



## Wahkiakum County 4-H Youth Program

### DRIVING SKILLS CHECKLIST

Driver: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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#### VEHICLE:

In safe, usable condition (no racing sulkies or roadster bikes)

- ☐ Shafts (must have trace carriers and single tree or trace hooks)
- ☐ Frame (in good repair)
- ☐ Tires, hubs, and spokes (in good repair)
- ☐ Has basket/foot rest (minimum of 10 inches front to back and securely fastened)
- ☐ Shafts are proper length to animal—adequate room for animal's hind legs to move freely at all gaits and the shaft tips are at the point of the horse's shoulder

#### HARNESS:

In safe, useable condition and properly fitted to animal—may be leather or nylon

- ☐ Bridle-leather in good condition
- ☐ Blinders (when used)—centered and properly adjusted
- ☐ Bit appropriate to horse and to 4-H Driving Rules
- ☐ Reins buckled at end
- ☐ Overcheck or sidecheck—properly adjusted
- ☐ Bridoon (when used)—used with the overcheck or sidecheck rein
- ☐ Cavesson/noseband—fastened to headstall, snug, not tight
- ☐ Crupper—not too tight or too loose
- ☐ Breeching (Optional)—not too high or too low to interfere with stride recommended for heavier vehicles
- ☐ Saddle/Bellyband—properly adjusted—not too tight or too loose
- ☐ Kay collar or Breast collar—collar properly fitted, correct size for horse
- ☐ Running Martingale (optional)—properly adjusted
- ☐ Kicking Strap (optional)—properly adjusted
- ☐ No thimbles or trotting boots allowed
- ☐ Able to harness horse and hitch horse to vehicle (may have helpers—4-Her to direct and instruct helper)
- ☐ Bridles horse before hitching to vehicle and attaches reins immediately

### DRIVER:

- ☐ Properly fitted ASTM/SEI approved helmet with strap engaged
- ☐ Access to conservative attire or proper riding attire: for complete list see page 1 of the 1995 Harness Driving Manual

### WHIP:

- ☐ Required (no lounging type of whip)—whip must be long enough to reach the animals shoulder
- ☐ Whip is to be held at a 45 degree angle to ground and horse
- ☐ Demonstrate use of whip as an aid in place of use of seat and hands
- ☐ Demonstrate correct way of carrying when not in use

### DRIVING:

Demonstrate the following gaits with control:

- Walk
- Slow trot/jog
- Working trot
- Strong trot
- Halt
- Back-up
- Circle to left and right—size appropriate to size of horse and vehicle
- 180 degree turn
- Reverse on the diagonal
- Demonstrates having the horse under control at all times

### IDENTIFY AND SPELL:

#### CART

Shaft  
Singletree  
Shaft Tip  
Trace Carriers  
Kicking strap  
Holdback Strap Fittings  
Basket

#### HARNESS

Crupper  
Breeching  
Wrap straps  
Overcheck/sidecheck  
Blinders  
Terret hook  
Saddle

Technician Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Technician Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>RESOURCES:</b>	4-H Horse and Pony Driving Manual, Revised January 1998 Harness Driving: Manual and Rules for Washington State
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