

# ISABELLA COUNTY FAIR HORSE RULES and CODE OF CONDUCT

Revised 3/3023

Good sportsmanship is to be displayed by all exhibitors, their families and spectators. Good sportsmanship is defined as respectful treatment of judges, show management, other competitors and their families, leaders, and all horses and other animals involved. All fair rules and this Code of Conduct are to be followed at all times. ICYFF has zero tolerance to bullying, this includes physical or verbal abuse. If determined by the board any form of bullying has occurred, you will be asked to leave. Any exhibitor and/or family member who displays poor sportsmanship, and/or disobeys the fair rules will meet with the Rules Committee and/or Fairboard. All dates, deadlines and rules must be observed without exception. Failure to comply may result in one or more of the following:

- a) Dismissal from Fair and/or individual Classes b) Restrictions on participation in 4-H horse programs the following year c) Forfeiture of Fair awards

## Michigan 4-H Horse and Pony Rules Apply - The Rulebook can be found online or from the Extension Office

### Horse Fair Rules

1. All members are subject to the rules and regulations as defined by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, the MSU 4-H Extension, the Isabella County Fair Board, the Isabella County 4-H Horse Leaders Association and the 4-H Horse and Pony Show Rules and Regulations.
2. Fair Horse registration **DUE by June 9<sup>th</sup>** and Must include Registration form per horse, Current Year Negative Coggins, \$15 per member enrollment fee (Cloverbuds DO NOT pay enrollment fee) and Signed Rules & Code of Conduct. **Forms will be submitted by CLUB, with ONE check made payable to ICHL.** If due date falls on a Saturday or Sunday registrations will be accepted the following Monday. Members finding the enrollment fee or vaccinations/coggins difficult may apply to the Hardship Committee for assistance.
3. Three horses may be registered per exhibitor; main project horse, gymkhana horses and a backup horse may be signed up in the event a project horse becomes unfit to compete.
4. A project horse may be shared with a sibling (must be in a different age group), Cloverbud and/or PEP Rider.
5. Horse and Exhibitor age is determined as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.
6. Fair class registration deadline is June 9<sup>th</sup>, class registration to be submitted online at [www.isabellacountyfair.com](http://www.isabellacountyfair.com)
7. Haul-in Sunday 1:00 – 3:00 Haul-out Sunday released by Superintendent. Hardship horses and secondary non-project speed horse haul-in Wednesday 8:00 – 9:00am. Cloverbud horse may be hauled in Saturday or can be present all week but **MUST** have a stall. Trailers to be parked on the south end of the Fairgrounds or taken home.
8. Before being placed in a stall, all horses and ponies shall be inspected by a licensed veterinarian.
9. No Changes in project horse may be made after June 9<sup>th</sup>. **Exceptions** - Back-up horse or a Hardship Committee Approval
10. Project horse must be present the entire week of fair or will forfeit attendance at fair the following year. Exceptions may be made for situations approved by the Hardship Committee. If permission is granted; the project animal must leave at the same time as exhibitor and stalls **MUST** be cleaned prior to leaving.
11. If submitting a feed record, please list the project record class on the fair class entry form. The feed record must be placed in a binder with the previous year's records placed behind the current year. Due Sunday at horse check-in.
12. The member is responsible for 75% of the complete care of the animal as of May 1<sup>st</sup>.
13. Helmets (ASTM/SEI) are required for English, Novice W/T, Bareback and Gymkhana classes. It is highly recommended and encouraged that all 4-H members wear a helmet while riding and no discrimination against protective headgear will be made, even if the style does not match the style of riding. All Cloverbud riders will be required to wear an approved ASTM/SEI Helmet for all classes.
14. While riding a bridle **MUST** be used, absolutely no riding with a halter and lead rope
15. Novice Classes are walk/trot only intended for Novice riders or horses. A Novice may **NOT** show in lope/canter classes. All Novice riders are required to wear a helmet (ASTM/SEI) whenever mounted.
16. Gymkhana Horsemanship and Bareback are to be ridden in speed attire and tack
17. High Point awards will be given to the top Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Walk/Trot riders in the following divisions:  
"Pleasure" Riders - Showmanship, English Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Command, Trail and Bareback  
"Speed" Riders - Gymkhana Horsemanship, Gymkhana Bareback, Pole Bending, Speed & Action, Keyhole, Barrel Bending, Cloverleaf, Indiana Flag
18. Classes may be split or combined based on class size.
19. **No riding outside of the horse show arena.** You may dismount and lead horse to the photo area and then re-mount for a picture.
20. No double riding except for designated classes.
21. Unsportsman-like conduct, mistreatment, or neglect of an animal will not be tolerated.
22. If there is a question of a horses' eligibility, this should be addressed with the President to be taken to the appropriate committee.
23. Costume class shall be judged by an outside party, i.e. Fair Queens and Court, Fairboard, etc.
24. Removal of ANY decorations prior to animal release time will result in forfeiture of attending fair the following year. This will be punished based on either individual or club infractions depending on the incident
25. All exhibitors are required to keep their stall and exhibit area clean. Animals must be checked, fed and watered twice daily by 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. minimum. No Accumulation of manure is accepted. If the member is showing another animal species, arrangements may be made for someone else to clean the stall. Otherwise the member must do all of the care
26. Barn lights will be turned off at 11:00pm every night.
27. All stall doors **MUST** remain closed at all times and be secured with the clasp attached to the door.
28. Unruly horses will be sent home if other accommodations can't be made.
29. All clubs are to keep their areas clean and aisle ways open for visitors to walk through safely.
30. Stalls and aisle ways cleaned and decorations removed by 1:00 p.m. Sunday at the conclusion of fair week and must be checked by a Horse Leader. Failure to do so will result in a \$50 fine to each individual 4-H'er.

By Signing this form you and your child acknowledge you have read the Isabella County Youth and Farm Fair Horse Rules and Guidelines and General Fair Rules and agree to follow them as stated.

EXHIBITOR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT or GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_