

PANHANDLE DISTRICT 1 4-H

To: County Extension Agents – ANR, FCH, 4-H

From: Sami Hatley Tina Bryant
Contest Superintendent District 4-H Specialist

Subject: **District 1 Hippology Contest**

Contest Date: **May 3, 2025**

Location: **WTAMU Ag Science Complex - Piehl-Schaeffer Pavilion**

Registration: **March 10 – April 9 on 4-H Online Fee: \$15**
Late Registration April 14 – 16 Late Fee: \$50

Schedule: **Check-in: 9:00 a.m.**
Orientation: 9:15 a.m.
Contest Start Time: 9:30 a.m.
Awards: Approximately 30 minutes following contest completion

Age Categories: **6th – 8th grade – Intermediate**
9th – 12th grade – Senior

Accommodations

- Requests for accommodations must be submitted to the District Office from the County Office at least 2 weeks prior to the event.
- This request must be accompanied by official documentation in one of the following options for why the request is being submitted:
 - A) Official doctor's note from a licensed medical professional
 - B) School documentation and/or evaluation from a public institution
 - C) Official evaluation from a licensed professional therapist and/or diagnostician
- Note: The documentation and request are required within the appropriate timeline outlined for the event in order for the accommodation to be considered but does not guarantee that the requested accommodation can be made.
- The request will be reviewed by the district office (and when necessary, in consultation with the state office).
- Request and documentation will be kept confidential within the appropriate county/district staff and event administrators.



AWARDS

Top 3 teams overall & top 3 individuals overall per age group - Banners
State contest is an invitational contest open to all seniors.

OBJECTIVE

The Hippology contest provides youth with the opportunity to blend the knowledge and skills acquired in horse judging, horse quiz bowl, demonstrations, public speaking, showing and practical horse experience into one activity. Encourages a 4-H member to expand their knowledge and comprehension of equine science, comprehensive knowledge of the horse industry and management practices.

TEAM AND CONTESTANT ELIGIBILITY

Teams consist of three or four members. 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.

CONTEST METHOD OF CONDUCT

1. The contest will be divided into three areas: identification slide show, written test, and knowledge station. Contestants will be divided into groups and have time limits for each station area.
2. The contest will be conducted using a scantrons Universal Form D Version 2 - Form #705D-2 (Hippology form 2)
3. While completing the competition, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials. Contestants will be allowed specific time limits to complete each individual competition class. In addition, no technology devices including cell phones, smart watches, etc.
4. Contestants will need to bring a No. 2 pencil for the scantron and a clip board. The contestants may not bring books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area. Contest officials reserve the right to check all contestant's notepads or clipboards to make sure they are blank prior to the contest. Violators are subject to contest dismissal.
5. Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual knowledge station classes, unless otherwise directed by contest officials.

CONTEST CLASSES

The following is a list of common skill-a-thon classes. Please note that actual classes may deviate from this list to keep current with a rapidly changing livestock industry. All pictures, equipment items, retail meat cuts, feed samples, judging classes, and quizzes will be developed using resources obtained from Texas A&M University and West Texas A&M University.

1. **Examination Phase** -- approximately 200 points -- this phase of the contest will include:
 - a. Written Exam
 - b. Projected slides to be identified as to breed, color, color pattern, activity, proper appointments, etc.
 - c. Anatomy which may include external, skeleton, internal organs, parts of gastrointestinal tract, male and female reproductive organs, detailed anatomy of the foot and detailed lower limbs.

2. **Station Phase** -- approximately 200 points -- this phase will consist of a series of stations or tables where all contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Stations may include pictures from popular press sources, however the content within the stations will be taken from the approved sources listed below. Members will be allowed 2.5 minutes at each station. Stations may include, but are not limited to:
1. Various types of saddles (actual or pictures) and parts of saddles.
 2. Tack, bits, bridles, horseshoes and parts of shoes, Tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment Grains and forages used in equine rations including various forms of methods of preparation.
 3. Internal and external parasites based on actual samples, pictures, life cycle charts and/or damage caused.
 4. Blemishes and unsoundness.
 5. Age of equines based on teeth
 6. Nutrition and health
 7. Genetics
 8. Reproduction
 9. Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc., to assess horse health.
 10. Measurements such as, but not limited to, wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle, etc. may be required.
3. **Judging Phase** -- 100 points -- contestants will be required to place two (2) classes consisting of one (1) halter or conformation classes and one (1) performance classes. Contestants are responsible for their own writing instruments and notepads for the purpose of taking notes. There will be no prohibition against contestant use of pre-printed materials during the judging portion, including but not limited to rule books, judging manuals, and score sheets. Every effort will be made to use the same horses as are being used in the judging contest, with the placing to be simultaneous with contestants in the judging contest, with the same official placings and cuts as apply to the judging contest. In extreme emergency, pictorial and/or video classes may be used, in which case they would be especially prepared for the event.
4. **Team Problem** (Teams Only- if there are no teams entered, we will forgo this component.) 100 points -- all teams will be presented with the same problem(s). Each team will have equal time to discuss among themselves the problem, immediately after which they will have to present an oral solution or series of suggested procedures relative to the problem. Teams will have 10 minutes to prepare and 10 minutes to present. No pre-printed material will be allowed during the 10-minute preparation period. Each member of the team is encouraged to contribute to the oral presentation, and contestants must introduce themselves and their state team upon entrance into the team problem room. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of the response, the probability of success of the solution or procedures, and the logic used in making the oral response. The official may ask questions of any or all team members to clarify the presentation. If notes are used during the team problem the highest score that may be received is 25 points of the possible 50 points for that problem. If teams go over the 10-minute time limit there will be a penalty of three points per minute overtime.

Examples of the possible team problems might include:

- a. Balancing a horse's ration.
- b. Farm management recommendations for specific horse operations (i.e., breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up, etc.).
- c. Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose).
- d. Recommendations for selecting, locating, and purchasing horses for specific uses.
- e. Behavior problems - causes, management of and corrections.
- f. Training and conditioning programs - equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance.
- g. Breeding and/or leasing contracts - specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.
- h. Teaching lessons in horse management.
- i. Explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment.
- j. 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 standings.

TIE-BREAKING

All ties overall, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence:

1. Examination scores
2. Station scores
3. Judging scores

RESOURCES

Reference
AQHA Rulebook
Equine Science: Basic Knowledge for Horse People of All Ages - Jean T. Griffiths ISBN# 978-1-929164-42-4
Feeding and Care of the Horse (2nd Edition) by Lon D. Lewis, Anthony Knight, Bart Lewis, Corey Lewis ISBN-10: 0683049674
Horse Industry Handbook – by the American Youth Horse Council
Horse Smarts – American Youth Horse Council; 1 Gainer Rd. https://www.ayhc.com/product-page/horse-smarts
Youth Leaders Manual – by the American Youth Horse Council
Texas 4-H Horse Show Rules
The Horse (2nd Edition) by Evans, Borton, Hintz, Van Vleck
Youth and Collegiate Horse Judging Leader Guide (AS 1-2.120)
Youth and Collegiate Horse Judging Manual (AS 3-2.051)
The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy by Thomas O. McCracken and Robert A. Kainer ISBN-13: 9781617812408