



MURRAY STATE
UNIVERSITY

Hutson School of Agriculture

NACTA Judging
Conference 2019

Horse Judging Contest Official Rules

Thursday, April 11th 2019
Location and time to be determined

Contest Director:

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Contest Rules

1. This contest will consist of placing classes with some classes requiring presentation of oral reasons.
2. Each school may enter one team consisting of four members, with the top three scores counting towards the team score. A competing individual may compete in this contest up to two times as an official contestant in a national NACTA Horse Judging contest. A contestant that placed in the top three in the contest in the previous year is still eligible to compete in the same contest for another year of competition.
3. Individuals, in addition to being on a team, may also participate for individual awards.
4. Neatness of dress is greatly encouraged. Contestants may not wear any pins, badges, or article of clothing that identifies them personally or their team. Contestants may not wear hats while judging classes, but they may be worn while giving oral reasons.
5. Possible classes to be judged will be chosen from the following:

Halter Classes:

Stock-type Halter, to potentially include Quarter Horse, Appaloosa, Paint
Hunter Conformation
Performance Halter
Morgan Halter
Arabian Halter
Paso Fino Halter
Saddlebred In-Hand
Tennessee Walking Horse In-Hand

Performance Classes:

Western Horsemanship
Western Riding
English Equitation (Hunter, Saddlebred, or Tennessee Walking Horse)
Hunter Under Saddle
Hunter Hack
Showmanship (any breed)
Reining
Trail
Western Pleasure (stock-type or Saddlebred)
Ranch Pleasure
English or Country Pleasure (Saddlebred or Tennessee Walking Horse)

6. This contest will likely consist of 2-3 halter classes and 4-5 performance classes. Modifications of classes in each division may be made based on the availability of horses and handlers/riders.
7. All halter and performance classes will be composed of four horses. Back numbers corresponding to horse numbers will be worn by all handlers and riders.
8. Contestants may carry note-taking materials into the arena. Notes may not be used during the giving of oral reasons.
9. Contestants may assume that all halter class horses are sound. Performance classes are to be judged as seen. All exhibitors' tack and attire is to be considered legal.
10. Only contestants and those individuals assigned to assist with the contest are permitted in the arena during judging. Judging is done on an individual basis. Any conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone other than the contestant's group leader is grounds for dismissal of the contestant(s) from the contest. This policy stands in effect from the time the contest is officially started until the final contestant has given her oral reasons to the official reason taker.
11. Contestants are responsible for the proper marking of all class placing cards. Cards handed in without a class placing and/or a reassigned number will receive a score of zero.
12. Contestants and official judges will not be allowed to handle horses.
13. Official placings and cuts will be presented after completion of oral reasons.
14. The decision of the judge(s) is final.