

Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition 2026 4-H State Championship Horse Show

Date: August 27-30, 2026

Show Management

Role	Contact	Email
Director of Agriculture and Competitive Exhibits	Amber Henker 719-404-2060	amber.henker@state.co.us
Horse Show Coordinator	Lacey Cooper 719-404-2024	cda_csf_horse_show@state.co.us
4-H State Horse Superintendent	Emily Green	Emily.Green@colostate.edu
4-H State Horse Superintendent	Mercedes Glenn	Mercedes.Glenn@colostate.edu
4-H State Horse Superintendent	Lillian Esterl-Byrne	l.esterl-byrne@colostate.edu
4-H State Horse Superintendent	Tearle Lessenden	Tearle.Lessenden@colostate.edu
Event Secretary	Pam Orth	

Judges

Division	Judge
English, Western, Ranch, Gymkhana	Mark Guynn Jamieson Gross
Trail	Cole Tully
Miniature Horse	Tiffany Mead

Important Dates

Event	Date and Time
Entry Deadline	August 1, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.
Stall Reservation Deadline	August 8, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.
Late Entry Deadline	August 8, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.
Arrival Dates	August 26, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.
Early Arrival Date	August 25, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.
Release Dates	Following Daily Award Ceremonies

Class Fee Schedule

Class	Cost
Class Entry Fee (Per Class)	\$10.00
Written Test Fee (Per Written Test)	\$10.00
Office Fee (Per Exhibitor)	\$10.00
Late Entry Fee (Per Late Entry)	\$75.00

Entry forms will be filled out and submitted online on the Colorado State Fair website. No payment is due until check-in. Do not send payments ahead of time. Forms of accepted payment are cash, check, or card.

Stalling Fees

Stall	Fee
Early Arrival, August 25th, Horse Stall Fee (Per Stall)	\$60.00 (for the entire 4-H show)
Early Arrival Tack Stall Fee (Per Stall)	\$20.00 (for the entire 4-H show)
Fair Time August 26th- 30th, Horse Stall Fee (Per Stall)	\$45.00 (for the entire 4-H show)
Fair Time Tack Stall Fee (Per Stall)	\$20.00 (for the entire 4-H show)
Single day stall	\$25.00 (per day)

Stall reservations will be filled out and submitted online on the Colorado State Fair website. No payment is due until check-in. Do not send payments ahead of time. Forms of accepted payment on the day of check-in are cash, check, or card.

Exhibitor Parking & Gate Passes

Pass Type	Fee
Horseman's Lot Daily Parking Permits (Inside Lot 6)	\$20.00 (per day)
South Lot Season Parking Permits (on Mesa Ave.)	\$45.00
Exhibitor Wristband (all ages)	\$45.00
4-H Exhibitor Wristband	\$15.00

Exhibitor parking and gate passes can be pre-ordered on the entry form or purchased at check-in. Please note that parking permits are limited and not guaranteed.

Camping Reservations

All RV and Trailer camping reservations must be made through the Colorado State Fair Facility Management Office. Please contact (719) 404-2023 or email cda_csf.camping@state.co.us to make a reservation.

4-H Dormitory Reservations

Contact Joy Bauder at (970) 491-3887 or joy.bauder@colostate.edu

Stalls/Tack Reservation Information

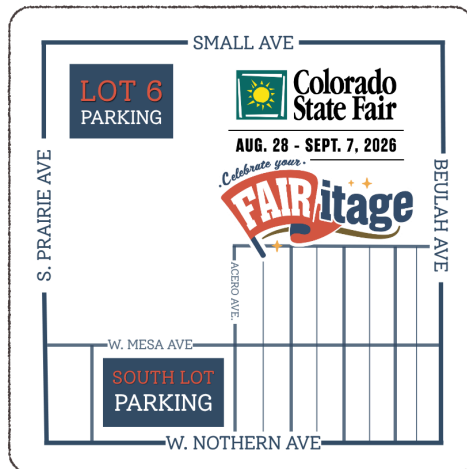
- Stall Reservations: Are based on haul-in date (early arrival or fair time arrival)
- No Day Hauling: There is no day hauling available. Exhibitors must purchase a daily stall if only coming for one day. Horses are not to be tied to the outside of the arenas or stalls.
- Tack stalls: All exhibitors need to purchase their own tack stall or find someone to share one with. Exhibitors must share within their own county and one person must pay for the tack stall in full to the Colorado State Fair Authority (Authority). Splitting the cost of the stall when making a payment to the Authority is not permitted.
- Payment: No payment is due until check-in. Do not send payments ahead of time. Forms of accepted payment are cash, check, or card.
- Stall Assignments: Stalls are assigned by the Colorado State Fair Horse Show Management (Management). There will be no moving of stall assignments, not even within your county, following check-in. Please notify the Management if you see or hear of anyone placing horses or tack in the incorrect stall assignments.
- Shavings: Will be available for purchase. No outside shavings are allowed. A fee will be assessed of \$150 if the exhibitor brings in outside shavings. See Feed & Bedding requirements outlined in the 2026 Colorado State Fair Horse Show Competition Requirements.

- Check Out: All stall and tack room check outs must be by 9:00 p.m. on August 30, 2026. Exhibitors are responsible to remove any string, twine, wire, labels, etc. off of their stall (inside and out) before checking out.

Gate Admission and Parking Passes

- Parking and Admission gate passes can be pre-ordered on the entry form or purchased at check-in only.
- If parking or admission gate passes get misplaced, the Authority will not reissue passes free of charge. You will have to pay for additional passes at full cost.
- Please note that parking permits are limited and not guaranteed.
- No exhibitor parking is allowed inside the Horse Show Complex.

2026 CSF PARKING



LOT 6 PARKING | \$20/DAILY

Located west of the Horse Show Grounds on Fair Grounds

S. LOT PARKING | \$45/SEASONALLY

Located South of Fair Grounds off Grounds

Parking reservations are available on CSF Entry forms

Horseman's Lot (Inside Gate 6) Daily Permits

- Permits are \$20.00 per day and correspond to a specific parking area inside Lot 6 as space permits (the parking permit does not include gate admission).
- If the Horseman's Lot is full, overflow parking is available in the South Lot. A free shuttle service is available for those parking in the South Lot.

South Lot Season Parking

- Permits are \$45.00 each (good for 11 days of the fair); they do not include gate admission.
- The South lot is located on Mesa Ave. on the South side of the fairgrounds.

Gate Admission

- Every exhibitor/parent attending the State Fair must purchase a Horse Show Wristband or Daily Gate Admission.
- The Horse Show Office will be selling exhibitors of all ages wristbands that are good for the entire 11 days of the fair.
- All Wristbands can be purchased at the time of check-in at the Horse Show Office.

General Show Information

Health Certifications/Arrival

- The Authority requires a health certificate that is issued within 7 days of the start of the State Fair 4-H Horse Show. Each horse must be identified on the health certificate.
- Exhibitors will arrive and enter through Gate 7 which is open from 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM. If arriving outside the listed timeframe, please contact Deb Evans at 719-241-4608.

4-H State Championship Show Entry Check Sheet

Check-In

- Exhibitors will check in at the horse show office where they will receive their stalling assignment, review their class entries, and receive their exhibitor packet with back number.

- Payment in full for entries and stalling is due at check-in. Forms of accepted payment are cash, check, or card.
- Parking and Admission gate passes can be pre-ordered on the entry form or purchased at check-in only.
- Each exhibitor or guardian must correctly fill out a current W-9
- Once the check-in process is complete, exhibitors will have their stalls unlocked so they can unload and then park. Please be considerate about the parking while unloading and the amount of time the truck/trailer remains inside the Horse Show Complex for unloading.

Checklist Overview of Colorado State Fair 4-H Horse Show

1. Complete online class entries.
2. Complete online stalling/tack reservation.
3. Reserve overnight lodging for family (RV camping, 4-H dormitories, hotel, etc) if applicable.
4. Stay up to date by following the Colorado State Fair Horse Show Updates on Facebook or by signing up for the Horse Show Newsletter at: [Colorado State Fair Horse Show Competitions](#)
5. The official Colorado State Fair Feed & Bedding Concessionaire contract is pending. Provider details and pre-order instructions will be posted at a later date.
6. Health certificate that identifies each horse within 7 days of the start of the State Fair 4-H Horse Show.
7. At check-in have payment ready and information ready to fill out a W-9

Reminders

Each exhibitor is required to read and adhere to the:

- [2026 Colorado State Fair General Competition Requirements](#)
- [2026 Horse Show Competition & Entry Requirements](#)
- 2026 State Fair 4-H State Championship Rules
- [2026 Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct](#)
- [Colorado 4-H Horse Rulebooks \(Revised 2024\)](#)

- [Colorado Miniature Horse Rulebook](#) (Revised 2026)
- Entries must be completed through the appropriate online entry system. The link for entries will be posted on the Colorado State Fair Website on the [Colorado State Fair 4-H State Championship Horse Show](#) page. No payment is due until check-in at the Horse Show Office.
- Premiums: For premium monies to be issued each class must have at least 3 exhibitors compete.
- Exhibitors may not switch divisions after the 4-H Horse Show registration deadline.

Exhibitor Eligibility

1. Exhibitors competing in the Colorado State Fair 4-H State Championship Horse Show (4-H Horse Show) must be members in good standing of in the Colorado State University 4-H Program. Exhibitors who are at least 8 years of age and have not reached their 19th birthday as of December 31st of the previous year are eligible (See Rule 2 [Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book \(Revised 2024\)](#)).
2. The 4-H Horse Show is a 4-H show only and is not an open or FFA horse show.
3. All entry forms will be verified by a 4-H Extension Specialist to certify the exhibitor is a member in good standing, enrolled in the Colorado 4-H Horse Project, entered in the correct divisions/level/competencies , and the exhibitor's horse is ID'ed in 4HOnline before May 1st.
4. All exhibitors are required to enter the division of which the level they have achieved before submission of entries and verified by your County Specialist. This includes the Novice, Limited, and Advanced Divisions.
5. 4-H members who have passed their Level 1 test are only eligible to enter the Novice Division.
6. Competencies: Exhibitors must have passed their Gymkhana Competency to compete in the Gymkhana Division. Exhibitors must have passed their Ranch Horse Limited or Advanced Competency to compete in the Ranch Horse Division. 4-H members must have passed their Limited or Advanced Over Fences Competency to enter Hunter Hack.

Horse Eligibility

1. Number of Horses: Exhibitors may bring a total of two horses, regardless of how many divisions the exhibitor chooses to enter. Exhibitors participating in the miniature horse may bring a total of four miniature horses, but are limited to two stalls.
2. Ownership and Identification: Horse ownership is not required to participate in the Colorado State Fair 4-H Horse Show, but the exhibitor must have a valid lease for any horse he or she is showing uploaded into 4HOnline. The exhibitor must have provided most of the management, care, and training of the horse during the current 4-H year. All horses entered in any division must be included in the Exhibitor's Horse Project Record Book and declared as a project horse in 4-H online before May 1st of the current year.
3. No substitution of horses will be permitted under any circumstances.
4. Horses Shared by Siblings: Horses may be shown by siblings if they show or are entered in different age divisions or classifications. Please see the [Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book \(Revised 2024\)](#) regarding requirements for exhibitors using the same horse, Rule 4C. The 4-H Horse Show will follow the Colorado 4-H Rule Book regarding the rules addressing this matter.
5. No stallions are permitted to compete in the 4-H Horse Show.

Divisions

1. The show is divided into four-point counting disciplines: English, Western, Ranch Horse, and Gymkhana. Exhibitors may compete in any or all disciplines. Exhibitors may not switch divisions after the 4-H Horse Show registration deadline. Individual classes in each division are divided by age in such a manner as to equalize class size best. Ages are determined as of December 31 of the previous year.
2. Classes with fewer than five entries may be combined at the discretion of Management.
3. In all divisions, the written test and showmanship are considered regular classes and will be counted toward Daily High Point and Overall Highpoint awards.

Novice - Level 1 Skills

- Age Divisions: All ages (8-18 years of age)

- Western Classes: Showmanship, Horsemanship, Trail, and Written Test
- English Classes: Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Riding Control, and Written Test
- Novice Exhibitors have Level 1 skills only.

Limited - Level 2 Skills

- Age Divisions: 8-13 & 14-18
- Western Classes: Showmanship, Horsemanship, Trail, Western Riding, Reining, and Written Test
- English Classes: Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Riding Control, Show Hack, and Written Test
- Gymkhana Classes: Barrels, Flags, Poles, and Written Test
- Ranch Classes: Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Individual Cow Work, Ranch Herd Work, and Written Test
- Competencies must be completed for Gymkhana classes, Ranch Horse Division, and Hunter Hack

Advanced - Level 3 and 4 Skills

- Age Divisions:
 - 8-13
 - 14-18
- Western Classes: Showmanship, Horsemanship, Trail, Reining, Western Riding, and Written Test
- English Classes: Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Riding Control, Show Hack, Hunter Hack, and Written Test
- Gymkhana Classes: Barrels, Flags, Poles, and Written Test
- Ranch Classes: Ranch Riding, Individual Cow Work, Ranch Herd Work, Ranch Trail, and Written Test
- Competencies must be completed for Gymkhana classes, Ranch Horse Division, and Hunter Hack

Written Test

1. Completion of State 4-H Written Test is mandatory for daily high point and overall award

eligibility. Members will be ineligible for daily high point or overall awards if they do not complete the Written Test for the Division.

2. The Written Test is a Colorado State Fair 4-H State Championship Horse Show class and will be treated as such.
3. The Written Test will be 20 general equine science questions from the [Colorado Horse Manual](#), and will consist of 5 additional specific questions for each discipline (English, Western, Ranch, and Gymkhana) from the most current [Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book \(Revised 2024\)](#) The total number of questions will be 25.
4. To be eligible to take the Written Test, exhibitors must be on time to take the test, have a pencil, bring their exhibitor number, be dressed appropriately (Colorado State 4-H dress code) and include all necessary identifying information on their test.
5. Written Tests missing identifying exhibitor information or exhibitors who are late to the test may be disqualified. If the exhibitor takes the wrong test, they will receive a zero score and not be eligible to place in the written test class, but would still be eligible for all daily high point and overall awards.
6. See class list for Written Test start times.
7. Per the competition requirement regarding combining classes the written test will follow the same outline.
8. The only adults allowed in the testing area are those proctoring or asked by a 4-H Horse Superintendent to assist an exhibitor with reading the test.
9. Exhibitors may not talk to other exhibitors and may only direct questions to the test proctors during the written test. Exhibitors may be asked to forfeit their test and leave the area if they talk to, share answers with, or take answers from other exhibitors.
10. The Ranch Horse Written Test will be scored based on 0 - 75 points; 75 being a perfect score.

General Information & Show Requirements

1. Specific State and National Contest Rules will be observed in addition to the requirements outlined. Individual class requirements will follow the [Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book \(Revised 2024\)](#) and the [Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book Addendum \(Revised 2025\)](#).
2. All entries in the Horse Show Department are subject to the [2026 Colorado State Fair](#)

General Competition & Entry Requirements.

3. Only contestants can school and ride their horses at any time while at the 4-H State Horse Show.
4. Contestants are not allowed to ride bareback or double at any time while at the fair.
5. Exhibitor Numbers: Exhibitors must always wear their numbers while in the Horse Show area. While showing, exhibitors are encouraged to display their number on both sides of the saddle pad rather than on the exhibitor's back (exception for showmanship).
6. Management will provide two copies of each contestant's number. An exhibitor entering the arena without a number on or who fails to wear the correct back number will be disqualified from that class.
7. Dress Code: Contestants must always follow 4-H dress code (including awards ceremonies) as the 4-H Horse Show is a 4-H event. Contestants will be asked to modify their dress attire to meet the Colorado 4-H Dress Code (which is posted at co4h.colostate.edu). Acceptable dress code rules and exceptions are available through Colorado State Extension.
8. Promptness: Exhibitors will be responsible for making it to their classes on time. The exhibitor must enter the ring according to the order of go in the time specified by the Management. Failure to do so will disqualify the exhibitor from the class. All gate calls are courtesy calls only.
9. Gate or Tack Changes: The time permitted for tack changes will be at the discretion of the 4-H Superintendents and Management. Gate changes are only permitted if they are 4-H Horse Show related.
10. Gate Protocol: All events are required to be held inside a closed arena. During all runs, arena gates will remain closed. Failure to enter and leave the arena, mounted at a walk or trot, will result in a disqualification. Only exhibitors and Management should be in the arena.
11. Gymkhana: An exhibitor in Gymkhana is considered on course from the time the arena gate closes to the time the arena gate reopens. Gymkhana division rules apply from the time of entry to the time of exit (gate to gate) for every rider.
12. Limited Ranch Cow Work Class: An exhibitor will box for 50 seconds until notified by the announcer, then complete their run. The exhibitor will be allowed a total of 1 ½ minutes.

13. During cattle classes, only the stock contractor, his employees, or Management will be allowed in the cattle area. The fair will provide four herd helpers. Exhibitors must use the fair-provided herd help for their bottom corners but have the option to pick two 4-H youth ranch horse exhibitors to use as their top two corners help. Rule 1, Rule 20, and Rule 21 in the [Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book \(Revised 2024\)](#) will be strictly enforced.
14. Exhibitors may not approach a judge under any circumstances. All questions or comments must be directed through the State Fair 4-H Horse Show Superintendents or Management.
15. Exhibitors and parents or guardians may be disqualified and excused from the grounds at the discretion of Management for any unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive action to a horse. The Exhibitor's animal must always be under control and handled safely. Any exhibitor not adhering to the above requirement may be disqualified and forfeit all fees, prize money, and awards.
16. Drug Testing: Management reserves the right to randomly or directly drug test any horse on the Authority's grounds at any time for forbidden substances. If forbidden substances are found to be administered to any horse during the 4-H Horse Show, exhibitors and horses will be disqualified from all classes. They will forfeit all premium money and awards. Please refer to the "forbidden substances" section of the [2026 AQHA Rule Book](#) for a list of forbidden substances.
17. The 4-H Code of Conduct Rule will be strictly enforced during the 4-H Horse Show.
18. If a horse has a history of kicking or biting, it must display a red ribbon at the top of the tail. Management/4-H Superintendents have the right to request the red ribbon if deemed for the safety of other exhibitors.
19. Video Protests: Video protests are not allowed during the Colorado State Fair 4-H State Championship Show.
20. Zero Score Rule: In Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, English Control, Ranch Horsemanship, and Showmanship, failure to complete the pattern will not result in a disqualification but will be scored accordingly. In these classes, Zero Scores are eligible for placing, but not above anyone receiving a score above zero. In Reining, Western Riding, Ranch Herd Work, Trail, and Individual Cow Work, a Zero Score will not be placed on the judge's card.
21. Off Pattern (OP): In Ranch Riding and Ranch Trail, if an exhibitor goes off pattern. OP's

are to be placed below horses performing all maneuvers and staying on pattern. OP's are eligible for placing, but not above anyone receiving a score.

22. Management reserves the right to amend or change rules, combine classes, and change times of scheduled classes at any time prior to the judging, and notice will be given to exhibitors of any changes.

Premiums

Premiums are paid in 4-H classes as follows (must have a minimum of 3 exhibitors per class):

1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place	6th Place
\$25	\$20	\$15	\$13	\$10	\$7

4-H Horse Show Divisions and Classes

Gymkhana

Competency card required to enter

Class: Written Test. (Required entry for Daily High Points and Overall All awards)		
Class Number	Division	Age
1144	Limited	8-13 years
1145	Limited	14-18 years
1146	Advanced	8-13 years
1147	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Barrel Race		
1148	Limited	8-13 years
1149	Limited	14-18 years
1150	Advanced	8-13 years
1151	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Flags		
1152	Limited	8-13 years
1153	Limited	14-18 years
1154	Advanced	8-13 years
1155	Advanced	14-18 years
Class:Poles		
1156	Limited	8-13 years

1157	Limited	14-18 years
1158	Advanced	8-13 years
1159	Advanced	14-18 years

English

Class: Written Test (Required entry for Daily High Points and Overall All awards)		
Class Name/Class Number	Division	Ages
1160	Novice	8-18 years
1161	Limited	8-13 years
1162	Limited	14-18 years
1163	Advanced	8-13 years
1164	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: English Showmanship		
1165	Novice	8-18 years
1166	Limited	8-13 years
1167	Limited	14-18 years
1168	Advanced	8-13 years
1169	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: English Equitation		
1170	Novice	8-18 years
1171	Limited	8-13 years
1172	Limited	14-18 years
1173	Advanced	8-13 years
1174	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: English Riding Control		

1175	Novice	8-18 years
1176	Limited	8-13 years
1177	Limited	14-18 years
1178	Advanced	8-13 years
1179	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: English Show Hack (Hunt, Saddle Seat, or Dressage seat riders may ride)		
1180	Novice	8-18 years
1181	Limited	8-13 years
1182	Limited	14-18 years
1183	Advanced	8-13 years
1184	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Hunter Hack (Competency card required to enter) To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter. Horses are required to jump two fences that are 2' - 2'6" in height.		
1185	Advanced	8-13 years
1186	Advanced	14-18 years

Western

Class Name/Class Number	Division	Ages
Class: Written Test (Required entry for Daily High Points and Overall All awards)		
1187	Novice	8-18 years
1188	Limited	8-13 years
1189	Limited	14-18 years
1190	Advanced	8-13 years
1191	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Western Showmanship		
1192	Novice	8-18 years
1193	Limited	8-13 years
1194	Limited	14-18 years
1195	Advanced	8-13 years
1196	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Western Horsemanship		
1197	Novice	8-18 years
1198	Limited	8-13 years
1199	Limited	14-18 years

1200	Advanced	8-13 years
1201	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Western Trail		
1202	Novice	8-18 years
1203	Limited	8-13 years
1204	Limited	14-18 years
1205	Advanced	8-13 years
1206	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Western Riding		
1207	Limited	8-13 years
1208	Limited	14-18 years
1209	Advanced	8-13 years
1210	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Reining		
1211	Limited	8-13 years
1212	Limited	14-18 years
1213	Advanced	8-13 years
1214	Advanced	14-18 years

Ranch Horse

Competency card required to enter

Class Name/Class Number	Division	Age
Class: Written Test*		
*Required entry for Daily High Point and Overall Awards		
1215	Limited	8-13 years
1216	Limited	14-18 years
1217	Advanced	8-13 years
1218	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Ranch Riding*		
1219	Limited	8-13 years
1220	Limited	14-18 years
1221	Advanced	8-13 years
1222	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Ranch Trail*		
1223	Limited	8-13 years
1224	Limited	14-18 years
1225	Advanced	8-13 years
1226	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Individual Cow Work*		
1227	Limited	8-13 years
1228	Limited	14-18 years
1229	Advanced	8-13 years
1230	Advanced	14-18 years
Class: Ranch Herd Work*		
1231	Limited	8-13 years

1232	Limited	14-18 years
1233	Advanced	8-13 years
1234	Advanced	14-18 years

Awards

1. Daily High Point Calculations: Points per class are calculated on a weighted scale with a maximum of 10 points if 10 or more horses are shown. These points will be tabulated towards any High Point Awards. Highpoint ties will be broken on the written test. Except for the Ranch Horse will be tabulated on raw scores. The Written Test scores will be used to break all ties. If a tie still exists, placing in the respective showmanship class for English and Western Division will be used. The state champion award, reserve state champion award, and ten ribbons will be presented to the following divisions/age groups.

Divisions:

- Limited 8-13 years
 - Limited 14-18 years
 - Advanced 8-13 years
 - Advanced 14-18 years
2. Overall High Point Calculations: The Overall High Point will be on a weighted scale with a maximum of 10 points if 10 or more horses are shown, except that the Overall High Point for Ranch Horse will be tabulated on raw scores. If there are fewer than 5 exhibitors entered, Management reserves the right to combine classes.. The Written Test scores will be used to break all ties except in Ranch where the herd work class will be used to break the tie. If a tie still exists, placing in the Western showmanship class will be used. The state champion award, reserve state champion award, and ten ribbons will be presented to the following divisions.

Divisions:

- Limited
 - Advanced
3. Ranch Horse Division Daily High Point & Overall: Points per class will be based on the

exhibitor's earned performance score provided by the judge. Example: An exhibitor with a class score of 68 will receive 68 points for that class. In Ranch Horse, the respective herd work class will be used as the first tie breaker. If a tie still exists, an official flip of a coin will be used to break the tie.

4. Novice Division: No highpoint awards, only class awards and ribbons.
5. Class Awards: Most class awards will be presented at the arena gate after completing the class. Ribbons not picked up at the gate may be claimed at the 4-H Horse Show announcer booth or at the Horse Show Office. Awards will not be mailed.
6. Daily & Overall Awards Presentations: The Horse Show Office will be closed for at least one hour each day after completing the last class. This will allow Management to tabulate and double-check all high points. No exhibitors, spectators, or family members will be allowed in the office during this time. After the tabulation of scores by Management, the officials will call the exhibitors to the arena for the awards presentations.
7. Daily Highpoint Eligibility: A contestant must enter the written test, showmanship, and one riding class to be eligible. A contestant may enter additional classes in a single division that he or she is qualified to enter. 4-H Daily Highpoint Champion include:
 - Western: Written Test, Western Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Western Riding, and Reining
 - English: Written Test, English Showmanship, English Equitation, English Riding Control, Show Hack, and Hunter Hack*
 - Ranch Horse: Written Test, Ranch Trail, Ranch Riding, Ranch Individual Cow Work, and Ranch Herd Work
 - Gymkhana: Written Test, Barrels, Poles, and Flags

*These classes do not offer a Level II option for entry.

8. Colorado State Fair Overall English, Western, & Gymkhana Limited and Advanced Saddle: Awarded to the Limited & Advanced exhibitor who accumulates the greatest overall number of points in all three divisions (English, Gymkhana, and Western). Contestants must compete in the Advanced English and Western Divisions or Limited English and Western Divisions to be eligible (i.e., contestants competing in Limited

Western and Advanced English are not eligible for this award). Gymkhana points in the contestants' respective age groups will also be counted. The champion in Limited and Advance will receive a saddle awarded by the Authority. The Authority will sponsor the Limited and Advance Reserve Champion awards for these All-Around awards.

9. Colorado State Fair Overall Limited and Advanced Ranch Horse Saddles: The Authority and Kiana Creek Ranch are sponsoring these saddles. Reserve winners in both levels will receive awards sponsored by the Authority. These awards will go to the individual who accumulates the greatest overall score in all five classes within their designated division of the Ranch Horse Competition. This includes the written test for the ranch horse division.

The Authority reserves the right to adjust results if Management has become aware of an error in the point calculations of results previously announced. In any such case, the Authority has the right to take back all prizes distributed before the error and distribute them to the correct recipient. This will enable the Authority and Colorado 4-H Extension to continue to offer quality awards for the 4-H Horse Show.

Specialty Awards

County Spirit Award

The County Spirit Award recognizes a county delegation that exemplifies the true spirit of 4-H at the Colorado State Fair 4-H Championship Horse Show. This award honors a county that creatively highlights this year's theme while demonstrating a consistently positive attitude, strong teamwork, and inclusive behavior throughout the event. Recipients of this award show enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and a genuine commitment to uplifting others – both in and out of the arena. Their actions reflect respect, encouragement, and pride in representing their county and the 4-H program as a whole.

Anonymous judges will circulate during the 4-H Horse Show. A committee will make inspections during the fair to determine the awards, taking into consideration the following points and rating 4-H members and country representatives in the following areas:

Category	Description	Points
Positive Attitude	Demonstrates enthusiasm, optimism, and a can-do mindset during the event. Respond to challenges with resilience and encourage others.	0–10
Teamwork & Collaboration	Actively supports peers, offers help without being asked, and contributes to a positive group dynamic. Demonstrates cooperation and respect.	0–10
Inclusiveness & Kindness	Promotes belonging. Works to ensure all participants feel valued.	0–10
Participation & Engagement	Shows consistent involvement in activities, demonstrates initiative, and contributes energy to group efforts.	0–10
Leadership through Example	Models the values of the 4-H program, inspires others through actions, shows responsibility, and upholds expectations.	0–10
County Pride	Demonstrates unity by representation of their county through stall decorations, branded clothing, etc.	0–10

County Image Award

The County Image Award recognizes counties that demonstrate exemplary conduct, organization, and professionalism throughout the Colorado State Fair 4-H Championship Horse Show. This award honors counties that consistently present a positive, professional image of 4-H both in and out of the arena.

Anonymous judges will circulate during the 4-H Horse Show. A committee will make inspections during the fair to determine the awards, taking into consideration the following points and rating 4-H members and country representatives in the following areas:

1. Horsemanship safety: Judges will penalize exhibitors who exhibit poor safety, including, but not limited to, bareback riding, riding with halter and lead shank, having more than one rider, and other dangerous displays.
2. Good sportsmanship.

3. Courtesy to Management, judges, exhibitors, and visitors.
4. The camaraderie among all county representatives.
5. Accuracy in submitting entries.
6. Orderliness and cleanliness of stalls, aisles, and animals. Adult help is not permitted. Decorations are not to count.
7. Displaying a sign or banner that designates the county. A "point of contact" for each county must be posted in each county's stalling area and must be on file in the Horse Show Office. Each stall should have signage indicating who the owner is and what county he or she represents.
8. Systematic and neat arrangement of supplies, feed, hay, and straw.
9. Personal appearance, including award presentations and ceremonies.
10. Observance of all competition and other Authority requirements.
11. Cooperation with show officials, such as getting entries into the show rings on time.
12. Exhibitors should always wear their exhibitor number to be easily identifiable

This will be awarded at the last awards ceremony of the Colorado State Fair 4-H Horse Show.

County Image Award Judging Criteria

Judging Criteria	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Needs Improvement (1-2)
Horsemanship Safety	Rider demonstrate excellent control in and out of the area, confidence, proper cues, and safety of those around them	Minor issues related to horsemanship & safety	Inconsistent horsemanship & safety	Poor control & lack of safety
Stall Safety & Cleanliness	Stalls are clean & safe. Water and feed are all fresh	Mostly clean and safe, minor issues	Some clutter or safety concerns present	Dirty stall, major hazards, or neglect.
Good Sportsmanship	Always respectful, congratulates others, supports	Usually positive and respectful	Occasionally unsportsmanlike behavior	Displays poor attitude or disrespect

	peers			
Courtesy to Show Management	Prompt, respectful, and cooperative at all times	Minor delays or reminders needed	Sometimes uncooperative or dismissive	Disrespectful or disregards instructions
Camaraderie	Actively encourages and helps teammates. Positive presence	Generally supportive	Rarely interacts or supports others	Dismissive or unkind to peers
Accuracy in submitting entries	All entries submitted on time and correctly	One minor error	Several corrections are needed	Late or incorrect entries causing issues
Stall Decorations	Creative, clean and represents 4-H and the county well	Some effort and county identity shown	Basic or minimal decorations	No effort or inappropriate items
Personal Appearance, including award presentations & ceremonies	Always clean, dressed appropriately in proper attire	Mostly well-groomed and in dress code	Occasionally untidy or missing required elements	Sloppy, inappropriate attire or lack of preparation
Observance with show officials, such as getting entries into the show ring on time	Follows all rules and guidance without reminders	Generally compliant	Needs occasional reminders	Ignores or argues with officials
Exhibitors should always wear their exhibitor number	Always clearly visible, correct number, well placed.	Minor placement issue once	Occasionally misplaced or forgotten	Number missing, incorrect, or unreadable

Northeastern Junior College Scholarships

The Northeastern Junior College (NJC), Sterling, CO, will award a \$1000 scholarship for tuition at NJC to the highest placing exhibitor aged 14-18 years who has previously signed up to be eligible for this scholarship. NJC will award one scholarship in the English, Western, and Ranch Horse Divisions. A framed certificate will be presented at the time of the show awards.

The Authority will put a place on the entry form for all exhibitors aged 14-18 years to check if they wish to be eligible to win the NJC scholarships. All seniors who do not check the box on the entry form will not be eligible to win a NJC scholarship.

Supreme Showman

In memory of Jason Archuleta the Supreme Showman belt buckle will be awarded to the exhibitor who achieved the highest showmanship score over all levels/ages. If there is to be a tie it will be decided by the overall effectiveness and form score. If that cannot break the tie, then the written test score will be used. If the written test score cannot break the tie, then it will be done by the first missed question on the written test.

Colorado State Championship 4-H Horse Show

August 27, 2026 Tentative Schedule

English Class Schedule

English Classes

- East Arena Bleachers
- Start time: 10:00 AM
- Written Test Classes are administered all at the same time before the start of the first riding class

Class No.	Class Division	Age
1160	Novice	8-18 years
1161	Limited	8-13 years
1162	Limited	14-18 years
1163	Advanced	8-13 years
1164	Advanced	14-18 years

Following the Written Test, we will start in both arenas at 11:00 AM

English Classes

Covered Arena Judge: Jamieson Gross			Uncovered Arena Judge: Mark Guynn		
Class No.	Class Name	Age	Class No.	Class Name	Age
1165	Novice English Showmanship	8-18 years	1167	Limited English Showmanship	14-18 years
1166	Limited English Showmanship	8-13 years	1168	Advanced English Showmanship	8-13 years
1169	Advanced English Showmanship	14-18 years	1170	Novice English Equitation	8-18 years
1174	Advanced English Equitation	14-18 years	1171	Limited English Equitation	8-13 years
1173	Advanced English Equitation	8-13 years	1172	Limited English Equitation	14-18 years
Short Break if needed			Short Break if needed		
1180	Novice English Show Hack	8-18 year	1179	Advanced English Riding Control	14-18 years
1181	Limited English Show Hack	8-13 years	1178	Advanced English Riding Control	8-13 years
1182	Limited English Show Hack	14-18 years	1175	Novice English Riding Control	8-18 years
1183	Advanced English Show Hack	8-13 years	1176	Limited English Riding Control	8-13 years
1184	Advanced English Show Hack	14-18 years	1177	Limited English Riding Control	14-18 years

Short Break if needed		
Uncovered Arena Judge: Jamieson Gross		
Class No.	Class Name	Age
1185	Advanced Hunter Hack	8-13 years
1186	Advanced Hunter Hack	14-18 years

The English Horse Awards Ceremony will be held about one hour after the completion of the English classes. If you are not present at the awards ceremony to collect your ribbons/awards or have someone to collect them for you, you forfeit your awards. Awards will not be mailed out.

Colorado State Championship 4-H Horse Show

August 28, 2026 Tentative Schedule

Show Management reserves the right to change this schedule at any given time.

Western Class Schedule

Western Classes Written Test

- Uncovered Arena Bleachers
- Start time: 7:30 AM
- Written Test Classes are administered simultaneously before the start of the first riding class.

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1187	Novice	8-18 years
1188	Limited	8-13 years
1189	Limited	14-18 years
1190	Advanced	8-13 years
1191	Advanced	14-18 years

Following the Written Test, there will be a short 15-minute exhibitor meeting.

Western Classes

Uncovered Arena Judge: Jamieson Gross			Covered Arena Judge: Mark Guynn		
Class No.	Class Name	Age	Class No.	Class Name	Age
1196	Advanced Western Showmanship	14-18 years	1192	Novice Western Showmanship	8-18 years
1194	Limited Western Showmanship	14-18 years	1193	Limited Western Showmanship	8-13 years
1201	Advanced Western Horsemanship	14-18 years	1195	Advanced Western Showmanship	8-13 years
1199	Limited Western Horsemanship	14-18 years	1197	Novice Western Horsemanship	8-18 years
Short Break			1200	Advanced Western Horsemanship	8-13 years
1207	Limited Western Riding	8-13 years	1198	Limited Western Horsemanship	8-13 years
1209	Advanced Western Riding	8-13 years	Short Break		
1208	Limited Western Riding	14-18 years	1212	Limited Reining	14-18 years
1210	Advanced Western Riding	14-18 years	1214	Advanced Reining	14-18 years
			1211	Limited Reining	8-13 years
			1213	Advanced Reining	8-13 years

Western Trail Classes

- West Warm-up Arena
- Start time: 9:30 AM
- Judge: Cole Tully

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1202	Novice Trail	8-18 years
1203	Limited Trail	8-13 years
1204	Limited Trail	14-18 years
1205	Advanced Trail	8-13 years
1206	Advanced Trail	14-18 years

Western Trail - West Warm-Up Arena

- The trail course will be open starting at 9:30 AM and will run at will, the course will remain open until Horse Show Staff gives a thirty (30) minute warning call to close the course for the day.
- Exhibitors are responsible for signing up to ride the trail course before it closes.
- Exhibitors must sign up at the gate with the official gate person and be ready to go when their turn comes.
- Suppose you have a class conflict in one of the other arenas. In that case, you must let the trail gate person know before going and showing in the other arena or send a parent or sibling to the trail arena to let the gate person know that you are showing in one of the other arenas.
- The East and West arena classes have precedence over the trail arena, so if you think you will have a conflict, please let the gate person know immediately so he or she may move you down on the list.
- Trail is a Western class; English tack is prohibited.

Western Horse Awards Ceremony will be held about one hour after the completion of the Western classes. If you are not present at the awards ceremony to collect your ribbons/awards or have someone to collect them for you, you forfeit your awards. Awards will not be mailed out.

Colorado State Championship 4-H Horse Show

August 29, 2026 Tentative Schedule

Management reserves the right to change this schedule at any given time.

Ranch Horse Class Schedule

Ranch Horse Written Test

Written Test Classes are administered all simultaneously before the start of the first riding class.

- Uncovered Arena Bleachers
- Start time: 7:30 AM

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1215	Limited	8-13 years
1216	Limited	14-18 years
1217	Advanced	8-13 years
1218	Advanced	14-18 years

Following the Written Test, there will be a short 15-minute exhibitor meeting

Ranch Horse Cutting & Cow Horse Classes

- Start time: 8:30 AM (Tentative)
- Uncovered Arena
- Judge: Mark Guynn

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1234	Advanced Ranch Herd Work	14-18 years
1233	Advanced Ranch Herd Work	8-13 years
1232	Limited Ranch Herd Work	14-18 years
1231	Limited Ranch Herd Work	8-13 years
1230	Advanced Individual Cow Work	14-18 years
1229	Advanced Individual Cow Work	8-13 years
1228	Limited Individual Cow Work	14-18 years
1227	Limited Individual Cow Work	8-13 years

Ranch Horse Trail Classes

- Start time: 9:30 AM (tentative)
- Covered Arena
- Judge: Jamieson Gross
- Exhibitors show at will. Check-in with the gate person to sign up on the list to go.
 - Failure to report to the trail course will result in a zero score.
 - Classes in the East arena will take precedence over trail classes
 - Consideration will be given to exhibitors showing in other classes
 - It is the exhibitor's responsibility to report this class conflict to the Trail gate person.

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1223	Limited Ranch Horse Trail	8-13 years
1224	Limited Ranch Horse Trail	14-18 years
1225	Advanced Ranch Horse Trail	8-13 years
1226	Advanced Ranch Horse Trail	14-18 years

Ranch Horse Ranch Riding Classes

- Start time: after Trail
- Covered Arena
- Judge: Jamieson Gross

Class No.	Class Name	Class Division
1219	Limited Ranch Riding	8-13 years
1220	Limited Ranch Riding	14-18 years
1221	Advanced Ranch Riding	8-13 years
1222	Advanced Ranch Riding	14-18 years

The Ranch Horse Awards Ceremony will be held one hour after completing the Ranch Horse classes. If you are not present at the awards ceremony to collect your ribbons or awards or have someone collect them for you, you forfeit your awards. Awards will not be mailed out.

Colorado State Championship 4-H Horse Show

August 30, 2026 Tentative Schedule

Management reserves the right to change this schedule at any given time.

Gymkhana Class Schedule

Gymkhana Classes Written Test

- Start time: 7:30 AM
- Uncovered Arena Bleachers
- Written Test Classes are administered simultaneously before the start of the first riding class.

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1144	Limited	8-13 years
1145	Limited	14-18 years
1146	Advanced	8-13 years
1147	Advanced	14-18 years

Following the Written Test, there will be a short 15-minute exhibitor meeting.

Gymkhana Riding Classes

- Start time: 8:15 AM
- Uncovered Arena
- Judge: Jamieson Gross

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1148	Limited Barrel Race	8-13 years
1149	Limited Barrel Race	14-18 years
1150	Advanced Barrel Race	8-13 years
1151	Advanced Barrel Race	14-18 years
1153	Limited Flags	14-18 years
1152	Limited Flags	8-13 years
1155	Advanced Flags	14-18 years
1154	Advanced Flags	8-13 years
1157	Limited Poles	14-18 years
1156	Limited Poles	8-13 years
1159	Advanced Poles	14-18 years
1158	Advanced Poles	8-13 years

Gymkhana awards will be presented approximately one hour after the last class. If you are not present at the awards ceremony to collect your ribbons or awards or have someone collect them for you, you forfeit your awards. Awards will not be mailed.

Colorado State Championship 4-H Horse Show

August 30, 2026 Tentative Schedule

Management reserves the right to change this schedule at any given time.

Miniature Horse Class Schedule

Miniature Horse Written Test Classes

- Measurements will be from 7:30-8:00 AM
- Start time: 8:00 AM
- East warm-up Arena Bleachers
- Written Test Classes are administered simultaneously before the start of the first riding class.
- Exhibitors must bring a # 2 pencil

Class No.	Class Name	Age
1235	Junior	8-10 years
1236	Intermediate	11-13 years
1237	Senior	14-18 years

Mini Horse Classes

- East Arena Bleachers
- Start time:9:00 AM
- Judge: Tiffany Mead

Class No.	Class Name	Class Division
1238	Liberty - Senior	14-18 years
1239	Liberty - Intermediate	11-13 years
1240	Liberty - Junior	8-10 years
1241	Performance Halter Geldings	All Ages
1242	Performance Halter Mares	All Ages
1243	Showmanship - Senior	14-18 years
1244	Showmanship - Intermediate	11-13 years
1245	Showmanship - Junior	8-10 years
1246	Halter Obstacle - Senior	14-18 years
1247	Halter Obstacle - Intermediate	11-13 years
1248	Halter Obstacle - Junior	8-10 years
1249	In-Hand Hunter - Senior	14-18 years
1250	In-Hand Hunter - Intermediate	11-13 years
1251	In-Hand Hunter - Junior	8-10 years
1252	In-Hand Jumper - Senior	14-18 years
1253	In-Hand Jumper - Intermediate	11-13 years
1254	In-Hand Jumper - Junior	8-10 years
1255	In-Hand Barrels - Senior	14-18 years
1256	In-Hand Barrels - Intermediate	11-13 years
1257	In-Hand Barrels - Junior	8-10 years

Class No.	Class Name	Class Division
1258	In-Hand Poles - Senior	14-18 years
1259	In-hand Poles - Intermediate	11-13 years
1260	In-Hand Poles - Junior	8-10 years
1261	Versatility - Senior	14-18 years
1262	Versatility - Intermediate	11-13 years
1263	Versatility - Junior	8-10 years
20 minute Break		
1254	Costume - Senior	14-18 years
1255	Costume - Intermediate	11-13 years
1256	Costume - Junior	8-10 years

Miniature Horse Awards Ceremony will be held about one hour after the completion of the Miniature Horse classes. If you are not present at the awards ceremony to collect your ribbons/awards or have someone to collect them for you, you forfeit your awards. Awards will not be mailed out.

Colorado State 4-H Championship Miniature Horse Show

Exhibitor/Miniature Horse Eligibility and Project Rules

1. Exhibitors competing in the Colorado State Fair 4-H State Championship Miniature Horse Show will abide by the same rules outlined at the beginning of this document.
2. Exhibitors will abide by the [2026 Colorado 4-H Miniature Horse Rulebook](#).
3. Please note that the highlighted sections provided are intended as a reference only. All participants are required to review and follow the official 2026 Colorado 4-H Miniature Horse Rulebook in its entirety. In the event of any discrepancies or questions, the 2026 Colorado 4-H Miniature Horse Rulebook will serve as the final authority and deciding document.

Measurements

1. To compete in State Fair Classes, all miniature horses should pass their safety test and be officially measured by the miniature horse project leader. The requirements for obtaining measurements will be followed by the [American Miniature Horse Association Rulebook](#).
2. The miniature horse project leader must re-measure miniature horses under 3 years old every year.
3. Miniature horses must not exceed 38" inches in height.
4. If a miniature horse is measured and found to be over 38" inches, the 4-H Superintendents and Management shall not allow the horse to show.

Show Rules

1. Miniature horse project members must have shown each project horse they wish to qualify in a qualifying show and taken the written test. It is expected for 4-H Specialists to verify this requirement has been met.
2. The show ring will be under the absolute control of the Management and 4-H Superintendents. Only authorized people will be allowed in the show ring during judging.
3. The Authority requires all exhibitors to wear proper attire in all horse show classes. Please refer to the [2026 Colorado 4-H Miniature Horse Rulebook](#) for details on each class.
4. All exhibitors are required to take the written test.

5. All judges' decisions are final.
6. A miniature horse can only be shown by one exhibitor per class.
7. Horses must be at least 1 year old.
8. Exhibitors must display a back-tag number while in the show ring.
9. For safety reasons, any unruly horse or unsafe equipment may be excused from the ring by the judge or Superintendent. An exhibitor cannot protest this action.
10. Excessively large classes may be divided by a Superintendent or Judge, as conditions warrant.
11. No entry may leave the ring after judging has begun without the permission of the Judge or Superintendent.
12. A horse must be handled and shown through an entire class by the same person. Should an additional handler be required due to physical limitation or emergency, approval must be obtained from the 4-H Superintendent and Management.
13. Miniature horses may be shown with full mane or mane with bridle path clipped and full tail.
14. Disqualifications: Height more than 38 inches, dwarfism, and unsoundness.
15. Failure to complete the pattern will not result in a disqualification but will be scored accordingly. In these classes, Zero Scores are eligible for placing, but not above anyone receiving a score above zero.
16. Please refer to the 4-H Colorado Miniature Horse Show Rulebook for more in-depth information about the rules of the show, classes and expectations.
17. Speed and over fences classes will rotate every other year. Even years will have the pole bending/hunter and odd years will have the barrel race/jumpers/versatility.

Performance Halter Division

1. Horses are presented in a relaxed and dignified manner at all times.
2. Weight evenly distributed on their feet; not stretched. Showing in a relaxed manner includes no rocking back to change balance and create intensity.
3. It is acceptable for handlers to raise their hand or use their hand to get the horse's attention but cannot be intimidating to the horse nor cause an intense reaction from the horse.

4. Equipment: a traditional style Arabian show halter, a Western style show halter, Draft type halter, or a leather stable halter.
5. Chains through the mouth are not permitted. A chain or leather strap under the chin, or leather pieces connecting the two sides of the halter under the chin, are permitted.
6. Classes:
 - Performance Halter Mares
 - Performance Halter Geldings
7. An exhibitor can enter a halter mare and a halter gelding; however, for Overall placings the exhibitor's highest placing will be used for points tabulation and the second placing will be dropped. The dropped entries of the second placings of certain exhibitors does NOT move up exhibitors in placing points for Overall. Exhibitors showing only one entry will receive the amount of placing points associated with their original placings.

Showmanship Division

1. Showmanship at Halter: Showmanship is designed to evaluate the exhibitor's ability to execute, in concert with a well-groomed and conditioned horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced, functional, and fundamentally correct body position.
2. In Showmanship classes, exhibitors are to show to the presiding (call) Judge only. Only the handler is judged, the horse is merely a prop to show the showmanship ability of the handler.
3. Judges define the showmanship pattern.
4. Class Procedures: All exhibitors may enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually (show and go).
5. The following maneuvers are acceptable for use in the pattern: lead the horse at a walk, trot, extended trot, or back; execute any of the gaits (including back) in straight and/or curved lines or a combination of straight and curved lines; stop; turn 90, 180, 270, 360 degrees or any combination or multiple of these turns. The pull turn is an unacceptable maneuver. The pattern must require the exhibitor to set the horse up squarely for inspection sometime during the class.

6. Equipment: When showing in Western tack and attire, Western style show halters with lead are to be used. A chain under the chin is allowed; no lip chains or chains over the nose are allowed. When showing in English tack and attire, appropriate English bridle or English style show halter are to be used. Showmanship whips, war bridles or like devices or any type of wire or rope over a horse's head are not permitted

In Hand Working Performance Division

General Rules: Halter Obstacle, Jumping, Hunter, and Versatility Classes

1. The judge and/or Superintendent have the right to alter the course for safety or to meet rules after the course is set and prior to the beginning of the class. Once the first exhibitor has completed the course, no changes may be made. If the same jump set up is used for different classes, and only jump order and/or heights are changed, the judge and Superintendent only need to walk the course one time.
2. Exhibitors will be allowed to walk the course after it has been set and verified by the judge and Superintendent.

Halter Obstacle

1. To be shown in halter with appropriate lead, chain on lead permitted under the chin of the horse.
2. Horse to be penalized for any unnecessary delay or excessive time at an obstacle. The judge can advance an exhibitor to the next obstacle if a horse is taking excessive time at an obstacle. Maximum time of thirty (30) seconds or two (2) attempts per obstacle.
3. Edible treats are not allowed to encourage an animal to perform one of the obstacles.
4. Whips are not allowed.
5. There must be a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 8 obstacles.

General Rules: In-Hand Hunter and Jumper

1. Horses are to be shown in halter or bridle with appropriate lead. Chain on lead permitted under the chin of the horse.
2. Hunters and Jumpers may show braided manes and tails in the manner of their larger

counterparts.

3. Exhibitors are not permitted to go over jumps.
4. Whip may not be carried.
5. A practice jump of similar construction to the jumps on course will be provided.
6. There will be a minimum of 4 fences and a maximum of 6 fences.
7. A hunter/jumper miniature horse must be 3 years and older.

Jumper Courses

1. Jumper courses should be technically challenging. Jumper courses may consist of lines of fences or single fences, and fences may be placed on straight or curved lines. Multiple turns or changes of direction are encouraged.
2. Fence Heights for Jumpers are: Minimum height 18" Maximum height 24"
3. Jumpers Scoring: Jumpers are scored mathematically on accumulated faults and on time to complete the course in case of ties. There will be one round which will be both scored for faults and timed. Exhibitors will be placed in order of least faults to most faults, with time utilized to break any ties (i.e. scoring by faults and then by time). There will be no additional rounds. Timing starts when the horse's nose passes the starting line and finishes when the horse's nose passes the finish line.
4. Lace up, closed toed tennis shoes/cleats are allowed instead of boots.

Hunter Courses

1. Hunter courses are designed to allow the exhibitor to present the horse to its best advantage. Longer distances and wide corners are utilized to enable a smooth presentation. Exhibitors will not be asked for tight turns. Angled jumps must be approached from the long corner, not the short corners.
2. Hunter courses consist of two or three straight or gently curved lines of jumps that do not require turns between them, or single jumps, with room for wide corners between lines and jumps.
3. Fence heights for Hunters are: Minimum height 18" and Maximum height 24".
4. Hunters are not scored mathematically by faults nor by time. Hunters are judged on style and form over fences, manners, way of going and pace in that order. The Judge must

penalize unsafe jumping (i.e., charging, refusals) and poor form over fences.

5. Circling once upon entering the ring and once upon leaving the ring is permissible.
6. Hunters will require a trot by in front of the judge for soundness.

Versatility

1. The horse will be shown in performance halter, and then as a hunter, in that order.
2. After halter inspections are completed, exhibitors are to follow the Ringmaster and proceed to the hunter course.
3. The hunter requirements for judging are the same as specified under the "Hunter" Rules. The Performance Halter requirements will be judged the same as specified under the Performance Halter Rules.
4. There shall be 2 (two) fences.
5. When all have completed the hunter course, they must trot for soundness before the Judges.
6. Horses do not leave the arena between divisions.
7. Both divisions count equally.
8. Horses must complete all two divisions, without disqualification, to be eligible for a ribbon.
9. No teeth will be checked.

General Rules: In Hand Speed Events Division

1. All in-hand speed events will be timed.
2. Horses must be under control at all times.
3. Horses must be at least 1 year old.
4. Horses are to be shown in a halter with appropriate lead (when in hand). Chain on lead permitted under the chin or over the nose of the horse. A chain is optional. Western, Cable, nylon, and Draft style halters are permitted. Bridles are not allowed.
5. Horses can trot, canter, or gallop for in-hand events.
6. Lace up, closed toed tennis shoes/cleats are allowed instead of boots.
7. **Disqualifications:** Any of the following infractions will disqualify an entry.
 - Running through the chute or gate to enter the arena.
 - A willful refusal to move forward (loss of forward motion) or more than 3 steps

backwards.

- Smacking or hitting with leadline or hand once the exhibitor has crossed the timer
- Off course, which includes negotiating obstacles in other than the specified order or in the wrong direction. This includes circling, backing or reversing the direction of movement.
- The horse is behaving in an unruly manner or out of control.
- Any kind of cruelty to the horse whether or not specifically mentioned in these rules will disqualify the competitor.
- Striking or beating the horse in any manner whatsoever after entering the arena.
Touching the horse will not be considered striking or beating the horse.
- Fall of horse or exhibitor while in the arena.
- Carrying a whip.

8. **Timing Procedure:** Electric timers are preferred over stopwatches. If an electric timer is used, at least one official should take the time using a stopwatch in case the electric timer fails. Contestants are allowed running starts.

In-Hand Barrel Racing

1. Three 55-gallon barrels in safe, usable condition should be used.
2. The contestant is allowed a running start. At a signal from the starter, the contestant will run to barrel number 1, pass to the left of it, and complete an approximately 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel number 2, pass to the right of it, and complete a slightly more than 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel number 3, pass to the right of it, and do another approximately 360 degree turn around it; then sprint to the finish line, passing between barrel number 1 and 2. This barrel course may also be run to the left. For example, the contestants will start to barrel number 2, turning to the left around this barrel, then to barrel number 1, turning to the right, then to barrel number 3, turning again to the right, followed by the final sprint to the finish line.
3. Knocking down a barrel will result in a 5 second penalty. Holding or touching the barrels with hands will also result in a 5 second penalty.

In-Hand Pole Bending

1. The pole bending pattern is run around six poles. The poles are placed in a straight line 10 feet apart. The first pole is to be 10 feet from the starting line. Poles are 6 feet high and set on top of the ground, with bases 10 inches to 14 inches in diameter.
2. Contestants may start on either side of the line of poles. They will cross the starting line, move in an approximately straight line to pole 6 (the farthest pole), make a 180-degree turn around pole 6, pass between pole 6 and pole 5, bend through the poles to pole 1, circle pole 1, bend through the poles to pole 6, make a 180-degree turn around pole 6, and cross the starting line by moving along the poles on the side opposite that on which they first approached pole 6.
3. A 5-second penalty will be assessed for each pole knocked down.

Costume Class

1. General: Costumes must be considered safe.
2. Costume classes are to be judged 75% on originality of costume and 25% on presentation.
3. To be shown at a walk both ways of the arena and lined up in the middle of the arena for final judging.

Liberty

Liberty is demonstrating the natural beauty of the horse. Horses are to be judged on style, grace, animation, gaits, presence, and ease of catching. The Liberty animal is expected to perform at both a canter and a trot.

1. Horses will be judged beginning when the halter is removed by the exhibitor (the individual wearing the number) and until caught and haltered by the exhibitor. Time of Liberty shall be 1½ minutes; time to catch shall be 2 minutes.
2. Timing will begin when the halter is removed, not when the music starts, and the show announcer will announce "time" when the 1½ minutes performance has ended to signal the exhibitor that they can begin the catch. Continue to time the catch. When the 2-minute catch time has elapsed, the show announcer will announce "time" to signal the end of the catch if the animal has not been caught. If the catch is not completed in the 2-minute

allotted time frame, the exhibitor is disqualified.

3. Only the exhibitor can touch the animal during the catch. The horse must be caught and haltered by the exhibitor only within 2 minutes or be disqualified. The assistant may not touch the horse at any time. There will be “No Baiting” (no use of hay, grain, clickers, etc.) of Liberty horses during the catch or it will be disqualified.
4. Music is required. Music must not contain any profanity or reference to material that goes against [4-H guidelines](#).
5. No deliberate interference with the horse from outside the ring. Announcement should be made prior to the class to specify that no outside assistance is allowed.
6. Exhibitors and assistants should wear appropriate, tasteful attire. A safe themed outfit within the 4-H Dress Code is allowed for the exhibitor and assistant only.
7. Horses will not be allowed to wear anything once the halter has been removed: no costume, ribbons or glitter.
8. If a horse should fall during its performance, the entry is disqualified.
9. Entry will be disqualified if the horse leaves the ring during competition or catch time.
10. It is the Steward’s responsibility to time Liberty classes and to be in possession of a timer. The Steward should be in the same location as the judge to adjudicate the class.
11. If the wrong music is played, the exhibitor can stop in the arena signaling the need for correction. The correction must be made while the exhibitor is in the arena to begin a new run.

Point Scoring System

Points per class are calculated on a 10-1 scale, no matter how many exhibitors there are in a class. Example: A contestant placing 1st in a class of three will receive ten points; a contestant placing 2nd will receive nine points; and so on...These points will be tabulated towards any Overall Awards

Award Winners

Overall Awards: To qualify for Overall and Reserve Overall High Point in Junior, Intermediate, and Senior age divisions, competitors must take the written test, compete in showmanship, and enter two (2) or more classes in their division. All classes will count toward Overall Awards.

1. Overall and Reserve Overall winners will receive awards in each age division.
2. Top ten placings will receive Overall ribbons.

Top Showman: The top showmanship score will receive awards for each age division (this is dependent on sponsorships each year).

Certificate Awards:

(selected by the judge and can have slight adjustments to verbiage or name)

1. **The Excellence in Presentation Award:** Highlights an exhibitor and miniature horse that embody professionalism while presenting as polished, refined, confident, and poised.
2. **Spirit of the Event:** Recognizes an exhibitor that uplifts the atmosphere, demonstrates enthusiasm, respect, grace, sportsmanship, and is fully engaged.
3. **The All-Star Team:** Demonstrated the close bond between the exhibitor and their miniature horse. Attributes of the All-Star Team include team-oriented mindset, adaptability, leadership, strong work ethic, and a positive attitude