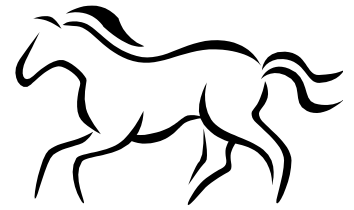




*St. Joseph County, MI*  
**4-H HORSE COUNCIL**



**Best Overall Sportsperson Award & Recognition Program**

- ★ Each St. Joseph County Saddle club or specialty group may elect/nominate a “Sportsperson” to compete for the County Sportsperson Award and Recognition.
- ★ Each club or specialty group elects their sportsperson(s) based on standards set forth by the individual group and by a method chosen by the group leaders.
  - ◇ Large clubs or specialty groups (clubs who had 15 or more participants complete a class at the previous year’s fair) may nominate two (2) members.
  - ◇ Small 4-H clubs or specialty groups (clubs who had less than 15 members complete a class at the previous year’s fair) may nominate one (1) member.
  - ◇ Specialty areas include: competitive trail, dressage, driving, gymkhana, jumping, and reining.
  - ◇ A member may represent more than one club or specialty group if selected.
- ★ There is no age requirement for the sportsperson award.
- ★ There is no limit to the number of times a 4-H member can represent a club or specialty group for this award. **Note:** A member cannot win the county level award more than one time.
- ★ There is no attendance requirement for the sportsperson, but it is strongly encouraged that the sportsperson has participated in the majority of the activities throughout that 4-H calendar year so that they have had the opportunity to exhibit their sportsmanship qualities.
- ★ The sportsperson should exhibit:
  - ◇ fairness.
  - ◇ civility.
  - ◇ Honesty.
  - ◇ unselfishness.
  - ◇ respect and responsibility towards the other 4-H members, leaders, parents, and visitors as well as all members of the 4-H community.
  - ◇ gracious behavior.
  - ◇ a respect and fellowship for one's competitors.
  - ◇ respect and kindness toward his/her 4-H horse or pony.
  - ◇ the spirit of 4-H!
- ★ The nominee’s name(s) will be submitted by a leader to the Committee Chairperson on the form provided by the St. Joseph County 4-H Horse Council at the August St. Joseph County 4-H Horse Council meeting.
- ★ An interview experience will be used as the selection process. There will be a date prior to the end of August available for the member to schedule an interview. Date is to be announced.
- ★ The interview judge will be selected by the Committee Chairperson.
- ★ All of the participants will be honored at the required pre-fair meeting with the announcement of the winner. The winner will be presented with an embroidered director’s chair.
- ★ All participants will be recognized with a plaque at the awards event on the last Saturday of the fair. The winner will also receive the traditional horse trophy.

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