



**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE  
UNIVERSITY EXTENSION**

# Premier Horse Exhibitor Award



## Introduction

Thanks to an inspired bill passed during the 2020 4-H Legislature event, South Dakota 4-H launched the Premier Horse Exhibitor Award in 2022. This award recognizes a more comprehensive development of the horse project.

## Award Categories

There will be one award for each of the three age divisions (beginner, junior, and senior). The awards are presented at a ceremony during the State Fair in Huron.

## Scoring Matrix

Each event contributes one third of the overall score. Maximum score is 300 points.

Placing	Highest Showmanship Score	Hippology Score	Event Score (Highest score other than showmanship)
1st Overall in Age Division	100	Uses 50 possible points from the station and test portions of the contest for a possible 100 points total.	
2nd Overall in Age Division	97		
3rd Overall in Age Division	94		
4th Overall in Age Division	91		
5th Overall in Age Division	88		
Purple Ribbon	85		100
Blue Ribbon	80		95
Red Ribbon	75		90
White Ribbon	70		85

## Scoring and Participation Details

- If a youth shows in both English and Western showmanship, the highest score prevails.
- Event score will come from the highest placing equitation, performance, driving or timed event class.
  - Youth in Action (judging, presentations) will not count toward event scores.
- Youth cannot gain more than 100 points per matrix column.
- **Tie-breakers:** showmanship > hippology > event > coin toss

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