

# PNW 4-H Horse Judges Newsletter

## Spring 2010



### 2010 Show Season

- The 2010 Show Season is off and running!!!! If you have any issues at shows that you feel need to be addressed, don't hesitate to contact your state 4-H representative or a member of the PNW Management Team.

### 2012 Judges Training

- Mark your calendars now and start to plan for the next PNW 4-H Horse Judge's Training, tentatively scheduled for October 2012.

### Congratulations!

- Jan Wallace and Susan Turner have met all the Criteria to be moved up to the Senior/Evaluator Judges List.

### Reminders

- All 4-H horse judges are required to have favorable judging evaluations on file for a minimum of two shows in between each PNW Judges Training. Therefore, between the 2009 and 2012 PNW Judges Trainings you need two favorable show evaluations on file to remain on the List.
- All Judges and Apprentices need to check the current Judges' website and review their information to see if correct addresses and phone numbers are displayed. We experienced difficulties with the website last fall and want to be sure everyone's information is correct. Please contact [pashford@bendcable.com](mailto:pashford@bendcable.com) if any changes need to be made.
- Your personal conduct follows you both in and out of the show ring. Your professionalism is important in all aspects of your judging. Remember: YOU are the most watched person at the show! Refrain from eating, drinking or frequenting the establishments where contestants, parents or show committee members may be present. Make the image you portray be one you are proud of! We sometimes feel that when we are not judging it is acceptable to visit and socialize with contestants, parents and show committees. These people usually are involved because they have students or children riding.
- **Apprentices: Be sure you meet the Criteria for a proper apprentice evaluation. You must judge the appropriate classes and the Senior/Evaluator judge must currently be on the Judges List.**
- There is a "Memo of Understanding" written between 4-H and OHSET groups to allow OHSET riders to have other youth ride their horses during their current

competitive OHSET year. The agreement will exempt them from the 90 day rule if there is a conflict in their county due to their Fair dates. **This does not mean OHSET adults and/or trainers can ride 4-H project horses.** The “Memo of Understanding” can be found on the Oregon 4-H or OHSET website.

### Special Needs Accommodations

- In the course of your work with 4-H Programs, you may receive a request to send a class pattern in advance to the show committee for the accommodation of a special needs youth. This needs to be a request from the local show committee/4-H staffer and not from an exhibitor directly to you. The obligation to make reasonable accommodations for publically supported programs like 4-H is the responsibility of the show committee/4-H staff. Therefore, judges need to work with local committees/staff to ensure what is a reasonable accommodation. The show committee/management and 4-H staff must communicate effectively with judges as to expectations and special needs to ensure people are prepared.

### Loose Fitting Halters

- Concerns have been raised about the “loose fitting halters” being used in showmanship. According to the project book, the halter should fit snugly to the horse. We are seeing rope halters with very loose fittings that cannot be adjusted. Since this issue is not address specifically in the Contest Guide, judges should use common sense and good judgment. If the handler is using the halter correctly and safely, there should not be a problem. On the other hand, if you think that the halter is unsafe or putting the child or horse in a dangerous situation, you should take action. Safety is ALWAYS the number one concern.

### “Hold Your Ranch Horses”

- The Ranch Horse information that was presented at the Judges Training in October was a work in progress. The information was presented to give judges an idea of how the basics of the project will work. There are still many changes and revisions that will be made before the project is complete and the publications are finalized. One change is that there will be a Project Book, as well as a separate Contest Guide.
- The issue of Showmanship vs. Ranchmanship is under careful consideration. With all other areas of horse 4-H being required to participate in Showmanship (Games, Dressage, and Jumping etc.), the Oregon Horse Advisory made the decision to include Ranchmanship as a regular Showmanship class. This will be especially helpful for smaller counties that may only run one Showmanship class per age group, or with riders that show in more than one discipline.

### PNW Committees

- There appears to be some grumbling about a select group of individuals doing everything for the PNW program and other people don't feel like they are given a chance to contribute.

None are more willing to have new individuals step up and help than those who are doing everything now. It is always exciting to have someone come in with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Volunteering your personal time can be tiring and creates a lack of enthusiasm, so the more we are able to spread around the duties, the more fun it is for everyone. No one does this to fulfill their egos and everyone's time is valuable.

So, instead of thinking there are cliques that can't be broken, become involved. Get your feet wet, show people you can be counted on to contribute, that you can work with other people and embrace new ideas. Volunteer to develop the best 4-H program for all.

The applications for PNW committees are due in June. We need members for the management team, the Judges Review committee, and the planning committee for the next PNW Judges Training in 2012. Applications are available on the Judges website. Contact your State 4-H representative for more information.

**Contacts**

		
<p>Roberta Lundeberg 4-H Program Coordinator 105 Ballard Extension Hall Oregon State University Corvallis, Oregon 97331-3608 541.737.9295 roberta.lundeberg@oregonstate.edu</p>	<p>Jennifer Leach Washington State University 4-H Youth Development 1946 3rd Ave Longview, WA 98632 Ph: 360-577-3014 ext 4 jleach@wsu.edu</p>	<p>Carrie Stark 4-H Specialist University of Idaho Continuing Education Bldg, 206 PO Box 443015 Moscow, ID 83844 208.885-2156 cstark@uidaho.edu</p>
<p>PNW Judges Website: <a href="http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/pnw-4h-horse-judges-list">http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/pnw-4h-horse-judges-list</a></p>		

