



Thriving in the 4-H Horse Project

GRAYS HARBOR 4-H HORSE COUNCIL

2015- 2016

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Part 1: 4-H Horse Project Introduction

The 4-H Horse Project can be an exciting and worthwhile experience for you and your horse. It's also a project that requires a lot of time and dedication. Let's take a closer look at some of the basics of the project.

I. What will I learn?

A. **Horse Project Objectives**

- How to know and select a good horse.
- How to care for horses properly.
- How to ride a horse.
- How to train and handle horses.
- About horses and the horse industry.

II. Your Project Animal

- Your 4-H Horse Project animal may be a horse, pony, mule or donkey.
- Stallions over 12 months of age are not allowed.
- You may own, share, borrow or lease your project animal.
- You should be responsible for the horse's primary care and management.
- If you board, take on as much responsibility for the care of the horse as you can.

III. What if I want to Show?

A. **You may show your horse in a variety of classes including:**

- Showmanship
- Hunt Seat
- Stock Seat
- Saddle Seat
- Trail
- Dressage
- Driving
- Western Games
- Colt Training Project
- Equine In-Hand

IV. How Do I know What's Happening

A. **Attend Meetings**

- Club meetings
- Horse Council meetings
- GH General Council meetings

B. **Go On-line**

- Get on the county email list
- Watch the website:

www.ext100.wsu.edu/graysharbor

C. **Read the Rules** (<https://pubs.wsu.edu>)

- PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide (PNW 574) (<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/files/project/pdf/pnw574.pdf>)
- Judging Contest Guide (PNW 575) (<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/pnw0575/pnw0575.pdf>)
- The 4-H Horse Project Guide (PNW 587) (<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/pnw587/pnw587.pdf>)

V. How do I get to County Fair?

A. **Meet Enrollment Requirements**

- Be enrolled by April 1st.
- Have a Horse Certificate on file (Recommended)

B. **Meet Showing Requirements**

- **Clinic your new horse in 2 shows or returning horse in 1 show**
- **Complete 4 hours of volunteer time at an approved event**

C. Meet Club Requirements

- Check with your club to see if it has additional requirements

- Your club must be represented at both mandatory Horse Council meetings.

The 4-H Horse Project is Fun! Remember, the more effort you put in.....
the more enjoyment you'll get out!

Part 2: 4-H Horse Divisions

I. Performance Division

- Performance is a state-wide division.
- The Performance Division includes the following classes:
 - Stock Seat Equitation and Pleasure
 - Hunt Seat Equitation and Pleasure
 - Saddle Seat Equitation and Pleasure
 - Bareback
 - Arena Trail
 - Disciplined Rail
 - Western/English Riding Pattern (County level)

A. Stock Seat

- Commonly known as “Western” riding.
- Works best with horses with a low head set who can jog and lope slowly.

B. Hunt Seat

- Commonly known as “English” riding.
- Works best with horses with a medium head set who move out a little more quickly.

C. Saddle Seat

- A less common form of “English” riding.
- Works best with horses with a high head set who move with more action.

II. Western Games Division

- Consists of individual timed games on horseback.
- Regular gaming is a state-wide division.
- The gaming classes are:
 - Key Race
 - Pole Bending
 - Texas Barrels
 - Figure 8 Race
 - 2 Barrel Flags
 - International Flags

III. Harness Driving Division

- It is a state-wide division.
- You can use a 2 or 4 wheeled cart, but not a sulky.
- The following classes are offered:
 - Reinsmanship
 - Pleasure Driving
 - Precision Driving

IV. Dressage Division

- Dressage is a state-wide division.
- Exhibitors compete 1 at a time on a pattern they choose from a provided list.
- The lowest level includes walking and trotting.
- The most advanced levels include more difficult maneuvers.
- Dressage Seat Equitation is similar to Hunt Seat Equitation, but with a focus on a dressage riding position and gaits.

V. Groom Squad

- Groom Squad is a state-wide division. (Seniors only)
- Team event that demonstrates horse knowledge, grooming, and showmanship.

VI. Open Walk-Trot Division

- Grays Harbor division only
- Limited performance classes only.
- Exhibitors receiving a Grand/Reserve must move onto canter classes the next year.
- Riders may not cross-enter to canter classes if competing in the Walk-Trot Division

VII. Alternate Performance Classes

- Grays Harbor County division only.
- Exhibitors show at the walk/trot/canter

VIII. Colt Training Project

- Grays Harbor County division only.
- Exhibitors must meet requirements outlined in the Colt Training project (see Appendix)

IX. In-Hand Division

- Open to any equine
- Horses entered in in-hand classes can't cross enter into riding classes.
- Grays Harbor County division only.
- Classes include:
 - Showmanship
 - Trail

Part 3: 4-H Volunteer Position Descriptions

It takes a lot of people to put on a show. Everyone who helps at our shows is a volunteer. Each exhibitor is required to put in a minimum of 4 volunteer hours to compete at the G.H. County Fair. Volunteer hours will be signed off by a Council member at each approved show/clinic. Below are some general descriptions of various jobs you can volunteer for at shows as well as fair.

I. General Indoor Jobs

A. Show Manager

- Oversee the flow of the show
- Be available for questions
- Make sure the show box is stocked
- Make sure all volunteer positions are filled

B. Announcer 1

- Primary responsibility is to announce for the inside arena the class name/type, and the requests of the judge.
- Performance classes: riders entry speed, direction of travel, arena riding speed (walk, jog, lope or walk, trot canter), may be asked by judge to have riders drop stir-ups, halt, back, line up.
- At the end of classes/event announce placing and riders **FIRST NAME ONLY**.
- Gaming class; name of event, next three riders (up, on deck and in the hole) Announce rider's **FIRST NAME ONLY** and time.

C. Announcer 2

- Primary responsibility is to announce first, second, and third call for classes in the

warm up arena and in the barns documenting the times these calls were made for each class. In gaming announce next five riders. If no third announcer make changes to classes such as add/delete, call for missing riders that have not checked in.

D. Announcer 3/Floater

- Be an extra set of eyes for signals given by the judge, relay changes such as add/delete to class list.
- Relieve announcer 1 or 2 if needed for very short period of time.
- Run any errands that need to be done for the arena, judge's food/drink (keep them fed and well-watered).
- Can help pass out awards/ribbons after performance classes.
- Fill in where needed

E. Gate person:

- Opens and closes the gate (white chain if performance class or big metal one for gaming events)
- Be sure to close gate when the horse(s) are in the arena.

- Performance: Riders need to enter the arena single file when gate is open. If they are told to enter they should enter unless there is a good reason horse acting up, red ribbon in tail, etc.
- Gaming: Remember you cannot help them through the gate.

F. Awards/out gate person:

- PERFORMANCE will be double duty with awards and out gate.
- Close the gate when class is going.
- GAMING: If they exit dismounted off their horse; reins need to be off the horses head/neck. Pass out ribbons/awards with the help of announcer 3.

G. Paddock Steward

- Check in the people in the upcoming class.
- Performance: shuffle the next class into the small area inside the indoor arena for the holding area.
- Horses with red ribbons in their tails should be allowed to enter towards the end.
- Gaming: riders need to stay behind the cones to allow horses to move easily in and out of the gate.
- Remember you cannot help a horse enter the gate.

II. Performance Day Jobs

A. Scribe

- Performance and showmanship classes only.
- Relay judge's request to the announcer as the judge requests you to do so such as

reverse, speeds, drop stirrups, back, and line up.

- Deliver placing to the announcer's booth.

B. Ring Steward/Scribe

- Direct exhibitors where to line up
- May signal to the announcers for gait changes as dictated by the judge
- Some judges like to dictate to someone what they see while a class is going on
- After the class, take the judge's placing to the announcer.

III. Gaming Day Jobs

A. In-Gate/Out-Gate Keeper

- Make sure the next rider is ready on-deck, open the gate to let riders onto the course and close behind them.
- Open the gate for riders to exit.

B. Tack checkers 1 and 2

- A list of appropriate/legal tack will be provided for both western and english.
- Please go through the list with every rider that enters the warm up arena.
- Help monitor the warm up arena to ensure safety and order.

C. Rakers

- 6 needed: wear sturdy closed toe shoes (sneakers work). Smooth out the arena around a gaming event.

D. Back up timer

- Sit in the stands or on a chair at the start line running a stop watch in case the automatic timers fail and relaying your time to the announcer.

Part 4: Understanding the Horse Project Beyond the Arena

I. Why have 4-H Record Books?

- Record Books serve a variety of purposes:
 - Reflection
 - Goal setting
 - Record keeping
 - Scholarship application
- Educational Objectives:
 - To help the member realize what has been learned during the year
 - To help the leader realize what the member has learned during the year
 - To help the member learn how to figure costs (time & money)
 - To help the leader determine how members can best be helped

II. Record Book Awards

- A. Submit current book with Fair enrollment to receive a ribbon and be judged for Posse Award. (Top Record book in each division receives a monetary award at the Fair Awards Ceremony)
- B. County Level Year End Awards:
 - Each year a ribbon is given to the top record book entry from each age division.
 - Completed books are also up for special awards from General Council
 - Exact due date is announced by the 4-H office and Achievement Night is held in November.

III. Record Book Forms to Use

- Grays Harbor uses 2 record book forms, available at (<https://pubs.wsu.edu>):
 - 4-H Record Book (C0932)
<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/c0932/c0932.pdf>
 - 4-H Record Book (C0934)
<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/c0934/c0934.pdf>
 - 4-H Permanent Record book (C0933)
<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/c0933/c0933.pdf>
 - 4-H Permanent Record book (C0935)
<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/c0935/c0935.pdf>
- Record books come in two levels:
 - Level One: Form (C0932) & (C0933) to be used by Juniors
 - Level Two: Form (C0934) & (C0935) to be used by Intermediates and Seniors

IV. Additional Educational Opportunities

- A. Educational poster turned in at fair
- B. Public Presentations (Optional)
- C. 4-H Year Pins (See Appendix)
 - Members need to complete 5 out of 7 items to receive pin: Complete the project in which the member is enrolled, attend at least 50% of their club's general and project meetings, give a public presentation, complete the 4-H record book, exhibit at a fair or other designated activity, participate in a 4-H community project, or serve as a club officer.

V. Additional Awards

A. Snooks, Randall, Zemball Memorial Awards

- Nominations will be completed and returned with Fair enrollments and each award will be given at the Fair Awards Ceremony. (Appendix)

B. Judging Awards

- Top 10 will be awarded at Fair Awards Ceremony.
- Intermediates and Senior Top 10 will earn a position on the State Judging Team.

B. Versatile Horseman and Outstanding Gamer Awards

- Complete the application (Appendix) and submit at the end of Fair.
- Will be awarded at the November Awards Ceremony.

C. Herdsmanship Awards

VI. Where to go if you have a question or a concern

- A. Leader:
- B. Horse Superintendent
- C. Horse Council
- D. General Council
- E. WSU Extension

Part 5: Important Dates and Deadlines

- I. Important Deadlines
 - A. Horse Certificates Due (2nd Monday of July)
 - B. Fair Entries Due (2nd Monday of July)
- II. County Sponsored Horse Shows and Clinics
 - A. Hairy Horse Show #1
 - B. Hairy Horse Show #2
 - C. Hairy Horse Show #3
 - D. Pre-Fair Horse Show (Last weekend of June)
 - E. July Clinic
 - F. Grays Harbor County Fair (August)

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Part 6: Appendix

1. Constitution of the Grays Harbor 4-H Horse Council
2. Grays Harbor 4-H Horse Project Versatile Horseman and Outstanding Gamer Awards form
3. Snooks, Erin Randall, and Susan Zembal Memorial Awards application
4. Horse Clinic Form
5. Volunteer Hours Form
6. 4-H Year Pin Request Form
7. Colt Training Project

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