



# **Ozaukee County Horse and Pony Project**

## ***2021-2022 Handbook***

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## **OCHPP ACHIEVEMENT**

A member in good standing must meet the following requirements. The member must also fulfill all club requirements, which are separate from Horse and Pony Project requirements. Check with your club early for these requirements. It is necessary to meet both club and project requirements to represent OCHPP at Ozaukee County fair, state and national events.. The 4-H OCHPP Board reserves the right to request the Agricultural Society to withhold premium money from exhibitors who fail to meet the requirements. Please check with a project leader if you have any questions.

- 1. Attendance** - Attend at least (50%) of the project meetings, therefore members may choose which meetings to attend Horseless Horse members must attend half of the scheduled Horseless Horse meetings. Horseless members are strongly encouraged to also attend as many H&PP meetings as possible. Keep in mind the H&PP secretary will check achievement standings with the project, as well as local clubs after the general meeting held prior to the event.. The attendance requirement does not include clinics, which are optional unless the clinic replaces the monthly general meeting. Attendance deficiencies are subject to board review.
- 2. Pay club dues.** Dues are to be determined at the beginning of the year and must be paid by May 1st. Due deficiencies are subject to board review. ***No dues will be collected this year.***
- 3. Complete** project record book goal page in accordance with your local 4-H club guidelines.
- 4. Exhibit** educational project and/or horse/pony at County Fair Premium Days. If showing horse/pony on Premium Days, you must keep horse at County Fair from 5pm Thursday to 7pm Sunday – applies to Horse and Horseless members. . All exhibitors are to clean stalls prior to 10:00 a.m. every day and use adequate supply of bedding materials. If a member chooses to not show horse/pony on Premium Days, they may show at the open shows during the fair. However, stall space may not be available.
- 5. Volunteer Hours** – The family of each OCHPP and Horseless Horse Project member must work a minimum amount of hours decided upon by the Board by the start of the show season. All workers must sign in and out at the announcer’s stand to receive credit for hours.

## **OCHPP GUIDELINES**

The following information is very important, please read carefully.

1. A member must have acquired and registered a horse and have begun working with it by May 1st of the project year. Members shall complete the form provided by the Horse and Pony Project (HPP) and submit to the HPP volunteer **no later** than the May 1st deadline. No registration will be accepted until dues are paid (does not apply to 2021-2022). Each Horse Project member may register a maximum of (3) horses. It is not required to show a horse on Premium Day to achieve.
2. A copy of a current coggins and premise ID is required at each horse show or overnight event.
3. Horse members will not be able to change or add a horse to the project after the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, unless approved by a simple majority of the OCHPP board.
4. A substitute horse can be added after May 1st with OCHPP board approval.
5. When a member is unable to complete the 4-H year with his/her project horse, achievement is acquired through an education project shown at fair
6. No horse or pony may be registered by more than one 4-H member, except for the following:
  - Only two 4-H members of the same family may register a 4-H Horse Project member's horse, unless approved by the board.
  - A Horseless Horse 4-H member may register a 4-H Horse Project member's horse or a horse project leader's horse for the purpose of showing at Premium Day of County Fair. Horseless Horse members are required to submit a horse registration form by July 1<sup>st</sup> if he/she will be showing on Premium Day.
6. If two family members use the same project horse on County Fair Premium Day, each may choose as their premium class one class judged on the member (i.e. showmanship, equitation). One of the two exhibitors may choose an additional premium class judged on the horse (i.e. pleasure). The horse may be shown only once in a given class for premium.
7. Upon completion of this registration form, please turn in to the OCHPP volunteer by the April General Meeting or email to 4hochpp@gmail.com before May 1<sup>st</sup> (refer to website for current information).
8. There are three major barn & grounds clean-ups each year: the spring clean-up before the first show of the season, and the clean-up before and after County Fair. Many hands are needed to do stalls, groom the arenas, clean equipment, paint, etc.

9. In addition to the shows and clinics held by OCHPP, there are additional opportunities to show and attend clinics at the state level. See the link below for specific details.

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4haganimalscience/horse>

10. It is considered a privilege to represent your county at a State 4-H Horse Association Event. To participate the exhibitor MUST be a currently enrolled 4-H Horse & Pony or Horseless Horse youth member in good standing in a 4-H club and county level. The work/animal exhibited must be the 4-H member's project work completed within the current 4-H year. All participating youth must have attended 50% of the OCHPP meetings held prior to the state event.

### **RIDING AND HANDLING RULES**

1. No horses or ponies may be turned loose in any of the areas at any time.
2. When riding members are required to wear SEI-approved, fitted equestrian helmets with chin straps securely fastened, proper boots or hard-soled shoes with heels, and appropriate tack.
3. It is recommended that closed toed shoes should be worn when around a horse or pony.
4. Horses and ponies which have a propensity to kick should have a red ribbon in their tails whenever they leave the stall.
5. Youth or adults who do not have their horse or pony under control and/or who show poor sportsmanship may be dismissed from the ring, the show, and/or the activity.
6. No bareback riding.
7. No children under the age of 9 or 3rd grade are allowed to ride at any time.
8. Horses are only allowed in designated areas.
9. No intact male horses can be shown.

### **HEALTH**

If a horse's health is questioned at the county fair, the barn superintendent will call the fair board immediately. If the fair board feels it is necessary, the horse shall be subject to inspection by a licensed veterinarian. The veterinarian's decision is final as to whether or not the horse stays or is removed from the fairgrounds. If a horse's health is in question at a show, the show manager will call a meeting of the OCHPP adult board members immediately. If the officers feel it is necessary, the horse shall be subject to inspection by a licensed veterinarian. The veterinarian's decision is final as to whether or not the horse stays or is removed from the show.

Judges may excuse from the ring any animal he/she deems unsafe, lame, unhealthy, or in any way being treated inhumanely.

The soundness of an animal as determined by the judge or selected veterinarian is not protestable.

## **LEVELS OF ADULT INVOLVEMENT IN 4-H PROJECTS**

### Expectations of 4-H Horse & Pony Project Members

4-H riders may have an immediate family member, older youth, leader or proxy assistance on Premium Day to groom, feed, lead, lunge, or clean stalls for safety reasons, but no person other than the 4-H member may ride, drive or train his/her own project horse on Premium Day. Exceptions must be approved by a board member. The 4-H member should be the primary caretaker and trainer of his/her horse on Premium Day and throughout the County Fair. See "Levels of Adult Involvement in 4-H Projects" for additional guidelines for adult involvement.

It is expected that the 4-H member will personally groom, feed, clean up after, lead, ride and in all other manners be the primary caretaker of his/her project horse. In the event that a horse's behavior or a horse/4-H'er safety situation arises during the course of the show which necessitates trainer handling and or riding of a project horse to rectify the situation, then (1) the 4-H member should be present and actively participating by watching the trainer so as to learn how to manage a similar future situation and (2) as a courtesy to all 4-H exhibitors, a parent should communicate with show officials to inform them of the circumstances which necessitated the trainer involvement. Family/adult involvement will continue under the 4-H guidelines of: adults do some of the tasks for instructional purposes and youth and adults equally share project tasks.

## **GUIDELINES FOR YOUTH LEADERS**

In addition to the basic membership requirements, a youth leader must:

- Be 6th grade or 12 years old or older
- Have completed one year in the Horse & Pony Project with good standing
- Exhibit a Youth Leader Project at County Fair

With all of the horse project's varied activities and events, it is hard to pinpoint exact duties we ask of our youth leaders. We would like to see them take an active interest in helping wherever possible. This could include helping lead a general meeting, help at a Horseless Horse meeting, helping younger members at clinics and shows, or helping run shows. A great way to help

younger members would be to work with a horseless member on a one-on-one, hands-on manner. We ask you to look for these opportunities and offer your assistance when asked to help.

Youth board members must be registered as Youth Leaders. The Youth Leader position is a 4-H project in itself. The 4-H member must be signed up both as a youth leader in Horse and Pony Project or Horseless Horse and be signed up in the Horse project or Horseless Horse project itself by November 1st. Youth leaders are required to give an educational presentation.

## **EQUINE AMBASSADOR**

1. Equine Ambassador can be male or female
  2. Must be at least 14 years old
  3. Member of the 4-H Horse & Pony Project for (2) years
  4. Be able to carry out the responsibilities of the Equine Ambassador.
- o Required responsibilities
    - enrolls as a youth leader
    - serve on the youth board
    - carry out various community public relations duties, including sending thank you cards
  
  - o Recommended responsibilities
    - leading the grand entry at the 4-H horse shows
    - assisting at the awards banquet
    - organize the fun show
    - be a positive role model for fellow 4-H members

Current ambassador's family is responsible for organizing the following year's competition.

**The 4-H OCHPP Board has the right and responsibility to interpret the rules and to conduct horse shows in the best interest of members.**

Any changes to the OCHPP Handbook will be announced at the scheduled OCHPP general membership meetings.

Insert Horse Registration Form and Information Form for Fair.