

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

- 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.
- 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)
 - 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)
 - To exhibit at OSF in Ground Roping EquiSTEP MUST be completed.
 - Ground Ropers will NOT have to pay an OSF stall fee BUT WILL need a Permission to Participate form signed on record (4HO)
 - 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
 - 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

