

2025 STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATION CONTESTS

Eligibility: All participants in the contest must be active 4-H members, certified by their County Extension Staff member's signature on the application. The member does not have to own a horse but must be involved in the 4-H Program. Participants may be cloverleaf, junior or senior 4-H members. Their eligibility is determined by their grade level during the 2024-2025 school year. -
Entry Information: Public Speaking and Individual/Team presentations will be judged in-person on June 4, 2025. Presentation times and locations will be announced by May 27 or 28. Presentations will not begin before 12:00 p.m.

METHOD DEMONSTRATION CONTEST (TEAM)

1. May be a demonstration or illustrated talk.
2. A team will consist of two members. One person may not be a member of two teams. Teamwork should be demonstrated.
3. Subject must pertain to the horse industry. (No live animals may be used)
4. Demonstrations should be 6-9 minutes in length for Cloverleaf 4-H'ers (4th - 6th grade) and 10-15 minutes in length for Junior 4-H'ers (7th - 8th grade) and Senior 4-H'ers (9th - 12th grade). One point per judge will be deducted from the score for every minute or fraction of a minute under or over the time limits.
5. Consideration and points on the scorecard will be:
 - a. Introduction (10 Points)
 - i. Did the introduction create interest in the subject?
 - ii. Was introduction short and to the point?
 - b. Organization (25 Points)
 - i. Was only one main idea presented?
 - ii. Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
 - iii. Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation, or was an explanation given for discrepancies?
 - iv. Could the audience see each step?
 - v. Were materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well-organized?
 - vi. Were charts and posters used if and when needed?
 - vii. Were the key points for each step stressed?
 - c. Content and Accuracy (25 Points)
 - i. Were facts and information presented accurately?
 - ii. Was enough information presented about the subject?
 - iii. Were approved practices used?
 - iv. Was credit given to the sources of information if it was appropriate?
 - v. Was the content appropriately related to the horse industry?
 - d. Stage Presence (10 Points)
 - i. Was the presenter neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of demonstration?
 - ii. Did the presenter speak directly to and look at the camera/audience?
 - iii. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?
 - e. Delivery (15 Points)
 - i. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving the presentation?
 - ii. Did the presenter have good voice control?
 - iii. Were all words pronounced correctly?
 - iv. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the speech?
 - v. Did the presenter seem to choose words at the times they were spoken instead of memorizing the presentation?
 - f. Summary (15 Points)
 - i. Was the summary short and interesting?
 - ii. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
 - iii. Did the summary properly wrap up the presentation?
6. Contestants may use notes. Excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge or judges.
7. No live animals may be used.
8. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their demonstration. This will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. All materials and props must be provided by the contestant.
10. Ties will be broken by: (1) the accumulated delivery score, (2) the accumulated organization score, or (3) the accumulated Content and Accuracy scores.

METHOD DEMONSTRATION CONTEST (INDIVIDUAL) -- Same rules and scorecard as Team Contest.

Exceptions:

1. This is an individual contest.
2. Presentations should be 6-9 minutes in length for Cloverleaf 4-H'ers (4th - 6th grade) and 9 - 12 minutes in length for Junior 4-H'ers (7th - 8th grade) and Senior 4-H'ers (9th - 12th grade). One point per judge will be deducted from the score for every minute or fraction of a minute under or over the time limits.

Participants must choose to either participate in Method Demonstration (Individual) or Public Speaking (Individual); they cannot participate in both.