

Horse and Pony

Manual

4-H 174 Beginning Horse Management

Record Sheet

(Complete and put in your Green Record Book)

901 A 4-H Horse & Pony Record (Grades 3-5 Beginner)

901 B 4-H Horse & Pony Record (Grades 6-8 Intermediate)

901 C 4-H Horse & Pony Record (Grades 9-12 Senior)

4-H 528 General Record Sheet for Poster Exhibit 4-H 869

4-H Horse & Pony Lease Agreement

Exhibition

Exhibit Horse, Pony, Mule, or Miniature Horse

Options

Display a Poster

Interactive Demonstration

Dues

Dues are determined by the club leader(s) and are paid annually to the club.

Program Policy

The 4-H Horse and Pony project provides youth with a fun hands-on experience that develops life skills as well as teaches valuable information about properly caring for their animal. Subjects such as general management, training, nutrition, housing, and health care are presented in the curricular materials, through workshops and activities such as horse bowl, hippology, judging, and in preparation of the exhibit. Youth also have the opportunity to develop responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communication skills through active participation in the 4-H Horse & Pony Project. Our club abides by the Program Policies and Class Specifications Show & Equipment Rules found in the Indiana 4-H Horse and Pony Handbook (4-H 661), except in cases where the Montgomery County 4-H Inc. Board has approved an adaptation that would expand opportunities for membership and/or participation in the Horse and Pony club. The 4-H 661 Handbook is available in the Extension Office (One (1) copy of per family). All reasonable accommodations will be made for any child with a disability in accordance with the Guidelines for Accommodation of Children with Disabilities in the Indiana 4-H Horse and Pony Project (4-H 915-W).

Any situation not covered by these policies shall be handled by the proper representative of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and/or the Montgomery County 4-H Inc. Board.

Horse Health and Identification Requirements

SEE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SPECIES.

For more information on horse health requirements for exhibition in the State of Indiana, contact the Indiana Board of Animal Health at (317) 544-2400, or visit their website at <https://www.in.gov/boah>.

1. 4-H horses and ponies exhibited must be vaccinated and meet current Indiana State Health Requirements and/or regulations. A current Certificate of Completion of Indiana 4-H Requirements for Exhibition of 4-H Horse and Pony (4-H-1031-W) is required and a copy must be on file with or presented to a club leader prior to unloading a horse at any Montgomery County 4-H Horse and Pony event the animal attends.
 - a. Horses coming from outside the State of Indiana within 12 months of the date of exhibition must test negative for E.I.A. Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins test) and be accompanied by an official certificate of veterinary inspection that indicates the results of the E.I.A. test. A suckling foal accompanying a dam that has tested negative for E.I.A. within twelve months of the exhibition is exempt from the E.I.A. testing requirements.
2. Animal Identification:
 - a. The physical description of the animal including: name, age, breed, color, gender, distinctive markings, cowlicks, scars, blemishes, biometric measures, brands, tattoos, etc., must be entered on the record sheet.
 - b. A color photograph (clearly showing the face and all four feet) must be attached to the record sheet.

Ownership

1. Exhibitor must be enrolled during the current year in the 4-H project exhibited and their animal(s) must be under the 4-H member's ownership or leased by May 15. Ownership/lease must be maintained continuously until the completion of the County Fair. Records must be started by May 15th. No animal may be substituted or traded for the original animal after May 15th, unless approval has been granted by the Montgomery County 4-H Inc. Board.
2. 4-H animals are expected to be in the personal possession and regular care of the 4-H member who owns/leases them unless other arrangements need to be made so a 4-Her has the opportunity to participate in this project.
3. Leasing is considered the equivalent of ownership of the 4-H project animal. The 4-Her should be regularly involved in the care of the horse, regardless of where stabled, and the 4-Her should have first right of show use.
4. Any Horse or Pony shown after May 15 by anyone other than the 4-Her will not be eligible to show at the Indiana State Fair but will be eligible for County Fair as long as the animal is signed up by the May 15 deadline and meets all other criteria. This term/condition does not apply to siblings and parents who may show each other's animals at any show during the year without jeopardizing State Fair eligibility.

Measurement Procedures

1. Exhibitor must be enrolled during the current year in the 4-H project 1. If a member selects that their horse is 56" and under, then the pony must be measured by a certified measuring individual. The date of measurement is to be determined by a club leader.
2. Any animal not measured by a certified measuring individual will be shown in the over 56" classes.

Show Eligibility Requirements

1. The 4-Her must be enrolled in Montgomery County 4-H and in good standing.
2. Official Indiana 4-H Horse & Pony Enrollment must be completed by May 15 online at <https://v2.4honline.com>.
3. The 4-H exhibitor is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the 4-H Horse & Pony Enrollment Entry. If the entries are incorrect or inaccurate, the 4-H member will not be able to exhibit the affected animal at the County Fair without prior approval of the representative of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and/or the Montgomery County 4-H Inc. Board.
4. If a horse or pony is leased, a copy of the lease must be uploaded at the time of enrollment or on file at the Montgomery County Extension Office by May 15.
5. The Horse & Pony member will show his/her record book to the leader(s) for signature so they can receive their exhibitors' number to be able to show their animal. It is the responsibility of the 4-Her to record placings, awards, etc. and to turn in their books upon completion of the fair show. Fair awards will be announced after each class and given to exhibitors when they turn in their record book.
6. It is highly recommended that 4-H Horse & Pony members attend at least one (1) regular Horse & Pony club meeting and one (1) Open Arena/Clinic. A copy of the schedule can be picked up at the Extension Office or by contacting a 4-H Horse & Pony club leader.

Fair Show Rules

1. 4-H members requiring special accommodation are encouraged to show horses and will be allowed assistance and rule modifications when appropriate.
2. Although early sign-up is strongly encouraged and will ensure an exhibitor's name is listed on the fair show program, class entries can be made up until the first contestant enters the ring.
3. Classes offered are subject to evaluation. Classes may be added to avoid exclusion or may be deleted due to lack of participation. Classes with large numbers may also be split into cuts with a final round at the discretion of the judge.
4. Exhibitors are responsible for checking in at the gate just prior to their class and safely entering the arena. Exhibitors not present may be disqualified after a 1-minute gate call at the discretion of the judge.
5. At the Montgomery County Fair, 4-H members must show their own animals. In the case of a medical emergency or conflict with the showing of other species, the 4-H member may have their animal shown by another 4-H Horse & Pony exhibitor (in conformation classes only). Approval of the Horse & Pony club leader must be granted prior to the showing of the animal by a substitute showman.

Fair Show Rules

6. 4-H Horse & Pony exhibitors may enter a maximum of five (5) horses at the Montgomery County Fair.
 - a. Only one (1) horse per exhibitor may be entered in a group class.
 - b. Exhibitors may show up to three (3) animals in a halter class and may be assisted in handling the additional animal(s) by another properly enrolled 4-H Horse & Pony member. Mare and foal winners are not eligible for champion and reserve. Only champions will be considered for grand champion.
 - c. Up to three (3) horses per exhibitor may be entered in an individual class where only one (1) horse at a time is being shown in the arena.
7. Only 4-H Horse & Pony members may lead, ride, or drive 4-H animals on fair grounds during an approved 4-H show or event. Only the member's parent/guardian or an approved adult volunteer may assist a member by leading their horse to the gate for a show class. During non-show open arena events, the member's parent/guardian or an approved adult volunteer may lead, ride, or drive their horse during warm up, only if it is deemed necessary for the member's safety or the safety of others. Adults must lead by example and wear protective headgear whenever mounted or driving on the Montgomery County Fair Grounds.
8. All participants in the ring while a class is being judged shall be 4-H members (an exception is made for Pleasure Driving and for assisted classes). Adults serving in this capacity must be approved 4-H volunteers or family members.
9. Ribbons previously won will not be worn in any class.
10. Any exhibitor (or their parents, teachers, etc.) who breaks a governing rule may be barred from showing and/or forfeit any prizes.
11. Ring courtesy dictates that exhibitors must maintain a safe distance between animals in their halter and performance classes.
12. Exhibitors in a Walk-Trot class may show in a class that requires the canter or lope at the same show as long as it's not in the corresponding class, e.g., Walk-Trot Trail class exhibitor may not show in the Walk-Trot-Lope Trail class.
13. Contesting horses will be brought to the arena in a controlled manner as determined by the judge before beginning the pattern. Assistance may be given by one person of the contestant's choice. Failure to enter or leave the arena in a safe, controlled manner may result in disqualification at the discretion of the judge.
14. Versatility
 - a. Exhibitors are allowed two (2) helpers. Helpers must be properly attired in closed toe shoes (long pants and boots are recommended but not required).
 - b. Exhibitors (one horse/one rider combination) will compete in four (4) classes: Hunter Under Saddle (HUS), Western Horsemanship (WH), Western Pleasure (WP), and Barrel Racing (BR).
 - c. Exhibitors will be scored and ranked in all portions of the competition (example: if there are 15 exhibitors, rank will be from 1 (best) to 15 (worst)).
 - d. All classes will be judged per the current edition of the Indiana Horse & Pony Handbook, with the exception that all participants in each class will be placed with regard to their performance in that discipline. Contestants that would otherwise have not been placed due to disqualification will be placed but will not be placed higher than any participant who is not disqualified.
 - e. The quickest barrel time will receive the lowest score and the slowest time will receive the highest score.

- a. To determine final placing, the rank score from Hunter Under Saddle, Western Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, and Barrels will be added. The contestant with the lowest overall score will win. In the case of a tie in the rank scores, the tied exhibitors will re-run the Barrels and the exhibitor with the lowest time will win.
 - b. Horse/Rider combination who wins is not eligible to win again.
15. Horse & Pony Supreme Showmanship will be a separate class and will be shown primarily on Western day unless there is a conflict or that show day has been rescheduled after the fair. All senior members are allowed to show unless they have won Overall Supreme Showmanship in the past or won Showmanship with a different species in the same year. Also, any Intermediate Showmanship winner who has won their division and moved up to the Senior Level is also eligible.
 16. All 4-H Horse & Pony members must clean up after their animals and themselves during and after each Horse & Pony event.
 17. The show judge shall be charged with the authority to interpret 4-H rules. All judging will be done from the ring except in contesting, over fences, color guard, and dressage classes. All classes shall be judged by the current edition of the Indiana Horse & Pony Handbook (4-H 661); therefore, exhibitors should secure a copy from the county Extension Office. Decision of the judge shall be final.

Indiana State Fair Entry instructions are in the 4-H Horse & Pony Entry Book available at <https://www.indianastatefair.com>.

The Indiana State Fair Board determined that qualification was no longer required for the Indiana State Fair 4-H Horse and Pony show. Following is the State Fair entry process:

1. It is strongly recommended that 4-H members successfully complete the skills and exhibit at an area or county show for any class they wish to enter at the State level.
2. More details regarding the Indiana State Fair 4-H Horse and Pony show is available in the current version of the State Fair 4-H/FFA Premium Book.