

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY'S 4-H HORSE PROGRAM RULES

- The Champaign County Horse Program uses the Champaign County Uniform Rules along with the State Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows. All State Rules will be followed as found in the State Uniform Rules. Both County & State rules are available at the OSU Extension Office in Urbana.
- Each club must conduct a minimum of 6 meetings annually unless they are trying for Honor Club (see honor club guidelines). Members and advisors are required to attend a minimum of 3 business meetings, 3 club practice rides held at the Champaign County Fairgrounds and 1 special interest rides held at the Champaign County Fairgrounds. **A Club Advisor must be present at all ride meetings.** As part of fair eligibility, members are required to fully participate at practice rides and special interest rides with their own project(s). Attendance will be noted at the ride meetings by the advisor(s). Each member must sign the sheet each time they attend a specialized ride meeting. The lead advisor for that assigned night will verify and initial each member in participation with their project. Anyone not fulfilling these requirements will not be eligible to participate in the Horse Junior Fair Show.
*Special interest ride is an organized event with horse and 4-H club in a show/clinic at the Champaign County Fairgrounds. If you have multiple projects, the above applies to each individual project.
- Each member must submit yearly a Horse Identification Form on each horse/pony they wish to have eligible to show. A member may submit as many ID form(s) and measurement(s) but may only exhibit three (3) project animals.
- All horse members are required to do the following annually:
 - Submit Permission to Participate Form & Horse Identification Form(s), and if applicable, Lease forms by May 15th to the Extension Office.
 - Beginning in 2023 all members must complete the state-wide online safety training course.
 - Complete County Horse Skill-a-thon and record book 190R. It is recommended that the members have a beginning horse management book per family as a reference and study guide for skill-a-thons.
 - Meet requirements of #2 above.
- The horse/pony shown in all classes must be the project of the member showing in the class and each member may exhibit no more than one entry in each class, except in individually worked classes as stated in the class description. Exception is Championship Classes where permissible.
- Courtesy is expected at all times for the safety of the animals, exhibitors and spectators and general public at the fair. Coaching of individuals from outside the ring is prohibited. Coaches that have been warned of this rule a second time will be

escorted from the horse show area and the member may be disqualified from the class. No abusive language shall be used, or you may be disqualified from showing. Sportsmanship and following the Code of Conduct, as stated on the 4-H member enrollment form, is expected. Violations of Code of Conduct and sportsmanship could result in disqualification from show, probation, or expulsion from participating in 4-H and Junior Fair.

- Walk/Trot Rules apply to the member and not the horse. Once a member advances to walk, trot, canter, they cannot go back to walk/trot.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FAIR HORSE PROJECT RULES

1. Members are not permitted to share projects.
2. Stall assignments at the Champaign County Fair will be left to the discretion of the Fair board and Extension. The previous year Best Kept Exhibit Winner will get first choice of stall locations.
3. Definition of Day of Show: The Junior Fair Show is from the time the equine project arrives on the fairgrounds until the last class of the Junior Fair Show is completed.
4. Members must clean their stall(s) and provide adequate feed and water a minimum of twice daily. Water may need more depending on weather. Horse needs to be exercised daily. The checking of aisles and stalls at the fair will be left up to the advisors of their club. Members will remove all decorations, equipment, etc., and clean stall(s) before leaving the Fair.
5. A veterinarian certificate of vaccination or a receipt showing that Flu and Rhino shots were administered no less than 15 days and no more than 120 days to the start of fair. It is recommended horses receive the correct series of shots for vaccinations before being present at fair. One shot in the spring and one within guidelines of fair. Fair board will check horse certificates or receipts of shots and body scores Thursday evening prior to the start of fair. Failure to present certificate or having poor body scores will result in removal of project from fairgrounds.
6. The project may be lunged by a parent or advisor as long as the 4-H member is present, and as long as the horse is equipped with a halter and lunge line only.
7. Premiums at the Fair will be given based on the project(s) completed. Members will receive a premium for each project and the club advisors will award the grades.
8. If it is necessary to remove a project early, written permission to do so must be received from the Fair Veterinarian or Senior Fair Horse Committee or Extension Representative.

Projects removed from the fairgrounds without written permission prior to dismissal by Fair board on Friday, may cause member to lose the privilege to exhibit the following year.

9. Showmanship Classes with entries of twenty (20) or more and Horsemanship Classes of fifteen (15) or more will be divided into smaller classes at the discretion of the Show Judge. Classes with less than five (5) entries may be combined with another class. Pleasure Driving Classes of nine (9) or more entries will also be divided according to animal size.

10. Tack and bits will be submitted to inspection before each class at the discretion of the Show Judge. Refer to current State Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows.

11. Horses are to be led to and from designated riding area. Arena lights will be turned out at 11:00 P.M.

12. An exercise schedule for the show ring will be posted if necessary, and will be followed by all members, parents, and advisors. Rules for use of the arena will be as follows:

1. No riding after 11:00 P.M.
2. No riding bareback until conclusion of Jr. Fair Shows.
3. No riding double until conclusion of Jr. Fair Shows.
4. Proper tack and footwear (riding shoes with heels must be worn AT ALL TIMES).
5. Rider must observe show ring courtesy and etiquette at all times.
6. Rider and/or others will be discharged from arena for actions deemed unsafe by Show Committee member or Fair Board member.
7. No horses under spectator's tents, by the bleachers or across asphalt on the south end of the arena. Horses are not permitted in the camping area or on the midway. Exception is horses being used for King of the Ring on Thursday.
8. Clean up after your horse in public walking areas.

13. Parents of project members are responsible for and will be held liable for their child's/children's 4-H and equine activities during the entire Fair. Parents are required to be present and/or to provide responsible supervision for their child/children.

14. No smoking within 30' of the barns or entry booth. (Follows fire code regulations on smoking around buildings)

15. No water fights in the barns.

The Exhibitor's first name must be displayed on the stall front at all times.

PROCEDURES FOR RULE VIOLATIONS

Violation will be discussed on a case-by-case situation with the 4-H Horse Show Committee, 4-H Extension Educator and Senior Fair board Horse Committee or Junior Fair Committee. Consequences of violations will depend on severity of the offense. Penalties could be from a warning to a dismissal of participation.

SHOW RULES

In the event of a tie during the show, the highest skill-a-thon score will be the tie breaker.

VERSATILITY CONTEST

The Versatility Contest will be shown in 4 divisions. Four (4) events from the Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows will be selected and will consist of at least 1 stock-seat and 1 hunt-seat class. It will exclude Pleasure Driving and Production Classes. It will include 1 gymkhana class. Member must have placed in a showmanship or horsemanship/equitation class prior to versatility.

RULES:

- Minimum 2 years of experience with 4-H horse project. (3rd year or higher)
- Same horse/same rider (must be horse you placed with in showmanship or horsemanship/equitation)
- Must have correct English, Saddle Seat and Western tack for classes.
- Proper English attire:
 - Breeches/spurs
 - English boots
 - English jacket/coat
 - English riding helmet or safety helmet
- 5. Proper Western attire:
 - Long pants
 - Western boots
 - Shirt – long sleeve with collar
 - Safety helmet
 - Chaps are optional
- 6. Proper Saddle Seat attire:
 - Jodhpurs
 - Boots
 - Riding coat/tie
 - Safety helmet
 - Vest is optional

Revised 3/2022 – supersedes previous editions

- Each contestant must provide 1 wheelbarrow or a non-motorized tack cart for their tack and clothing. No items may be added to wheelbarrow during competition. Each contestant may have 2 groomsmen.
- There will be a 5-minute time limit between classes for tack and clothing changes. All tack and clothing must be within this time limit. Dismounting must only occur when announced; remounting must take place before time expires. Groomsmen must have vacated arena before time expires also.
- Horse and rider may NOT LEAVE the arena at any time after the Versatility Contest has begun.
- Class size limited to 15 entries with 2 age divisions. (13 & under and 14 & over).

Infraction of any of the above rules will result in the disqualification from the class.

Points will be awarded to all entries. Each rider must show in all 4 events. The judge scores the top 10 places for each division. 1st place receives 10 points, 2nd – 9 points, 3rd– 8 points, etc. through 10th place. The contestant with the highest score wins. In the event of a tie, the exhibitor with the highest horsemanship or equitation score will be the winner.

Points for the 4 classes will be added together. Grand Champion is awarded to the entrant earning highest points and Reserve Grand Champion to entrant earning the next highest points.

Results of each class and final placing will be announced at the end of the entire contest. There will be up to 5 places awarded in each class depending on class size. (Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion).

HORSE AMBASSADOR CONTEST

- Open to girls and boys, currently carrying a 4-H horse project, and will be 14 years or older by January 1, and having completed 2 prior years of horse 4-H showing.
- Points will be allotted in four different areas.
 - 100 points: Written Test
 - 100 points: Essay in 250 words or less
 - 100 points: Showmanship – Ambassador Showmanship class will be shown at the annual PAS show
 - 50 points: Personality and poise interview – Contestants must wear show attire to interview – your choice of Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat or Easy Gaited.
- All Ambassador Contestants should be dressed in show attire during the Ambassador crowning. All Ambassador and Reserve Ambassadors must be dressed appropriately during all times of the fair and when wearing their crown and sash at

non-fair events. Ambassadors are role models and are always being watched with or without sash and crown.

- Horse used for showmanship test at the PAS show must be participant's current project horse.
- Participants must not be nor ever have been married.
- Ambassador winner cannot participate in any future county horse ambassador contest.
- Ambassador should be willing and available to present ribbons when not showing at the Champaign County Fair 4-H and open horse shows and should not wear heels or flip-flops in the show arena to pass out ribbons.
- A 4-H Horse Ambassador and 1 alternate will be chosen.

PAS SHOW

- Exhibitor must use same horse at state fair that they qualified with at county PAS Show.
- Exhibitors must qualify in 2 classes to compete at the State Fair Junior Horse Show.
- Exhibitors may show in a total of 4 classes at county PAS to qualify for the State Fair Junior Horse Show.
- Exhibitors cannot show/qualify in Ranch Pleasure and Western Pleasure at the same show nor Trail and Trail in hand at the same show.
- Exhibitors cannot show at the State Fair Junior Horse Show in the following:
 - Intermediate Equitation Over Fences and Advanced Equitation Over Fences
 - Low Hunter Over Fences and Working/Regular Hunter Over Fences