



New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest Entry Information

DATE: April 4, 2020 (snow date 4/5) **TIME:** 9:00 AM SENIORS AT FARM; 12 NOON JUNIORS & INTERMEDIATES

LOCATION: Seniors – Live Judging: Deer Creek Farm, 22 Horner Rd, Thornton NH 03285
then Thornton Central School, 1886 NH Route 175, Thornton NH 03285 **Directions are on the last page of this packet**

ENTRY DEADLINE: March 27

FOOD: TBD

Note: Junior and Intermediate Hippology contestants may also participate in non-reasons Judging. Seniors may participate in Hippology OR Judging, but not both.

SUPERINTENDENT: Elayne Gleason

We will start on time. Participants that are late may be allowed to participate in the next available judging class/contest component as available at the discretion of the superintendent. If unforeseen circumstances occur and you are going to be late, please call Mary Davis at (603) 312-0128. Registration begins at 9:00 AM at the farm, judging starts at 9:30 am.

Please be prepared to stay until the contest is complete (possibly as late as 5 pm). SCORING THIS CONTEST IS COMPLEX AND TIME CONSUMING. Participants are not required to stay for awards; we understand that you will be tired and may have a long distance to travel. Please let the contest superintendent or staff know if you are leaving, and be sure you have completed all your contest components.

This is a contest where participants use their knowledge of horse judging to place classes of halter and/or performance equines. Horse judging is a great preparation tool and competition for future judges and equine professionals.

A county may enter more than one 4-H reasons team and an unlimited amount of additional 4-H members provided all contestants have participated in a county 4-H preparation event and as space allows. The majority of competitors compete as individuals.

All members and coaches should recognize that this is a statewide educational competition and not a clinic. Junior and Intermediate (non-reasons) contestants may enter both Judging and Hippology contests.

ELIGIBILITY: Junior & Intermediate Divisions: The Junior Division is open to 4-H members 8-10 years old on January 1 of the current year & The Intermediate Division is open to 4-H members 11-13 years old on January 1 who wish to participate in a Horse Judging experience. Juniors & Intermediates may also enter the Hippology Contest held in the afternoon (a separate entry is required).

Senior Division: The Senior Division is open to 4-H members 14-18 years old on January 1 of the current year. Seniors cannot compete in Horse Judging if they wish to compete in Hippology. Counties enter seniors as individuals or in three- or four-member teams and may send multiple teams. Individuals may be entered and will be placed on a team as space is available or will compete and be placed as individuals. Participants must not have competed in the National 4-H Horse Judging Contest or in any official collegiate level contest and may not have taken collegiate level courses above introductory level in the subjects involved. Note: NH FFA will be joining us for this contest. If you are entering as an FFA contestant, it may be possible to also be a 4-H contestant. Please check with Mary Davis for details.

Youth with special needs (physical, learning, etc.) who require accommodations or their parent/guardian/leader should contact Mary Davis (see below) prior to the entry deadline.

ENTRY FEE: Each contestant must pay a \$10.00 entry fee. *In accordance with UNH Cooperative Extension policy, no 4-H member will be denied the opportunity to participate because of an inability to pay.*

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: ** Times are approximate; times subject to change and event could run late.

9:00 AM	Registration
9:30	Judging begins for All Judging Contestants & Senior Hippology Contestants
12:00	Contestants return to the school; Lunch
12:30 or ASAP thereafter	Reasons begin for Reasons-division contestants 10 questions for non-reasons division contestants
ASAP after conclusion of contest	Awards Ceremony

STATE 4-H HORSE JUDGING TEAM CANDIDATES:

The top four Senior 4-H contestants in New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest will become the *tentative* New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Team (A Team) and the next four top scoring individuals become alternates (B Team). All will be offered further training in judging to prepare for the Regional Contest. Both the A and B Team (4 alternates) have the opportunity to compete at the New England Regional 4-H Horse Contest in October. Team members are not guaranteed a spot on the final team. Team members could be replaced if they do not satisfactorily attend practices and do assignments/homework. Final team selection will be made by coaches according to objective, written criteria approved by the State 4-H Office and announced and handed out to all of the tentative team and alternates at the first official practice held ASAP after the contest (within 3 weeks of final coach appointment). **The NH Horse Judging team(s) will attend the Regional Contest and may attend the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup. All youth qualifying for NH state teams may be asked to pay a portion of their trip expenses. Funding is uncertain for a Horse Judging team to attend the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup. The decision of which teams will attend ENHR will be determined by team rotation, team member qualification & participation and availability of a qualified coach.**

SENIOR CONTESTANTS- WHAT TO BRING TO THE JUDGING CONTEST:

1. Please check the weather forecast and dress warmly; it may be VERY COLD (mittens and hats) during the Judging Contest. Please wear socks and appropriate footwear. Clothing or insignia that identifies 4-H may be worn during the contest.
2. Bring a clipboard, pencils, notepad, and notes but travel light.
3. Personal items for a cold, dusty, environment (tissues, etc.)
4. Contestants will not have contact with coaches or personal items outside the contest area until they have completed the contest. Things needed during the contest must be carried - a small backpack is suggested.

Note: Junior and Intermediate 4-H members can participate in both Hippology and Horse Judging. This might be too long a day for some youth – please evaluate on an individual basis. Seniors may do only Judging or Hippology but not both.

QUESTIONS: Mary Davis, NH 4-H Program Manager, Animal and Agricultural Sciences email: Mary.Davis@unh.edu Office: (603) 862-2188

The New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest is made possible by generous support from the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire.

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UNH, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and NH counties cooperating. 12/2019*



New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest Rules

1. Coaches or individual contestants report to the contest superintendent at the designated location at 9:00 AM to receive their team packets containing placing cards and contestant ID badges to distribute to participants. Coaches will correct the roster, sign, and return packet envelopes to the superintendent.
2. Contestants will be assigned a group which they will remain with throughout the contest. During the contest itself, there shall be no talking between the contestants, or between contestants and anyone else except their group leader or as directed by the superintendent. **Talking or other communication between contestants or between contestants and coaches will result in a zero for the class in progress at the time and/or the related reasons; repeated violation will result in dismissal from the contest.**
3. Two to four halter classes will be judged. Breeds will be chosen based on availability of suitable horses and might include Light Horse breeds, Pony breeds, Draft breeds, Stock Horses, Warm Bloods and Mules. In the halter classes the horses are all to be considered serviceably sound. Other classes may be added at the discretion of the Superintendent.
4. One to three performance classes will be judged. They might include Western Pleasure, Saddle Seat Performance, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunter Hack, Western Riding, Reining, English Pleasure, Equitation (stock seat, hunt seat, saddle seat) or Pleasure Driving or other classes found in the NE 4-H Horse Show Rules. All equipment and attire will be considered legal. Horses are considered serviceably sound for placing purposes; however, unsoundnesses may be mentioned in oral reasons. Other classes may be added at the discretion of the Superintendent.
5. The horses will be designated 1-2-3-4. Horses are to be judged on their merits unless otherwise noted.
6. Horses will not be handled by the contestants, but time will be provided in halter classes for close inspection and to observe horses at a walk and trot.
7. Reason classes will be designated within one minute of start of class.
8. Oral reasons will be given by the reasons division contestants on two classes. Sixteen (16) minutes will be allowed for contestants to judge non-reasons classes, and eighteen (18) minutes will be given to contestants during reasons classes to make their observations, take notes, and fill out their placing cards.
9. Contestants are not permitted to use notes while giving reasons; however, their placing card will be offered to them upon entering the reasons room. Judges may ask questions of the contestants.
10. Official placings will be announced after each class, except reasons classes.

SUPPORT STAFF: Assistants, including announcer, group leaders, tabulators, judges, etc. will assist and be directly responsible to the Superintendent. Designated support staff are the only adults allowed in the ring with the contestants.

JUDGES:

1. Classes will be placed according to the rules of the NH and New England 4-H Horse Programs and the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) or the respective breed association rules, if applicable.
2. Official judges will judge the horse classes by committee with two to four of the officials designated as oral reasons judges.

CUTS: Cuts are a numerical score given to show the difference between the pairs and are used to calculate the contestant's score. This Contest has adopted the recommended cut scale of the National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association. The total of all three cuts cannot exceed 15.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS – NON-REASONS DIVISION:

Ten questions will be worded so contestant will answer with a number only. For example:

1. Which Belgian in the halter class had the greatest size and the most sloping shoulder?
2. Which Thoroughbred in the halter class was over at the knees?

3. In Saddle Seat Pleasure, which horse took the wrong lead the first way of the ring?
4. Which Western Pleasure Horse scuffed his feet and had a sluggish jog?
5. Which horse in the Hunter Under Saddle class was a grey?

DIVISIONS:

1. Reasons Division – Reasons division contestants will place all halter and performance classes and deliver two sets of oral reasons (see attached score sheet).
2. Non-Reasons Division – Non-reasons contestants will place all halter and performance classes plus answer 10 objective questions concerning the horses judged. The questions can all be answered by using the number of a horse in the class.

CONTEST RESULTS:

As soon as possible after all contestants have finished, tentative contest results will be announced. Coaches must report any scoring discrepancies to the State 4-H Office by 4:00 PM on the next business day following the contest. Discrepancies may be reported via email or phone (including voice mail) to Mary Davis (Mary.Davis@unh.edu phone: 603-862-2188). At that time, results will be declared official.

SCORING THE CONTEST: 50 points constitutes a perfect score in all classes and in reasons.

Non-Reasons Division (Junior, Intermediate and Senior 4-H): Awards given for Top 10 Individuals – Halter, Performance, Overall Tiebreakers in order: 1) Overall quiz score, 2) Placing score for reasons class(es) in that division, 3) Highest score in placing all classes.

Reasons Division:

1. Teams: teams may have three or four members, the three highest overall scores will be counted for awards (Top 5 Overall Team Score Awarded- individual team awards per division (ie: Halter, Performance, etc. will not be awarded).
2. Individuals: Top 8 in Halter, Performance, Reasons, and Overall. The individual whose score was dropped from the team totals on a 4-member team is eligible for individual awards.
3. Breaking ties:
 - a. If tied for halter or performance, the highest total reasons score in that division will be listed first.
 - b. If tied for a top overall award, the highest overall reasons score shall be listed first.
 - c. If still tied, the highest score in placing reason classes in that division shall be listed first.
 - d. If still tied, the highest overall placing score in all classes shall be listed first.
 - e. If still tied, the highest single class reason score shall be listed first.
 - f. If still tied after a,b,c,d,e above, the tie shall be maintained and both contestants shall be awarded equally.

GUIDELINES FOR REASONS JUDGES

1. Use Comment Box for comments on why deductions were made.
2. Place deductions in the small scorebox next to a category using a - (minus) and then the amount.
3. The official's placing is irrelevant and should not affect the reasons score. Deductions are for inaccuracies in the content of their reasons.
4. The following National Rating Guide shall be considered when placing reasons:
 - Good to Excellent reasons: 46-50
 - Above Average to Good: 41-45
 - Average: 36-40
 - Below Average: 31-35
 - Poor: 30 and below

5. Any contestant who showed reasonable organization and completion should not score below 25.
6. Judges should always be polite, friendly and non-threatening in their postures and facial expressions.
7. Emphasis should always be placed on the positive when speaking to or listening to the contestant.
8. Verbal comments should not be given to the contestants, but comments should be written on the score sheet.
9. Only question the contestant when necessary to clarify a point.
10. No eating, drinking, smoking or gum chewing while listening to reasons as they may distract the contestant.
11. Judging reasons is incredibly subjective. Keep a running tally of the previous scores in order to adjust too harsh or too gentle deductions. Keep score sheets as long as possible to make sure you have not inadvertently judged to the extreme.
12. Keep in mind that this is a youth contest and your comments can bruise delicate egos. When making notations as to why the deduction was given, please be as tactful as possible. The contestants appreciate your time and effort and can learn a lot from your comments.

The New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest is made possible by the generous support from the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire. Please consider supporting the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire and UNH Cooperative Extension by making a gift today. An online gift at extension.unh.edu/donate-ce.htm is safe, easy, and secure. You can designate your gift to a specific program or make an unrestricted gift to UNH Cooperative Extension or the 4-H Foundation of NH to use where support is most needed. If you want to see the funds used for programs like this in the future, you can specify that as well. Thank you for your continued support of the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire!

NEW HAMPSHIRE 4-H HORSE JUDGING CONTEST SCORESHEET FOR ORAL REASONS

Participant: _____ Class: _____

50 Points Beginning Score. Indicates perfect score with no errors or deductions.

Directions: Place deductions in box next to category. Write comments in comment section.

ORGANIZATION - No More Than 10 Point Deduction		COMMENTS:
Began with an introductory statement and included placing		
Delivered in orderly, logical manner. Clearly stated pairs and main points first		
Gave reasons combined with comparative grants and faults with a higher percentage of grants		

Subtotal of Deductions

DELIVERY - No More Than 10 Point Deduction		COMMENTS:
Stood relaxed but alert, showed no sluggish posture		
Personal appearance was neat and clean		
Enunciated words clearly		
Voice modulation was convincing and business-like		
Voice remained animated and not monotone, body gestures for emphasis used when needed		

Subtotal of Deductions

MATERIAL CONTENT OF REASONS - No More than 20		COMMENTS:
All statements were complete and accurate to the class seen		
Reasons were relevant to the class and did not appear to be copied from a book		
Additional deductions for completely inaccurate statements		
Distinct differences were indicated by using both points of weakness and strength		

Subtotal of Deductions

VOCABULARY - No More Than 10 Point Deduction		COMMENTS:
Terminology applied to class seen		
Terminology was easily understood		
Correct use of grammar		
Used variation of comparative terms and avoided repetitive words		

Subtotal of Deductions

Total Deductions

**TOTAL
SCORE**

/50

NH 4-H HORSE JUDGING CONTEST ENTRY- JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR 4-H MEMBER

Entry Deadline: March 27

Entry Fee: \$12.00 per person

Make checks payable to: UNH Cooperative Extension

Entry fee must accompany entry

COUNTY: _____

SENIOR DIVISION TEAM ENTRY

	Team 1 Names	AGE 1/1	Phone	Address	Email Address
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
	Individual Names				
1.					
2.					
3.					

Use an additional page for more entrants.

JUNIOR (8-10) & INTERMEDIATE (11-13) DIVISION ENTRIES

	Name	AGE 1/1	Phone	Address	Email Address
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					

Use an additional page for more entrants.

Coach Name	Telephone	Address	Email Address

This contest requires a lot of volunteers. Please submit the name and email address of a volunteer(s):

Volunteer Name _____

Email Address _____

Send to: Mary Davis, NH 4-H Program Manager, Animal and Agricultural Sciences, Mary.Davis@unh.edu Putnam Hall, 33 Sage Way, Durham, NH 03824 Fax: (603)862-2157

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Revised 12/2018

For SENIOR Members Only
NH 4-H HORSE JUDGING TEAM INTENT FORM

Upon completion of the New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest, the four highest scoring Senior Reasons Division 4-H contestants (and four alternates), who have not previously competed in a national judging competition, will be eligible to receive further coaching in horse judging. These four contestants will be the tentative State 4-H Horse Judging Team that may represent New Hampshire in an October regional and November national competition.

The New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Team (and alternates) will work with the coach at periodic, pre-scheduled practices. The final team will be named by July 1 using objective selection criteria approved by the State 4-H Office and announced and handed out to all of the team candidates at the mandatory first official practice held before June 1. A calendar for all required practices will be determined at the first meeting and shared with all contestants.

As this opportunity requires a great deal of commitment, we ask that you consider this carefully and indicate now whether or not you are interested in pursuing a spot on the state team if selected. This doesn't yet commit you to a team, but simply indicates your interest.

All youth who qualify for NH State Teams may be asked to pay a portion of their trip expenses.

Please check one:

_____ I am only interested in participating in the New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Contest and do not want to qualify for the state team and go on to Louisville.

_____ I am interested in qualifying for the New Hampshire 4-H Horse Judging Team, which means participating in practices throughout the year and attending the regional and Eastern National contests.

Participant Name (Please Print)

Parent Name (Please Print)

Participant Signature

Parent Signature (even if over 18)

Participant Email

Parent Email

For more information or to download copies of the entry packet and form (which includes all information about this contest), please go to:

Visit our website: extension.unh.edu

*UNH Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
University of NH, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and NH counties cooperating. 12/2018*

Directions to Deer Creek Farm, 22 Horner Rd, Thornton NH 03285 (for all judging contestants and SENIOR Hippology Contestants)

**Deer Creek Farm
22 Horner Rd
Thornton New Hampshire
www.deercreekfarm.org**

From points south/ (Concord, Plymouth) take I-93 Northbound

From I-93 Take exit 28. Turn right at bottom of ramp, onto Route 49 toward Campton/Waterville Valley. Drive 1.1 miles

At stop at lights turn left onto New Hampshire 175 North. Drive 3.5 miles

Go past the sugar shack maple syrup house and take the next left -- look for big sign that is blue that says Deer Creek Farm, drive down to you see the barn.

From points north/Lincoln I-93 Southbound

Take exit 30 off I-93. Turn right to US 3 toward Woodstock/Thornton

Travel 3.2 miles South on Route 3 then take a left on Cross Rd this will take you over a bridge to Route 175

At stop sign take a right onto 175 S. this is .8 miles drive very slowly as you see a cemetery on your right because on the downward hill turn you need to take a sharp right onto Horner Road