Horse Happenings

GREENE COUNTY / 4-H   MARCH /2024

The best way to reach us is by phone/email. In this newsletter, you will find information on important dates for 2024, enrollment information, publication updates, and encouraging all youth to participate at fair.

4-H Enrollment:
Now open. All enrollment is due by April 1 at the latest. Visit https://4honline.com

Project Enrollment
Youth must be currently enrolled for 2024 in the following if they want to participate at the Ohio State Fair or other statewide horse events.

1. State Trail Ride in September- must currently be enrolled in #188 Trail Riding
2. Roping- must currently be enrolled #187 Roping project
3. Dressage- must currently be enrolled in #189 Dressage

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Year End Awards Program

8 State Competitive Events
- Horse Bowl
- Communications
  - Public Speaking
  - Individual/Team Presentation
  - Poster
- Hippology Contest
- Horse Judging Contest
- Skillathon
- Junior Horse Show
- Competitive Trail Ride
- Groom & Clean

Certificate of Achievement
- Bronze (4-5 events)
- Silver (6-7 events)
- Gold (all 8 events)

Important Information
All 4-H members in good standing (enrolled by deadline, completed all requirements such as paperwork, Fair Entry, EquiSTEP) are eligible and encouraged to participate at fair. If there is a safety concern, volunteers will say that the youth is not ready or is unable to participate. We will have shows just as in the past and youth can participate even without the club participating.

Details are on the next page. Get this requirement completed today!

Participation in state 4-H Horse Contest

Participation in State 4-H Horse Contests
- Youth participating in a state 4-H horse contests must be enrolled in a 4-H or FFA horse project and complete EquiSTEP.

EquiSTEP

Youth must complete Ohio 4-H's EquiSTEP program. The online course is housed on ScarletCanvas and is run by the State 4-H Office. Here is the link to enroll in/access EquiSTEP:

http://go.osu.edu/equistep2024

To complete EquiSTEP, a participant must enroll using their own unique email address. (Participants should not use their school email addresses as the course enrollment invitation will be blocked by the school's email system.) Participants must view all five videos (introduction and STEPS 1-4) which last approximately one hour in total. Once the videos are completed, participants will be able to access the 10-question quiz. Participants must complete the quiz associated with the training and achieve a minimum score of 7 (out of 10) in order to pass the training. Once the quiz is successfully completed, participants will need to complete the course survey to trigger a certificate of completion. The certificate will be emailed to the participant's email address as well as their county's 4-H email address (countyname4h@osu.edu). The participant must select their correct county to trigger the email to the correct email address and they must click on the submit button at the end of the survey to trigger the email.

All Greene County Youth must complete the Horse Education Program (EquiSTEP) requirement by June 1.

Youth Educational Clinic
- Date: Saturday, March 2nd
- Time: 12:30-4:30pm
- Location: Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center in Columbus
- Cost: $5 (Pre-registration is REQUIRED, registration is limited to the first 150 participants)
- Topics: Pony horse breeds, bones, saddles, nutrition, and judging trail classes
- The event schedule and registration link can be found online at: http://go.osu.edu/horseclinic24

State 4-H Horse Poster Contest
- Registration/Poster Submission Deadline: Saturday, March 2nd
- Posters MUST be delivered in person to 222 Animal Sciences (2029 Fyffe Ct) in Columbus by Friday, March 1st or delivered in person between 9:00am-4:30pm at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center in Columbus during the State 4-H Horse Communications Contest and Youth Educational Clinic on Saturday, March 2nd. Mailed entries will not be accepted.
- Poster registration forms MUST be signed by the parent, exhibitor, 4-H advisor, and county 4-H professional/FFA instructor and submitted with the poster. Posters received without completed registration forms by the deadline will not be accepted.
- Cost: FREE
- Posters will be displayed at the Ohio State Fair Junior Horse Show and must score at least a 60% in order to receive credit toward the year-end achievement awards.
- The event schedule and registration link can be found online at: https://ohio4h.org/events/state-4-h-horse-poster-contest

Important dates for horse exhibitors:

January 1- 2024 EquiSTEP now open (must be completed by June 1)
April 1- Enrollment Deadline
April 9- Horse Exhibitor Meeting by zoom
April 12- All horse paperwork is due to office
- [Permission to participate](#)
- [Horse ID](#)
- [Horse vaccination & coggins](#) (dated after Jan. 1 2024)
- [Member health form](#)
- [Horse lease](#) (if applicable)
- Horse picture (must be in color)

June 1- deadline to have EquiSTEP completed and certificate submitted (will open for 2024 on Jan. 1)
July 1- Fair Entry class selections due
July 1- High point entries, if applicable, due
July 1 at 1:00 p.m.- Deadline for OSF horse show registration
July 22 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.- Livestock skillathons (must bring 2024 record book!)
July 23 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.- Livestock skillathons (must bring 2024 record book!)
July 28-August 3- Greene County Fair

> Family Guide
>
> The Ohio 4-H Family Guide will be mailed to all 4-H members from 2023. It is posted here. Any new families can pick up a copy at our office.

2024 Horse Show Information for Fair

Show Clothes Not Required for Fair

Sunday, July 28 –
English Horse and some Fun Show Classes
Tuesday, July 30 –
Western Horse and some Fun Show Classes

Stalls will not be available this year for horse exhibitors. All exhibitors will need to haul in and haul out each night. NO trailers will be allowed to stay the week.

Showbills will be posted at a later date.

New Publications for 2024- Email Pat to order books at zehring.5@osu.edu
A few changes are being made to horse publications for 2024.
New (requires new book to be purchased)
- #186 Gymkhana- available sometime in February
- #187 Roping- available sometime in February

Revised or Replaced New Title (requires new book to be purchased)
- #179R Uniform Rules for 4-H – available now!- Email zehring.5@osu.edu to order Horse Shows

Discontinued
- #185 Equine Reproduction and Genetics

2024 Ohio 4-H Horse Update

EquiSTEP

2024: 1) Head – Helmet Safety
2) Hands – Safety & Handling
3) Health – Preventative Health
4) Heart – Handling Adversity

- Exhibitors must score a 7 out of 10 (70%) in order to pass.
- Results are reported directly to County 4-H Secure Mailbox UNLESS the exhibitor takes the test OUTSIDE of the Scarlet Canvas Course. If test is taken outside of online course, Dr. Cole or Dani Seitner will need to be contacted for the score.
- 2024 EquiSTEP Link: https://cfaesosu.catalog.instructure.com/courses/equistep-2024
- EquiSTEP completion is MANDATORY to participate in ANY of the "8 for 8" state 4-H horse events – even FFA members MUST complete EquiSTEP.

UNIFORM RULEBOOK – 2024 UPDATE

- Newly updated for 2024
- **Exhibitors will need to choose as 'seat' within each discipline at the same show (Pg 11 - #37)**
  - What does that mean?
    - Exhibitors can still show in English and Western classes BUT
    - Within English disciplines: exhibitors must choose between Hunt Seat vs. Saddle Seat
    - Within Western disciplines: exhibitors must choose between Western vs. Ranch
  - Showmanship 'seat' IS INCLUDED in this expectation.
  - The seat will follow the horse, not the rider
  - Recommendation for show committees – put disciplines on different days to allow exhibitors that would prefer to show as crossovers (if your county allows it)
  - Reining & Western Riding classes will not have a Ranch option so exhibitors showing Western or Ranch can show in Reining and Western Riding classes
  - This does NOT affect Gymkhana classes
  - To note for PAS- if an exhibitor qualifies in Ranch Horsemanship & Western Horsemanship [at different shows] – the exhibitor will need to decide which Horsemanship they choose to show – may NOT enter in both horsemanship classes
- **New Class for 2024 (Pg 37)**
  - Ranch Trail – a more natural, ranch work/type trail class
    - Additional/New obstacles to note – natural poles (not painted)
    - No real animals (goats/calves) but can use a calf cut out
    - Load in/out trailer (not at 2024 state fair) – recommend at end of pattern if using
    - Wood/metal gate – rope gates are NOT acceptable – handle should be on top for exhibitors to access on horseback
    - Branding simulation – horse should be able to ground tie, flour/lime, etc.
    - *If your county does not offer Ranch Trail, exhibitors may crossover to Western Trail
      - If the exhibitor qualifies in Western Trail, that is the class they MUST exhibit in. One cannot qualify in Western trail & opt to show in Ranch Trail.
      - It is NOT required for your county to offer Ranch Trail
    - If you don't offer Western Trail, but you do offer Ranch Trail – Western kids MUST conform to Ranch guidelines.

NEW PROJECT BOOKS FOR 2024
- o Roping
  - ▪ To exhibit in OSF Ground Roping Class, this project is required and the completed project book will be graded and the score included in their overall class score and placing.
- o Gymkhana
  - ▪ This project is NOT required to exhibit in the OSF Gymkhana classes

STATE CONTESTS
- To participate in any of the "8 for 8" state contests, a 4-H member MUST be enrolled in a Horse Project in the 4HO system for the CURRENT year.
- EquiSTEP MUST be completed

PAS/OHIO STATE FAIR JUNIOR HORSE SHOW
- 2024 PAS Patterns – there will be 1 pattern for each class regardless of age this year
- Exhibitors may show in 4 classes PLUS Ground Roping (Ground Roping exhibitors MUST be enrolled in the Roping Project)
- An exhibitor CAN choose to try and qualify in ONLY Ground Roping (BUT still must be enrolled in the Roping Project)
  - o Exhibitors will be REQUIRED to turn in their Roping Book at OSF competition (but not at PAS qualifying or County Fair – unless a county expectation has been set forth)
  - o To exhibit at OSF in Ground Roping EquiSTEP MUST be completed.
  - o Ground Ropers will NOT have to pay an OSF stall fee BUT WILL need a Permission to Participate form signed on record (4HO)
  - o Exhibitors participating in ONLY Ground Roping WILL NOT count for "8 for 8" participation – it is the expectation that exhibitors MUST bring a physical horse to the OSF to be considered for the 8 for 8 awards
- Deadline to sign up for OSFJHS Classes – July 1st at 1:00pm, exhibitors can enter before this date
- As a reminder, Coggins Test must have been pulled within the Calendar year [Coggins dated for 2023 are invalid]
- The Ohio State Fair Jr Horse Show is considered '1 show' and therefore exhibitors will be expected to declare disciplines for this show (Hunt Seat vs. Saddle Seat, Western vs. Ranch)
- Costume Contest & the Obstacle Challenge will be offered again this year
- 2024: Liberty Challenge (otherwise known as "Shankless Showmanship")
  - ▪ This will be an Online Submission class for 2024 – NOT IN PERSON (may change in the future)
  - ▪ More information will be released end of March/first of April at horse.osu.edu
  - ▪ Will be open to ALL 4-H'ers (not just OSF qualifiers/participants)
  - ▪ This event DOES NOT count for 8 for 8 awards
- OSFJHS Schedule
  - o While exhibitors will be permitted to move in on Sunday, they WILL NOT be able to move in BEFORE 6pm on Sunday July 14. (There is an event on the fairgrounds prior to our arrival)
- Dressage exhibitors must be enrolled in the Dressage project for the current year

COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDE
- Participants must be enrolled in the Trail Riding project for the current year