



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**EXTENSION**

## **4-H Horse Demonstration Contest Rules**

Superintendent:

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### **CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY**

1. There is an individual contest and a team contest. A team consists of 2 members.
2. Each county or area is invited to enter as many teams and/or individuals as the county deems appropriate, providing that those teams and/or individuals have qualified via their county qualifying event in the Horse Demonstration Contest.
3. The individual and/or team may be selected by any procedure that the state deems appropriate.
4. Contestants must be enrolled in 4-H in the county or area they represent or combined in accordance with state 4-H policy prior to April 15 of the current year.
5. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age but not yet have achieved their 19th birthday on January 1 of the year they qualified to compete.
6. Contestants must not have participated in any post secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) competitive demonstration contest. Neither can a contestant be a member of a post secondary team undergoing training in preparation for such an event.
7. An Individual Demo contestant cannot re-enter the Individual Demo contest but can enter the Team Demo contest. And a Team Demo participant cannot re-enter the Team Demo contest but may enter the Individual Demo contest. Please note: this rule only applies if a contestant has competed at the national level in the individual and/or team demo contest. If not, contestant can enter both the individual and team demo contest.

### **CONTEST RULES**

1. The subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Demonstrations or presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s).
2. Presentations may be either of demonstration or illustrated talk format. No live animals may be used.
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 in the contest.



5. Creative audio visual aids may be used, but the contestants must be involved in making or designing them.
6. During the competition, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, county and presentation topic.
7. Presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length. One point will be deducted from the total score for each minute or fraction of a minute under 10 minutes or over 15 minutes by each of three judges, for a three-points per minute total deduction. After the individual or team has been introduced by the superintendent, the time will start once the contestant(s) begin(s) to speak.
8. Contestants should cite their major reference materials at the end of the presentation. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestant should repeat the question, then answer it.
10. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing.
11. For educational purposes the management may videotape all demonstrations with individual or team consent.
12. Once an individual or team has started their demonstration (in this case it is after they have been introduced by the superintendent), they may not receive assistance from any coach, parent, audience member, or other person, which includes, but is not limited to, the stroking of any key on a computer or other audio visual device. The penalty for violating this rule is disqualification.
13. Ties will be broken by first the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy scores.
14. Judges will consider the questions listed under each section. Points on the score card will be as follows:

**A. INTRODUCTION (10 points)**

1. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
2. Was introduction short and to the point?
3. Was a catchy title used?

**B. ORGANIZATION (25 points)**

1. Was only one main idea presented?
2. Did the discussion relate directly to the step as it was shown?
3. Was each step shown or illustrated just as it should be done in an actual situation?
4. Could audience see each step?



5. Were materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
6. Were charts and posters used if and when needed?
7. Were key points of each step stressed?

**C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY (25 points)**

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

**D. STAGE PRESENCE (10 points)**

1. Was the presenter neat and appropriately dressed for subject of presentation?
2. Did presenter speak directly to audience?
3. Did presenter look at the audience?
4. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?
5. Was good teamwork displayed? (Team presentation - generally not advisable for one person to do all the talking and the other one all the presenting.)

**E. DELIVERY (15 points)**

1. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving presentations?
2. Did the presenter have good voice control?
3. Were all words pronounced correctly?
4. If notes were used, was it done without detracting from speech?
5. Did presenter seem to choose words at the time they were spoken? (Avoid a memorized presentation.)

**F. EFFECT ON AUDIENCE (5 points)**

1. Did audience show an interest in the presentation?
2. Could 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 summary properly wrap up the presentation?
4. Could presenter handle questions easily?

**AWARDS**

1. Awards will be announced. Ribbons to the top five (5) individuals, and the top five (5) teams.



## EQUIPMENT

1. The contest officials will supply two tables and two easels. Any other equipment needs must be made through special arrangements with superintendents a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance. Management will not be held responsible for failure of A/V equipment to operate properly.

### Competing in other National Contests

The State Champion Team from the state 4-H contest is expected to represent Colorado 4-H at the National 4-H Contest in January of the following year, in Denver (Western Round-up). Colorado 4-H members are not eligible to attend the Eastern National Horse contests in Louisville KY. However, the high team may select two additional national contests such as contests held by various breed associations. Please contact the contest organizers for further details and entry limitations. This team must designate the two contests they have chosen by July 1st of the year they win the state contest. The coach of the winning team is responsible to notify the coach of the second place team, the state 4-H Equine Extension Specialist and the State 4-H Contest Superintendent of their contest choices by July 1st.

The Reserve State Championship team from the state 4-H contest may represent Colorado 4-H at two National contests, after the State Champions have made their selection. The coach of the second place team is responsible to notify the coach of the third place team, the state 4-H Equine Extension Specialist and the State 4-H Contest Superintendent of their contest choices by July 10th.

The third high team from the state contest may represent Colorado 4-H at one National contest after being notified of the intentions of the state champions and Reserve Champions.

4-H team coaches are welcome to take their teams to any National contest where there is no limit imposed by the contest on the entry of 4-H teams by each state. In any contest where the entries of 4-H teams are limited, the above protocol regarding eligibility must be followed. Only when a contest has not been selected by the first three placing senior teams at the state contest, may unranked teams be entered to represent counties in the Colorado 4-H Program.

When considering out of state travel with junior 4-H members please check with your County Extension Agent on county and state policies. Generally, juniors do not go on national trips, unless there is a case where a junior is used to fill a senior team i.e. no other seniors from that county are available. However, coaches, parents and the junior member should give this decision great consideration, as the junior would then be subject to the same eligibility restrictions outlined below.

Only the team representing Colorado at the National 4-H contest at Western Round-up is ineligible for further competition as members of a 4-H Team at a 4-H county or state contest. Members may continue to compete, as individuals, in contests that include individual competitors or as members of national teams competing in breed association contests so that they may further develop their skills. Horse and Bowl is strictly a team events by nature and do not allow for individuals to compete.