Washington County Horse Leader Guide

(To accompany the 4-H Horse Project Leader Guide)

4-H Philosophy

The 4-H Youth Development Program focuses its efforts on providing life skills, opportunities to apply life skills, and opportunities for youth to be involved in decisions that affect them. In doing so, 4-H has developed policies and definitions that support the positive development of youth and their involvement in the 4-H Youth Development Program.

4-H is open to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, economic status, or geographic location. Marriage or pregnancy does not disqualify youth from 4-H membership or participation.

4-H is about helping young people develop into caring and competent members of their community. It is not about competition.

The four H's

Head...to think, plan and reason

Heart...concern with others' welfare, accept responsibilities, positive attitude

Hands...useful, helpful, skillful

Health...practice healthy living, enjoy life, and use leisure time productively

Vision & Values

Oregon 4-H is a leader in creating learning experiences where Oregon youth and adults can build a true sense of self-esteem and discover positive futures.

4-H produces five functionally valued outcomes known as the five "C's".

Caring and Compassion...empathy and identification with others

Competence...social, academic, cognitive, vocational capacities of youth

Confidence...improve self-esteem, self-concept, self-efficacy, hope for the future

Connection...build and straighten relationships

Character...develop self-control, sense or right and wrong, respect

Community volunteers are a vital key to this success. Respect, caring attitude towards others, an appreciation of human diversity to encourage respect for cultural diversity and the continuous development of Head, Heart, Hands, and Health to achieve to full potential.

Horse Project

Horse 4-H is unique in the amount of time and money committed to the project. It's important to remember that youth development is the point – not competition. Safe, properly fitted clothes and tack are acceptable in 4-H. Youth who show in other venues may have expensive equipment or instructors. That's fine, but is not a requirement for 4-H.

Adult leaders and parents are essential to support youth in many ways. They haul the kids and horses, and teach them about sportsmanship in life. We appreciate the leaders and parents always keeping the youths' interests first.

Annual Calendar

The 4-H year runs October 1st through September 30th. Clubs re-organize and re-enroll members and leaders every October. Clubs establish their own meeting schedules.

The countywide 4-H Horse Leaders hold their first monthly meeting in September to prepare for the new 4-H year. (See Leader Requirements)

September

Leaders Meeting – 2nd Tuesday Election of Officers and New Advisory Board Members

October

Leaders Meeting – 2nd Tuesday All Leaders Meeting State Advisory Board Meeting

November

Leader Meeting – 2nd Tuesday Horse Judging and Hippology

December

No Leader Meeting

<u>January</u>

Leader Meeting – 2nd Tuesday Horse Bowl, Presentations, Public Speaking

February

Leader Meeting - 2nd Tuesday

March

Leader Meeting – 2nd Tuesday All Leader Meeting State Advisory Board Meeting

April

Leader Meeting – 2nd Tuesday Spring Horse Classic

May

Leader Meeting – 2nd Tuesday Pre-Fair

June

Leader Meeting – 2nd Tuesday Leader Show Fair Entries Due July
No Leader Meeting
County Horse Fair
County Fair

August
No Leader Meeting
State Horse Fair
State Fair

Washington County 4-H Horse Leaders Advisory

Officers

Leaders elect the following Officers at the 1st meeting of the year (September):

President: One year term.

This position prepares and runs the leaders meetings on a regular basis, sets the agenda, maintain order during meetings, votes as a tie breaker, may be called upon as final decision maker, works closely with the extension agent, and other duties as required.

Vice President: One year term.

This person fills in for the Chairperson in their absence, maintains order during the meetings, and assists the president with their duties.

Secretary: One year term.

The secretary takes accurate and complete minutes at each leaders meeting, prepares the minutes, and presents them for approval at the next leaders meetings. This person may also be called upon to perform other duties as required by the Secretary.

Treasurer: One year term.

The treasurer maintain records of the Leader's funds, maintain the banking accounts, receive and disburse funds following common accounting practices, reports to the leaders' association all financial reports, and perform other duties as required to maintain the financial records of the leaders association. The Treasurer will also submit a budget at the October meeting.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board consists of 12 elected adults that serve 3 year terms. These terms rotate (2014, 2015, and 2016 for example) with 4 adults for each year. There are also two elected alternates. These board members make the important decisions that affect the Horse Program in Washington County.

There is also a Junior Advisory Board which consists of at least 6 Intermediate and Senior members. These members are elected each year. They are responsible to meet before each Leader's meeting, give a report at the Advisory Board meeting, and help with the activities throughout the year.

Washington County Horse Leaders Meetings

The countywide 4-H Horse Leaders hold their first meeting in September to prepare for the new 4-H year. The meetings are held at 7:00 pm the second Tuesdays of the month, at the Extension office building in Hillsboro. The Advisory Board meetings immediately follow the general meetings. Meetings are generally not held in December, July, and August. All leaders and members are strongly encouraged to attend. (See "Leader Requirements")

Minutes will be taken at each meeting, prepared and presented by the secretary at the next leader's meeting for approval.

The minutes (for both leader and advisory board) will consist of but not limited to:

Date of the meeting & time called to order

Names of all in attendance

Description of subjects discussed

All motions made, the names of the leaders who made the motions and second, if the motion passed or failed, and who voted against the motion

Any discussion and decisions made

Time meeting adjourned

Name of the secretary or person who took and prepared the minutes

The advisory board meeting will also consist of but not limited to:

Approval of the previous month's minutes Treasurer report Budget and financial items Hardship cases

Quorum

In order to have a quorum at the leaders' meeting, there should at least 60 % of the voting members present. If there is a smaller amount present, a work session or discussion can be held. However, motions cannot be passed or official business completed.

Project/Committee Chair Positions

There are currently 16 different chair positions within the Horse Project area. Each of these different chair positions is responsible for the coordination and organization of the particular activity. Each Advisory Board member is strongly encouraged to chair one of these positions. Some of these positions require at least 2 chairs to put on a successful activity. These positions are:

County Horse Judging/Hippology – Usually held in November at a close by barn facility. Chair is responsible for organizing. (See Spring Horse Classic for more information.)

County Horse Bowl – Usually held in February at the Hillsboro Public Works Building. Chair is responsible for organizing. (See Spring Horse Classic for more information.)

State Spring Horse Classic – This competition is in April and hosted by various counties. Chair is responsible for finding coaches for the state teams, coordinating paperwork, and traveling with the team to the state competition.

Pre-Fair – Usually held in early May at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds. Chair(s) are responsible for the organization of the 2-3 day show.

Leaders Show – Usually held in early June at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds. Chair(s) are responsible for the organization of our main fund raising show.

Points Program Administrator – Chair keeps track of all member points.

Junior Advisory Mentor – Chair oversees the Junior Advisory Board, attends the meetings, and steps in when needed.

Genny Olmstead Award – Chair is responsible for application, judging, and ordering buckle for this award. (See Genny Olmstead Award for more information.)

I Did It Myself Program – Chair is responsible for the coordination of the program. (See I Did It Myself Program for more information.)

Dad Potter – Chair is responsible for organizing clinics, setting up tryouts, and paperwork. (See Dad Potter for more information.)

County Fair Exhibitors – County Fair is held the last weekend in July for 4 days. Chair is responsible for the coordination and organization of the horse exhibits at the "Regular" county fair. Being on site at the regular county fair, helping with horse demonstrations, organizing stalls and horses coming in each day, and helping with Master Showmanship stalls.

Master Showmanship – Is held the Sunday morning of the regular County Fair. Chair is responsible for coordinating those members that qualify for the Master Showmanship at the regular county fair. Meeting with those members at the end of Horse Fair, helping with stalls, and helping those members with the process at the regular fair.

State Fair – Usually the 2nd or 3rd weekend/weekdays of August at the state fairgrounds in Salem. Chair is responsible for organizing those members that qualified to attend State Horse Fair, meeting with those members at the end of Horse Fair, communicating with the State Horse Fair office, being at the state fair, organizing volunteers for the county duties, and helping members at the fair.

Horse Fair – Usually held right after the 4th of July at the county fairgrounds. Chair(s) are responsible for the organization and running of the county Horse Fair.

Awards – Chair is responsible for the ordering, stocking, and communication between the other chairs for awards (ribbons and medallions).

Judges – Chair(s) are responsible for the hiring, communication, and contracts for any judges used for any of the different activities.

Clinics – Chair is responsible for the organization and coordination of various clinics held throughout the year. Communicating with the Secretary for distribution of flyers and other information.

Publications / Information

Printed: The 4-H Horse Project has many publications for leaders and members. Two are required reading: 4-H Horse Project Manual, and Oregon 4-H Horse Contest Guide.

There are publications for specific disciplines and levels of competition: Horse & Pony Driving, Hunt Seat & Jumper Manual, Dressage, Spring Horse Classic Guide and other areas.

Publications for both leaders and members are available on the website or from the Washington County Extension Office at minimal charge.

On the Web: Publications along with the 4-H Horse Project Record are available at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/animal-science-horse

Washington County 4-H website at: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/metro4h/
Washington County 4-H Horse project info at: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/metro4h/horse-0
State website at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/

Participation Points

4-H members who want to show at County Fair need to accumulate 100 participation points throughout the 4-H year (September – Leader Show). Points are given by volunteering, attending Pre-Fair and other 4-H shows, attending clinics, working at the Leader Show, attending and participating in Horse Bowl, Horse Judging, Hippology, and other approved activities. There is a form (online) that has to be submitted to the Points Coordinator after each activity. (See attached current Points Program)

Clinics

Clinics are held as training for enrolled 4-H members only. Adults, family or non-4-H youth are welcome to attend and watch but are not allowed to bring their horses and ride. The clinics meet all 4-H guidelines and all attendees must follow 4-H guidelines. All enrolled Washington County 4-H horse project members are welcome to ride free (or for a nominal fee to cover expenses).

Different clinics are offered for the different types of equine skills, i.e. showmanship, western, english, jumping, gaming, etc. Not all clinics require the horses to be present. Clinics are also offered for record keeping, interviews, public speaking, and other topics.

A leader, parent or responsible adult must accompany 4-H members while at the clinics. Youth and their horses are not to be left without supervision.

Spring Horse Classic

The state event qualifies 4-H members to participate at the National 4-H Horse Classic in Kentucky, usually in mid-November. Only 4-H Intermediates and seniors participate in the contests. The contests include:

Horse Bowl is a general equine knowledge quiz for teams. Members study the 4-H Horse Project Manual, Contest Guide and other 4-H references. At the contest, they are asked questions about the materials. A buzzer system is used, and the first person to press the buzzer gets to answer the question.

Horse Judging teaches youth to evaluate equines on their appearance. Four animals in a class are placed based on their conformation. In oral reasons, the member explains their placings to an adult. Judging a class of feed or tack may be included.

Presentations may be for an individual or team. Any type of prop (including a horse) may be used to supplement a talk.

Public Speaking is an individual contest. The speech must be written by the member, and memorized. After the speech, the member answers the judge's questions

Hippology is a fairly new Oregon contest that was started in 2004. There are five components: Judging – contestants judge two conformation and two performance classes, just like in the horse judging contest.

Feed Identification – there are 23 feeds possible, which are listed in the Spring Horse Classic guide.

Hay – Contestants' judge one class of either grass or alfalfa hay. There are four samples per class.

Knowledge Tests – examination and station phases. Contestants take two multiple-choice tests answering a variety of questions related to the 4-H Horse Project. Questions could be on: Breeds, color identification, parasite life cycles, nutrient content of grains, assessing horse health, anatomy identification, determining age based on teeth, etc. Reference manuals are listed in the Spring Horse Classic Guide.

Team Problem – all teams will be presented with the same problem. They will discuss the problem and present an oral solution or series of suggested procedures relative to the problem. Examples of team problems include: considerations for the establishment of a new horse facility, equine behavior problems – causes, management of and corrections, recommendations for selecting, locating, and purchasing horses, etc.

Genny Olmstead Award

The Genny Olmstead Award was created to encourage and reward 4-H members who actively participate in a variety of activities throughout their 4-H experience.

Genny Olmstead, the namesake of the Award, has given selflessly for over 20 years to the youth involved in many 4-H activities. She has encouraged kids to strive for greater excellence in a variety of areas. This is an award that any child is eligible for if they are willing to learn and work hard, no matter where their skill level is. Achieving this award will be very challenging and will encourage kids to step outside their comfort zones and learn new ideas and have a variety of experiences, which in turn will create a more rounded and confident person.

Genny current resides in Wasco County and continues to lead 4-H clubs.

The application can be found on the county website. There is also an interview process for those that qualify with their application. The winner of the award will receive a belt buckle that will be presented at county fair.

I Did It Myself Program

This program is set up to encourage the member to train up a foal (or off the track race horse or wild mustang) without any trainer working with/or handling the horse. The member may receive help from a trainer – but only verbal instructions. The final objective of the program is to receive a blue ribbon

in a showmanship class and a blue ribbon in a ridden class that has loping/catering or a blue ribbon in a Reinsmanship class. The member can earn an I Did It Myself ribbon and a certificate after receiving a blue ribbon in ground training and a blue ribbon in showmanship. This ribbon can be awarded to members doing ground training and green horse as the horse progresses. Each year the member is required to turn in a small notebook (with fair entry) with what was accomplished throughout the 4-H year. The member is also required to have a short interview with the Chair of the program.

Upon successful completion of the program, the member will be awarded a belt buckle.

Dad Potter

The E.L. "Dad" Potter 4-H Horsemanship Award is sponsored in memory of E.L. Potter, Oregon State University professor, expert horseman, teacher, and developer of 4-H horse projects.

The trial is a test of finished horsemanship for horse and rider. It is the highest horsemanship honor an Oregon 4-H member may attain.

To be eligible to try out for the Dad Potter Horsemanship Award the rider must:

Be enrolled in the Oregon 4-H horse program.

Have owned, leased, or cared for the horse used for at least six months.

Have personally trained the horse used for at least six months.

Competed all three levels of the knowledge, groundwork, and riding advancements of the Oregon Horse 4-H Advancement Program.

There is more information in the Contest Guide located on the Oregon 4-H website.

Shows / Fairs

4-H is about young people learning life skills, supported by caring adults. The project area is one way to accomplish this. 4-H members do not have to show at fairs with their horses. Shows are one gauge of progress, but should not be the primary focus for participation.

Volunteer Work at Shows / Fairs

For pre-fair, county fair, and the Leader Show, each 4-H club is strongly encouraged to volunteer. There are several duties that can be done from the youngest through to the oldest enrolled 4-H member. Without volunteers to work during these shows/fairs, they would not run. For pre-fair and county fair, the volunteer work is considered an expected requirement and will be counted as participation points. All clubs are expected to volunteer at the county fair. However, with the Leader Show and Pre-Fair, participation points are rewarded to each 4-H enrolled member. (See "Participation Points")

Event Score Sheets

Some competitive events have printed score sheets used by the judge. These sheets are available after the competition. The leaders will receive these in a packet after the competitions and/or at the next Leader's meeting.

4-H Show Judges

The Judges Chair Person(s) do their best to hire the best judges for all the 4-H activities. They also value your input. OSU maintains a current list of all Oregon 4-H Apprentice and Approved Judges. The internet address is: ttp://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/resources/judges/index.html

Standards for Judging

A motto of 4-H is "<u>A blue ribbon 4-H'er with a red ribbon project is more desirable</u> than a red ribbon <u>4-H'er with a blue ribbon project.</u>" Sportsmanship and personal development are much more valuable than awards. 4-H uses the Danish system of judging. This means that every show participant gets a ribbon to acknowledge their efforts. Members are scored against a standard of excellence, rather than against each other.

Ribbon Explanation

Blue – Score of 85 – 100. Awarded to those contestants whose exhibits or performance is excellent, but well within the ability of most of the contestants.

Red – Score of 70 – 84. Good quality; however there is room for improvement.

White – Score of 69 or lower. Need considerable improvement and are below the ability level of most participants.

A "call back" class is usually a score of 90 - 100.

Some classes use a different scoring system: dressage, horse judging and horse bowl, etc.

Records Requirement

In order to participate at county fair, up to date project record books are required.

Project Record – This includes the records about the horse project. Each project must have their separate record. If a horse is used for equitation and another horse is used for gaming, two records MUST be completed for each horse. A copy of these records must be turned in with the fair entries.

Advancements Program – This record shows what the 4-H'er has learned and what skills have been tested. 4-H'ers are NOT to sign other 4-H'ers Advancements. The leader or responsible adult does this. Again, these records need to be kept in a safe place so they are not lost from year to year.

Permanent Record – These are permanent records for your horse(s) that are kept year to year. These can be turned in for review and judging at the end of the 4-H year. Awards are given for these records. It is highly suggested to keep these permanent records if wanting to apply for 4-H scholarships.

All of these records can be found on the Oregon 4-H website at: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/animal-science-horse

County Fair

To receive the current required information, fair dates and times, and other information, leaders and co-leaders are required to attend the June Leader Meeting.

Fundraising

Fundraising to support county programs should be based upon a specific purpose or need. All funds should be handled through the 4-H Horse Leaders Advisory Treasurer.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT MONEY RAISED BY 4-H MUST BE SPENT ON 4-H. IT IS ILLEGAL TO RAISE MONEY IN THE NAME OF 4-H AND THEN USE IT FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Fundraising must be directed so the contributions are to 4-H and 4-H controls the disbursement of funds. Solicitation of funds for an individual (for example, an auction sale) is not a contribution to 4-H.

Fundraising must be done within all aspects of the law including obtaining permits where needed. Interpretation of the "Oregon Laws on Bingo and Raffles" administrative rules indicates that the Oregon 4-H Foundation and the County 4-H Association are the only 4-H groups that are non-profit and carry the exempt status. Club raffles and bingo activities need to be coordinated through the Foundation or Association, either of which could apply for permits.

Washington County 4-H requires that a fundraising request form be filled out and submitted and approved by the 4-H Faculty prior to the fundraising event occurs.

County Colors

Royal blue and silver are considered Washington County's colors. When making decorations or clothing representing the county, these are the first color choice.

Leader Requirements

All volunteer adult 4-H leaders are required to complete training, submit the proper application, and have a background check completed every two years. The application and background check forms are available at the Extension Office. The volunteer adult 4-H leader is also required to follow all 4-H guidelines as address within the code of ethics. (See "Code of Ethics") In all duties or actions as the 4-H Leader, please remember that this is a youth development program governed by the Washington County Extension Office under the authority of Oregon State.

The Leaders Meetings provide valuable information to prepare leaders and 4-H youth about clinics, educational activities, Pre-Fair and County Fair, along with requirements to be able to show at these activities. Therefore, an attendance requirement for leaders as follows: "A leader or representative from each club needs to attend 50% of all Leaders Meetings to allow their club to attend Pre-Fair and County Fair. With one of those meetings being the June meeting." The representative can be a parent, senior club youth, or other responsible club representative that can take information back to the club members. The representative does not have a vote unless they are enrolled as a club leader, project leader, or resource leader.

All leaders are required to have a copy of all the horse project manuals as well as the Contest Guide. The Contest Guide is where most answers can be found.

Expectations

The role of a volunteer adult 4-H leader can be stimulating and rewarding, but it can also lead to many questions and possible unforeseen challenges.

Before stepping into this arena, consider possible expectations that you, as a leader, have of parents and members and the possible expectations that members and parents have of you as a leader.

Group agreement (leaders, members and parents) on expectations for your 4-H club could be valuable "ground-work" in relation to a positive experience.

Possible Expectations of Parents by Leaders:

Moral support to youth and positive feedback.

Let youth do their own projects.

Feedback to leaders.

Responsibility for supplies and needed money.

Transportation of youth and animals, if needed.

Leaders are not baby-sitters.

Be willing to ask questions.

Help teach sportsmanship and other life skills gained through 4-H.

Cooperation among parents.

Time and support for 4-H activities, meetings, and events.

Leaders are not perfect - parents can be helpful in many ways to make 4-H a positive experience.

Realistic expectations of youth.

Parental support of projects.

No parental competition.

Follow through by parents with their obligations.

Volunteer at County Fair and other activities.

Possible Expectations of Leaders by Members and Parents:

Attend at least 50% of the Leader's Meetings.

Volunteer at County Fair and other activities.

Carry through on commitments.

In conjunction with parents/members set completion standards.

Utilize democratic process.

Plan total 4-H program in conjunction with parents/members.

Allow for individual differences among members.

Communicate with all involved in the group.

Provide a positive climate.

Be easy to approach, friendly and agreeable.

Be strict, but not unreasonably so.

Be fair and impartial - we all have our partialities but when leading, this should not be evident.

Remember to keep competition in perspective.

Have consistent meeting times and length of meeting time. Be on time. Avoid cancellations.

Utilize a variety of resources for supplies, information, etc.

Make parents welcome at meetings. Involve parents in the club.

Utilize junior/teen leaders and officers.

Have needed information and materials and know where to get questions answered.

Be sure information is getting to all involved.

Include all parts of the total 4-H program (projects, record books, public presentations, etc.).

Set a good example – be patient, friendly and open.

Show they are really interested and want to help members.

Use acceptable methods of teaching – teach new things slowly for better understanding.

Code of Ethics

The Oregon State University Extension Service strives to provide quality leadership for youth participating in 4-H programs. The opportunity to work with youth is a privileged position of trust that should be held only by those who are willing to demonstrate behaviors that fulfill this trust. The following behavior expectations are provided for volunteers working in the OSU Extension Service 4-H Youth Development Program.

Treat others in a courteous, respectful manner demonstrating behaviors appropriate to a positive role model for youth.

Abide by policies and guidelines of the Oregon State University Extension Service State and County 4-H programs.

Obey all laws of the locality, state, and nation, including those related to use of illegal substances, or use of firearms.

Make all reasonable effort to assure that 4-H youth programs are accessible without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, disability, and disabled veteran or Vietnam-era status.

Recognize that verbal, sexual, physical abuse, and/or neglect of youth is unacceptable either within or outside the 4-H Youth Development Program. Report suspected abuse.

Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.

Operation machinery, vehicles and other equipment in a safe and responsible manner, and only with a valid operator's license and the legally require insurance coverage.

Handle fund raising and finances in an ethical manner.

Do not consume alcohol while responsible for youth in 4-H actives nor allow 4-H youth participants under your supervision to consume alcohol or illegal substances

Suggestion for Good Leaders

BE DEMOCRATIC - Encourage everyone to have his say in order that a democratic decision may be reached. Imposing your will on others will limit their development.

DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITY - Let others feel that they have a part in running the club, but be ready to offer assistance if needed. Do not assign a job beyond the ability of the individual. Consider letting them choose their own jobs.

SHOW AND DEVELOP INTEREST - Express your own enthusiasm and interest. Strive always to discover and develop the particular interest of each member. Try to arouse their desire and ambition.

SHOW INTEREST IN OTHERS - Let others know what they do and contribute is important. Listen to their opinions, try out their ideas, and encourage them to make their own decisions.

GIVE PRAISE AND RECOGNITION - Give recognition for a job well done. Do not give praise unless it is truly deserved.

DISCIPLINE PRIVATELY - Try to avoid disciplining anyone in a group setting, a friendly talking to in private will usually be far more effective. Never punish the whole group because a few are misbehaving. But encourage the group to develop behavior standards to control their own behavior. BE SURE OF YOUR FACTS - This is one of the best ways to increase your confidence and to gain the confidence and respect of others. Remember, also, knowing the fact helps 4-H members to be confident.

PLAN AHEAD - Planning is the key to success. Know what you are doing and where you are going. Allow plenty of time for planning with your members.

KEEP SIGHT OF GOALS - Know the goals of your group and guide the group toward these goals. Discuss goals and their achievement with your members.

HAVE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE - Make the best of things. Complaining wastes time and energy and causes discord. Be sympathetic, but creative and positive in attitude.

UNDERSTAND OTHERS - Through understanding others and appreciating their point of view, more can be accomplished harmoniously. In any "problem" situation, strive to understand why young people act as they do.

BE FRIENDLY - People think and act their best in friendly, relaxed atmospheres. Try to help each person to feel secure and wanted in the group.

BE A MEMBER OF THE GROUP - Do not set yourself apart from the group. It is better to pull than to push. Show young people you admire and trust them.

SET THE EXAMPLE - Set a good example. Others will tend to follow. Young people desire and cherish adult guidance.

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR PARENTS OF YOUNGSTERS SHOWING LIVESTOCK

Thou shalt not feed, train and care for the animal - for thou are trying to teach the child responsibility.

Thou shalt forgive a child for making mistakes in the show ring for thou has made mistakes too.

Thou shalt not get mad when the child forgets items in the show box, for one day thou may forget the show box.

Thou shalt see that thy child is on time for all show ring activities for thou should not want to wait on another.

Thou shalt help the show management for they are doing a job that thou should not want too.

Thou shalt be sure that thy child has the animals entered and the registration papers in order by the designated time.

Thou shalt teach the child that winning a blue ribbon is a desirable goal but making friends along the way is a more worthy goal.

Thou shalt not complain about the judge, for it is his/her opinion that has been sought.

Thou shalt not forget that the livestock projects are teaching projects, not necessarily money-making projects.

Arena Etiquette

Always wear an approved equestrian helmet.

Boots must be worn.

Be courteous to horses and humans.

Slower horses on the rail.

Go in the same direction. When passing, go to the inside of arena.

No more than two horses wide.

Use the full arena, including corners.

May do patterns in the center of the arena as room allows.

No stopping on the rail. Mount or dismount in center of arena.

When passing, allow 2 horse lengths all around you.