

## **Adams County 4-H Horse and Pony Project Rules and Regulations**

Club/Project Leaders and Parents please review these rules with your 4-H enrolled members. Horse and Pony Project Members - the following rules are to help make this project experience enjoyable and safe for all. You are important to this project and that is the reason for these common-sense rules.

- "Executive Board" refers to the Adams County 4-H Horse and Pony Project Executive Committee/Board

\*The project calendar, bylaws, and rules and regulations shall be posted to the 4-H website for the Adams County 4-H Horse and Pony Project page, along with any other necessary forms/paperwork.

### **REGISTRATION OF PROJECT ANIMALS**

**By June 1,** all enrolled project members must submit to the Adams County 4-H Extension Office the animal identification/registration forms on all horse(s) and/or pony(ies) that will be used for the fair and project year. An unlimited number of animals may be registered, but only two (2) may be shown at the fair.

All animals shown at any 4-H event/clinic must be vaccinated with a 4-way (Easter and Western Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus, and Flu). All members must provide proof of vaccinations and proof of NEGATIVE COGGINS TEST BEFORE THE DAY OF THE ACTIVITY. This should be handed in prior to the date of the event and carried to be inspected before unloading your horses at the event/fair/clinic/activity.

A Pony is classified as measuring 56 inches and under. All ponies may be measured on the day of the show. Measurement should be included with registration paperwork.

A registered project animal unable to participate in a project event due to illness, injury, safety, or withdrawal by the owner (for managerial purposes), may be substituted by another registered project animal under the following conditions:

1. A Veterinarian's Certificate of illness or injury submitted to the Executive Committee
2. The Executive Committee approves the substitution
3. The fair/entries remain the same

### **PROJECT ANIMAL DESIGNATION**

Members wishing to exhibit a horse and/or pony NOT belonging (owned) to them **is expected to have a written, professional agreement between themselves and the owner of the animal. Only one managerial member per horse (animal).**

\*A horse and/or pony may be shared by two (2) members.

### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

**Any member may qualify for the State Expo Show.**

Proper boots or hard-soled shoes (with a heel) are required when riding or driving on the grounds at ALL equine functions. SEI-approved helmets with chin straps are required to be worn when riding or driving on the grounds at ALL equine functions.

Exhibitors are responsible for picking up their fair tags from the fair board prior to the Adams County Horse and Pony Show Date

Exhibitors are required to wear their back tags AT ALL TIMES while on the fairgrounds.

ALL horses and ponies are to be worked ONLY by the registered project members assigned to that horse or pony. No coaching by parents/friends/trainers from the rail (may be cause for disqualification).

Upon arrival at the event/fair, if a horse's or pony's health is questionable, the Executive Board shall call a veterinarian and their decision will be final regarding whether or not the animal stays or goes home. THE ANIMAL'S OWNER/HANDLER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL VETERINARY EXPENSES.

Exhibitors may be dismissed from the ring at the judges and ring steward's discretion for safety. The Executive Board retains the right to dismiss any exhibitor from the show that appears unable to control their animal.

All horses/ponies are to be worked in specified areas only (inside arenas). This includes riding and driving. Upon violation, a warning will be issued. In the event of a second warning the penalty assessed may be loss of premium money or be asked to leave the grounds.

A \$5.00 clean-up fee deposit is to be paid before the fair premium show to be refunded AFTER an Executive Board member inspects your parking area to be sure it is clean and no holes, etc. before the \$5.00 is refunded. This must be done on the day of the event and before leaving. Otherwise, the \$5.00 is not refunded.

Members may enter EITHER a walk/trot class, or a walk/trot/canter class with their horse. This designation is to be made throughout all of the classes during the show. Additionally, one horse may not be entered twice within the same lot within the same class. Therefore, members sharing a horse must either A) enter different classes if they are in the same lot or B) be in different lots (age groups)

### **GRAND AND RESERVE OF FAIR PREMIUM SHOW**

This award is given by the Adams County Fair Board.

Exhibitors must designate only one (1) animal on the fair class entry form at the time of enrollment to be judged for these awards.

### **GUIDELINES INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**

1. Rider attitude and presentation
2. Sportsmanship
3. Properly fed, watered, conditioned, groomed animal
4. Properly tacked (equipment) animal
5. Properly attired rider/driver
6. Disciplinary actions enforced by the Executive Board at the air remove exhibitor from eligibility include, but are not limited to: 1) Improper care of animal 2) Inappropriate personal conduct.

## **STATE 4-H EVENTS**

To be eligible to show a horse or pony for state events a member must be a member in good standing. See Adams County 4-H Horse and Pony Project ByLaws.

To be eligible to show a horse or pony for state events the member must be in at least sixth (6th) grade at the time of qualifying. The grade you are in during the summer is the grade you were enrolled in when school let out in the spring.

To be eligible to participate in other equestrian-related events at the State Horse Expo Show, members must be in at least (3rd) grade. These are non-riding/driving animal classes.

Members meeting the requirements for the State Expo Horse Show must have a completed project plan form signed by the exhibitor, parent/guardian, and 4-H Youth Agent. Class fees and/or deposits must be paid. These forms must be turned in by the deadline.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Unruly conduct will not be tolerated. If the governing body finds that you are not conducting yourself appropriately as a 4-H youth and/or adult member or leader, one (1) warning will be given from the Executive Board and/or 4-H Youth Agent. The next action will result in suspension from the Adams County 4-H Horse and Pony Project for one (1) year.

Unruly Conduct includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. The use of abusive language
2. Disrespect toward other people
3. Unnecessary disruption of meetings/clinics/events
4. Neglect or abusive treatment of your animal at any time
5. NO smoking, drinking alcohol, or drug use during any 4-H event including, but not limited to meetings, clinics, horse shows, and trail rides. VIOLATION MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION FOR ONE (1) YEAR.
6. Any non-therapeutic substance used as a stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer, or sedative for the purpose of altering an animal's performance at any 4-H event is prohibited. Conformation of such shall result in the removal of the animal from the event.

Revised March 2, 2011

Revised July 9, 2011

Revised February 8, 2015

Revised October 18, 2019

Revised January 13, 2020

Revised June 21, 2023

Revised March 1, 2024

## Adams County Horse and Pony Project Agreement

I agree that I have read and understand the rule and regulations of the Adams County Horse and Pony Project and I will follow all rules while participating in activities of the Adams County Horse and Pony Project.

Exhibitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibitor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_