



2026 HANDBOOK

4-H HORSE & PONY PROJECT

UW-Extension – Sheboygan County
5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081
Administrative Assistant: Emily Lamb (920)459-5903
For meeting cancellations or changes due to inclement weather

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 4-H HORSE & PONY WEBSITE:

<http://sheboygan.uwex.edu/4h/horse>

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4-H Horse & Pony Project Website Contains

- Attendance Credit Tracker
- Calendar of Events
- Committee
 - Contact Information
 - Meeting Agendas
 - Meeting Minutes
- Educational Clinics
 - Speed
 - Trail
 - Pleasure
- Emergency Release Form
- Forms - Fair
 - Canopy/Tent Request Form
 - ID Sheets
 - Trailer Request Form
- Forms - Horse Shows
 - Entry Forms
 - Show Bills
- Forms – Nomination for Committee
 - Adult Committee Nomination
 - Youth Committee Nomination
- Forms – Nominations for Project Awards
 - Steady Eddie
 - Tigger All Around Award
 - Horseless Horse Groom Award
 - Horseless Horse Coach Award
 - County Project Awards
- Fundraising
 - Auction Flyer with info to send donations to
 - Sponsorship/Donation Form
- Handbook
- Horseless Horse Project
 - Groom Documents
 - Coach Documents
 - Information
- State of Wisconsin 4-H Horse & Pony Link
- Volunteer Opportunities
 - Sign Up Genius Link
 - Volunteer Hour Tracker

2025-2026 Horse & Pony Committee Directory

Role	Name	Phone	Email
UW-Extension Contacts			
Ext. Advisor	Sarah Feider	920-459-5918	sfeider@wisc.edu
Ext. Admin	Emily Lamb	920-459-5903	elamb5@wisc.edu
Adult Committee Members			
Chair	Lori Schuessler	920-946-4697	horses.lori955@gmail.com
Chair Elect	Sarah Mechenich	920-946-4496	sgmechenich@gmail.com
Past Chair	Dani Thimmig	920-946-7144	mdthimmig@gmail.com
Secretary	Tina Kasprzak	920-980-2759	clinttinak@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Mike Schmidt	920-323-7745	Dbmike440@hotmail.com
Adult Director	Wendy Krueger	920-838-2589	wendy.krueger74@gmail.com
Adult Director	Julie Kummer	920-627-3960	skyefarm@yahoo.com
Adult Director	Travis Lehn	262-385-1236	lehnta08@gmail.com
Adult Director	Molly Mechenich	920-980-9045	Emt_mmt@yahoo.com
Adult Director (Alternate 1)	Steve Mechenich	920-980-6357	smechenich@gmail.com
Youth Committee Members			
Youth President	Ereka Kaat	920-838-3214	ekaat1225@gmail.com
Youth Vice President	Mara Kinstler	920-241-6565	marakinslter38@gmail.com
Youth Member	Addie Schmidt		
Youth Member	Grace Schmidt		
Youth Member	Alex Maner		
Youth Member	Maggie Ramirez		
Youth Member	Addy Kasprzak		

Subcommittees

Awards/Scholarship	County Fair Program	Educational Arena, Clinics, & Clinicians	Fundraising
Julie Kummer	Tina Kasprzak	Julie Kummer	Tina Kasprzak
Wendy Krueger	Lori Schuessler	Lori Schuessler	Julie Kummer
Tina Kasprzak		Tina Kasprzak	Lori Schuessler
Molly Mechenich			
Lori Schuessler			

Grounds	Safety Certification	Show Committee	State Events
Mike Schmidt	Adult Committee	Wendy Krueger	Wendy Krueger
Travis Lehn		Molly Mechenich	Molly Mechenich
Steve Mechenich		Tina Kasprzak	
		Dani Thimmig	
		Steve Mechenich	
		Lori Schuessler	

Roles

Attendance	Education/Quiz Bowl	Drill Team -
Tina Kasprzak	Crystal Osieczonek	Sarah Mechenich
Wendy Krueger	Lori Schuessler	Konnor Koenig

HHG/First Year	Youth Committee
Lori Schuessler	Julie Kummer
Tina Kasprzak	Tina Kasprzak
Julie Kummer	

IMPORTANT PROJECT TERMS

CLINICS: An educational event hosted by Sheboygan County Horse & Pony project available to 4-H members at a discounted rate. Clinics will be taught by Equine professionals throughout the region.

CLOVERBUD: This is not a term specific to the Horse & Pony Project, but to Wisconsin 4-H in general. It refers to 4-H members who are not old enough to participate in the regular 4-H program (3rd grade). They are enrolled in the Cloverbud project and attend Cloverbud activities (and often Explorer activities) designed for them by their club or the county. The Horse & Pony project has some activities designed especially for these 4-H members.

CLOVERLEAF CRIER: This is a monthly newsletter published for all 4-H members and available to all enrolled members. This is the publication that will contain many of the announcements, activities, and events of the Horse & Pony project, as well as all other 4-H project areas. Families can access the Cloverleaf crier on the web at:

<http://sheboygan.extension.wisc.edu/cloverleaf-crier/>

COMMITTEE: (referred to throughout this Handbook) refers to the Horse & Pony Project Committee composed of elected adults and youth. Elections shall take place Sunday through Monday of Fair each year and are open to enrolled project adults and youth. Youth committee is open to all ages, officers for youth committee need to be 13 years of age or older. Nominations should be submitted by August 1st to a committee member in order to have said bio published in the nomination binder. Requirements for adult and youth committee members are listed on the back of the nomination form.

COUNTY PROJECT FEE: A member fee of \$20 per person or maximum of \$50 per family is due at the required project orientation meeting which helps support the opportunities of the project.

DRILL TEAM: Group of horses and riders performing choreographed maneuvers to music. Team typically performs at horse fairs, State fair, parades, and drill team competitions. Drill teams are intended to entertain, show sportsmanship, horsemanship, teamwork, and dedication.

EDUCATIONAL ARENA: Regular no cost events held at the Sheboygan County Fair Grounds to provide instruction and discuss equine topics with 4-H members, with the help of local professionals. Events can be attended with or without a horse, but members must listen and respect those providing instruction.

EXPLORER: This is not a term specific to the Horse & Pony Project, but to Wisconsin 4-H in general. It refers to 4-H members who are enrolled in the Explorer project as a regular member. The Explorer project allows its member to investigate a variety of 4-H projects rather than focusing on one project. Many first-year members new to 4-H are encouraged to enroll as an Explorer to get a taste of a variety of 4-H projects.

HANDBOOK: The book you are holding is the Horse & Pony project Handbook. This handbook will answer most of your questions and is revised by the committee in the fall of each year. Please feel free to make recommendations to the committee for future revisions.

HIPPOLOGY: An educational opportunity in the Horse & Pony Project dealing with knowledge of horses in the areas of breeds, colors, markings, feed, etc. Please see "Other Equine Exhibit Areas" for further information.

HORSE & PONY PROJECT MEMBER: A 4-H member (in 3rd grade or above) enrolled in the 4-H Horse & Pony project or Horseless Horse Project who owns, leases, or manages a horse. Your grade and age as of January 1st of the current year will be maintained throughout the 4-H year.

HORSELESS HORSE GROOM (HHG): A regular 4-H member whose family does not own a horse. You are eligible to be matched up with a Horse & Pony "Coach" Member, if available. You are designated "HHG" and should watch the Cloverleaf Crier for events specific to these members; as well as attend all Horse & Pony project events that interest you. Members must enroll in both Horseless Horse Project and the Regular Horse & Pony Project.

HORSELESS HORSE COACH: A regular 4-H member (in 3rd grade or above) that would like to mentor a Horseless Horse Groom. To be eligible to be a Coach you must have a horse, be able to safely handle your horse, and able to serve as a youth leader sharing foundational elements of the project including horse safety, handling, and care. In years where HHG grooms outnumber the youth coaches; adult leaders and volunteers may fill this role.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS: Requirements set forth by the project to be a member in good standing. Read through requirements carefully as you are responsible for achieving these requirements to show at the county fair and state events.

OPEN ARENA: Regular no cost events at Sheboygan County Fair grounds to all 4-H members and their horses the opportunity to acclimate to the grounds and practice their horsemanship. An adult committee member will be onsite for any questions.

QUIZ BOWL: This is an educational opportunity in the Horse & Pony project dealing with knowledge of several equine areas including anatomy, nutrition, showing, judging, etc. Please see “Other Equine Exhibit Areas” for further information.

REQUIRED PROJECT MEETINGS: All members of the Horse & Pony project are expected to attend one mandatory orientation meeting in January or March of the current year and one mandatory fair meeting in August. Members need to read the Project Expectations page and sign a copy of the expectations and return to committee at orientation meeting. These meetings are required to be a member in good standings with the project. Members in their 13th (post high school) year will be asked to contact chairperson to be excused when unable to attend meetings.

STATE EXPO/STATE GYMKHANA: This refers to the events hosted by the State of Wisconsin 4-H Horse & Pony project. *State Expo* show and educational competition are held in Milwaukee two weeks after our county fair and can also be referred to as the “State 4-H Horse Show”. This does NOT refer to the State Fair, which is held in August. *State Gymkhana* are timed events held in Milwaukee the Saturday following our county fair. In order to show a horse at “State” event you must complete paperwork and submit it to the designated committee representative by July 15th with payment. To exhibit at State Expo/State Gymkhana, you must be in 6th grade as of January 1st of the year they are entering to exhibit and meet the membership requirements as outlined in this handbook. FFA & Pony Club members are not eligible to exhibit at State.

STATE HUNTER/DRESSAGE: this refers to the event hosted by the State of Wisconsin 4-H Horse & Pony project in June at the Sheboygan County Fair Grounds. You must be in 6th grade to compete at state shows except for the educational clinics in which you may be in 3rd grade or higher to attend. Pre-registration is required for this event and is due in May with payment to a designated committee member. You must be in 6th grade as of January 1st of the year they are entering to exhibit and meet the membership requirements as outlined in this handbook. FFA & Pony Club members are not eligible to exhibit at State.

COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS

1. Complaints must be signed and turned over to the Horse and Pony Committee to be dealt with on an individual basis.
2. Concerns and suggestions should be submitted to the Committee, these must be in writing with a contact listed for any further clarification.
3. For any complaints or concerns that you feel need to be escalated or you don't feel comfortable bringing to the Horse and Pony Committee, please complete a Behavioral Concerns Report (BCR) located in the Cloverleaf Crier and on the county's Extension website.

2026 4-H HORSE & PONY PROJECT CALENDAR

Watch your Cloverleaf Crier/Extension website and emails for any updates or changes.



Google Calendar



Facebook Group

4-H HORSE & PONY PROJECT MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

PROJECT ENROLLMENT

1. 4-H enrollment website address is: <http://v2.4honline.com/>
2. Members must be enrolled in the Horse & Pony Project through your local 4-H club by March 1st of the current 4-H year to be eligible to show a horse at fair. Anyone joining the project after March 1st is able to participate in 4-H events and open horse shows.
3. HHG members must sign up for both Horseless Horse project and the Horse Project.
4. When unsure of your enrollment status, call the Extension office at 920-459-5903 prior to March 1st.

MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

The following are requirements to be a member in good standing at the county level. This is a requirement for fair, state events, and competitions. (State Hunter/Dressage, State Gymkhana, State Expo, and Quiz Bowl competition are a few examples)

1. Attendance Requirements for 2025-2026

- a. Members must have a total of 5 (five) meeting credits to exhibit at fair, which will need to consist of:
 - i. Mandatory Handbook Meeting – 1 credit
 - February Meeting or March Meeting attendance.
 - 13th year members are excluded from this requirement but encouraged to attend if available.
 - ii. Fair Mandatory Meeting – 1 credit
 - Meeting being moved to Sunday before fair, stall cleaning daytime to be determined.
 - iii. Attending & Signing In at 3 (three) of the following events:
 - SCHK Clinic
 - Educational/Drill Teams
 - 75%-100% members get 2 meeting credits
 - 50%-74.9% members get 1 meeting credit
 - SCHK Sponsored Shows
 - Educational/Open Arenas
 - State Hunter/Dressage Show hosted at Sheboygan County Fairgrounds

2. Midwest Horse Fair (watch for location to sign up)County Project Fee

- a. 4-H members will need to pay a \$20 County Project Fee per member with a maximum of \$50 per family by April 30th.
- b. Make checks payable to the Sheboygan County 4-H Horse & Pony Project.
- c. Submit payment at mandatory meetings or by mail to the Committee Treasurer.
- d. If the County Project Fee is NOT PAID before April 30th of the current year, a LATE FEE of \$10 per family will apply.
- e. Grant information is available from the committee chairperson if needed.

3. County Project Volunteer Hours

- a. Each youth member will be required to complete **4 (four) volunteer hours** for the 2025-2026 season.
- b. A minimum of **3(three) hours** of the 4(four) volunteer hours needs to be completed by August 1st.
- c. Any youth that plans on bringing 2 horses to fair will need to complete a total of 6 volunteer hours.
- d. Members must sign in at the announcer's booth prior to starting their volunteer hours and at the completion of their hours in order to get credit for hours worked.
- e. Parent/Adult participation is greatly appreciated and is highly encouraged. While not currently required, participation is a vital part of our project. We need YOU to make this project successful!
- f. Award top 3 youth of the county who complete the most volunteer hours.

4. County Project Sponsorships

- a. Youth members are encouraged to obtain a minimum of two sponsorships.
- b. Youth are encouraged to reach out to the community and get sponsorship funds to help keep their project going.
- c. Sponsorships are accepted anytime throughout the year. Our budget runs from July 1st – June 30th. Any funds received after July 1st will be applied to the following year.
- d. Award top 3 youth of the county who bring in the most sponsorship funds.

5. Fair Volunteer Hours

- a. During the Sheboygan County Fair each member will be required to complete 3 volunteer hours for the county project. (Sign up at Fair Mandatory Meeting)
- b. Parent/Adult participation at the county fair is necessary, is greatly appreciated, and highly encouraged. While not currently required, participation is a vital part of our project. We need YOU to make it a safe and fun fair!

6. Club Requirements

- a. Members must meet the requirements of their local 4-H club including club meeting attendance.
- b. Members must be considered a member in good standing with your club.
- c. Please contact your general club leader with any questions regarding your requirements.

7. Members must meet required deadlines.

- a. Deadlines for all required documentation list on the Deadline Section must be met by members.

EXPECTATIONS AND SAFETY OF YOUTH MEMBERS

1. Risk Management Policies

- a. All Wisconsin 4-H Risk Management Policies for Horse & Pony Project activities and events must be followed. See the latest at: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/4-h-project-and-activity-policies/>

2. General Safety Rules

- a. Youth must be in 3rd grade or higher to participate.
- b. No intact male horses (stallions) are allowed.
- c. No Bareback or riding double.
- d. No Reining or Team Penning classes/activities.
- e. No horse may be left unattended when out of the stall or trailer.
- f. Leave at least one horse/pony length between animals.
- g. Cell phone use will be limited while mounted or lunging your horse.
- h. Air pods/earbuds will not be allowed while riding and preferred to be removed while in the horse area for safety and ability to hear announcements in emergencies.
- i. If found with any of these items and there is a safety concern, leader will bring items to the office and return at the end of the event.

3. General Safety Attire

- a. SEI Approved Helmets must be worn & properly fitted by EVERY rider when mounted or driving a horse (any age).
- b. Boots with a cut-out heel must be worn when mounted on a horse, closed toe shoes should be worn by all members when working/handling around horses.
- c. Long pants are to be worn when mounted on your horse.
- d. A shirt that covers all undergarments (spaghetti straps are discouraged, razor back and muscle tanks are encouraged)
- e. Any clothing posing a safety hazard will be addressed.
- f. You may be referred to the 4-H Educator for disciplinary action if this rule is not followed.

4. Show Ring Apparel

- a. As a courtesy to new members, the Committee is providing the current requirements for show apparel. This apparel is required for the County Fair and any horse shows expressly organized by the Sheboygan County Horse & Pony Project. These rules are provided by the Wisconsin State 4-H Horse Association. Using the website: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/large-animals/horse-project/wisconsin-4-h-horse-association/> go to Chapter 4 – Rules and Guidelines and click on the link for the Equestrian Guidelines.

5. Required Tack

- a. A saddle is required when mounted. Saddle which fits horse and rider with stirrups, girth or cinch properly attached.
- b. Bridle with reins and a bit. Exceptions for Junior horses (5 years and under).
- c. Adjustments to tack and attire for valid medical or veterinary reasons are permitted, provided the show management is notified and approves prior to class.
- d. Twisted wire snaffle bits are prohibited.
- e. Boots, wraps, bandages are prohibited in the show ring. Exceptions for Gymkhana and Hunt/Dressage Shows.

6. Safety Certification

- a. All Horse/Rider combinations must pass a Safety Certification prior to the end of the last Educational Arena.
- b. Safety Certification forms are located at the end of the Handbook with the details required.

- c. The certification has 2 (two) parts, be sure to review what is expected prior to being certified.
 - i. Part 1 – Handling Horses on the Ground
 - This is required for any member exhibiting at the Sheboygan County Fair.
 - ii. Part 2 – Handling Horse while Mounted.
 - This is required for any member who is planning on riding a horse at the Sheboygan County Fair.
- d. Each Safety Certification will be considered valid for the horse/rider combination throughout their 4-H years unless a safety issue arises. At this point, the safety committee may ask for a new evaluation to be completed.

7. Coggins Requirements

- a. A current coggins must be presented to committee prior to a horse being taken out of a trailer at the fairgrounds.
 - i. A coggins is for equine animals from within WI which provides documentation of a negative EIA test done within the previous 12 months, which clearly identifies the animal by complete description or digital photographs.
- b. A copy of the current coggins needs to be provided to the show office/committee, with the Premise ID written on it. If a copy of the coggins can be made by the show office for a \$1.00 donation per page.

8. Expectation at Fairgrounds

- a. During any event held at the County Fairgrounds, including Educational Arenas, Clinics, Drill Team Practice, Horse Shows, or any other events members are expected to perform:
 - i. Litter Control (including but not limited to garbage, water bottles, etc.)
 - ii. Hay Clean up around trailers and fences.
- b. Manure clean-up around trailers and on the grounds. Please enter the fairgrounds through gate 3 or 4 and park in the green space by the warm-up arena north of the horse stalls.
- c. We appreciate the privilege of using the fairgrounds; please help us keep this privilege.

9. Sportsmanship and Behavior

- a. Exhibit good sportsmanship and courteous behavior at all times.
 - i. NO SMOKING in the barns or on the grounds directly around horse area.
 - ii. Foul Language should not be used.
 - iii. No drinking of alcoholic beverages and No use of illegal drugs.
- b. Failure to comply with behavior expectations at a Horse & Pony project activity may result in referral to the 4-H Educator for disciplinary action.

10. Horse Husbandry

- a. At all times treat animals humanely, with dignity, respect, and compassion. Remember someone is always watching you representing 4-H.

DEADLINES

Please read carefully. Failure to meet a Horse & Pony Project deadline will result in your ineligibility to show at the County Fair and State Events! All forms are available online on the Horse & Pony website. All forms may be duplicated if you need extras.

1. March 1st

a. Enrollment

- i. All Enrollment into 4-H and the project must be completed online by this date.

2. March 16th

a. HHG FORMS: The following forms are due to the HHG Committee Chairperson

- i. Horseless Horse GROOM Application
- ii. Horseless Horse Project Liability Release/Expectation Form
- iii. Horseless Horse COACH Application
- iv. Coach Liability Release/Expectations Form

3. April 30th

a. Project Fee

- i. The \$20 per member or \$50 per family project fee is due to the treasurer or late fee of \$10.00 will be applied and member will not be in good standings.

4. May 15th

a. State Hunter/Dressage Entries Due

- i. Forms and Fees must be submitted to appointed representative collecting them.
- ii. Members must be in good standings.
- iii. Clinics at this event are open to members even if they are not showing. Look at the list of clinicians to see if there would be one that interested you.
- iv. DO NOT send these forms directly to a state representative.

5. June 1st

a. Scholarship Application Due

- i. Scholarship applications are due to the chairperson or UWEX office on or before this date.

6. July 1st

a. Sponsorships

- i. All sponsorships and an accompanying Sponsorship form are due/postmarked to the Horse & Pony Treasurer.
- ii. **Sponsorships are a vital component of funding the youth development programs of the 4-H Horse & Pony Project. In addition, it is important that young people associate the valuable opportunities they participate in with the costs of hosting these experiences.**

7. July 15th

a. FAIR Entries

- i. Use the Sheboygan County Fair Website to register for fair classes. <http://www/shebcofair.com/>
- ii. **NEW 2026 Class layouts have changed, please be sure to print a copy of what you entered for reference.**

b. Pony Measurements

- i. Anyone wanting to show in a pony class at the fair must have their pony measured by this date. (see Pony Measurements and procedure for more info)

8. July 15th

a. State Expo

- i. Submit forms to appointed representative collecting forms.
- ii. All fees must be submitted with entry form.

b. State Gymkhana

- i. Submit forms to appointed representative collecting forms.
- ii. All fees must be submitted with entry form.

9. August 1st

a. ID Sheets

- i. Project Identification Sheet (ID Sheet) on animal and Horse Project Members (including Horseless Horse, SPIN, FFA and Pony Club members) attending the County Fair.
- ii. **Members should submit ID form for primary horse coming to fair; if member is bringing 2 (two) horses submit one for each horse coming to fair.**
- iii. Additional ID sheets can be obtained from the website or feel free to make a photocopy of the one inside your handbook.

b. Copy of Coggins needs to be attached to the ID Sheets with the following:

- i. Premise ID
- ii. Name of person(s) exhibiting horse

c. Vaccinations

- i. Submit a copy of vaccinations given to horse or pony during the current year; receipt of vaccinations or identification from packaging should be kept.
- ii. The number of horses receiving any one vaccination must not exceed the number of doses purchased.
- iii. If vaccinations cannot be given a waiver from your Vet will need to be submitted.

d. Traveling Trophies returned to Fair Grounds

- i. Return clean and in good condition.

e. Nominations for Awards

- i. Steady Eddie Awards Nominations
 - These must be mailed or emailed to Barabara Drewry-Zimmermann at the following address: N4396 Blueberry Lane, Plymouth, WI 53073
 - Email: bzimmy@excel.net
- ii. Tigger All Around Horse Award
 - Submit to Tetschlag family or committee member.
- iii. All other Award Nominations
 - Turn in at Announcer's Booth at Fairgrounds or Adult Committee Member.

10. August 15th

a. Trailer Request Forms

- i. Trailers cannot stay on the grounds without submitting a request and being approved.
- ii. Confirmations or rejections will be given to everyone who submits a form.
- iii. Trailer space must be shared with others as there is not enough room to keep a trailer for every horse. (Please fill out who will be sharing the trailer accurately)
 - 2 Horse Trailer – minimum of 2 members sharing trailer.
 - 3 Horse Trailer - minimum of 3 members sharing the trailer.
 - 4 Horse Trailer – minimum of 4 members sharing the trailer.
- iv. Forms should be submitted to Chairperson or to a committee member at the announcer's booth of any event starting the first open arena evening.

b. Tent Permit Request Form

- i. All clubs that would like to put up a tent at the fairgrounds during fair must submit a form.
 - One request per club
 - Permission to put up tent will be on a first come first serve basis.

- Tents will be assigned where stall assignment are located for the club.
 - All tents must be identified with club name.
- c. Committee Nomination Forms (Youth & Adult)**
- i. Nomination forms for any youth or adult interested in running for the Horse & Pony Committee need to by August 15.
 - ii. Adult and Youth Meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month.
 - Youth Meeting starts at 6:00pm
 - Adult Meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

IDENTIFYING (ID'ING) YOUR HORSE

- 1. All project animals must be identified (ID) in order to enter the County Fair Grounds.**
 - a. Primary project animals must be identified by each potential exhibitor on or before August 1st.
 - b. ID sheets will have a NEW section where backup (alternate) horses should be listed on the primary form submitted. No other information will need to be submitted for backup horses unless they will need to attend in place of the primary horse.
- 2. Members may share a horse (ID Same horse) for the County Fair**
 - a. For State Expo there are restrictions on who can share a horse. Please reference the State Expo rules and guidelines for the current information.
 - b. When sharing a horse both members must ID and submit all the required paperwork for IDing a horse.
 - i. This is inclusive of Horseless Horse Coach and Horseless Horse Grooms.
- 3. Bringing Multiple (2) horses to fair**
 - a. Members 9th Grade and older have the option of bringing 2 horses to the fair. To qualify to bring 2 horses each member must complete:
 - i. All Fair Requirements
 - ii. Volunteers for 6 hours
 - iii. ID sheets completed for both animals coming to fair.
 - iv. Notify Committee chair for planning purposes.
- 4. ID Forms**
 - a. Please use the current form for 2026 as there have been changes to the ID Forms.
 - b. Forms can be found in the form's booklet or on the horse and pony website.
- 5. Color photographs of the animal**
 - a. Digital pictures are acceptable (on ID sheets)
 - b. You must present pictures of both sides and face.
- 6. Negative Coggins**
 - a. Each horse IDed must have a copy of a current negative coggins submitted with their ID sheet.
 - b. Make sure your coggins has the results, dates and signatures indicating that the testing has been completed.
- 7. Premise ID**
 - a. Premise ID numbers are required by the fairgrounds and the State and are obtained from the State of Wisconsin.
 - b. Each horse must have a Premise ID # listed for where the animal is housed.
 - c. The Premise ID # must be written in the upper right corner of the respective horse's current coggins.
- 8. Proof of vaccination**
 - a. Each horse needs proof of vaccines, it can be either a certificate or a copy of the receipt with the horse's name on it.

- i. Per the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP). **Please remember that if you are using a store receipt as proof of vaccination the number of horses receiving any one vaccination may not exceed the number of doses purchased.
- b. The following vaccinations should be completed within the calendar year:
 - i. Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis
 - ii. Equine Influenza
 - iii. Rhino-pneumonitis
 - iv. Tetanus
 - v. Rabies (strongly encouraged)
 - vi. West Nile boosters (strongly encouraged)
- c. Veterinary excuse/Release Waiver if vaccines cannot be given for a valid medical concern.
- d. A regular deworming program is being followed.

9. Emergency Release Form

- a. Each member must complete a copy of the 4-H Member's Pledge and Emergency Release Form.
- b. Fill out forms completely.
 - i. Use N/A rather than leaving blank.

10. HHG Member IDing Horse

- a. HHG Members must submit a separate ID sheet for the horse they will be exhibiting at the fair.
- b. HHG members may only show an animal properly identified by a regular 4-H member.
- c. HHG horse/rider pair must pass safety certification appropriate for fair class level.
- d. Horses/ponies not being used or shown by a regular member WILL NOT be allowed at the fair or as part of the HHG project.
- e. HHG members may have a backup Coach but must submit ID sheets for both coaches/horses.
- f. Exceptions to the above rules may be considered on a case-by-case basis strictly for Horseless Horse Grooms registered to show at the fair.

PONY MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE

1. A hard level surface must be selected.
2. Lower the pony's head to determine the high point of the withers.
3. Stand the pony square with weight on all four feet – not stretched or bunched.
4. The neck should be natural and cannot be lower than the horizontal at the time of measurement.
5. If wearing shoes, measure the shoe. Deduct actual height of shoe from measurement.
6. A measurement must be obtained from both sides and the pony must measure 56" or under, based on the average of both measurements.
7. If a pony measures over 56" by one inspector, the exhibitor has the right to get the pony measured by two (2) more inspectors designated by the committee. The results of the two out of the three inspectors determine the height of the pony.
8. The measuring stick must be rigid and have a measurement scale with a level.
9. The measuring inspectors will be designated by the committee prior to measurements being taken. The inspectors can change depending on the event and committee members available.
10. All pony measurements need to be completed prior to July 15th.
11. Pony measure cards from recognized breed associations will be accepted provided the pony is 56" or under.
12. Mini horses must be ID'ed as ponies.
13. Copy of all pony measurements will be retained in the announcer's booth for reference.

EXCEPTIONS

1. Consideration of Exceptions

- a. Any consideration of exceptions of the rules herein can be addressed to the committee at larger in person.
- b. Concerns will be routed to the appropriate process which may include being:
 - i. Put on the Horse & Pony Committee Agenda then deferred to the committee as a whole.
 - ii. Brought to the attention of the Youth Development Educator.
 - iii. Shared with the Fair Association Board of Directors.
- c. Exceptions to rules or consideration of unmet member expectations will be deferred to the committee as a whole.

HORSELESS HORSE GROOMS(HHG) AND COACHES

1. What to Expect

- a. The HHG project is NOT a riding project. While your particular Coach may allow you to ride, this is NOT an expectation you should have going into this project. This project is intended to introduce youth who are not yet able to own a horse to the various aspects of owning a horse. This included care, grooming, leading, handling, and safety. As far as showing, our Coach may allow you to show in the HHG classes at the fair, but it is not required to do so. Your Coach is not expected to teach you to ride; if you are interested in learning how to ride, there are several qualified riding instructors in the area. If progressing in the show ring is a goal, the next step is to purchase or lease a horse of your own to enroll as a regular Horse Project Member. **No member of your immediate family may own a horse.**

2. Enrollment

- a. All HHG Members should be properly enrolled as an HHG in the Horse & Pony Project.
- b. HHG Members must enroll in both Horseless Horse Project and Horse Project; however, you may only exhibit in one or the other at the fair.
- c. You must choose one project or the other when you fill out your entry form for the Fair.

3. Required Forms

- a. All HHG members & Coaches must return their groom/coach application and Liability Release/Expectations Forms to the HHG chairperson by March 16th of the current 4-H year.
- b. These forms are necessary in the pairing process.
- c. HHG member who do not turn in these forms will not be paired with a regular member.
- d. Both the Groom & Coach must have their forms turned in to be allowed to enter any HHG showmanship/riding classes at the Fair.
- e. Each HHG member is responsible for correctly completing and turning in all forms, entries, etc. necessary for participation in this project.
 - i. It is not the responsibility of the Coach to return forms, nor is it the responsibility of the animal's owner.

4. Safety Equipment

- a. Each HHG member is required to use appropriate safety equipment at all 4-H sponsored events.
 - i. This includes SEI-approved equestrian helmets, shoes/boots with defined heel and appropriate tack.
 - ii. Coaches are not required to provide equipment.

5. Pairing Up Coaches and Grooms

- a. There are often times where there are more HHG members than there are available horses.
 - i. Horseless Horse Grooms may be paired with an adult leader willing to work with an HHG.
- b. Some project members don't feel "expert" enough, while still others have limited time available to help others.

- c. Each Coach is strongly encouraged to meet with his/her HHG at least four times before the Fair.
- d. Signing up for the Fair can be completed using the Sheboygan County Junior Fair Entry Book. Go on www.shebcofair.com to register for fair. All fair entries are due by July 15th.
- e. Many members feel uncomfortable sharing with a beginner for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is liability. We are, therefore, limited in our resources. We will do our best to get you matched with someone but cannot guarantee it.

6. The HHG Chairperson has the ability to present to the 4-H Horse & Pony Project Committee that a regular member and/or horse is not suitable for the HHG program.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR

1. Fair Eligibility

- a. You must be a member of a Sheboygan County 4-H Club, FFA Chapter, or Pony Club.
- b. Have satisfactorily met your individual club/chapter requirements.
- c. Have met all 4-H Horse & Pony Project requirements and deadlines, including attendance.
- d. Your horse must be controllable. Horse/Rider must pass the Safety Certification – located at end of handbook.
 - i. Committee reserves the right to restrict participation in horse and pony project activities including the county fair if a horse or pony is a legitimate safety risk (exceeds acceptable liability concerns) in regard to other members, spectators, or participants in any project event, practice, or show.

2. FFA Member and Pony Club Eligibility

- a. FFA Members and Pony Club Members in good standing are also eligible to show for premiums at the Sheboygan County Fair.
- b. FFA and Pony Club Members are expected to:
 - i. Properly enroll through their chapter headquarters.
 - ii. The chapter headquarters must be located in Sheboygan County.
 - iii. Keep detailed records of their project as per their headquarters' specifications.
 - iv. Attend a mandatory pre-fair meeting hosted by the Sheboygan County 4-H Horse and Pony Committee.
 - v. Complete a safety certification prior to fair with a committee member.
 - vi. Sign up for and complete 3 (three) hours of volunteer service during the fair weekend.
 - vii. Correctly enter their premium classes at the county fair. Assistance may be obtained at any educational area or by calling a committee member.
 - viii. Encouraged to solicit sponsorships to support fair classes.
 - ix. Adhere to the age level guidelines as set forth by the fair board when entering premium classes at the fair.
 - x. Send in an ID sheet by August 1st as explained in IDing your horse.
 - xi. Use approved safety equipment as designated in the handbook.
- c. Additional rules for FFA and Pony Club Members
 - i. They are NOT required to attend countywide events.
 - ii. They are NOT required to pay 4-H Project Fees.
 - iii. They are NOT required to contribute to volunteer hours outside of the fair experience.
 - iv. They may not bring a horse to the educational area events since they will not be covered by the Horse & Pony Project's Insurance.
 - v. Are not eligible to participate in any 4-H events or activities. They must be registered with the Wisconsin 4-H for county horse events (Drill Team, Horseless Horse Coaches/Grooms, Educational Teams, and State Events)

3. Fair Entry

- a. Fair entries are made online with the Sheboygan County Fair website and due July 15th with no exceptions.
- b. Each member, including HHG members, is responsible for correctly completing his or her fair entry forms.
 - i. No changes/errors can be corrected after the July 15th deadline. (Fair Association Rule)
- c. Members may only exhibit in HHG or regular member classes, not both.
- d. Members are encouraged to ask for assistance at any event or by calling the Committee Chairperson or another committee member when completing fair entries.
- e. You will receive a confirmation email with the entries you submitted. SAVE THIS EMAIL it is your proof of entries being submitted.

- f. The member's grade as of January 1st of the current year should be used to enter appropriate grade class.
- g. Any animal 56" and under (as measured by a committee member) may be shown in either horse classes or pony classes, but not both.
- h. Any animal over 56" must be shown in horse classes.
- i. The Committee shall deal with any other equine project animals (i.e., donkeys and mules) on an individual basis.
- j. Members that are on the drill teams must enter walk/trot/canter classes if they canter on their drill team.
- k. Members entering canter classes may NOT enter walk/trot classes.

4. Non-premium classes

- a. Non-premium classes are extra classes & do not count as one of your fair online entries. These classes will be entered after checking in for the Sheboygan County Fair. All of the classes will be run on Friday in the afternoon.
- b. The Patrick Rogers Memorial Horsemanship Class
 - i. Class age is 14-18 years.
 - ii. Members must sign up on Wednesday or Thursday of Fair.
 - iii. You must show the horse you are exhibiting at the Fair.
 - iv. This is a walk/trot/canter class.
- c. The Nancy Becker Memorial Horsemanship Class
 - i. Class age is 13 and under.
 - ii. Members must sign up on Wednesday or Thursday of Fair.
 - iii. You must show the horse you are exhibiting at the Fair.
 - iv. This is a walk/trot/canter class.
- d. Tissadi
 - i. This is a walk/trot/canter class that is judged on English Equitation and Western Horsemanship.
 - ii. Class is open for any member that exhibits walk/trot/canter classes,
 - iii. Members must sign up on Wednesday or Thursday of Fair.
 - iv. You must show the horse you are exhibiting at the Fair.

5. All members are responsible for following the rules and regulations contained in the Sheboygan County Junior Fair.

6. Walk/Trot Classes

- a. Walk/Trot classes are intended for riders or horses with minimal show experience.
- b. Walk/Trot exhibitors may show in
 - i. Regular Halter Classes
 - ii. Walk/Trot Showmanship Classes
 - iii. Walk/Trot Trail Classes
 - iv. In Hand Trail Classes
 - v. Walk/Trot Equitation/Horsemanship Classes
 - vi. Walk/Trot Pleasure Classes
 - vii. Walk/Trot Gymkhana Classes
- c. You may not enter walk/trot classes for fair with a horse/rider combination that participated in multiple walk/trot/canter classes during multiple shows during the same year prior to fair.
- d. The horse may be shown by another exhibitor in canter classes.
- e. You may not canter in the warm-up arena if you are entered in walk/trot classes.

STALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR FAIR

1. Stall assignment.

- a. Stall space will be provided for one animal per regular member as space allows.
 - i. For members 9th grade and older bringing 2 horses contact the committee chair so accommodations can be arranged for stall needs.
- b. The Committee will assign stalls for members by Club. Stall assignments will be made available on or after August 15th but prior to Mandatory meeting.
- c. Stall assignments will remain generally in the same location.

2. Housekeeping rules for stalls

- a. Exhibitors must furnish all of their equipment as well as bedding, hay, and feed.
- b. No hay, grain, or bedding will be permitted in the aisles for storage.
- c. Members need to plan with those assigned to your tack stall to ensure there is no equipment in the aisles.

FAIR ARRIVAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Health of animals coming to fairgrounds

- a. Livestock exhibits must comply with the animal health requirements listed in the Fair Entry Handbook.
- b. Horse exhibits must comply with the requirements listed in this Handbook under Identifying (ID'ing) Your Horse.

2. Fair Check-In Requirements

- a. Pick up your fair entry tags at the fair office prior to unloading your horse at the fairgrounds.
- b. All 4-H members exhibiting a horse, including HHG members, must check in at the announcer's booth/office.
 - i. Fair entry tags will be asked for at the announcer's booth.
 - ii. Check-In requirements need to be completed by 12:00 PM Thursday of Fair.

3. Arrival Time

- a. All animals must be brought to the Fairgrounds through the designated gate.
 - i. Wednesday from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM
 - ii. Thursday from 8:00 AM – NOON (12:00 PM)
- b. Enter through Gate 4 or 7 – unloading needs to be done at the northwest entrance of the Fairgrounds. If you have an a/c unit or very tall trailer enter using Gate 7.
- c. You must be approved and have a Trailer Request form on file with the Horse & Pony project Committee to leave your trailer on the grounds overnight. Once trailer is parked in lot it cannot be removed until Monday.
- d. Trailers may not enter or park in the fairgrounds after noon on Thursday or before 6PM on Monday of Fair.

4. Fair Folders

- a. Back Tags will be provided in your fair folder.
 - i. These back tags must be on at all times while handling your horse.
 - ii. Entry for Non-Premium Classes.
 - iii. Fair program of events.
 - This will provide what day events will be on to help families be prepared.
 - iv. Parking Hanging Tag – Parking for the Horse and Pony Parking Area
 - Each family will receive one parking hang tag to display in the front window to get closer parking to the barns. This parking is only held until 2:00 PM each day and then will be open to everyone.

TRAILER PARKING

1. How to keep a trailer at the fairgrounds

- a. All trailers kept on the fairgrounds for the duration of the Fair, must submit a Trailer Request Form with the Horse & Pony Project committee and receive an approval.
- b. All trailers must be parked in the designated area.
- c. Trailers parked without committee approval will be towed away at the owner's expense.
- d. All towing vehicles must be detached from the trailer and may not remain with the vehicle for the duration of the fair.

2. Trailer Request Forms

- a. Must have owner's signature and names of the 4-Her's using the trailer during fair.
- b. Please fill in the dimensions of the trailer as it helps for planning.
- c. Trailer space must be shared with others as there is not enough room to keep a trailer for every horse. (Please fill out who will be sharing the trailer accurately)
 - i. 2 Horse Trailer – minimum of 2 members sharing trailer.
 - ii. 3 Horse Trailer - minimum of 3 members sharing the trailer.
 - iii. 4 Horse Trailer – minimum of 4 members sharing the trailer.

BARN AND GROUNDS RULES

1. Barn Rules

- a. Halters
 - i. All horses must have halter and lead rope hanging on the front of the stall when the horse is stalled.
 - ii. Halters should not be left on the horse at night.
 - iii. Committee approval is required if a horse required a halter to be kept on overnight, however if one needs to be on it, it must be a breakaway type.
- b. Horses must be kept in the stall when in the barns.
 - i. NO horses are allowed to stand in the aisle at any time.
 - ii. All horses must be stalled at dark unless prior arrangements are made & approved by the committee.
- c. Stall Set Up
 - i. All water buckets (we recommend having two buckets) should be at least at height of animal's chest.
 - ii. Hay nets must be securely fastened at least as high as the animal's chest.
 - iii. Use of hooks for buckets and hay nets rather than tying is strongly encouraged.
 - iv. NO OPEN HOOKS ALLOWED!!
 - v. Fans are allowed by permission from the Committee only and must be placed appropriately.
 - vi. Manure is to be placed in the appropriate containers, NOT alongside them.
 - vii. Barns open at 6 AM – no earlier for all members.
 - Horse barns will not be open until 6 AM
 - Horse barns will be open to spectators at 8 AM.
 - All stalls must be cleaned by 8 AM and remain clean throughout the day.
 - viii. Barns close to spectators at 10 PM. Members needing to access barns after 10 PM must come to the north entrance of the barn, an overnight attendant will be there until 11 PM to allow 4-H members and their immediate family access to the barn to check on horse and pick up anything they may have left in a tack stall.
 - ix. When barn closes there will be a couple lights left on until all fair goers have left the grounds.

2. Horse Grounds

- a. Members are to take full responsibility of their exhibits while at the fair.
 - i. Only Horse & Pony members should be in the stalls, i.e., not friends, nor fairgoers, etc.
 - ii. Leader's, the horse's legal owner, and parents may help, but only as necessary.
 - iii. Parent and legal owners (who have not passed 4-H Leader training) waive ANY and ALL 4-H liability.
- b. When a horse is extremely agitated
 - i. It is recommended for safety and liability reasons that adults/youth stay out/leave the stall.
 - ii. If entering is necessary, please contact the show office (announcer's booth)
- c. Overnight Volunteers
 - i. No one under the age of 21 is allowed to remain on the fairgrounds overnight.
 - ii. Adults will be on duty overnight. One volunteer must have completed 4-H volunteer agreement and training.
 - iii. Volunteers 21 years of age and older who choose to stay should assume they are on duty and adhere to all 4-H Volunteer Expectations.
- d. Emergency exceptions to the above rules may be made by the 4-H Horse & Pony Project Committee.

3. Riding Rules (Applies to Fair only)

- a. Riding arenas and warm-up arenas will be open from
 - i. 6:30 AM until 800 PM (or until dark) everyday as possible
 - ii. Monday's riding must end by 2 PM.
 - iii. Some exceptions may be made based on project needs.
- b. No one may lunge or ride in the warm-up arena, at any time, without a recognized supervisor in attendance.
- c. Riding is restricted to the following areas:
 - i. Warm-Up arena
 - ii. Main arena
 - iii. Holding areas while awaiting class.
 - iv. Entry and Exit gaits will be determined for pleasure classes. Holding area will be reserved for those checking in for next class.
- d. No horses or ponies may be turned loose either arena at any time.
- e. Lunging will be allowed only in designated areas.
- f. Enrolled Horse & Pony Project Leaders, parents, and equine owners may assist a member when needed for safety reasons.

4. Judging Days

- a. All premium classes will be held on Friday and Saturday of the Fair.
- b. Non-Premium classes will be held as posted.
- c. Horses will be judged at appropriate gaits for their breed.
- d. The Committee reserves the right to combine any lots that have four (4) or less entries and split any lots with more than eighteen entries, or as safety dictates.
- e. The Committee or the judge may dismiss a rider and/or animal they feel is endangering the safety of other persons or animals in the ring.
- f. Riders must be ready for their class. Gates will not be held for members that are not ready.
 - i. Tack changes can be requested when needed.

5. MONDAY Fun Day

- a. Participation for Fun Day
 - i. Exhibitors must show in at least one premium class to participate. This includes HHG and walk/trot exhibitors.
 - ii. *Cloverbuds may exhibit in designated classes without a horse.*
 - iii. If you participated in walk/trot classes on Friday and/or Saturday, you must enter walk/trot classes on Monday. Regardless of the horse that is used.
 - iv. Registration for Monday's game day is to be completed by noon on Sunday.

- v. Entry forms will be found in the folder you receive upon check-in.
- vi. Deposit entry slips in the box at the arena office.
- vii. Each member is allowed to participate in only four games.
- viii. Entries in tandem classes
 - Entry counts against primary exhibitors' entry not the partner.
 - Must include the names of both exhibitors on the one entry along with the horse's name(s).

END OF FAIR CHECK OUT

1. Removal of decorations

- a. Decorations must stay up until 5:30 PM.
- b. No Identification can be removed as projects are still on display.

2. Animals Departure

- a. All animals must leave Monday of the Fair by the designated gate.
- b. Animals cannot leave earlier than 6:00 PM
- c. Trailers to remove animals are not allowed on the grounds until 6:00 PM.

3. Cleaning Stalls

- a. All decorations must be removed, and all stalls cleaned on Monday evening of Fair.
- b. All staples, tape, and adhesives must be removed from the stalls.
 - i. Exhibitors are responsible for collecting and removing all of their belongings from the fairgrounds.
- c. Building watch volunteers will not be responsible for anything left after 8:00 PM.

STATE EVENTS

1. To Exhibit at State Horse Events

- a. You must have been in the sixth grade (6th) or higher as of January 1st of the current year to take a horse to Expo or State Gymkhana.
- b. Walk/Trot classes may now participate in State Events.

2. To Exhibit in Educational State Events

- a. To participate you must be in third grade (3rd) and above.
- b. Educational events do not require a qualifying event.
- c. All members enrolled in the Horse & Pony Project, Horseless Horse Project, or the Clothes Horse Project may participate in the State 4-H Horse Expo in the educational divisions of clothes horse, judging, poster, photography, art, speaking, and/or demonstrations, model horse, drawing and painting, and hippology, etc.
- d. You need not have shown at the county level to participate in the State educational event (with the exception of Horse Quiz Bowl, where you need to be on the qualifying team. Teams qualify in May of the current year.)

3. All members planning on exhibiting or participating in a clinic for the State Hunter/Dressage show.

- a. Need to have completed entries turned in by May 15th.

4. All members planning on exhibiting at State Expo and State Gymkhana whether with an animal or in educational activities.

- a. Need to complete entries by July 15th.
- b. Parental signatures are required to register for State 4-H Horse Expo and Gymkhana.
- c. You may be asked to bring a picture of yourself for educational exhibits and an additional picture of you and/or your horse for animal exhibits.

- d. Stall deposits are not required, but if the State would contact the county about dirty stalls, member(s) will be required to pay the fee.

AWARDS

1. Barn Awards

- a. Sheboygan County Fair will automatically submit entries for your club to be eligible for barn awards and fair premiums.
- b. It is encouraged that decorations are completed as early as possible and that decorating and bedding of stalls are started Monday of Fair Week.
- c. All Decorations must be completed Thursday of Fair to be eligible for awards.
 - i. No staples are to be used on portable stalls.
 - ii. No glass will be used when decorating stalls.

2. Barn Award Judging

- a. Judging is done by Committee appointees who will randomly tour the barns and score each club for the duration of the fair.
- b. Barn awards will be given out on Monday of the Fair during the Awards Ceremony.
- c. All clubs will be judged in their size category (large, medium, or small)
 - i. Categories change yearly based on number of horses in each club at fair.
- d. Clubs are judged on the following criteria:
 - i. General Appearance – based on overall look of exhibit, eye appeal, etc.
 - ii. Cleanliness/Horsemanship – Stalls are clean and well bedded, horses are clean and groomed, aisles are clean and tidy.
- e. Educational Aspect – Members should be providing fairgoers with knowledge about horses and things horse related.
- f. 4-H/FFA/Pony Club Promotion – Logo for appropriate group.
- g. Identification – Club, exhibitor (first name), horse's name
- h. Safety – Halter and lead are on stall door, buckets and hay bags hung properly. Decorations are put up safely and aisles are free of obstacles.
- i. Extra Credit – Attendant on duty ready to answer questions about the project, 4-H spirit and good manners are exhibited.

3. Attendance Awards

- a. Outstanding Attendance
 - i. Given to those members who have attended and signed in at 10 – 14 events.
- b. Exceptional Attendance
 - i. Given to members who have attended and signed in at 15 or more events.

4. Volunteerism Awards

- a. Awards may be handed out when members have gone above and beyond to help out during the 4-H year.

5. Project Awards for 4-H Members (Based on Points Accumulated through shows and fair)

- a. **Debbie Leynse Memorial Walk/Trot Trophy**
 - i. In memory of Debbie, who loved animals and worked to the best of her abilities. It is presented annually to the outstanding participant in Walk/Trot classes and is based on the highest number of points accumulated between the Sheboygan County Inspiration Series Shows and the County Fair.
- b. **Nancy Becker Memorial Trophy**
 - i. In memory of a wonderful horsewoman, this is a class at the county Fair for project members 13 and under as of January 1st. A pattern will be required, and this class will be judged strictly on

horsemanship. The winner is to be picked by the officiating judge. The winner of the class and the first runner-up will be announced. A plaque will be given since this is a traveling trophy. The exhibitor must show on their own ID'd horse.

- c. **Patrick Rogers Memorial Trophy**
 - i. In memory of wonderful horsemanship combined with sportsmanship, this is a class at the County Fair for project members 14 years and older as of January 1st of the current year. A pattern will be required, and this class will be judged strictly on horsemanship. The winner is to be picked by the officiating judge, The winner of the class and the first runner-up will be announced. A plaque will be given since this is a traveling trophy. The exhibitor must show on their own ID'd horse.
- d. **Tissadi Memorial Trophy**
 - i. Donated by Barb Drewry-Zimmerman in memory of a promising versatile Arabian who dies too young. This traveling trophy is awarded at the Fair to the winner of the versatility class at the County Fair open to all walk/trot/canter 4-H members. The versatility class starts as English equitation then complete a three-minute tack change with one assistant into Western; then you are judged showing Western Horsemanship (patterns may be called for).
- e. **First Year Member High Point Award**
 - i. Presented annually at the Fair to the First Year Regular Member having accumulated the highest number of points while exhibiting their horse/pony at the Sheboygan County Inspiration Series Shows and the County Fair.
- f. **Lil' Buck 'A' Roo Award**
 - i. Donated by Chuck and Nancy Williams, this award is presented to the gymkhana rider grades 3-5 accumulating the most points from the Sheboygan County Inspiration Series Shows and the County Fair. This is a traveling trophy awarded at the County Fair.
- g. **Giddy Up Gymkhana Award**
 - i. Donated by Robert and Dawn Boehlke, this award is presented to the gymkhana rider grades 6-7 accumulating the most points at the Sheboygan County Inspiration Series Shows and the County Fair. This is traveling trophy awarded at the County Fair.
- h. **Wrangler Gymkhana Award**
 - i. Donated by Albrecht Family, this award is presented to the gymkhana rider grades 8-9 accumulating the most points at the Sheboygan County Inspiration Series Shows and the County Fair. This is a traveling trophy awarded at the County Fair.
- i. **Rawhide Gymkhana Award**
 - i. Donated by Richard and Pam Eder, this award is presented to the Gymkhana rider grades 10-13 accumulating the lost points at the Sheboygan County Inspiration Series Shows and the County Fair. This is a traveling trophy awarded at the County Fair.
- j. **Plymouth Trail Riders Horsemanship Award**
 - i. Donated by the Plymouth Trail Riders, this award is to recognize a youth that has shown exceptional horsemanship skills through the year. Points will be accumulated through the Inspiration Series and Sheboygan County Fair. Riders/exhibitors can accumulate points from the use of multiple horses and multiple disciplines during the year.
- k. **Zazpiakbat Trail Class Award**
 - i. Donated by Barb Drewry-Zimmerman in memory of an Arabian gelding who was a great teacher and friend, this traveling trophy is awarded to that individual accumulating the most points in the Trail Classes at the Fair. Walk/Trot members are not eligible.
- l. **Trail In Hand Award**
 - i. Donated by the Plymouth Trail Riders, this trophy will be awarded to the individual accumulating the most points in the Trail in Hand class at the County Fair.
- m. **Walk/Trot Trail Award**
 - i. Donated by Plymouth Trail Riders, this trophy will be awarded to the individual accumulating the most points in the Walk/Trot Trail class at the County Fair.

- n. **4-H Series Walk/Trot Pleasure Show High Point**
 - i. Donated by Plymouth Trail Riders, this trophy is awarded to the individual horse/rider combination accumulating the most pointed throughout the Inspiration Series.
- o. **4-H Series Pleasure Show High Point**
 - i. Donated by the Plymouth Trail Riders, this trophy is awarded to the individual horse/rider combination accumulating the most points throughout the Inspiration Series.

6. Project Awards for 4-H Members (Nomination Needed)

- a. **Betsy Rohde Quiz Bowl Award**
 - i. Awarded to the individual who has best shown the knowledge, participation, and sportsmanship recognizing Betsy Rohde's belief that all three traits are necessary when it comes to taking care of and showing our equine friends. This person must have completed a minimum of one year on the Quiz Bowl Team and is to be nominated by other Quiz Bowl members, parents, coaches, or leaders.
- b. **Capelle Traveling Trophy**
 - i. Donated in memory of Waldemar Capelle, whose family was very involved in the 4-H Horse Project. This award is presented to that individual who exhibits overall outstanding achievement in 4-H horses and related projects. Horse project members can nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else.
- c. **County Sportsmanship Award**
 - i. Awarded to the individual who has best demonstrated "good sportsmanship" throughout the 4-H year. This award is dedicated to helping youth learn good sportsmanship through horsemanship.
- d. **Horseless Horse Coach Award**
 - i. This is a traveling trophy was donated by the 1993 Hippology/Quiz Bowl Team. It is to be given to the Horseless Horse Coach who has demonstrated an outstanding willingness to work with a Horseless Horse Groom to teach then horsemanship and sportsmanship. The Coach must be a registered 4-H member in the Horse & Pony Project.
- e. **Horseless Horse Groom Award**
 - i. This traveling trophy donated by the 1993 Hippology/Quiz Bowl Team is awarded for outstanding achievement in the HHG Project. Written records and justification for the years of involvement in the Horse & Pony Project are to be submitted by the HHG applying for this award. Nominations can also be accepted from a Horseless Horse Coach or Leader.
- f. **Linda M. Reinwand Service Award**
 - i. Awarded to the individual 15 and older youth, who over time, and through their experiences and knowledge of equine animals gave freely of themselves and has demonstrated excellence in horse husbandry.
- g. **Most Improved Horseman**
 - i. The is awarded to the individual exhibiting the most-improved horsemanship skills throughout the year. The winning member must be enrolled in the project for the second year or later.
- h. **State Sportsmanship Award**
 - i. Awarded to that individual who has best demonstrated "good sportsmanship" during the State events and throughout the 4-H year. This award is dedicated to helping youth learn good sportsmanship through horsemanship. The member winning this award will have their nomination submitted to the state to compete against members of other counties for the overall state sportsmanship award.

7. Project Awards for community Members

- a. **Friend of 4-H Award**
 - i. This award is given to that adult and/or business who has donated a special amount of time, money, or materials to the Horse & Pony Project. It may be a part, businessperson, company, or leader.

8. Project Awards for Horses

a. Storm Commander Equine Friend/Service

- i. The award is intended to honor horses that have served their human friends in a variety of positive ways. This award will be given to a horse that is both a best friend to their rider and one who has served their human friends in an extraordinary way.

b. Steady Eddie Award

- i. Awarded to one or more horses which exhibit attributes of repeated giving to the youth of the Sheboygan County 4-H horse Project over a series of years. This award application is due August 1st to the name and address on the award application.

c. Sundance Farm Most Improved Horse

- i. A traveling trophy awarded to the horse showing the most improvement in character, discipline, training, versatility, or pleasurable. The horse must be trained primarily by the 4-H member and must be in the second year of the project or later.

d. Tigger All-Around Horse

- i. An award intended to honor a horse that has been primarily trained by a 4-H youth and is versatile in five of the following activities: Gymkhana, Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat, Driving, Jumping, Eventing (Mini Event or Horse Trail), Dressage, Showmanship, Drill Team, or Trail Riding

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates & Times are subject to change. 4-H calendar in google will be up to date. Not all events are listed below.

Mandatory Meetings (must attend 1)

February 5 @ 6:30 pm, UW Sheboygan Wombat Room

March 16 @ 6:30 pm, UW Sheboygan Wombat Room

Fair Mandatory Meeting (must attend to show)

August 30 @ 6:00 pm, Fairgrounds

Stall cleaning & decorating August 30 – September 1

2026 Fair is September 3 – 7

Committee/Youth Committee

3rd Thursday of each month

Youth 6:00 pm / Adult 6:30 pm

Extension Office (winter, and inclement weather)

Fairgrounds (May – August)

Back in the Saddle Spaghetti Dinner & Auction

February 20 @ 5:30 pm, Amore Banquet Hall

Midwest Horse Fair

April 17, 18, & 19, Alliant Energy Center - Madison

Education Teams

Every Tuesday @ 6:30 pm, Extension Office

Education Competition

May 2 & 3

Horseless Horse Groom/Coach Meeting

April 7 @ 6:30 pm, Extension Office

Horseless Horse Groom/1st Year Event

May 14 @ 6:00 pm, Skye Farm

Open Arenas/Educational Night

Keep an eye on the Cloverleaf Crier/Facebook for educational topics

May – 28

June – 11, 18

July – 9, 16

August – 13, 20

Drill Team Practice at Fairgrounds

April – 2, 23 (without horses)

May – 6, 13, 20, 27

June – 3, 10, 17, 24

July – 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

August – 5, 12

Drill Team Competitions

*August 3 State Fair Competition Champions Challenge

August 15 Drill Team Competition – Door County

Inspiration Series Pleasure/Speed Shows

May 30–31 – Pleasure (Saturday), Speed (Sunday)

July 25–26 – Pleasure (Saturday), Speed (Sunday)

August 15–16 – Pleasure (Saturday), Speed (Sunday)

No show in June.

State 4-H Horse Events

State Hunt and Dressage Show – June 26, 27, & 28

State Gymkhana Show – September 12

State Horse Expo Show – September 18, 19, & 20

Important Deadlines

March 1 – Project Enrollment in 4HOnline

March 16 – Horseless Horse Groom/Coach Form Due

May 15 – State Hunt and Dressage Entries Due

June 1 – Educational Scholarship Application Due

July 15 – Fair Entries Due by 11:59 pm

July 15 – Gymkhana and Horse Expo Entries Due

August 1 – Fair ID Sheets Due to Lori

August 1 – Steady Eddie Award Application Due

August 1 – All traveling trophies due to the Fairgrounds

August 1 – All award nominations due

August 15 – Adult/Youth Committee Nominations Due

August 15 – Trailer & Tent Requests Due

* Tentative date



SAFETY CERTIFICATION - IN HAND

Member Name: _____

Horse's Name: _____

Date: _____

Tying the Horse Safely:

- Is the horse tied at eye level? YES / NO
- Is there 12-18" of rope between the knot & the halter? YES / NO
- Is the halter safe? YES / NO
- Did the youth use a safety knot? YES / NO

Leading the Horse at a walk:

- Is the youth on the correct side? YES / NO
- Is the youth on the side of the horse, between the head and the shoulder? YES / NO
- Is the youth holding the lead rope properly? YES / NO

Leading the horse at a trot:

- Is the youth on the correct side? YES / NO
- Is the youth on the side of the horse, between the head and the shoulder? YES / NO
- Is the youth holding the lead rope properly? YES / NO

Stop the horse & ask the horse to back at least two steps:

- Is the youth to the side of the horse? YES / NO
- Does the youth check to see that nothing is behind the horse? YES / NO
- Does the horse attempt to back up? YES / NO

Safety Leader Signature/Date: _____



SAFETY CERTIFICATION - ON HORSEBACK

Member Name: _____

Horse's Name: _____

Date: _____

Walk the horse from point A to point B:

- Is the rider asking the horse correctly? YES / NO
- Does the horse respond? YES / NO
- Is the horse calm? YES / NO

Trot the horse in a circle, either direction:

- Is the horse willing? YES / NO Calm? YES / NO
- Does the horse "steer"? YES / NO
- Did they make a circle? YES / NO
- Does the rider have steady hands (not pulling)? YES / NO

Stop the horse completely and stand for 5 seconds:

- Do the horse and rider stop safely? YES / NO
- Does the horse stand still? YES / NO

Back the horse at least two steps:

- Does the horse try? YES / NO
- Is it agitated? YES / NO
- Is the rider safe? YES / NO

Walk the horse in a figure 8 pattern between 2 markers:

- Does the horse turn (guide) well? YES / NO
- Does the pair stay between the markers? YES / NO

Safety Leader Signature/Date: _____



UW-Madison, Division of Extension Sheboygan
County 4-H Program
5 University Drive
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-459-5900 920-459-5901(fax)

4-H HORSE & PONY PROJECT EXPECTATIONS AGREEMENT

To be considered a member in good standing and be eligible to exhibit at the 2026 Sheboygan County Fair, I understand that I must complete the following items:

1. Attend a mandatory Handbook meeting and return this page signed indicating that you understand the H&P policies. (1 meeting credit)
2. Attend the mandatory Fair Orientation meeting held in August. (1 meeting credit)
3. Pay project membership dues of \$20 each/\$50 max family to the Project Treasurer before the final Project Mandatory meeting. I understand a late fee will be charged after April 30th.
4. Complete 4 service hours (3 before July 1) by the final open arena in August. (See volunteer hour requirements in the handbook.)
5. Complete 5 meeting credits by the final open arena in August. To obtain 3 additional meeting credits attend and sign in at Educational Arenas, Clinic, Horse Shows, Etc.
6. Submit ID sheets to the Chairperson no later than August 1, 2026
7. Sign up and submit fair entries by July 15, 2026. FAIR ENTRY DEADLINE
8. Be in good standing with my 4-H club or as a SPIN Member.
9. Read & abide by WI State 4-H Risk Management Policies found at:
<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/4-h-project-and-activity-policies/>

I have read the above items and understand what is required to exhibit at the fair. I understand that I am responsible for signing up for volunteer hours and attending meetings. If I am having any difficulty with any of the above, I will contact a committee member for guidance on how to proceed.

4-H Member Signature

Date

4-H Member Clearly Printed Name

Parent/Adult Committee Member Signature

Date