

# Horse Evaluation CDE

Rev. Oct 2023

## Purpose

The purpose of the FFA Horse Evaluation Career Development Event is to (a) promote the study of and interest in equine science selection, care and well being, management and production through the agricultural education curriculum; (b) encourage experiential learning through use of practical skills and applied knowledge; (c) provide recognition for those who have demonstrated skills and competencies as a result of instruction in equine science.

## Eligibility

This event is held during the Delaware State Fair. It is open to all high school FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. Members that have participated in a previous national event or previous state winning teams in this area are ineligible.

A middle school division is also available. Middle school follows the high school event exactly.

## Event Procedures

- A. Teams participating in the Horse Evaluation CDE should register their teams on the Delaware FFA State Fair registration form which is usually sent via email around June.
- B. Along with registration forms, teams should have completed waiver forms for National FFA as well as Big E. Big E forms are found at [www.thebige.com](http://www.thebige.com) and National forms can be found at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)
- C. Registration takes place in the Centre and the test is the first portion before heading to the Quillen to judge. Following the Final class, members will move to the FFA Center/Ice Rink to give oral reasons as instructed by the MC.
- D. Each team will be comprised of up to four members. All four team members' scores will be used to determine the total team score.
- E. Students should not converse with other participants during the event, with the exception of their own team members ONLY during the team activity.
- F. Students may observe animals as instructed by the MC during the event. They may NOT handle or touch the animals at any time.
- G. Participants will not be allowed to possess any personal electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, smart watches, air pods, etc) other than those approved by event officials. Participants who possess personal electronic devices without prior approval of the event officials will be disqualified from the event.
- H. Official Dress for this event includes: FFA shirt, non athletic pants or non athletic finger-tip length shorts and closed toed shoes.
- I. Contestants must bring two sharpened #2 pencils, a clean clipboard free of notes, and a non-programmable battery operated calculator for this event.
- J. Materials provided by the state during sign-in include:
  - Paper for reasons will be provided.

- (2) Judging Scorecards to hand in for oral reasons
- Scantron score sheets will be used in the event to record all responses.
- During sign-in, members will be assigned a team code and an individual code that will be placed on their scantron. This will need to be placed on all sheets, including their name (except the scantron folder) and worn by the student during the event. The code consists of the participants' chapter number and their individually assigned number, (example: 0041-2)
- K. Materials students need to provide
  - Clean, free of notes clipboard
  - Two sharpened No. 2 pencils
  - Non-programmable, battery operated calculator

## Event Format

### A. Individual Activities

All Judging and Oral Reasons should be done individually. Any discussion between participants during the judging or during oral reason preparation, will be considered cheating, and is grounds for disqualification.

1. Selection classes - 250 points
  - a. There will be a total of five (5) classes judged, three (3) classes of halter and two (2) classes of performance events.
  - b. Teams will not know what type of halter classes until the morning of the event. Halter classes may vary each year depending on the stock available at the Delaware State Fair.
  - c. The performance class will be announced in early June before the contest as it rotates each year.
  - d. Halter classes will be judged first and then the performance classes will be judged.
  - e. All Halter and Performance classes will be judged as sound or as presented. This will be determined prior to the class by the official judge.
  - f. The performance class will be judged by open or novice rules, with this being determined by the official judge prior to the event.
  - g. Performance Classes
    - Even years: Western Classes
    - Odd years: English Classes
2. Oral Reasons - 100 points
  - a. There will be two (2) sets of oral reasons classes performed by individuals in this event. One set will be done on the halter class that will be announced at the beginning of the event. One set of oral reasons will be given on a performance class.
  - b. Halter classes will be judged first and then the performance class will be judged. Oral reasons will begin directly after all the judging has been completed.
  - c. Oral reasons will begin once all judging has been completed.
  - d. It is recommended that participants do not use notes during oral reasons presentations.

3. Test (50 points)
- a. The test will be a problem or series of questions that might include the following topics: tack ID, Breed ID, Grooming ID, Disease/Infections, Breeding/Gestation, Feeding/Feedstuffs, Markings/ Identifications, Horse Health. The test will be individual. **The ID portions of this test may take place via power point in the Centre.**

## Scoring

Selection Classes	Individual	Team
<b>Halter Classes</b>		
Placings (3)	150	600
Oral Reasons (1)	50	200
<b>Performance Classes</b>		
Placings (2)	100	400
Oral Reasons (1)	50	200
<b>Test</b>	50	200
<b>Total Individual</b>	400	
<b>Total Team Score*</b>		<b>1600</b>

\*Team score includes all 4 individual scores.

## Tiebreakers

Ties will be broken by the total score on classes in the following order :

1. Halter Oral reasons total
2. Performance Oral reasons total
3. Sum of Halter classes
4. Performance Classes One, Two

## Awards

Awards will be presented to individuals and teams based upon their rankings at the State Fair FFA Awards Breakfast. The top 10 individual placings are recognized with the top 3 receiving bronze, silver, or gold CDE pin. The first place team will receive a plaque and will represent Delaware at National Convention, the second place team will represent Delaware at Big E.

## References

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

National FFA Core Catalog - CDE Questions and Answers <http://shop.ffa.org/cde-qas-c1413.aspx>

Current Official AQHA Handbook

American Quarter Horse Association, Amarillo Texas – Video References <http://www.aqhastore.com/store/category/3/11/How-To/>

2002 edition of the AQHA Championship Judging Series <http://nhitca.org/contentsales.html>

Heird, James C. and The American Quarter Horse Association, *Competitive Horse Judging*. First Edition. The American Quarter Horse Association, 1990.

Evans, J. Warren, Borton, Anthony, Hintz, Harold F., and Van Vleck, L. Dale, *The HORSE*, second edition. W. H. Freeman and Company, 41 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 ISBN 0-7167-1811-1

*Horse Industry Handbook*, published by the American Youth Horse Council. Order by calling 1-800-Try-AYHC <http://ayhc.com/resources.htm>

Equine Science Curriculum – a special project from the National Council for Agricultural Education <http://www.teamaged.org/council/index.php/resources/60>

Judging 101 <http://judging101.com/>

Tack Identification <http://www.saddleshop.com> (official reference for terminology for tack equipment identification)

Oklahoma State University horse breed website <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/horses/>

University of Kentucky Agripedia website <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/>

Official Judging Guide from each of the various breed associations and audiovisuals



