

Team Communications Award

1. For a state to be considered for this award, they must have entries in at least two of the communications contests (public speaking, individual presentation, team presentation).
2. A total score for each state will be calculated by adding the final scores for each contest entry.
3. Ties will be broken first by the combined judges' delivery scores, second by the combined judges' organization scores, and third by combined judges' content and accuracy scores.
4. Awards will be presented to the top ten state entries based on the above criteria.

Public Speaking Rules & Resources

CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Each state is invited to enter one contestant in this contest.
2. Individuals may be selected by any procedure which a state deems appropriate.
3. As of January 1 of the year in which this event is held, contestants must be at least 14 years of age, but not have reached his or her 19th birthday.
4. All contestants must be members of 4-H in the state they are representing during the year in which this event is held and participation eligibility must be certified by the State 4-H Leader.
5. Certification of participation eligibility should consider the following: "This contestant has not participated in post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the national 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the national 4-H competition." See details below.
 - A. Post-secondary undergraduate students may participate in and/or complete freshman and sophomore level equine management or communications courses. Students completing a junior, senior or graduate level equine and/or communications course are ineligible to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competition.
 - B. Students are ineligible to participate in a National 4-H Horse Competition if they are currently enrolled in courses that provide specific training for the competitive event in which they are participating. For example, student participation in collegiate horse judging events, on intercollegiate horse judging teams and in intercollegiate communication events would eliminate a 4-Her's eligibility to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competition.

6. If a State decides to change whether it will attend the Eastern or Western National Contest from its participation the previous year, the Contest Management Committee Chair of both events are to be notified of the decision by April 1 of the current year. All representative teams of that state must attend that same event.

THE CONTEST

1. The subject must pertain to the equine industry. Speeches, not appropriately related to the equine industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.
2. No visual aids may be used.
3. No coaching from parents or coaches during the speech.
4. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
5. A public address system will not be used during the contest, but a podium will be provided.
6. During the event, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and speech topic.
7. Speeches should be 7-10 minutes in length. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under 7 minutes or over 10 minutes.
8. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their speech. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant in the contest. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question then answer it.
10. Contestants may use video recorders to tape their own presentations. It is the responsibility of the coach/speaker to provide all necessary recording equipment.
11. No videotaping or photographing of presentations is allowed during the contest, except by respective coaches or their designees.
12. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the Coaches meeting.

13. Three judges will be used and judges will score each entry independently and assign scores. After all presentations are presented and scores are tabulated, judges may confer and discuss evaluations. Each judge assigns his or her final scores and then cumulative final scores are tabulated to determine the final placings. Contest superintendents may review and check tabulation of scores for mathematical accuracy.

14. Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges' accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.

15. Improper attire will be a violation and appropriate points deducted on the scorecard. Improper attire will be determined at the discretion of the judges. Business attire or dress appropriate to the speech is acceptable.

16. The judges will consider the questions listed under each section. The 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 the introduction short and to the point?

B. ORGANIZATION 15 points

1. Were the main points easy to follow?

2. Were the main points arranged in the best order?

3. Were the sentences short and easy to understand?

4. Was the speech interesting?

C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY 20 points

1. Were the facts and information accurate?

2. Was there enough information concerning the subject?

3. Was credit given to the sources of information, if it was appropriate?

4. Was the content appropriately related to the equine industry?

D. STAGE PRESENCE 15 points

1. Was the speaker neat and appropriately dressed?

2. Did the speaker talk directly to and look at the audience?

3. Was the speaker's posture erect, but not stiff?

4. Did the speaker refrain from leaning on the podium?

5. Did the speaker seem relaxed and at ease?

E. DELIVERY 20 points

1. Did the speaker have appropriate voice control?

2. Were all words pronounced correctly?

3. If notes were used, was it done without detracting from the speech?

4. Did the speaker seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized or ready-type delivery?

F. GENERAL 10 points

1. Did the speaker convey to the audience a sense of wanting to communicate?

2. Did the speech reflect the thoughts and personality of the speaker?

G. CONCLUSION 10 points

1. Was the conclusion short and interesting?

2. Did the conclusion properly wrap up the speech?

3. Could the speaker handle questions easily?

Individual Presentation Rules & Resources

CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Each state is invited to enter one contestant in this contest.
2. Individuals may be selected by any procedure which a state deems appropriate.
3. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age, but not have reached his or her 19th birthday as of January 1 of the year in which this event is held.
4. All contestants must be members of 4-H in the state they are representing during the year in which this event is held and participation eligibility must be certified by the State 4-H Leader.
5. Certification of participation eligibility should consider the following: “This contestant has not participated in post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the national 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the national 4-H competition.” See details below.
 - A. Post-secondary undergraduate students may participate in and/or complete freshman and sophomore level equine management or communications courses. Students completing a junior, senior or graduate level equine and/or communications course are ineligible to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competition.
 - B. Students are ineligible to participate in a National 4-H Horse Competition if they are currently enrolled in courses that provide specific training for the competitive event in which they are participating. For example, student participation in collegiate horse judging events, on intercollegiate horse judging teams and in intercollegiate communication events would eliminate a 4-Her’s eligibility to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competition.
6. If a State decides to change whether it will attend the Eastern or Western National Contest from its participation the previous year, the Contest Management Committee Chair of both events are to be notified of the decision by April 1 of the current year. All representative teams of that state must attend that same event.

THE CONTEST

1. The subject must pertain to the horse industry. Presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.

2. The presentation may be a demonstration or illustrated talk. All references to the term “presentation” in these rules include either demonstration or illustrated talk. A demonstration is defined as a presentation of a step by step procedure with an end product or result. An illustrated talk is defined as a presentation of an idea or topic that uses visual aids to convey the message.

Both presentation forms are acceptable and will be evaluated equally, although the delivery methods are different as defined above. Both should utilize visual aids to help convey the major points of the presentation and more than one type of visual aid is preferable. Visual aids may include but are not limited to: handouts, posters, props, videos, slides, and computer generated media (PowerPoint, websites, etc.). 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 judge(s).

4. A public address system will NOT be used during the contest.

5. Participants must supply their own props. Two tables and chairs will be provided for the presenter’s use. Contestants must provide all of their own equipment.

6. Creative audio visual aids may be used but the contestant must be involved in making or designing them.

7. During the contest, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and presentation topic.

8. Presentations should be 9-12 minutes in length. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge’s score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under 9 minutes or over 12 minutes.

9. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation. This will not be counted in the allotted time.

10. No coaching from parents or coaches during the presentation.

11. Contestants may use video recorders to tape their own presentations. It is the responsibility of the team coach/team to provide all necessary recording equipment.

12. No videotaping or photographing of presentations is allowed during the contest, except by respective team coaches or their designees.

13. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the coaches’ meeting.

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

D. STAGE PRESENCE 10 points

1. Were the presenters neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the presentation?
2. Did the presenter speak directly to and look at the audience?
3. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?

E. DELIVERY 15 points

1. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving presentation?
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 the presentation?
5. Did the presenter seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized presentation?

F. EFFECT ON AUDIENCE 5 points

1. Did the audience show an interest in the presentation?
2. Could the 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 the summary properly wrap up the presentation?

4. Could the presenter handle questions easily?

Team Presentation Rules & Resources

CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Each state is invited to enter one team consisting of two members for this contest.
2. Teams may be selected by any procedure which a state deems appropriate.
3. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age, but not have reached his or her 19th birthday as of January 1 of the year in which this event is held.
4. All contestants must be members of 4-H in the state they are representing during the year in which this event is held and participation eligibility must be certified by the State 4-H Leader.
5. Certification of participation eligibility should consider the following: “This contestant has not participated in post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the national 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the national 4-H competition.” See details below.
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 - B. Students are ineligible to participate in a National 4-H Horse Competition if they are currently enrolled in courses that provide specific training for the competitive event in which they are participating. For example, student participation in collegiate horse judging events, on intercollegiate horse judging teams and in intercollegiate communication events would eliminate a 4-Her’s eligibility to participate in the National 4-H Horse Competition.
6. If a State decides to change whether it will attend the Eastern or Western National Contest from its participation the previous year, the Contest Management Committee Chair of both events are to be notified of the decision by April 1 of the current year. All representative teams of that state must attend that same event.

THE CONTEST

1. The subject must pertain to the horse industry. Presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges.
2. The presentation may be a demonstration or illustrated talk. All references to the term "presentation" in these rules include either demonstration or illustrated talk. A demonstration is defined as a presentation of a step by step procedure with an end product or result. An illustrated talk is defined as a presentation of an idea or topic that uses visual aids to convey the message.

Both presentation forms are acceptable and will be evaluated equally, although the delivery methods are different as defined above. Both should utilize visual aids to help convey the major points of the presentation and more than one type of visual aid is preferable. Visual aids may include but are not limited to: handouts, posters, props, videos, slides, and computer generated media (PowerPoint, websites, etc.). No live animals may be used.

3. This is a Team Presentation where both participants should have an equal role in the presentation.
4. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestants. This will be at the discretion of the judge(s).
5. A public address system will NOT be used during the contest.
6. Participants must supply their own props. Two tables and chairs will be provided for the presenter's use. Contestants must provide all of their own equipment. Any other equipment needs must be made through special arrangements with contest officials at least two weeks prior to the contest date.
7. Creative audio visual aids may be used, but the contestant must be involved in making or designing them.
8. During the contest, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and presentation topic.
9. Presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under 10 minutes or over 15 minutes.
10. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation.

This will not be counted in the allotted time.

11. No coaching from parents or coaches during the presentation.

12. Contestants may use video recorders to tape their own presentations. It is the responsibility of the team coach/team to provide all necessary recording equipment.
13. No videotaping or photographing of presentations is allowed during the contest, except by respective team coaches or their designees.
14. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the coaches' meeting.
15. Improper attire will be a violation and appropriate points deducted on the scorecard. Improper attire will be determined at the discretion of the judges. Business attire or dress appropriate to the speech is acceptable.
16. Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant in the contest. Each team shall be asked the same minimum number of questions. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question then answer it.
17. Three judges will be used and judges will score each entry independently and assign scores. After all presentations are presented and scores are tabulated, judges may confer and discuss evaluations. Each judge assigns his or her final scores and then cumulative final scores are tabulated to determine the final placings. Contest superintendents may review and check tabulation of scores for mathematical accuracy.
18. Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges' accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.
19. Judges will consider the questions listed under each section. The 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?

B. ORGANIZATION

25 points

1. Was only one main idea presented?
2. Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
3. Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation or was a thorough explanation given?

4. Could the audience see each step and/or visual aid?
5. Were materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged, and well organized?
6. Were visual aids used if and when needed?
7. Were the key points for each step stressed?

C. CONTENT AND ACCURACY

25 points

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

D. STAGE PRESENCE

10 points

1. Were the presenters neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of presentation?
2. Did the presenters speak directly to and look at the audience?
3. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?

E. DELIVERY

15 points

1. Did the presenters appear to enjoy giving their presentation?
2. Did the presenters have good voice control?
3. Were all words pronounced correctly?
4. If notes were used, was it done without detracting from the presentation?
5. Did the presenters seem to choose words at the times they were spoken, as opposed to a memorized presentation?

6. Did the presenters work together as a team?

F. EFFECT ON AUDIENCE

5 points

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