

**2017 Block and Bridle at Virginia Tech Horse Judging Clinic
November 4th, 2017**

October 6, 2017

Dear 4-H Leaders and FFA Advisors:

It is our pleasure to contact you on behalf of the Virginia Tech Block and Bridle Club. We would like to extend an invitation for your participation with your members/students in our annual Horse Judging Clinic and Contest career development events.

The Horse Judging Clinic will be held on November 4, 2017 on the Virginia Tech campus at the Alphin-Stuart Arena on Plantation Road. This year's agenda will cover conformation, breed standards and performance classes. As always, there will be skill level specific instruction on reasons to address composition, organization, terms, and delivery. In addition, there will be a more vigorous teaching session for the advanced students in reasons as well as fun and educational horse related games for the beginners.

Enclosed, please find an entry form and a tentative copy of the clinic itinerary. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Also, please note that the entry deadline is October 30st, 2017. In the event of inclement weather, we will also distribute an email through the listserv. This decision will be made Friday, November 3rd by 5:00 pm.

We have included the phone numbers for several motels to help you find lodging. We hope to have a large turnout for these fun and exciting events.

Sincerely,

Ellie Daney and Beth Boteler
Elie4@vt.edu or beblackw@vt.edu
Clinic Chair & Block and Bridle Advisor

Entry Deadline is October 30, 2017

General Information

Objectives: The clinic is designed to provide FFA and 4-H members with an opportunity to develop and practice horse evaluation and selection skills as well as to increase their understanding of a judging contest and oral reasons. The event will provide Virginia Tech students with experience in event management. Excellence in judging can lead to a professional equine career.

ENTRY DEADLINE: October 30st, 2017

Entry Limits: Limited to first 250 participants

Send entries and checks to:

Beth Boteler
3270 Litton Reaves Hall
175 West Campus Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Cost: \$10.00 per participant

Coaches: \$10.00 if eating and free if coach provides his/her own lunch.

All late entries: Entries postmarked after October 30, 2017 are considered late.

Location: The contest will be held at Virginia Tech's Alphin-Stuart Arena.

To Arena: I-81, Take Exit 118b toward Blacksburg which becomes Rt. 460 West. Take 2nd Prices Fork Exit (West). At first stoplight turn left onto Plantation Road. Go ½ mile to the green roofed arena on left.

****Bring comfortable, warm clothing. No dogs allowed. No smoking on the premises. Bring notebooks for handouts, pens, etc. to take notes and practice reasons. Handouts are provided; CLIPBOARDS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED****

Class Level Descriptions

Advanced: For individuals that have significant contest experience. In addition to judging information, this group will focus on organizing and delivering a full set of reasons. These students should be knowledgeable with the reason format, delivery, and contest etiquette.

Intermediate: For individuals that have some judging experience. This group will focus on taking notes, class criteria, and giving a detailed pair of reasons. These students should have general knowledge of contests and be comfortable going through a solid pair in reasons.

Beginners: For individuals that have little to no judging experience. This group will focus on what horse judging is, what a contest is, what reasons are, and how to

survive, taking notes and giving reasons. Normally this is a large group that will be subdivided between ages 9-11 and 12 and older this year.

Coaches: Coaches are welcome to observe the clinic. If he/she pays the entry fee, a lunch will be provided. Coaches may observe for free if they provide their own lunch.

Tentative Schedule*

*** In the case of inclement weather, teams will be notified as soon as possible via email about the status of the events. Please check for email messages prior to departure if the weather is of concern. Schedule is subject to change. ***

8:00 – 8:45 – Registration

8:45 – 9:00- Introduction

9:00 – 12:00 – Breakout Sessions

Beginners

Start in Alphin-Stuart Arena Bleachers

Halter Overview and Halter Pair (Covered Arena)

Hunter Undersaddle, Equitation, Pleasure & Horsemanship (Arena)

Reining, Western Riding & Trail (Classroom)

Intermediates

Start in Alphin-Stuart Arena Bleachers

Hunter Undersaddle, Equitation, Pleasure & Horsemanship (Arena)

Reining, Western Riding & Trail (Classroom)

Halter Overview and Halter Class (Covered Arena)

Advanced

Start in Alphin-Stuart Arena Bleachers

Hunter Undersaddle, Equitation, Pleasure & Horsemanship (Arena)

Reining, Western Riding and Trail (Classroom)

Halter Overview and Halter Class (Covered Arena)

12:00- 12:45 – Lunch and Hunter Hack and/or Saddlebred Demonstration

12:45 – 1:30 – Reasons

Beginners Intermediate Advanced

1:30-6:00 -Live Classes

List of Participants

Beginner 9-11 years

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | 12. |

Beginner 12 years and up

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | 12. |

Intermediate Level

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | 12. |

Advanced

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | 12. |

Registration Form

Club/Chapter: _____ Coach Name: _____

Coach Mailing Address: _____

_____ Email: _____

Return by October 30, 2017

Paid Entry Fee Total: _____

Make checks payable to: Block and Bridle at Virginia Tech

Mail to:

Beth Boteler
3270 Litton Reaves Hall
175 West Campus Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Total Number of lunches for this entry: _____ Number of Vegetarian Meals: _____

I hereby affirm that my team shall compete in the Block & Bridle Horse Judging Clinic on Virginia Tech's campus. In consideration of said participation, I (we) do hereby for myself and my team release any claims for damages that I (we) may have against Virginia Tech, and the Block & Bridle Club, its officers, members, and employees, for any claims and all injuries offered by me or my team or associates.

(Coach's Signature)

Please check one of the items below:

_____ I grant permission for any photograph, digital image, videotape, or other picture to be used for promotional purposes by Virginia Tech.

_____ I decline permission for any photograph, digital image, videotape, or other picture to be used for promotional purposes by Virginia Tech.