MN 4-H HORSE PROJECT

HIPPOLOGY HANDBOOK

"hippo" = greek for horse  "ology" = the study of
Hippology is an activity that can make learning fun for 4-H members, by letting them exhibit their knowledge and understanding of equine science and husbandry in a friendly but competitive setting.

**Objectives**

This educational activity would provide 4-H horse project members an opportunity to further their horse project knowledge. This activity would provide the 4-H horse project members the opportunity to utilize knowledge and skills developed from other project activities such as knowledge bowl, horse judging, speaking and demonstrations, and general horse program. The objectives of the 4-H Hippology Event would be as follows:

* Provide additional educational opportunities for horse project members
* Develop skills such as decision-making, communication skills, team-building, self-confidence, and leadership skills
* Enhance individual growth and development
* Provide an opportunity to inter-relate horse project knowledge
* Provide an opportunity for horse project members to use their horse project knowledge
* To advance knowledge, abilities, skills and attitudes
* To measure and recognize horse project achievement

**FUNDING**

MN 4-H Horse Association provides $50 per individual participating, while representing MN at an Association approved Contest. Funding paid to the team.

**Event Activities**

The Hippology Contest has four (4) different phases

1) Examination Phase
2) Station Phase
3) Judging Phase
4) Team Problem

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**MINNESOTA ELIGIBILITY** (National requirements are different)

1. Sr. team members may be no more that one-year past high school graduation. All Intermediate team members must have completed sixth grade, but not their 14th birthday on Jan. 1 of the current year.

2. Senior teams may be comprised of both Intermediates and seniors for the Minnesota Contest. If one member is a Sr., the whole team is a Sr. Team.

3. **To be eligible to judge as substitutions for team members, list alternates on the entry form,** i.e., they may be listed as alternates and also judge as an individual. Each county may pre-register three Hippology teams or participate as part of a multi-county team. (i.e., Int/Int, Int/Sr., or Sr/Sr) Each team may have three or four members. If four judge, the three highest scores will be used. A county can have a maximum of two members participate as individuals. Counties not able to organize their own County team are eligible for a multi-county team.

4. Team members must be enrolled in 4-H, but need not be enrolled in the Horse Project to participate on a Judging Team, Hippology Team or Speech & Demonstration Contest. Teams may be selected by any means appropriate to the County they represent and must be certified as eligible by the county Extension Educator.
NATIONAL CONTESTS:

1. State entry form must be complete to be eligible for National Competition.

2. Senior Team: 3 or 4 members who have passed their 14th, but not their 19th birthday on January 1 of the current year.

   *** Note: MN rules are different. If your team is considering a Nat’l contest, be sure that all members over the Nat’l age requirement as an Individual in the state Contest.

3. Intermediate Team - 3 or 4 members who have completed sixth grade, but not their 14th birthday on January 1 of the current year.

4. No member may be undergoing training for or have participated in official post secondary horse judging events.

NATIONAL CONTEST CITIRIA: ** indicate 1999 Changes

WESTERN NATIONAL 4-H CLASSIC, Denver, CO: (First eligible team MUST take)
   Individuals may participate in only one contest per year.
   An individual may not compete in the same specific contest again.
   An individual must not have participated in any post secondary (university, college, junior college or technical school) Hippology, horse bowl or horse judging competitive contest. Neither can an individual be a member of a post secondary team undergoing training in preparation for such an event.

QUARTER HORSE CONGRESS, Columbus, OH: (2 trips)
   Individuals may participate in more than one contest per year. Individuals are allowed to compete in Hippology and either Speaking/Demo or Horse Bowl. Speaking/Demo and Horse Bowl individuals could also compete in Hippology or Judging. (Contestants must win a MN State trip in order to do this)
   ** Individual is ineligible if they were a high individual overall or on the high overall team
   An individual may not have participated in an official, post secondary Hippology, Horse Bowl or Horse Judging contest nor have been in training preparation for one of these contests.

ARABIAN HORSE YOUTH NATIONALS CONTEST, Oklahoma City, OK:

   ** All past high overall individuals are ineligible to compete again.
   An individual must not have participated in a collegiate judging contest.
Rules

1. Minnesota Team contests (Hippology/judging/bowl) are not considered State Fair or State Horse Show trips and do not affect eligibility for State Fair or State Horse Show individual trips. A member may participate in State Horse Show and any team contest and participate at State Fair in a team event or contest.

2. Horse Show Entry Form #5, including fees, must be sent to State Show Secretary by entry deadline. No late entries will be accepted. Entry form must be complete to be eligible for National Competition.

3. Reference Material: All the information covered in this contest may be found in one or more of the following publications:
   - Horses and Horsemanship - National 4-H Council
   - Horse Science - National 4-H Council
   - Horses and Horsemanship (6th Edition) - Ensminger
   - The Horse (2nd Edition) - Evans, Boron, Hints and Van Fleck
   - Horses - Evans
   - Catalogs distributed by Libertyville Saddle Shop, 306 Peterson Road, PO Box M, Libertyville IL, 60043 and Eiders, Inc., North Broad Street, Hillside, NJ, 07205
   - Grains forages and feed preparations used in this contest will be representatives of feeds utilized in horse rations.

CONTEST

1. Examination Phase - 200 points - This phase of the contest may include:
   a. written exam
   b. projected slides to be identified as to breed, color, color pattern, activity, proper appointments, etc.
   c. anatomy, which may include external, skeletal, internal organs, parts of gastrointestinal tract, male and female reproductive organs, detailed anatomy of the foot and detailed lower limbs.

2. Station Phase - 200 points - This phase will consist of a series of stations or tables where at each. All contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Examples of stations that may be used include:
   a. Identification of:
      1. various types or saddles (actual or pictured) and parts of saddles.
      2. tack, bits, bridles, horseshoes, and parts of shoes.
      3. tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment.
      4. grains and forages used in equine rations including various forms or methods of preparation
      5. internal and external parasites on actual samples, pictures, life cycle charts and/or damage caused
      6. blemishes and unsoundness.
      7. age of equine based on teeth
   b. Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc. to assess horses health.
   c. Measurements such as, but not limited to, wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle, etc. may be required.

3. Judging Phase - 200 points - Contestants will be required to judge at least four (4) classes consisting of two (2) halter or confirmation classes and two (2) performance classes. Every effort will be made for this phase to be held with the judging contest, with the same classes, same official placing and cuts as apply to the judging contest. In an extreme emergency, pictorial, video and/or movie classes may be used, in which case they would be especially prepared for the event.
4. Team problem - 200 points - All teams in an age division will be presented with the same problem(s). Each team will have equal time to discuss among themselves the problem, immediately after which they will have to present an oral solution or series of suggested procedures: relative to the problem. Each member of each team is encouraged to contribute to the oral presentation. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of the response, the probability of success of the solution or procedures and the logic used in making the oral response. The official may ask questions of any or all of the team members to clarify the presentation.

Examples of the possible team problems might include:
  a. balancing a horse’s ration
  b. farm management recommendations for specific horse operations (i.e. boarding, breeding, training, nursery, layout, etc.
  c. considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose).
  d. recommendations for selecting, locating, and purchasing horses for specific purposes
  e. behavior problems - causes, management of and corrections
  f. training and conditioning programs - equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance
  g. breeding and/or leasing contracts - specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transportation, etc.
  h. teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9 - 11 year old beginning 4-H’ers: where, how long, how much information, hands-on experiences, reinforcement, testing evaluation, will be considered
  i. explanation of use or assembly of specific equipment.
  j. demonstrate skill or ability to use specific equipment

Team problem scores will not be included in determining the rank of individuals in the contest, but will be added to the team scores of the other three phases to determine overall team standing.

Awards

1. The awards and recognition will include the following:
   Champion and Reserve Champion team plaque for the overall teams.

   Ribbons to:
   - Top five teams - overall
   - Top five teams - written exam
   - Top five teams - station identification
   - Top five teams - team problems
   - Top five teams - judging

   ** New in 2000, awards will be in each division, Intermediate and Senior

2. Top 10 individuals overall and in each phase will be announced and will receive ribbons. ** Change for 2000, top 5 in each age division instead of no age division recognition.

3. Tie breaking - all ties, overall, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence:
   a. examination scores
   b. station scores
   c. judging scores.

   Ties within any phase are to be broken using the overall score first then the same sequence as above. If further tie breaking is needed, the scores at each station, in order may be used
4-H Hippology Event Sample Written Exam

Section 1. - Breeds

Give the name of the following breeds:

_________________ excels at speed for intermediate distances; originated in England

_________________ Descended from Spanish horses; noted for mottled skin, striped hooves, white Sclera around eyes, and distinctive coat patterns

_________________ Developed in United States as a general purpose breed; noted for its natural running walk gait

_________________ Height range of 46” to 56”; developed in United States; has mottled skin, white Sclera and striped hooves

_________________ Draft horse of lighter build, characterized by white face and leg markings, feathering on lower legs, and high action

Section 2. - Unsoundness

Complete the following chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unsoundness</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poll evil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fistula</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringbone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quittor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrush</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rupture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bog Spavin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 3. - Conformation and Selection

1. Why are pig eyes undesirable?  _________________________________________________________________

2. What is One reason Parrot Mouth and Monkey Mouth are undesirable traits?  _____________________________
                                                                                               ______________________________________

3. What is the term for the top profile of the neck being concave with a depression in front of the withers?
                                                                                               ______________________________________

4. Long sloping shoulders are associated with what kind of stride?  ________________________________
                                                                                               ______________________________________
How To Use Hippology Stations

Each area is called a station. Each station is numbered and represents a particular subject. Each station has an equal number of items to identify or an equal number of questions to answer. Any number of stations can be used. A station is made up of a self-supporting laminated poster, card with possible answers, answer key card, instruction sheet and sample score sheet. The following are suggestions on how to use the stations.

*1. Each participant is given a score sheet. Fill in only tile letter and not the complete answer.

*2. Each contestant will be given a designated amount of time to complete a station. (two minutes are recommended for 10 parts)

*3. A number should be assigned to each station to ensure answers are written in the correct area on the score sheet. **DO NOT WRITE ON THE STATION.**

*4. When the timer signals, the first participant enters Station #1. Participant must stand with his/her back to the station until the tinier signals time to start. The participant may then turn around and begin to identify the items. At the end of the designated time the participant must stop and turn around. He/she must not leave the station until the timer signals.

*5. Each time a participant leaves Station #1 and moves the next station, a new participant enters. Participants must stand with their backs to each new station until the timer signals. This process is repeated until all of the participants have played.

*6. As participants leave the last station, they will turn in their game sheet to be scored by the tabulator. ****NO TALKING DURING PROCESS!!

7. The participants might be divided into three age groups: 9-11, 12-14, 15-18; with possibly a Horseless Horse group, adult group, various team arrangements, etc.

8. For a club or project meeting, five stations would be satisfactory. However, for an area or state competition, additional stations may be more challenging. The younger age group might have four Beginning level stations, the middle age group having the same first four plus three stations of the Intermediate level and the older age group all of these plus three of the Advanced level.

9. For older participants, the card with the choice of possible answers might be withheld, and then also score the participants on their correctness of spelling.

10. A plus 1 point can be assigned to each correct answer at a station, with a total for the stations to determine the final score.

*STEPS 1-6 ARE MONITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

For groups - help needed.

1. Score keeper
2. Timer to assign members to stations.
3. Coordinator to organize set up of stations, etc.

Timer Responsibilities

1. Signal the start of the event and the move to a new station.
2. Signal time to play.
3. Keep track of the playtime (usually two minutes).
4. Direct participants to stations.
DEVELOPING HORSE PROJECT LEARNING STATIONS

Items needed:

- poster board 1 sheet (28” x 44”) / 2 stations
- glue or adhesive 1 jar/can
- laminating or clear contact paper $ 1.50/foot
- index cards 2 / station
- manila clasp envelopes 1 / station
- paper 20-50 sheets
- copying costs $.20 / station
- camera costs, if needed $2.00 / station
- tack or other equipment for identification donated
- grain and forage samples U of MN., Animal Science Dept.
- stopwatch $7-$12

Procedure:

1. Identify topics of learning stations.
2. Make necessary copies of drawings, photos, etc. as necessary.
3. Purchase poster board ($2.60 - $3.80 at Dick Blick Art Materials). One sheet (28 X 44) is enough for 2 stations.
4. Cut poster board to size (14 X 22).
5. Glue station title to piece of poster board and the topic copy on the other piece poster board.
6. Type up 2 index cards for learning station. One for answer choices and one as the answer key. The answer choice card should include more choices than the 10 items for identification in station.
7. Laminate the index cards and poster board. Themselves should laminate poster boards so they can stand upright in either direction. Be sure to laminate boards as one unit. Clear contact paper may also be used in place of laminating, just follow the same directions.
8. Glue manila envelopes on back side of learning station. Be sure to use the envelope with string attached for fastening.
9. Place index cards in tile envelope and fasten tightly.

Costs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poster board</td>
<td>$1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copies</td>
<td>$20 (10/11” X 17” paper)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glue</td>
<td>$.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index Cards</td>
<td>$.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envelope</td>
<td>$.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film costs</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminating</td>
<td>$1.50 / linear foot and upwards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEARNING STATION TOPICS

Breeds          Tack          
Colors          Equipment      
Markings        Anatomy        
Horse Uses      Grains        
Horse Events    Forages       
Parasites       Blemishes & Unsoundness’
Horse measurements  Horse Health

EXPERIENCE LEVELS

Here are some examples of how to make stations appropriate to the different knowledge levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginners</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breeds</td>
<td>Basic breeds</td>
<td>Add European / Foreign breeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colors</td>
<td>Basic colors</td>
<td>Add color variations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse Events</td>
<td>Horses in Action</td>
<td>Performance Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>Basic Horse Parts</td>
<td>Horse Skeleton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

========================================================================================================

Sample Hippology Score Sheet

Name: ___________________________ County: __________________ Grade: _______ Age (as of Jan 1st):___________

Station #1
1.______   1._______  1.______
2.______   2._______  2.______
3.______   3._______  3.______
4.______   4._______  4.______
5.______   5._______  5.______
6.______   6._______  6.______
7.______   7._______  7.______
8.______   8._______  8.______
9.______   9._______  9.______
10.______ 10._______ 10.______

Points: _____  Points: _____  Points: _____

Total Score: ___________
Sample Team Problem

Your local horse project group would like to offer a variety of workshops for their horse project members. Provide a written outline of the planning process for this program and tentative topics and target audiences for those topics.

*