

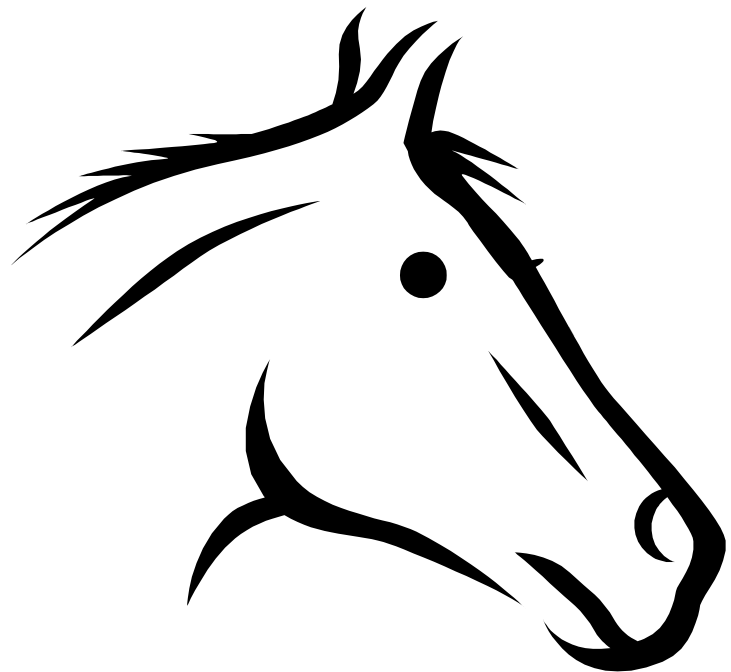


Ingham County 4-H Horse Handbook

4-H Pledge

**I PLEDGE
My HEAD
To clearer
thinking,
My HEART
To greater loyalty,
My HANDS
To larger service,
My HEALTH
To better living,
For my club, my
community,
My country,
And my world.**

Revised January 2019



**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4-H Motto, Pledge, Mission Statement.....	3	4-H Horse Committee Activities	14
Horse Committee	3	Ingham Co. 4-H Horse Camp.....	14
Ingham County Horse Committee Bylaws	4	Ingham County 4-H Leader Show	15
Superintendent's Committee	6	Tack Sale	15
General Rules.....	6	Banquet.....	15
Michigan 4-H Horse Program.....	6	4-H Horse Committee Projects	16
Code of Conduct	6	Horse Judging Team	16
Age Policy.....	7	Proud Equestrian Program (PEP).....	16
Alternative Tack Exemption	7	Awards and Special Recognition.....	17
Ownership	7	County Awards Packet.....	17
Exhibitor Registration	7	Horse Banquet Awards	17
Horse Project Change Request.....	8	Outstanding Horse Member Award ..	17
Member Registration.....	8	Golden Feedbag Award.....	17
Entry Forms.....	8	Jr. Golden Feedbag Award.....	17
Club Assignments	8	Fair Awards	18
Safety	8	Barn Award	18
Achievement Days	9	Flamingo Award.....	18
State 4-H Horse Show.....	10	Horse Committee Showmanship	
Ingham County Fair	11	Memorial Award	18
General Rules	11	Senior Ceremony	18
Performance Section Rules	12	Contests & Scholarships	18
Walk Trot Section Rules	13	Resources Available.....	19
Pony Section Rules	13	Ingham Co. 4-H Horse Committee	
Grade Section Rules.....	13	Guidelines	20
Little International.....	14	4-H Clubs in Good Standing	20
Cloverbuds	14		

4-H MOTTO

“To Make the Best Better”

4-H PLEDGE

I PLEDGE

my HEAD to clearer thinking,
my HEART to greater loyalty,
my HANDS to larger service,
my HEALTH to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.

MISSION STATEMENT

Michigan 4-H youth development is a youth development program that involves volunteers in providing positive, experiential and educational opportunities for and with youth. Our mission is to create environments through collaboration that build strong, healthy youth, who are proactive in a complex and changing world.

Horse Committee

Horse Committee is made up of horse leaders, parents and members. Horse Committee board officers consist of Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, two Adult at Large and two Teen at Large members. The committee is responsible for planning and implementing the 4-H horse program. All horse leaders, parents and members are welcomed and encouraged to attend meetings where information is given, issues are discussed and decisions are made. It is to the club's advantage to have a representative at every meeting so that information is brought back to the membership in a timely manner. Leaders who do not attend regularly are deferring to the decisions made by those in attendance. Meeting notices are sent to all registered leaders. Minutes from the previous meeting is available at each meeting and via email and on the 4-H Horse Committee website.

Horse Committee provides partial reimbursement to 4-H members on costs for State 4-H level competitions, State 4-H clinics and purchase of an ASTM-SEI approved helmet.

Horse Committee is an active part of the Ingham County 4-H Program, which is governed by 4-H Council. Issues like club and member registration deadlines are set

by 4-H Council. They have recommended that all clubs have clear, written expectations of meeting attendance, responsibilities, rules and consequences. 4-H Council is open to all 4-H members, parents and leaders.

Horse Committee is an active member of Michigan Horse Council. There is representation at Michigan Horse Council meetings by a delegate from the Horse Committee. The delegate reports Horse Council information at monthly Horse Committee meetings.

Ingham County Horse Committee Bylaws:

I. Name

1. It will be known as the Ingham County 4-H Horse Committee. The four officers and four at-large members will be known as the Ingham County 4-H Horse Board.

II. Purpose

1. To provide leadership and service to Ingham County 4-H horse members and leaders during the fair and throughout the 4-H year.

III. Membership

1. Horse Committee membership is open to representatives of each of the 4-H horse clubs in Ingham County, including leaders, parents and members. Voting privileges on the horse committee are limited to two adult representatives and two teen 4-H horse members (4-H age 13 years or older) from each 4-H horse club in Ingham County. At the call of vote, members must be in attendance to place their vote/ballot.
2. Voting privileges are held by honorary members unless they qualify as a regular horse committee member as defined in 3.
3. Honorary membership is held by the coaches from Horse Judging. The Horse Superintendent is an honorary member.

IV. Committee Year

1. The Horse Committee year begins September 1 and ends August 31.

V. Meetings

1. The Horse Committee shall convene for at least 7 meetings a year. These meetings will be held in September, October, January, March, April, June* and July on the second Wednesday of the month. (*June meeting is Achievement Days sign up and dates are to be determined.) Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the Horse Committee Board.
2. The 4-H Horse Board may meet as needed throughout the year.
3. Appointed sub-committees may meet as required during the year.
4. Horse Committee meetings are open to all interested people.

VI. Elections

1. Election of officers will be held at the October meeting.
2. The Horse Committee will elect a Chairperson and Secretary on odd years and Vice Chairperson and Treasurer on even years. Two adult-at-large and two senior 4-H teen-at-large member (4-H age 13 yrs. and older) to be elected for 1-year term annually.

Chairperson: Calls and presides over all Horse Committee meetings, provides agenda for meetings, announcement letter, holds officers meetings, selects and sets up committees for special projects, provides information and/or material to committees and checks on their progress, also acts as contact person for county office. The chairperson may not serve more than two consecutive terms as chairperson, except by special waiver by 2/3 vote. A Chairperson must have at least one year's experience on the 4-H Horse Board.

Vice-Chairperson: Works closely with chairperson and conducts horse committee meetings in absence of chairperson, may chair a sub-committee, also assists in providing information to sub-committees.

Secretary: Records minutes at each meeting, handles correspondence for committee, and prepares minutes to be available to membership before the next meeting.

Treasurer: Collects and records all monies from fund-raising projects, disburses funds as required, keeps accurate detailed accounts of earmarked funds, reports activity at each meeting. Works with Horse Committee Board and Committee Chairs to develop annual budgets. Submits financial report to the 4-H Office annually.

At-Large Board Members: Serve on various committees, assist the officers and will also assume vacated officers positions as needed.

3. No nominations for officers will be accepted from the floor unless the nominee is present.

VII. Voting Privileges of Officers

1. Officers may not vote unless they qualify as representatives of their clubs.
2. A Chairperson may not vote unless they vote as a tie-breaker.

VII. Horse Board

1. The committee's officers and at-large members will make up the Ingham County 4-H Horse Board.
2. A Board member, or designated representative of horse committee, will be the representative to the 4-H council.
3. The Horse Board MUST submit a year-end report (including each committee's financial statement) to the following:
 - a. The 4-H Extension Educator
 - b. The 4-H Council
 - c. The Horse Committee
4. The year-end report will be submitted by Dec 1 of the year.
5. The chairperson has the right to call a Board meeting to authorize up to and including \$100.00, no more, without committee approval, to be expended in an emergency situation.

IX. Sub-committee

1. Sub-committees may be used throughout the year to help promote and support 4-H horse activities.
2. Sub-committees chairs are appointed by horse committee (and approved by the board) and should function according to horse committee bylaws providing reports as requested.

X. Fair Judges

1. The chairperson of the Horse Committee and 4-H Horse Fair Superintendent will hire and confirm the judges for the Fair and Achievement Days.

XI. Amendments

1. These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the attending members at a Horse Committee meeting.

XII. Procedure

1. The Ingham County 4-H Horse Committee will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise specified in these bylaws as stated above.

Adopted 1995, Amended 2009, 2015, 2016, 2017

Superintendent's Committee

The superintendent's committee consists of the Superintendent, appointed by the 4-H Staff, 4-H Council and Fair office, Assistant Superintendents and Clerks, appointed by the superintendent. This committee is governed by Ingham County Fair Board. This committee is responsible for the planning and implementation of Achievement Days, Fair, and promoting the 4-H horse project. The Superintendent is a member of Horse Committee and liaison to the Fair Manager.

General Rules

Michigan 4-H Horse Program

All county 4-H horse programs are subject to the rules found in "Michigan 4-H Horse and Pony Project Show Rules and Regulations". County programs may implement additional rules (found in this handbook) as necessary for management of the local program. Local rules may be stricter than state rules, but cannot be less. A copy of the Rules and Regulations can be found at:

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/resources/mi_4h_horse_show_rules

Code of Conduct

Project leaders, parents, and members will:

- Accept their responsibility to represent Ingham County 4-H Horse/Pony Project with dignity and pride by being positive role models.
- Conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship and provide positive role models.
- Respect, adhere to and enforce the rules, policies and guidelines established by Ingham County 4-H Horse/Pony Project programs.
- Abstain from and not tolerate physical or verbal abuse.
- Comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws.
- Avoid criminal activities.
- Support the 4-H principle of healthy living and positive role models for youth by refraining from using any tobacco products in the presence of 4-H members; use only in designated areas.

- Under no circumstances, possess, sell or consume alcohol or possess, sell or use controlled substances at an Ingham County 4-H Horse/Pony Project activity or event.
- Under no circumstances, attend or participate in an Ingham County 4-H Horse/Pony Project activity or event under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances.
- Accept the responsibility to promote and support the Ingham County 4-H Horse/Pony Project to develop an effective, county, state and national program.
- Operate machinery, vehicles and other equipment in a responsible manner.

Age Policy

4-H programs are available for youth ages 5-19; and youth up to age 26 who have been determined eligible for special education services. The age of all 4-H members is determined as of January 1 of the current year. Riding and Horseless activities are available for all 4-H members; please be certain to review the age requirements for all activities or classes that are offered for each event youth participate.

Alternative Tack Exemption

Alternative tack usage shall be allowed for all Ingham County 4-H events provided the following conditions are satisfied.

1. Veterinary documentation for alternative tack signed, dated and turned in to superintendent within 5 days of diagnosis. Documentation shall be renewed each year.
2. Superintendent's signature required for validation and approval of Alternative Tack Form which is valid for all 4-H sponsored events.
3. Superintendent reserves the right to access of Horses veterinary records and the use of secondary evaluations as deemed necessary for approval of Alternative Tack Form.
4. Bearer of **responsibility** to present documentation to the show office shall be the **4-H exhibitor**.

Ownership

Ownership is encouraged but not required. Two regular 4-H members (ages 8-19) may not share the same horse/pony as their project in the same year.

Exceptions: P.E.P. Members are encouraged to have trained and cared for the horse/pony they enter; Cloverbud members (ages 5-7) are encouraged to share a horse for their riding classes at fair with a sibling or another regular member in their 4-H club. A horse/pony must be designated as a member's project animal for Fair, Achievement Days and clinics by May 1 of current year.

Exhibitor Registration

In order to show at the Achievement Days or Fair an "exhibitor registration" form, copy of current year Negative Coggins and three photos (left, right, and front views) of horse/pony must be submitted through 4-H leaders to the 4-H office by May 1 of current year. All members including Cloverbuds and P.E.P. must turn in May 1st

form with corresponding documentation. Late Coggins will be accepted up to May 5 with a \$25 late fee. No Coggins/Horse registration will be accepted after May 5.

Please note: Michigan Department of Agriculture has revised its definition of calendar year; the Coggins report submitted May 1st must be valid through the remainder of the 4-H year (August 31st).

Horse Project Change Request

Permission to change a member's project animal is obtained from the Superintendent's Committee. A written request stating the reason for the change, a veterinarian statement when applicable, three photos showing left, right and front views, current proof of negative Coggins test of the new horse/pony and new Fair and Achievement Day forms, when applicable, must be submitted to the Superintendent by June 30. An exhibitor who is granted a horse/pony change made after the May 1 registration deadline will NOT be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show of the current year. Exhibitors will be judged and may be awarded ribbons at the Ingham County Fair. Exhibitors may be granted only one horse/pony change per calendar year.

Member Registration

New 4-H members must be registered with a 4-H club by May 1.

Any returning 4-H member must be registered with a 4-H club by re-enrollment deadline in December.

New clubs must be registered by April 1 to show at the Fair.

Entry Forms

Fair entry must be completed online with the support of Leaders or selected representatives.

Achievement Day entry forms are turned in at the June Horse Committee sign up meetings. Entries must be submitted by the club leader or selected representative and will not be accepted at the 4-H office from individual members or clubs. **No late paperwork will be accepted.** No classes will be added, changed or subtracted after the June sign up meeting, with exception granted to an approved horse/pony change.

Club Assignments

Each club will be assigned job/s at Achievement Days, Leader Show and Fair. To be a Ring Steward, Announcer or Office Worker the volunteer must be at least 13 years old. All other positions may be filled at the clubs' discretion; however younger workers under 13 must work with adult supervision. A club must work their scheduled assignment to be considered in "Good Standing". See Page 18.

Safety

Failure to comply with these rules may lead up to/include expulsion from the fair grounds.

1. ASTM-SEI approved helmets are required for all persons age 19 and under in all Hunt Seat, Dressage, Saddleseat, Western Bareback, Jumping and Gymkhana

classes in all 4-H club sponsored events including open shows regardless of whether the person is enrolled in 4-H. All members must wear approved helmets at Horse Camp. All riders are encouraged to wear helmets at all times while riding their horse; exhibitors wearing helmets in riding classes will not be discounted points/placings compared with exhibitors that wear a hat when allowed. Horse Committee will make a partial reimbursement (\$10) to Ingham County 4-H members, in Clubs in Good Standing, on the purchase of an ASTM-SEI approved helmet. Limit one helmet reimbursement per 4-H member per year.

2. 4-H members must always wear boots designed for horseback riding when handling or riding horses at 4-H events. Tennis shoes, sandals and flip-flops are not acceptable.
3. Riders are cautioned to use extreme care when entering and leaving the barns, show rings and practice rings. All horses/ponies must be walked around barn area. All horses/ponies must be led, or ridden at a walk at all times outside of show rings and designated practice rings.
4. Use of a bridle and saddle is required at all times when riding except during bareback classes, practice arena warm up for bareback classes, and costume classes. There will be no riding double.

Achievement Days

Achievement Days are coordinated by the Horse Superintendent. These three shows are held at the fair grounds and open only to 4-H horse/pony members showing their current year project animals. Members who are eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show earn points at Achievement Day 2 & 3 . Classes are divided according to age or performance section.

Guidelines

1. 4-H and Fair rules apply.
2. You must submit an exhibitor registration form by May 1 of the current year to the 4-H office to participate. The project horse/pony that you signed up with on your May 1 registration form is the horse/pony you are eligible to show at Achievement Days and Fair.
3. Achievement Day class entry forms, are submitted to your club leader who turns them in at the June Horse Committee meeting.
4. Club leaders are responsible to bring all questions or concerns to the announcer's booth. No parents or 4-H members should approach the booth.
5. You may enter trail, English/Western Riding, up to five age/performance classes and up to four dressage tests (Note: One dressage test will count for State Show points for all riders except Sport Horse Section participants. They are allowed two dressage tests towards State Show points. States Show point classes must be designated prior to the show).
6. Assigned stalls are available for Achievement Days. Stalls must be reserved and paid for in advance. Exhibitors are required to clean their stalls prior to leaving the fair grounds.
7. There will be NO refund of entry fees.

8. Dressage horse/pony/rider combination that places First, Second or Third in the same test for two years, must advance to the next more difficult test.
9. Any classes may be split or combined at the discretion of the Superintendent's Committee.
10. Each club will be required to sign up for jobs. See Club assignments on page 7.

State 4-H Horse Show

Competitors come from all over Michigan to the State 4-H Horse Show at MSU. Each county is assigned a quota of delegates and selects their representatives. Our selection process is as follows:

Guidelines

1. All exhibitors must designate on the Exhibitor Registration form the desire to participate in the qualification process for State Show delegate.
2. An exhibitor must be at least 13 years old by January 1 of the current year to participate.
3. An exhibitor will be allowed to sign up and participate in only one division. Walk Trot section is not eligible.
4. Achievement Days, a written State Show Test and community service will be offered for participants to earn points towards State Show delegate. Written test schedule and service opportunities will be provided by the Horse Superintendent.
5. Cheating on the written test will result in elimination of the individual from State Show eligibility.
6. After all the exhibitors points are totaled, the exhibitors with the most accumulated points will be chosen as State Show delegate to fulfil our county quota of delegates. All exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of forty (40) points to be chosen as state show delegate. PEP selection is a separate process and not counted in the county quota.
7. State Show Alternates: If a delegate cannot go to the State 4-H Show, they will be replaced by the next highest point total overall.
8. State show packets can be picked up by the delegate, parent of the delegate, or leader, after delegates are announced at close of Achievement Day II.
9. Horse Committee will make a partial reimbursement for the cost of State Show entry fee to participating 4-H delegates when their club is in "Good Standing".

POINTS

1. Points can be earned from Showmanship, English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Trail, English/Western Riding, and one Dressage Test for all divisions except Sport Horses/Ponies and Gymkhana. The Sport Horses/Ponies Section will earn their points from Showmanship, Dressage Equitation, Dressage Pleasure, Hunt Seat Equitation, Trail, English/Western Riding, and two Dressage Tests. The Gymkhana Horses/Ponies Section will earn their point from Showmanship, Flag Race, Cloverleaf, Pole Bending, Keyhole, Trail, English/Western Riding, and a Dressage Test.
2. Achievement Day classes will be double judged and placed (except dressage

tests). Gymkhana speed classes will be run twice.

3. Points will be computed as follows:

- A. ≥ 6 riders per class: 1st place receives 6 points with 6th place receiving 1 point. When less than 6 riders the points max at the number of riders present (e.g. If a class has 3 riders, 1st place will receive 3 points with 3rd place receiving 1 point).
- B. A Maximum of 10 points will be given as earned from a written (or oral) state show test on horse knowledge. The point scale for this test will be as follows:
 - 10 points 46-50 correct answers
 - 8 points 41-45 correct answers
 - 6 points 36-40 correct answers
 - 4 points 31-35 correct answers
 - 3 points 26-30 correct answers
 - 2 points 21-25 correct answers

Ingham County Fair

Ingham County Fair has a division dedicated to the 4-H Horse Project. Members exhibit and compete with their current year horse/pony project to reflect the dedication and time each member has invested. This is a five day horse show with classes divided according to breed/performance sections and age. The Fair is held at the end of July or beginning of August at the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason. Contact person is the Superintendent of Horse Project.

General Rules:

1. Exhibitors in this division must belong to a registered Ingham County 4-H Club and entries must be made through a club leader.
2. A stall fee is paid with the exhibitor's Fair entry and is not refundable.
3. All 4-H horses/ponies must be on the grounds and stabled between the hours of **3:00 P.M. through 8:00 P.M. on Friday. Absolutely no horses/ponies may come in after 8:00 P.M.** Before they are stabled the horse/pony must pass the health inspection by a veterinarian on the grounds. The purpose of the vet check is to prevent communicable diseases during the animal's confinement at the Fair. Horses/ponies will be sent home if they are showing signs of illness.
4. Stall decorating will be allowed prior to Fair, per the Superintendent, and cannot be removed until all classes are completed on Wednesday.
5. Classes will be judged according to the Michigan 4-H Standards as outlined in the current 4-H Horse and Pony Project Show Rules and Regulations. When these guidelines do not apply or are insufficient, United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Rules will govern.
6. A practice arena for exercising horses/ponies has been provided (Joan Clinton Memorial Ring) south of ZZ barn. Under **NO** circumstances will horses/ponies be allowed to be ridden in the area east of the road, outside of the cyclone fence, on the pavement or on the race track. All horses/ponies must be led, or ridden at a walk, at all times outside of the show ring and designated practice areas. Riders are cautioned to use extreme care when entering and leaving the barns, show rings

and practice ring. Horses/ponies must be in the barns and cannot be taken out after 10:00 P.M.

7. No horses/ponies will be allowed at the wash racks on the north end of the fairgrounds. All livestock will be washed and fed in designated areas only.
8. Any horse/pony **NOT** showing in Open Class on the last Friday or Saturday of Fair must leave the grounds by 10:00 A.M. Thursday. If a member wishes to stay for the Open Show, stalls must be reserved and paid for in advance through the Open Show Superintendent.
9. No 4-H horse/pony will be allowed to leave the fairgrounds on Wednesday, until all classes are completed. Exhibitors breaking this rule will forfeit all premiums, no exceptions.
10. Classes may be split or combined at the discretion of the Superintendent's Committee.
11. Club leaders are responsible to bring all questions or concerns to the announcer's booth. No parents or 4-H members should approach the booth.
12. Entries for the Grand and Reserve Champion Classes in each section will be the First, Second, Third and Fourth place winners in appropriate classes. No advance entry required.
13. Entries for the Showmanship Honors Championship Classes will be First, Second and Third place winners from all Showmanship classes. No advance entry required. First and Second place Honor Championship winners qualify for Little International showmanship competition. If you cannot attend Little International, you must notify the Superintendent as soon as possible so the runner up may be sent in your place.
14. Entries for the Pleasure Honors Championship Classes will be First, Second and Third place winners in each Pleasure class. Qualified exhibitors may enter both English and Western Pleasure Honors Championship Classes. No advance entry required. (Walk Trot and PEP exhibitors not eligible.)
15. Entries for the Equitation and Horsemanship Honors Championship Classes will be First, Second and Third place winners in each Equitation/Horsemanship class. Qualified exhibitors may enter both Equitation and Horsemanship Honors Championship Classes. No advance entry required. (Walk Trot and PEP exhibitors not eligible.)
16. Fun Classes will be offered at the Fair. The classes will be chosen by the Horse Committee Adult-at-Large and Teen-at-Large board members. No pre-entry is required. Exhibitors must have boots on, and show up at the gate.

Performance Section Rules:

1. An exhibitor may choose as many classes as they are eligible for in the Performance Section. **Please Note:** Exhibitors may enter up to three dressage tests.
2. Speed class contestants may not run through the gate. Horse/pony may not be led into the arena; they must walk through the gate and after the gate has been closed, they may begin their run.

3. Dressage horse/pony rider combination that place First, Second or third in the same test for two years, must advance to the next more difficult test.
4. Jumping Class participants will be allowed a 10 minute warm up and 1 practice jump only.
8. Costume Class (individual, group and cloverbud):
 - A. Class will consist of walking on the rail and lining up
 - B. Boots are required in this class
 - C. No riding double
 - D. No carts allowed
 - E. Cloverbud participants must have a handler
 - F. All participants must provide their back number, name, horses name and a brief description of their costume to the 4-H office no later than the Saturday of Fair
9. Trail Class; There will be a limit of 3 refusals per obstacle, before the rider must move to the next obstacle.

Walk Trot Section Rules:

1. The Walk Trot Rider Section will offer:
 - First Year Rider – Horse
 - First Year Rider – Pony
 - Second Year and Over Rider – Horse/Pony
 - a. First Year Riders classes are open to any **1st year rider** (current season; must be exhibitor's first showing season in open, breed, or 4-H shows).
 - b. Second Year and Over Rider classes are open to members ages 9 and up, who are not ready for walk, trot, and canter classes. Once the rider has moved up to walk, trot, canter sections, they **MAY NOT** return to the Walk Trot Section unless for safety reasons, a written request from the exhibitors parents and leader is approved by the Superintendent's committee. All requests shall be submitted before the commencement of Achievement Day events. In the event of extenuating circumstances the superintendent may grant exception to the submittal deadline at his or her discretion.
2. Walk Trot participants will be eligible for Showmanship Honors Championship class only.
3. Walk Trot participants are not eligible for any non-walk trot classes except costume class.
4. Intro Dressage and Walk Trot Trail classes are for walk trot exhibitors only.

Pony Section Rules:

1. A pony classifies as equal to or less than 56" tall (14.0 hands) at the withers. If a pony's height is in question the Horse Superintendent may measure the pony. At any time a 4-H participants can contact the Horse Superintendent and request a pony measurement.

Grade Section Rules:

1. No registered horses may show in the Grade Section unless there is no section available for that breed. Horses of obvious breed characteristics are encouraged to show in their breed type section and do not need to be registered.

2. Registered horses must show in their respective breed section with the exception of English Sport Horse/Pony or Gymkhana Horse/Pony Sections, Walk Trot rider or PEP.

Little International:

This competition is held every year on the last Friday of Fair. The First and Second place winners in the Showmanship Honors Championship horse class and Showmanship Medals from dairy, beef, swine, goats and sheep divisions compete. There are three age divisions; Senior (age 15-19), Intermediate (ages 12-14) and Juniors (ages 11 and under). Exhibitors demonstrate their showmanship skills with an animal from each project area. The top score from each age division will become the Little International winners.

Cloverbuds:

This section is dedicated to 4-H members ages 5-7 years old (on January 1 of the current year). All Cloverbud experiences are noncompetitive. Cloverbud members are limited to 3 exhibits (total) at the Ingham County Fair; their experience is intended to be an introductory to 4-H and horse/pony project. Classes for Cloverbuds will include: workbook, showmanship and riding; the member may pick only one riding class from walk with lead, walk without lead (7 years old only), and walk/trot (7 years old only). The project leader for the club will select the class (within the guidelines) for riding based upon observation of the member's ability and experience. Cloverbuds are also able to participate in the costume class at fair. The Cloverbud classes will be listed in the fairbook. Cloverbuds must abide by the rules outlined for their section in the Michigan 4-H Horse and Pony Rules and Regulations in addition to the following rules:

1. Cloverbud members may utilize/share a horse with an older sibling or member within their 4-H club. For stalling purposes it is highly encouraged that Cloverbuds share a horse. Both members will need to identify the horse on their May 1st form.
2. Parents or teen leaders are required to accompany exhibitors into the arena.
3. All Cloverbuds are required to wear an ASTM-SEI approved helmet in all classes.
4. Cloverbuds must have parental supervision at all times when working with their horse/pony.
5. Cloverbud horse/pony participants are required to attend workouts as specified by their project leader in order to participate in horse/pony fair classes

4-H Horse Committee Activities

Ingham County 4-H Horse Camp:

The camp takes place at the Ingham County Fair grounds and consists of clinics and riding sessions.

Participants must be current member (or pay \$10 participation fee upon registering for camp) of a county 4-H Horse Program, 8-19 years of age by January 1 of current year (please see registration packet for special Horse Camp activities for Cloverbuds).

Participants provide their own horse, tack and supplies and are required to care for their own horse during the three day stay at camp. Horses must remain on fair grounds for the entire duration of camp. Camp staff will be on the grounds to monitor the horses at night. Camping for this activity is available and must follow 4-H policy for overnight events.

Participants will choose one discipline and instruction level for the entire camp. Riding instruction is offered for various levels of skill beginning with walk-trot through advanced. Disciplines offered are Hunt Seat, Jumping, Western, Gymkhana and Dressage. Clinic sessions offer demonstrations and information on horse care, horse behavior, training techniques and various other horse related topics. All 4-H rules apply at camp along with additional rules and guidelines listed in registration packet.

This is a great opportunity for 4-H horse members to become more familiar and comfortable with their 4-H project. For more information contact the 4-H office 517-676-7207.

Ingham County 4-H Leader Show:

This is an open horse show organized by Horse Committee and 4-H Horse Clubs. The purpose of this show is to raise funds to further the horse program for Ingham County members. All clubs are expected to raise money through sponsorships for this show (donations may be eligible for tax deductions under IRS Code 501 (c)(3)). Any 4-H member, in Clubs in Good Standing, turning in sponsorships over \$100 receives a free stall at the show, and over \$250 receives a free stall and five classes for Leader Show. All clubs are expected to work assigned jobs as part of their contribution to the show. Contact person is the current Chairperson of Horse Committee.

Tack Sale:

This annual event allows an opportunity for 4-H members to sell and purchase show attire, tack and other horse related items. Booths and tables can be reserved by a 4-H Club in Good Standing at a discounted fee. Professional vendors may also reserve booths and tables for a fee. Booths and tables may not be left unattended and are the responsibility of the group reserving the space. Contact person reports at Horse Committee.

Banquet:

In the fall or winter a recognition and award celebration for 4-H horse club members is organized through Horse Committee Board to honor our 4-H Horse Project members and volunteers. A host club(s) will volunteer to coordinate the set up and tear down of this event. Certificates, awards and recognition are given to members and leaders.

An annual recognition event open to all Ingham County 4-H members, is sponsored by 4-H Council every October. Members receive County Medals, State Award Nominations, Club Community Service Award, Leader of the Year Award, Friend of 4-H, etc.

4-H Horse Committee Projects

Horse Judging Team:

The 4-H horse judging program teaches youth, ages 8 and up, how to evaluate the conformation and movement of horses of various breeds. Members learn how to judge the horse as close to the given breed or class standard as possible. Competition class types usually consist of halter, pleasure and equitation/horsemanship, western riding and reining. Members place classes and defend their placings in a structured format called “oral reasons”.

Members are not required to own a horse. There are no membership fees for this project; however members and their families are responsible for travel expenses. Participants are expected to attend scheduled meetings, including periodic farm visits. Members must understand that this is a team event and requires time commitment to the project.

The team competes in the spring at the 4-H Horse State Judging contest, held at MSU. Top placing senior teams at the State Judging contest have the opportunity to go on and compete at a national horse judging competition. For more information contact Horse Committee.

Proud Equestrian Program (PEP):

Therapeutic horseback riding programs are available to members with special needs including physical, developmental, emotional or multiple disabilities. With the help of certified instructors, youth or adults challenged by disabilities can discover their abilities! Horseback riding helps improve balance, coordination, posture and muscle tone. It also increases self-esteem, self-confidence, discipline and social growth.

Awards and Special Recognition

Several awards are available at the club, county and state levels. These awards are presented at either the 4-H Horse Committee awards banquet or 4-H Council awards banquet.

County Awards Packet:

See the complete description for county awards in the Ingham County 4-H County Awards packet. Applications for county awards are typically due near the beginning of October. <http://ce.ingham.org/4H/4HAwardsandScholarships.aspx>

CLUB LEVEL

- Outstanding Young Member
- Club All Star
- Outstanding Teen Leader
- Club Community Service Award
- Top Club Award

MEMBER PROJECT

RECOGNITION

- County Medal
- State Award nomination

COMMUNITY AWARDS

- Leader of the Year
- Friend of 4-H

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

RECOGNITION

- Head and Heart Award
- Michigan 4-H Key Club Award
- Danforth National “I Dare You” Leadership Award
- Ingham County 4-H Ambassador
- Good Citizen Award
- 10 & 15 Year 4-H Member Awards

Horse Banquet Awards:

Outstanding Horse Member Award – Horse Committee sponsors a \$50.00 gift certificate and a gift to the top scoring horse project member in each of five categories; first year in 4-H horse project, first year in 4-H horse project and two years and up for other projects, two–three years in 4-H horse project, four–six years in 4-H horse project and seven years and over in 4-H horse project. Members apply for the awards by completing the Outstanding Horse Member form and submitting it to 4-H office by the County Awards application deadline. Winners are announced and prizes awarded at the 4-H Horse Committee Awards Banquet.

Golden Feedbag Award – This award, sponsored by Horse Committee, is given to a group or individual who demonstrates “outstanding dedication to the Ingham County 4-H Horse Program”. Nominations are accepted at the 4-H office by the County Awards application deadline. Leaders will receive ballots at the October Horse Committee (one vote per club); marked ballots to be returned to the 4-H office by the November Horse Committee meeting. Recipient is presented with a plaque at the Horse Committee Banquet, and permanent plaque is displayed in the 4-H office.

Jr. Golden Feedbag Award – This award is for Ingham County 4-H horse members ages 13-19. This award is for members who demonstrate outstanding service to the 4-H horse program. The member is nominated in 100 words or less,

which is then given to the 4-H office. There will be a ballot vote (one vote per horse club) just like the Golden Feedbag Award. A small plaque will be sponsored each year for the member and a large plaque for display at the 4-H office with yearly brass updates.

Fair Awards

Barn Awards – These awards are based on daily observations by select volunteers inspecting 4-H horse youth and barns. Multiple awards are given in recognition of demonstrating the four H's; head, heart, hands and health.

Flamingo Award – This sponsored award was created in the memory of Brenda Curtis and is given to the 4-H member who displays the best attitude and grace under pressure during the gymkhana speed classes. The judge will decide who the recipient will be. This award will be presented at the end of the show.

Horse Committee Honors Championship Award – Participants in the Honors Championship classes are eligible. 1st place receives a \$125 and 2nd place received \$75.

PEP participants- Horse Committee may award a separate scholarship or donation not to exceed \$125 & \$75, to the PEP program annually. This funding will be approved annually after review with the PEP Leader and Horse Committee Board.

Senior Ceremony – The graduating seniors are honored at Fair in a riding ceremony on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in the 4-H south arena. The high school graduates write a short story (500 word or less) sharing their 4-H career and goals for their future. This story must be written in 3rd person, typed and submitted by Achievement Day II and will be read during the ceremony.

Contests and Scholarships

Michigan 4-H Equine Educational Expo (formerly known as 4-H Horse Jamboree)

The event encompasses 3 contest areas—Equine Communication Contest, Horse judging and Hippology. This event takes place in April each year. Contest rules and registration can be found on the 4-H horse program website:
www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs

“Mark of Excellence” Award – If you are 11 or 12 years old, you are eligible for this award. To enter, write an essay on the theme, “Because of 4-H I can...” Essays should be submitted to your county office by February 1st. Counties then select their representatives and submit names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. For more information and instructions, visit:

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/awards_scholarships/4-h_recognition_program

Scholarship opportunities are available through 4-H. Please reference the website for additional details.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_awards_and_recognition_program

Resources Available

Workshops

A workshop is held annually at Kettunen Center (Michigan 4-H training facility) dedicated to the horse project. The workshop alternates each year between a focus for teen members and adult leaders. Typically takes place during the late fall.

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4_h_volunteer_training_workshop_schedule

Books available from the 4-H Office

4-H Horse & Pony Project Show Rules and Regulations

Horse Science

Horses & Horsemanship

Horse & Pony Project Record Book

Officer Guideline books

Ingham County Library

Contact your local library for information on horse related books and literature available.

Video Tapes available from MSU

Contact 4-H office (676-7207) to reserve a date at least one week in advance.

Websites

County 4-H - <http://ce.ingham.org/4H.aspx>

Michigan 4-H - http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/info/4_h

MSU Extension Youth Horse Programs –
www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs

Ingham County 4-H Horse Committee Guidelines

Subject: 4-H Clubs in Good Standing (Horse Projects)

EFFECTIVE DATE: 4-10-02, amended 12-14-11, 5-1-15, 3-9-16 and 3/1/17
(effective 9/1/2017)

PURPOSE:

The Ingham County 4-H Horse Committee provides leadership and service to Ingham County 4-H members and leaders during the fair and throughout the 4-H year. Many of the activities that the Horse Committee organizes throughout the year are dependent on the volunteer work of the 4-H members and club leaders. The success of these activities is directly related to the quality and amount of program support that the Horse Committee can offer to the 4-H members.

GUIDELINE:

Definition: A 4-H club is considered in “Good Standing” with the Horse Committee if the following criterion is met during the 4-H year (September 1 - August 31):

1. A representative from the club attends a minimum of 5 Horse Committee meetings per 4-H year (4 committee meetings & June Achievement Days sign up).
2. A club must work their scheduled volunteer assignments at Achievement Days, Leader Show, and Fair. Exception would be if they notify the person in charge of any difficulty prior to the day of assignment and they are excused in advance by person in charge.

Notification: If a 4-H club is not in “Good Standing,” the leader and each individual member of the club will be notified of their status by letter.

Horse Committee will also be notified of clubs not in “Good Standing” at the next scheduled Horse Committee meeting under New Business.

All members of a club in “Good Standing” have the following privileges for the 4-H year:

1. Members will be eligible for State Show Delegate reimbursement.
2. Member/club will be eligible for financial reimbursement or discounted fees from Horse Committee sponsored events.
3. Club maintains voting privileges at Horse Committee meetings.