North Dakota 4-H Horse Demonstration Contest

CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility

1. Participants must be an enrolled member in 4honline in the county they represent.
2. Participants must be 8 to 18 years of age as of September 1 of the current 4-H year. Participants may enter as an individual contest and a team contest. A team consists of 2 members.

CONTEST RULES

1. The subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Demonstrations or presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s).
2. Presentations may be either of demonstration or illustrated talk format. No live animals may be used.
3. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
4. A public address system will not be used in the contest.
5. Creative audio visual aids may be used, but the contestants must be involved in making or designing them.
6. During the competition, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, county and presentation topic.
7. Presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length. One point will be deducted from the total score for each minute or fraction of a minute under 10 minutes or over 15 minutes by each of three judges, for a three-points per minute total deduction. After the individual or team has been introduced by the superintendent, the time will start once the contestant(s) begin(s) to speak.
8. Contestants should cite their major reference materials at the end of the presentation. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestant should repeat the question, and then answer it.
10. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and announced at the beginning of the event.
11. Once an individual or team has started their demonstration (in this case it is after they have been introduced by the superintendent), they may not receive assistance from any coach, parent, audience member, or other person, which includes, but is not limited to, the stroking of any key on a computer or other audio visual device. The penalty for violating this rule is disqualification.
12. Ties will be broken by first the judges’ accumulated delivery score, second by the judges accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy scores.
13. Judges will consider the questions listed under each section of the score card:
HORSE DEMONSTRATION SCORECARD

A. INTRODUCTION (10 points)  ____ Points
   1. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
   2. Was introduction short and to the point?
   3. Was a catchy title used?

B. ORGANIZATION (25 points)  ____ Points
   1. Was only one main idea presented?
   2. Did the discussion relate directly to the step as it was shown?
   3. Was each step shown or illustrated just as it should be done in an actual situation?
   4. Could audience see each step?
   5. Were materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
   6. Were charts and posters used if and when needed?
   7. Were key points of each step stressed?

C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY (25 points)  ____ Points
   1. Were facts and information accurate?
   2. Was there enough information?
   3. Were approved practices used?
   4. Was credit given to sources of information, if appropriate?
   5. Was content appropriately related to the horse industry?

D. STAGE PRESENCE (10 points)  ____ Points
   1. Was the presenter neat and appropriately dressed for subject of presentation?
   2. Did presenter speak directly to audience?
   3. Did presenter look at the audience?
   4. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?
   5. Was good teamwork displayed? (Team presentation - generally not advisable for one person to do all the talking and the other one all the presenting.)

E. DELIVERY (15 points)  ____ Points
   1. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving presentations?
   2. Did the presenter have good voice control?
   3. Were all words pronounced correctly?
   4. If notes were used, was it done without detracting from speech?
   5. Did presenter seem to choose words at the time they were spoken? (Avoid a memorized presentation.)

F. EFFECT ON AUDIENCE (5 points)  ____ Points
   1. Did audience show an interest in the presentation?
   2. Could audience go home and carry out the idea?

G. SUMMARY (10 points)  ____ Points
   1. Was the summary short and interesting?
   2. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
   3. Did summary properly wrap up the presentation?
   4. Could presenter handle questions easily?

__________Total
1. The subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Speeches not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s).

2. No visual aids may be used, including the use of handouts such as bibliographies and pamphlets. Contestants will be disqualified for using any visual aid, including handouts, prior to, during and after the speech.

3. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.

4. A public address system will not be used.

5. During the competition the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and speech topic.

6. Speeches should be 7-10 minutes in length. One point will be deducted from the total score for each minute or fraction of a minute under 7 minutes or over 10 minutes by each of three judges for a three points per minute total deduction. After the individual has been introduced by the superintendent, the time will start once the contestant begins to speak.

7. Contestants should cite their major reference materials at the end of the competition. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.

8. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestant should repeat the question then answer it.

9. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing at the event.

10. Ties will be broken by: first, the judges accumulated delivery score, second, the judges accumulated organization score; and, third, on content and accuracy scores.

11. Judges will consider the questions listed under each section. Points on the score card will be as follows:
HORSE SPEECH CONTEST SCORECARD

A. INTRODUCTION (10 points)  
1. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?  
2. Was introduction short and to the point?  

B. ORGANIZATION (15 points)  
1. Were the main points easy to follow?  
2. Were the main points arranged in the best order?  
3. Were sentences short, easy to understand?  
4. Was speech interesting?  

C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY (20 points)  
1. Were facts and information accurate?  
2. Was there enough information concerning the subject?  
3. Was credit given to sources of information, if appropriate?  
4. Was content appropriately related to the horse industry?  

D. STAGE PRESENCE (15 points)  
1. Was speaker neat and appropriately dressed?  
2. Was the speaker friendly?  
3. Did speaker talk directly to the audience?  
4. Did speaker look at the audience?  
5. Was posture erect, but not stiff?  
6. Did speaker refrain from leaning on podium?  
7. Did speaker seem relaxed and at ease?  

E. DELIVERY (20 points)  
1. Did speaker have appropriate voice control?  
2. Were all words pronounced correctly?  
3. Did speaker's facial expressions reflect the mood of the speech?  
4. If notes were used, was it done without detracting from the speech?  
5. Did speaker seem to choose words at the time they were spoken?  
(Avoid a memorized or read-type delivery.)  

F. GENERAL (10 points)  
1. Did speaker convey to the audience a sense of wanting to communicate?  
2. Did speech reflect the thoughts and personality of the speaker?  

G. CONCLUSION (10 points)  
1. Was the conclusion short and interesting?  
2. Did the conclusion properly wrap up the speech?  
3. Could the speaker handle questions easily?  

_______ Total