

# WNYQHCI YOUTH CLUB

## 5 STAR EVALUATION

THE WNYQHCI Youth 5 Star Evaluation is used as a tool to gauge a youth's level of education, understanding, and accomplishments with horses. It is designed to provide a guide for teaching members about horses and a check of their accomplishments each year. The series of evaluations are designed to acquaint the member with a broad area of horse management, but does not list every item which may involve horses.

The main purpose behind this program is the gaining of practical, working knowledge and experience. It is designed as a step-by-step learning experience which upon completion of all five evaluations, results in an experienced, knowledgeable and safe horse person.

Most of the references for this evaluation are found in the Nation 4-H publications: *Horses and Horsemanship* and *Horse Science*. In addition to these resources recommended in this study guide, members and leaders should also be actively seeking and utilizing other opportunities to expand their horse knowledge and experience. The AQHA office has much material available in print and online which may be helpful.

The 5 Star Evaluation tests are offered annually combining both written and oral forms of testing. Currently it is recommended that a youth take only one evaluation test each year, but special consideration may be given to members who join at an older age.

\*\* Page numbers given refer to the 2001 editions of *Horse Science* and *Horses and Horsemanship* from the National 4-H bookstore.

## ★ FIRST STAR TEST

You should be able to:

- Identify 10 parts of the horse. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 8.
- Define the words blemish and unsoundness. *Horse Science*, page 12
- Name at least 10 parts of either a Western or English saddle and 5 parts of either a Western or English bridle. *Horses and Horsemanship*, diagrams pages 28-33.
- Identify at least 5 grooming tools and explain how each is used. *Horses and Horsemanship*, pages 35-36.
- Be familiar with horse safety basics as outlined in *Horses and Horsemanship* on pages 52-53.

## ★★ SECOND STAR TEST

You should be able to:

- Identify 20 parts of the horse. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 8.
- Take apart and reassemble either a Western or English bridle. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 28.
- Identify 3 different types of bits. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 30.
- List general bit care suggestions. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 31.
- List purposes for using saddle pads and blankets. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 33.
- List considerations for selecting a saddle. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 31.
- Tie a quick release knot. Training will be available.
- Identify 5 leg markings and 5 face markings. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 8.
- Identify 5 basic horse coat colors. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 4.
- List 5 general guidelines for showing your horse with safety and courtesy. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 54.



## THIRD STAR TEST

You should be able to:

- Identify 30 parts of the horse. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 8.
- Define the word conformation. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 8.
- Label the leg conformation defects. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 12.
- Define an external parasite and list 3 examples. *Horse Science*, pages 52-55.
- Define an internal parasite and list 3 examples. *Horse Science*, pages 56-58.
- List 3 characteristics of good hay. *Horse Science*, page 38.
- Fill in the chart of **Common Equine Diseases**. The Outstanding Signs and Treatment and Control sections will be paraphrased and filled in. You will need to fill in the empty column with the name of the disease described. *Horse Science*, page 49.
- Match conditions and definitions. You will be given 7 conditions from the **Common Unsoundness and Blemishes** and you must match these conditions with their definitions. *Horse Science*, page 13.
- Give the “normal horse” vital signs. *Horse Science*, page 51.
- List 10 items you should include in a horse first-aid kit. *WNYQHCI Youth Club 5 Star Evaluation Packet*.



## FOURTH STAR TEST

You should be able to:

- Understand the difference between unsoundness and a blemish. Name and locate 7 unsoundnesses and describe each condition. *Horse Science*, pages 12-13.
- Identify 4 types of wounds. *WNYQHCI Youth Club 5 Star Evaluation Packet*.
- Understand the vital signs for a “normal horse” and the range of each. Also know two factors that can influence a horse’s vital signs. *Horse Science*, page 51.
- Understand what the term cast means when used to describe a horse in a stall.
- List 5 factors you should consider when buying a horse. *WNYQHCI 5 Star Evaluation Packet* and *Horse Industry Handbook* handout.
- Define gait, natural gait, and acquired gait. Know the number of beats in a walk, trot, canter, and gallop. *Horses and Horsemanship*, pages 17-19.
- Know 3 internal parasites and the symptoms of each. *Horse Science*, pages 56-58.
- Know the 3 important functions of the hoof. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 48.
- Define 8 of 16 terms that are used in horse judging. *Horses and Horsemanship*, pages 8-13.



## FIFTH STAR TEST (75% Written, 25% Riding)

### Written--

You should be able to:

- List 5 care principles that promote good health. *Horse Science*, pages 45-46.
- Common words to describe diseases such as infectious and vaccination. *Horse Science*, pages 47-48.
- Understand what colic means, where it originates in the body, and how to prevent it. *Horse Science*, pages 50-51.
- Define what an internal parasite is and know 5 ways to help reduce parasites. *Horse Science*, pages 56, 58-59.
- Label the digestive system and be able to explain what is meant when a horse is referred to as a non-ruminant, gut fermenting herbivore. *Horse Science*, pages 27-28.
- Identify 10 parts of the hoof. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 48.
- State 4 ways to estimate a horse's age by its teeth. *Horse Science*, page 15.
- Define reproductive terms found in the glossary. *Horse Science*, pages 18, 22-23.
- List the process horse judges use to place horses. *Horses and Horsemanship*, page 9.

### Riding—

1. Preparation:
  - A. Horse—clean and neat
  - B. Rider—proper attire for type of riding
  - C. Equipment—clean, safe, proper fit, and for proper type of riding
2. Know why you should warm up your horse.  
After ride, be prepared to explain aids used for any three movements.
3. Discuss your good and bad points as a rider.
4. Be able to complete the possible following movements:

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Mount                                      | Walk                               |
| Jog or Trot                                | Lope or Canter                     |
| Extended Trot                              | Balanced Stop                      |
| Back-up                                    | Rein Back or 180° turn on quarters |
| Pivot                                      | 20 meter circle                    |
| Figure 8 with simple or flying lead change | Sidepass on wall or single pole    |
| 10 meter half circle                       | Dismount                           |

## Things that should be in your Horse First Aid Kit:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Rectal thermometer                      | Rolled bandages or rolled gauze         |
| Blunt-tip scissors                      | Rubbing alcohol                         |
| Adhesive tape                           | Petroleum jelly (Vaseline) or lubricant |
| Gauze sponges (sterile and non-sterile) | Liniment or body wash                   |
| Epsom salts                             | Twitch                                  |
| Anti-bacterial soap                     | Anti-bacterial wound ointment           |
| Rolled cotton                           | Saline solution                         |
| Rubber gloves                           | Flashlight                              |
| Mixing cup/container                    | Veterinarian's phone number             |

## 4 Types of Wounds and Treatments

| <b>Wound</b> | <b>Cause/</b>                       | <b>Treatment</b>   |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Incision     | Straight-edge cut                   | Wash with anti-bacterial soap and apply dressing.  |
| Laceration   | Tear with ragged edges              | Best treated by your vet.  |
| Puncture     | Sharp-pointed objects               | Remove object and apply dressing. Call your vet.   |
| Contusions   | Bruises (may or may not break skin) | Ice packs or cold water. After swelling goes down, apply moist towel with heat or hot water. |

## Factors to Consider When Buying a Horse (see *Horse Industry Handbook* handout for more information)

- Age of rider
- Experience of rider
- Age of horse
- Horse's level of training
- Horse and rider combination
- How much to spend for a horse
- Breed or breed-type selection
- Daily and monthly expenses
- Registered or unregistered (grade) horse
- Color
- Sex of horse
- Where to get a horse
- Pre-purchase examination