

Horse Judging Practice

Yearling Quarter Horse Stallions



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Yearling Quarter Horse Stallions

Placings: 1-4-3-2

Cuts: 3-2-4

I placed the Yearling Quarter Horse Stallions 1-4-3-2. In the top pair 1, the palomino, places over 4. 1 is more attractive from the profile as he combines balance and muscling to the highest degree. He is not only leaner in his neck, it also comes higher out of a more laid back shoulder and he is more distinct in his neck to chest attachment. He is also shorter and stronger in his back in relation to his underline and has more expression of muscling in his shoulder and stifle regions from the profile. 1 also carries down more muscling to the lower part of his hindquarter. I understand that 4 is wider from stifle to stifle when viewed from behind as well as having more expression of muscling over the top of his hip. However he is also shallow hearted and plain headed.

In a difficult middle decision, the sorrel places over 3. 4 is much more balanced from the profile as he is leveler from the top of his wither to the top of his hip and is stonger in his back. 4 also divides more easily into thirds and is cleaner in his neck especially in the top of it. I easily agree that 3 is heavier muscled, especially from front and rear. Yet, he runs downhill and gets thick in his throatlatch and neck.

Dropping to the final pair, 3 places over 2 in an easy decision. 3 is much wider from shoulder to shoulder and more expressive in his forearm when viewed from the front. When stepping behind 3, he is wider from stifle to stifle and wraps more muscling around his inner and outer gaskin. From the profile he is much longer in his neck and is deeper hearted. Yes, 2 exhibits a higher quality, more attractive head, but that's where it ends. 2 is the lightest muscled individual of the four and becomes the narrowest made from the front and the rear.

Aged Quarter Horse Geldings



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Aged Quarter Horse Geldings

Placings: 3-4-1-2

Cuts: 5-2-2

I placed the Aged Quarter Horse Geldings 3-4-1-2. In the initial pair I preferred 3 over 4 in a rather easy decision. 3 wins the class simply on balance and muscling. Not only is he the longest and most sloping in his shoulder, but he combines this advantage with a shorter, stronger top line and a longer more powerful hip and hindquarters. He is also more correct in his muscle pattern having more depth and dimension from every angle. I agree that 4 is straighter down his hock, but he still goes second as he is thick in the crest of his neck and lacks the expression of muscling exhibited by the class winner.

Moving to the close middle pair, it's 4 over 1. 4 is a better balanced individual that is leveler in his top line, deeper hearted and longer, more correctly turned over his croup. 4 also is stronger backed and appears to have more width and dimension of muscling especially in the shoulder region. Let's not forget that 1 is much cleaner in his throatlatch and neck, however he is also light muscled and short hipped.

Dropping to the final pair, 1 places over 2. 1 is simply more modern in his appearance and is much more correct in his weight for the class. 1 has a higher quality head, is longer and much leaner in his neck and has a more modern, athletic muscle pattern. 1 is also more fit and tone appearing especially in his barrel region. I understand that 2 is more powerfully muscled and is probably wider made from front and rear. Yet I still leave him fourth as he is conventional in his kind, sacrificing moderns and eye appeal for power.

2 Year Old Quarter Horse Geldings



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2 Year Old Quarter Horse Geldings

Placings: 1-2-4-3

Cuts: 3-3-2

Starting with the pair of nicer balanced, heavier muscled geldings and concluding with the lightest muscled, I placed the two-year-old Quarter Horse Geldings 1243. I preferred the balance and quality of the sorrel over 2 in my initial pair. In addition to being cleaner muzzled, 1 had a longer, cleaner neck that tied in higher to his chest. He also had a longer, more laid back shoulder giving him a shorter backed in relation to a long underline. Certainly, I realize the brown is particularly wider through the center of his stifles, however, because he's somewhat long backed, I placed him second.

Now, in my middle pair, 2's distinct advantage in overall size and muscle places him over 4. He simply has more to him. The brown is deeper hearted and wider chested. He also shows more width and dimension from shoulder to shoulder while being more correct in his hip to stifle ratio. Additionally, the brown is more nearly level from withers to croup. Finding no appreciable grants for 4, and as the palomino is low-tying in his neck and short hipped, I placed him third.

Still, the palomino's advantage in muscling places him over 3 in my final pair. 4 has more definition in his shoulder and forearm and has a greater circumference of gaskin. He also has a nicer turn to his croup and is longer hipped. Without question, the bay has a higher tying neck, still, as he is long backed, steep crouped and the lightest muscled, I must place him last.

Yearling Quarter Horse Fillies



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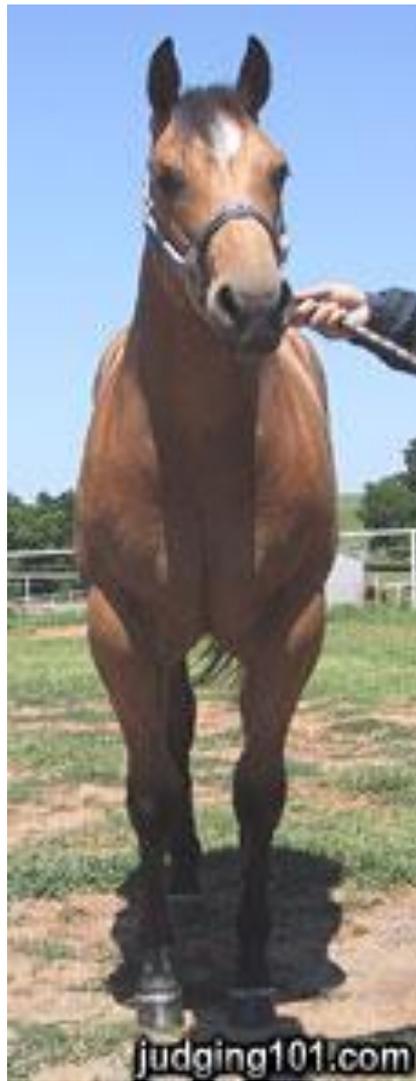
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Yearling Quarter Horse Fillies

Placings: 2-3-1-4

Cuts: 5-3-2

I placed the Yearling Quarter Horse Fillies 2-3-1-4. I began with 2 over 3 as she best combines balance and muscling. Her shortness of back, length of underline, and depth of heart better combine to give her a more balanced appearance when viewed from the side. She has a longer, cleaner neck that blended into a smoother, more sloping shoulder. She was heavier muscled from every angle. She had a greater amount of muscle expression to her forearm and pectoral region. When viewed from behind she was wider from stifle to stifle and had more bulge to her inner and outer gaskins. In addition she was longer hipped carrying more muscling into the lower portion of her quarter. I realize that the palomino was more nearly level, but I faulted and placed her second as she was weak backed.

Moving to my middle pair, it was 3 over 1 as she was a higher quality individual. She was more feminine showing more shape and quality to her face and carried that femininity back to a thinner and trimmer throatlatch and neck. Her longer, cleaner neck tied in higher to a more desirably sloped shoulder. She was also neater and sharper at her withers. I understand that 1 had more strength behind her withers, but she was thick in the crest of her neck and uneven croup to wither, so I left her in third.

Advancing to my bottom pair, it was the buckskin over the bay as she was smoother blending throughout being more correctly balanced and cleaner made from end to end. She was a larger volumed individual having more tone and power of muscling. She was wider from shoulder to shoulder while having a deeper, more prominent V. She was more powerfully muscled in her quarter, dropping down to a more flaring gaskin. I realize that 4 had a longer, cleaner neck, but I left in her in fourth as she was the lightest muscled, narrowest made of the class. Thank you.

Yearling Stallions 2



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Yearling Stallions 2

Placings: 1-2-3-4

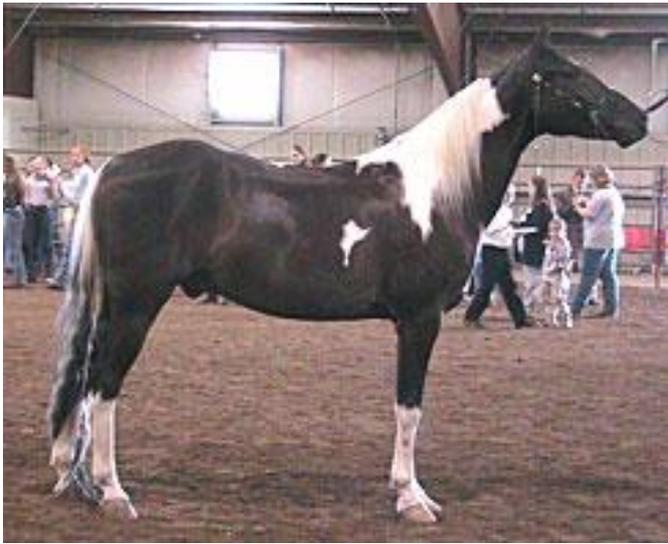
Cuts: 2-1-3

I placed the yearling stallions 1-2-3-4. I began with the bay overo as he was most correct in his combination of balance and muscling. His longer, cleaner neck blended into a smoother, more sloping shoulder allowing him to have a shorter, stronger back. When viewed from behind he was wider from stifle to stifle while having more bulge to his inner and outer gaskins. He was more three-dimensional in the hindquarter being longer and more powerful through the hip. I realize that the bay was deeper in his heart and flank, but I faulted and left him second as he was uneven croup to wither and had too much set to his hocks.

Moving to my middle pair it was 2 over 3 as he more nearly followed the quality of my top individual in terms of balance and muscling. He was wider from shoulder to shoulder having a greater amount of muscling to his forearm and pectoral region while having a deeper, more prominent V. He was a more balanced individual who has a longer, cleaner neck which ties in more smoothly to his shoulder. Furthermore, he has a shorter, stronger back in relation to a longer, more sloping underline. I understand that 3 was smoother over his croup, but he was calf kneed and lacks the depth and muscling to place higher than third.

Advancing to my bottom pair, it was a matter of muscling and volume placing 3 over 4. He was a taller patterned, longer profiling, shorter and stronger backed, and deeper throughout. He was wider when viewed from every angle and was longer hipped. I realize that 4 stood straighter down his front legs and was more nearly level. But he was low in his neck to chest attachment, long backed, and the lightest muscled, narrowest made of the class so I left him in fourth. Thank you.

Half-Arabian Geldings



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Half-Arabian Geldings

Placings: 3-4-1-2

Cuts: 3-4-1

I placed the Half-Arabian Geldings 3-4-1-2. In the initial pair it's 3 over 4. 3 has more type and quality. He is larger, more expressive in his eye, is much shorter from eye to muzzle giving him a more chiseled head. He is also much stronger and higher in his back. Overall, he presents more eye appeal and youthfulness of the four. I agree that 4's neck ties higher into his shoulder, yet his extremely low back keeps him in second.

In the middle duo it's 4 over 1. 4's neck comes higher out of his shoulder and is more laid back in his shoulder giving him a more desirable topline to underline ratio. 4 is also higher in his wither and remains flatter over his croup. He is also higher in his tail carriage. I agree that 1 stands straighter from knee to toe, however he also runs down hill and is short hiped.

In the final decision 1 beats 2. 1 is simply typier in his appearance and more refined in his bone. 1 stands on more correct angle to his pasterns and is deeper hearted in relation to his size. I admit that 2 is cleaner at the base of his neck and is stronger in his loin, but that's where it ends. He's the coarsest made of the four, stands base narrow behind and simply lacks the type to get off the bottom.