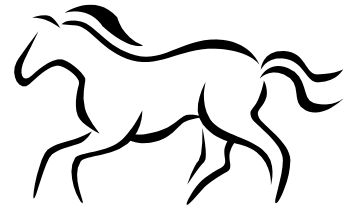




St. Joseph County, MI 4-H HORSE COUNCIL



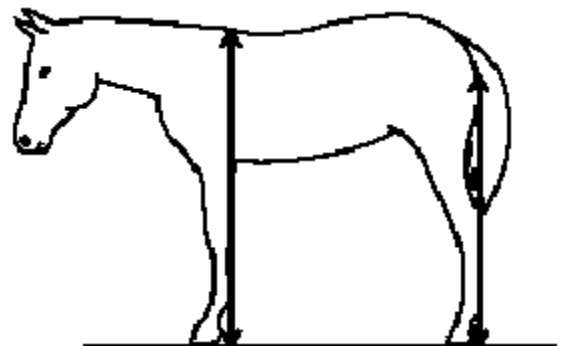
4-H Pony Measurement Rules

1. All 4-H project animals intended for show in **MINI or PONY CLASSES** at any 4-H Horse Council-sponsored show (for which these classes are offered) and/or at the St. Joseph County Grange Fair **MUST** be measured during the current project year in order to establish show height.
2. Project animals intended for show in mini or pony classes **MUST** be re-measured each year through the age of five (5).
NOTE: If the project animal in question is six (6) years old or older, and an official St. Joseph County 4-H "show height" has been established for the animal previously, re-measurement is not necessary. Be sure to check with the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office (269/467-5511) to determine whether or not an official show height is on file for the animal in question.
3. All project animals for which an official 4-H show height needs to be determined **MUST** be measured on one of the scheduled dates.
5. A **PONY** is any animal above 38" and under 56" in height. A **MINI** is any animal 38" and under in height.
6. Any project animal over 56" in height **MUST** be shown in **HORSE** classes.
7. If the project animal is shod at the time of measurement, one-half (1/2) inch will be deducted from the total measured height when determining the official height of the animal in question.
8. A breed measurement card is accepted from the current or to establish permanent show height of an animal 5 years and older. Must be submitted with May 1st sign ups.
9. There must be two committee persons present.
10. The steward takes the measurement. The committee verifies the measurement.
11. If there is a disagreement on the measurement between the owners and the committee, the committee will make the decision on the measurement, not the steward.
12. The pony check-in forms must be filled out completely before the pony can be measured. It will be the responsibility of the owner to make sure you can read the writing and the correct names are used. If the pony has a registered name, this must be put down and then put barn name in also if it applies.
13. The owner will have the opportunity to get the pony measured no more than three times in a day. If the pony does not cooperate by the third time and the steward can not get a measurement, the owner will need to come to a different pony measurement date to get the pony measured.

The animal's head should be in a level position at approximately the same height as the withers, and no lower. To find the highest point of the withers, lower the animal's head and feel for the "point" with your hand. Return the animal's head to the level position before measuring.

Attention !!!

Complete and bring enclosed
**Pony Measurement Check-in
Sheet** with you to help speed
up the measurement process!



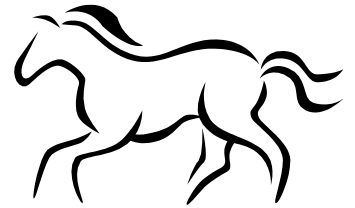
Front legs must be vertical
to the ground.

Back of hocks must be in a vertical
line with point of hindquarters.

See over for more details regarding measurement procedures!



St. Joseph County, MI
4-H HORSE COUNCIL



4-H Pony Measurement Procedures

as adapted from

**American Horse Show Association (AHSA)
Guidelines for Pony Measurement**

1. A level, flat surface should be used – preferably a concrete slab or other paved surface or a plywood sheet at least 1” thick. It is recommended that the measuring steward (person in charge of measuring) check the surface for inaccuracies to insure the surface is level. Under no circumstances should animals be measured on dirt or gravel.
2. A maximum of two (2) handlers may present the pony for measurement, but they must not interfere with the animal in any way that could influence the measurement, except that the handlers may cover the animal’s eyes. There is to be no altering of the animal’s position by application of pressure on any part of the animal’s body.
3. The steward should check the AHSA approved measuring stick for proper assembly, and should make sure it is fully extended and locked. It is recommended that the stick be assembled with the ruler facing away from the individual performing the measurement.
4. The steward should familiarize the animal with the measuring stick.
5. The animal must be stood squarely on the measuring surface, with its front legs vertical to the ground, and the backs of its hocks in a vertical line with the point of its hindquarters. The animal’s head should be in a level position at approximately the same height as the withers, and no lower (see diagram on reverse side). With the animal in this position, measure the vertical distance from the highest point of the withers to the ground.
6. Be patient with the animal and give it adequate time to relax. If the animal appears frightened or unruly, let it stand with its attendant until it is comfortable with the situation.
7. The arm of the measuring stick must be placed on the highest point of the animal’s withers. Measurement may not be taken at any other point along the animal’s neck or back. To find the highest point of the withers, drop the animal’s head below its withers and feel for the “point” with your hand. Return the animal’s head to the level position before measuring (see diagram on reverse side). For miniature horses, the arm of the measuring stick must be placed at the last mane hair.
8. Lower the cross-arm so it rests lightly on the animal’s withers. Do not apply pressure to the cross-arm.
9. Check both of the levels on the measuring stick to ensure that the stick is straight.
10. The measurement should only be read once the steward is satisfied that the stick is properly positioned. The measurement should then be recorded on the appropriate record form.