



Wahkiakum County 4-H Youth Program

BASIC HORSEMANSHIP SKILLS CHECKLIST

Rider: _____ Horse: _____ Date: _____

Age: **Jr.** **Int.** **Sr.** (circle the correct age division)

4-H KNOWLEDGE

- What is the 4-H Pledge and Motto?
- What is the meaning of the 4-H clover symbol and the colors green and white?
- Name and discuss two 4-H events other than Fairs and 4-H horse events you can participate in
- Have available for review your 4-H Record Book that is completed up to date when skills checklist is completed
- Identify one goal for your 4-H project and where you have written it in your Record Book.

SAFETY AND EQUIPMENT:

- Properly fitted ASTM/SEI approved helmet including proper adjustment of chin strap
- Demonstrate how to safety approach and halter your horse/pony.
- Demonstrate how to safety tie your horse/pony using a slip knot/safety release manger knot
- Explain three safety rules to be observed while riding or working with a horse
- Demonstrate the proper adjustment of a halter
- Demonstrate the proper adjustment of your bridle, including headstall, curb strap, and throatlatch
- Name and locate on the bridle....
reins, bit, curb strap, headstall and throatlatch
- Name and locate on the saddle....
horn, seat, pommel, cantle, skirt, fender, stirrup and cinch

SELECTING AND JUDGING:

- Identify and describe the breed or breed type of your horse/pony
- Explain how to properly measure your horse/pony.
- Identify and describe the color and markings of your horse/pony
- Locate where you would find....
star, snip, stripe and stockings.
- Name and locate on a horse the following parts....

muzzle, poll, neck, withers, barrel, loin, hip, gaskin, stifle, hock, cannon, fetlock, pastern and coronet band.

HANDLING:

- Demonstrate how to safely move around your horse/pony
- Identify and describe the tools in your grooming kit
- Demonstrate the use of your grooming tools.
- Demonstrate how to pick up and clean the front feet of your horse/pony.
- Demonstrate how to safely pick up the hind feet of your horse/pony
- Explain and demonstrate how to hold the lead
- Demonstrate how to properly pose your horse/pony for fitting and showing
- Demonstrate how to lead your horse/pony at the walk and jog/trot and demonstrate a haunch turn.
- Name three aids used when riding
- Demonstrate how to properly bridle your horse
- Demonstrate how to properly saddle your horse
- Demonstrate how to properly unbridle and unsaddle your horse

RIDING

Demonstrate control and safety at the:

- Walk
- jog/trot
- canter/lope
- Demonstrate how to properly mount and dismount your horse/pony

FEEDS AND FEEDING:

- Give an example of the roughage you are feeding your horse/pony.
- Give an example of a concentrate you are feeding your horse/pony

Technician Comments:

Technician Signature: _____

Date Skills Checklist Completed: _____

Signature of 4-H Member: _____

Resources for Basic Horsemanship Checklist**

- Beginning Horsemanship
- Horse Science
- Horse Judging
- Horses and Horsemanship

** These 4-H horse publications and others are listed in EM 2778 "4-H Projects and Publications Guide"