

North Dakota State 4-H Hippology Contest

Rules and Guidelines

North Dakota State University Equine Center – Fargo

Hippology is an activity to test participant's knowledge and understanding of horse science in a friendly but competitive setting. The event generally has four phases:

1. Written test, 2. Stations identification, 3. Team problem, 4. Horse judging.

Pre-registration required: In order to facilitate the contest in a timely and orderly fashion, a pre-registration with the following information must be sent to: dean.aakre@ndsu.edu by Friday, **March 25**. Name of county, number of teams expected in each, division – Junior, Senior, or Open. Names of team members may be brought to the contest.

4-H Participants

Youth may enter as individuals or as a member of a team. Team members are eligible for individual awards. 4-H division teams will consist of three or four participants from the same county. **Two or three counties may join to make a 4-H team of 3 or 4 provided that none of those counties have more than two participants on the team.** A team of three may not pick up a fourth member from another county.

Contest Divisions

Each age division is considered a separate contest and youth may enter one of the following divisions.

Senior 4-H division: Youth age 13-18 as of September 1, 2010, enrolled in North Dakota 4-H. The three high individual scores plus the team problem score will determine the team overall score. Please note to be eligible for the national contest (winning senior division team), participants must be 14 and must not be 19 by January 1 of the current year.

Junior 4-H division: Youth age 8-13 as of September 1, 2010, enrolled in North Dakota 4-H. The juniors will work together in all phases of this contest.

Open division: Youth age 8-18 as of September 1, 2010 (4-H enrollment not required). Participants may enter as an individual or as part of a three or four person team. Work will be done individually (same as the senior 4-H division).

Eligibility: 4-H members are not eligible for this contest if:

- a) He/she has participated in a previous National 4-H Hippology contest.
- b) He/she was a member (three high scores) of a past first place team in the senior division of the state 4-H hippology judging contest, unless circumstances prevented participation at the national contest and an exemption has been granted.
- c) He/she has participated in official post secondary (university, college, junior college or technical school) competitive events of a similar nature in the same subject matter area. Neither can he/she be a member of a post secondary team undergoing training in preparation of an event.

Dress Code

North Dakota 4-H divisions will follow the 4-H Dress Code in order to provide a positive image of the program. The North Dakota 4-H Dress Code for state competitive events is: 4-H members must be dressed neatly and wear a solid white, yellow, gray, or green shirt with 4-H emblem on front. Coats will be permitted if the facility is cold.

Contest Guidelines

1. Senior Division and Open Division contestants will work independently except for the team problem. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between the contestants or between contestants and anyone else except as directed

by the Contest Superintendents or their representative. Ten points will be deducted from the total score for each talking infraction reported.

2. The contest will be designed as follows:

a) The test will have 50 questions and a value of 100 points.
b) The stations will have a value of 100 points, however, the number of stations may vary between five and ten.

c) Two horse judging classes will be a part of the contest for a total of 100 points. Oral reasons will not be a part of the hippology contest. Classes will consist of four horses for halter classes or four horse/rider combinations for performance classes. If there are performance class(es) they will be one of the following: Western Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, Western Riding, Reining, or Hunt Seat Equitation.

d) Team problem will be worth 100 points. Teams will have ten minutes to prepare and five minutes to present.

3. Schedule for rotation and exact time will be determined by management, based on number of registrations. Each section of the contest will be provided 20 to 30 minutes for completion.

4. Awards will be presented to the top three teams in each division and at least the top ten individuals in the senior and open divisions.

5. Ties for individual awards will be broken with 1) test score, 2) total station score, 3) station scores starting with station 1. Ties for team scores will be broken with 1) team problem, 2) total test scores from top three on the team, 3) total station scores from top three on the team

Hippology resource list:

- Equus Magazine January 2009 - December 2010
- The Horse - Evans, Borton, Hintz, and Van Vleck. Second Edition. W. H. Freeman and Company, 660 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94104. (415) 391-5870
- Lewis, Lon Feeding and Care of the Horse Williams and Wilkins, Second Edition. 351 West Camden Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-2436. (800) 638-0672
- AYHC Horse Industry Handbooks -- by the American Youth Horse Council;
- A.C. Youth Leaders Manual -- by the American Youth Horse Council;
- Kainer The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy. Kainer and McCracken, Alpine Blue Ribbon Books, P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537-0027. (800) 777-7257
- State Line Tack Catalogs from 2010

Other Information

4-H contests are provided as an opportunity for participants to grow in knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition with peers. By participating in this contest, youth agree to demonstrate good sportsmanship and conduct themselves with a helpful attitude.