

Washington County 4-H Horse Guide



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18 U.S.C. 707

Purpose of 4-H Horse Program

Like all aspects of 4-H, the 4-H Horse Program is designed to build life-skills and develop character in our youth. The horse skills these youth learn are important, but secondary to the leadership, communication, decision making, and other skills they will develop. The horse project is the “vehicle” used to teach these skills in a fun and exciting way. Youth learn best through their own and their peers experiences. We strongly encourage “youth teaching youth”; as teaching others reinforces what they have learned, and develops additional communication skills.

The 4-H horse program is for youth will all different kinds of experience, from beginner to advanced. Participants will find challenging experiences for all types. We look forward to working with you and sharing many great times!

Vernon Parent
4-H/Ag Agent

General Activity Schedule (vary from year to year)

<u>Spring</u> (Feb-April)	<u>Summer</u> (May-Aug)	<u>Fall</u> (Sept-October)	<u>Winter</u> (Nov-Jan)
Various Clinics	Horse Quiz Bowl	State Horse Show	Holiday Season
Practice	County Contests	Fundraiser	Some practice
First Horse Show	Regional Contests	Trail Ride	Gymkhanas
	State Contests	Portfolio–4-H Record book	Fundraisers
	County Horse Shows	Awards Night	
	Family camp	Halloween Costume Party	
	Regional Horse Show		

Rank Advancement - NEW

The Utah 4-H Advancement Program Ranks is being reintroduced to our program and you, its members. This program helps you focus on the skills you need to become a proficient rider. This is not a required program, but will:

- Add skills and knowledge to your 4-H horse project
- Give you, your parents and your leaders a guide to measure your ability as a horseperson
- Help you learn more about horses and horsemanship
- Help you develop greater skills with horses.
- Give you credit for extra work done.
- Allow you to advance according to your ability and your willingness to work and study.

The Utah State 4-H Horsemanship Program can be divided into five categories to meet the needs and interests of a variety of horsemen. The first category: Horsemanship, provides the basis for all of the others. After passing the Top Hand Rank, a 4-H member can then diversify to meet individual interests and needs. 4-H members should not be encouraged or expected to hurry through the ranks, but develop a true knowledge of the skill areas outlined!

Horsemanship	Western	Working Ranch Horse	Roping	English
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenderfoot 1 • Tenderfoot 2 • Wrangler • Top Hand • Foreman • County Master Horseman • State Master Horseman • Judging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Show • Western games • Trail <p>Young Horse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foal Handler • Colt Trainer • Two-Handed Performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Ranch Horse Unit 1 • Working Ranch Horse Unit 2 • Working ranch Horse Unit 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Roping Rank • Senior Roping Rank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunter Rider • Hunter over Fences • Dressage

Horse Shows

Age divisions: Juniors: 3-5 grade - Intermediates: 6-8 grade - Seniors: 9-12 grade

In Washington County we host two types of shows: pleasure shows and speed shows. These shows are designed for youth to compete against each other and their personal bests. It allows the youth to showcase their growth to their family friends and fellow 4-Hers. We encourage good sportsmanship and making this a positive experience for all.

Each show consists of a written test and three events (or classes) that are related to that show. For pleasure, participants compete in a Fitting and Showmanship (Halter Class), a Western Horsemanship Class and a third class that changes every two years (ex. Reining, Trail, Bareback, etc.). Speed shows consist of a Barrels Class, a Poles Class and a third class that changes every two years (ex. Key Hole, Quadrangle, Stake Race, etc.).



Pleasure Shows (judged events):

Each rider is given one of the following ribbons for each class, under the discretion of the judge:
- Blue, Red, White, Orange (DQ)

Note: The judge is not required to give a % of any of one or another ribbon type.

Speed Shows:

Riders are ranked by time. They are then broken up into three main groups following the natural break (loosely 25%, 50%, 25%). They are assigned ribbons - Blue, Red, White, Orange (DQ).

Point System for shows:

15 for a Blue Ribbon	The top 5 places are given extra (bonus) points
10 for a Red Ribbon	1 st + 5 (thus a blue 1 st = 20pts)*
5 for a White Ribbon	2 nd + 4
1 for an Orange Ribbon (DQ)	3 rd + 3
	4 th + 2
	5 th + 1

***Example:** First place would earn a blue ribbon (+15 points) and an additional +5 for first place. This would give them a total of 20 points for that event.

Exhibitor Meeting: +5 points for attending

Written Tests

Written tests will be given at each show. Each test is worth a possible 15 points (equal to other speed and pleasure classes). Tests will have 30 questions, making each question worth ½ a point. Test scores will be equal to their total correct points + bonus points for the top 5 placings (same as other class ranks).

Tests will be from:

	<u>Horse & Horsemanship</u>	<u>Horse Science</u>
Show 1	Chapters 1-2	Chapters 1-2
Show 2	Chapters 3-4	Chapters 3-5
Show 3	Chapters 5-6	Chapters 6-7
Show 4	Chapters 6-7	Chapters 8-9
Show 5	Chapters 8-10	Chapters 10-12
Show 6	Ch 11 & Apx A&B	Chapters 13-15

Note: Juniors – questions taken from Horse and Horsemanship (HH) (90%) and the rule book (10%).
 Intermediates – questions taken from HH (aprox. 60%), Horse Science (HS) (30%), and the rule book (10%).
 Seniors – questions taken from HH (aprox. 30%), Horse Science (HS) (60%), and the rule book (10%).



Awards Program

Year-end Participation Award: (Must participate in the following)

- Three shows -
One pleasure, one speed, and the third:
your choice of the two
- Three tests
- County Contests (Demonstrations)
- Portfolio
- Service project (County wide or Club)
- Fundraiser (County Horse Program –
Usually Lions clean-up)

High Point Individual Award

Combined points of the following

(Top placing individuals) (Pts. Possible)

- 2 speed and 2 pleasure shows 45+ each
- 4 tests (from the four top shows) 15+ each
- County Contest (Demonstrations) 100
- Portfolio 100
- Must have participated in at least one service project
- **Note: If you do not participate in the fundraiser you will not receive the prize, but a certificate indicating you placing.**

Special Certificates:

- **Top Test**
- **Top Pleasure**
- **Top Speed**

Club Nominated Awards:

- **Most Improved Member:** Those members who have shown considerable growth in developing new skills.
- **Sportsmanship:** Those youth who cheer and support their fellow 4-Hers. Those who go out of their way to make others feel good and build their self confidence. Interested in the welfare of others more than what they are ranked.

Mentor Awards:

- Excellence in Mentoring – those youth who take time to “pass-on” skills they have learned. Focus on teaching others rather than focus on themselves and their current points.

Award Notes:

- **Fundraisers:** To receive the nice prizes offered at year-end, members must participate in our annual fundraiser (three of the four days). Exceptions must be approved by the Horse Council prior to the event, and other fundraising options may be made available.
- **Service Projects:** are a major part of 4-H and are required for 4-H horse year-end and highpoint award. The fundraiser at the Sunbowl DOES NOT constitute as a service project. Clubs are strongly encouraged to organize their own or participate in county-wide service opportunities.

- **High Point Awards** will be given to the top individuals, in each age division for the year. The number of placings given depends upon the number of youth completing year-end requirements. (It is possible to have 6 placings awarded in Juniors and only 3 in Seniors.)

#Youth/Age Group	#Placings Awarded
=14	3
15-19	4
20-24	5
25+	6

- **Sharing Recognition:** In 4-H we like to recognize the efforts of many youth. For this reason, those awards given for Most Improved, Sportsmanship, and Excellence in Mentoring will NOT be given to the same person in consecutive years. They can win every other year.
- **Rank Advancement:** Rank awards will be given out at our exhibitor meetings for each show. And summarized/acknowledged at our yearend awards program.

County rules and clarification on state rules:

- **Grievances:** A grievance is any challenge made by a participant, parent, or leader against procedural/organizational structure, or rulings from speed event officials (no one can overrule a pleasure judge's score).
Any grievance is to be submitted in writing with \$25 (cash). This should only be addressed to the Grievance Committee. The grievance committee will be comprised of three members of the Horse Council. These individuals will change, so they will be clearly identified at the exhibitor meeting held before every show. If your grievance is upheld, your \$25 will be returned to you.
- **Suggestions for Improvement or Concerns:** Are encouraged and can be addressed to any member of the horse council or 4-H staff. Any complaint should follow "grievance" guidelines.
- **Personal Behavior:** "Good sportsmanship shall prevail at all times. No abuse of animals or people will be permitted by a 4-H member, any family member or associate. Abusive behavior of this kind will be cause for disqualification of the 4-H member from further competition in the event or show, at the discretion of the show committee."(4-H RB pg 9)
 - NOTE: this includes yelling and other rude behavior towards the ring staff. Please treat volunteers with respect.
 - All inappropriate behavior that is reported will be investigated by the Grievance Committee without charging the grievance fee. Anyone can and should report abusive behavior.
- **Approaching a Judge:** We have had a few problems with people approaching and acting disrespectful to the judges. Now, only youth may approach and talk to a judge. Any parents breaking this rule, especially if we get complaints from the judge, will be "cause for disqualification of the 4-H member from further competition in the event or show, at the discretion of the show committee."

- **Touching a Speed Obstacle:** (pole/barrel): The state rule is a 5 second penalty. Any Ring Official can make this call (gate steward, ring steward, announcer, etc.). As with all speed events they are considered the “judges” and must see the infraction. Audience members do not make that call. Any issue with the “judges” decision can be addressed through grievance procedures.
- **Belts:** Are NOT required for speed event.
- **Long Sleeve vs Short Sleeve:** For Washington County we are allowing short sleeve shirts to be worn during pleasure events. This is due to the heat. This exception does NOT include tank-tops or “cap” sleeves. There must be a full sleeve over the shoulder to qualify.
- **Participant Meeting:** We hold a participants meeting 15 minutes before each of our shows. This is a required meeting and is reinforced with a +5 bonus points for attendees. Important information regarding the show and other announcements are presented here.
- **Helmets:** Are encouraged at all 4-H speed events and practices.
- **Changing Project Horses:** This is something that must be approved by the County 4-H Agent (Vernon Parent). This is usually acceptable in the case of injury or other medical malady of the horse. Points associated with the injured horse cannot be added to the new horse’s event points without approval of the Horse Council. This is not easily granted and is reviewed on a case by case basis.
- **Speed Event & Gate Procedures:** Please remember that horses need to be walked into the arena and the gate closed before the rider and horse may start the event. Parents may assist unruly or “spoiled” horses, but we would prefer these horses not even be used by our members. It creates numerous safety issues. Youth or their family members should not be hanging on or around the gate during the show. We need this area cleared for safety reasons. And all members should be listening for their name or number, indicating their turn.