Plan to Attend: NDSU Horse Fair

The NDSU Horsemen’s Association will once again host a Horse Fair at the Equine Center on April 10th and 11th. This event was cancelled last year due to the flood and is back in full force this year. Main clinicians will include:

- Len Danielson – Hunter/jumper
- Karen Lee – Dressage
- Bob Janssen – Cutting, reining, working cow horse
- Dave Mcnamee – Horsemanship, problem solving

In addition to these great clinicians guest speakers will be discussing an array of topics important to the equine industry, various breeds will be displayed in breed alley, enjoy the trade show, and bring the kids to explore kid alley. A flyer for horse fair including times and admission costs is including at the end of this newsletter.

New Contest Offered at State 4-H

Quiz bowl will be offered this year at the State 4-H Contest hosted in Fargo April 17-18. For those who are not familiar with quiz bowl it is a contest completed as a team of four to five members. The teams are divided into junior and senior teams who will compete against other teams at the same level.

A designated set of questions for each round will be asked to the participating teams. Questions are based on different aspects of the equine industry which may include but are not limited to: production, management, safety, nutrition, reproduction, health, anatomy, and equipment. Two teams compete against each other to answer three types of questions: one-on-one, toss up, and bonus questions. Points are gained or lost based on answers given. Teams will play until all questions are answered. The team with the most points will be named the winner of the round. This contest is a great opportunity for 4-Hers to apply the knowledge they have learned about equine science. A complete breakdown of the state rules can be found on The Center for 4-H Development webpage at:

http://www.ndsu.edu/4h/programs_events/state_4_h_contests/ and then click on quiz bowl.
Hippology: The Ins and Outs

When asked what hippology is answers vary based on age and experience of the group questioned. The dictionary definition of hippology is, “the study of horses.” We usually hear hippology referred to as a contest that is offered to youth. In this format hippology serves as a way to test a participants knowledge and understanding of the horse in a competitive setting. This article breaks down the sections of a hippology contest, gives references that will be helpful for studying, and some tips to prepare for a contest.

North Dakota offers many hippology contests which are generally open to 4-H and FFA participants. Each contest has its own guidelines in terms of how age groups are divided and the fashion in which the contest is conducted. The phases are generally the same from contest to contest however some contests may choose to remove certain sections due to lack of resources.

There are generally four phases to a hippology contest including: a written test, stations, team problem, and horse judging. Each phase will be explained below and pointers given.

Written Test
The written portion of hippology challenges participants understanding of all aspects of the horse. Some topics focused on are: anatomy, breeds and colors, diseases and health, training, genetics, reproduction, nutrition, history, management, parts, and equipment. Many other topics are included or associated with the topics listed above. Mastering the written test is all about studying and associating concepts to help participants gain a thorough understanding of important topics.

Stations
The stations require identification of various equine items. This may include parts of the horse, saddles, bridles, bits, or other training equipment. You also may have to identify different feed types, unsoundnesses, reproductive organs, or teeth. These are a few important topics to understand but there are many other topics that can be included in this portion of the contest. One good way to work on tack identification is to use a magazine that has a wide range of tack and practice naming items. Also worksheets with parts broke out is always a good way to prepare.

Team Problem
The team problem has many roles. It is a way for participants to take the knowledge they have acquired from studying and make it applicable. Team problems are usually posed as situations that require teams to combine information about many topics in the equine industry and associate the topics to come up with a feasible solution to a problem. The team problem also serves as a faucet of communication so teams are not only judged on their knowledge, but on their communication skills and presentation of the problem. Keeping this in mind, it is important that team problems are presented in an organized, clear fashion at a volume that is appropriate for the situation. It is important that all members participate in the presentation of the problem and that it flows in a chronological order.

For some helpful tips on team problems please see the article on page four.

Judging
The judging portion of a hippology contest is usually composed of both conformation and performance classes. Judging is an art that must be developed through practice. When beginning practice coaches should present team members with the ideal horse for the class being discussed and explain why the example horse is ideal, giving students a standard to compare against. This becomes especially important when discussing performance classes because the ideals are extremely different between disciplines and classes.

An understanding of conformation evaluation is vital to be successful in judging halter classes. We usually evaluate conformation classes based on four main categories: balance, structural correctness, breed and sex characteristics, and degree of muscling. As coaches it is important to start conformation evaluations by examining the big picture especially if you have a young or inexperienced team. Each member should be encouraged to get in a habit of evaluating horses the same way each time, usually from head to tail. By doing this important points are not overlooked. Be sure every member has a notes sheet set up that will allow them to quickly and efficiently take notes on a class. This sheet should be set up to allow the horses to be compared at the completion of the class for placing. When first starting just hav-
Hippology continued

level increases add more in-depth knowledge. When you make these stations you will need worksheets they can complete as a team or individually as experience increases. A fun way to engage the members is to pick a learning topic and use poster board to let the participants fill in as much as they can on the poster about the topic discussed, then let them rotate to the other team members boards and add on to what they have or correct anything they feel is incorrect. This is a great way to encourage the participants to learn and associate concepts because you can continue to add on to the posters each week. For example say you use a blank picture of a horse, one week you can do parts, the next body condition scoring, and the next association of anatomy to unsoundnesses. At the end of the activity pick one poster and discuss it as a group. It is important leaders are ready to discuss all topics used for the week and answer questions posed by the participants.

A fun way to work on horse parts is to use post-its and a live horse and let the participants write the parts on the post-its and then stick them to the appropriate part of the horse. Most important if you don’t understand a class or judging requirements for a class get help. Find an expert who is willing to help your group with a class or correct anything they feel is incorrect. This is a great way to encourage the participants to learn and associate concepts because you can continue to add on to the posters each week. For example say you use a blank picture of a horse, one week you can do parts, the next body condition scoring, and the next association of anatomy to unsoundnesses. At the end of the activity pick one poster and discuss it as a group. It is important leaders are ready to discuss all topics used for the week and answer questions posed by the participants.

A fun way to work on horse parts is to use post-its and a live horse and let the participants write the parts on the post-its and then stick them to the appropriate part of the horse. Most important if you don’t understand a class or judging requirements for a class get help. Find an expert who is willing to help your group with certain areas that may need work. The Texas A & M website listed is an excellent reference to use for practicing horse judging. It has archives full of classes that can be looked at on the computer or the conformation classes can be printed off and used for practice. In addition you can compare either two horses or four horses based on experience of the team. For the performance pattern classes there is an example given to show the patterns. These classes have official placings and reasons given at the conclusion of the class to help you understand the placings.

http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/online-judging/index.htm

As we all know many times there is conflicting information about horse topics, so it is important when preparing for a contest to stick to the information given in the references used for the contest. A list of important references is listed below, these are the references used for our ND state contest.

Equus Magazine


Feeding and Care of the Horse, Lewis, Lon, Williams and Wilkins, Second Edition. 351 West Camden Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-2436. (800) 638-0672

AYHC Horse Industry Handbooks, the American Youth Horse Council

AYHC Youth Leaders Manual, the American Youth Horse Council

The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy, Kainer and McCracken, Alpine Blue Ribbon Books, P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537-0027. (800) 777-7257

State Line Tack Catalogs - http://www.statelinetack.com/

Use the information in this article to make hippology a fun learning experience.

Hippology builds strong reasoning and problem solving skills in participants.
Helpful Tips for Team Problems

Team problem is sometimes a very intimidating thing for teams especially those who have not been exposed to presenting in front of an audience. These tips will help you give a confident team problem presentation.

1. Introduce yourselves including whether you are a junior or senior team, what county you are from and your individual names.
2. Give a brief summary of your presentation including a statement of the problem and the questions to be addressed.
3. Answer the questions in a logical complete manner. Points will be deducted for using notes so work on thinking through the problem rather than memorizing sentences.
4. There should be no one chewing gum! It hinders your ability to speak clearly and is distracting.
5. The team should be dressed neatly in matching attire as simple as dark jeans and tucked in white button down shirts.
6. Eye contact with the judge and good posture demonstrates confidence and is taken into consideration in the judging process.
7. Depending on the style of the team’s presentation, individuals should stand with their hands held behind their backs and in speaking order.
8. When presenting, team members should work on standing still (no fidgeting with hands or feet).
9. The use of filler words such as “like” or “um” should be avoided. If you have lost your train of thought take a deep breath, think about what you want to say and then say it.
10. Have a conclusion statement to finish off your presentation.
11. Finally, thank the judge and ask if there are any questions.

NDSU Rodeo Team to Host Events

The NDSU Rodeo Team will again be hosting a bull riding and bull fighting clinic at the NDSU Equine Center on April 2-3. The clinic will be full hands on instruction by individuals very successful in the industry. See the flyer at the back of this newsletter for more information about the clinic including times, contacts, and registration information.

4-H Judge’s Certification

Another 4-H Judge’s Certification will be hosted at the NDSU Equine Center on March 20th. The morning session is open to anyone who would like to learn more about the 4-H classes offered and what judges are looking for in the participants. This is a great opportunity for 4-Hers, parents, and potential judges to ask questions about rules, tack, and judging techniques. Anyone wanting to become a certified judge will also be required to judge live classes in the afternoon and take a written exam over the 4-H rulebook. Judges must pass the rulebook test with a score of 80% or higher and pass the three judging classes with a score of 75% or higher. Anyone wanting to judge in North Dakota is strongly encouraged to attend as counties are encouraged to hire judges off of the certified list. Please see the flyer for additional information.
Hold the Date: Jon Wolf Judging Clinic

Jon Wolf has been very influential to the horse judging community. He served 25 years as the horse judging team coach for Black Hawk College in Kewanee, Illinois. During this time he coached several collegiate teams to AQHA World and Congress championships. He now travels around the U.S. helping teams get started and sharing his judging philosophies. Jon has created a series of horse judging dvds entitled “Perfect Practice” which help judges of all levels to succeed in judging contests. These dvds include good practice techniques, example animals, and good discussion about important judging topics. Jon will be traveling to Fargo and giving a judging clinic on October 23-24 at the NDSU Equine Center. The clinic is open to everyone and will be a great learning experience for not only judges but anyone interested in understanding more about horse conformation and what judges are looking for in both conformation and performance classes.

This clinic will include presentations and practice classes. More information will be coming out in the near future about registration and schedule details.

Fuzzy Wuzzy Show Returns

The NDSU Horsemen’s Association will once again be hosting the Fuzzy Wuzzy Horse Show. The show will be held on March 6th beginning at 9 a.m. at the Equine Center. This show is open to everyone and is a fun event to kick off the show season. Show clothes are not required and 4-H rules will be followed for tack, equipment, and class rules. Awards will be given to the high point and reserve high point rider in each division. Horses coming into the Equine Center are required to have a current negative coggins which must be presented to show management. Please see the show bill at the end of the newsletter for age groups and show rules. Please contact Tara Swanson at either 701-231-8865 or tara.swanson@ndsu.edu with questions about the show or to reserve either overnight or day stalls. The show bill can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Wish I Had a Horse Camp

Over the past several years the NDSU Horsemen’s Association has been hosting “Wish I Had a Horse Camps” which are geared toward youth who don’t have horses but have a passion for them. These camps have proven to be a huge success. During the camp participants rotate through stations learning about things such as: how to handle horses safely, riding basics, about tack, colors, grooming, and various other horse related topics. The stations are taught by members of the club.

Another camp will be hosted on March 27th at the Equine Center in Fargo. This camp is limited to 20 participants. The flyer for this event can be found at the end of this publication. For more information about the clinic or the register please contact Tara Swanson at either tara.swanson@ndsu.edu or 701-231-8865.

Save the dates for these fun and educational equine activities.
NDSU Horsemen's Association Presents:

NDSU HORSE FAIR

April 10 & 11, 2010

CLINICIANS
Len Danielson-Hunter/Jumper
Karen Lee- Dressage
Bob Janssen- Cutting, Reining, Working Cow Horse
Dave Mcnamee- Horsemanship, Problem Solving

ADMISSION:
Adults $6.00 ($10 both days)
Youth (4-14) $3.00 ($5.00 both days)
3 & under free
*NDSU students at youth prices
( with student ID)

A fun event that everyone will love!
Enjoy our amazing trade show, take a stroll down breed alley, observe training demonstrations from well known and respected horse professionals and bring the kids to explore Kid Alley! So much to do and see it would be a shame to miss out!

Join us on Facebook: NDSU Horse Fair

Located at the NDSU Equine Center Fargo, ND

Hours: Saturday 8:30am - 6:30pm
Sunday 8:30am - 3:30pm

The NDSU Equine Center is located just
2 miles West of I-29 on 19th Ave. N Exit 67

Contact: nichole.chapel@ndsu.edu
Fuzzy Wuzzy Horse Show

Location: NDSU Equine Center
5140 19th Ave N
Fargo, ND, 58102
Saturday March 6, 2010
Judge: TBA

Barn will open at 6am. Registration starts at 7am. Show starts at 9am.

Entries: $3 per class + $1 number fee per person/horse
High Point and Reserve High Point prizes awarded for each age group!

Age Groups
Junior 12 and under
Intermediate 13-18
Senior 19 and over
Walk Trot all ages

Classes
1. Junior Showmanship
2. Intermediate Showmanship
3. Senior Showmanship
4. Tandum Bareback Western Pleasure *
5. Lead Line (6 and under) *
6. Snaffle Bit Western Pleasure (2 & 3 yr. old horses) *
7. Walk Trot Pleasure
8. Junior Western Pleasure
9. Intermediate Western Pleasure
10. Senior Western Pleasure
11. Walk Trot Horsemanship
12. Junior Horsemanship
13. Intermediate Horsemanship
14. Senior Horsemanship
15. Walk Trot English Pleasure
16. Junior English Pleasure
17. Intermediate English Pleasure
18. Senior English Pleasure
19. Walk Trot English Equitation
20. Junior English Equitation
21. Intermediate English Equitation
22. Senior Equitation
23. Walk Trot Egg and Spoon
24. Junior Egg and Spoon
25. Intermediate Egg and Spoon
26. Senior Egg and Spoon
27. Orange Race (open and timed) *
28. Walk Trot Barrels
29. Junior Barrels
30. Intermediate Barrels
31. Senior Barrels
32. Walk Trot Stake Race
33. Junior Stake Race
34. Intermediate Stake Race
35. Senior Stake Race
36. Costume Class (open) *

* Classes doesn’t count towards high point awards

Show Rules:
- Long pants and western boots required, show clothes not required
- Concession will be provided on grounds
- Entries close one class prior to the one you are entering
- No refunds will be given
- Liability waivers must be signed when registering for classes
- Horses must have current (within one year) negative Coggins paper, which must be checked by show officials before unloading
- No stallions allowed
- You may enter in the walk trot division and another age group, but you must be showing two different horses
- Horses shown in the snaffle bit class must be shown in a snaffle bit or bosal, no shanked bits will be allowed
- NDSU Horsemen’s Association assumed no responsibility for accident, injury, or theft
- Horses must be tied to trailers unless a stall is purchased
- Due to the number of horses expected, horses may not be tied in the alleys for extended periods of time
- Stalls are available for the day @ $10.00/stall or overnight @ $20.00/stall. Check in will be 6-11pm Friday night

Contact: Tara Swanson for more information and for stall reservations
Phone: (701) 231-8865 or by email: tara.swanson@ndsu.edu
“Wish I Had a Horse Camp”
March 27, 2010
Sponsored by the NDSU Horsemen’s Association
Registration Deadline: March 25, 2010

Objective
- Geared toward beginners without horses, or those who want more knowledge about their horses
- Focused on youth activities
- Gain hands on experience
  - Handling
  - Safety
  - Care
  - Riding basics
- Horses are provided

Important Information
- Proper attire including jeans and closed toe shoes required
- Limited to 20 participants so pre-registration is required

Location
- NDSU Equine Center
  5140 19th Ave. N
  Fargo, ND 58102
- 2 miles west of I-29 on 19th Ave. N

Cost and Registration
- Cost: $25.00/participant
- Session Details
  - Registration: 8:30 a.m.
  - Clinic: 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Contact
Tara Swanson
701-231-8865/ tara.swanson@ndsu.edu
North Dakota 4-H Horse Judges Certification

March 20, 2010
Fargo, ND
Seminar- Shepperd Arena/ Judging- NDSU Equine Center

What is it? A morning seminar covering the ND 4-H Horse Show Rules and Judging Guide and afternoon certification testing.

Who should attend? Anyone interested in judging 4-H shows in the state of North Dakota. The morning seminar is open to anyone, and would be beneficial for those working with the 4-H Horsemanship project.

How does it work? To be eligible for certification, applicants must pass a written exam over the ND 4-H Horse Show Rules and Judging Guide with a score of 80% or higher and judge three classes with a score of 75% or higher. Certification is good for three years.

What time does it start? The morning seminar will be held from 9AM until 12PM. The certification testing will begin at 1PM.

What does it cost? The morning seminar is free. Cost for those wishing to become certified is $20.

To register or for more information:
Carrie Hammer
701-231-5682
carrie.hammer@ndsu.edu

Please register by March 15th
Bull Riding/Jr. Bull Riding Clinician:
Fred Boettcher (Rice Lake, WI)
  6-time NFR Qualifier
  PBR Finals Qualifier
  Great Lakes Circuit Champion

Bull Fighting Clinician:
Josh Rivinus (Elgin, ND)
  5-time Badlands Circuit Finals, 07 & 08 PRCA Tour Finale Bullfighter

- Jr. Bull Riding is for participants in 8th Grade and Lower.
- All participants must have proof of insurance and sign waiver of liability (minor must have legal parent or guardian signature.)
- All clinics are Full Hands on Instruction and will have Video Review.
- Clinics will be held at the NDSU Equine Center.
- Please make checks payable to: NDSU Rodeo

April 2 & 3
Starts @ 9:00 am

Tuition: $300
Deposit $100 (Due March 29)


Contact:
Tate Eck — NDSU Rodeo Coach
Dept 7630, PO Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050
Office #: (701)-231-7726
Cell #: (701)-793-3862
Fax #: (701)-231-7590
E-mail: tate.eck@ndsu.edu

NDSU Equine Center is located 2 miles west of I-29 on 19th Ave N, Exit 67, Fargo, ND
For more information or to register contact:

Tara Swanson
North Dakota State University
Department of Animal Sciences
NDSU Dept. 7630
P.O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050
Phone: 701-231-8865
Fax: 701-231-7590
E-mail: tara.swanson@ndsu.edu

Check the NDSU Equine Studies page at:
http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/ars/equine_studies/

for information on upcoming events. If you click on the calendar you will find events, dates, and contact information for the various equine activities. In addition, click on the links to get rules, showbills, and time information.

If you are not already on the NDSU ListServe and would like to receive this newsletter and information on upcoming equine events please send your name and e-mail address to tara.swanson@ndsu.edu.

If there is a topic you would like covered or a certain question you would like to see in future editions of the HeadTossr please forward those to me at tara.swanson@ndsu.edu and I will do my best to answer them.

Calendar of Events

On the web at:
http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/ars/equine_studies/resources/headtossr.htm