

# Department of Animal Science

## 2018 4-H STATE HORSE PROGRAM RULE CHANGES AND PROGRAM DIRECTIONS

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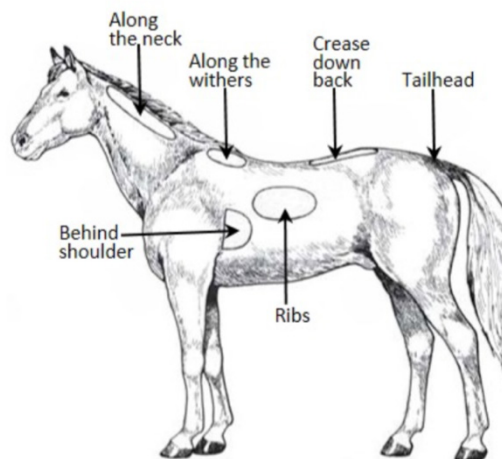
The 4-H State Horse Program Planning Committee is excited to announce programmatic changes and rule updates affecting the 2018 Tennessee Horse Program. Rule changes listed in this publication impact state-level programs and events only and will be effective beginning in the 2018 program year. Rule additions and changes are detailed by section number if available and are indicated in italics within this publication.

### 4-H State Horse Show

#### Changes Affecting Multiple or All Horse Show Divisions

##### Welfare Stewardship Rule: Minimum Body Condition Score (BCS) Needed to Compete

*Research has shown that health complications, including heat stress, stress of traveling, and showing, can be exacerbated at low body condition scores. Due to concerns for animal welfare and the objective of the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program to educate and promote quality equine husbandry, horses, ponies, mules, donkeys and/or other equids shall not be shown at the Tennessee 4-H Horse Show with a body condition score less than 4 based on the Henneke BCS scale (ribs easily discernable, withers accentuated and neck obviously thin). Six areas are evaluated when assigning body condition scores to horses or other equids (Image 1) when utilizing the Henneke BCS system (Table 1). At least two (2) personnel from the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program Committee will evaluate any horse in question including, but not limited to, the University of Tennessee equine Extension specialist, University of Tennessee Extension veterinarian, general show manager or division chair/manager, University of Tennessee regional Extension staff or other qualified person. If a horse is determined to have a BCS of less than 4, the representatives from the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program Committee will make a final decision whether or not to disqualify the animal from the remainder of the show. If you have*



*Image 1: Six areas of evaluation utilized to assign body condition score.*

*questions about the body condition score of your horse, or if you are not sure your horse will pass inspection, please contact your county Extension agent, regional specialist, Extension veterinarian or equine Extension specialist.*

**Table 1: Horse Body Condition Scores and Descriptions** (Adapted from Henneke et al., 1983)

Score	Description
1- Poor	<i>Animal is extremely emaciated. Spinal vertebrae, ribs, tailhead, and point of hip and point of buttocks project prominently; bone structure of withers, shoulders, and neck easily noticeable; no fatty tissue can be felt.</i>
2- Very Thin	<i>Animal emaciated. Slight fat covering over base of spinal vertebrae; transverse processes of the lumbar vertebrae feel rounded; spinous processes, ribs, tailhead, and point of hip and point of buttocks prominent; withers, shoulders, and neck structures faintly discernable.</i>
3- Thin	<i>Fat built up halfway on the spinal vertebrae; transverse processes cannot be felt; slight fat cover over ribs; spinous processes and ribs easily discernable; tailhead prominent, but individual vertebrae cannot be identified visually; point of buttocks appear rounded but easily discernable; point of hip not distinguishable; withers, shoulders, and neck accentuated.</i>
4- Moderately Thin	<i>Slight ridge along back; faint outline of ribs discernable; tailhead prominence depends on conformation, but fat can be felt around it; point of hip not discernable; withers, shoulders, and neck not obviously thin.</i>
5- Moderate	<i>Back is flat (no crease or ridge); ribs not visually distinguishable but easily felt; fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy; withers appear rounded over spinal vertebrae; shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body.</i>
6- Moderately Fleshy	<i>May be slight crease down back; fat over ribs spongy; fat around tailhead soft; fat beginning to be deposited alongside of withers, behind shoulders, and along the sides of the neck.</i>
7- Fleshy	<i>May have crease down back; individual ribs can be felt but there is noticeable fat between ribs; fat around tailhead soft; fat deposited along withers, behind shoulders, and along neck.</i>
8- Fat	<i>Crease down back; difficult to feel ribs; fat around tailhead very soft; area along withers filled with fat; area behind shoulder filled with fat; noticeable thickening of neck; fat deposited along inner thighs.</i>
9- Extremely Fat	<i>Obvious crease down back; patchy fat appearing over ribs; bulging fat around tailhead, along withers, behind shoulders, and along neck; fat along inner thighs may cause them to rub together; flank filled with fat.</i>

### Welfare Stewardship: Educational Information Tables

To promote education and a positive showing experience for 4-H youth, an educational table will be set up 30 minutes prior to the start of each division to provide guidance on acceptable tack and equipment permitted. Division representatives will NOT provide information on patterns/courses/test interpretation and will be focused on educating youth on appropriate tack and equipment to avoid disqualification in classes.

### Halter Classes

*Exhibitors may enter up to 6 halter horse and/or pony classes per division (junior halter mares, junior halter geldings, senior halter mares, senior halter geldings, pony halter geldings, pony halter mares). Show management reserves the right to split junior and senior, mare and gelding halter horse classes by exhibitor age if warranted by entry numbers. Only one horse or pony/rider combination per class is permitted.*

*Junior Halter Mares (maximum age per breed standards, yearling minimum age)*

*Junior Halter Geldings (maximum age per breed standards, yearling minimum age)*

*Senior Halter Mares (minimum age per breed standards)*

*Senior Halter Geldings (minimum age per breed standards)*

*Pony Halter Mares*

*Pony Halter Geldings*

### Western and Ranch Reining

Addition to Section 11.3 (Western) and 7.3 (Ranch); "... The best reined horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely. *Horses should be able to complete all maneuvers within the reining pattern.* All deviations from the exact written pattern..."

### Dressage

*Dressage class changes to be added to hunter, western, ranch and dressage sections within rulebook. Dressage will count toward appropriate division high point calculations. Class descriptions will reflect which division points will count towards:*

*Introductory level test X (Hunter Division)*

*Introductory level test X (Western Division)*

*Introductory level test X (Ranch Division)*

*Training level test X (Hunter Division)*

*Basic level test X (Western Division)*

*Basic level test X (Ranch Division)*

### Trail

Addition to Section 1.4; All trail classes will be judged according to AQHA *and TWHBEA Versatility Rules.*

## Rule Changes Affecting Individual Decisions

### Ranch and Cattle Division

Junior/Junior High and Senior High Goat Tying classes will be added to the 2018 Tennessee 4-H State Horse Show. Goat tying classes will follow National High School Rodeo rules.

### Hunter Division

For Green and Novice Working Hunter, Sections 10.7 A and 10.7 B revision; ~~Trot changes optional~~ changed to “*Make simple lead changes.*”

Intermediate Hunter Over Fences Classes, Sections 10.2 and 10.7 C (Working hunter), Sections 12.2 and 12.4 B (Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences): *Maximum fence height for horses is 2 ft 9 in.*

Jump schooling sign-up for specific time slots will be held during check-in to avoid multiple horse/rider combinations per trainer in each session and reduce no-shows. Jump schooling will be reduced to 15 min per session.

### Speed Division

No formal changes; however, rules will be **strictly** enforced.

### Non-trotting (Walking and Racking) Division

Addition to Section 5.1 and 21; *Show pleasure racking is NOT a chain racking class.*

Class 538 will be broken into Junior/Junior High and Senior Western Country Pleasure classes.

### Dressage Division

Remove strikethrough verbiage from page 81 based on restructuring of dressage to count for hunter, ranch and western divisions; ~~Dressage will be its own division. Points will NO LONGER be assigned in the hunter division.~~

Addition to be added as 1.2; *Dressage division will follow USEF and Western Dressage rules.*

Addition to be added as 6.4; *Elimination of the exhibitor will occur if there are three errors of the course/test, if the horse’s tongue is tied town, cruelty determined at the judge’s discretion, resistance of longer than 20 seconds, and fall of the horse and/or rider.*

Addition to be added as 6.5; *If a rider has missed their ride time, the rider will be eliminated from placing in the class. An opportunity to ride for remarks only will be permitted at the discretion of the judge and/or show staff.* Note: Riders should check in 10 minutes prior to their ride time for bit check and to ensure they do not miss their ride time.

## 4-H State Educational Contests

### Rule Changes Affecting Multiple Contests

#### Scoring

Revision of Hippology Section 2.1 and addition to Horse Judging General Rules Section;

Hippology: Teams will consist of 3 to 4 members. *The top 3 individual scores from each phase will be used to compute the team score.*

Horse Judging: Teams will consist of 3 to 4 members. *The top 3 individual scores from each class or reasons set will be used to compute the team score.*

### Rule Changes Affecting Individual Contests

#### Horse Bowl

Note: No changes will be made to the Knowledge areas each division is expected to know for the 2018 state-level contests.

Revision of Section 3;

#### 3.1 Junior Division

*A. Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms by New Horizons Education Center, Inc.*

*B. Horse Industry Handbook and all associated updates by the American Youth Horse Council*

*C. Equine Science by Jean T. Griffiths*

*D. Horse Smarts: An Equine Reference and Youth Activity Guide by the American Youth Horse Council*

*E. Dover Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the English Rider. To request a free catalog, visit [doversaddlery.com](http://doversaddlery.com).*

*F. Schneider Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the Western Rider. To request a free catalog visit [sstack.com](http://sstack.com).*

#### 3.2 Junior High Division

*A. All junior division references*

#### 3.3 Senior Division

*A. All junior division references*

*B. The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy by Robert A. Kainer and Thomas O. McCracken.*

*C. Feeding and Care of the Horse by Lon D. Lewis*

Addition in italics as Section 4.6 (renumbered sections below); *Holding rooms will be for team members and coaches only during the contest.*

## Hippology

Revision of Section 2.7;

### 3.1 Junior Division

- A. Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms by New Horizons Education Center, Inc.*
- B. Horse Industry Handbook and all associated updates by the American Youth Horse Council*
- C. Equine Science by Jean T. Griffiths*
- D. Horse Smarts: An Equine Reference and Youth Activity Guide by the American Youth Horse Council*
- E. Dover Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the English Rider. To request a free catalog, visit [doversaddlery.com](http://doversaddlery.com)*
- F. Schneider Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the Western Rider. To request a free catalog visit [sstack.com](http://sstack.com).*

### 3.2 Junior High Division

- A. All junior division references*

### 3.3 Senior Division

- A. All junior division references*
- B. The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy by Robert A. Kainer and Thomas O. McCracken.*
- C. Feeding and Care of the Horse by Lon D. Lewis*

Revision of Section 3.5; Part D Prepared and Impromptu Team Problems, Part E will be eliminated: *All teams will be presented with the same problems. Each team will have equal time to discuss the problem among themselves, immediately after which they will present their response. The prepared team problem format is as follows: teams will be given 10 minutes to review the question and prepare their response; immediately after preparation, teams will be given 7 minutes to present their response, and 3 minutes for questions from the judge(s). The impromptu format is as follows: teams will be given 7 minutes to review the question, prepare and deliver their response, followed immediately by 3 minutes of questions from the judge(s). Team problem scores will not be included in the individual score calculation.*

## Horse Judging

Revisions to section 2.2; Performance classes can include but are not limited to: Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, *two-gait flat shod*, Western Riding, English Pleasure, Reining, Hunter Hack, Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, *Ranch Riding, and Trail.*

## Communications

**The State Communications Contest will be moved to coincide with the State 4-H Horse Show in conjunction with the State Horse Judging Contest in June 2018 at the Celebration Grounds in Shelbyville, TN.** The contest will be held on Monday morning, before the horse judging contest begins.

Revision to Section 1. Eligibility: *The TN State 4-H Communications Contest is open to junior, junior high and senior 4-H Members.*

### *Public Speaking*

Revision to section 2.6; *Speech length will vary by the age of the 4-H member. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the time range for each age.*

*-Junior members: 3-5 minutes*

*-Junior High members: 5-7 minutes*

*-Senior members: 7-10 minutes*

Revision to section 3.5 (Content and accuracy); *E. Was the content of the presentation technical, scientific, or complex in nature?*

### *Individual Presentation*

Revision to Section 4.8; *Speech length will vary by the age of the 4-H member. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the time range for each age.*

*— Junior members: 3-6 minutes*

*— Junior High members: 6-9 minutes*

*— Senior members: 9-12 minutes*

Revision to Section 5.3 (Content and accuracy); *E. Was the content of the presentation technical, scientific, or complex in nature?*

### *Team Presentation*

Revision to Section 6.8; *Speech length will vary by the age of the 4-H member. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the time range for each age.*

*— Junior members: 6-9 minutes*

*— Junior High members: 9-12 minutes*

*— Senior members: 10-15 minutes*

Revision to section 7.3 (Content and accuracy); *E. Was the content of the presentation technical, scientific, or complex in nature?*



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