



# **National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association**

## **Equine Management & Evaluation Certification Study Guide**

# **CERTIFICATION OVERVIEW**

The National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association (NHJTCA) Equine Management & Evaluation Certification verifies individuals are prepared to pursue a career in the fields of equine evaluation, management and production. The certification exam assesses knowledge of the equine industry, including equine anatomy and physiology, equine diseases and breed identification.

## **EXAM OVERVIEW**

The NHJTCA Equine Management & Evaluation Certification is hosted on the iCEV testing platform. The certification exam is a 100-question, randomized assessment. Exam questions are in the format of multiple choice, sort order, diagramming, matching, labeling and other question types meant to fully evaluate an individual's competency of the industry standards. The certification exam should be proctored within a controlled environment. The proctor of the exam must review and verify all exam procedures and provide electronic documentation through the exam platform.

More information about the certification exam and testing platform, including optional preparation materials offered by iCEV, can be found at

<https://www.icevonline.com/equine>

## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL HORSE JUDGING TEAM COACHES' ASSOCIATION**

The National Horse Judging Team Coaches' Association is dedicated to promoting, encouraging and aiding the training of coaches and evaluation teams to strengthen employment skills of the students participating in horse judging contests nationally. By providing and enhancing communication and networking among coaches, NHJTCA encourages consistency among the equine evaluation industry. Learn more at <https://www.nhjtca.org/industry-certification/>

# INDUSTRY STANDARDS

The certification exam assesses knowledge and skills from the following weighted industry standards set by NHJTCA:



## **EQUINE INDUSTRY- 5%**

- Health & Safety Practices
- Employability Skills & Resources
- Selection & Breeding
- Industry Concerns



## **BREED IDENTIFICATION- 10%**

- Light Breeds
- Draft & Coach Horses
- Horses Less than 14.2 Hands
- Donkeys & Mules



## **ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY- 10%**

- External Anatomy Identification
- External & Internal Parts of the Hoof Identification Mouth
- Parts Identification



## **EQUINE DISEASES- 10%**

- Fungal
- Bacterial
- Viral
- Parasitic
- Nutritional
- Genetic
- Behavioral



## **EQUINE MANAGEMENT- 25%**

Housing Considerations

Barn Design & Flooring

Common Facility Equipment

Nutrition & Health

Exercise

Grooming

Saddling



## **HORSE EVALUATION- 40%**

Halter Evaluation

Western Pleasure

Western Horsemanship

Hunter Under Saddle

Hunter Hack

Hunt Seat Equitation

Reining

# Industry Standard Overview

To pass the NHJTCA Equine Management & Evaluation Certification exam, certification candidates must have adequate knowledge of the industry standards. The following outlines an in-depth overview of the industry standards and sub-standards:

## Industry Standard: Equine Industry



- The Equine Industry
- Career Opportunities
- Employability
- Workplace Safety
- Horse Selection
- Equine Industry Concerns
- Equine Welfare vs. Animal Rights

## Industry Standard: Breed Identification



- Horse Breeds
- Additional Eques Species

## Industry Standard: Anatomy & Physiology



- External Parts of the Horse
- External Parts of the Hoof
- Internal Parts of the Hoof
- The Horse Mouth
- Equine Body System

## Industry Standard: Equine Diseases



- Common Fungal Diseases
- Common Bacterial Diseases
- Common Viral Diseases
- Common Parasitic Diseases
- Common Nutritional Diseases
- Common Genetic Diseases
- Common Behavioral Diseases
- Proper Management

## Industry Standard: Equine Management



- Equine Housing
- Barn Design
- Barn Flooring
- Door/Stall Design & Size
- Ventilation, Insulation & Lighting
- Storage
- Water
- Fencing
- Common Equine Facility Equipment
  - Horse Trailers
  - Tractors
  - Mowers
  - Arena Equipment
  - Stall Equipment
- Feed Ratio
- Temperature
- Pulse Rate
- Respiration
- Vaccines
- Exercise
- Groom
- Tack & Equipment

## Industry Standard: Horse Evaluation



- Halter
- Western Pleasure
- Western Horsemanship
- Hunter Under Saddle
- Hunter Hack
- Hunt Seat Equitation
- Reining

# Optional Preparation Materials Overview

The preparation materials offered by iCEV for the NHJTCA Equine Management & Evaluation Certification was specifically created to prepare candidates for the certification exam. While it is not required to complete the preparatory materials before accessing the certification exam, NHJTCA recommends certification candidates complete some form of training. The following outlines the lessons scope and objectives:

## Lesson 1: The Equine Industry

1. To demonstrate competencies related to resources, information, interpersonal skills, and systems of operation in equine science.
2. To demonstrate knowledge of personal and occupational health and safety practices in the workplace.
3. To recognize the importance of the equine industry such as rodeo, racing, equestrian, therapy and the global food market.
4. To evaluate and select horses based on purpose.
5. To identify procedures for breeding horses per industry standards.
6. To describe issues concerning biotechnology related to the equine industry.
7. To identify welfare policy pertaining to the equine industry such as rodeo, racing, equestrian, therapy, global food market and pharmaceutical research.

## Lesson 2: Horse Breeds ID I

1. To learn the origins of different breeds.
2. To describe physical characteristics and temperament.
3. To identify different horse breed associations.

## Lesson 3: Horse Breeds ID II

1. To learn the origins of different breeds.
2. To describe physical characteristics and temperament.
3. To identify different horse breed associations.

## Lesson 4: Equine Anatomy & Physiology

1. To describe the anatomy and physiology of horses including the anatomical parts of the horse, hooves and mouth.
2. To describe the circulatory, respiratory, digestive, endocrine, immune, integumentary, nervous, skeletal, muscular and reproductive systems of horses.

## **Lesson 5: Common Equine Diseases**

1. To identify equine diseases and their symptoms.
2. To understand the causes, preventions and treatments regarding equine diseases.
3. To analyze proper ways of keeping horses safe and disease free.

## **Lesson 6: Equine Equipment & Facilities**

1. To learn fundamentals in selecting a site for housing horses.
2. To learn different types of housing for horses and housing requirements.
3. To learn safety procedures for housing horses.

## **Lesson 7: Equine Management: Nutrition, Health & Exercise**

1. To understand principal horse care and management practices.
2. To learn basic nutritional requirements for horses.
3. To identify equine health issues.
4. To recognize exercise practices used for horses.

## **Lesson 8: Equine Management: Grooming & Saddling**

1. To understand principal horse care and management practices.
2. To demonstrate basic horse grooming practices.
3. To identify equine tack and equipment.
4. To demonstrate how to saddle and bridle horses.

## **Lesson 9: Horse Evaluation: Halter**

1. To define halter conformation.
2. To analyze the benefits and challenges of the halter class.
3. To investigate the aspects of the halter class.
4. To gain skills on coaching and judging halter.

## **Lesson 10: Horse Evaluation: Western Pleasure**

1. To understand the rules and standards which are important for judging the western pleasure class.
2. To recognize the faults and disqualifications which affect the placing of the western pleasure class.

## **Lesson 11: Horse Evaluation: Western Horsemanship**

1. To understand the rules and standards which are considered important criteria for judging the Western Horsemanship class.
2. To recognize the three (3) point, five (5) point and ten (10) point penalties and disqualifications which affect the placing of the Western Horsemanship class.



## **Lesson 12: Horse Evaluation: Hunter Under Saddle**

1. To understand the rules and standards which are important for judging the hunter under saddle class.
2. To recognize the faults and disqualifications which affect the placing of the hunter under saddle class.

## **Lesson 13: Horse Evaluation: Hunter Hack**

1. To identify and examine the major factors for judging the hunter hack class.
2. To identify and understand the rules, standards and faults which affect a horse's placing within the hunter hack class.
3. To investigate all aspects of the hunter hack class.
4. To gain skills on coaching and judging the hunter hack class.

## **Lesson 14: Horse Evaluation: Hunt Seat Equitation**

1. To understand the rules and standards which are the important criteria for judging the Hunt Seat Equitation class.
2. To recognize the three (3) point, five (5) point and ten (10) point penalties and disqualifications which affect the placing of the Hunt Seat Equitation class.

## **Lesson 15: Horse Evaluation: Reining**

1. To understand the rules and standards which are important for judging the reining class.
2. To recognize the penalties and disqualifications which affect the placing of the reining class.