

HORSE & PONY

Exhibit Guidelines:

All horses must be vaccinated and a vaccination form must be turned in prior to the horse being brought to ANY 4-H activity. Contact the Extension Office for a vaccination form or visit the Extension Office website to print.

1. Anyone eligible to enroll in 4-H may be in the Horse & Pony Club. Interpretation of grades: Junior: Grades 3-7; Senior: Grades 8-12
2. Only three animals may be taken to the 4-H Fair by any member. The Horse & Pony Leader and advisory board maintain the right to decide if a member with multiple horses may trailer in for the show on a daily basis, with approval of 4-H Clubs, Inc. Livestock Director.
3. All prescription medications to be given during the 4-H Fair need to be listed on a provided form by the advisory board
4. Horses must be of a body score of 4 or above at fair check-in, based on the ruling of the vet chosen by the Horse & Pony advisory board in order to be shown at the Whitley County 4-H Fair.
5. All horse and ponies must be measured at a club workshop or fair check-in. Each animal (5 years or older) at the time of measurement will receive a permanent measurement card identifying the animal as a horse or a pony. (In preceding years only new animals and those under the age of 5 will be required to be measured).
 - A horse is over 56 inches measured at the withers.
 - A pony is at 56 inches and below measured at the withers.
 - If an animal has shoes a ½ inch allowance will be given.
6. All horses must have their leg wraps and blankets removed at check-in.
7. All horses that arrive at check-in with open wounds or bandaged wounds must be accompanied with a note from a vet approving them to show. If an injured horse is not accompanied by a note from a vet by the check-in deadline, they can be checked in but will not be allowed to enter the barn until a vet is called to the Fairgrounds to examine the horse at the owner's expense.
8. Every 4-H horse or pony shown must be stalled during the entire week of the 4-H Fair. There will be no exceptions unless the animal is sick or injured, or if the number of horse and ponies exceeds the number of stalls.
9. No animal may be substituted or traded for the original animal after May 1st of the show year, except in conditions beyond the member's control and approval applications accompanied by evidence such as a veterinarian's statement that the horse is unfit to show or is the only horse owned by the immediate family. Approval will be the Horse & Pony Advisory Board.
10. Siblings showing in the same contesting class can show the same horse as long as they don't have another horse showing in the same discipline.
11. Same horse may be used by members of the same family in different classes, but may be shown by only one family member at the State Fair.
12. Leasing: Any 4-H member planning to lease an animal for the Whitley County 4-H Fair must turn a lease agreement into the Extension Office by May 15th. The Horse & Pony Leader and advisory board will review leases at the next meeting with the Horse & Pony rules and regulations and the decision will be up to the Horse & Pony Leader and advisory board.
13. Age: January 1st shall be considered the birthday of all Horse & Pony animals.
14. No stallions are eligible to show, except weanling eight months old or under. For a foal to be shown in the Mare/Foal Class the foal must have been born during the year of the current 4-H Fair.
15. All animals, grade and registered are eligible to show in the same class on the 4-H Fair level and State Fair level.
16. All animals, grade and registered, must be registered in ownership or partnership with father, mother, grandparent, or guardian.
17. 4-H exhibitors must wear their assigned exhibitor number in a visible position(s): (a) on the back, or (b) on saddle pad, as long as numbers are visible on the both sides. Exhibitors with hair covering and/or obstructing view of exhibitor's number may be disqualified from the show ring.
18. Bridles must remain on horses and ponies if a rider is mounted. The only exception would be if a judge requested removal for inspection and then the rider would have to dismount to remove. Club members will be ineligible to participate for the remainder of the 4-H Fair if this rule is not followed.
19. For all saddle classes, riders must be mounted and must remain mounted until they exit the arena unless directed by the judge. Any falls or dismounting during the class will result in disqualification.
20. When showing a horse or pony under the age of 6 years, the animal is considered a Junior horse and therefore eligible to be shown in classes designated for horses 5 years and under. Junior horse is not to be confused with Junior exhibitor.
21. When showing a horse or pony in age division Western Pleasure classes, you may not show a horse or pony that is 5 years and under in both age division and Junior Pleasure class. You have the option of choosing either to ride in 5 year and under or your age division.
22. Boots, long pants, and approved helmet per State guidelines must be worn at all 4-H Horse & Pony activities and 4-H Fair.

23. **NEW FOR 2023!** Whitley County 4-H Horse & Pony Club members must attend two (2) safety educational workshops or 1 Camp workshop and 1 Safety educational workshop that is held by the Horse and Pony Club, during the time period of February to the last meeting in June in order to complete the project. Youth must sign-in and sign-out at each workshop. Youth who do not attend 2 workshops provided by the Horse & Pony Club during this time period will show for participation only at the Whitley County 4-H Fair. Any exceptions will be at the discretion of the Advisory Board.
24. **NEW FOR 2023!** Club members who wish to be eligible for club awards at the Fair or banquet must participate in 2 fundraisers in any combination. One Fundraiser is A) \$30 donation or sponsorship B) Selling 5 Items in a fundraising sale, C) Working 2 hours during a club sponsored Horse Show. Fundraisers must be completed by the start of the 4-H Fair. Also, club member needs to be in compliance of Rule 23 meeting criteria. Exceptions to this rule can be made by the Advisory Board.
25. Junior members may show Walk/Trot for one discipline i.e., Western, English or Contesting and Walk/Trot/Canter for another discipline. Any Senior member that wants to show Walk/Trot may do so with approval from the Advisory Board.
26. All classes shall be judged by State Horse & Pony rules. Decision of the judge is final. Questions concerning rules or procedures are to be presented to the 4-H Horse & Pony Leader and advisory board. These rules and regulations, Indiana State Fair rules, and State Horse & Pony Handbook will be followed.
27. Any emergencies not covered by the rules shall be handled by the 4-H Horse & Pony leader and advisory board.

Horse & Pony Showmanship Guidelines:

1. DIVISIONS:
 - Rookie: Grade 3
 - Junior: Grades 4-7
 - Senior: Grades 8-12
2. There will be a separate Showmanship class to determine the winner that will advance to the Supreme Showman Contest.
3. With the exception of the Supreme Showman Contest, members must exhibit their own animals in Showmanship.