

2021 ROSS COUNTY 4-H & JR. FAIR HORSE AND PONY SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

To be eligible to SHOW:

1. Members must submit to the County Extension office a 4-H Horse Project ID/Registration Form by **June 1** of the current year and Junior Fair Horse Show Entry Form for each project by **July 1** of the current year.
2. 4-H Horse Project members **must** participate in the 4-H Horse Skillathon / Interview judging and bring their 4-H Horse Project Record form that is specified in project guidelines, completed to date to the Skillathon. **4-H Horse Skillathon will be held Thursday before the fair; ask your advisor for times.**
3. All youth age 19 and under, participating in any 4-H equestrian activity, are required to wear properly fitted protective headgear which meets or exceeds current ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards with the chin harness securely fastened at all times while riding or driving an equine. It is the responsibility of the rider, or the parent or guardian of the youth participant, to make sure that the headgear worn complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, and is properly fitted and in good condition. The Ohio 4-H Horse Program, show committees, officials, Extension personnel, and volunteer leaders are not responsible for checking headgear worn for such compliance. *Please see page 13 of Circular 4-H 179- Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows for the complete rule.*

Fair Show Rules and Regulations:

1. 4-H members participating in the Ross County Fair Show must follow the Ross County 4-H Horse Project rules and regulations along with the posted horse barn rules and the rules set forth in the "Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows" (4-H Circular #179) for the current year. County rules and policies may override or modify those set forth in the Uniform Rules. Questions should be directed to the County Extension office.
2. All members are required to clean their stall (down to the dirt floor) by 12:00 noon on the Sunday after the fair. The 4-H club advisor(s) are responsible for inspection of member's stalls at the end of the fair. If stalls are not cleaned, members will be ineligible to receive a stall the following year.
3. All stall locations will be determined by a random drawing conducted at the June Horse committee meeting using those clubs that have turned in their stall request forms by the deadline and have participated in Horse Committee fundraisers. Bedding stalls with straw is not allowed. Bed with shavings or sawdust only.
4. All horses must be on the Fairgrounds between **7:00am and 12:00pm on the first Saturday of the fair**. No horses are allowed on the grounds before or after those hours to be eligible to participate in the fair. Horses must remain on the fairgrounds (stalled) until the release time, determined by the Sr. Fair Board, on the last Saturday of the fair; otherwise, member forfeits stall privileges for the following year. (Note: please refer to the *4-H Family May Hotline* or the *Fairbook* for release time information) The only exception to this rule is for horses being trailered in for the 4-H show days, Sunday-Tuesday only. Trailered horses may be stalled for that day only, if a stall is available. The stall must be cleaned out to the dirt floor.
5. Each member is required to show in showmanship to receive a project grade and premium. Members who do not participate in showmanship are not eligible to participate in any championship class. **Members may participate in more than one showmanship class as long as it is with a different horse and showmanship type. [Example: show their western horse in their age division and the hunt seat horse in the Hunter Showmanship. The same horse may not be used in separate showmanship classes.] Further, that if they place in the top two of their class with each horse, they must choose one (1) of those horses to use in the championship class."**
6. Riding is only permitted in the enclosed arenas with permission of a horse superintendent. Penalty for violation will be expulsion from the fairgrounds. No riding in the barn area or camping area. Horses are not permitted out of the horse complex (on the midway) during the fair. Horses shall only be in designated areas.
7. No riding is permitted after 12:00 midnight or before 5:00am in the Horse Arenas or area. Times for using the arena will be scheduled and posted at the fair. Times will be designated for different types of use i.e. driving, pleasure, contesting, etc.



8. Turning horses loose in the Horse Arenas unattended or without a lead rope or lounge line attached is not permitted.
9. No canopies are allowed around the arena perimeter during the fair.
10. No sitting or standing on fences or gates in the horse complex is allowed.
11. Members' age for all show classes is *as of January 1 of the current fair year*.
12. If an exhibitor shows in their age group, they must remain in age group classes for the remainder of the show.
13. A member may not enter two horses in the same class.
14. In the show arena, members must show their own project without assistance per guidelines in Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Rules.
15. There will be a two-minute time limit for all exhibitors to enter a class they are showing in, once the announcer first calls for the class to begin entering the arena. After two minutes or when all exhibitors are in the arena, whichever comes first, the gate will be closed and the class begun.
16. Only people showing an animal in a class at a show can ride that animal at the show. The violator and the horse will be disqualified from further participation at that show. (An exception can be made for children simply wanting to sit on or ride a horse in a non-schooling manner.)
 - A. Anyone found handling a horse in a training manner from the ground, other than the 4-H member, will cause the 4-H member and horse to be disqualified from further participation at that show. Training is not to be confused with helping a 4-H member if a horse poses a safety threat, or a family member or advisor helping a 4-H member get ready to show. (For example, lounging a horse in a non-training manner.)
 - B. These rules apply to 4-H Horse shows only.
17. Championships
 - A. All Champion and Reserve Championships classes will consist of a **one (1) horse one (1) rider** combination.
 - B. Champion and Reserve Contesting in each age division will be determined by the two combined times received in Barrels and Poles; likewise Champion and Reserve Gymkhana will be determined by combined scores of Stakes Race, Keyhole Race, Cones & Barrels, and Speed & Control in each age division. The member who receives the lowest combined times (including penalties) in these classes will be the Champion and the 2nd lowest combined set of times (including penalties) will be the Reserve Champion.
 - C. All Championship awards are based on the same horse/rider combination. All tie breakers will be based on Showmanship score.
 - Western Championship is comprised of Trail, Western Pleasure, and Horsemanship classes
 - Ranch Championship is comprised of Ranch Trail, Ranch Pleasure, and Ranch Horsemanship classes
 - English Championship is comprised of Hunt Seat Equitation and Hunter Under Saddle.
18. All premium monies will be paid on the basis of Project Grade for showmanship.

Horse and Pony Classes

Specific information on project judging and activity classes will be announced by the Extension office.

Light Horse Selection:

1. Minimum classes to be conducted: place one class and give oral reasons on that class. The same class will be used for project judging, and as an activity for those not taking light horse selection as a project.
2. Members competing in Light Horse Selection will receive a judge's grade.
3. Members not enrolled in Light Horse Selection and are enrolled in other horse projects or veterinary science with a horse emphasis may enter Light Horse Selection as an activity.