Tips for Team Problems

Gain confidence, be fearless 4-H’ers:
1. Introduce yourselves; Beg., Jr. or Sr. team, your county and your names.
2. Give a brief summary of your presentation, including a statement of the problem and questions you are going to be addressing.
3. Answer each question in a logical, complete manner. Points are deducted for using notes! Trust in your knowledge and deliver confidently!
4. Don’t chew gum!
5. Be neatly dressed to impress.
6. Maintain eye contact & an upright posture; stand confidently without fidgeting or swaying.
7. Speak in order. Organize your answers so each team member speaks without speaking over each other.
8. Avoid filler words such as “like” or “um.” If you lose your train of thought, take a deep breath to regain your thoughts.
9. Confidently end with a conclusion statement.
10. Thank the judge and ask if there are any questions.

Resources

All the information covered in the North Dakota State Hippology Contest and the Western National Roundup Hippology Contest may be found in one or more of the following publications:

- Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms - New Horizons Equine Education Center. Alpine Publications, PO Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537 Phone: (800) 777-7257
- Feeding and Care of the Horse - Lon Lewis Williams and Wilkins. Second Edition. 351 West Camden Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-2436 Phone: (800) 638-0672
- Horse Industry Handbooks and updates - American Youth Horse Council; 1 Gainer Rd, McDonald, NM 88262 Email: info@ayhc.com Phone: 817.320.2005 Web: http://www.ayhc.com/shop

The Horse Laboratory Kit can be checked out from the state office for studying purposes. https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/staff_resources/material_check_out/educational_trunks/

Smile & Have FUN! #ND4Htrue

North Dakota Hippology Teams consist of Juniors (ages 8-10), Intermediate (ages 11-13) and Seniors (ages 14-18). Juniors and Intermediates compete as a group in each phase. Juniors will be given a different Hippology “topic” each year to focus their studies on.

Supplies

4-H’ers should be prepared for contest day. Bring with you:
1. Two sharpened #2 pencils.
2. A notebook for the judging portion.

The winning senior team from the North Dakota State Hippology Contest is provided $1,000 through the ND 4-H Foundation to help with travel to Denver, Colorado to compete against teams from all over the country and represent North Dakota at the Western National Roundup Contest.

Email questions to: LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu
Call for questions: Office: 701-231-6658

North Dakota 4-H Hippology Contest Rules: https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/programs_events/state_4_h_contests/horse_judging/

Oh, the Places you’ll go. Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So ... get on your way!

--Dr. Seuss

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Individuals with disabilities are invited to request reasonable accommodations to participate in NDSU sponsored programs and events. To request an accommodation(s), please contact Micki Mertz at 701-231-7259 by Oct. 24 to make arrangements.

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Judging
When judging is incorporated in a Hippology contest, 4-H'ers are to place live classes of four horses each. There will generally be 2 conformation classes and 2 performance classes. In the case of an emergency, pictorial or video classes may be used.

Judging is an art developed through extensive practice. Learn what is “ideal” for each class and breed. Using breed association rule books for each class is helpful to learn how to compare horses. Trying to focus on the big picture of each class is key, keeping in mind to judge on the positive. Think about these three key categories for each class:

**Correctness**
How close is the horse to ideal for that breed, performing the correct gait or correct pattern?

**Quality**
In halter, what is the quality of the horses balance, structural correctness, breed & sex characteristics, and muscling. In performance, what is the horse’s quality of movement or pattern precision?

**Degree of Difficulty**
If correctness and quality have been met, how does this horse rise above “average” in the class being judged?

For a western pleasure example of these key categories read the American Paint Horse Association rule book, p. 158.

Team Problem
This is a chance for the team to showcase the knowledge they have acquired and make it applicable.

All teams are presented with the same problem(s). Each team is given preparation time to discuss the problem. The team then presents an oral solution of procedures relative to the problem to a judge. Each member of the team should contribute to the oral presentation. Evaluation is based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of response, the probability of success of the solution or procedures the team has suggested, and the logic behind the oral response. Questions may be asked to any or all of the team members for clarification. Examples of team problems might include:

- Design a manure disposal plan
- What should Leigh Ann feed her new ranch horse and why?
- How to use a piece of equipment
- Breeding recommendations
- Discuss a training plan

Hippology reasoning and problem solving skills in 4-H'ers