**Texas A&M University Horse Judging Coaches Clinic**

**“Preparing to Win”**

**When: June 19 and 20, 2014**

**Where: Texas A&M University, College Station**

**Price: $150 for both days or $100 for individual days**

**Day 1: Instruction on Evaluation of Classes**

**Day 2: Reasons and Coaching Strategies**

Adult leaders are typically those who lead busy lives with jobs, families and involvement with multiple events and youth activities. They are also people who are very giving and want to help others to be their very best. Therefore, it is often difficult for many 4-H leaders, coaches, FFA teachers, and other volunteers to find the time to improve on their level of knowledge and coaching skills. To help remedy this situation, Texas A&M University Horse Judging Program, along with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, is holding a Youth Leaders and Coaches Clinic for Horse Judging! The objectives of the clinic are to:

1. provide coaches, leaders, and interested adults with the necessary knowledge to identify the desired attributes of horses in terms of overall conformation and Western and English events within the horse show industry,
2. assist coaches and leaders in helping them be more effective in conveying these ideals to interested youth,
3. equip coaches and leaders with insight into better preparing students for oral reasons, and
4. discuss coaching “strategies” that will help students achieve their best.

The program consists of:

**Day 1:**

9:00-12:30: Evaluation of the Western Performance horse. To include discussion on today’s industry trends to evaluate horses in Western Pleasure, Reining, and Western Horsemanship, Stock Horse Pleasure. This will be an in-depth discussion on specifics of each event along with strategies to help the youth you coach better understand principles of each event.

2:00-5:00: Evaluation of the English Performance horse. To include discussion on today’s industry trends to evaluate horses in Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, and Hunter Hack. This will be an in-depth discussion on specifics of each event along with strategies to help the youth you coach better understand principles of each event.

**Day 2:**

9:00-11:00: Strategies of Reasons. Various strategies discussed to help coaches with students who may find it difficult giving reasons. Where do you start? What style do you use? What do “good” reasons sound like and consist of?

11:00-12:00: Video contest to assess skills learned. Coaches will place classes and have the lunch hour to consider how they would address/explain each class.

1:00-3:00: Coaches critique. Coaches will be asked to evaluate classes seen in the earlier session and discuss how they would approach teaching these principles to students. Additionally, coaches will listen to sets of reasons and be asked how they would coach based on their critique of reasons.

Participants will be responsible for meals and housing if needed.