DATE: February 1, 2012

TO: District IV Agents
   District IV County Offices

FROM: Derrick Bruton    Eddie Baggs
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      4-H & Youth Development  Ag & Natural Resources, Denton County

SUBJECT: **District IV Horse Judging Contest**

**CONTEST INFORMATION**

1. **Date.** The contest will be held on Friday, April 13, 2012.

2. **Location.** Hopkins County Regional Civic Center; 1200 Houston Street, Sulphur Springs
   [http://www.civiccenteronline.com/map.htm](http://www.civiccenteronline.com/map.htm)

3. **Schedule.**
   - Contest Check-in: Noon to 1:00 p.m.
   - Orientation: 1:00 p.m.
   - Contest Begins: Following orientation
   - Awards: Conclusion of contest tabulations

4. **Registration.** Each participating member is required to register on 4-H Connect
   ([https://texas.4honline.com](https://texas.4honline.com)) and pay the $15.00 registration fee. Registration will open on February 23
   and close at midnight March 23, 2012. Agents, please ensure all team members have registered before
   certifying on the county level.

5. **Participation.** Contestants must be active 4-H members enrolled in a Texas 4-H and Youth Development
   county program in District IV. Contestants must also be academically eligible (according to UIL rules) to
   compete on the day of the contest.

6. **Age.** Age divisions are determined by a participant’s age as of September 1 of the current 4-H year. Age
   divisions for this contest are:
   - Junior: 8 and in the 3rd grade, 9, or 10
   - Intermediate: 11, 12, or 13
   - Senior: 14, 15, 16, 17, or 18
7. **Entries per county.** Each county may enter unlimited teams/individuals per age division listed above. The top 3 placed senior teams and/or individuals will advance to state.

8. **Members per team.** Teams consist of 3 or 4 members of the same age. Junior members will be allowed to move up to the intermediate age division in order to complete a team. Juniors and intermediates are not allowed to move up to the senior age division. Only the top 3 total individual scores will count toward team awards.

9. **Awards.** 1st through 5th place individual and team awards in each age category will be presented.

10. **Participants with disabilities.** Any competitor who requires auxiliary aids or special accommodations must contact the District Extension Office, or note when registering on 4-H Connect, at least 2 weeks before the competition to request such needs.

11. **Judging Classes.** The horse contest will consist of six (6) to eight classes (8) with four horses in each class. There will be two (2) to four (4) halter classes and four (4) to six (6) performance classes. Judging class cards will be used for the contest.

12. **Judging Cards.** Each contestant will use a single scannable score sheet (see attached example) to record his/her placings for each class. Contestants should familiarize themselves with this sheet prior to competing.

13. **Oral Reasons.** Senior contestants will give one (1) set of oral reasons on a halter class and two (2) sets of oral reasons on a performance class. Intermediates will give one (1) set of reasons on a halter class and one (1) set on a performance class. Junior contestants will give one (1) set of oral reasons on a halter class. Contestants will be notified at the time of placing whether or not reasons will be required on the class being judged at that time.

14. **Dining.** No meal will be provided. Contestants should plan on eating lunch prior to check-in.

15. **Resources.** [http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/online-judging/index.htm](http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/online-judging/index.htm)

DB

cc Dr. Chris Boleman
   Dr. Darrell Dromgoole
   Mr. Hurley Miller
   Mr. Ron Woolley