

Virginia FFA Guide



Virginia FFA does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation.

State FFA Horse Hippology

Hippology, directly derived, means "the study of horses."

I. Purpose

The purpose of the State FFA Horse Hippology Career Development Event is to:

- Stimulate the study of and interest in equine science selection, management and production through the agricultural education curriculum.
- Provide recognition for those who have demonstrated skills and competencies as a result of instruction in equine science.

II. Objectives

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

III. Event Rules:

Each state may enter two 4-H teams, two FFA teams, and one Breed Association team (per breed) consisting of at least three members but not more than four. If four contestants are designated, all will participate and the lowest scoring individual overall will be automatically designated as alternate. The alternate's scores will not be included in team scores, but alternates will be eligible for individual awards.

IV. Event Format:

The contest will consist of four phases:

A. Horse Judging: (200 Points)

This phase of the contest will consist of placing classes shown on video. 2 halter classes and 2 performance classes will be presented.

B. Examination: (100 Points)

- A Written Exam (50 Points)
- Projected Slides (25 Points) Identify as to breed, health conditions, conformation faults, color, color patterns, activity and proper appointments.
- Anatomy (25 Points) May include external, skeletal, internal organs, digestive and reproductive organs, and detailed anatomy of the hoof and lower limbs.

C. Station Phase (100 Points)

A series of stations or tables where all contestants will respond to the station's requirements. Can include identification of:

- Various types and parts of saddles
- Tack, bits, bridles, horse shoes, and parts of horse shoes
- Farrier tools and equipment
- Miscellaneous tools and equipment
- Grains and forages
- Internal and external parasites
- Blemishes and unsoundnesses
- Equine aging by teeth
- Breeds, colors, and markings
- Assessing aspects of horse health including:
 - Pulse rate
 - Respiration rates
 - Temperature
 - Dehydration
 - Anemia
- Measurements such as:
 - Withers heights
 - Shoe size
 - Girth
 - Collar size
 - Gullet width
 - Saddle fit

D. Team Effort Problem (100 points, two problems -counts toward team score only)

Team members will work together to solve problems using their practical knowledge of horses. Problems may involve assembling equipment, an oral presentation, and/or demonstration.

Examples of the possible team problems might include:

- Balancing a horse's ration
- Farm management recommendations for specific horse operations (i.e. boarding, breeding, training, nursery, layout, etc.
- 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 purposes
- Behavior problems - causes, management of and corrections
- Training and conditioning programs - equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance
- Breeding and/or leasing contracts - specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transportation, etc.
- Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9-11 year old beginner members.
- Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment.
- 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.

A score of 50 points per problem (maximum) will be awarded based on: accuracy, organization, presentation, and team participation.

V. Scoring

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

- Horse Judging (200 Points Total)
 - Two Halter Classes (50 points each)
 - Two Performance Classes (50 Points Each)
- Examination (100 Points Total)
 - Written Exam (50 Points)
 - Slides (25 Points)
 - Anatomy (25 Points)
- Station Phase (100 Points)
- Team Effort Problems
 - Two Problems (50 Points Each)

VI. Tie Breakers

The following criteria will be used to break ties, should they occur:

For Individuals:

1. Highest written phase
2. Highest station phase
3. Highest judging phase

For Teams:

The highest average score in the above order

VII. All American Quarter Horse Congress Youth Hippology Contest

General Rules Per AQHA Congress:

- Each state may enter two 4-H teams, two FFA teams, and one Breed Association team (per breed) consisting of at least three members but not more than four. If four contestants are designated, all will participate and the lowest scoring individual overall will be automatically designated as alternate. The alternate's scores will not be included in team scores, but alternates will be eligible for individual awards.
- 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 Breed Association Representative.
- Contestants must be at least 14 years of age, but not yet achieved their 19th birthday on January 1st of the current year.
- All contestants must have been enrolled in 4-H, FFA, or a youth breed association program during the current year.
- Contestants may not have participated in an official, post-secondary Hippology, Horse Bowl, or Horse Judging contest, nor have been in training in preparation for one of these contests.
- Contestants may also participate in either a Horse Speaking event or Horse Bowl event at the Congress Youth Horse Event in the same year. Contestants are eligible to compete in this contest in subsequent years as long as they were not the high individual overall or on the high team overall.
- **Entry Deadline: Sept 15th 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 Breed Association Representative, and accompanied by a check payable to Ohio Quarter Horse Association in the amount listed on the entry form. No Entries will be accepted after October 1st of the current year.
- All ties, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence: 1) Written exam scores, 2) Station scores, and 3) Judging scores.

VIII. References

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

NEWHOR

Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms, New Horizons Education Center, Inc.
Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537
Phone: 800-777-7257 Fax: 970-667-9157

EVANS 2nd

The Horse (2nd Edition) by Evans, Borton, Hintz, Van Vleck
W.H. Freeman & Company
660 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94104
A special price may be available if ordered from publisher.
Phone: 414-391-5870
VHPS Holtzbrink Publishers, 16365 James Madison Hwy, Gordonsville, VA 22942. 888-330-8477

KAINER

The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy
Dr. Robert Kainer and Dr. Thomas McCracken
Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027 Loveland, CO 80537
Phone: 800-777-7257 Fax: 970-667-9157

AYHC 1st

Horse Industry Handbook – by the American Youth Horse Council
The Equine Collection – Dept. AYHC, PO Box 1539 Fort Lee, NJ 07024-1539
Phone: 800-952-5813 Fax: 201-840-7242

AYHC

Youth Leaders Manual – by the American Youth Horse Council
The Equine Collection – Dept. AYHC, PO Box 1539 Fort Lee, NJ 07024-1539
Phone: 800-952-5813 Fax: 201-840-7242

LEWIS 2nd

Feeding and Care of the Horse (2nd Edition)
Lon D. Lewis, Williams and Wilkins
PO Box 1496, Baltimore MD 21298-9724
Phone: 800-638-0672

GRIFFITHS

Equine Science: Basic Knowledge for Horse People of All Ages
Jean T. Griffiths
www.HorseBooksEtc.com Phone: 800-952-5813
ISBN# 978-1-92916404204 to order from your local bookstore

Schneider Saddlery – Apparel, tack and horse care items, for the English and Western rider. To request a free catalog please visit <http://www.sstack.com/> or call 800-365-1311.

Other: Grains, forages, and feed preparations used in this contest will be representatives of feeds utilized in horse rations.