

# Youth Horse Judging Contest

## Rules And Regulations

1. Eligibility – There will be two sections of the contest – team competition and individual competition. Within the two sections, there will be a Junior Division (10-14 must have had their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday after January 1) and Senior Division (14-19 must have had their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to January 1 or their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday after January 1). Seniors who have completed one year of college are not eligible regardless of age.
  - A. Team Competition – A team will be made up of three or four members. All members of the team must be Senior or Junior members. This can be for reasons or non-reasons.
  - B. Individual Competition – Any individual that meets the eligibility can compete in the reasons or non-reasons categories.
2. Must be a TWHBEA youth member. A youth membership is \$20 per year. This can be paid for the day of the contest.
3. While the contest is in progress, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else, except as directed by officials. Failure to abide by this regulation may result in disqualification of the contestant. No electronic devices may be used during the contest. Only clean white paper will be allowed in the contest.
4. Classes – Five to eight classes will be judged. Each class will have four horses. The showmen in each class will wear an appropriate number for identification purposes. Halter or conformation classes may be taken from yearling fillies or stallions, model mares, model geldings, or model stallions. Performance classes will be taken from the following under-saddle classes: two or three-year-old, aged mares, aged studs and geldings, plantation pleasure or western pleasure.
5. Oral Reasons – Contestants in the Senior Reasons Division shall be required to give oral reasons on one in-hand class and one performance class. The contestants shall be notified at the time of placing whether or not reasons will be required on the class then being judged. Reasons shall be given orally before the judge(s). Two minutes will be permitted for oral reasons on each class. Contestants will not be permitted the use of notes while giving oral reasons.
6. Time – Contestants will be allowed 10 minutes to place all non-reasons classes. Those classes in which oral reasons are to be given will be judged in a period of 15 minutes.

7. Officials – Each class will be placed or tied by a panel of one to three official judges. This panel will be made up of breeders, trainers, and others who have knowledge and experience in evaluation and selection of Walking Horses.
8. Group Leaders – A person shall be placed in charge of a group of contestants and will act as supervisor of the classes to observe the contestants to see that the horses are properly shown and moved and to answer any questions which do not pertain to the actual placing or instruction regarding the animal under consideration. Placing sheets will be turned into the group leader at the end of judging.
9. Scores – The 3 high scores from a team will be counted.
10. Scholarships – These are awarded to the top ten overall senior reasons individuals and the overall senior reasons team. You must claim scholarships within 5 years. All scholarships are mailed to the school of your choice.
11. The overall junior team and the top three high junior individuals will receive checks after the competition.