

Cattlemen's Days 4-H Horse Show Rules

Updated 3/01/2017

1. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to exhibit in the 4-H Horse Show, all exhibitors must be currently enrolled in a 4-H horse project. Exhibitors must be at least 8 years old, but not over 18 years old as of December 31 of the current enrollment year.

To complete the 4-H horse project, you must compete in one to the following shows: District 4-H Horse Show, Gunnison county 4-H Horse Show or the State Fair 4-H Horse Show; turn in a completed record book at the designated date, and be a 4-H member in good standing of Gunnison 4-H Program. Members must score at least 50% on the record book in order to complete the project.

2. OWNERSHIP

To be enrolled in a 4-H horse project and compete in the Gunnison county 4-H Horse Show, a member must meet one of the following requirements in A or B:

- A. The 4-H member must be the owner of the horse(s). The horse(s) and registration papers must be in the name of the 4-H member or immediate family. Only one 4-H member per horse. Ownership and enrollment are required prior to May 1 of the current year. No late Horse ID's will be accepted.
- B. The member or family may lease or own a horse or horses in a 4-H project. The horse(s) must be in the member's care and management the majority of the time. A signed agreement or lease is necessary and must be in effect as of May 1 of the current year. The definition of "majority of the time" will be at the discretion of the member's 4-H Club Leader and/or the 4-H Horse Committee.

Members must adhere to the following:

- A. No horse that is rented or borrowed from a stable or individual for part time riding, instruction or showing may be used as 4-H project.
- B. Hardship Clause
In case of death or injury to a project horse and if the member desires to replace the project horse either by purchase or lease (after the May 1 ownership deadline), he/she may appeal his/her situation to the 4-H Horse Committee. This appeal must be in writing to the CSU Extension office immediately following such death or injury. The decision of the Committee will be final.

3. INTERPRETATION The 4-H Horse Committee has the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations used to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, or differences in regard there to, or otherwise arising out of, or connected with, or incident to, the Show.

4. SHOW MANAGEMENT The 4-H Horse Show will operate under the direction of the 4-H Horse Committee.

5. ENTRIES Entry blanks will be available to all known eligible members from the Extension office. These must be returned by the date established by the Committee and specified on the entry blanks.
 - A. Halter classes will be limited to two entries per exhibitor.
 - B. Entries in Horse Show Classes will be limited to one entry per exhibitor per class.
 - C. No stallion will be allowed to be shown in any 4-H Horse Show class, except the foal class at halter.

6. CLASSES Classes will be added or deleted at the discretion of the Committee. Both halter and performance classes will be reviewed annually and classes will be adapted to best fit the objectives of the Colorado 4-H Horse Project. Classes will be announced to all known exhibitors one month prior to the show. 4-H members are allowed to participate only in 4-H classes with horse they have ID'd for the current year. A 4-H member who participates in a class with a horse they have not ID'd will be disqualified and premium money will be forfeited.

7. SHOWMANSHIP Any exhibitor in the 4-H Horse Show is required to enter and show in the Showmanship class. The exhibitor may exhibit the same horse that was exhibited in the halter class. Showmanship classes will be divided into Juniors (8-10 year olds), Intermediates (11-13 year olds), and Seniors (14 year olds and above).

8. RULES All classes will follow the rules in the Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book. Exceptions to these rules will be publicized and posted at least 24 hours prior to the class.

English Discipline Rail and Western Discipline Rail are additional classes not included in the Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book. Rules are as follows:

9. DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

A. *Western Performance Division*

Western Horsemanship
Reining
Western Riding
Trail Class

B. *Speed Events-Gymkhana*

Flag Race
Barrels
Poles

To enter this division, entrants must enter and participate in at least one other patterned class besides showmanship.

C. *English Division*

Hunt Seat Equitation
Hunt Seat Over Jump
English Riding Control

D. *Working Cow Horse Division*

Ranch Horsemanship
Individual Cow Work
Ranch Cutting
Ranch Trail Class

To enter this division, entrants must have the required skill level to safely work with cattle. This requirement may be met by any of the following criteria prior to the event entry deadline:

- 1) participation in and passing a working cow clinic,
- 2) achieving a Level II Working Ranch Horse certification, or
- 3) receiving approval from a 4-H Horse Committee member.

When exhibitors enter and participate in Individual Cow Work *or* Ranch Cutting they must also enter and participate in all Working Cow Horse Division classes.

Exhibitors may just enter and participate in Ranch Horsemanship and Ranch Trail Class.

All classes will follow the rules in the Colorado 4-H Horse Show Rule Book.

Clarifications and exceptions for Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Individual Cow Work classes:

Exception: Junior riders will *not* be allowed to carry (attached to their saddle) or use in saddle a rope, lariat, or riata.

Intermediates will box for 50 seconds. When the whistle is sounded, rider will take cow down one side of the arena past the halfway mark and stop. Rider must not attempt to stop or turn cow once it has gone down the fence.

Seniors should be competent in the Level III Individual Cow Work skills. A rider will box, fence, and circle or rope. Riders are allowed 3 minutes to complete the class.

E. *Showmanship*

Juniors (4-H ages 8-10)

Intermediates (4-H ages 11-13)

Senior (4-H ages 14-18)

F. *Horse Knowledge Test*

Participants will take the test the day before the 4-H Horse Show. Time and place will be posted by the Extension office. Questions are taken from the 4-H Horse manual.

G. *Musical Free Style Exhibition*

Musical Free Style is a non-competitive class. Participation prizes may be awarded. Class may be judged and participants provided feedback.

See Supplement at end of Rules for guidelines

11. ALL AROUND
HIGH POINT
AWARDS

High Point Awards will be given to a Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Exhibitor that scores the most points.

All the classes used for Division High Points will be used in addition to the Horse Knowledge Test.

12. TIE BREAKERS English or Western Performance High Point
- Placing in the Showmanship class will break the tie, regardless which horse is used.
- Timed Events High Point
- The Figure 8 Stake Race will be used.
- Working Cow High Point
- Placing in the Ranch Trail class will be used.
- All Around High Point Award
- Placing in the Horse Knowledge class will be used.
13. HELMET POLICY A certified equestrian helmet with safety harness fastened in place is required in over fences classes and gymkhana events, activities and practice sessions. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with the standards and is in good condition. The State 4-H Program and Gunnison county 4-H Program encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Protective headgear may be used in all classes and shall not be discriminated against.
14. PREMIUMS When there is no competition between exhibitors in a class, the judge will award such prize as the exhibit deserves. No exhibit deemed unworthy shall be awarded any premium.
- Ribbons will be awarded on the American System: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th.
- Premiums will be awarded for 1st through 3rd.
15. RESPONSIBILITY Cattlemen's Days Inc., the Jr. Livestock Committee and 4-H Horse Committee will use all care possible to insure the safety of exhibits but under no circumstances will they be responsible for any loss, injury or damage done to, occasioned by, or arising from any animal on exhibit. Neither will they be responsible for any loss, injury or damage done to, occasioned by or arising from any exhibitor.
16. SLEEPING IN BARNs No one, including 4-H Horse Show exhibitors, family members or friends, will be allowed to sleep overnight in the Livestock Pavilion or Horse Barns prior to or during the Cattlemen's Days Rodeos, Horse Shows, and Livestock Shows.

17. STALLS Stalls will be available on a first come first served basis. Exhibitors are *not* required to have stalls or keep their horse on the grounds.
- Exhibitors are expected to clean their stalls.
18. CONTROL OF ANIMALS Animals being exhibited must be controlled by the exhibitor at all times during classes and required parades. Judges and the 4-H Horse Committee will reserve the right to excuse and disqualify any animal deemed too unruly to handle.
19. TRANQUILIZERS All horses doctored, or in any way improperly or unfairly prepared or tampered with before going into the show ring, will be disqualified and any premium money will be forfeited.
20. EXHIBITOR NUMBERS Exhibitors are required to pick up their exhibitor number at a place specified by the 4-H Horse Committee.
- Exhibitor number must be worn at all times when in the show ring, when lining up for entry into the show ring, and in required parades. Numbers are assigned to the exhibitor, not the animal.
21. JUDGES DECISION All judges' decisions will be final. Any act of discourtesy or disobedience to the show officials or judges on the part of an exhibitor or parent will disqualify the exhibitor from that class and all subsequent classes. The 4-H Horse Committee also reserves the right to withhold premiums from or bar from competition any exhibitor in violation of this rule.
22. VIOLATION The 4-H Horse Committee reserves the right to withhold premiums from or bar from competition any exhibitor who violates any rule governing the 4-H Horse Show or exhibits unsafe behavior.

4-H Horse Show Musical Freestyle Guidelines

This class is a demonstration of a rider's abilities with their horse(s). Each entry will enter the arena individually and perform a routine they have created to music of their choice. Each entry should choose maneuvers they and their horse do well. While the term "rider" is used to describe the contestant, a horse may be shown under saddle, in hand, in harness or at liberty, however the contestant is still expected to demonstrate at least 10 different maneuvers.

Musical Freestyle combines the elegance and beauty as well as the power and strength of the horse with the stirring impact of music. Movements and figures are choreographed to music to create an artistic expression of horse and rider that highlights the horse/rider combination. Choice of music, and the way it is edited together, is just as important as the technical aspects of the freestyle. The music can be anything from classical to show tunes. The actual routine you develop should show your horse off to best advantage. It should make the most of your horse's best gaits and movements and be appropriate for the level you're showing at.

Divisions for Exhibition

1. Individual Entry—One rider with one horse.
2. Team Entry—2, 3, or 4 riders each with one horse; all performing in the arena at the same time. They perform as a team and will be judged together for one score.

Class Procedure

1. Each rider may choose music 1-3 ½ minutes in length (no longer than 3 ½ minutes). Music must be provided by the rider to the Extension office with Cattlemen's Days entries. Any music containing profanity or sexual language in the lyrics will not be permitted.
2. Entry will present itself to the judge for close inspection immediately prior to performing their routine. Judge will evaluate costume and may ask the entry about their music or costume at this time.
3. If desired, the competitor may have up to 2 minutes to set up props in the arena prior to their go, however the props must be removed immediately at the end of their go. The competitor is responsible for finding assistance with props, not the show management. Props may include stationary objects, people or other horses, Props are intended support the performance and not distract from the exhibitor.
4. Exhibitor should use the following criteria when building the performing their routine:
 - a. Attire and/or costume
 - b. Variety of maneuvers
 - c. Execution of maneuvers
 - d. Creativity of choreography, choice of music
 - e. Skill demonstrated, level of difficulty

5. Maneuvers the competitor may choose from but is not limited to:

walk	transitions	rollback	simple lead
jog	rein back	sidepass	changes
trot	sliding stop	leg yield	flying lead changes
lope	turn on forehand	half pass	bow
canter	turn on hind	pirouette	jumps
hand gallop	spin	extended trot	circles
halt			

6. Judge will use a score card provided by show management and the scorecard will be available for the exhibitors review following the class.

7. A judge may blow their whistle and stop the routine for any of the following reasons:

- a. Unsafe horse or rider
- b. Equipment, costume, audio failure of safety concern
- c. Profanity or indecent behavior of entry or in the entry's music.

Acceptable Tack and Attire

1. Tack: English, western or training gear may be used, so long as it fits properly, is in good repair and is not deemed inhumane by the judge. Bridle, bit, or headstall must be used. Costume elements may be used on the horse as long as they are safe for horse and rider and do not interfere with the rider's ability to control the horse. Two hands may be used on the reins in conjunction with any type of tack without penalty.
2. Attire: English, western or costume attire is permitted as long as they are safe for the horse and rider and do not interfere with the rider's ability to control the horse. If the rider incorporates jumps in their routine they must wear a safety helmet. Helmets and proper sturdy riding shoes are very much encouraged.