

HORSE JUDGING CONTEST

1. Eligibility

- A. Read general rules
- B. Two teams per county or a maximum of eight participants may compete in the horse-judging contest.

2. Procedures

- A. The contest will consist of at least three and not more than four halter classes and at least three and not more than four performance classes.
- B. All halter classes will be judged as sound of limb, eye, wind, and mouth.
- C. Performance horses will be judged as seen (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly).
- D. In performance classes, all tack and attire will be considered legal.
- E. Performance classes will consist of four horses each, and breeds and/or sexes may be mixed. Performance classes will be selected from the following:
 - i. Western Pleasure
 - ii. Hunter Under Saddle
 - iii. Hunt Seat Equitation
 - iv. Pleasure Driving
 - v. Western Riding
 - vi. Reining
 - vii. Western Equitation
- F. The following breeds may be represented in the halter classes:
 - i. Quarter Horse
 - ii. Thoroughbred (Hunters)
 - iii. Appaloosa
 - iv. Arabian
 - v. Tennessee Walkers
- G. Reasons: Two sets of oral reasons will be given which will include one performance and one halter classes.
- H. Participants will be given 15 minutes to place each halter class, including the two-minute warning. Halter classes on which reasons will be given will be announced at the start of the contest. Participants will judge and place the performance classes in the time required to complete the performance of the four horses in the class. Performance reason classes may be announced before the contest or after all performances have been judged.
- I. Two minutes will be allowed to give oral reasons to the judge. Contestants' placing card will not be offered prior to giving reasons.
- J. No one may use New Mexico State University livestock for practice or inspect livestock in any way within 60 days prior to the date of the contest.

K. No talking will be permitted between contestants. Offenders may have their cards pulled.

3. References

A. 4-H Horse Judging Guide for English Performance, 200 R-47

B. New Mexico Horse Judging Manual, 200 R-48

C. Horse Judging For Good Reasons, 200 R-48b

D. Placing Card for 4-H Judging Events, 200 D-9

4. Awards

A. First through fifth place ribbons will be awarded to team members and high point individuals. Medals will go to the first place team members.

B. The winning team is eligible to compete in the National Western 4-H Horse Classic in January in Denver, CO. Provided all age and academic requirements are met according to the national contest guidelines.