

# Youth of the Year

American Morgan Horse Association, Inc.



**AMHA!**  
*Youth!*  
American  
Morgan Horse  
Association • Youth

## CONTEST Planbook

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# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Planbook

## AN OVERVIEW

The Youth of the Year Contest is a four-phase competition designed to test skills in various equine-related areas. The competition can be designed to accommodate any type of rider, be they in the youth, junior exhibitor, or walk/trot divisions. At the discretion of the contest coordinator, exceptional needs of contestants may be met by modifying the contest schematic. Additionally, this discretion may be applied to the creation of specific division (i.e. lead-line) to be inclusive of youth who desire to participate. This planbook will lay out for you the preferred and required methods on how to run a Youth of the Year Contest, as well as ways to modify your contest to provide a positive experience for different ages and ability levels of riders.

## PART 1

### THE WRITTEN EXAM PHASE

*The written exam is designed to test the knowledge of the participant in the areas of:*

- |                               |                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Nutrition                  | 7. Diseases & Unsoundnesses          |
| 2. Breeding & Genetics        | 8. Tack & Equipment                  |
| 3. Physiology & Endocrinology | 9. Morgan History & the Morgan Breed |
| 4. Anatomy & Conformation     | 10. Parasites                        |
| 5. History & Evolution        | 11. Horse Psychology                 |
| 6. Showing & Show Procedures  |                                      |

- To maintain consistency throughout all contests held, AMHA has created a database of exams for you to use at your contest. Often a time limit is imposed for the Senior division.

## PART 2

### THE HORSE JUDGING PHASE

There are many reasons for holding a horse judging contest, whether it is part of the Youth of the Year Contest or held as a separate event.

*There are two major reasons that most everyone agrees upon:*

1. To prepare and educate future professional and amateur horse-people.
2. To educate future judges.

Within this first phase of the contest, there are at least three classes judged. Every horse judging contest must have at least one, preferably two, In-Hand class (mares, geldings or stallions). Contestants should give oral reasons (explanations for placings) for one In-Hand class. The In-Hand classes are followed by Performance classes. Performance classes may include Classic, English, Hunter or Western Pleasure, Classic Pleasure or Pleasure Driving, Park Saddle, Park Harness, or Equitation.

## PART 3

### ORAL PRESENTATION PHASE

*The oral presentation phase of the contest is important for many reasons:*

1. It prepares our youth to speak on issues with confidence and expertise.
2. It helps to build public speaking skills through the judge's detailed evaluation sheet.

AMHA has created a bank of speech topics for you to use at your contest. Please contact AMHA for the list of topics to choose from. It is suggested a time limit be used for Seniors, but not Juniors. Topics should be given out ahead of time. Visual aids are encouraged.

## PART 4

### HORSEMASTERSHIP PHASE

This phase is required in order for the Senior winner to qualify for competition in the AMHA Youth of the Year Finals. The contestant is to ride or drive a predetermined pattern. Riding or driving ability is evaluated in the horsemastership phase.

This pattern is prepared by the contest organizers and mailed to the contestant prior to the contest day. This pattern is to be memorized. Each participant executes the pattern individually before the judge. The judge, armed with an itemized evaluation sheet, scores the entrant in detail. This method ensures a quality evaluation of each entrant which may be given to the entrant at the conclusion of the contest for future improvement.

### AGE DIVISIONS-SENIOR

The **Senior Division** should represent the highest standards of your competition and prepare contestants to compete in the National Youth of the Year Finals. It is required that each phase of a Senior Division be based on 250 points. Each contest **must** offer at least three of the four phases in order for the senior winner to qualify for competition in the AMHA Youth of the Year Finals. One of the three phases offered **must** be the Horsemastership Phase.

**Written test:** Seniors can be expected to have knowledge equivalent to the expectations published in the Sherman level of the AMHAY Horsemastership Program, however, challenges above this benchmark are encouraged. Please contact AMHA for your designated test to administer.

**Horse Judging:** Typically four classes, two in-hand and two performance classes, along with two sets of reasons are offered.

**Oral Presentation:** Speech topics for this division may have historical relevance, or deal with current issues facing the Morgan breed.



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Please contact AMHA for a list of topics to choose from.

**Horsemastership:** A Senior division competitor can be expected to walk, trot, and canter and perform extended versions of each gait in the horsemastership pattern as well as execute elements as called for in the Medal Class section of the most current edition of the USEF Rule Book. This phase is **required** in order for the Senior winner to qualify for competition in the AMHA Youth of the Year Finals.

## AGE DIVISIONS-JUNIOR

The **Junior Division** participant should be prepared to eventually participate in the Senior division.

**Written test:** A well-prepared contestant will be competent in the knowledge required by the Bulrush and Woodbury levels of the AMHAY Horsemastership Program. If you are not making up the test, please contact AMHA for your designated test to administer.

**Horse Judging:** Junior contestants may be asked to judge and deliver reasons in numbers identical to the Senior division.

**Oral Presentation:** Speech topics for this division may be similar or different to the senior division topic, though it is recommended that topics be modified for a younger contestant.

**Horsemastership:** Juniors should be expected to perform the walk, trot, and canter though test elements should be modified to accommodate a younger rider.

## AGE DIVISIONS-WALK/TROT

The **Walk/Trot Division** may be used to encourage younger competitors to try a Youth of the Year Contest with less intimidating requirements than the Senior or Junior divisions. A Walk/Trot division will consist of riders who are 12 years old and younger and have not been judged in ANY saddle class, test, or pattern that has required a canter in a recognized or non-recognized competition. It is not necessary to base this division on a 1,000 point total, or on 250 points per phase, however, each phase should be weighted equally.

**Written Exam:** It is not uncommon that some of the youngsters who wish to participate in the contest don't have a full mastery of reading and writing yet. Remember, you may actually have kids who are just entering their first years of school who want to participate. Whenever possible, an adult or older youth member should be made available to read the test questions to the participant and record their answers. If you are not making up the test, please contact AMHA for your designated test to administer.

**Horse Judging:** Participants in this division can be expected to judge two classes, one performance and one in-hand, delivering one set of reasons. It is recommended that the scores from the

judging division count as double so that they will match with the totals from the Junior and Senior divisions for scoring purposes.

**Oral Presentation:** Using the junior speech topic is permissible, but not recommended. If possible a separate age appropriate speech topic should be administered for Walk/Trot competitors.

**Horsemastership:** Riders cannot be asked to canter or back in a ridden pattern, though they may drive a driven pattern without modifications, if appropriate. Nothing should be required in this phase that is not required in a regular Walk/Trot class. Academy style attire is also allowed in this division.

## CONTEST DIVISIONS

### 1. Written Exam – 250 points

Short answer questions taken from the following sources. These are the same sources that will be used to design tests provided by and administered by AMHA.

- A. *The Complete Morgan Horse* by Jeanne Mellin
- B. The Morgan Horse Judging Standards
- C. The AMHA Registration Rules
- D. AMHA Youth Horsemastership Program
- E. USEF Rule Book
- F. *The Horse* by J. Warren Evans, Anthony Borton, Harold Hintz, and L. Dale Van Vleck
- G. *The Illustrated Veterinary Encyclopedia for Horsemen* by Equine Research, Editor Don M. Wagoner
- H. *The Morgan Horse* magazine\*
- I. AMHA Website ([www.morganhorse.com](http://www.morganhorse.com))

### 2. Horse Judging Division – 250 points

All contestants should compete in the Judging division according to their age category. Generally each class and each set of reasons is worth a maximum of 50 points. If four classes and one set of reasons are judged or three classes and two sets of reasons are judged this would equal 250.

### 3. Oral Presentation – 250 points

All contestants should prepare a speech on the same topic as prescribed for their division. Speeches will be 3-5 minutes in length and may be read or recited from memory. The topic may be related to the Morgan horse and its history. A personal interview will be conducted directly following the speech.

### 4. Horsemastership Division – 250 points

Each contestant will perform in the riding or driving style of their choice. All contestants will perform the same pattern regardless of the seat they ride. There will be a separate pattern for those contestants who drive. Judging will be on overall horsemanship. Contestants in a Youth of the Year Contest must exhibit on a registered



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Morgan. They may exhibit on a mare, gelding, or stallion, in accordance with USEF rules for the Morgan Youth Division. However, it is recommended that you check local and state laws; some states prohibit a rider under the age of 18 from riding a stallion. Contestants at the AMHA Youth of the Year Finals will be permitted to exhibit on a registered Morgan mare, gelding, or stallion. If for any reason your contest will not allow the use of stallions, it must be announced ahead of time and should be included on the entry form.

## SCORING

1. Ideally there will be four divisions with each division worth 250 points (total = 1,000). In the interest of time, you may elect to hold only three of the four divisions. At least three divisions must be offered for a recognized Youth of the Year Contest to qualify a senior contestant for the Finals. Options may include holding all four divisions for the senior age group and only three for the junior and walk/trot age groups.

- A. Horsemastership (Riding/Driving Pattern)
- B. Horse Judging Contest. Generally each class and each set of reasons is worth a maximum of 50 points. If four classes and two sets of reasons are judged this would equal 250.
- C. Oral Presentation
- D. Written Exam

2. The youth with the highest number of points is the overall winner.

3. Winners will be announced in each of the four divisions.

4. In the case of a tie for the overall winner, the Oral Presentation will be used to break the tie.

5. Each age group should be placed separately: Senior, Junior, or Walk/Trot.

## HOW TO - PHASE I

### WRITTEN EXAM

Once you have applied to hold a contest, contact AMHA to request your designated test to administer to the Senior division. You may also request tests for the Junior and Walk/Trot divisions, or you may make your own. Keep in mind the Junior tests should incorporate knowledge from the Bulrush and Woodbury levels of the AMHAY Horsemastership Program, and Walk/Trot tests should use age appropriate language and pictures that are easy to understand.

Prepare numbered answer sheets on which contestants will write their answers. This makes correcting much easier for you.

You should plan to print twice as many as you anticipate needing. These will cover unexpected post entries, and the extras make great worksheets through the year.

If you make your tests for the Junior and Walk/Trot divisions, please mail a copy to AMHA.

Do **NOT** give copies of the test to contestants to keep. If tests are used again at a later date this may afford contestants an unfair advantage.

## HOW TO - PHASE II

### HORSE JUDGING

If you are not familiar with horse judging contest rules, procedures, and scoring, this can appear to be an extremely confusing phase. Your best bet is to seek advice, instruction, or direct help from your local 4-H county extension service, FFA office, or collegiate team coach. Both the 4-H and AMHAY have good booklets on judging. Guidebooks published by the NHJTCA (National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association) are available. Additional help with organizing a horse judging contest can be found in the AMHA Youth Leader's manual.

If putting together your own classes and getting volunteers (human and horses) is too difficult, judging ringside is acceptable. However, when judging ringside you must still have at least one recognized judge to place the classes, determine cuts, and explain placings.

### PREPLANNING

1. Decide upon the quantity and type of classes to be judged:

- A. Three or four classes are recommended. Remember, at least one class (hopefully two) must be mares, geldings, or stallions in-hand. Contestants should give reasons for at least one of the In-Hand classes.

2. Find six horses for each class. You will only need four horses to exhibit in each class, but having additional horses and handlers ready to exhibit is wise. If a handler forgets, develops a scheduling conflict, or a horse throws a shoe at the last minute, the unprepared contest organizer will be left without enough horses to fill their class.

3. Prepare numbers or pins for the four exhibitors to use in each class. Ideally back numbers signifying each horse as entry 1 through 4 will be used.

4. Prepare small judging cards for each contestant (one for each class).

5. Find a quiet place for oral reasons to be heard.

6. Secure the following personnel:

- A. Recognized judge to place classes, determine cuts, and explain the placings.
  - When possible it is wise to have two judges. They will evaluate the class and come to an agreement on placings. Having more than one judge ensures a thorough evaluation of each class.
  - Judges will probably need to have the concept of "cuts"



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explained to them.

- A cut, or number of penalty points, should be determined between each pair of horses. This number will represent the degree of difference, or of similarity, between each pair of horses. Judges will compare their first- and second-place horses, these are the first pair, and determine the cut. Next a determination will be made between the second- and third-place horses, or the second pair. Finally a determination will be made between the final pair, the third- and fourth-place horses.
- The total of the three penalties cannot exceed 15 points. If the penalties total 15 the middle pair cannot be more than a 5 point cut; if the total is 14 the middle cut cannot be more than 8 points. Exceeding any of these limits could result in a final score less than zero.

## DESCRIPTION OF CUTS

**1 point** - Horses are extremely similar; no obvious reason why one should be placed over the other; or, both horses have numerous faults and none supersedes the others; placing is strictly a matter of personal preference; placing varies among official judges.

**2 points** - Horses are very close, but one horse has one or two qualitative or quantitative advantages; the majority of official judges would not switch the pair, but half of the contestants could logically switch the pair.

**3 points** - Horses are of unequal quality, but there is a logical placing in favor of one horse; either one horse has several faults or several advantages; all official judges would agree on the placing; no more than one third of contestants would be expected to switch the pair.

**4 points** - Horses are not of similar quality; one horse has several decided advantages based on many points; all experts would quickly see the placing; no guesswork or personal preference required to make placing; no more than 10 percent of contestants would be expected to switch the pair.

**5 points** - Large number of extreme differences between the horses; placing is obvious to everyone on first, quick observation; careful study not required for the placing; pair consists of an inferior horse vs. a consistent winner; only very inexperienced, uninformed contestants would switch the pair.

**6 points** - Horse not even comparable; differences reflective of a champion quality horse or performance vs. a horse or performance that is not of show quality.

**7 points** - Largest cut; differences reflective of a world-class halter horse vs. an extremely poor quality or lame horse; or a world-class performance vs. a disqualified performance.

B. Qualified people to listen to oral reasons. Experienced reasons takers are preferred, guidelines for reasons takers are available from AMHA.

- The same reasons taker should listen to all contestants' reasons for a given class, it is advisable to have one reasons taker per class for large contests. For example, if you have two classes designated as reasons classes, to save time you could have two reasons takers.
- For younger contestants, particularly those in the Walk/Trot division, you may wish to ask questions of the contestants rather than have them present oral reasons. Asking questions on the class they have just seen will help them to learn to be observant, and possibly even to take good notes on what they see. Five questions, worth ten points each, would achieve a workable maximum score of 50 points. Questions can be asked of the group with contestants indicating their answers on their judging card, or can be asked individually by a "reasons judge." Possible questions may include:
  - "What color halter was the #4 horse wearing?"
  - "Which horse was a bay with a white hind sock and a star?"
  - "Which horse had a parrot mouth?"
  - "Which horse least fit the standard for this class?"

C. Qualified scorer (to determine placing scores, record oral reason scores, and tally totals). Scoring a horse judging contest can be a complicated matter. **Here are some tools to help you out:**

- These websites do the tabulations for you. You simply enter the official, or correct, placing, and the cuts. It then gives you all the possible placings and their scores. <https://www.worldaccessnet.com/~normans/hormel.html>, [www.calaged.org/caescripts/Judging/Scoring.asp](http://www.calaged.org/caescripts/Judging/Scoring.asp)
- Handheld Hormel Scales can be purchased. The Hormel Scale is the accepted standard for scoring livestock and horse judging competitions. This website offer scales for sale: [www.enasco.com](http://www.enasco.com). The scale is product# C07437(Y)N
- This website offers a downloadable program for scoring a horse judging contest. It can be complicated to learn but works well, recommended for large horse judging contests. <http://www.calaged.org/Tabulations/Index.htm>
- The Utah State University Extension offers a detailed explanation that is helpful when scoring without the use of a Hormel Scale or computer program. It can be found at their website <http://extension.usu.edu/> in the search engine type the words "scoring livestock judging classes"

D. Two or three volunteers to watch over contestants, direct them to the oral reasons area, help maintain silence, and operate the gates during classes.

7. As the date approaches, it is important to make contact with all



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your donors, judges, and officials. Remind them of their commitments, the date, time and place. Make it an RSVP checklist so that you have a written response confirming your information or corrections in writing.

Care in scoring is essential. It is also complicated, requiring skilled and knowledgeable people.

Ties in the judging section may be broken by the oral reason scores. You may opt to keep ties and hand out more ribbons.

## HOW TO - PHASE III

### ORAL PRESENTATION

1. Secure three individuals to form a judge's panel. These people should be knowledgeable in equine areas and skilled in communications. Good career areas in which to find these people are:

- A. Speech or English departments of high schools or colleges
- B. Sales persons
- C. Writers (reporters, columnists, novelists, etc.)
- D. Public relations personnel
- E. Radio Personalities
- F. Communication specialists

2. Prepare the evaluation sheets (sample enclosed). It is necessary to have a minimum of three sheets for each contestant, as each is being scored by three judges. Copies of the evaluation sheets will be given to contestants after the contest so encourage your judges to write constructive criticism and positive comments.

3. Please contact AMHA for a list of topics to choose from for the Senior division. AMHA also offers topics to choose from for the Junior and Walk Trot divisions, if needed. You may want to make up your own topic for the Junior and Walk/Trot divisions. It should be open ended enough to allow for creativity, originality of thought, and depth of understanding of the Morgan world. It should also be age appropriate to the division.

4. Speeches should be written or typed and submitted to the judges prior to beginning.

5. A speech should be given without reading a script, but it is not prohibited. Notes may be used, but those prepared to speak without written aids may be given more consideration.

6. Scoring:

- A. Total each judge's score
- B. Add all judge's scores together
- C. Divide by the number of judges to get an average

Correct scoring is crucial because if there are ties in the overall placing (Champion through tenth place), the speech score breaks the tie. There should be no ties in the final placements.

In the rare case of ties in the overall and ties in the speech, it is up to the judges of the speeches to break the tie. This may be done by a judge's re-evaluation and conference, or having the judges interview the tied contestants.

## HOW TO - PHASE IV

### HORSEMASTERSHIP

This phase evaluates the riding or driving ability of the contestants. The evaluation is based on the contestant's ability to execute a specified pattern. This phase is **required** in order for the Senior winner to qualify for competition in the AMHA Youth of the Year Finals.

The judge has a separate scoring sheet for each contestant. A copy of the score sheet should be given to contestants after the contest is completed. Encourage your judge(s) to write constructive criticism and helpful comments.

#### Who makes the pattern?

You do. Or you have some qualified person do it for you.

#### How is it structured?

Use a show ring or Dressage ring. You may or may not wish to put letters around the ring so the contestants will know when to perform the transitions. Heavy emphasis should be on the number of transitions.

#### How do contestants get the pattern?

You mail it to each entrant upon receipt of the entry form and fee.

#### Who judges the pattern?

It is recommended that you enlist the services of a USEF licensed judge to evaluate the horsemastership patterns. In lieu of this, the judge should be a knowledgeable horseperson with experience judging. It is wise to have two independent judges when possible. This ensures the objectivity and fairness of this phase in accordance with the other phases. Usually there will be more than one person reviewing the test, three people scoring the oral presentations and two people officiating in the horse judging phase.

Sample pattern and evaluation sheets are provided for your inspection.



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## AMHA YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD

The AMHA Youth of the Year Award is the highest honor presented to Morgan young people. Each local and regional club is encouraged to sponsor a youth contest and thus give young people the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a variety of areas. Along with the honor of winning a local contest, young people qualify to compete in the Youth Contest Finals at the Grand National.

### RULES FOR THE GRAND NATIONAL YOUTH OF THE YEAR CONTEST

1. Each contestant must be a current member of the American Morgan Horse Association.
2. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age but under 22 years as of December 1st of the previous year.
3. Contestants must have achieved the Sherman Level of Horsemastership Achievement.
4. All contestants must have qualified at a local or regional Youth of the Year contest.
  - A. All contestants must have won a local or regional Youth of the Year Contest that consists of at least 3 of the 4 National Contest divisions and a Horsemastership pattern phase. The runner-up may enter in the event the winner is unable to compete (if approved by the particular contest).
  - B. A minimum of 3 SENIOR contestants must compete in a local or regional contest for the winner to qualify for the Fi-

nals at Grand National. All 3 must do all the divisions held. If there are not 3 senior contestants, the winning individual must achieve a score of at least 70 percent overall to qualify for the Finals.

- C. If there are at least 10 entries in the senior division of the local or regional contest, both the 1st- and 2nd-place winners qualify for the Finals.
5. Youth members who win a Youth of the Year Contest held after September 1st have the option of competing in the finals in either the same year or the following year, providing the age requirement is met.
6. Local and regional winners must enter the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® Contest by September 15, or immediately after their win, if after September 15. A packet of contest information will be sent to each contestant upon receipt of their application, entry fee of \$25, brief biography, and photograph.
7. In the Horsemastership Phase, a registered Morgan mare, gelding, or stallion must be used.
8. Each contestant will receive an identification badge which must be worn throughout the contest. Each contestant must be prompt and proceed in the order established by the officials. Any undue delay will mean disqualifications.
9. There will be absolutely no communication between contestants during the written test and during the judging contest.

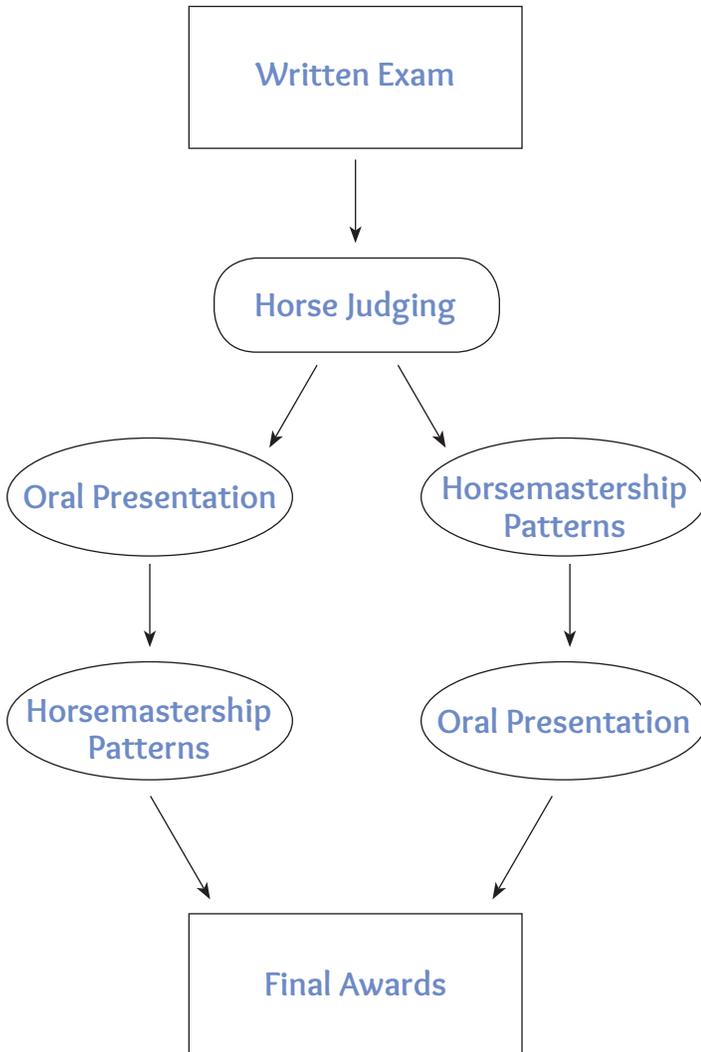


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## FLOW CHARTS

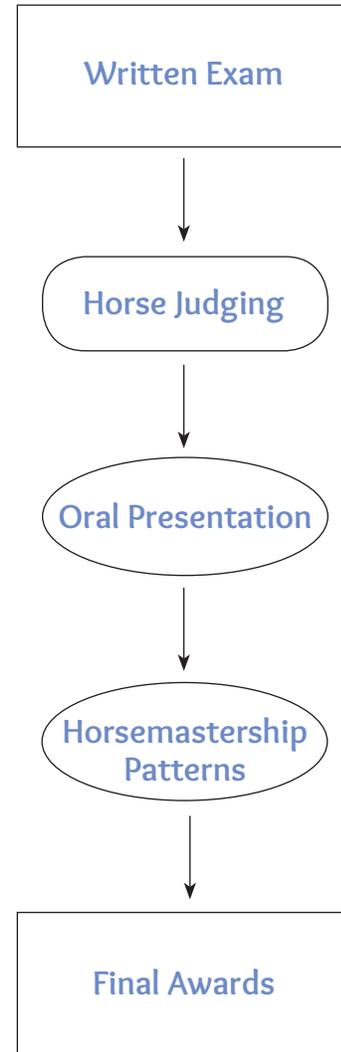
### FLOW CHART #1

*\*Suggested for 12 or more contestants*



### FLOW CHART #2

*\*Suggested for less than 12 contestants*





# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Contest Application



This application must be sent to AMHAY prior to the contest date!

Name of the Contest \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Place to be Held \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored By \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of the Contest \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## DIVISIONS THAT WILL BE INCLUDED

— Please check those that apply:

### SENIOR DIVISION (14-21)

- 1. Horsemastership
- 2. Judging
- 3. Written Test
- 4. Oral Presentation

### JUNIOR DIVISION (13 & UNDER)

- 1. Horsemastership
- 2. Judging
- 3. Written Test
- 4. Oral Presentation

### WALK/TROT DIVISION\* (12 & UNDER)

- 1. Horsemastership
- 2. Judging
- 3. Written Test
- 4. Oral Presentation

\* Other restrictions apply. Please refer to the AMHA Youth of the Year Contest Planbook for guidelines.

## RULES TO REMEMBER

(Note—these rules are intended to apply to the Senior division)

1. The competition year to qualify for the national contest is September 1 - August 31. A contest overlapping these dates will go by the first date of the contest. Please note that youth members who win a Youth of the Year Contest held after September 1st have the option of competing in the Finals in either the same year or the following year, providing the age requirement is met.
2. A minimum of three Senior contest divisions must be held in order for the winner to qualify for the Youth of the Year Finals.
3. To qualify for the Youth of the Year finals, there must be at least three Senior contestants who have not yet won a Youth of the Year Contest or the winner must obtain at least 70% of the total score.
4. A contestant must have obtained the Sherman Level in the AMHAY Horsemastership Program by the time of the Finals in order to compete at the Grand National.
5. AMHAY members may only win one Youth of the Year Contest. A member may enter the four divisions at another contest, but may not compete (for overall award or count toward minimum requirements).
6. Both the 1st- and 2nd-place winners qualify for the Grand National Finals if there are at least ten entries in the Senior division of the contest who have completed all four contest divisions and who have not won a Youth of the Year Contest during this calendar year.
7. The winner of the Grand National Finals may no longer compete in any local, regional, or national contests.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

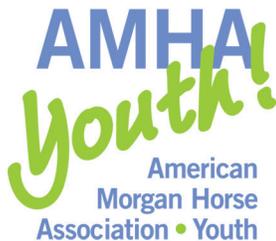
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Katie Hodges if you have any questions. Please send this completed form to:

Katie Hodges | American Morgan Horse Association, Inc. Youth | 4066 Shelburne Road, Suite 5, Shelburne, VT 05482  
T (802) 985-4944 ext. 401 | F (802) 985-8897 | katie@morganhorse.com | www.morganhorse.com



# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Contest Report



Name of Youth of the Year Contest \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of the Contest \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) held \_\_\_\_\_

Judge(s) of the Contest \_\_\_\_\_

## SENIOR DIVISION (14-21)

- \_\_\_ 1. Horsemastership
- \_\_\_ 2. Judging
- \_\_\_ 3. Written Test
- \_\_\_ 4. Oral Presentation

\_\_\_\_\_  
WINNER'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
RUNNER-UP'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

## JUNIOR DIVISION (13 & UNDER)

- \_\_\_ 1. Horsemastership
- \_\_\_ 2. Judging
- \_\_\_ 3. Written Test
- \_\_\_ 4. Oral Presentation

\_\_\_\_\_  
WINNER'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
RUNNER-UP'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

## WALK/TROT DIVISION \*(12 & UNDER)

- \_\_\_ 1. Horsemastership
- \_\_\_ 2. Judging
- \_\_\_ 3. Written Test
- \_\_\_ 4. Oral Presentation

\_\_\_\_\_  
WINNER'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
RUNNER-UP'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\* Other restrictions apply. Please refer to the AMHA Youth of the Year Contest Planbook for guidelines.

**If your contest had at least 3 SENIOR contestants:** Will the winner of the contest compete in the Youth of the Year Finals to be held at the Grand National & World Championship Horse Show®? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, will the runner-up be entering the Finals? \_\_\_\_\_

Please note: Youth members who win a Youth of the Year Contest held after September 1st have the option of competing in the Finals in either the same year or the following year, providing the age requirement is met.

Signed by \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Katie Hodges if you have any questions. Please return this completed form within two weeks of contest to:**

Katie Hodges | American Morgan Horse Association, Inc. Youth | 4066 Shelburne Road, Suite 5, Shelburne, VT 05482  
T (802) 985-4944 ext. 401 | F (802) 985-8897 | katie@morganhorse.com | www.morganhorse.com



# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Contest Score Sheet

## SPEECH JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET

TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_ CONTESTANT # \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. GENERAL APPEARANCE - (50 POINTS)

#### COMMENTS

A. Voice?

B. Poise?

C. Posture?

D. Manner of Speech?

Points \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. PRESENTATION OF SUBJECT - (75 POINTS)

#### COMMENTS

A. Organization of Material?

B. Proper Grammar?

C. Vocabulary?

Points \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. SUBJECT MATTER - (100 POINTS)

#### COMMENTS

A. Background Information

B. Originality of Ideas?

C. Constructive Thoughts?

Points \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Total Speech Points \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. INTERVIEW - (25 POINTS)

#### COMMENTS

Points \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL POINTS (250) \_\_\_\_\_

## SPEECH GUIDELINES FOR YOUTH OF THE YEAR CONTESTANTS

1. Time penalties will be given if your presentation is over five minutes:
  - A. 1 through 30 seconds over time limit = 5 point penalty
  - B. 31 through 60 seconds over time limit = additional 5 point penalty

- C. After six minutes you will be cut off.
2. Give only your NUMBER to the judges, not your name.
3. Before beginning give a written or typed copy of your speech to the judges.



# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Contest Score Sheet

## RIDING/DRIVING PATTERN SAMPLE SCORE SHEET

CONTESTANT # \_\_\_\_\_

	MAXIMUM POINTS	SCORE	COMMENTS
1. Obedience & correctness in the execution of the pattern.	50		
2. Transitions & smoothness of overall performance.	50		
3. Position of the rider/driver. Overall appearance & use of aids.	50		
4. Showmanship & poise.	50		
5. Grooming of horse & rider/driver.	50		
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>250</b>		

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

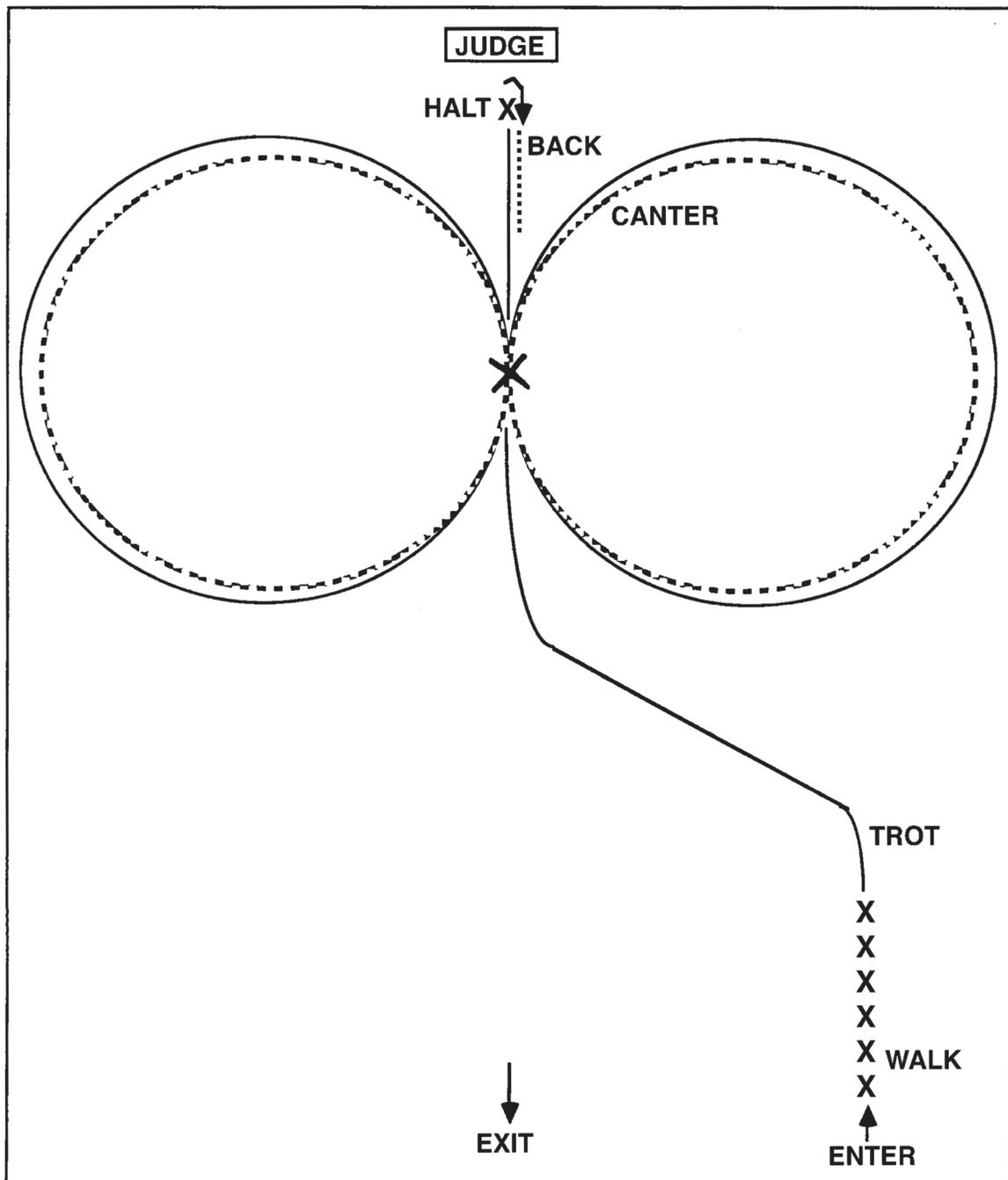


# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Planbook

## SAMPLE LOCAL OR REGIONAL SENIOR YOUTH OF THE YEAR

### HORSEMASTERSHIP RIDING PATTERN

You will use one half of the ring when performing this pattern. Enter at a walk. Make a transition to the trot & proceed to the center and halt. Execute a sandwich figure of 8 by trotting/jogging the first circle to the right, canter the next circle to the left, execute a simple change of lead, canter next circle to the right and trot/jog last circle to the left. Halt. Trot/jog to the judge & halt. Back six steps. The judge may ask you some questions and will then dismiss you from the ring. Please trot to the exit gate.



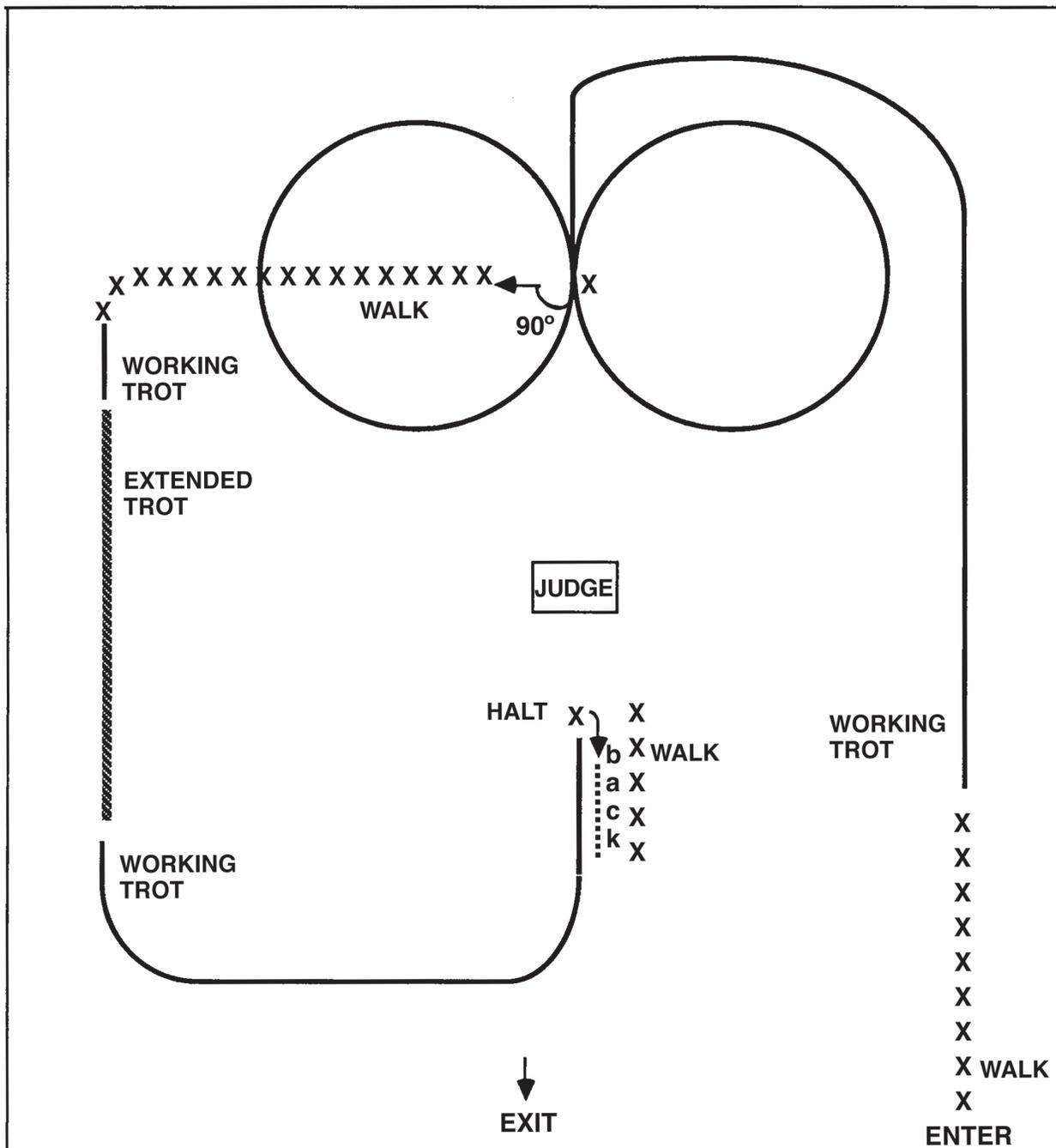


# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Planbook

## SAMPLE LOCAL OR REGIONAL YOUTH OF THE YEAR

### HORSEMASTERSHIP DRIVING PATTERN

Enter the ring at a walk. Proceed 1/4 of the way down the rail and move into a working trot. At center of short end of ring execute a Figure 8 at the working trot starting to the right. Halt at the completion of the Figure 8. Execute a 90-degree turn to the right and walk to the rail turning to the left down the rail. Begin a working trot and move into an extended trot down the rail. Return to the working trot shortly before turning to the left and continue to the judge. Halt, back six steps and walk back to the judge. The judge may ask you some questions and will then excuse you from the ring. Please trot to the exit gate.







# American Morgan Horse Association Youth Youth of the Year Planbook

## SAMPLE LOCAL OR REGIONAL WALK/TROT YOUTH OF THE YEAR

### HORSEMASTERSHIP WALK/TROT RIDING PATTERN

Enter at a walk. Trot along the rail showing two changes of diagonals. At C, turn into the center of the arena. Halt. Execute a Figure eight at the trot. Trot to the center of the arena. Halt. Exit the arena at a walk.

