

Connecticut 4-H Horse Program

Guidelines and Opportunities Handbook



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Connecticut 4-H Horse Program

Guidelines and Opportunities

This handbook is for 4-H members and leaders, Extension staff, and others responsible for planning and conducting 4-H horse programs. This handbook is intended to be a reference manual, providing program outlines and guidelines of 4-H horse programs throughout Connecticut. In addition, regional and national contest descriptions are included. *This handbook is a work in progress and is updated periodically. For up to date information check with the University staff person in charge.*

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State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee

Connecticut is fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers who work together with the Cooperative Extension Staff members to implement many of the horse project related activities. Descriptions of these activities are found within this guide. All registered 4-H volunteers, who have an interest in the horse project area, are encouraged to attend State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee meetings.

Our advisory committee plans and implements the State 4-H Horse Contests, 4-H Horse Project leader training, and other events. Some members of our committee also work with the New England 4-H Horse Show Committee, the Connecticut Horse Council, and other national equine organizations.

The Connecticut 4-H Program needs leaders! If you are interested in leading a 4-H club in any project area, please call your local Extension Center. If you have a hobby or interest you would like to share with children, this may be a good way to do that. We have many project resources, and you do not have to be an “expert” to help a child learn. All you need is the desire to work with children over time, in a caring environment, doing hands-on activities that are interesting and fun.

To become a registered 4-H volunteer, you may submit a volunteer application to your local Extension Center for review by Extension staff.

4-H Horse Project Goals

The purposes of this program are to encourage 4-H members to:

1. Develop leadership abilities, build character, and assume citizenship responsibilities.
2. Develop an appreciation of horseback riding as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation.
3. Learn skills in horsemanship and understand the business of management, breeding, raising and training horses.
4. Increase knowledge of safety precautions needed to prevent injury to themselves, others and their mounts.
5. Promote greater love for animals and a humane attitude toward them.
6. Be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities by working in groups and supporting community horse projects and activities.
7. Teach good sportsmanship in a friendly, competitive atmosphere.

Mission Statement

“Developing Connecticut youth through 4-H equine experiences. To provide lifetime skills and learning experiences for the 4-H horse project members, their families and their leaders.”

In planning shows and events, officials should emphasize experiences for 4-H members that will contribute to the 4-H Project Mission. Any judge at a 4-H show or activity is strongly encouraged to provide helpful and instructional feedback to the 4-H exhibitor.

4-H Horse Project

Requirements:

Each 4-H horse show or event in the state should conform to all recommended guidelines of the Connecticut 4-H program.

The 4-H horse project is a continuous project. A complete set of records should be kept on a year round basis.

Enrollment:

To enroll as a 4-H member you must submit a yearly enrollment form to the local Extension office.

Deadline:

A 4-H member must be enrolled by May 1 to be eligible for any county fair or local event.

Verification of project animal:

Any horse or pony to be shown at a 4-H event must be enrolled as a 4-H project animal and be properly identified on the 4-H Verification Form, available at the local Extension office.

Deadline:

This form must be submitted to the Extension office by April 1st for Eastern States Competition and May 1st of the current club year to be eligible for any 4-H fair.

Eligibility Requirements:

A Member must own or lease their project horse. More than one member may use the same horse as a project animal, as long as all requirements are met. It is recommended that all care, feeding, grooming, training, and exercising should be done by the 4-H member beginning no later than April 1st for Eastern States and May 1st for any 4-H fair and other affiliated events.

Ungelded male horses (stallions or colts) are eligible for a 4-H project animal but generally cannot be exhibited at 4-H fairs.

New England 4-H Program at Eastern States Exposition

The New England 4-H Program at the Eastern States Exposition is a cooperative effort with the Exposition and the Cooperative Extension System of the New England States working together toward common objectives. These are:

- To motivate and recognize the achievements of 4-H members.
- To give the general public attending the exposition a better understanding of 4-H work, its organization, program and accomplishments.
- To provide educational experiences for 4-H members.
- To make 4-H visible to the fair-going public everywhere feasible on the grounds of the Exposition.
- To expand the image of 4-H as a total youth development program.
- To insure quality educational activities both for the 4-H participant and the fair-going public.
- To identify 4-H as a part of the Cooperative Extension System and the Land Grant University System.

For information on applying for the Connecticut Delegation please visit the following website for FULL details on eligibility and the application process for both delegates and junior leaders: <http://www.cag.uconn.edu/ces/4H/forms.php>

Further information can be found at <http://www.thebige.com/competitions/agriculture/4-h/>

Connecticut 4-H Horse Academic Contests

Goals:

The goals of the Connecticut 4-H Horse Contest are:

- To allow members to learn from each other and interact with other Connecticut 4-Hers
- To gain confidence in the knowledge acquired throughout the year from the 4-H Horse program
- To develop team skills
- To allow for competition and development of sportsmanlike conduct
- To develop life skills such as independence, leadership, self confidence and understanding for others.

Overview:

See below for participation opportunities. All members and coaches **MUST** have active status in 4-H online for the current year.

Contest	Senior	Junior	Novice	Number on Team
Hippology	Individual with Team potential	Individual or Team	Individual - Novice Experience	3 to 4
Horse Judging	Individual with Team potential	Individual or Team	Individual	3 to 4
Quiz Bowl	Individual with Team potential	Team	Individual	4

Divisions:

There are 3 divisions:

- **Novice:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 9 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but not over 18 as of January 1st of the current year.

Leaders:

All coaches must be registered 4-H volunteers. Each coach is responsible for their members at all times.

*** Any rule exceptions will be approved by the State 4-H Horse Coordinator's office with input from the 4-H Horse Advisory**

Code of Conduct:

For all senior level Kentucky eligible contest: to allow all of our youth to experience a fun time at a horse competition, any unethical conduct will not be tolerated. Any 4-H'er or leader who has altered, copied, or shared testing materials in order to better their score will be asked to leave. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification from all contests for that year. Any and all ribbons, prizes or positions they had been awarded will be forfeited, even if this action makes their team ineligible from further competition such as New England Regionals or National Contest.

Falsification of any document results in a 3 year ban from competition, for either the youth or leader/coach. A second offense will result in a lifetime expulsion from the Connecticut 4-H Contests. Connecticut 4-H Code of Conduct form must be signed and on file in your local office, copies may be requested.

Special Needs:

Any special needs must be made known, in writing, to the State Committee or your local Extension office at least 2 weeks prior to contest.

Contest Entries:

State Contest entries must be complete and accompanied with full payment and postmarked by the due date. Late or incomplete (no payment, missing address, emergency numbers etc.) entries will not be accepted. Only a single check per team/county will be accepted. If individual members are entering multiple contests with the same due date a single check can be used. Money orders are suggested for teams who are pooling funds.

Contest Winners:

The winning Senior members in each of the individual contests are eligible for the New England Regional Contest and Eastern National 4-H Round-up in Kentucky. Any senior member, who has registered for or competed at the Eastern (or Western) National 4-H Roundup level, are no longer eligible to compete in that contest at the state level again. Should an individual qualify for more than one contest at a single State contest, they can only compete in one contest at the regional and national levels. Providing that each contest is nationally eligible (minimum of 3 counties represented competing on the Senior level or a qualifying score as deemed by the State 4-H Advisory Committee), the top four individuals in a given team contest will be afforded the opportunity to go to are eligible for the New England Regional Contest and Eastern National 4-H Round-up in Kentucky.

Fund Raising and Accounting:

The University of Connecticut funds a portion of the expenses when possible. Teams are responsible for their own additional fundraising. Refer to your County Extension Staff for all fund raising rules and any applicable state and federal laws.

Team Strategies:

We strongly urge each county to assemble teams, including individual competitors as much as possible. Some considerations to remember:

If a 4-H contestant is on multiple teams in the three contests or if the same team competes in several contests, it is conceivable for that **individual** to win multiple state contests. They would be eligible to compete at Regionals and Nationals in **ONLY ONE CONTEST PER YEAR**. Decisions should be made prior to competition as to which contest they would compete in at the Regionals and Nationals. *We encourage teams or individuals to compete in the state contests for which they are eligible.*

Contest Descriptions

The following are in-depth descriptions of each of the contests that are currently offered.

State 4-H Horse Judging Contest:

Objectives:

- Exhibit your ability to evaluate desirable conformation (structural correctness, balance and muscling), breed characteristics, and performance ideals in different breeds of horses.
- Use your horse evaluation skills, based on knowledge and fact; make a decision and explain your decision.
- Use proper equine terminology that can be used in a logical, systematic way to defend your placings.
- Display confidence in your ability and use of the English language by giving oral reasons to a judge.
- Demonstrate clear speaking skills, decisively, and convincingly through the use of oral reasons.

Divisions:

There are 3 divisions:

- **Novice:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 9 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but not over 18 as of January 1st of the current year.

Contestants may not have participated in an official, college level hippology, horse bowl, or horse-judging contest. Any 4-Her's who have registered or participated in the Eastern National 4-H Horse Judging contest in Kentucky are not eligible for this event.

Applications/Registration:

Will be available through a State 4-H Horse mailing and at your county office. Please watch for deadlines and follow all directions as they are presented.

Teams:

Counties are strongly urged to assemble teams with their members, although individuals may compete without being part of a team. **Novices and seniors compete as individuals.** Juniors may compete as a team consisting of 3 or 4 members, although 4 members are preferable. When a four-person team is entered, the three highest overall scores will comprise the team's total score. Teams may be assembled by any procedure a county deems appropriate.

Contest Officials:

- Chairperson – the State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee will designate The Chairperson. This individual cannot be affiliated with any pre-existing Horse Judging team in Connecticut. Their job is to provide a completely impartial contest for all entered.
- Judge – the invited Contest Judge or similar contest official may judge the classes. Reasons may be judged by several contest judges, who cannot be associated with any team competing in this contest.
- Proctors – Several contest personnel will proctor the judging phase and collect the scorecards.
- Scorers – Several contest personnel will score the judging phase and assist in tabulation of reasons scores.

Competition:

Novice and Juniors – competition is based on placings of approximately 4 classes, 2 halter and 2 performance. Reasons are optional for Novice and Junior competitors will have 1 reasons class.

Seniors will judge up to 10 classes, halter and performance, with reasons on 3 to 4 classes, preferably halter and performance. However, classes to be used as reason classes will be determined at the contest.

While competition is underway, there will be no conferring between the contestants or between contestants and anyone else, such as coaches or parents, except as directed by the contest superintendent or contest assistants. First time an infraction of this rule is noted, the contestant will have his class card pulled for the class the member is judging. A second infraction will result in being excused from the entire contest.

Class Judging:

Horses will be designated as “1”, “2”, “3”, or “4” and that number will be displayed by the handler or rider.

All halter horses will be judged as “sound” unless otherwise noted by the judge or contest officials.

Performance classes will be judged as seen with unsoundness to be judged accordingly. All tack and attire will be considered as “legal” unless otherwise stated.

Time:

Approximately fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed to the contestants to judge non reason classes and approximately seventeen (17) minutes will be allowed to judge reason classes. Contestants are allowed to take notes. Scoring cards will be provided.

Reasons:

Seniors – Oral reasons will be required on at least two or possibly more classes. Juniors will be required to give one set of reasons. Novice – Oral reasons are optional, on up to two classes. We encourage our young members to enhance their skills and knowledge by participating.

Time:

Two (2) minutes are allowed to give oral reasons to the judge. Contestants may take notes while judging, but Senior contestants are not permitted to use notes while giving oral reasons. Juniors and Novices may use and reference their notes while delivering their reasons. The Contestants' placing card will be made available to them upon entering the reasons room, if they request it.

Placings:

Junior	Reasons	Top 6 Teams
Senior	Reasons	Top 6 Individuals
Novice	Reasons	Participation Awards
Junior	Conformation	Top 6 Teams
Senior	Conformation	Top 6 Individuals
Novice	Conformation	Top 10 individuals
Junior	Performance	Top 6 Teams
Senior	Performance	Top 6 Individuals
Novice	Performance	Top 10 individuals
Junior	Overall	Top 10 individuals
Senior	Overall	Top 10 individuals
Novice	Overall	Top 10 individuals
Junior	Overall	Top 6 Teams

4-H Horse Quiz Bowl

The goals of the 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl are to:

- Allow a forum to display knowledge members have gained in a competitive, friendly atmosphere.
- Encourage members and leaders to study and obtain a more thorough knowledge of horses and related subject matter.
- Help 4-Her's gain confidence in their horse knowledge.
- Reward and recognize participants for their achievements.

Divisions:

There are 3 divisions:

- **Novice:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 9 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but not over 18 as of January 1st of the current year.

Contestants may not have participated in an official, college level hippology, horse bowl, or horse-judging contest. Any 4-H'er who has registered or participated in the Eastern National 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl in Kentucky is not eligible for this event.

Contest Entries: Will be available through a State 4-H Horse mailing and at your county office. Please watch for deadlines and follow all directions as they are presented.

Competition:

Teams: Juniors may compete on teams of three, but one round must be left unfilled.

Teams of four have an advantage. **Senior and novice competitions are individual contests.**

Rounds:

In junior contests with fewer than 8 teams, four rounds of open questions will be used. For contests with more than 8 teams, four rounds of preliminary questions will be used with all teams. Teams that are not competing in the first preliminary round will be held in isolation until their turn to participate. The top teams from each preliminary will compete in the finals with four new rounds of questions.

Sources:

Each contest will follow the sources for the New England Regional Contest and the Eastern National 4-H Roundup. See this year's current sources list, available through your Extension Office. Sources are subject to change yearly. Eastern National Contest website: <http://www.4hroundup.com/>

Roster:

At Quiz bowl check in, each coach will be given an official roster to fill out. Appearance order will become permanent when that roster is given to the contest chairperson. Participants must compete in the order listed on their official roster. Participants who compete "out of order" will forfeit all points they have scored in that round.

Contest Personnel:

The official contest personnel are:

Contest Chairperson: The Chairperson will be designated by the State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee. This individual cannot be affiliated with any pre-existing Quiz Bowl team in Connecticut. Their job is to provide a completely impartial contest for all entered.

Judge:

The quiz bowl contest will be officiated by the invited Contest Judge. This judge may consult with the Connecticut Extension Horse Staff for assistance. The Judge may also consult with the Quiz Bowl Chairperson for question clarification or source information.

Moderator:

The moderator will read the questions. There may be more than one moderator in a contest.

Technician:

The technician is responsible for controlling the buzzers.

Scorekeepers:

Two official score keepers will work on team and individual scoring. They will confer after each round. A third scorekeeper will track play on a visible scoreboard for spectators. This will not represent the official score.

Isolation Officials:

The isolation officials will escort and monitor teams to and from the isolation area.

Questions:

Development and selection of questions are the responsibility of the Quiz Bowl Contest Chairperson. The Quiz Bowl Contest Chairperson will determine the number of questions in preliminary and final rounds.

Scoring:

Scoring will be as follows:

Correct answer	+1 point
Incorrect answer	-1 point
No answer given	no deduction
Correct Bonus Answer	+2 points
Incorrect Bonus Answer	no deduction

Scores for each team will be determined by adding the individual scores together.

Play:

Play will begin with each team's number 1 contestant being seated, then number 2 etc. Each contestant will say their name and the team name so the officials know they are seated in the correct positions and the scorekeepers can review their sheets. Next they will test their buzzers to ensure they are working. Questions will begin after buzzer testing is complete.

The moderator reads the first question (as with all succeeding questions) until the completion of question or until such time as a contestant activates a buzzer.

If a buzzer is activated during the reading of a question, the moderator will immediately cease reading the question and the contestant activating the buzzer will have 5 seconds after being recognized by the moderator, to begin to answer the question.

- The question cannot be completed or repeated after a contestant has activated a buzzer.
- Any answer initiated prior to being recognized will be considered incorrect.
- The repeating of the question by the contestant shall not be considered in the initiation of the answer.
- It shall be the responsibility of the moderator and the judge(s) to determine if any actual answer is started within the 5-second period.
- The first answer given will be the only answer considered, regardless of whether another answer is included later in the response. Only one answer should be offered and accepted. The judge must take the first answer given.

If the time allowed for an answer elapses without a contestant activating a buzzer, no points will be awarded or deducted.

If a bonus question is attached to an unanswered toss up question, the bonus will move on to the next question.

If the answer to a question is begun during the 5-second allowable time limit and the answer is incorrect, that individual loses one point. If the question is correctly answered, and was initiated during the 5-second allowable time limit, that team and individual will score one point.

Bonus Questions:

If a bonus question is attached to the correctly answered toss-up question, the moderator reads the bonus question. The bonus question is only open to the participant who correctly answered the question to which it was attached. The contestant then has 10 seconds to initiate an answer. The buzzer does not have to be activated to respond to the bonus question.

Successful completion of the answer will result in the team and individual being awarded 2 points. All parts of the question must be answered correctly. No partial points are given. Failure to answer a bonus question results in no penalty (loss of points) to the team or individual. No part of a bonus question will be repeated nor will any additional information be given to the contestant.

Clarification:

Any contestant can ask for clarification on a question. Clarification can only be asked between the answer and the start of the next question. The judge or moderator will help with clarification. Protests are not allowed! Clarifications can only be asked for by contestants. **Coaches or parents cannot ask for clarification on any question.**

If a question needs to be thrown out for any reason, it will be replaced with a new question.

The decisions of the Judge are final. No source is infallible. Care will be taken to have questions be in agreement with all of the sources. The judge can elect to discard a question. If a question is discarded there will be no loss or gain of points on that question.

Ties:

In the case of ties, in either team scores or individual scores, the tie breaking procedure is as follows. Ties will be broken and the higher place will be awarded to:

Procedure 1 – The greatest number of correct answers: If still tied, then

Procedure 2 – The greatest number of correct bonus answers: If still tied, then

Procedure 3 – The greatest number of answering attempts

Alternates:

There are no alternates for the Junior Quiz Bowl team competition.

Placings:

Novice, Junior, and Senior – Individual	Top ten (10)
Junior– Team	Top six (6) Team

4-H Hippology Contest

Objectives:

The primary objective of the 4-H Hippology Contest is to provide, in a friendly but competitive setting, an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of equine science and husbandry and, in particular, the practical application of this knowledge and skill. It is hoped that this contest will generate new friendships and be a rewarding experience for the contestants.

Objectives of the Hippology Contest are to:

- Provide members with an opportunity to blend knowledge and skills acquired in horse judging, horse quiz bowl, demonstrations, and public speaking into one activity.
- Encourage members to continue expanding their horse knowledge and participation.
- Prepare youth for their total involvement in and comprehensive knowledge of the horse industry.
- Teach good sportsmanship through a friendly and competitive environment.

Divisions:

There are 2 divisions:

- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but not over 18 as of January 1st of the current year.

Contestants may not have participated in an official, college level hippology, horse bowl, or horse-judging contest. Any 4-H'er who has registered or participated in the Eastern National 4-H Hippology Contest in Kentucky is not eligible for this event.

Contest Entries: Will be available through a State 4-H Horse mailing and at your county office. Please watch for deadlines and follow all directions as they are presented.

Teams:

Seniors will compete on an individual basis. Juniors will compete in a team (2 or 3 people per team) format for the entire contest. They will work on all aspects of the contest together. Teams may be selected by any means appropriate to the county they represent and must be certified as eligible by their county coaches.

Sources:

Each contest will follow the sources for the New England Regional Contest and the Eastern National 4-H Roundup. See this year's current sources list, available through your Extension Office or at (<http://www.4hroundup.com/>). Sources are subject to change yearly. All the information covered in this contest may be found in one or more of the publications. No source is infallible and every effort will be made to have materials and questions be in agreement with all sources.

Competition:

A. Examination Phase – 25% of total score – This phase of the contest will include:

1. A written exam – may be multiple choice, short answer, and matching or similar questions.
2. Projected slides and or power point presentation – to be identified as to breed, color, color pattern, activity, proper appointments, etc.

B. Station Phase – 20% of total score – This phase will consist of a series of stations or tables at which all contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Examples of stations which may be used include, but are not limited to:

1. Identification of:
 - a. Various types of saddles (actual or pictured) and parts of saddles
 - b. Tack, bits, bridles, horse shoes and parts of shoes
 - c. Tools and equipment, and assembly of specific parts of various pieces of equipment
 - d. Grains and forages used in equine rations including various forms or methods of preparation
 - e. Internal and external parasites based on actual samples, pictures, life cycle charts and/or damage caused
 - f. Blemishes and unsoundness
 - g. Ages of equines based on teeth
 - h. Anatomy
2. Use of pulse rate, respiration rate, temperature, dehydration, anemia, etc. to assess horse health.
3. Measurements such as, but not limited to, wither height, shoe size, girth, collar size, gullet width, seat length of saddle, etc. may be required.

C. Judging Phase – 25% of total score – Contestants will be required to judge (place) at least four (4) classes: conformation and/or performance. Live, pictorial, video and/or movie classes may be used. This phase may be deleted if suitable classes are not available in some form.

D. Team Problem(s) – 30% of total score. **This is for Junior teams only!** All teams will be presented with the same problem(s). Each team will have equal time to discuss the problem(s), immediately after which they will have to present an oral solution or series of suggested procedures relative to the problem. Each member of each team should contribute to the oral presentation and each must participate in presenting. Evaluation will be based on the understanding of the problem, completeness of the response, the probability of success of the solution or procedures and the logic used in making the oral response. The official may ask questions of any or all of the team members to clarify the presentation.

Examples of possible team problems might include but are not limited to:

1. Balancing a horse's ration.
2. Farm management recommendations for: breeding, training, boarding, nursery, lay-up, horse operations.
3. Considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility (stable to be used for a specific purpose).
4. Recommendations for selecting, locating and purchasing horses for specific uses.
5. Behavior problems – causes, management of and corrections.
6. Training and conditioning programs – equipment, schedules, methods, nutrition, problem avoidance.
7. Breeding and/or leasing contracts – specific clauses for insurance, liability, payments, care, termination, transport, etc.
8. Teaching lessons in horse management (specific subject to be announced) to a group of 9 to 11 year-old beginner 4-H'ers including deciding where, how much information to include, hands-on experiences to provide, reinforcement given in, testing and evaluation.
9. Assembling or demonstrating the use of various horse equipment.

Team problem scores will not be included in determining the rank of individuals in the contest, but will be added to the team scores of the other three phases to determine overall team standing.

Scoring:

The Junior Division will have members competing as a TEAM for all portions of the contest. The teams will be able to confer with each other and will turn in a single answer sheet as a team. This will improve the members skills of working together as a group and help in the decision making process. For those juniors competing as an individual and not on a team; overall individual ribbons will be awarded for the top 10 individuals.

Placings:

Awards will be presented as follows:

Junior– Written phase	Top six (6) teams
Senior – Written phase	Top six (6) individuals
Junior – Stations	Top six (6) teams
Senior – stations	Top six (6) individuals
Junior– Judging	Top six (6) teams
Senior – Judging	Top six (6) individuals
Junior– Overall (combined scores) -	Top (6) teams
Senior – Overall -	Top ten (10) individuals
Junior Individual contest - overall	Top ten

Ties:

Ties will be broken as follows:

Written test score team placings – ties will be broken by

- 1) highest team average (including lowest score)
If still tied, it will be broken by 2) highest team average with slide score removed,
If still tied, it will be broken by 3) tie breaker questions.

Station team placings – ties will be broken by 1) highest number of perfect scored stations. If no perfect stations are scored or still tied, the next highest score on stations will be used

and the highest frequency of that score counted, (i.e. 9 out of 10 occurring 4 times will place higher than 9 out of 10 occurring 3 times) etc. until the tie is broken.

Judging team placings – ties will be broken by the 1) highest number of perfect scores (50's) and if still tied, it will be broken by 2) the highest number of 49's scored, etc. until the tie is broken.

Overall team or individual placings – Ties will be broken by the highest team average (excluding the lowest score) or highest individual score (for individual placings) in the following hierarchy until the tie is broken.

- Exam phase score
- Station score
- Judging score

If still tied the above is repeated including the lowest team member score (for team placings).

Alternates:

No alternates are allowed.

Officials:

Contest Chairperson: Responsible for all test material, slides, development of team problems, and stations. The State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee will designate the Chairperson. This individual cannot be affiliated with any pre-existing Hippology team in Connecticut. Their job is to provide a completely impartial contest for all entered.

Timers/Proctors: Responsible for timing all phases, and ushering contestants through the contest.

Scorers: Responsible for grading exams, slides and station answers. Horse Judging scores will also be tabulated.

Judges: Team problems will be judged by several contest officials and may include the invited Contest Judge. These judges must not be associated with any team competing. Horse Judging will be officiated separately, and may include the invited Contest Judge.

Novice Hippology Experience

Objectives:

The Novice Hippology experience will concentrate on exposing younger 4-H members to academic aspects of the horse project. It will include: visual identification, written evaluation, problem solving, and interactive games with a horse theme. The goals of this experience are to: introduce young members to a state level activity in a non competitive manner, afford the opportunity for undergraduates students to work with youth in the 4-H program, give participants an opportunity to meet people with like interests, explore information about horses. Experience duration is usually 3 to 4 hours in a single day.

Divisions:

This experience is open to registered 4-Hers up to the age of 9 years old. You may not participate in both the novice experience and junior contest on the same calendar day.

Awards:

This experience is participation only; however feedback can be provided for participants who would like it.

Connecticut 4-H Horse Communications Contests

Goals:

The goals of the Connecticut 4-H Horse Contests are:

- To allow members to learn from each other and interact with other Connecticut 4-Hers
- To gain confidence in the knowledge acquired throughout the year from the 4-H Horse program
- To develop team skills
- To allow for competition and development of sportsmanlike conduct
- To develop life skills such as independence, leadership, self confidence and understanding for others.

Overview:

See below for participation opportunities.

Contest	Senior	Junior	Novice	Number on Team
Team Presentation	Team	Team	Team	2
Individual Presentation	Individual	Not Offered	Not offered	1
Public Speaking	Individual	Individual	Individual	1

Divisions:

There are 3 divisions:

- **Novice:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 9 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but not over 18 as of January 1st of the current year.

Leaders:

All coaches must be registered 4-H volunteers. Each coach is responsible for their teams at all times.

Team Presentation

Objectives:

- To acquire skills, confidence and poise in speaking to groups by the use of an interesting and familiar topic.
- To expand horse knowledge and increase research and study techniques.
- To learn to organize thoughts and express these ideas in a logical and concise manner.
- To gain increased knowledge and control of the English language to express ideas.
- To reward and recognize accomplishments in a friendly and competitive atmosphere.
- To encourage teaching others about a horse related topic by using visuals or equipment.

Divisions:

There are 3 divisions:

- **Novice:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 9 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but have not achieved their 19th birthday as of January 1st of the current year.

Contestants may not have participated in an official, college level team demonstration contest. Any 4-H'er who has registered or participated in the Eastern National 4-H Team Demonstration at Louisville is not eligible for this event.

Contest Entries: Will be available through a State 4-H Horse mailing and at your county office. Please watch for deadlines and follow all directions as they are presented.

Teams:

This is a team contest consisting of 2 members. Both team members must be in the same age division.

Contest Officials:

Contest Chairperson – The Chairperson will be designated from within the State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee.

Competition:

Subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Demonstrations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges. The presentation may be a demonstration or an illustrated lecture. While illustrated talks are allowed a demonstration is preferred and recommended. No live animals may be used. Contestants may use notes, however excessive note referencing may be counted against the team. This will be at the discretion of the judges. A microphone or public address system cannot be used. Contestants will introduce themselves to the judges, identify their team or county, and their topic. Both participants should have an equal role in the presentation. **No coaching from parents or coaches during the presentation.** Contestants may use video recorders to tape their presentations. It is the responsibility of the teams to provide all necessary recording equipment. No videotaping or photographing of demonstrations is allowed during the contest, except by respective team coaches or their designees. **Only the Judges may ask questions of the contestant(s) in the contest.** Each team shall be asked the same number of questions. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question, and then answer it. Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the beginning of the contest.

Equipment:

2 tables & chairs will be provided for the demonstrators' use. Any other equipment needs must be made through special arrangements with the contest officials at least one week prior to the contest date. Creative audio visual aids may be used, however the contestants must be involved in the designing and making of those aids. (check national rule)

Time:

Novices- 5 ½ - 8 minutes. There will be no penalties for over or under the time limit

Juniors- 7 – 11 minutes. 3 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.

Seniors- 10 – 15 minutes. 3 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.

Sources:

Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their demonstration. This will not be counted in their allotted time. There are no official source materials.

Scoring:

The scoring will be as follows:

- A. Introduction **10 points**
1. Did the introduction serve to create interest?
 2. Was it short and to the point?
- B. Organization **25 points**
1. Was only one main idea demonstrated?
 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 an explanation given for any discrepancies?
 4. Could the audience see each step?
 5. Were the materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
 6. Were charts and posters used if and when they were needed?
 7. Were key points for each step stressed?
- C. Content and Accuracy **25 points**
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 related to the horse industry?
- D. Stage Presence **10 points**
1. Were the demonstrators neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the demonstration?
 2. Did the demonstrators speak directly to and look at the audience?
 3. Was the demonstration too fast or too slow?
- E. Delivery **15 points**
1. Did the demonstrators appear to enjoy giving a demonstration?
 2. Did they have good voice control?
 3. Were words pronounced correctly?
 4. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the demonstration?
 5. Did the demonstrators seem to speak naturally or did the words seem memorized?
- F. Effect on Audience **5 points**
1. Did the audience show an interest in the demonstration?
 2. Could the audience apply the demonstration material to real life?
- G. Summary **10 points**
1. Was the summary short and interesting?
 2. Were key points briefly reviewed?
 3. Did the summary properly wrap up the demonstration?
 4. Could the demonstrators handle questions easily?

Placings:

Awards will be presented as follows:

Novice	Top six (6) teams
Junior	Top six (6) teams
Senior	Top six (6) teams

Judging: 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 tabulations of scores for mathematical accuracy.

Ties:

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.

Alternates:

No alternates are allowed.

Officials:

Contest Chairperson: Responsible for providing scoring sheets for judges and tables & chairs for demonstration.

Timers: Responsible for timing of the demonstration and informing judge of minutes over or under the allotted time.

Judges: A panel of 3 or more judges, which may include contest officials and the invited contest judge.

These judges may not be associated with any team in the competition.

Individual Presentation

Objectives:

- To acquire skills, confidence and poise in speaking to groups by the use of an interesting and familiar topic.
- To expand horse knowledge and increase research and study techniques.
- To learn to organize thoughts and express these ideas in a logical and concise manner.
- To gain increased knowledge and control of the English language to express ideas.
- To reward and recognize accomplishments in a friendly and competitive atmosphere.
- To encourage teaching others about a horse related topic by using visuals or equipment.

Divisions:

There is 1 division:

- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but have not achieved their 19th birthday as of January 1st of the current year.

Contestants may not have participated in an official, college level individual demonstration contest. Any 4-H'er who has registered or participated in the Eastern National 4-H Individual Demonstration at Louisville is not eligible for this event.

Contest Entries: Will be available through a State 4-H Horse mailing and at your county office. Please watch for deadlines and follow all directions as they are presented.

Participants:

This is an individual contest.

Contest Officials:

Contest Chairperson – The Chairperson will be designated from within the State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee

Competition:

Subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Demonstrations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges. The presentation may be a demonstration or an illustrated lecture. While illustrated talks are allowed a demonstration is preferred and recommended. No live animals may be used. Contestants may use notes, however excessive note referencing may be counted against the team. This will be at the discretion of the judges. A microphone or public address system cannot be used. Contestants will introduce themselves to the judges, identify themselves by name, county, and their demonstration topic. **No coaching from parents or coaches during the presentation.** Contestants may use video recorders to tape their presentations. It is the responsibility of the individual to provide all necessary recording equipment. No videotaping or photographing of demonstrations is allowed during the contest, except by respective team coaches or their designees. **Only the Judges may ask questions of the contestant(s) in the contest.** Each individual shall be asked the same number of questions. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question, and then answer it.

Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the beginning of the contest.

Equipment:

2 tables & 2 easels will be provided. Any other equipment needs must be made through special arrangements with the contest officials. Creative audio visual aids may be used; however the contestants must be involved in the designing and making of those aids. (Check National rule)

Time:

Demonstrations should be 9-12 minutes in length. 3 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.

Sources:

Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their demonstration. This will not be counted in their allotted time. There are no official source materials.

Scoring:

The scoring will be as follows:

- A. Introduction **10 points**
1. Did the introduction serve to create interest?
 2. Was it short and to the point?
- B. Organization **25 points**
1. Was only one main idea demonstrated?
 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 an explanation given for any discrepancies?
 4. Could the audience see each step?
 5. Were the materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
 6. Were charts and posters used if and when they were needed?
 7. Were key points for each step stressed?
- C. Content and Accuracy **25 points**
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 related to the horse industry?
- D. Stage Presence **10 points**
1. Were the demonstrators neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the demonstration?
 2. Did the demonstrators speak directly to and look at the audience?
 3. Was the demonstration too fast or too slow?
- E. Delivery **15 points**
1. Did the demonstrators appear to enjoy giving a demonstration?
 2. Did they have good voice control?
 3. Were words pronounced correctly?
 4. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the demonstration?
 5. Did the demonstrators seem to speak naturally or did the words seem memorized?
- F. Effect on Audience **5 points**
1. Did the audience show an interest in the demonstration?
 2. Could the audience apply the demonstration material to real life?
- G. Summary **10 points**
1. Was the summary short and interesting?
 2. Were key points briefly reviewed?
 3. Did the summary properly wrap up the demonstration?
 4. Could the demonstrators handle questions easily?

Placings:

Awards will be presented as follows:

Senior

Top six (6)

Judging: 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 tabulations of scores for mathematical accuracy.

Ties:

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.

Alternates:

No alternates are allowed.

Officials:

Contest Chairperson: Responsible for providing scoring sheets for judges, 2 tables & 2 easels for the demonstration.

Timers: Responsible for timing of the demonstration and informing judge of minutes over or under the allotted time.

Judges: A panel of 3 or more judges, which may include contest officials and the invited contest judge.

These judges may not be associated with any team in the competition.

Public Speaking Contest

Objectives:

- To acquire skills, confidence and poise in speaking to groups by the use of an interesting and familiar topic.
- To expand horse knowledge and increase research and study techniques.
- To learn to organize thoughts and express these ideas in a logical and concise manner.
- To gain increased knowledge and control of the English language to express ideas.
- To reward and recognize accomplishments in a friendly and competitive atmosphere.
- To encourage teaching others about a horse related topic by using visuals or equipment.

Divisions:

There are 3 divisions:

- **Novice:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 9 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Junior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 7 years old but not over 14 as of January 1st of the current year.
- **Senior:** Those 4-H members who are at least 14 years old but have not achieved their 19th birthday as of January 1st of the current year.

Contestants may not have participated in an official, college level public speaking contest. Any 4-H'er who has registered or participated in the Eastern National 4-H Public Speaking Contest at Louisville is not eligible for this event.

Contest Entries: Will be available through a State 4-H Horse mailing and at your county office. Please watch for deadlines and follow all directions as they are presented.

Participants:

This is an individual contest.

Contest Officials:

Contest Chairperson – The Chairperson will be designated from within the State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee.

Competition:

Subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Speeches not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judges. No visual aids may be used. Contestants may use notes, however excessive note referencing may be counted against the team. This will be at the discretion of the judges. A microphone or public address system cannot be used. Contestants will introduce themselves to the judges, identify themselves by name, county, and their speech topic. **No coaching from parents or coaches during the speech.** Contestants may use video recorders to tape their presentations. It is the responsibility of the individual to provide all necessary recording equipment. No videotaping or photographing of demonstrations is allowed during the contest, except by respective team coaches or their designees. **Only the Judges may ask questions of the contestant(s) in the Contest.** Each individual shall be asked the same number of questions. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question, and then answer it.

Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the beginning of the contest.

Equipment:

A podium will be provided. Any other equipment needs must be made through special arrangements with the contest officials. Improper attire will be a violation and appropriate points deducted on the scorecard. Improper attire will be determined at the discretion of the judges. **Check national rules for podium & Attire (<http://www.4hroundup.com/>).**

Time:

Novices- 2 ½ - 5 minutes. There will be no penalties for over or under the time limit

Juniors- 4 – 8 minutes. 3 points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under 4 minutes.

Seniors- 7 – 10 minutes. 3 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.

Sources:

Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their demonstration. This will not be counted in their allotted time. There are no official source materials.

Scoring:

The scoring will be as follows:

- A. Introduction **10 points**
 - 1. Did the introduction serve to create interest?
 - 2. Was it short and to the point?
- B. Organization **25 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?
 - 5. Was the content appropriately related to the horse 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 distracting from the demonstration?
 - 4. Did the speaker seem to speak naturally or did the words seem memorized?
- 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?

Placings:

Awards will be presented as follows:

Novice	Top six (6)
Junior	Top six (6)
Senior	Top six (6)

Judging: 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 tabulations of scores for mathematical accuracy.

Ties:

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.

Alternates:

No alternates are allowed.

Officials:

Contest Chairperson: Responsible for providing scoring sheets for judges and a podium.

Timers: Responsible for timing of the demonstration and informing judge of minutes over or under the allotted time.

Judges: A panel of 3 or more judges, which may include contest officials and the invited contest judge.

These judges may not be associated with any team in the competition.

State 4-H Horse Show

This event is planned and run by the State 4-H Horse Show Committee. This committee is made up of volunteer members who are both adults and 4-H members from across the state. Any and all are welcome to join this committee for the planning of this show.

To provide an evaluation opportunity for riders, drives, and handlers. Participants will be judged in a show environment using their verified project animals.

Judges will be selected from the New England 4-H Carded Judges List and when possible will reside out of state. A list of carded judges can be found here:

<http://www.cag.uconn.edu/ces/4H/documents/2015NewEngland4-HJudgesList.pdf>

Proof of current (12 months) rabies vaccination and current (12 months) negative coggins test are required on show day along with proof of current 4-H membership and a verified project form for the animal being shown. Stalling is available for participants who need it.

This show will follow rules as set forth by the New England 4-H Horse Program. The rules may be found at this link:

<http://www.cag.uconn.edu/ces/4H/documents/2014NERulesandGuidelinesbookprintcorrected82014.pdf>

For a list of classes, divisions, and the entry forms please go to the following website

<http://www.cag.uconn.edu/ces/4H/forms.php>

State Giddy Up Games

This is a state wide opportunity open to registered 4-H members of all ages. This is a fun format of speed round games and activities to test general knowledge and skill of participants. Generally teams are comprised of two or three people who cooperatively work to answer specific questions or puzzles at each activity table.

This event is designed to be fun, interactive, and a chance to meet people from other parts of the state. It will also cover a wide range of topics and difficulty levels.

State Horsin' In Stride

This is a statewide event open to all registered 4-H members of any age.

This multiple workshop day will cover a wide range of horse related topics. Participants will indicate workshop preferences and every attempt to place them in their chosen workshops will be made. Often times not only volunteers but undergraduate and graduate students from the university present various topics. In this manner current information from the university is made available and shared with our youth.

4-H Camp Horse Programs

Many of the camps provide horseback riding programs for a variety of age and ability levels. Each program is different, and we recommend contacting them to get program specifics. You do not need to be a registered 4-H member to attend a 4-H camp.

Hartford Count 4-H Camp, Marlborough, CT (860) 289-4177

Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp, Pomfret, CT (860) 974-1122

Check 4-H website for more information and camp web addresses.

Youth Equestrian of Excellence Award

All youth are welcome to participate in the Youth Equestrian of Excellence Award Program. In this program, a youth is required to participate in six mandatory areas:

1. Participate in a horse-related public speaking activity.
2. Participate in a community service project.
3. Keep a record book on an animal.
4. Participate in a leadership activity.
5. Promote safety within the horse industry.
6. Explore career options in the horse industry.

In addition, the youth will choose to participate in 3 out of 5 additional areas: Horse Events—General, FFA, Pony club, and 4-H; Local Participation - General, FFA, Pony club, and 4-H; Record Keeping—General, FFA, Pony club, and 4-H; Attend a County, Statewide, Regional or National Horse Event—General, FFA, Pony club, and 4-H; Leadership skills -General, FFA, Pony club, and 4-H; Class/Club Activities—General, FFA, Pony club, and 4-H.

Youth must enter their activities for the previous year from October 1st – September 30 each year by October 1 at <https://tinyurl.com/uconnyee>. Prizes will be awarded.

Process to Become a State Coach or Chaperone for National Level Competitions

State Coach

You must have active status in 4-H online in your enrolled county at the time of the state contest.

To apply you must forward your resume and cover letter explaining why you would like to be a state coach in a specific academic contest. They can be sent to Emily Alger and Dr. Jen Nadeau via email.

A **subcommittee** will be formed during a State Advisory Committee meeting to review the submitted applications and to select a candidate.

State coaches will be expected to help plan the state level contest; conduct at least 6 practices and provide educational materials to their team as needed; schedule opportunities that further ready competitors for Eastern National Roundup; **and** work with the 4-H Horse Advisory Committee. State coaches will assist in having all necessary paperwork turned in to UConn by the scheduled due dates for themselves and participants.

State coaches shall **NOT** be coaching senior individuals at the state level in their event; be judging at the event they are a 4-H coach for; or provide contest information to anyone prior to the state level contest.

State Chaperone

You must have active status in 4-H online in your enrolled county at the time of the state contest.

County/club level coaches who are interested in becoming the chaperone for a state level team should indicate they would like the opportunity to attend. All eligible and interested coaches will be combined and a random draw will be held.

Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup Coach/Chaperone Participation Guidelines

Congratulations on your selection to participate in the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup as the CT State Coach or Chaperone. Provided below are important guidelines to help you understand your role as a coach or chaperone for this national 4-H event.

- All trips outside of the state are considered to be statewide team experiences. Once selected, all 4-H members participating in the trip must participate in a statewide orientation meeting. Also once selected, teams no longer represent their club or county but represent the University of Connecticut 4-H Youth Development Program. The State 4-H Office, in coordination with the staff member in charge of the event, will make all travel arrangements.
- Regardless of the source of funds, all travel arrangements for staff, volunteers and 4-H members will be made through the State 4-H Office. This identifies the trip as an official University function. Recommended chaperone/youth ratio is one adult to four youth. This may vary based on overnight accommodations, program needs, special needs youth or special assignments. The CES Staff person in charge should clear any adults above the set ratio with the State 4-H Office as early as possible. Funding is budgeted based on this ratio.
- Coaches and chaperones will be required to room together as a cost savings. Coaches and chaperones will not room with youth participants except in the case of a parent and child
- Expenses to be covered by the 4-H program, either from state funding or from funds raised in the name of 4-H, include but are not limited to, travel, lodging accommodations, insurance, and registration fees. Meal expenses, if not included in the registration fee, are the cost of each participant along with incidental room charges, personal expenses, t-shirts, state's night out and extra night's stay.
- No funds raised in the name of 4-H may be used for the participation of parents or other family members who are not officially designated chaperones or coaches. Only official participants are to be involved in the trip. Parents and other non-official participants are not permitted to travel in rental vehicles with official coaches, chaperones and youth participants.
- Delegates will receive orientation provided by the staff member responsible for the event and the volunteer chaperones. Each event will provide a Code of Conduct for members and adults.
- All adults traveling with 4-H youth must be registered volunteers. Adult volunteers will serve in one of two roles. These are chaperone or coach for some selected events. **Chaperones and coaches must have active status in**

4-H online in their enrolled county. Active 4-H online status of chaperones and coaches will be confirmed before flight arrangements are made. Parents are not to participate in the 4-H experience unless as a chaperone or coach. Should parents wish to attend the event, they may do so at their own expense and make their own travel arrangements independent of the state team. It is the responsibility of the staff member in charge to ensure that all volunteers involved are registered volunteers in their home county.

- A 4-H event consists of travel to and from the venue as well as the time at the event dedicated to the 4-H experience. During the entire time (around the clock) of the 4-H event, 4-H members are under the supervision of the staff member, chaperone, and/or coach. Parental involvement is not a component of the 4-H event.
- Our primary concern with all out of state trips is the safety and well being of the youth participating. The University is liable for the behavior and consequences of all youth and registered adult volunteers. Each event requires a signed code of conduct and completed health form for participation. These forms will be kept in the possession of the official State 4-H Office representative(s). Coaches and chaperones will be required to carry with them the health forms and code of conduct forms of all Connecticut participants in the trip. It is the expectation that each coach or chaperone serves in this capacity for the entire Connecticut delegation. Coaches and chaperones should be available to assist another team should a coach become ill and should be observant of the behavior of the entire CT delegation.
- The State 4-H Office will be reserving rental vehicles for participants' travel needs. Individuals serving as drivers will need to purchase insurance as part of the rental agreement, unless the driver's personal auto policy includes coverage for rental vehicles. If this is the case, a copy of the personal auto policy will need to be submitted to the State 4-H Office. The designated driver of the rental vehicle will be required to submit a credit card at the time of pick up to reserve the vehicle and will use the credit card to pay for the use of the vehicle. This expense will be reimbursed by the State 4-H Office. Original receipts should be submitted to the State 4-H Office for reimbursement no later than two weeks upon return from the trip.
- The State 4-H Office should be notified immediately in writing of any youth delegates needing separate travel arrangements due to attendance at out of state college. Any changes in flights made after air line tickets have been purchased will be at the cost of the individual the change applies to.
- A \$100 nonrefundable deposit made payable to the University of Connecticut at the time of the orientation meeting will be required to participate in this event. Cancellations made in the past by chaperones and youth participants have resulted in unrecovered expenses. It is imperative that a final commitment be made by all participants by the orientation meeting.
- **Special Needs:** Any special needs must be made known, in writing, to the State Committee or your local Extension office at least 8 weeks prior to travel.

Youth Expectations for National and Regional Level Participation

You must have active 4-H online status to participate.

You need to attend 80% of the scheduled practices for your team at your coach's satisfaction.

You must complete any take-home practice work that is provided by your coach.

You must be in communication with your coach about how best to prepare for your contest.

You will be responsible for assisting the rest of your team in fund raising efforts to pay for your travel expenses.

Non-compliance may result in your team not being able to participate in the national level contest.

The 4-H Code of Conduct will be followed and enforced. Repercussions if behavior is not appropriate will be enacted.

You must attend the orientation along with a parent or legal guardian prior to travel level participation.