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2022 Horse Project Information

Welcome to another exciting year of the 4-H Horse Project. This letter contains important information about deadlines and completion requirements for the Horse Project. Remember the best source of information is our Larimer County website: <http://larimer.extension.colostate.edu/>

From this site you have access to the Clover Connections Newsletter, Master Calendar, Horse Project updates, opportunities, events, shows, important horse health updates and the CSU Extension page.

4-H Project Completion Requirements

To complete the Horse project, members must meet these minimum requirements. Please be aware that some clubs may have additional requirements.

- Participate in a 4-H related (subject matter or audience) demonstration or other speech arts presentation.
- Participate in a 4-H sponsored community service activity.
- Complete any county level requirements such as a record book, exhibit, Club meeting attendance, etc.

Horse ID

All project horses must have an ID form filled out and up to date, in the [4honline](#) system **by May 1, 2022**. Horse ID's are required for all horses participating in the Larimer County Fair and the Colorado State Fair Horse Shows. Substitutions for the Larimer County Fair Horse Show are only allowed in extreme cases. A request must be made in writing and will be decided case by case.



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Record Books

Record books are available to complete or print, on the website under Horse. In order to participate in the Larimer County Fair, your record book must be up to date, as of July 29, 2022. If you wish to enter your Horse project record book in the Record Book Contest, books must be turned in to the Extension Office by September 15, 2022. Individual Clubs may have an earlier deadline.

Larimer County 4-H Helmet Rule

All participants in 4-H horse activities in Larimer County are required to wear ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear with secured harness while mounted. It is the responsibility of riders and parents or guardians of riders to ensure that the headgear worn complies with ASTM/SEI standards, carries the proper seals and is properly fitted and in good condition. Older helmets should be considered for replacement.

Colorado 4-H Horse Levels Advancement Program

The Levels Advancement Program is a state-wide riding program for all members enrolled in the 4-H Horse Project. This program is valuable in the education and advancement of the riding skills of our youth. Larimer County is very active in the state program. The Advancement Level chapter in the 4-H Horse Member's Manual serves as a member's guide. This chapter explains the basics of the Level's program.

The classes at our County Fair are divided by ages and riding levels. To be eligible to ride in the Larimer County Fair you must have passed your written and riding tests by **June 30, 2022**. You do not need to test if you would like to stay in the same level that you rode in last year.

Please note: Members who have won an All-Around Award at a specific level and age division, are not eligible for the All Around again at the same level and age division (Jr., Int., Sr.). Exhibitors, who show up a level without holding that level card, will not be eligible for the All-Around Award for that level. (Example: a level 2 rider showing at level 3 will not be eligible for the level 3 All-Around.)

There is only one written test per level, regardless of discipline. Separate riding tests are required for each discipline, English, Western and Ranch Horse. The same written and riding tests are used statewide. In Larimer County the written tests are given by State Certified Raters or an Agent, not horse leaders. Level I Written Test will be used for both Walk/Trot and Level I. The Written Test does not need to be repeated to move from Walk/Trot to Level 1, only the riding test.



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When both the written and riding tests have been passed, the Extension Office will issue the member their Levels Certificate. These certificates are required for participation in the Larimer County Fair Horse Show and Colorado State Fair. Please place a copy in your record book.

Instructions for Written Tests during COVID-19

We are offering online written tests for the Horse Levels Advancement Program.

Written Tests will be offered through Qualtrics. Please study before requesting a written test. The study guides posted online will help you prepare for the test. To request a written test, please contact Diane at dkern@larimer.org. Specify which written level you would like to test. You will see your 4-H Horse level test results upon completion. You may take the test multiple times to achieve a score of 80% or higher. Please plan to complete your written test within a few days.

Instructions for Riding Tests during COVID-19

Riding Tests will be done by recorded video. There will be opportunities during open ride nights in April and May where testing may occur. Riding test requirements are listed on the website under Horse Levels Testing. You should practice the maneuvers required on the test before requesting a Rater. For the questions on Levels III and IV, please record the question and then your answer for each of the questions. After you have practiced and then recorded all of the questions & answers, and all of the maneuvers on the riding test, please upload your test as an Unlisted YouTube video.

For instructions on how to upload your test as an Unlisted YouTube video, please visit this informational page: [Click here](#). After uploading your video, copy the URL and send it in an email to Diane at dkern@larimer.org. Please include your name and level you are testing. Remember, a score of 80% is needed to pass, which means you must receive an 8 or above on each maneuver on the test. You will be contacted with your results.

Ranch Horse

Ranch Horse Riding Tests will follow the same guidelines as the Western and English Riding Tests.

Prepare for Fair Riding Clinics

These are open to all 4-H members enrolled in the Horse Project and there are no fees to participate. The clinics are excellent practice for the levels riding examination. You do not need to be planning on competing at the County Fair to take advantage of this instruction.



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Prepare for Fair Riding Clinics will be held on Wednesday evenings, May through July, in the Mac Equipment Inc. Indoor Arena when available. Registration is required. Please watch the newsletters for more information.

Orientation for the Larimer County Fair Horse Show

Monday, June 27 – 7:00 p.m.
Estes Park/Timnath/LaPorte Rooms, McKee, TR

All members, parents and horse leaders that will be attending the Fair are requested to attend.

The information this evening will cover these topics: new rules, record books, entry forms, stalling, check in and check out, vet checks, feeding times, and any other information you may need.

2021 COLORADO 4-H HORSE SHOW RULE BOOK

This is the rule book we will be using at the 2021 Larimer County Fair.

2018 REVISED EDITION OF THE COLORADO 4-H HORSE PROJECT MEMBER'S MANUAL

Only new 4-H Horse members will receive a new manual this year. Please make sure you are using the 2018 revised edition for your project.

Rule Change for 2022 Larimer County Fair

No horses under the age of 3 may be ridden at the Larimer County Fair. Horses younger than 3 may compete in showmanship.

County Fair 4-H Horse Show Information **August 1 – August 4**

The complete premium book will be available on the Larimer County Fair tab on the website.

Two Hand Rule for Walk/Trot and Level I Riders at the Larimer County Fair 2022

Any horse, regardless of their age, that is shown by a W/T or Level 1 rider may be ridden with one hand and a standard western bit as approved by the 4-H western equipment rules or with two hands and a snaffle bit or bosal as described under 4-H equipment rules. **Two hands may not be used with a curb bit.**



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Musical Freestyle Rules

All Horse Show, Exhibitor and Horse Rules apply. Please refer to the 2022 Larimer County Fair Premium Book. Exhibitors must abide by the riding rules of the 4-H Horse Show. Please note: bareback will be allowed for Level III and IV riders only.

All contestants must supply a digital copy of their music. Please have your music clearly marked with your name, and the name of your music. Music must be 4-H appropriate.

Round Robin

Qualifiers must show the animal they qualified on or another of the qualified animals under the same participant that had been shown at the fair. For example, a youth member has 2 horses shown at fair, they could use their other horse if need be. They cannot show another exhibitor's project.

Colorado State Fair

Your State Fair entry form must be signed by an Extension Agent. Entry forms for the Colorado State 4-H Horse show **may not** be signed by an FFA Advisor.

Information about the Colorado State Fair 4-H Horse Show will be available on the CSU Extension Website. The State Fair does not send out premium books and the Larimer County Extension Office will not have entry forms. Please visit their site for all the necessary information.



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