

2026 Pinto World Championship Horse Show

Youth Judging Contest



June 7, 2026 | Built Ford Tough Livestock Complex | Tulsa, OK



Location: Ford Livestock Arena, Built Ford Tough Complex, Tulsa, OK

Date: June 7, 2026

Entry Fee: \$100/team, \$25/individual. This includes a

Pinto Youth membership for each judging contestant.

Entry Deadline: Entries must be postmarked by May 19, 2026. Time:

Contest will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Coaches' Meeting and Roster Changes:

A coaches' meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 6 in the Livestock Arena Exhibit Hall. Coaches should plan to pick up their team packet and make any necessary contestant substitutions/team changes at this time. Coaches missing the meeting may pick up their packets between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. at the Horse Show Office. All changes to team rosters must be made by 8:00 a.m. the day of the contest.

Divisions:

Regular Division: 14-18 years old will compete in the Senior division. 13 years old & under will compete in the Junior division. The Regular Division will be required to give reasons on selected classes.

Team Eligibility:

Teams will consist of three or four members. Each contestant will compete for individual awards and the low score will be discarded in each category (halter, performance, reasons, overall). All contestants are required to wear Western attire (long sleeve shirt and jeans or slacks-blazer or tie is optional) during the contest. No hats, caps or identifying clothing are allowed. Junior and Senior contestants may combine to form a Mixed-Age team, but they must compete in the Senior division and for Senior awards. Contestants who have competed on or are members of an intercollegiate horse judging team are ineligible to compete.

Contest Procedures:

Timing and conduct of classes will be conducted under the guidelines of the National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association. All horses will be considered sound of mouth, wind and limb in halter and judged as they go in performance. All tack and attire will be considered legal. Each class will consist of four horses. Handlers/riders will be identified with numbered vests. Placing cards will be provided. Contestants must provide their own writing materials (pencil only on Scantron). Contestants may use clipboards, notebooks, plain paper, official PtHA score sheets and the 2024 PtHA Rulebook so long as these items are clean and free of marks. **Contestants may not have in their possession horse judging manuals, texts or lists of terms. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.**

A group leader will be placed in charge of each group of contestants. Contestants are responsible for turning in their cards to the group leader when time is called. Late cards will not be accepted. **While the contest is in progress, there will be no talking between contestants or anyone else except as directed by contest officials. No cell phones or other forms of communication will be allowed on any contestant. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.** Coaches will not have contact with their contestants at any time during the judging and reason session. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.

**For additional information,
please contact:
Emily Wolf
Special Events Coordinator
(405) 491-0111 ext. 2100
(405) 787-0773 (fax)
ewolf@pinto.org**

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Scoring:

Fifty points will constitute a perfect score in placing the animals and fifty points will constitute a perfect score for oral reasons. The low score will be discarded in each category (halter , performance, reasons, overall). Placing cards must be completed in full to be tabulated. Cards that are blank, illegible or marked with more than one placing will receive a zero score. All tabulated results of the contest will be considered official and no change will be made unless an error is made in entering a score or placing by contest official. Errors made by contestants will not be corrected once the placing card has been delivered to a contest official, including a group leader.

Ties will be broken as follows:

Scoring and tie-breakers for overall placings (non-reasons scores):

- 1.Highest total score overall wins, if there is a tie then,
- 2.Highest total reasons or questions score breaks the tie, if there is still a tie then,
- 3.Lower placings in reasons class(es) wins (the rationale is that the contestant with the lower placings in the reasons class(es) had to “talk” harder to get the same reasons scores and tie above, so they likely did a better job of reasons justification

Scoring and tie-breakers for a reasons score:

1. Highest total Score in the reasons class(es) wins, if there is a tie then,
- 2.Lower placings in reasons class(es) (see rationale above) wins, if there is still a tie then,
- 3.Highest total overall score wins

Scoring and tie-breakers within a species/category:

- 1.Highest total score within the species/category wins, if there is a tie then,
- 2.Highest total reasons score within the species/category wins, if there is still a tie then,
- 3.Highest total reasons score overall wins, if there is still a tie then,
- 4.Highest total score overall wins

Classes:

There will be four to ten performance classes and two to four halter classes. Performance classes can be chosen from ranch riding, western riding, western pleasure, reining, hunter under saddle/English pleasure, hunter hack, trail, and western horsemanship and/or hunt seat equitation. Miniature horses may be included with Halter and Pleasure Driving. Halter classes will not include stallions. There will be no utility horses in the halter or performance classes. Classes will be judged in accordance with the *2025 Pinto Horse Association of America Rulebook*.

Reasons:

Regular Senior division will be giving four sets of reasons. Regular junior division will give two sets of reasons. Novice division will not be required to give reasons. Contestants will have two minutes to give their reasons to the official. Reasons may be chosen from any of the classes listed above. Oral reasons are expected to indicate the contestant’s justification for their placement of the class. Contestants will not be permitted to use notes while giving reasons.