

## 2018 AjPHA/AyA Youth Horse Judging Contest Rules & Guidelines:

### **Judging Team Eligibility**

- A. 4 H, FFA, AyA, AjPHA and other interested youth groups may participate in one age group.
- 1. All contestants must not have passed their 19th birthday on January 1st of the current year.
- B. All contestants must be members of AjPHA or AyA.
- C. All contestants are required to wear Western attire (long sleeve shirt and jeans or slacks—blazer or tie is optional) during the contest. No hats, caps or identifying clothing are allowed.
- D. Entry fees will be \$35 per individual or \$140 per team. Entries must be postmarked or received online on or before May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- E. Teams are to consist of four members. Every contestant will compete for individual awards.

### **Classes to be Judged**

- A. Classes will be judged in accordance with the 2018 APHA Rulebook & 2018 ApHC Rulebook.
- B. Eight to twelve classes will be judged, including four to six halter and four to six performance classes.
- C. Halter classes will be separated by age group. Depending on the availability of horses, similar age groups may be combined into a single class (i.e. 2 and 3 year old mares). Stallions will not be judged.
- D. Performance classes will be selected from the following: Trail, Western Pleasure, Horsemanship, Western Riding, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack, Showmanship, Reining, Ranch Riding/Ranch Horse Pleasure, Ranch Horse Trail, and Hunter In-Hand.

### **Coaches' Meeting & Roster Changes**

- A. A coaches' meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 29th in the West Sale Arena. Coaches should plan to pick up their team packet and make any necessary contestant substitutions/team changes at this time.
- B. Coaches missing the meeting may pick up their packets between 6:30 and 7:00 a.m. at the announcer's stand in the Will Rogers Arena.
- C. All changes to team rosters must be made by 7:00 a.m. the day of the contest.

### **Contest Procedures**

- A. Timing and conduct of classes will be conducted under the guidelines of the National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association.
- B. All horses will be considered sound of mouth, wind, and limb in halter and judged as they go in performance. All tack and attire will be considered legal.
- C. Each class will consist of four horses. Handlers/riders will be identified with numbered vests.
- D. While the contest is in progress, there will be no talking between contestants or anyone else except as directed by the contest officials. No pagers, cell phones or other forms of communication will be allowed on any contestant. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.
- E. Coaches will not have contact with their contestants at any time during the judging and reason session. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.
- F. Placing cards will be provided. Contestants must provide their own writing materials (pen or pencil). Contestants may use clipboards, notebooks, plain paper, official APHA/NRHA score sheets, the 2017 APHA Rulebook so long as these items are clean and free of marks. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.
- G. A group leader will be placed in charge of each group of contestants. Contestants are

responsible for turning in their cards to the group leader when time is called. Late cards will not be accepted.

### **Reasons**

- A. Contestants will give two sets of halter reasons and two sets of performance reasons.
- B. Performance reasons may be chosen from any of the classes listed above.
- C. Contestants will have two minutes to give their reasons to the official. Oral reasons are expected to indicate the contestant's justification for their placement of the class.
- D. Contestants will not be permitted to use notes while giving reasons.

### **Scoring**

- A. Fifty points shall constitute a perfect score in placing the animals and fifty points shall constitute a perfect score for oral reasons.
- B. All scores will count toward the total team score.
- C. Placing cards must be completed in full for a score to be tabulated. Cards that are blank, illegible, or marked with more than one placing will receive a zero score.
- D. All tabulated results of the contest will be considered official and no change will be made unless an error is made in entering a score or placing by contest officials. Errors made by contestants will not be corrected once the placing card has been delivered to a contest official, including a group leader.
- E. Ties will be broken as follows:

### **Scoring and tie-breakers for overall placings (non-reasons scores):**

- 1. Highest total score overall wins, if there is a tie then,
- 2. Highest total reasons score breaks the tie, if there is still a tie then,
- 3. Lower placings in reasons class(es) wins (the rationale is that the contestant with the lower placings in the reasons class(es) had to "talk" harder to get the same reasons scores and tie above, so they likely did a better job of reasons justification)

### **Scoring and tie-breakers for a reasons score:**

- 1. Highest total Score in the reasons class(es) wins, if there is a tie then,
- 2. Lower placings in reasons class(es) (see rationale above) wins, if there is still a tie then,
- 3. Highest total overall score wins

### **Scoring and tie-breakers within a species/category:**

- 1. Highest total score within the species/category wins, if there is a tie then,
- 2. Highest total reasons score within the species/category wins, if there is still a tie then,
- 3. Highest total reasons score overall wins, if there is still a tie then,
- 4. Highest total score overall wins

### **Awards and Awards Breakfast**

- A. The awards ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the contest.
- B. Gist trophy buckles will be presented to the World Championship team members in each division.
- C. Awards will be presented to the top 10 individuals and top five teams in each division and in each category (halter, performance, reasons, overall).
- D. The overall high scoring contestant in each division in the contest will be presented a \$500 scholarship.