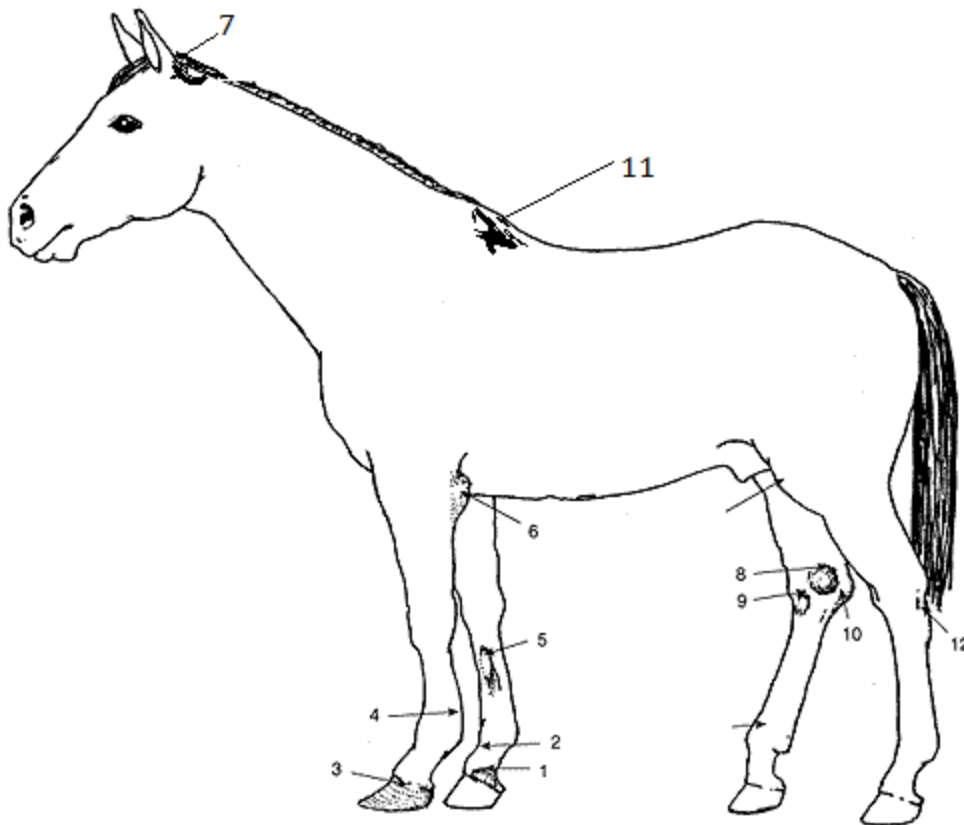


**Unsoundnesses and Blemishes**

Here is a picture of a horse showing many unsoundnesses and blemishes. Choose **TWO** of the problems shown and explain the following about each of the two problems you chose:

- The name of the problem
- Is it an unsoundness or a blemish?
- Briefly explain how it might affect a horse's usefulness or appearance

| Scoring:                  | possible points | team score |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Accuracy and completeness | 25              | ___        |
| Organization              | 5               | ___        |
| Presentation              | 10              | ___        |
| Questions                 | 5               | ___        |
| Time management           | 5               | ___        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>50</b>       | <b>___</b> |



Answers:

1. Sidebone:  
Unsoundness  
Causes pain and lameness, and makes a bulge toward the rear quarter of the hoof head
2. Ringbone  
Unsoundness  
Causes pain and lameness. May have bumps on either or both sides of pastern
3. Laminitis (or founder)  
Unsoundness  
Causes pain and lameness. Causes ridges (founder rings) in hoof, and a dished appearance of hoof wall.
4. Bowed tendon  
Unsoundness  
Causes pain and lameness, especially when injury first happens. Bowed appearance to back of cannon due to stretched tendons.
5. Splint  
Blemish (initially may be an unsoundness until it stops causing pain)  
Causes bony bumps on inside of cannon bone. Usually does not cause pain or problem after initial period.
6. Capped elbow (or shoe boil)  
Blemish  
Swelling on point of elbow. Rarely causes any problems.
7. Fistulous withers  
Unsoundness  
Infected swelling at withers causes pain and drainage.
8. Bog spavin  
Unsoundness  
Causes pain and lameness and soft swelling at the front inner part of the hock
9. Bone spavin (or jack spavin)  
Unsoundness  
Pain and lameness and bony growth on inside lower portion of hock area.
10. Capped hock  
Blemish  
Swelling at point of hock. Rarely causes any problems.
11. Poll evil  
Unsoundness  
Infected swelling at poll causes pain and drainage.
12. Curb  
Unsoundness  
Hard swelling and pain on back surface of rear cannon about 4 inches below point of hock.

Note to judges:

Accuracy and completeness is worth 25 points maximum, therefore each chosen problem is worth approximately 12.5 points. The youth does not need to include all the information above, but needs to include the basic information about each problem. Additional information is allowed, as long as it is correct.

Reference: NH 4-H Horse Project Manual pages 24, 25, 115 – 120