

4-H HORSE PROJECTS

REFER TO JR. FAIR SCHEDULE FOR SPECIFIC DATES AND TIMES

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:

1. Horses and ponies must be free of contagious or infectious disease and signs thereof.
2. Health certificates and Coggins tests are not required for the Scioto County Fair; *however*, a Coggins test **is required** for the Ohio State Fair competition. Such tests may also be required for other shows and/or if an animal is transported across state lines. All animals are subject to a veterinarian inspection at the Scioto County Fair or the Ohio State Fair. The order must be submitted to the Horse Committee by the pre-fair meeting to be considered in a hardship case and/or immediately following the order.
3. Any animal receiving any form of medication while on exhibition at the fair must have a written pharmaceutical order by a licensed Veterinarian.
4. Forbidden substances or methods are not permissible at any time. Horses must be made available for drug testing immediately upon request of show management, Scioto County Agricultural Society, ODA, Fair Veterinarian, and/or law enforcement.
 - a. The administration of any drug affecting the central nervous system to a horse shown in any 4-H class is strictly prohibited whether it be a stimulant or a depressant.
 - b. The full use of modern therapeutic measures for the health of the horse, including non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID), is permitted unless the drug stimulates or depresses the circulatory, respiratory, or nervous system. A veterinarian's certificate must be filed with show management prescribing the administration of any anti-inflammatory drug prior to showing. **Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) guidelines, laws and rules are to be followed with the treatment and administration of all medications.**
 - c. The use of irritants, including but not limited to blistering agents, ginger, soring or pain inducing substances or devices that affect the gait, carriage or performance of the horse are strictly forbidden.
 - d. Any exhibitor guilty of showing an animal under the influence of any prohibited drug, using any forbidden substance, or failing to file a veterinarian's certificate prior to showing, shall be disqualified. The exhibitor will forfeit all winnings for that show. Additional penalties may also be given by show management, **local law enforcement and/or the ODA** based on the severity of the circumstances.
5. On-line enrollment will include pictures submitted by April 15th and date stamped within 30 days of the enrollment deadline. The Horse Committee will review all enrollments photos for body conditioning scores less than 4. For those that are less than 4, a committee consisting of 1 advisor from the members 4-H Club and 2 additional advisors from different clubs will meet with the member between April 15th and May 1st to discuss and form a plan to bring the project body score above the threshold or enroll a 2nd project in the event it will not be probable to meet body conditioning score. The project must be reviewed by the committee in person by either bringing to one of the open rides at the Fairgrounds or arranging for a home visit if not possible to attend an open ride before the pre-fair meeting. If body score is still less than 4, that project will not be eligible to bring to the fair and a hardship case will be brought before

the entire horse committee if the member does not have an additional project enrolled.

**Note: Scoring scales may vary among veterinarians, state reviewers, etc.*

6. In addition, all horses hauled into the fair will be inspected by their respective club head advisor or a club advisor designated by the head advisor, or another horse committee member in the absence of their club advisors before unloading. Any projects with a body conditioning score less than 4 will be deemed ineligible for fair participation.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. The 4-H, Horse Committee, Scioto County Agricultural Society and Scioto County 4-H Extension Professionals have the authority to interpret and enforce **all** rules according to the best interests of 4-H members and all those parties concerned. These Committees and 4-H Extension Professionals will determine the eligibility of any youth in question. Current Scioto County rules and current *Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows* will be followed. All decisions are final.
2. All Junior Fair participants, volunteers and parents are always held to a high standard of behavior, especially during the Fair. This includes proper observation of the 4-H Volunteer Standards of Behavior. Examples of this include but are not limited to: no smoking within 20 feet of the barns, observance of the no drug or alcohol policies, proper care and handling of livestock, as well as use of proper behavior and language. Persons not adhering to these rules will be subject to disciplinary action by the Scioto County Senior or Junior Fair Board, OSU Extension and/or local law enforcement.
3. Projects, animals, and all other property are always the responsibility of the owner. The Scioto County Agricultural Society, OSU Extension, or the Scioto County Junior Fair is not responsible for any of the above mentioned in any way.
4. All 4-H horse projects must be carried in an established 4-H horse club only. No other projects may be carried in these clubs.
5. Advisors must hold a minimum of 6 meetings each competition year. 4-H members must attend a minimum of five (5) 4-H horse club meetings and have completed the Safety Training before their respective State Fair (PAS) Qualifying Show.
6. Horse identification forms, lease contracts, permission to participate, enrollment forms and production contracts must be completed accurately and in full. All forms must be on file at the Scioto County Extension Office by May 1st, to be eligible to show. There are *no exceptions to this rule*.
7. Lessons, instructions, and advice for the member are encouraged if the member is present in a learning situation. Assistance may include occasional riding or handling of the horse by another person; however, regular training and care of the horse within 30 days of competition in any county or state fair qualifying show or the state fair junior horse show is prohibited. Showing a 4-H member's project animal in a class at any 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 the 4-H competition, the 4-H member must have also shown the project horse in that show.**
8. Family members can ride a 4-H member's project horse without the 4-H member being present within the 30-day limit as long as it is not a daily occurrence and is merely for pleasure (i.e. trail riding with visiting relatives or friends). This does not include training of the horse for the show ring.
9. Complete project guidelines, enrollment information and Junior Fair rules may be obtained from the OSU Extension Office or online at <http://scioto.osu.edu>.

MEMBER RULES AND REQUIREMENTS:

1. To be eligible to compete, a 4-H member must be enrolled in a Scioto County 4-H Horse club with their equine project being on file with the Scioto County Extension Office no later than April 15th of the current year. Changes may be made until May 1st of the current year. Only those enrollment forms submitted prior to the April 15th due date are eligible to be changed.
2. The age of the exhibitor is determined by their age as of January 1st of the current year.
3. Cloverbud boys and girls whom are 5 years of age and in kindergarten thru the 2nd grade may be in a horse club monitored by a designated advisor(s). However, they may not participate in any direct involvement with the horses including but not limited to riding according to state 4-H guidelines. Specific project activities are available for use with Cloverbuds. Advisors must use this approved material. Cloverbuds wishing to participate in county fair activities must be registered for interviews by the deadline listed in the pre-fair schedule.
4. Two members in the same family will be permitted to take the same horse as their 4-H horse project. However, each individual case must be identified by May 1st.
 - **Only two horses may be shared per family**
5. Hardship case situations will be reviewed for approval by the 4-H Horse Committee by the pre-fair meeting. Youth who will be completing at the Ohio State Fair must have their Hardship Cases reviewed by June 1st of the current year.

PROJECT RULES AND REQUIREMENTS:

1. All 4-H members must complete a horse identification form for each horse being taken as a 4-H project. Identification forms must be on file in the Scioto County Extension Office by May 1st of the current year. Exhibitors must indicate which project they will be using to qualify on for State Fair on the PAS form.
2. 4-H equine members may enroll in as many 4-H projects as they feel they can successfully complete; however, members may only exhibit up to two equine projects and up to two production (one mare and foal and/or one yearling) project(s) at the fair if space is available. If a 2-3 year old *State Fair Production project* is exhibited at the Scioto County Fair, it will be considered as one of the 4-H member's two possible equine projects.
3. Eligible members may enroll in production projects at the advisor's discretion. A second 4-H member currently enrolled in a horse project in Scioto County may also enroll in this project to assist the primary member. This second member may be eligible to receive a placing project award only if they are enrolled in the mare and foal project, consistently help the primary member, complete the appropriate project book, and assist in exhibiting the mare and foal project at the Fair. The primary member will collect the exhibition premium only as the second member is not eligible for an exhibition premium.
4. An equine production project is considered either a mare and foal or yearling (1 year old). Depending on the age and training needs of the foal, members should enroll these projects in either #185 Equine Reproduction or #177 Horse Training.
 - Additional Production Rules/Guidelines are available on the Scioto County Website
5. 4-H members unable to take a horse may take a "Horseless Project". They must complete the sections of the "Horseless Project" book respective to their age. 4-H members enrolled in the "Horseless Project" may participate in either still project interview judging or the Scioto County Fair Horse Show, but not both. Still project interviews will be conducted during pre-fair judging in July.

6. Project animals may not be switched during the year. Potential hardship cases should be reported to the club head advisor prior to the pre-fair meeting. Head advisors will bring these situations before the 4-H Horse Committee for consideration at the pre-fair meeting. Applications will not be eligible for consideration after this date. Hardship case applications will be considered on a case by case basis following the pre-fair meeting at the discretion of the 4H Horse Committee. All applications must be accompanied by a signed vet certificate. Hardship cases are not eligible for State Fair participation.

7. When an animal is traded or sold during the project year, the project will be considered incomplete. Members may continue to attend 4-H meetings and participate in club activities, but cannot be judged on this project. If the traded or sold animal is the 4-H member's only project they must complete their project book, attend the specified number of meetings and exhibit a poster or educational display at the fair to receive a fair pass.

8. Any 4-H member who plans on participating in any jumping activities or jumping classes must be currently enrolled in project #180, Learning To Jump.

9. Members involved in driving must enroll in the following project books depending on their horse and interests: #175 Light Horse Selection, #181 Draft Horse, or #184 Standardbred Horses.

10. Members exhibiting miniature horses that are exhibited in harness must enroll in project #182, Small Equine, for the driving information contained in this project book.

LEASING AND SPECIAL BOARDING AGREEMENTS:

1. 4-H members who lease a horse for their 4-H project must complete a 4-H Lease Contract and fulfill all requirements to be eligible to exhibit at the fair.

2. Leased horses must have a current and appropriate lease agreement on file in the Scioto County Extension office along with a horse ID form. The horse lease agreement must define the lessee and the lessor responsibilities and expectations concerning the continual care, including but not limited to, daily health regimen, foot care, transportation, housing and/or boarding arrangements, and general agreements concerning the animal. It must be signed and dated by all responsible parties. A completed contact information section must also be listed on this document. Members must maintain a copy of this agreement for their own records.

3. Equine projects must be in the possession and continual care of the 4-H member by MAY 1st. A lease or special housing agreement must be on file with the Scioto County Extension Office by May 1st of the current year.

4. All animals used as 4-H projects and those that are shown at the Ohio State Fair must be owned or leased. They must be in the continual care of the 4-H member by the date specified by the member's county. Boarding an animal is acceptable provided the member is involved in the care of the horse.

SHOW RULES:

1. Only the exhibitor registered to show an animal in a class at the 4-H fair horse show may ride that animal at the fair until that animal has completed all classes in which it has been registered. The violator and the horse will be disqualified from further participation at that show. Exceptions may be made for children simply wanting to sit on the horse or to be lead while riding the horse in a non-schooling manner and/or for the Fun Show competition (i.e. apple dunking- one trip only).
2. Registration forms will be available to clubs by July. The registration forms for each project must be turned in to the Horse Committee prior to the completion of the pre-fair meeting.
3. Members may show in up to 5 classes, with one project horse and keep 4 classes for the second project horse, with contingency that 1 of the 5 classes be a showmanship class at the fair ~~for each horse they are enrolled with.~~
4. A 4-H member may show up to two different horses in the same speed or trail class, if they have enrolled those horses in at least two different projects.
5. If a 4-H member is exhibiting a production project (mare and foal and/or yearling) it will be transported to the fair on the day of said show and then transported off the grounds that same day unless this project is the member's only project on exhibit, or it has been pre-approved by the Horse Committee. Situations seeking exemption from this rule must be reported to the head advisor of their 4-H horse club by July 1st of show year. Head advisors will bring these limited situations before the Horse Committee for review by July 15th.
6. Stallions may only be shown as a production project and then only through their first calendar year (as a yearling). Any stallion shown must be born on or after January 1st, of the current year.
7. Any horse five years of age and under may be ridden two handed with a snaffle or hackamore bit in any western class. Proof of the horse's age is the burden of the rider.
8. Western and English horse and pony sizes are as follows: a. a horse is over 58" (14-2 hands); b. a large pony is over 54" but does not exceed 58" (13-2 hands to 14-2 hands); c. a medium pony is over 50" but does not exceed 54" (12-2 hands to 13-2 hands); d. a small pony is 50" (12-2 hands) and under.
9. Horses are not permitted to show in any pony classes. Once the height of the animal is established and the class that the animal is to be shown in is determined (either horse or pony), switches may not be made. For example: If a 4-H member's animal measures to be a pony and the member chooses to show it in a horse class, the member may not switch to a pony class at any other Scioto County 4-H horse show in that calendar year.
10. Horseless Horse members may show another 4-H'er's horse in Horseless Project Classes at the County Fair Horse Show. Advisors are encouraged to pair Horseless members up with a non-horseless member as soon as possible during club activities. Advisors must document this on the Horse ID form as soon as known. Changes to these arrangements may be made at the advisors discretion. Horseless horse project members must exhibit an appropriate display in order to receive a fair pass and a premium.
11. "A Novice Rider" is defined as someone in the first & second year of bringing a horse to the county fair.

12. No person other than the exhibitors, show officials, and/or approved personnel will be allowed in the arena while any class is being judged without permission of show management. The only exception is in the case that the ring crew is needed.

13. The 4-H horse show must have a steward who will interpret and clarify rules. Any exhibitor wishing to discuss any matter with the judge must first contact the steward. Only then, at the steward's discretion, may such an appointment be approved and arranged.

14. Handling procedures for horse show complaints and protests are as follows:

a. Any individual wishing to discuss any matter with the judge must first contact the show steward. Arrangements for a meeting and discussion with the judge will be made through the steward at his or her discretion. Anyone who fails to abide by this rule is subject to disciplinary action.

b. Complaints will be handled through the show steward, who will clarify rules and arrange for the exhibitor to visit with the judge if they think the request is justified.

c. If any complaint cannot be resolved at the steward level, a written protest should be filed with show management.

1) Protests must be made in writing and signed by at least two parties filing the protest.

2) A \$100 fee must accompany the protest. The fee will be retained by show management and used to pay the costs of investigating the protest.

3) The protest and fee must be filed with the show manager on the same day of said show. The protest will be considered at the time designated by show management. It will include the accused, the accuser, an Extension representative, Senior and Junior Fair Representative and any other needed parties. If any party cannot attend, a representative must be sent in place of that party.

4) A judge's decision on how a class is placed or a decision on disqualification of an exhibitor based on their interpretation of the rules for that class shall not be protested. All judge's decisions are final. Any questions and/or disputes must be settled prior to the judge leaving the fairgrounds. All judge's decisions are final.

d. The show manager and other 4-H management authorities have the right to prohibit an exhibitor from showing if there is evidence that the exhibitor (or someone acting on their behalf) has violated 4-H horse show rules that would make the exhibitor ineligible to show.

15. Unsportsmanlike conduct toward judges, show management, exhibitors, or physical abuse of the project horse will not be tolerated. Violators will be dismissed from the show by the Scioto County Agriculture Society.

16. All livestock exhibits must be in place in their assigned space by the time specified on the fair schedule. Animals are only allowed in designated areas during their designated times. All animals must stay until midnight on Friday of the fair. Horses can leave after midnight on Friday until 6:00 am on Saturday of the fair. If horses are not removed before 6:00 am on Saturday they must remain until midnight on Saturday of the fair.

SAFETY:

1. **All 4-H horse project members must enroll in activity #191R (Horse Safety Book) their first year.** *It must be completed at least one year; however, advisors may require refresher courses or re-enrollment at their discretion. Advisors must keep records of who has enrolled in this activity each year and submit a copy of this record when premium forms are due. This activity is not to be considered as a project.* Records should be maintained for reference as long as the member is eligible to enroll in a 4-H horse project. Records or a copy of the signature sheet on the back page of the safety book will be used to verify the member's enrollment and education on proper safety procedures.
2. It is mandated by the Ohio 4-H Program that all youth always wear protective head gear while riding any horse. Protective head gear is acceptable in any 4-H class even if it is not the style that goes with that specific class. When buying protective head gear, the buyer should look for the letters ASTM and SEI which indicates that the head gear has met safety standards.
3. Appropriate riding footwear must be worn while riding and handling horses.
4. Any advisor has the right to halt a rider who is riding in an unsafe manner. Examples of this include but are not limited to cowboying or doubling. The rider will get down from the horse, walk the horse back to the barn, and place the horse in its stall. The advisor will then notify the member's club advisor and the 4-H professional. Continual disregard for this rule can result in loss of riding privileges for the duration of the fair.
5. All 4-H'ers enrolled in a horse project (and wishing to exhibit and compete at the Scioto County Fair or Ohio State Fair) must be verified as completing the Ohio State Horse mandated program, EquiSTEP, by June 1st of the current year.
 - Youth who do not complete the EquiSTEP training by June 1st for the current year will be ineligible to exhibit and compete at the Scioto County Fair and/or the Ohio State Fair during that year. It is the 4-H'ers' (and their parent or guardians) responsibility to see that they attend a session. No makeup sessions will be offered in Scioto County.
 - Youth may attend a training that is offered by a 4-H Professional, Club advisor or complete the training on their own utilizing the online platform.