# Horse Evaluation

# Purpose

*The purpose of the New Jersey FFA Horse Evaluation Career Development Event is to:*
- *Promote the study of and interest in equine science, selection, care and well-being, management, and production through the agricultural education curriculum.*
- *Encourage experiential learning through practical skills, critical thinking and applied knowledge.*
- *Provide recognition for those who have demonstrated skills and competencies as a result of instruction in equine science.*

# Objectives

By incorporating horse evaluation instruction in the agricultural education program, teachers can instill leadership and motivate learning in the classroom by developing student skills in cooperative learning, observation, analysis, critical thinking and communication.

Through participation in the event, participants will be able to

- Develop and exercise competitive spirit in a team atmosphere.
- Create a foundation for career choices by building an awareness of opportunities within the equine industry.
- Advance knowledge in equine science, selection, care and well-being, management and production of horses.
- Evaluate, make decisions and orally justify decisions on conformation traits and performance of horses.

# Event Rules

The complete rules, policies and procedures relevant to all New Jersey FFA Career and Leadership Development Events may be found in the CDE & LDE Event Participation Policy: https://nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/activity/CDE_LDE_Policy.pdf

- This event is hosted by the New Jersey 4-H.  Rules in this handbook are subject to change with little to no notice as a result.
- Each team will be comprised of four members. All scores will be used to determine the total team score.  Students CAN compete as both FFA members and 4-H members.  However, they must complete and submit the appropriate score cards for each organization.
- Participants should wear an FFA shirt, long pants, and appropriate footwear (no sneakers or open-toed shoes).  Participants must come to the event prepared to work in adverse weather conditions. The event will be conducted regardless of weather. Participants should have rain gear, warm clothes and closed toed shoes.
- All attire of riders and handlers and all tack is to be considered legal in the selection classes.
- All halter horses will be judged as sound, and all performance classes will be judged as they go regarding soundness.
- AQHA novice rules will be used in Hunter Under Saddle, Ranch Pleasure and Western Pleasure classes in reference to head set and head carriage.
- No individuals from the same school/chapter may talk, confer or judge together (except during the team activities). Penalty will be loss of score for that section of the event or disqualification for the event. The event coordinator has the authority to make disqualifications.
    - Participants are NOT allowed to use (or have visible) electronic devices during the event, unless for medical reasons or a portion of the event requires usage. This includes cell phones, tablets,

etc. Participants will be allowed to use calculators, if specified for that event; however, cell phone calculators and graphing calculators are not permitted! Failure to adhere to these rules will result in disqualification.

- All individuals participating will judge in a cooperative manner following the rules set forth by the event coordinator.
- No school/chapter will use Rutgers University or Delaware Valley University facilities or locations for the training of teams. Contact with University faculty and staff is permissible. Penalty will be disqualification.

- This event may be scored using "Scan-tron" sheets, unless specified otherwise. In the event scan-trons are used, it is important for students to listen to directions and fill out the sheets correctly in order to receive credit. Sample scan-tron sheets are available for practice on the State Activity Guide. This event uses the Universal Form-A scan-tron sheet.
- There will be no separate alternate teams.
- The State level competition fee of $11 per participant will be paid by the competing school. If a chapter is at least blue affiliated, registration to state FFA career development events is waived.

# Event Format

Materials each participant needs to provide:
- Two sharpened No. 2 pencils for placing classes.
- Clipboard
- Blank paper
- Calculator (non-programmable, cannot be cell phone)
- As per 4-H rules, contestants will be allowed to take books and notes into the contest.
  - **Resources are not to be used on Individual Tests or the Team Activity.**

New Jersey FFA will provide:
- Blank AQHA-approved score sheet for use during the selection classes — See Reference Section, AQHA Score sheets.
- Scantron sheet(s) needed for the event.

Participants are not to bring:
- Cell phone or other electronic devices

## EVENT SNAPSHOT
Below is a brief overview of the Horse Evaluation CDE:

This event consists of four (4) parts:

1. Horse Knowledge Test (20 minutes, 30 items total)
2. Selection Classes (12-15 minutes, up to 8 halter and performance classes)
3. Oral Reasons (up to 2 sets)
4. Team Activity (10 minutes per activity, 2 activities)

A chapter must have a team of four.

## INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

### Horse Knowledge Test (60 points)

Participants will be tested on a wide variety of equine topics: Equine Industry, Equine Diseases, Breed Identification, Equine Management, and Anatomy & Physiology. The exam is based from the National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association (NHJTCA) Equine Management & Evaluation Certification.

### Selection Classes (up to 400 points)

Up to eight classes will be evaluated, consisting of halter and performance classes. There will be two classes of reasons, one reasons classes in each area. Classes will be approximately 12 to 15 minutes in length. All classes will be 50 points.

Halter classes will be evaluated as sound, so no tracking or close inspection will be done. Halter classes may be represented by the following breeds and types.

- Quarter Horse
- Conformation Hunter
- Appaloosa
- Arabian
- Paint
- American Saddlebred
- Morgan
- Ranch Conformation

Performance classes will be evaluated as presented (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly). Patterns and scoresheets will be provided to the teams prior to the start of the event for all classes requiring patterns. See the Resources AQHA Classes pages 10-35 for more information. Links are provided below for the included Performance classes:

- English Pleasure (Saddle Seat)
- Showmanship at Halter
- Western Pleasure
- Ranch Riding
- Ranch Trail
- Ranch Rail Pleasure/Working Western Rail
- Western Horsemanship
- Western Riding
- Trail
- Reining
- Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat)
- Hunt Seat Equitation
- Hunter Hack

### Oral Reasons (100 points)

One performance class will be selected for oral reasons, worth 50 points from Western Pleasure, Ranch Riding, Western Riding, Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat), Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat), Trail and Hunter Hack.

One Halter class will be selected for oral reasons from listed halter classes (50 points). Note: Major points will be deducted if participants use notes during oral reasons presentations. Please refer to the Horse Judging Contest Guidelines for Class Officials and Reasons Judges Section of the National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association (NHJTCA) Handbook, https://www.nhjtca.org/handbook/ .

## TEAM ACTIVITIES

### Team Activity (100 points total)

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION ACTIVITIES (100 POINTS; 50 POINTS PER ACTIVITY)**
Participants will answer questions and gather information from practical application activities. Teams will complete two activities. Participants will have up to ten minutes for each activity. Examples of practical activities include, but are not limited to, feed/hay selection, injections, lameness and selecting equipment to shoe a horse properly.

# Scoring

The event is organized into the following parts, classes and point values:

| Activity | Individual Points | Team Points |
|---|---|---|
| Horse Knowledge Test | 60 | 240 |
| Halter/Performance classes – up to eight total classes | 400 | 1600 |
| Halter oral reasons – one | 50 | 200 |
| Performance oral reasons – one | 50 | 200 |
| Team practical application activities | | 100 |
| **MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SCORE** | 560 | 2,340 |

### TIEBREAKERS
Ties will be broken in the following order:

*Individual:*
1. Oral reasons total.
2. Performance classes total.
3. Halter classes total.

*Team:*
1. Team oral reasons total.
2. Team performance classes total.
3. Team halter classes total.

# Awards

Awards will be presented to individuals and the first team based on their rankings at the CDE awards ceremony at the New Jersey State FFA Convention. Awards are sponsored by the New Jersey FFA Foundation, Inc., the New Jersey State FFA Association, and/or the National FFA Organization.

**Individual**
- Overall Medals
  - Medals – Top three individuals
- H.O. Sampson Certificates (hands-on practicum areas ONLY)
  - Certificate – Top five individuals

**Team**
- Plaque Sponsored by the National FFA Organization - 1st place

The 1st place team will represent New Jersey at the Big E in September and National FFA Convention in October.

# Request for Reasonable Accommodations

The New Jersey FFA Association is committed to providing equal access to our events and activities for all people. Use this form to request a reasonable accommodation or assistance at least 3 weeks before any state-level events: https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/accommodations-request. A new form will need to be submitted for each event in which a reasonable accommodation is being requested. This information will be kept confidential and will be used only to process the request. Our staff will review the request upon receipt and contact the requestor with additional information. The association cannot guarantee accommodations or assistance if a form is received less than 3 weeks before an event. Accommodations being requested that require the assistance of another person (nurse, interpreter, scribe, reader, etc.) is the responsibility of the school/requestor. It is also the school/requestor's responsibility to provide any approved equipment to aide in the accommodation process, if applicable.

# Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy and Guidelines

The standard operative procedures allow FFA members to use AI tools to assist them in their learning. Appropriate uses of AI may include generating ideas for any FFA-related assignment, project, contest and award application; checking facts of a phenomenon; or checking for and correcting grammatical errors in a paper written by a member. Specific guidelines for appropriate use, including examples, is provided in the policy. To ensure clarity, a statement outlining ethical AI utilization will be added to program handbooks. Non-compliance with this policy represents plagiarism and will automatically disqualify a member.

Please visit the State Activity Guide, Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy 1.007 to view the full guidelines and best practices.

# Professional Integrity

FFA members participating in New Jersey FFA programs and events understand and agree that all work must result from their own effort and ability, created, and completed alone (except for partner or chapter applications). When outside sources (direct quotes or phrases, specific dates, figures, or other materials) are used for a project, document, or application, the required reference citation must be completed according to the rules specified by the applicable handbook.

While participating in New Jersey FFA programs, FFA members are prohibited from:
- Plagiarizing
- Violating copyright
- Cheating
- Falsifying information
- Using another person's results or thoughts as their own, even with this person's permission. This includes work done by a family member or a mentor.
- Using information or data obtained from the internet without proper citation.

Any attempt to gain an unfair advantage will not be tolerated. Non-compliance represents plagiarism and will automatically disqualify a member.

# References

***This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized***, and teachers are encouraged to use the best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during the event preparation.

Past CDE materials and other resources are available on FFA.org.

- AQHA Performance Class rules — Use the current rules available as a free PDF at https://www.aqha.com/aqha-rulebook.
- USEF Performance Class rules — Use the current rules available as a a free PDF at https://www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/rules-regulations/rulebook.
- AQHA Forms and Resources, https://www.aqha.com/forms-an-resources. Scoresheets for pattern classes (Horsemanship, Showmanship & Hunt Seat Equitation), Trail, Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Reining and Western Riding).
- National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association (NHJTCA) offers a free study guide for the Equine Management and Evaluation Certification, download/view the National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association Equine Study Guide. National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association also offers DVD's, www.nhjtca.org
- ICEV also offers a course at https://www.icevonline.com/equine-management.
- CEV Videos on horse judging, https://store.icevonline.com/
- American Quarter Horse Association, Amarillo Texas — Video References, https://www.aqha.com/-/educational-judging-videos. Additional video packages are at https://showing.aqhuniversity.com/pages/judge-home
- AQHUniversity provides excellent video resources and tutorials on new classes starting in 2024. Many resources for youth are offered free once an account is set up by an adult.
- Heird, James C. and The American Quarter Horse Association, Competitive Horse Judging. First Edition. The American Quarter Horse Association, 1990. https://equinehusbandry.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/AQHA-Competitive-Horse-Judging.pdf?fwd=no
- American Paint Horse Association, Fort Worth Texas-Judging References, https://www.horseiq.com/ FFA Chapters are eligible for a $150 discount for 25 student seats on horseIQ
- Evans, J. Warren, Borton, Anthony, Hintz, Harold F., and Van Vleck, L. Dale, The HORSE, current edition. W. H. Freeman and Company, 41 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 ISBN 0-7167-1811-1
- The American Youth Horse Council, https://www.ayhc.com/ .
- Equine Science Curriculum – a special project from the National Council for Agricultural Education, https://www.ffa.org/thecouncil/resources
- Tack Identification: Horses and Tack, Howard Ensminger, http://teskeys.com, select Tack
- Oklahoma State University horse breeds, http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/horses/
- University of Kentucky Agripedia website, search horse judging, http://www2.ca.uky.edu/
- Texas A&M AgriLife Learn Online Horse Judging Course, https://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestock-species/equine/online-judging/
- Black Hawk Horse Judging Manual available for purchase, http://bookstore-east.bhc.edu/MerchDetail?MerchID=1522504&CategoryName=horse%20judging%20manual&CatID=34342&Name=horse%20judging%20manual
- Official Judging Guide from each of the various breed associations and audiovisuals

# RANCH RIDING
## SCORE SHEET

**AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**

JUDGE _____

CLASS _____

DATE _____

MANEUVER SCORES: - 1 1/2 Extremely Poor, - 1 Very Poor, - 1/2 Poor, 0 Correct, + 1/2 Good, + 1 Very Good, + 1 1/2 Excellent

| | | MANEUVER DESCRIPTION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | MANEUVER | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | PENALTY TOTAL | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
| DRAW | EXHB # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

JUDGES SIGNATURE _____

# AQHA
### AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

## REINING
## SCORE SHEET

| JUDGE |
|---|
| CLASS |
| DATE |

MANEUVER SCORES: -1 1/2 Extremely Poor, -1 Very Poor, -1/2 Poor, 0 Correct, +1/2 Good, +1 Very Good, +1 1/2 Excellent

| | | MANEUVER DESCRIPTION | | | | | | | | | | PENALTY TOTAL | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | MANEUVER | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | |
| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

| DRAW | EXH # | PENALTY | | | | | | | | | | SCORE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | SCORE | | | | | | | | | | |

_____
JUDGES SIGNATURE

# Universal Form - A

705A-12

Team Name:

This sheet is for demonstration and practice only. You must use a real scan sheet for actual competition.

CHAPTER, COUNTY, OR CLUB NUMBER

TEAM

**AGE DIVISION**
- I    Junior
- II   Intermediate
- III  Senior
- IV
- V

**CONTESTANT NO.**

## PLACING CLASSES

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1234 | 1234 | 1234 | 1234 | 1234 | 1234 |
| 2 | 1243 | 1243 | 1243 | 1243 | 1243 | 1243 |
| 3 | 1324 | 1324 | 1324 | 1324 | 1324 | 1324 |
| 4 | 1342 | 1342 | 1342 | 1342 | 1342 | 1342 |
| 5 | 1423 | 1423 | 1423 | 1423 | 1423 | 1423 |
| 6 | 1432 | 1432 | 1432 | 1432 | 1432 | 1432 |
| 7 | 2134 | 2134 | 2134 | 2134 | 2134 | 2134 |
| 8 | 2143 | 2143 | 2143 | 2143 | 2143 | 2143 |
| 9 | 2314 | 2314 | 2314 | 2314 | 2314 | 2314 |
| 10 | 2341 | 2341 | 2341 | 2341 | 2341 | 2341 |
| 11 | 2413 | 2413 | 2413 | 2413 | 2413 | 2413 |
| 12 | 2431 | 2431 | 2431 | 2431 | 2431 | 2431 |
| 13 | 3124 | 3124 | 3124 | 3124 | 3124 | 3124 |
| 14 | 3142 | 3142 | 3142 | 3142 | 3142 | 3142 |
| 15 | 3214 | 3214 | 3214 | 3214 | 3214 | 3214 |
| 16 | 3241 | 3241 | 3241 | 3241 | 3241 | 3241 |
| 17 | 3412 | 3412 | 3412 | 3412 | 3412 | 3412 |
| 18 | 3421 | 3421 | 3421 | 3421 | 3421 | 3421 |
| 19 | 4123 | 4123 | 4123 | 4123 | 4123 | 4123 |
| 20 | 4132 | 4132 | 4132 | 4132 | 4132 | 4132 |
| 21 | 4213 | 4213 | 4213 | 4213 | 4213 | 4213 |
| 22 | 4231 | 4231 | 4231 | 4231 | 4231 | 4231 |
| 23 | 4312 | 4312 | 4312 | 4312 | 4312 | 4312 |
| 24 | 4321 | 4321 | 4321 | 4321 | 4321 | 4321 |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

## LAST NAME    FIRST NAME

## QUESTIONS / EXAM

| | A/Y B/N C D | | A/Y B/N C D |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | 26 | |
| 2 | | 27 | |
| 3 | | 28 | |
| 4 | | 29 | |
| 5 | | 30 | |
| 6 | | 31 | |
| 7 | | 32 | |
| 8 | | 33 | |
| 9 | | 34 | |
| 10 | | 35 | |
| 11 | | 36 | |
| 12 | | 37 | |
| 13 | | 38 | |
| 14 | | 39 | |
| 15 | | 40 | |
| 16 | | 41 | |
| 17 | | 42 | |
| 18 | | 43 | |
| 19 | | 44 | |
| 20 | | 45 | |
| 21 | | 46 | |
| 22 | | 47 | |
| 23 | | 48 | |
| 24 | | 49 | |
| 25 | | 50 | |

Place barcode label here.

## REASONS CLASSES

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|

| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|

SCANTRON   Mark Reflex® EM-255851-2:654321   ED99