

2020 Horse Handbook

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Boarding/Training Agreement Form – due May 15th

Horse/Pony ID Sheet – one per animal, maximum 3 per member. Due May 15th. If the horse/pony is leased, a copy of the lease needs to be attached.

Permission To Participate in 4-H Horse Activities Disclosure And Release Of Claims

Forms – Available from your advisor.

County Fair Show Class List and Entry Form – due June 12th. Late entry – due June 19th.

PAS Registration Form, dates and information. Contact Extension Office or your advisor for more information.

2020 FAYETTE COUNTY HORSE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

1. The “Uniform Rules For Horse Shows in Ohio” (4-H 179) will govern 4-H horse shows. All members (or families) taking a horse project need to purchase a rule book and be familiar with it.
2. Mandatory for all members to follow the 4-H Equine Mandatory Helmet Use Policy in “Uniform Rules For Horse Shows in Ohio” (4-H 179).
3. All members and their parent/guardian must sign a new “Permission to Participate” form each year. New members are required to get the 191R Horses, Safety and You manual, and with a parent/guardian to view required links, *Every Ride, Every Time and Horses, Kids & Ethics*. After reading the manual and viewing the required links, the member and parent(s) sign the form on the inside back cover of the manual. Advisors will keep on file a copy of this signed form and each year’s new permission forms. When additional family members join, they can sign the original forms after they have seen the links and read the manual. Members who are not a horse club should turn permission form and a copy of the 191R form in to the Junior Fair Board Coordinator and the Senior Fair Board Horse Representatives no later than May 15th.
4. Competition at the county fair show and participation in the horse activities, (ex. Fun Day) is limited to those enrolled in a Fayette County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter with a horse project.
5. All horses and ponies must be in the continual care of the club or chapter member by May 15th. An ID sheet is to be completed for each horse, with a maximum of 3 (three) animals per members. Members of an immediate family may use the same horse with the exclusion of leased horses, but each member must complete an ID sheet for the animal. ID sheets are to be turned in by May 15th to Junior Fair Board Coordinator and the Senior Fair Board Horse Representative/advisor. The primary horse(s) of a member stays at the fair all week. An additional horse may be brought in for show day (Tuesday) for contest classes – barrels and flags – and taken back home that day, and/or Fun Day on Friday. Standardbreds that are currently being raced may be taken from the fairgrounds as needed to race.
6. Two (2) horse(s) to the Fair:
Only beginners and age group members can bring 2 horses.
Walk-trot cannot bring 2 horses.
7. Each horse will receive a number, members must wear correct number or they will be disqualified in that class.
8. If an animal is leased, a contract to lease must be reviewed and accepted by the Junior Fair Board Coordinator and the Senior Fair Board Horse Representatives. A signed copy of the contract must be filed by May 15th.
9. All members must attend a minimum of two (2) outdoor practices with their project horse and be evaluated by an advisor as to their safety before going to the fair. Those in a non-horse club need to make arrangements to attend two (2) of one of the horse club’s practices for this purpose. The horse clubs have the right to require more than the minimum two (2) practices. Each club will honor other club member and shall be counted as a minimum meeting.

10. Horses are over 58". Ponies will measure under 58".
11. Age of the exhibitor is determined as of January 1, 2020.
12. Stallions may not be shown unless they are part of a production project, and then only during their first calendar year.
13. The horse committee will deal with hardship case decisions.
14. The 4-H horse shows must have a steward who will interpret and clarify rules. The Steward will be the President of the Fayette County Horse Committee. Any exhibitor or family member with a grievance is to contact the steward first, not the judge. Judges' decisions about the placings are final. Poor sportsmanship on the part of the exhibitors, parents, family members or advisors will not be tolerated.
15. Safe and legal tack is to be used at all times. Refer to the rule book for specific examples.
16. Each member is to complete a project book and, if applicable, participate in the skillathon/interview to complete their project.
17. Stall assignments will be made by the Junior Fair Board Horse Representatives.
18. Entries are due **June 12th**. **Late entry – due June 19th**. **Showmanship is mandatory**. After all entries are received, class determinations will be made according to number of entries per class. Age divisions may be added or deleted as needed.
19. All Exhibitors with a horse at the fair will be required to have emergency contact information on file. Each club will be responsible for making sure their members cards are complete and turned into the Horse Committee Secretary who will make sure appropriate copies are available for Senior Fair Board Members.
20. Exhibitors must be aware of and comply with body condition score requirements in the "Uniform Rules For Horse Shows in Ohio" (4-H 179). If your horse/pony has a body condition score of less than 4, you will not be permitted to exhibit or show your animal at the fair.
21. A mandatory meeting for all horse exhibitors will be held on Monday of the fair at noon. This is a required meeting. A member can only be excused if they make prior arrangements with an advisor or Junior Fair Board Member. Pertinent information and show numbers will be discussed and dispersed at this meeting.
22. The use of hoof polish, mane and tail extenders is permitted with the exclusion of ranch pleasure and ranch riding.

FAIRGROUNDS AND BARN RULES FOR THE FAIR

1. Safety is first. For you, your horse and others around you. If you are asked to stop an unsafe act by anyone. – STOP. If you disagree, STOP. Then discuss the issue with your Jr. Superintendent, Jr Fair Board member, Advisor and/or Sr. Superintendent.
2. Remember you are representatives of 4-H while at the fair. Your attire should be modest and your behavior should set a good example. Be respectful of yourself and others.
3. All horses are to be led, not ridden across the blacktop.
4. Sitting on or riding horses in the barn is prohibited.
5. Riders must wear heeled boots and helmet.
6. Smoking in and around the barns and tent is prohibited.
7. Be kind to your horse. Feed your horse on schedule, check the water bucket several times a day and clean it out at least once a day. Keep the stall clean and deposit manure in the designated area. Remember your project name is not “Midway Rides” or “Visit With Friends”. Your horse is counting on you for its care and must be considered first.
8. Mistreatment of horses will not be tolerated, nor will putting others in danger.
9. Horse(s) need to be taken out of the stall for some exercise, even if just walked, every day.
10. NO water fights anytime. We don’t make a good impression on visitors if they end up getting soaked.
11. Be courteous to family, friends, and visitors at all times. Be respectful of other people’s property. Ask to borrow, always return items to their proper place in a timely manner and is as good a condition as when you borrowed it.
12. Keep the aisles and the areas around the barn, tent, and wash rack clean. Be sure to check all around the barn area for your tack, equipment, hoses, etc. before leaving on Friday evening. All stalls must be cleaned out to the ground before leaving.
13. Rules, times, and sign-up sheets for the various events will be posted at the announcer’s booth each day by the Jr. Fair Board members.
14. Be aware that further barn rules will be posted at the fair and that the Jr. Fair horse show will be judged according to the most recent edition of the “Uniform Rules for Horse Shows in Ohio” (4-H 179).
15. Be respectful of yourself and others. Ladies and gentlemen should not be lying on tack boxes, in stalls, trailers, etc. together. Older members should set a good example for the younger ones.

16. All 4-H members and adults must wear proper closed toe shoes whenever they are handling a horse. Long pants and boots must be worn whenever mounted. All apparel must be appropriately worn in style and modesty. Midriffs must be covered. This applies to any equine 4-H event in the equine area of the fairgrounds. Advisors are to monitor their club members and families.

- 17. All horse(s) must be in their pens/stalls from 12 midnight to 5am during the week of the fair.**

2020 IMPORTANT DATES AND HORSE ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

May 15	4:30pm	Horse ID sheets, permission slip, leases, boarding/training agreements, housing form
May 15		Horse Royalty Application due
June 8		Horse Royalty Test, Interview and Showmanship – the location and time will be announce at a later time
June 9		Horse Royalty Test, Interview and Showmanship – the location and time will be announce at a later time (Rain Date)
June 12		Entries are due
June 17		Crowning of horse queen at the Small Commodities Banquet
June 19		Late entries are due
June 20		Queen's Tea at 2pm
July 9		Mandatory horse skillathon at the Extension Office from 5-7pm
July 10	6pm	Mock Show (Horse Committee will provide pizza and pop)
July 14	6pm	Mock Show rain date (Horse Committee will provide pizza and pop)
July 19 – 25		Fayette County Fair
July 20 Monday	7am Noon	All horses must be in place. Mandatory Horse Meeting
July 21 Tuesday	8am	Junior Fair Horse Show
July 22 Wednesday	10:00am 6pm TBA	Demonstrations Costume Contest Standardbred
July 23 Thursday	10am	Versatility Classes
July 24 Friday	10am 4pm	Contest Fun Show Fun Day
July 29 – August 9		Ohio State Fair

BOARDING AND TRAINING

“All animals carried as 4-H projects and those that are shown at the (Ohio) State Fair must be owned or leased and in the continual care of the 4-H members by the date specified in the member’s county. The date shall be no later than June 1. Continual care does permit boarding an animal, provided the member is involved in caring for the horse and the animal is not a production animal. Project animals should not be switched during the year.

Lessons, instructions, and advice for the member are encouraged. As long as the member is present in a learning situation, such as assistance can include occasional riding or handling of the horse by another person, but cannot include regular training and care of the horse within 30 days of competition in any county State Fair qualifying show or the State Fair junior horse show. Showing a 4-H member’s project animal in a show is not considered training. However, if a project animal is shown by someone other than the 4-H member in an open or breed show within the 30 days prior to a 4-H competition, the 4-H members must be present and must show the project horse in that show.

The Fayette County continual care date, when the horse must be at the member’s home, is May 15, 2020. If the member does not have a place for the horse at their home, boarding is permitted. A boarding/training agreement, signed by the member, the member’s parent or guardian, and the person responsible for the boarding facility, is to be turned in with the member’s horse ID sheet May 15th.

Ohio 4-H Program Guidelines for Leasing a 4-H Horse Project

Introduction – One purpose of 4-H horse projects is to teach young people how to feed, fit, show and care for their animal(s). The more important purpose is to provide opportunity for personal growth and development of the young person. Ohio 4-H realizes that some youth are unable to have an actual horse for their 4-H project. Options available to these youths include:

1. Lease a horse from another individual
2. Take a horseless horse project or a self-determined project

What is the Purpose of Leasing a Horse As A 4-H Project?

A lease project is appropriate in the 4-H program when one or more of the following conditions exists:

- Youth does not have the financial ability to purchase a horse.
- Youth has a horse but it is unable to be used (lameness, pregnancy, too young, etc).
- Youth has a horse but it is the wrong type for the educational experience the youth wishes to obtain.

What Are Expectations Of The Horse Owner?

An individual (lessor) who leases a horse must be willing to:

- Relinquish all rights to train, handle, and care for the horse in order for the youth to complete the requirements of a 4-H horse project. Potential owners should not lease horses they want to ride or show on a regular basis during the term of the lease.
- Not take the horse back prior to the end of the lease unless the youth agrees to return the horse.
- Have the youth (or parent/legal guardian) sign whatever agreements they decide upon in regard to care of the animal.
- Allow the youth to transport and show the horse in 4-H, open, or breed shows.

What Are Expectations Of The 4-H Participant?

An individual (youth) who leases a horse as a 4-H project:

- To be responsible for the care of the animal in whatever manner is mutually agreeable to both the owner (lessor) and youth (lessee).
- To complete an ID sheet as required by local counties to identify the horse as a 4-H project.
- As a part of the educational experience of leasing a horse, to work in consultation with the owner (lessor) to develop a lease agreement on the horse selected for the Ohio 4-H program (see attached suggestions for developing a lease agreement).
- Prior to any deadline date established by your Junior Fair Board Coordinator and the Senior Fair Board Horse Representatives, to submit to the Junior Fair Board Coordinator and the Senior Fair Board Horse Representatives a completed copy of the ID sheet and lease agreement for verification purposes ONLY.

What Should Be Included In A Lease?

Every lease is unique in the items that must be covered to protect both the owner (lessor) and the youth (lessee). A lease should be drawn and signed by the owner and the youth to insure adequate care of the animal, protect the investment of the lessor, and to detail the responsibility of the youth in regards to caring for the animal. It is wise to have a written lease agreement any time you are using someone else's horse, even if the owner is a family member. A lease can assist in preventing misunderstandings and unhappiness between the horse's owner and youth leasing the horse.

It is suggested the following issues, but not limited to these, be addressed in a lease:

- Identification of the horse (name, registration number if registered); the name, address and phone number of the youth (lessee) leasing the horse, the name of parent/guardian if the youth is under 18 years of age; the name, address, and phone number of the owner (lessor).
- Who is responsible in care of injury or death to the horse.
- Who pays veterinarian bills, and what would be the maximum amount you are expected to pay is injured and unusable, who has to nurse the animal back to health? An owner (lessor) may require you to take out insurance on the horse with the owner as the beneficiary to cover possible loss due to the death of the horse.
- Where the horse will be housed and who is responsible for the daily care of the horse; any feed, health care (i.e. de-worming, vaccinations, etc), foot care, and/or special stabling requirements made by the owner.
- The purpose(s) for which the horse will be used, and that it can be transported at the youth's discretion to shows.
- Any limitations that would be placed on the owner's use of the horse. Refer to the current Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows (4-H 179) for limitations caused by the animal being a 4-H project and include them or reference them in a statement, and make a copy of the rules available to the owner of the horse.
- A statement on the time period covered by the lease and under what conditions and time frame the lease can be discontinued.
- The owner should have a statement included relieving them of liability in cases of property damage, injury to the youth, or injury to a third party while the horse is under the lessee's supervision.
- A place for signatures for the owner (lessor) and the youth (lessee) with a line for parent/guardian if the youth is under 18 years of age.

The above mentioned issues are only suggestions, and we can not advise you as to specific terms or wording in a lease agreement. You may even want to consult an attorney.

4-H Horse Show Classes

Showmanship focuses on the exhibitor's ability to fit and show a horse at halter. Judges evaluate the grooming and fitting of the horse and the expertise of the exhibitor in presenting the horse to the best of his or her ability. Contestants must work a predetermined pattern consisting of maneuvers such as walking, trotting, pivoting, backing and setting up.

Western Pleasure horses should be as the name implies – a pleasure to ride. Contestants compete simultaneously, traveling around the perimeter of the arena. Horses are judged on functional correctness, quality of movement including consistency of their gaits, and attitude.

Western Horsemanship is judged on the horsemanship abilities of the rider using western tack. Individually, riders must first follow a prescribed pattern consisting of maneuvers such as walking, jogging or loping in a straight or curved line, pivoting, stopping or changing leads. Exhibitors will also show their horses around the perimeter of the arena, or "on the rail." Judges pay close attention to the riders' body positions, how they sit a saddle and their ability to control the horse.

Trail Trail horses must be accomplished in numerous obstacles including, but not limited to, passing through gates and crossing bridges. Trail judges focus on the skill of the horse to handle certain situations that might occur on an outdoor trail ride. Scoring is based on the horse's willingness, ease and grace in negotiating the course. Although horses and riders are competing against each other, the class is completed by one horse and rider combination at a time, and horses and riders are judged against a common standard, rather than having their performances scored relative to the other competitors.

Barrel Racing is a timed event. Exhibitors race against the clock, following a course consisting of three barrels in a triangular "cloverleaf" pattern. Contestants must choose either the right or left barrels, circle it, and go on the next barrel, completing the course after circling the third barrel and running home. Barrels are permitted to be touched, but if one is knocked down during the course of the run, a five-second penalty per downed barrel is added.

Pole Bending is a timed event. Just as a skier would compete in a slalom course, pole bending puts a horse through a similarly designed course. The course consists of a series of six poles spaced 21 feet apart, which horses and riders weave through. Horses run to the far end of the series of poles, turn, and weave in and out as they work their way back to the front. Horses then complete a turn around the front pole and maneuver through the series again. At the last pole, they complete that turn and race toward the finish line at full speed. A five-second penalty is added for each knocked down.

Hunter Under Saddle is the preliminary class for English riding disciplines and judges evaluate the way of going of a hunter-type horse on the flat, at a walk, trot and canter. Horses circle the perimeter of the arena, performing each gait called at the judge's discretion.

Hunt Seat Equitation evaluates the rider, not the performance of the horse. Individually, contestants must work a predetermined pattern consisting of maneuvers such as changing gaits (walk, trot, canter), traveling in a figure-8 pattern and backing up. Riders will also be judged on the rail, performing gait changes at the judge's discretion. Emphasis is placed on the rider's ability to sit in the saddle correctly, hold the correct riding posture and control the horse.

Ranch Pleasure horse should have a free-flowing stride of reasonable length in keeping with his conformation and covering a reasonable amount of ground with little effort. Ideally, he should have a balanced, flowing motion while exhibiting correct gaits with proper cadence and rhythm. The quality of the movement and consistency of the gaits is a major consideration. An exhibitor should not be penalized for picking up the reins or moving the horse's body if the horse is soft, willing and free of resistance but should receive credit. Horses should be credited for softness when picking up through transitions, departures, stops, and backs.

Ranch Riding should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working speed while under control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the required maneuvers and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. The exhibitor cannot show the same horse in Western Pleasure and Ranch Riding at the same show.

Reining is not only to guide a horse, but also to control its every movement. The best reined horse should be guided and controlled with little or no apparent resistance. After deducting all faults against execution of the pattern and the horses overall performance, credit should be given for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, authority in performing the various maneuvers while using controlled speed, which raises the difficulty level of the pattern.

STANDARD BRED JUDGING

The Standardbred judging is comprised of the following:

1. **Showmanship** – (in the arena) exhibitors will present their horses in hand to the judge(s). There will not be a pattern, but the horse is to be under the control of the exhibitor. The judge(s) will interview each exhibitor and ask questions about their projects and project book material, the breed in general, the Standardbred industry, etc.
2. **Harnessing** – (in the stall) exhibitors will demonstrate to the judge(s) their ability to safely harness the horse and answer questions about the procedure, the harness, etc.
3. **Driving** – (on the track) judge will ride on the cart with each exhibitor individually and the exhibitor will show their ability to safely drive the horse in a training manner and then as if racing, rating the horse's speed to a designated time.

Exhibitors will be placed in Jr. and Sr. age divisions, if possible.

VERSATILITY

Exhibitors will all participate in the same four (4) classes: Classes will be: walk/trot, 14 & under, 15 & up:

- Showmanship
- Western Horsemanship/English Equitation
- Barrels
- Western/English Pleasure

Each exhibitor will be placed in each class, and points given for the placings. The participant with the highest total score of all four classes will be the winner. Five places will be given in each of the age divisions. Showmanship scores will be used to break a tie.

HI-POINT AWARDS

Hi-Point will be awarded in age groups for those scoring the most points at the **Tuesday** show. The award is for one rider showing the same horse in as many classes as they are eligible for. Points are assigned: 1st – 5, 2nd – 4, 3rd – 3, 4th – 2, 5th – 1. Participants will designate English or Western before the show starts. Ties will be broken by the highest number of 1st places, then by the highest showmanship placing if necessary. Points will be counted in either Reining or Ranch Riding not both.

HORSE QUEEN AND KING CONTEST

Exhibitors eligible to compete for horse queen or king will receive information from the secretary of the horse committee, with applications due back on May 15th. A written test, interview and showmanship will be held on June 8th, the location and time will be announced at a later time. Rain date will be June 9th.

2020 BOARDING/TRAINING AGREEMENT

DUE MAY 15TH

(Use separate sheet for each horse)

Member's Name _____

4-H Club _____

Name of horse
being boarded _____

Location of
boarding facility _____

I understand the rules about boarding and training of 4-H project horses, and I agree to abide by them.

Signed _____ Date _____
4-H Member

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian

Signed _____ Date _____
Owner/Person responsible for facility where horse is boarded

This form is due with horse ID forms on or before May 15th. A new form needs to be filled if the horse(s) is moved to another facility or location before the fair.

HORSE'S IDENTIFICATION FORM
DUE MAY 15TH

I have these.

PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE
DUE MAY 15TH

I have these.