

4-H HORSE & PONY

EMMET CHARLEVOIX COUNTY 4-H HORSE COUNCIL RULES-

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

1. SEI APPROVED HELMETS MUST BE WORN WHENEVER THE EXHIBITOR IS ON THEIR HORSE - this includes all riding classes and working in the warm-up arena.
2. The board members of the 2-County Horse Council has the authority to stop any unsafe activities and/or to remove any unsafe riders from the ring.
3. In addition, ONLY registered Emmet or Charlevoix County 4-H parents, 4-H leaders and 4-H exhibitors will be allowed to lead, work with and ride horses in preparation for exhibition.

Members/Volunteers must wear closed toe, leather shoes/boots/muck boot while on barn duty, cleaning stalls or handling horses. All shoe wear must be riding boot, English boot or a boot with a heel.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:

1. All animals must comply with the "General Livestock Requirements" found in the front of the Fair book.
2. All Horses and Ponies require proof of a current negative Coggins test result (as of January 1, 2023) for any 4-H sponsored event. * 4-H offices must have negative Coggins test prior to the start of fair.
3. It is also recommended that all horses and ponies have a 4-way vaccination.
4. All 4-H horses are to be in their respective barns by 11:00 am on Monday of fair week. Vet checks will start upon arrival. No animals are to be released before 7:00 am on the Sunday at the end of fair week.

PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY:

The age for member participation is determined as of January 1st of the 4-H year of the year of the Fair.

1. Exhibitors must be registered in 4-H online as members in their counties.
2. All 4-H exhibitors are required to complete the "Horse & Pony Record Book" and exhibit the book at the fair in order to receive premiums for their riding classes.
3. The "Membership Enrollment Form" must be completed and turned in by May 1st of the program year.

4. The Horse Registration form with member's project horse and alternate horse needs to be turned into your leader no later than the July membership meeting. After that July meeting date deadline, members will need to contact the board president to hold a special meeting to determine the outcome for a change in their project horse. A Project Horse is defined as a horse the member will be showing/exhibiting at the county fair.
5. Horse projects are to be registered as of the July membership meeting with the required "Horse Registration Forms".
6. Fair entries are to be registered by the pre-registration deadline of the 3rd Monday in July.
7. 4-H members aged 14-19, wanting to be selected as a delegate for the state 4-H horse show, must comply with the regulations and requirements as outlined in the "State Horse Show Selection Guidelines"

EXHIBITOR GUIDELINES:

1. During the fair or any 4-H Horse Council sponsored events, any complaints or concerns are to be directed to the 4-H Horse Council President, 4-H Coordinator or the Fair Horse Superintendent.
2. Any person causing disruptions will be asked to leave the grounds with their exhibit, forfeiting any and all premiums or awards.
3. There will be no smoking or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the grounds during 4-H sponsored events.

HORSE STALLS:

1. All fair week horse stall assignments (4-H & Open) are made by the Fair Horse Superintendent. All non-fair 4-H sponsored events, stall assignments may be made by the 4-H Horse Council President.
2. Individual stalls may be cleaned, set-up, decorated (follow each specific barn rules for hanging and putting up decorations), etc., prior to Fair week. This will allow exhibitors to have the stalls readied to their satisfaction prior to horse arrival.
3. All horses are to be in their assigned barns by 11:00 am on Monday of Fair week and accompanied by either a parent or leader. Horses are to remain on the grounds until release time on the last Sunday of the Fair no earlier than 7am.
4. All horse chores - feeding & stall cleaning - are to be done no later than 10 am each day, or earlier as instructed by your club leader. All horse stalls are to be thoroughly cleaned, with all manure and soiled bedding materials placed in the cement manure locations behind the barns - this is to be done daily as well as upon your departure from the Fairgrounds. Failure to do so may affect your participation in next year's fair.
5. Any temporary stall alterations such as special bedding brought to the fair, must be totally removed from the stalls and the grounds by the exhibitor by 12 noon on the last day of the fair, this includes personal stall mats, boards, fans, etc.
6. Any time a horse is stalled in the barn during the operational hours of fair week, an adult must be on duty.

HORSE ACTIVITY:

1. **All 4-H horse exhibitors - whenever they are riding in the arena or warm-up arena - are to have a leader or parent present.** In addition, 4-H members may be requested/required to have a leader/parent accompany them from their barn to the arena or warm-up area.
2. ALL horses are to be led out of the back of each of the two lower barns.
3. Bathing of horses is to take place behind the T-Barn in the horse wash racks.
4. No riding of horses to the show ring or the warm-up ring, and no riding on the roads or midway during fair
5. During non-fair 4-H Horse Council sponsored events, horses must remain in the immediate area of the arena and off the paved roads.

CLASS INFORMATION:

1. Proper tack and dress required for all classes. Unsafe tack or equipment may result in the exhibitor's dismissal from the class.
2. Entry in a Showmanship class is optional for Cloverbud exhibitors. It is required for ALL other 4-H 8-19-year-old exhibitors at fair.
3. Cloverbud exhibitors (5-7 year olds):
 - Five-year-olds may be involved with equine on a halter and lead. Each cloverbud must be directly accompanied one-on-one by a parent, guardian, or adult volunteer who is on foot holding the animal's halter or lead to maximize safety.
 - Six-year-olds may engage in the same activities listed as appropriate for 5-year-olds, or may ride a horse unaccompanied, but only at a walk. Adult should be in the ring with the cloverbud at all times.
 - Seven-year-olds may engage in the same activities listed as appropriate for 5- and 6-year-olds or may be involved with an equine on a halter and lead, unaccompanied by an adult on the ground (for example, in a fitting and showing-type class) and may participate in walk-trot events with adult volunteers in the ring at all times.
 - This is the rule when the exhibitors are in the show ring as well as the warm-up arena.
4. 4-H members are encouraged to work with the horses they or their families own. Animal ownership is encouraged, but not required. An animal does not have to be registered in the member's name; however, an animal must be in the 4-H member's continual care as much as possible and must be designated as the member's project animal by the county deadline of July Membership Meeting.

SHOW RING ETIQUETTE & ETHICS

1. Once a 4-H exhibitor enters the show ring, spectators are encouraged to refrain from coaching, whistling or making comments to the exhibitors unless they relate to safety issues or are in support of the exhibitor.
2. The warm-up arena is for parents, leaders and exhibitors only. No spectators are to be in that area. Riding boot, English boot, or a boot with a heel must be worn by all.

(As an addendum to the Horse Council By Laws) APPROVED: 10.19.2023