



Premier Horse Exhibitor Award

INTRODUCTION

Thanks to an inspired bill passed during the 2020 4-H Legislature event, South Dakota 4-H is launching the Premier Horse Exhibitor Award beginning with the 2022 season. This award recognizes a more comprehensive development of horse project knowledge. The premise of the award mirrors the three points of the 4-H Livestock Management Triangle.

AWARD CATEGORIES

There will be one award for each of the three 4-H age divisions (beginner, junior, senior). The awards are presented at a ceremony at the State Horse Show in Huron, SD when all events are concluded.

SCORING MATRIX

The scores for the Premier Horse Exhibitor Award will be determined by the qualifying events at the State Horse Show in Huron. Each event contributes one third of the overall score. Maximum score is 300 points.

	Highest Showmanship Score	Hippology Score	Event Score (Highest score excluding showmanship)
1 st Overall in Age Division	100	Utilizes each youth's scores calibrated to total scale of 100 points	
2 nd Overall in Age Division	97		
3 rd Overall in Age Division	94		
4 th Overall in Age Division	91		
5 th 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 multiple animals in the same category, the highest score prevails. Youth cannot gain more than 100 points per matrix column.
- **Tie-breakers:** showmanship → hippology contest → event → coin toss

