# Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers

## Horse Career Development Event

### Contest Superintendent – Justin Howard, Georgetown-Ridge Farm

### IAVAT CDE Committee Member – Scott Riden, United

### IAVAT CDE Committee Member – Jessica Bochniak - Farmington

### Host – Aaron Callahan, BHC Equine Science Professor

### A. General Information

1. **Team**

The event will include three divisions: (1) Horse Judging - - Non-reasons; (2) Horse Judging - - Reasons and (3) Horse Judging - Middle School Non-reasons. The reasons division will require team members to present reasons in Official FFA Dress and give oral reasons on one halter (conformation) class and one performance class. A team that pre-registers for the reasons division, but fails to present reasons, will be disqualified from the contest. A school may participate in all divisions. The winner of the high school reasons division will represent Illinois at the National FFA competition. Four (4) team members from each school will be permitted to judge in each division. The three (3) individuals earning the highest total scores will constitute the competing team (a school may compete with three members). A school may enter less than three members, but then the member(s) will compete only as individuals. No substitution will be permitted in any division after judging has started and **no extra students** will be permitted to judge.

2. **Placings/Scoring**

The official placings and reasons for the rings will be given following the final class and after the “reasons” team division has been removed from the judging area..

The event will be scored by Scantron. The results will be announced as soon as possible after the event.

3. **Miscellaneous**

No handling of horses will be allowed. Each participant should bring a pencil. Each school with participants must have at least one responsible adult accompanying them. The event will be held in an indoor arena.

Every effort will be made in computing the results to prevent errors. If, however, after the precautionary measures have been taken and the results announced, errors do show up, the results will stand as announced and will not be corrected at a later date.

4. **Awards**

Each judging division will receive the following awards.

Ribbons will be awarded to all teams that participate. Those teams whose score places them in the upper third of the teams judging will receive blue ribbon awards, those in the next third will receive red ribbons and those in the lowest third will receive white ribbons. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) teams. The teams in the superior group will also be ranked in score order. Ribbons will be given to each individual that participates. Individuals whose score places them in the upper third of the teams judging will receive blue ribbon awards, those in the next third will receive red ribbons and those in the lowest third will receive white ribbons. Superior ribbons will be awarded to the top ten (10) individuals. A trophy will be awarded to the top individual. **The highest eligible team in the reasons division will represent Illinois in the National FFA Career Development Event.**

5. **Additional Information**

Refer to the *Annual Information and General Rules* section for the current year for information concerning **Entry Fees, Registration, and Location** of the event.

### B. Event Format

1. **Placing Classes** (50 points each)

There will be a total of eight classes judged, four classes of halter and four classes in performance events with

Four halter classes will be judged. Halter classes may be represented by the following breeds and types: Quarter Horse, Conformation Hunter, Appaloosa, Arabian, Paint, American Saddle bred and Morgan. All halter classes will be judged as sound. All halter classes are a possible reasons class.

Four performance classes will be judged. Performance classes may include: Western Pleasure, Western Riding (Pattern One), Western Horsemanship, Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat), Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat), Hunter Seat Equitation, Ranch Riding and Hunter Hack. Performance classes will be judged as presented (unsoundness to be penalized accordingly). American Quarter Horse Association reining pattern will be provided to the teams prior to the event.

Classes will be approximately 12–15 minutes in length. All classes will be 50 points, making this section worth 400 points.

2. **Reasons Classes** (50 points each)

Those teams registered for the Reasons Division shall present two classes of reasons in Official FFA Dress:

* 1. One set of reasons class in a Halter Class - Quarter Horse, Conformation Hunter, Appaloosa, Arabian, Paint, American Saddle bred and Morgan
  2. One set of reasons in a Performance Class - Western Pleasure, Reining, English Pleasure (Saddle Seat) and Hunter Under Saddle (Hunt Seat).
  3. Dress score - each category is worth 10 points, all or nothing, no partial scores
     + FFA Jacket work and zipped up
     + A white, collared shirt
     + Black pants or skirt
     + An FFA Tie or FFA Scarf (FFA issue - Blue or Black)
     + Black footwear and socks (socks considered only if visible)

Reasons shall be the final activity in the Reasons Division of the Horse CDE.

Oral reasons should not exceed two minutes in length.

Scores for the reasons classes will be based on four broad criteria: Organization, Accuracy, Flow and Expression.

Each of the reasons classes shall have a maximum score of 50 points per set of reasons, making this section worth 150 points.

### C. Suggested References

#### 1. Judging Booklets

Black Hawk East Horse Judging Manual, Black Hawk East, Attn. Aaron Callahan, Agri-Business Club, P.O. Box 489, Kewanee, Illinois 61443 Telephone: 309/852-5671 Fax. 309/856-6005

J150a – *Judging Horses*, Information Technology and Communication Services, 1410 South Maryland Drive, Urbana, Illinois 61801 Telephone: 217/333-3871 Fax 217/333-0005

**2. Other References**

*Career Development Events Handbook 2012-2016.* National FFA Organization, P.O. Box 68960, 6060 FFA Drive, Indianapolis, IN.46268-6060.