



New Mexico FFA

# Horse Evaluation

Career Development Event

# HORSE EVALUATION

Revised 8/30/2024

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## PURPOSE

To stimulate the study of horse management for Agricultural education students through the understanding of breeding, selection and breed characteristics as provided in the animal science curriculum.

## OBJECTIVES

- To provide students with the interest and practical experience that will serve them in the horse management industry.
- To increase knowledge of performance qualities in horses through the conformation makeup of the animal.
- To provide the opportunity to evaluate, make a decision and justify those decisions.
- To increase quantitative thinking skills through decision making on conformation traits and performance of horses.
- To increase public speaking skills through presentation of oral reasons.

## COMMON CORE REFERENCES

### **7th Grade**

**MS-LS1-4.** Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.

### **8th Grade**

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7** Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts

### **9-10th Grade**

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1d** Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views and understanding and make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.

### **11-12th Grade**

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.4** Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, alternative or opposing perspectives are addressed, and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and a range of formal and informal tasks.

## **EVENT RULES**

- All attire of riders and handlers and all tack is to be considered legal in the selection classes.
- All halter horses will be judged as sound, and all performance classes will be judged as they go regarding soundness.
- AQHA novice rules will be used in Hunter Under Saddle, Ranch Pleasure and Western Pleasure classes regarding head set and carriage.

## **EVENT PROCEDURES**

### **1. Horse Knowledge Test (50 points)**

Participants will be tested on a wide variety of equine topics: Equine Industry, Equine Diseases, Breed Identification, Equine Management, and Anatomy & Physiology.

### **2. Selection Classes (400 points)**

There will be a total of eight classes evaluated, consisting of halter and performance classes. There will be four classes of reasons, two reasons classes in each area. Classes will be approximately 12 to 15 minutes in length. All classes will be 50 points. Halter classes will be evaluated as sound, so no tracking or close inspection will be done. Halter classes may be represented by the following breeds and types:

- \*Quarter Horse
- \*Conformation Hunter
- \*Appaloosa
- \*Arabian
- \*Paint
- \*American Saddlebred
- \*Morgan
- \*Ranch Conformation

Performance classes will be evaluated as presented (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly). Patterns and scoresheets will be provided to the teams prior to the start of the event for all classes requiring patterns. Performance classes can be any of the following:

- English Pleasure\* (Saddle Seat)
- Showmanship at Halter
- Western Pleasure
- Ranch Riding
- Ranch Trail
- Ranch Rail Pleasure/Working
- Western Rail
- Western Horsemanship
- Western Riding
- Trail
- Reining
- Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat)
- Hunt Seat Equitation
- Hunter Hack

### **3. ORAL REASONS (200 Points)**

Two performance classes will be selected for oral reasons, each worth 50 points from listed performance classes. Two Halter classes will be selected for oral reasons from listed halter classes (50 points each). Reasons can be given on any of the classes that are judged. Note: Major points will be deducted if participants use notes during oral reasons presentations

#### 4. TEAM MEMBERS

There may be four members to a team, with the three highest individual total scores making the total for the team.

#### SCORING:

The event is organized into the following parts, classes and point values:

Activity	Individual Points
Identification class/Knowledge exam	50
Halter/Performance classes-eight total classes	400
Halter oral reasons - two	100
Performance oral reasons - two	100
Maximum Possible Score	650

#### TIEBREAKERS:

Ties will be broken in the following order:

Individual:

1. Oral reasons total
2. Performance classes total
3. Halter classes total

Team:

1. Team oral reasons total
2. Team performance classes total
3. Team halter classes total

#### REFERENCES:

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to use the best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation. Past CDE materials and other resources are available on FFA.org.

- \* USEF Performance Classes\* English Pleasure Rules are updated from the current USEF Rulebook. Please reference the USEF Rulebook directly for the latest changes to their rules. The USEF Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations is available online as a free PDF at

<https://www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/rules-regulations/rulebook>.

Select the current year Rulebook, choose English Pleasure Division.

AQHA Performance Classes rules (all performance classes except for English Pleasure)

- \* These are updated from the current rulebook. Please reference the AQHA Rulebook directly for the latest changes to their rules.

<https://www.aqha.com/aqha-rulebook>

- AQHA Forms and Resources, <https://www.aqha.com/forms-and-resources>.
- Score sheets
  - o Pattern Classes (Horsemanship, Showmanship & Hunt Seat Equitation), Trail, Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Reining and Western Riding.
  - o Any of the current AQHA patterns may be used for — Ranch Riding, Reining and Western Riding.
- National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association (NHJTCA) Equine Management and [Evaluation Certification https://www.icevonline.com/equine-management](https://www.icevonline.com/equine-management) , [view the National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association Equine Study Guide](#)
- [CEV Videos on horse judging, https://store.icevonline.com/](https://store.icevonline.com/)
- American Quarter Horse Association, Amarillo Texas — Video References, <https://www.aqha.com/-/educational-judging-videos>. [Additional video packages are at https://showing.aqhuniversity.com/pages/judge-home](https://showing.aqhuniversity.com/pages/judge-home)
- Heird, James C. and The American Quarter Horse Association, Competitive Horse Judging. First Edition. The American Quarter Horse Association, 1990. <https://equinehusbandry.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/AQHA-Competitive-Horse-Judging.pdf?fwd=no>
- American Paint Horse Association, Fort Worth Texas-Judging References, <https://www.horseiq.com/>  
FFA Chapters are eligible for a \$150 discount for 25 student seats on horseIQ
- Evans, J. Warren, Borton, Anthony, Hintz, Harold F., and Van Vleck, L. Dale, The HORS current edition. W. H. Freeman and Company, 41 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 ISBN 0-7167-1811-1
- The American Youth Horse Council <https://www.ayhc.com/>
- Equine Science Curriculum – a special project from the National Council for Agricultural Education, <https://www.ffa.org/thecouncil/resources>
- Tack Identification: Horses and Tack, Howard Ensminger, Select Tack <http://teskeys.com>
- Oklahoma State University horse breeds <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/horses/>
- University of Kentucky Agripedia website, search horse judging, <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/>
- Texas A&M AgriLife Learn Online Horse Judging Course, <https://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestock-species/equine/online-judging/>
- Black Hawk Horse Judging Manual available for purchase, <http://bookstore-east.bhc.edu/MerchDetail?MerchID=1522504&CategoryName=horse%20judging%20manual&CatID=34342&Name=horse%20judging%20manual>
- National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association offers DVD's [www.nhjtca.org](http://www.nhjtca.org)
- Official Judging Guide from each of the various breed associations and audiovisuals

# Horse Evaluation

Form 2

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's No. \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS 1		CLASS 2		CLASS 3		CLASS 4		CLASS 5		CLASS 6	
Class Name		Class Name		Class Name		Class Name		Class Name		Class Name	
Placings	Check Placing	Placings	Check Placing	Placings	Check Placing	Placings	Check Placing	Placings	Check Placing	Placings	Check Placing
1-2-3-4		1-2-3-4		1-2-3-4		1-2-3-4		1-2-3-4		1-2-3-4	
1-2-4-3		1-2-4-3		1-2-4-3		1-2-4-3		1-2-4-3		1-2-4-3	
1-3-2-4		1-3-2-4		1-3-2-4		1-3-2-4		1-3-2-4		1-3-2-4	
1-3-4-2		1-3-4-2		1-3-4-2		1-3-4-2		1-3-4-2		1-3-4-2	
1-4-3-2		1-4-3-2		1-4-3-2		1-4-3-2		1-4-3-2		1-4-3-2	
1-4-2-3		1-4-2-3		1-4-2-3		1-4-2-3		1-4-2-3		1-4-2-3	
2-1-3-4		2-1-3-4		2-1-3-4		2-1-3-4		2-1-3-4		2-1-3-4	
2-1-4-3		2-1-4-3		2-1-4-3		2-1-4-3		2-1-4-3		2-1-4-3	
2-3-1-4		2-3-1-4		2-3-1-4		2-3-1-4		2-3-1-4		2-3-1-4	
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2-4-1-3		2-4-1-3		2-4-1-3		2-4-1-3		2-4-1-3		2-4-1-3	
2-4-3-1		2-4-3-1		2-4-3-1		2-4-3-1		2-4-3-1		2-4-3-1	
3-1-2-4		3-1-2-4		3-1-2-4		3-1-2-4		3-1-2-4		3-1-2-4	
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4-3-1-2		4-3-1-2		4-3-1-2		4-3-1-2		4-3-1-2		4-3-1-2	
4-3-2-1		4-3-2-1		4-3-2-1		4-3-2-1		4-3-2-1		4-3-2-1	
CLASS 1 SCORE		CLASS 2 SCORE		CLASS 3 SCORE		CLASS 4 SCORE		CLASS 5 SCORE		CLASS 6 SCORE	

Reasons Score \_\_\_\_\_

# RANCH RIDING SCORE SHEET



JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLASS \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_

MANEUVER SCORES: - 1 1/2 Extremely Poor, - 1 Very Poor, - 1/2 Poor, 0 Correct, + 1/2 Good, + 1 Very Good, + 1 1/2 Excellent

		MANEUVER DESCRIPTION																	PENALTY TOTAL	SCORE
		MANEUVER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
DRAW	EXHB #	PENALTY																	→	
		SCORE																		
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		SCORE																		
										SCORE										

JUDGES SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_



AMERICAN QUARTER  
HORSE ASSOCIATION

# REINING - Blank

SHOW: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

W/O	#		MANEUVER SCORES									PENALTY TOTAL	SCORE
			-1 1/2 Extremely Poor, -1 Very Poor, -1/2 Poor, 0 Correct, +1/2 Good, +1 Very Good, +1 1/2 Excellent										
Maneuver Description													
Maneuver			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
		PENALTY											
		MANUV.											
		PENALTY											
		MANUV.											
		PENALTY											
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		MANUV.											
		PENALTY											
		MANUV.											

JUDGE'S NAME (PRINTED): \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_