Virginia Tech Block and Bridle Youth Invitational Horse Judging Contest

Saturday February 9, 2019

Objectives: The contest is designed to provide FFA and 4-H members with an opportunity to develop and practice horse evaluation and selection skills, and to defend their decisions in oral reasons. The event will provide Virginia Tech students with experience in event management. Judging can lead to a professional career in the equine industry.

Sponsored by: The Virginia Tech Block and Bridle Club and the Virginia Tech Horse Judging Team

Contest Manager: Shelby Kohn shelby99@vt.edu

Entry Details: Send entries to: Shelby Kohn c/o Beth Boteler 3270 Litton Reaves (0306) Virginia Tech

Blacksburg, VA 24061 **DEADLINE: February 1, 2019**

ENTRIES WILL ABSOLUTELY NOT BE ACCEPTED IF POSTMARKED LATER

THAN FEBRUARY 1.

Cost: Juniors NOT giving reasons: $5.00

All Junior and Senior contestants giving reasons: $10.00 (lunch provided)

Location: The contest will be held at Virginia Tech's Alphin-Stuart Arena, 500 Plantation Rd. Blacksburg, VA 24060

From I-81: Take Exit 118B toward Blacksburg, which is Rt. 460 West. Exit on Prices Fork Rd West. At first stoplight, turn left onto Plantation Road. Go approximately ½ mile to the green roofed arena on left.

Reasons will be given in Litton Reaves (Seniors) and in the Alphin Stuart Arena (Juniors).

Bring warm clothing. No dogs allowed. No smoking within 100 ft of the arena.

Eligibility: All contestants must be eligible for national competition on their state or school team. 4-H members must be eligible to compete in their respective state 4-H horse judging contest. Teams must be county or school teams.

4-H – Teams may consist of no more than 4 members.

Senior teams – members must turn 14 years of age before January 1, 2019 and not have had their 19th birthday before December 31, 2018.

Junior Teams – members will not have had their 14th birthday before January 1, 2019.

FFA – Teams may consist of no more than 4 members. Eligibility of teams will be determined by rules stated in the National FFA Career Development Event Manual as well as “Official Board Policy”.

Senior teams – members must be in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade at the time of the contest.

Junior Teams – members must be in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade at the time of the contest.

Note: An individual may not be on both 4-H and FFA teams.

General Information:

4-H and FFA Senior Teams:

• Each senior will give three sets of oral reasons.

• Lunch will be provided for seniors giving reasons.

4-H and FFA Junior Teams:

• Juniors have the option to give one set of reasons and are encouraged to do so. They will be provided lunch

• Juniors not giving reasons will not be provided lunch

• In the event that a Junior member decides to give reasons after registration, that individual may pay an extra $5.00 for lunch and participate in the reasons competition.

Coaches:

• Coaches are responsible for their own lunch or may request to have lunch provided at $5.00 per coach. Advance notice is required.

Entries: Receiving entries postmarked by the February 1st deadline is a great help in planning for lunches, reasons, and many organizational aspects of the contest. Checks should accompany the entries. If policies prevent the inclusion of payment, the coach should notify Shelby Kohn at shelby99@vt.edu to make arrangements for payment upon arrival.

Scoring: Scoring is based on the Hormel Computing System, with 50 points being a perfect score on a class placing or on a set of oral reasons. All classes will consist of four horses. Halter classes will be lined up head to tail and numbered 1-2-3-4 beginning with the rear horse. Riders of performance horses will wear the horse’s number (1,2,3,4). Fifteen minutes will be allowed for each class placing. The three high scores will be added together for the team score. All team members will be eligible for individual awards.

Soundness: All halter horses are to be judged as sound of limb, eye, mouth, wind, and reproductive status. All performance horses will be judged as they go unless otherwise stated by contest officials. Legality of tack, equipment, and rider dress will be confirmed prior to the class.

Classes: Contestants will judge 6 to 10 classes. Classes will be announced at the contest and selected from, but not limited to, the following list:

Halter: Hunter in Hand, Stock Horse, Pony of America, Tennessee Walking Horse or Gaited Type, Arabian/Half Arabian, Thoroughbred, American Saddlebred, Pony Halter, Morgan, Sport Horse, Draft Horse, Mules

Performance: Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, English Pleasure, Hunter Hack, Plantation Pleasure, Country Pleasure, Reining, Western Riding, Racking Horse, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Ranch Riding, Saddle Seat Equitation

Judging classes will be generally scored and conducted according to the rules of the USEF and AQHA. Breed classes will be judged according to the respective breed standards.

Contest Etiquette:

1. Contestants are not permitted to carry cell phones at any time during the contest.

2. Contestant dress code. Cold weather is the norm for Blacksburg in February and warm layers are recommended for everyone. No hats are allowed during the judging competition. During the reasons competition, contestants are expected to dress neatly and professionally but expensive clothing and horse show outfits are not necessary. Boots or closed toe shoes are appropriate for the halter judging section of the contest. With proper planning, there is little need for a full wardrobe change when time is more appropriately spent preparing reasons.

3. Contestants must not confer during the contest, including oral reasons preparation. Contestants must supply their own note pads and pencils. Contestants may not take any printed materials into the contest other than notes they prepare during the contest and patterns provided to all contestants. Placing cards will not be returned. There will be some heat, but again, warm clothing is recommended.

4. The reasons competition is designed to reward excellence in accuracy and oral delivery of the pertinent information. Contestants are strongly urged to not use their notes during the delivery of reasons. Reason scores will incur a 25-point penalty if read by the contestant, without regard to content. NOTE: Judges will be empathetic to contestants, especially those who are in the initial learning stages. They will be encouraging and understanding. This event is intended to be a practice contest for learning.

Honor Code: Contestants are on their honor regarding assistance during the contest. Contestants and coaches must adhere to the honor code or risk removal from the contest.

Awards:

• Halter, Performance, & Oral Reasons

Jr. and Sr. Individuals (1st – 10th) Jr. and Sr. Teams (1st – 5th)

Ribbons for 4-H and FFA

• Overall Winners

Jr. and Sr. Individuals (1st – 10th) Jr. and Sr. Teams (1st – 5th)

Ribbons for 4-H and FFA

• High Scores

Overall Individual (Jr. & Sr.)

Overall Team (Jr. & Sr.)

Reasons Individual (Jr. & Sr.)

Ribbons for 4-H and FFA

Coaches who have not made prior arrangements, parents, guests, and 4-H members not giving reasons will be on their own for lunch. The arena will be closed to all but senior contestants during and after lunch. Reasons are expected to conclude at 3:30PM at which time the doors will be open to all. Official placings and awards for both Hippology and Horse Judging Contests will be announced after the completion of reasons. We hope to end the day around 5:00PM.

2018 Block & Bridle Horse Judging Contest

Tentative Schedule

February 9, 2019

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

8:00-8:45 Registration -Virginia Tech Alphin-Stuart Arena

8:30 All officials and contest staff to meet. All guest horses to be on grounds

8:50 Welcome and assembly of groups for judging. Initial classes may be performance.

9:00 Contest Orientation and Classes begin.

12:00 Lunch. All coaches, parents, and contestants not giving reasons must leave the arena.

12:30-3:30 Oral Reasons. Seniors need transportation to Litton Reaves; Juniors must stay in the Alphin Stuart Arena.

3:30 Brief review of classes and placings by official judges

4:00 Awards and adjourn

Motels

Blacksburg

Comfort Inn (540)951-1500

Holiday Inn (540)552-7001

Hawthorn Inn (540)552-5636

Christiansburg

Quality Inn (540)382-2055

Days Inn (540)382-0261

Econo Lodge (540)382-6161

Super 8 (540)382-7421

Registration is due by February 1. Any registration postmarked after February 1st will not be accepted, and teams will not be allowed to compete. Changes should be made prior to February 1st via email to shelby99@vt.edu

Registration Form

Block and Bridle Horse Judging Contest

February 9, 2019

4H Unit or FFA Chapter:

Name of Coach:

Coach Mailing Address

Coach Email Address Telephone

Senior 4-H/FFA: $10.00 per person (includes lunch).

LIST NAMES:

Team 1: _____ _____

_____ _____

Team 2: _____ _____

_____ _____

Team 3: _____ _____

_____ _____

Team 4: _____ _____

_____ _____

Individuals _____ _____

Junior 4-H/FFA: $10.00/person if giving reasons; $5.00/contestant if not giving reasons. Please designate a non-reason contestant with a * by the name.

LIST NAMES:

Team 1: _____ _____

_____ _____

Team 2: _____ _____

_____ _____

Team 3: _____ _____

_____ _____

Team 4: _____ _____

_____ _____

Individuals _____ _____

*Total amount of entry fees paid: _____

*Total number of contestant lunches needed for this entry: _____

**Total number of coach lunches for this entry:

**Number of vegetarian lunches requested: _____

Return by February 1st to Shelby Kohn c/o Beth Boteler, 3270 Litton Reaves, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061

***Please make checks payable to: VT Block and Bridle**