

Washington State University Extension
National Equine Public Presentations
Rules and Regulations

This contest has three formats:

- ✓ Individual demonstration/illustrated talk
- ✓ Team (2 person) demonstration/illustrated talk
- ✓ Individual public speaking

Successful 4-H members from this State event will be selected to represent Washington State 4-H at the National Contest.

1. Each county is invited to enter one contestant or team per contest division.
2. Individuals may be selected by any procedure which a county deems appropriate.
3. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age, but not have reached his or her 19th birthday as of January 1 of the year in which this event is held.
4. Contestants must be enrolled in 4-H in the county they represent.
5. Certification of participant eligibility should consider the following: "this contestant has not participated in post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the national 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the national 4-H competition."
 - A. Post-secondary undergraduate students may participate in and/or complete freshman and sophomore level equine management or communications courses. Students completing a junior, senior or graduate level equine and/or communications course are ineligible to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competition.
 - B. Students are ineligible to participate in a National 4-H Horse Competition if they are currently enrolled in courses that provide specific training for the competitive event in which they are participating. For example, student participation in collegiate horse judging events, on intercollegiate horse judging teams and in intercollegiate communication events would eliminate a 4-Her's eligibility to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competitions.
6. Contestants (including team alternates) may participate in only one contest per year at the Roundup. After competing in this contest, they are ineligible to compete in the same specific contest again. Contestants must not have competed previously in this contest in the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup in Louisville or the Western National 4-H Horse Classic in Denver.

THE CONTEST

1. The subject must pertain to the horse industry. Presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.
2. This may be a demonstration or an illustrated presentation.
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 during the contest.
5. Contest officials will supply two easels, a podium and two tables. Any other equipment needs must be supplied by the contestant.
6. Visual Aids – Public Speaking: No visual aids may be used.
Individual and Team Presentations:
 - a) This may be a demonstration or an illustrated presentation. No live animals may be used.
 - b) Creative audio visual aids may be used, but the contestants must be involved in making or designing them (i.e. Power Point)
7. In a Team Presentation both participants should have an equal role in the presentation.
8. During the contest, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and topic or they may choose to be introduced by the moderator.
9. Individual presentations should be 9-12 minutes in length. Team presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length. Speeches should be 7-10 minutes in length. Three points will be deducted from the total score for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under or over the time frame allotted.
10. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation. This will not be counted in the allotted time.
11. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant in the contest. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question then answer it.
12. Ties will be broken first by the judges' combined delivery scores, second by the judges accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy scores combined.
13. Cell phones must be turned off during the operation of the contest.
14. No coaching from parents/spectators during the contest.
15. No recording devices may be used during contest.
16. 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 presentation is acceptable.
17. Three judges will be used and judges will score each entry independently and assign scores. 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 placings. If four judges are used, the lowest judge's total score will be dropped before the judges scores are combined for a final placing.

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM PRESENTATION

A. INTRODUCTION 10 Points

1. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
2. Was the introduction brief and to the point?

B. ORGANIZATION 25 Points

1. Was only one main idea presented?
2. Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
3. Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation or was an explanation given for any discrepancies?
4. Could the audience see each step?
5. Were the materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well-organized?
6. Were charts and posters used if and when they were needed?
7. Were the key points for each step stressed?

C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY 25 Points

1. Were the facts and information presented accurate?
2. Was there enough information presented about the subject?
3. Were approved practices used?
4. Was credit given to the sources of information, if it was appropriate?
5. Was the content appropriately related to the equine industry?

D. STAGE PRESENCE 10 Points

1. Was the presenter(s) neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the demonstration?
2. Did the presenter(s) speak directly to and look at the audience?

E. DELIVERY 15 Points

1. Did the presenter(s) appear to enjoy giving a demonstration?
2. Did the presenter(s) have good voice control?
3. Were all words pronounced correctly?
4. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the speech?
5. Did the presenter(s) seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized presentation?
6. If team presentation – did presenters work as well as a team?

F. EFFECT ON AUDIENCE 5 Points

1. Did the audience show an interest in the presentation?
2. Could the audience go home and carry out the idea?

G. SUMMARY 10 Points

1. Was the summary short and interesting?
2. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
3. Did the summary properly wrap the presentation?
4. Could the presentation(s) handle questions easily?

PUBLIC SPEAKING

A. INTRODUCTION 10 Points

1. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
2. Was the introduction brief 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 the sentences brief and easy to understand?
4. Was the speech interesting?

C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY 20 Points

1. Were the facts and information accurate?
2. Was there enough information concerning the subject?
3. Was credit given to the sources of information, if appropriate?
4. Was the content appropriately related to the equine industry?

D. STAGE PRESENCE 15 Points

1. Was the speaker neat and appropriately dressed?
2. Did the speaker talk directly to and look at the audience?
3. Was the speaker's posture erect, but not stiff?
4. Did the speaker refrain from leaning on the podium?
5. Did the speaker seem relaxed and at ease?

E. DELIVERY 20 Points

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

F. GENERAL 10 Points

1. Did the speaker convey to the audience a sense of wanting to communicate?
2. Did the speech reflect the thoughts and personality of the speaker?

G. CONCLUSION 10 Points

1. Was the conclusion brief and interesting?
2. Did the conclusion properly wrap up the speech?
3. Could the speaker handle questions easily?

