

Royalty Study Guide

The following information as well as information included on pages 6-10 (general rules) and pages 18-21 (acceptable tack & equipment) in the 2021 Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows is included in the Royalty test portion of the Richland County Horse Royalty Competition. Copies of the 2021 Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows can be purchased through the Richland County OSU Extension office.

General Horse Knowledge

- The normal resting heart of a mature horse is between 28 and 40 beats per minute.
- A fever is considered:
 - Mild if it is around 102 degrees
 - Moderate if it is around 104 degrees
- The three basic types of colic are gas colic, impaction colic, and torsion colic.
- An adult mare has a total of 36-40 teeth.
- A stallion has a total of 40 teeth.

Horse Breeds

- The three most common stock horse breeds are the American Appaloosa, the American Paint Horse, and the American Quarter Horse.
- The Arabian is the breed that excels at endurance and competitive trail riding.
- A horse of non-draft breeding is a hot-blood.
- A horse that has purebred and one parent of unknown ancestry is a grade animal.
- A horse that has purebred parents of different breeds is a crossbred animal.
- A registration certificate includes written record of the ancestry of a horse.

Horse Markings and Conformation

- A star is a small clearly defined area of white hair on the forehead.
- A snip is a small patch of white running over the muzzle, often on the lip.
- A horse with a heavy coarse tail is said to have a broom-tail.
- A horse whose tail has been cut straight across at or near the level of the hocks is known as bang-tailed.
- Conformation of a horse includes the type, gender characteristics, musculing, balance, and structural correctness.

Feed

- Overeating grain is the most common cause of founder, or laminitis, a hoof disease that can cripple a horse.

- An average horse will eat about 20 pounds of feed a day.
- Seven essential nutrients for your horse:
 - Water
 - Carbohydrates
 - Fats
 - Minerals
 - Proteins
 - Energy
 - Vitamins
- Corn and oats are the most common grains used today.
- Concentrates (grain or pelleted feed) are higher in energy than forages (grass and hay).
- The symptoms of overeating/sunstroke are rapid breathing, weakness, lethargy, trembling and the lack of sweating.
- The characteristics of good quality hay are clean, green, leafy, free of dust, mold, and decay.

Grooming Tools

- There are eight grooming tools and equipment to use when grooming a horse:
 - Sweat scraper
 - Hoof pick
 - Curry comb
 - Aridd bristle brush
 - Soft bristle brush
 - Mane comb
 - Rub rag
 - Electric trimmers

Gaits

- Gaits are the rhythmic movements of a horse's legs and feet.
- A step is the movement of a foot from one spot to the next.
- A stride is the distance between successive imprints of the same foot.
- The walk is a 4 beat gait.
- The trot is a rapid two beat diagonal gait.
- The canter is an easy rhythmical, 3 beat gait. There is a right and a left lead.
- The foxtrot gait is similar to a slow, broke, somewhat collected trot.
- Flashy gaited (also called high gaited) is a reference to a horse that shows a lot of action in the knee when moving.
- The running walk is the distinctive gait of the Tennessee Walking Horse.

Riding

- The four basic aids in riding a horse are: hands, seat, legs, and voice.

- The basic seats when riding the horse: western, hunter, saddle seat, dressage and easy gaited.
- Showmanship classes are judged on:
 - - The appearance of the animal
 - - The appearance of the exhibitor and tack
 - - Presentation and performance of the horse in the ring
- A pull turn is defined as when the handler is turning less than 90 degrees and the horse is pulled toward the handler.
- A horse must be properly conditioned and trained for the job he is expected to do. He need regular exercise and proper training to develop stamina, suppleness, muscular strength, and agility.
- The western rider should NOT post the trot.

Riding and Show Etiquette

- Fair and generous competitors are good losers and graceful winners.
- It is the duty of the judge to determine if a horse is sound or healthy enough to compete in a class.
- There is a 2 minute time limit for all exhibitors to enter the arena. Time begins when the announcer first announces for the class to begin entering the arena. After two minutes or after all exhibitors are in the arena before the two minutes, the gate is closed and the class has started.
- When on the trail allow at least 1 horse length between horses traveling single file.
- When in the show pen, allow at least 1 horse length between you and the other competitors at all times.
- A horse wearing a red ribbon means that the horse kicks so give the horse space.
- Yellow or blue ribbons typically mean that the horse is a stallion or a very aggressive gelding.
- A green ribbon means that the horse is very green or young
- A white ribbon means that the horse is for sale.