

Tennessee FFA Association

Horse Evaluation Handbook

2017-2021

Purpose

The purpose of the Tennessee 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 use of 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

Through participation in the state event, participants will be able to:

- Instill leadership and motivate learning in the classroom through development of student skills in cooperative learning, observation, analysis, critical thinking and communication.
- 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.
- Provide the opportunity to evaluate, make decisions and orally justify decisions on conformation traits and performance of horses.

Event Rules

- Each team will be comprised of four members. All scores will be used to determine the total team score.
- FFA Official Dress is required for the state event.
- 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, in regard to 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.
- Any participant in possession of an electronic device in the event area is subject to

disqualification.

- Event information may be added or deleted as changes occur in the livestock industry. When new criteria are adopted, the information will be forwarded to all chapters by Feb. 1 of the event year by the Tennessee FFA program manager responsible for career development events.

Event Format

Materials each participant needs to provide:

- Two sharpened No. 2 pencils for placing classes
- A clear, transparent clipboard
- Official scantron (purchased through judgingcard.com)
- No pre-printed materials will be allowed during the event

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

IDENTIFICATION CLASS (50 POINTS)

Participants will identify breeds and/or colors and markings of horses, tack and equipment as well as leg deviations (i.e., toed out, toed in, sickle hocked etc.,) items. Each problem will be worth two points each, 25 items total. This activity will come from the previous five years of National FFA Identification Classes posted on ffa.org.

SELECTION CLASSES (300 POINTS)

Six classes will be evaluated, consisting of halter and performance classes. There will be three classes of reasons. Classes will be approximately 12–15 minutes in length. All classes will be 50 points.

Halter classes will be evaluated. Halter classes may be represented by the following breeds and types: Tennessee Walking Horse, Quarter Horse, Conformation Hunter, Appaloosa, Arabian, Paint, American Saddlebred and Morgan. All halter classes will be evaluated as sound.

Performance classes will be evaluated. Performance classes may include: Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Pleasure, Ranch Pleasure, Western Riding, Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat), Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat), Trail and Hunter Hack. 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.

ORAL REASONS (150 POINTS)

There will be up to two performance oral reasons classes selected from Western Pleasure, Ranch Pleasure, Western Riding, Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat) and Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat). (50 points each)

There will be up to two Halter oral reasons classes selected from the halter classes listed above (50 points each)

Note: Major points will be deducted if participants use notes during oral reasons presentations.

Scoring

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

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY	Points per individual	Points per team
Identification Class	50	200
Halter/Performance Classes – six total classes	300	1,200
Halter/Performance Oral Reasons – 3 sets	150	600
TOTAL SCORE	500	2,000

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

References

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive.

Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

National FFA – CDE Questions and Answers FFA.org

AQHA Resources, score sheets – <http://aqha.com>

- Score Sheet for
 - Pattern Classes (Horsemanship, Showmanship & Hunt Seat Equitation)
 - Trail
- Under the section titled “Ranch Riding”
 - All score sheets
- Under the section titled “Reining”
 - All score sheets
- Under the section titled “Western Riding”

AQHA Resources Patterns – <https://www.aqha.com/journal/resources/exhibitors/patterns>

- Patterns for
 - Ranch riding
 - Reining
 - Western riding

American Quarter Horse Association, Amarillo Texas – Video References

<http://www.aqhastore.com/Gear-DVDs/>

Heird, James C. and The American Quarter Horse Association, Competitive Horse Judging. First Edition. The American Quarter Horse Association, 1990. –

www.aqha.com/en/~media/99CC10097D56497EBDE93F18F672A0CD.ashx

CEV Videos on horse judging – <http://www.cevmultimedia.com>

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. http://ayhc.com/Resources___News.html

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/tack.html>

Oklahoma State University horse breed website <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/horses/>

University of Kentucky Agripedia website

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/Agmania/HORSE/INDEX.asp>

Official Judging Guide from each of the various breed associations and audiovisuals