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CHAPTER

NATIONAL FFA

HORSE EVALUATION

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

A Special Project of the National FFA Foundation

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please thoroughly read the Introduction Section at the beginning of this handbook for complete rules and procedures that are relevant to all National FFA Career Development Events.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the National FFA Horse Evaluation Career Development Event is to:

1. stimulate the study of and interest in equine science selection, management and production through the agricultural education curriculum.
2. provide recognition for those who have demonstrated skills and competencies as a result of instruction in equine science.
3. To promote career choices by providing an opportunity for participants to become acquainted with professionals within the industry.
4. To advance knowledge in selection and management of horses.
5. To develop proficiency in communicating effectively in the terminology of the industry.
6. To provide the opportunity to evaluate, make a decision and justify those decisions on conformation traits and performance of horses.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. To instill leadership and motivate learning in the classroom while developing student skills in cooperative learning, observation, analysis and communication.
2. To develop and exercise competitive spirit in a team atmosphere.

III. EVENT RULES

1. All attire and tack is legal in the selection classes.

IV. EVENT FORMAT

A. Equipment

Materials student needs to provide- Each participant must have a clean, free of notes clipboard, two sharpened No. 2 pencils, and a battery operated electronic calculator.

B. Team Activity (100 points)

The team activity requires all members of the team to work cooperatively to complete the problem-solving portion of the event. Use of calculators is permissible during the team activity only. Time allowed will be appropriate to the section for that year. This section may consist of:

- Industry scenarios
 - Nutrition
 - Management
 - Reproduction
 - Marketing
- Identification
 - Breed
 - Tack/Equipment
 - Feed
 - Horse Anatomy

C. Individual Activity

Selection Classes (600 points)

There will be a total of eight classes judged, four classes of halter and four classes in performance events with four classes of reasons, two reasons classes in each area. Classes will be approximately 12–15 minutes in length. All classes will be 50 points. Oral reasons should not exceed two minutes in length.

Four halter classes will be judged. Halter classes may be represented by the following breeds and types: Quarter Horse, Conformation Hunter, Appaloosa, Arabian, Paint, American Saddle bred and Morgan. All halter classes will be judged as sound.

Four performance classes will be judged. Performance classes may include: Western Pleasure, Western Riding (Pattern One), Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat), Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat) and Hunter Hack. Performance classes will be judged as presented (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly). American Quarter Horse Association reining pattern will be provided to the teams prior to the event.

There will be two oral reasons classes selected from Western Pleasure, Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat) and Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat). **Note:** Participants may only bring their placing into the oral reasons.

V. SCORING

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

	Possible Points	
	Individual	Team
Selection Classes		
<i>Halter Class</i>		
Placings [4]	200	600
Oral Reasons [2]	100	300
<i>Performance Class</i>		
Placings [4]	200	600
Oral Reasons [2]	100	300
Total Individual Score 600		
<i>Team Activity</i>		100
Total Team Score** 1900		

** (top 3 individual's scores plus problem solving)

■ VI. TIEBREAKERS

Ties will be broken by the total score on classes in the following order: Oral Reasons; Halter Classes One, Two, Three and Four; Performance Classes One, Two, Three and Four.

■ VII. AWARDS

Awards will be presented at an awards ceremony. Awards are presented to teams as well as individuals based upon their rankings. Awards are sponsored by a cooperating industry sponsor(s) as a special project, and/or by the general fund of the National FFA Foundation.

Special awards will be presented, by way of certificates, for the top five individuals in the following areas: Halter, Performance and Reasons.

■ VIII. REFERENCES

Current Official AQHA Handbook

American Quarter Horse Association, Amarillo Texas – Video References <http://www.quarter-horseoutfitters.com/>

2001 edition of the AQHA Championship Judging Series <http://www.aqha.com/youth/>

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

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

Evans, J. Warren, Borton, Anthony, Hintz, Harold F., and Van Vleck, L. Dale, *The HORSE*, second edition. W. H. Freeman and Company, 41 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 ISBN 0-7167-1811-1

Horse Industry Handbook, published by the American Youth Horse Council. Order by calling 1-800-Try-AYHC

Equine Science Curriculum – a special project from the National Council for Agricultural Education.

Interactive Horse Judging [CD-ROM], available from Kansas State University, Extension Service.

Oklahoma State University website/breeds

University of Kentucky website/agripedia

*<http://www.saddleshop.com> – Official reference for terminology for tack/equipment portion of team activity.