



## New Hampshire 4-H Horse Communication Contest Rules

### General:

Please see 4-H Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks and 4-H Public Speaking rules for more information about these events in general. Please note that Horse Public Speaking, Team and Individual Demonstrations/Illustrated Talks have rules listed below. Please pay particular attention to TIME limits; points will be deducted for time over or under the allotted time.

### CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Each county may enter two intermediates (11-13 as of 1/1) and two seniors (14-18 as of 1/1) in each division of this contest (for example two individual demonstration/presentation, two public speaking, and two team demonstration/presentations).
2. Delegates may be selected by any procedure that a county deems appropriate.
3. 11-year-old members are not eligible for Eastern States.
4. All contestants must be current members of 4-H in the county they are representing. Team demonstrations may include members from mixed counties; they may only participate as a team in one county qualifying event.
5. Contestants who have participated in collegiate communications events or post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the presentation are not eligible for NE Regional or Eastern National Contests. Please see Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup rules for additional information.
6. After competing in a communication event at Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup, a contestant is ineligible to compete in the same specific contest again at the NH, NE Regional or Eastern National Contests.
7. See also specific rules and score sheets for public speaking and demonstration/illustrated talk (team and individual) on the following pages.
8. The two top scoring eligible senior participants/teams in each of the divisions (speech, demonstration and team demonstration) are invited to continue practicing with a coach, preparing to represent NH at the Northeast Regional 4-H Horse Contest. Contestants in each division MAY be chosen to represent NH at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup (ENHR). 13-year-old members may be given the opportunity to attend the NE Regional 4-H Horse Contest if there are no seniors eligible to fill all available spots.



## Public Speaking Rules & Resources

1. The subject must pertain to the equine industry. Speeches, not appropriately related to the equine industry, may be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.
2. No visual aids may be used. PowerPoint presentations, props, slides and posters not allowed.
3. No coaching from audience members, parents or coaches allowed during the speech.
4. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
5. A public address system will not be used during the contest, but a podium or table will be provided.
6. During the event, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, county and speech topic.
7. Time limits are: 5-8 minutes for intermediates (age 11-13) and 7-10 minutes in length for seniors (age 14-18). One point will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the allotted time.
8. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their speech. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. The judges will ask the contestant appropriate question(s). After the judges have asked questions, the audience may ask questions, but responses to audience questions will not affect contestant score.
10. Only videotaping or photographing of presentations is allowed by respective participant or their designees.
11. Contestant order will be randomly assigned with coordination of other events in which contestants are participating, and will be announced in the event program.
12. Two-three judges will each score presentations independently. After all presentations are complete and scores are tabulated, judges may confer and discuss evaluations. Each judge assigns his or her final scores and then cumulative final scores are tabulated to determine the final placing.
13. Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges' accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.
14. Improper attire will be a violation and appropriate points deducted on the scorecard. Improper attire will be determined at the discretion of the judges. Business attire or dress appropriate to the speech is acceptable.
15. The score sheet attached (or a similar score sheet) will be used.



## **Individual and Team Presentation (Demonstration and Illustrated talk) Rules & Resources**

1. The subject must pertain to the horse industry. Presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry may be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.
2. The presentation may be a demonstration or illustrated talk. All references to the term “presentation” or “demonstration” in these rules include either demonstration or illustrated talk. A demonstration is defined as a presentation of a step by step procedure with an end product or result. An illustrated talk is defined as a presentation of an idea or topic that uses visual aids to convey the message. Both presentation forms are acceptable and will be evaluated equally, although the delivery methods are different as defined above. Both should utilize visual aids to help convey the major points of the presentation and more than one type of visual aid is preferable. Visual aids may include but are not limited to: handouts, posters, props, videos, slides, and computer generated media (PowerPoint, websites, etc.). No live animals may be used.
3. Contestants may use notes. However excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant at the discretion of the judge(s).
4. A public address system will NOT be used during the contest.
5. Participants must supply their own props. An easel and a table will be provided for the presenter’s use. Contestants must provide all of their own equipment. An LCD projector MAY be available; please check with county staff or State 4-H Office or bring your own.
6. Creative audio visual aids may be used but the contestant must be involved in making or designing them.
7. During the contest, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, county and presentation topic.
8. Presentations length should be:  
Individual: Intermediates 5- 10 Minutes Seniors 9 – 12 Minutes  
Team presentation: Intermediates 8-12 Minutes Seniors 10-15 Minutes  
One point will be deducted from the total score on each judge’s score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the allotted time.
9. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation. This will not be counted in the allotted time.
10. No coaching is allowed from audience members, parents or coaches during the presentation.
11. No videotaping or photographing of presentations is allowed during the contest, except by respective team coaches or their designees.
12. Contestant order will be randomly assigned with coordination of other events in which contestants are participating, and will be announced in the event program.
13. The judges will ask the contestant appropriate question(s). After the judges have asked questions, the audience may ask questions, but responses to audience questions will not affect contestant score.
14. Improper attire will be a violation and appropriate points deducted on the scorecard. Improper attire will be determined at the discretion of the judges. Business attire or dress appropriate to the speech is acceptable.
16. Two-three judges will be used and each judge will score presentations independently. After all presentations are presented and scores are tabulated, judges may confer and discuss evaluations. Each judge assigns his or her final scores and then cumulative final scores are tabulated to determine the final placing.
17. Ties will first be broken by the judges’ accumulated delivery score, second by the judges’ accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.
16. The score sheet attached (or a similar score sheet) will be used.



New Hampshire 4-H Horse Communications Contest Score Sheet  
**Public Speaking**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate (11-13) \_\_\_ Senior (14-18)\_\_\_

Title of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_ Club/County \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Presentation Format**

- Presentation followed a logical order
- Introduction was adequate and drew attention to the topic
- Main discussion was well organized and adequately covered the topic
- Summary was brief and reviewed the key points

Comments: Possible Points 25 Points earned \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Knowledge of Subject Matter**

- Information presented was accurate
- Member was well prepared
- Approved practices were presented or used

Comments: Possible Points 25 Points earned \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Delivery**

- Presenter was neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the presentation
- Presenter spoke directly to the audience and maintained eye contact
- Pace was neither too fast nor too slow
- Presenter was enthusiastic
- Presentation was easy to hear and understand
- Words were pronounced correctly and proper grammar was used
- Notes, if used, did not detract from the presentation

Comments: Possible Points 25 Points earned \_\_\_\_\_



**D. Credit and Content:**

- Information was obtained from reputable sources
- Credit was given to the information source when appropriate
- Content was related to horses or the equine industry

Comments: 15 \_\_\_\_\_

**E. Questions:**

- Member handled questions with confidence
- Member was thoughtful in responses and answered questions thoroughly and correctly
- Responses to questions indicated an understanding of the topic

Comments: 10 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total score: (maximum 100)** \_\_\_\_\_

Time Guidelines:                      Intermediat 5-8 Minutes                      Seniors 7-10 Minutes

Time Deduction: Deduct 1 point from the total score of each judge for each minute or fraction of a minute under 5 or 7 minutes or over 8 or 10 minutes (depending on division).

**Time deduction** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final score:** \_\_\_\_\_



New Hampshire 4-H Horse Communications Contest Score Sheet  
**Individual and Team Presentations (Includes Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate (11-13) \_\_\_ Senior (14-18)\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate (11-13) \_\_\_ Senior (14-18)\_\_\_

Title of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_ Club/County \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Presentation Format**

	Possible Points	Points earned
<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation followed a logical order		
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction was adequate and drew attention to the topic		
<input type="checkbox"/> Main discussion was well organized and adequately covered the topic		
<input type="checkbox"/> Summary was brief and reviewed the key points		
Comments:	15	_____

**B. Materials and Visual Aids**

<input type="checkbox"/> Materials and equipment were appropriate and well organized		
<input type="checkbox"/> Visual aids were high quality and easily visible		
<input type="checkbox"/> Visual aids were appropriate for the topic		
Comments:	15	_____

**C. Knowledge of Subject Matter**

<input type="checkbox"/> Information presented was accurate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Member was well prepared		
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved practices were presented or used		
Comments:	25	_____

**D. Delivery**

<input type="checkbox"/> Presenter was neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the presentation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Presenter spoke directly to the audience and maintained eye contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pace was neither too fast nor too slow		
<input type="checkbox"/> Presenter was enthusiastic		
<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation was easy to hear and understand		
<input type="checkbox"/> Words were pronounced correctly and proper grammar was used		
<input type="checkbox"/> If a team demonstration, team members worked equally or nearly so		
<input type="checkbox"/> Notes, if used, did not detract from the presentation		
Comments:	25	_____



**E. Credit and Content:**

- Information was obtained from reputable sources
- Credit was given to the information source when appropriate
- Content was related to horses or the equine industry

Comments: 10 \_\_\_\_\_

**F. Questions:**

- Member handled questions with confidence
- Member was thoughtful in responses and answered questions thoroughly and correctly
- Responses to questions indicated an understanding of the topic

Comments: 10 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total score: (maximum 100)** \_\_\_\_\_

Time Guidelines: Individual: Intermediate 5- 10 Minutes Seniors 9 – 12 Minutes

Team presentation: Intermediate 8-12 Minutes Seniors 10-15 Minutes

Time Deduction: Deduct 1 point from the total score of each judge for each minute or fraction of a minute under or over that allowed.

**Time deduction** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final score:** \_\_\_\_\_