



# North Dakota State University Horse Judging Clinic

NDSU Campus Classroom Location: TBD  
NDSU Equine Center: 5140 19<sup>th</sup> Ave N Fargo, ND 58102

**Date: Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>**



**4-H/Open Show Judges Certification:  
Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 a.m.**



*Certification will cover changes to the ND 4-H Horse Show Rules and Judging Guide, judging etiquette, the Danish System, live judging Sunday morning and the closed rulebook test.*

**Please see attached registration forms for costs and pre-registration guidelines for the judging clinic and certification program as the requirements and costs are separate**

## Clinic Information

This clinic is intended for 4-H and FFA members along with coaches, exhibitors, parents, those interested in becoming a North Dakota 4-H/Open Show Certified Judge and all others with an interest in learning about equine evaluation. Participants will learn basic information about judging conformation and performance classes commonly encountered at judging contests. The classroom portion of this workshop will focus on rules and judging criteria used to evaluate each class. The morning part of the clinic will be divided into a beginner and advanced section. The **beginner** section is geared towards individuals with a basic understanding of terminology and class structure. This section will cover movement, introductory anatomy, ground level conformation and basic class structure for each judging class. The **advanced** section of the clinic will be focused primarily on scoring systems for: horsemanship, equitation, trail, and reining. Individuals will get practice using the score sheets and evaluating maneuvers and penalties for these scored classes. Due to the nature of the advanced section it is not appropriate for individuals under the age of 10.

Following the morning session participants will come back together as one group and learn how to efficiently and effectively take notes for classes and transform those notes into an organized set of reasons. The session held at the Equine Center on Saturday afternoon will focus on live evaluation and discussion of individual horses.

The judging workout on Sunday will consist of four classes and will be run similar to a judging contest. This “mock contest” will be a placings only contest (no oral reasons will be required from participants). These classes will be utilized to test those interested in testing for their North Dakota 4-H/Open Show Judges Certification. Following each class official placings and reasons will be given. Those wanting to take the judges exam will then take their closed book, 50 question test.

# Tentative Itinerary

## Saturday

8:00 a.m.

Check-in (location to be sent in January)

### Beginner Section

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Movement, basic anatomy, conformation, and introductory judging criteria

### Advanced Section

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Advanced judging criteria, scoring system breakdown and practice

### All Groups Combined

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Note taking and oral reasons

1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Lunch on your own

### Equine Center

2:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Horse demonstrations/evaluation

5:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Question and answer session

## Sunday

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Mock contest to include at least four classes (used for Judges Certification)

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Present reasons (optional for attendees)

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

*4-H Judges Certification:* Changes to the ND 4-H Horse Show Rules and Judging Guide, judging etiquette, the Danish System, closed rulebook test.

### **Special Note:**

Due to availability of horses all classes discussed at this clinic will be stock horse classes.

Possible classes to be covered during the clinic: Halter, Western Pleasure, Hunter under Saddle, Equitation, Horsemanship, Trail, Reining

*4-H Judges Certification* testing will begin at 9:00 a.m. using the mock contest classes as the official judging classes for the judges testing. Should you need a refresher on classes it is highly recommended you attend Saturday's events before testing on Sunday.

### **Saturday morning lecture:**

NDSU Building and classroom information will be sent in January

### **Directions to the NDSU Equine Center:**

From I-29 take exit 67 for 19<sup>th</sup> Ave N

Turn west on 19<sup>th</sup> Ave N and travel approximately 1.5 miles

The NDSU Equine Center will be on the south side of 19<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Enter through the second entrance with the NDSU Equine Center sign

Proceed to the bleachers by the arena



# Registration Form for Judging Clinic

**Registration Deadline: Friday January 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Pre-registration required and payment must accompany registration**

**Adult and Youth Registration Cost: \$20/person Saturday only or \$30/person Saturday & Sunday**  
**Participants must attend Saturday in order to attend Sunday**  
Coaches who bring at least four team members receive free admission

Coach's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

## Team Participants:

Name	Beginner Clinic	Advanced Clinic

## **Mail Payment to:**

NDSU Department of Animal Sciences  
Attn: Tara Swanson  
NDSU Dept. 7630 P.O. Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108

## **Payment Information:**

Checks payable to: NDSU Equine Science  
\*Registration includes classroom instruction,  
judging materials, live demonstrations, Saturday snack, and  
Sunday mock contest

## **Contact Information:**

Clinic: Tara Swanson [Tara.swanson@ndsu.edu](mailto:Tara.swanson@ndsu.edu) or 701-231-8865

# Registration Form for Judges Certification



**4-H/Open Show Judges Certification:  
\$20 for Sunday beginning at 9 a.m.**



*Certification will cover changes to the ND 4-H Horse Show Rules and Judging Guide, judging etiquette, the Danish System, live judging Sunday morning and the closed rulebook test.*

**Certification registration fees are separate from clinic fees. If you will only be participating in the certification program the fee can be paid at the door on Sunday. If you are participating in the clinic on Saturday and the certification on Sunday pre-registration is required (due by Friday January 5<sup>th</sup>) and two separate checks should be included with the registration form.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>Certification Program Only Sunday</b>	<b>Clinic and Certification</b>
<b>Please check the participation box</b>		

**If you are participating in both the clinic and the certification program please send two separate checks:**

## Payment Information:

### Clinic Check:

Payable to: NDSU Equine Science  
Amount: \$20

### Certification Check:

Payable to: NDSU Center for 4-H  
Amount: \$20

### Mail Payment to:

NDSU Department of Animal Sciences  
Attn: Tara Swanson  
NDSU Dept. 7630 P.O. Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108

### Contact Information:

4-H Judges Certification: Leigh Ann Skurupey [LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu](mailto:LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu) or 701-231-6658