

Pickaway County 4-H Horse Rules

(Revised February 2024)

Project Eligibility

1. Members must meet general 4-H membership rules set up by county.
2. 4-H Members must attend a minimum of 6 club meetings and complete a demonstration.
3. County 4-H membership must be paid. 4-H club dues must be paid if applicable.
4. **All horse exhibitors must complete the on-line EquiSTEP training** program annually. Contact the Extension Office for instructions to access the EquiSTEP program.
5. Project records must be completed. Members are required to participate in interview judging and skill-a-thon.
6. The equine animal must be in the member's care by no later than April 15th.
7. All 4-H and Junior Fair Exhibitors must conform to the Ohio 4-H Helmet Policy at all times! It states:
"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. The Ohio 4-H Horse Program, Show Committees, Officials, Extension Personnel and Volunteer Leaders make no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about any protective headgear, and cautions riders that death or serious injury may result despite wearing such headgear, as no helmet can protect against all foreseeable injuries in equestrian activities. The Ohio 4-H Horse Program, Show Committees, Officials, Extension Personnel and Volunteer Leaders may, at his/her discretion, check a participant's protective headgear for proper standards. If the youth is found to be wearing unapproved, defective, or improperly fitted headgear, he/she will not be permitted to participate in riding or driving activities until proper headgear is acquired." **In addition, the Pickaway County Fair Discipline policy will be enforced in the event a rider does not wear the proper helmet at fair.**
8. All required registration papers (registration form, four printed color photos, release form, identification form, class form) must be submitted in paper format by May 1 and will be stamped by the OSU Extension Office with date of receipt. Members not completing the forms will not be eligible to show at the county fair. Color photos must include one of each side of the horse, one front and one rear shot. Exhibitors should be in the photos with the horse.
9. If a horse project is leased, a copy of the lease must be on file at the OSU Extension office by May 1 each year.
10. All 4-H horses/ponies should be officially measured each year by the designated 4-H horse volunteer until the horse is 5 years of age. You will receive an official card with your horse's measurements. Keep this card! This is the height that must be used for 4-H, Junior Fair, and PAS shows.
11. Show classes held at the fair will be determined after reviewing the registration/class forms submitted to the Extension office by the May 1 deadline. Class selections must accompany registration materials.
12. If interested in exhibiting at the State Fair, members must qualify by participating in a PAS show. Pickaway County will host a PAS show for Pickaway County exhibitors only. A member can only exhibit one horse in any PAS State Fair Qualifying Show. Horses must be on the fairgrounds for the fair. No trailering in will be allowed. Pickaway County horse exhibitors must register for their PAS classes by May 1. Exhibitors may enter a maximum of 6 classes at a cost of \$5 per class. Classes may not be added or changed after the deadline. Exhibitors may also attempt to qualify for State Fair by participating in one other single-judged PAS show of their choice. Members must receive prior signed permission for that show by the Pickaway 4-H Educator. **Exhibitors are responsible to register for state fair, pay their fees and upload their own PAS scores and negative Coggins test by July 1 at 12:00 noon.**
13. "Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows in Ohio" (publication #179, **updated for 2024**) will be Pickaway County's governing rules unless exceptions are made by the Horse Committee, 4-H Committee or Senior Fair Board.
14. Lessons, instruction and advice for members are encouraged. As long as the member is present in a learning situation, such assistance can include occasional riding or handling of the horse by another

person. It cannot include regular training and care of the horse within 30 days of competition in any county or state 4-H horse show. Showing a 4-H member's project animal in a class at a show is not considered training. If a project horse is shown by someone other than the 4-H'er, the 4-H'er must be present and have shown the project horse in that show.

15. 4-H horses are not permitted to be under regular training and care of a professional trainer or other person after May 1. Additionally, 4-H horses are not permitted to be boarded for the purpose of training after May 1. Failure to comply will result in disqualification of 4-H members from showing at the county fair and state fair shows.

County Fair

16. A maximum of 2 horse projects may be shown at the Pickaway County Fair (with the exception of production). A member cannot enter 2 horses in the same class.
17. No additional horses not registered for official Junior Fair classes/members may be brought onto the grounds.
18. Horses must arrive on **Saturday, June 15 between 12:00-4:00 pm. A barn meeting will take place at 5:00 pm. All should attend! Immediately following the meeting, horses will be checked in by club,** members will receive show numbers, and animals that need measured will be. All horse projects must be checked for conditions by our fair vet or her vet tech. Anything less than a BCS of 4 will be dismissed from the grounds.
19. Sawdust, straw or Equine Fresh may be utilized for bedding. Exhibitors must clean their stalls at move-out.
20. One box fan per stall will be allowed.
21. No trailers may be parked on the fairgrounds during fair.
22. No riding horses in barn. Ride only in designated areas.
23. **It is recommended that a designated parent/adult be present for each exhibitor when practicing in the arena.**
24. No running horses anywhere on fairgrounds other than designated areas.
25. Horses must be secured or in hand when washing at wash racks. Courteous behavior is expected at the wash rack area.
26. Exhibitor numbers are to be worn at shows during county fair week, except fun shows. Members not wearing their exhibitor number will be disqualified from the class.
27. Exhibitors, parents, advisors, and show committee, shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner toward all animals, participants and public during all 4-H activities. The show steward will dismiss violators from the show.
28. During a show, the make-up arena will be limited to **designated advisors/parents** who are helping with the show and exhibitors who are about to go in the next class.
29. The show arena will be utilized for other specie shows as well. A schedule will be posted. No horses may be in the arena during another specie show or set-up time.
30. All Jr Fair horses are to be stabled at the fairgrounds during the county fair and are not to be brought in for show only. Horses must remain at the fairgrounds for the duration of the fair.
31. Production classes will consist of only weanling foals or yearlings at halter. The mares, if shown in horsemanship or showmanship, must be taken as a separate project. Mares will be shown with their offspring in first calendar year.
32. Random drug testing may be performed at the expense of show management. All horses may be subjected to drug testing at the discretion of the Steward, Judge, Show Management, or Ohio Department of Agriculture.
33. Any 4-H member, parent, advisor, etc. caught administering drugs will be disqualified from showing at the Pickaway County Fair horse shows for the year of the infraction plus one year following. (Refer to Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows, #179; most updated version.)
34. An Equine Royalty Program will be offered. Applications are due **May 31. Interviews will take place prior to fair.**
35. Protests or disputes during the county fair shall be addressed through the following chain of progression:
1) Senior Fair Horse Superintendent in combination with the Pickaway Jr. Fair Horse committee, and the 4-H Horse Key Leader; 2) County Fair Grievance Committee.
36. The Horse Superintendents will interpret and clarify rules. Any exhibitor wishing to discuss any matter with the judge must first contact the chair, who can approve and arrange such an appointment.