cards may differ from example shown or may not be used at all due to the use of electronic scoring.

Iowa FFA Oral Reasons Card

Class:

Class Placing:

Contestant Name:

Contestant Number:

School Town:

Oral Reasons Score _____

Iowa FFA Oral Questions Card

Class:

Contestant Name: _____

Contestant Number: _____

School Town: _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____