

Adams County Equine Rules | 2021

1. Participants in the Adams County Equine program must be current members of an Adams County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, and 4-H members must be enrolled in a horse project by April 1. Enrollment in a single horse project constitutes membership regardless of the number of project animals registered and shown. Equine records must be kept on all registered animals.
2. Members enrolled in the horse program by the April 1 deadline will receive a Horse Information Packet from their advisor(s) with detailed project animal registration information, Multi-County Horse Day Camp rules and registration information, and rules and/or descriptions of the Adams County Equine Ambassador program if eligible, Adams County Performance Against Standards (PAS) shows, and other information of interest.
3. Members with production project animal(s) must submit a completed and signed production contract at the beginning of the project year. This contract must be submitted to the Extension Office with member enrollment information on or before April 1.
4. Returning equine and horseless members and their parent/guardian must submit a completed and signed "Permission to Participate in 4-H Horse Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims" form with their annual member enrollment information on or before April 1.
5. First-year 4-H equine and horseless project members and their parent/guardian must attend an Adams County 4-H Horse Safety and Ethics Program and submit a completed and signed "Permission to Participate in 4-H Horse Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims" form before they will be permitted to ride in any 4-H equine activity including club work sessions, PAS shows, or Fair junior horse shows.
6. Members returning to the equine program after a two or more year absence are also required to attend a Horse Safety and Ethics Program before they will be permitted to ride in any 4-H equine activity including club work sessions, PAS shows, or Fair junior horse shows.
7. Members may register and show a maximum of three project animals: two riding/driving/small equine shown in hand animals (project animal) and one production animal; or project animal and two production animals.
8. Animals must be owned by and/or in the continual care of the member by the annual horse registration deadline, and all required registration paperwork for all animal(s) including production animals must be submitted by that deadline. Refer to the Horse Information Packet for specific project animal registration procedures. Project animals may not be added or switched after the registration deadline.
9. In accordance with the Ohio 4-H Performance Against the Standard (PAS) Program - State Fair Qualifications Rules, "At the beginning of the year the youth determine in which State Fair classes they want to qualify. They are limited to four classes. The four classes may be any of the classes offered at Ohio State Fair Junior Horse Show." In Adams County, this determination of State Fair classes occurs when the member completes and submits to the Extension office on or before 4:00 pm on the Monday following Horse Clinic a completed and signed PAS Show/State Fair Qualifying Class Registration form.

11. Only those members wanting to qualify for the State Fair Junior Horse Show may exhibit in a PAS Show.
12. Members who meet the PAS requirements in at least two classes will be eligible to participate in the State Fair Junior Horse Show. Dressage horse project members must comply with requirements in 4-H 179 and applicable State Junior Horse Show entry procedures. Members who qualify for and enter the State Show must complete their project and exhibit their qualifying animal(s) in an Adams County Fair show in order to represent the County at the State Junior Horse Show.
13. Members with live equine must submit completed project book(s) and up-to-date equine records for all project animals to their advisor by club/chapter deadlines, and 4-H members must participate in the annual horse skillathon in order to participate in the annual Adams County Fair, receive a fair pass, and/or receive premiums. Members enrolled in the horseless horse project must complete their project records, participate in pre-fair judging, and exhibit their poster or project display in the Junior Fair exhibit building in order to receive their fair pass and/or receive premiums. Participation in the skillathon by horseless horse project and FFA members is optional.
14. At Adams County PAS, 4-H, and Fair junior horse shows, the Uniform Rules for 4-H Shows (4-H 179) and the Adams County Equine Rules for the current year will be followed. Any exceptions will be noted in writing. At the Fair, all other Fair and Junior Fair rules apply, including animal health rules, eligibility rules, and so forth as printed in the current year's Adams County Fairbook.
15. All youth age 19 and under participating in any 4-H or Junior Fair equestrian activity, including Adams County 4-H or Fair junior horse shows, equine camp, warm ups, parades where riding as a 4-H representative, opening ceremonies at any event or show where representing 4-H, and organized club practices, are required to wear a properly fitted protective headgear which meets or exceeds current ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards with the chin harness securely fastened at all times while mounted, riding or driving equine. (See 4-H 179 for the complete protective headgear rule.)
16. At Adams County 4-H and Fair junior horse shows, longeing by a family member or 4-H/FFA Advisor with the member present is permitted. This longeing rule does not apply at PAS shows. On show days, no one other than the exhibitor may ride or drive the animal(s) prior to or during the Junior Fair show. If someone else does ride or drive the animal(s), the exhibitor will be disqualified from the remainder of the show.
17. At Adams County PAS, 4-H, and Fair junior horse shows, classes to be offered will be decided by the Adams County 4-H Equine Key Leader in consultation with the Extension professional, and class lists will be provided to members.
18. At Adams County PAS, 4-H, and Fair junior horse shows, members must enter classes based on their age as of January 1 of the current year.
19. Entries for all PAS, 4-H, and Fair junior horse shows must be submitted by entry deadlines. The Show Committee may delete, combine, or divide any class based on entry numbers.
20. Mares cannot have a foal by their side while on exhibit at the Fair or at any PAS, 4-H, or Fair junior horse show.

21. At Adams County 4-H and Fair junior horse shows, entry into the walk-trot and beginner easy-gaited classes is limited to members with project animal(s) who have never shown in a three-gaited or non-beginner easy-gaited class at any PAS or Adams County 4-H or Fair junior horse show. Once a member has exhibited in a three-gaited or non-beginner easy-gaited class, s/he is no longer eligible to enter a walk-trot or beginner easy-gaited class.
 - a. Exception 1: Exhibitors may enter gymkhana classes for which no corresponding walk-trot or beginner class exists without losing their walk-trot or beginner easy-gaited eligibility **provided** they participate in the class at a trot/show gait. If the horse breaks into a canter in a gymkhana class, the member will be disqualified. However, if the animal canters or runs the full pattern, the member's eligibility to show in future walk-trot or beginner easy-gaited classes is forfeited.
 - b. Exception 2: A member with a Production Division horse under saddle may show the horse in walk-trot or beginner easy-gaited classes for up to two years, regardless of the exhibitor's experience level. All Production Division rules must be followed regarding exhibitor age, tack, attire, and so on.
22. At Adams County PAS, 4-H, and Fair junior horse shows, the judge has the right to dismiss an unsound animal or an unsafe animal and/or rider from the show ring. Advisors may recommend to the Adams County 4-H Horse Committee or its designees that a member be prohibited from showing in a class or show if doing so is deemed unsafe for exhibitor(s) and/or the animal or if an animal is thought to be unsound. If such a recommendation is made, the committee may prohibit an exhibitor from showing or may require veterinary documentation of an animal's soundness prior to permitting its entry into a show.
23. Complaints and Protests: A judge's decision on how a class is placed, or a decision on disqualification of an exhibitor based on the judge's interpretation of the rules for that class, shall not be protested. The Show Committee, in consultation with the Extension professional, has the right to prohibit an exhibitor from showing at an Adams County PAS, 4-H, or Fair junior horse show if there is evidence that the exhibitor has violated 4-H horse show rules that would make the exhibitor ineligible to show. The procedure for handling horse show complaints and protests is described in Rule 19, page 8 of the Uniform Rules for 4-H Shows (4-H 179). This procedure will be followed at all Adams County PAS and 4-H shows. The procedure for handling protests and appeals at the Adams County Fair and during all Fair junior horse show is described in the Adams County Junior Fair General Rules of the current year's Fairbook.

EQUINE REGISTRATION RULES:

1. Riding/driving project animals must be owned and/or in the continual care of the member by the annual horse registration deadline, and all required registration paperwork for all project animal(s) including production animals must be submitted at the horse registration deadline. Project animals may not be added or switched after the registration deadline. Specific project animal registration procedures include:
 - a. Project animals must be brought to the fairgrounds on registration day during the specified hours.
 - b. Pictures will be taken of project animal(s) each year as part of the registration process.
 - c. All project animals will be measured, and these official measurements will be used in determining eligibility for classes.
 - d. Animal(s) will be given a body condition score as part of the registration process, and members with an animal receiving a score of 3 or lower will be advised regarding appropriate measures to improve the animal's condition prior to PAS, 4-H, and Fair junior horse shows. In accordance with the Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows (4-H 179), animal(s) with a score of 3 or lower on the day of a PAS show or upon check-in at Fair will not be allowed to remain on the fairgrounds or show.
 - e. Required vaccinations must be given on or before registration day and documented as part of the registration process. Required vaccinations include Tetanus, Influenza, Encephalomyelitis

(Eastern/Western) and Rhinopneumonitis. Rabies and West Nile are recommended additional vaccinations.

- f. In the event of a calamity (natural disaster or family emergency) that prevents a family from bringing the project animal(s) and required paperwork to the fairgrounds on the registration day, a written appeal may be made by the family to the Adams County 4-H Equine Key Leader, who, in consultation with the Extension professional, may make the decision to permit late registration. Such late registration must happen prior to the State's June 1 deadline.

OUTSTANDING EQUINE EXHIBITOR RULES:

1. Five Outstanding Equine Exhibitor (OEE) Awards will be presented annually:
 - a. **Performance Junior** (ages 8-13) and **Senior** (ages 14 and older).
 - b. **Gymkhana Junior** (ages 8-13) and **Senior** (ages 14 and older).
 - c. **Beginner** (ages 18 and under).
 - d. **Driving Reinsmanship** (ages 18 and under).Please refer to specific scoring criteria for each award.
2. OEE awards will be announced at the Awards Round-Up on Friday evening of the Adams County Fair. A halter will be presented to each OEE award winner at that ceremony.
3. Members are not eligible to win the same OEE award in consecutive years, but they may win a different award (i.e., move from Junior to Senior or from Beginner to Junior or Senior or from Gymkhana to Performance).

ADAMS COUNTY FAIR RULES:

1. At Adams County Fair junior horse shows, the Uniform Rules for 4-H Shows (4-H 179) and the Adams County Equine Rules for the current year will be followed. Any exceptions will be noted in writing. At the Fair, all other Fair and Junior Fair rules apply, including animal health rules, eligibility rules, and so forth as printed in the current year's Adams County Fairbook.
2. Participants in the Adams County Fair junior horse shows must be current members of an Adams County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter and must comply with all relevant project animal registration requirements and deadlines.
3. All equine to be housed on the fairgrounds and/or exhibited in a Junior Fair horse show will be checked in by members of the Adams County 4-H Horse Committee and the Adams County Junior Fair Board and will be inspected by the veterinarian on Sunday of fair week at a designated time and location. Animal(s) that are found to have a contagious or infectious disease and animal(s) with a body condition score of 3 or lower at check-in will not be allowed to remain on the fairgrounds or show in a Junior Fair horse show during fair week.
4. At Adams County Fair junior horse shows, longeing by a family member or 4-H/FFA Advisor with the member present is permitted. On the days of Junior Fair Horse Shows, no one other than the exhibitor may ride or drive the animal(s) prior to or during the shows. If someone else does ride or drive the animal(s), the exhibitor will be disqualified from the remainder of the show. The animal(s) may be shown in open shows during the Fair by someone other than the 4-H/FFA member, as long as the member shows the animal(s) in at least one class during the show.
5. Members must submit completed project book(s) and up-to-date equine records for all project animals to their advisor by club/chapter deadlines, and 4-H members must participate in the annual horse skillathon in order to participate in the annual Adams County Fair, receive a fair pass, and/or receive premiums.

6. All members must exhibit in at least one class in an Adams County Fair junior horse show in order to receive a premium. Members desiring a second premium must show a second animal in at least one class. Members must show in a relevant showmanship class in order to compete for the Outstanding Equine Exhibitor award in that category (i.e., must show in Gymkhana Showmanship in order to receive points toward the Gymkhana Outstanding Equine Exhibitor award).
 - a. Members may show in as many showmanship classes as they are eligible for.
 - b. Exception: Emergency, illness, or another situation beyond a member's control. Such an exception must be approved by the Adams County 4-H Horse Committee and Junior Fair Board. A member must present a written request to be excused from the show requirement to the Adams County 4-H Equine Key Leader on or before Wednesday of the Fair, and this request must be approved before the member will receive completion credit.
7. The Showman of Showmen class at the Adams County Fair junior horse show is for the winners of each of the Showmanship classes, not including Beginner, Walk-Trot, or Horseless Showmanship. If the same individual wins more than one showmanship class, they must choose one class to represent in the Showman of Showmen class, and the second-place showmen in any other classes may show in the Showman of Showmen class. The Showman of Showmen winner will represent the Horse Program in the Showmanship Sweepstakes held on Friday evening during Fair in the Youth Show Arena. See the Junior Fair section of the Fairbook for more information.
8. Members with production animal(s) must show in one or more appropriate production classes in an Adams County Fair junior horse show in order to receive a premium.
9. Members will receive a maximum of two equine premiums at the rate of \$6.00 per equine, provided all completion requirements are met and two equine are exhibited at the Fair.
10. Members may enter and exhibit up to two project animals in the following classes: Pattern class, Gymkhana classes, Trail, Trail Class in Hand, Western Riding, Reining, Working Hunter, Hunt Seat Equitation over Fences, and Small Equine Hunter and Jumper in Hand.
11. During the Adams County Fair, Junior Fair exhibitors must lead their animals to and from the back show arena. All equine hitched to a cart must be driven to the back arena accompanied by a handler, who will remain with the cart and youth and lead them safely to the gate.
12. Horses are not permitted anywhere on the fairgrounds except in the horse show arenas, designated make up areas, and horse barn areas. Horses are not permitted in the Youth Show Arena except as invited to participate in the Showmanship Sweepstakes. Horses are not permitted between the Youth Show Arena and the Cattle Barn or in the area of the 4-H Food Booth. No riding is permitted in or around the barn or around the fairgrounds except in the show arenas and designated make up areas. No longeing is allowed around the barn.
13. Any project animal(s) shown at the Adams County Fair must be stalled on the fairgrounds during fair week if stall space is available. A list of stall assignments will be maintained. If members are showing more than one horse and are only allocated one stall at the fairgrounds, they can switch the animals during fair week, provided that this information is recorded upon check-in at the fair, or they can trailer in their additional animal(s) the day of the show. Exception: Draft horses do not have to be stalled on the fairgrounds, due to the stall size. They may be brought in the day of their show.

14. The Adams County Equine Ambassadors are required to stall at least one project animal on the fairgrounds throughout fair week.
15. Requests for late arrival to or early dismissal from the fairgrounds during fair week must be made in writing and approved by the Junior Fair Board following review by the Adams County 4-H Horse Committee or its designees.
16. Members whose animal(s) are stalled on the fairgrounds are not permitted to remove their animal(s) from the fairgrounds during fair week prior to the dismissal time without written consent from the Adams County Junior Fair Board. If they do remove their animal(s) early, they will forfeit their project premium(s) and must petition the Adams County 4-H Horse Committee, in writing, for permission to participate in the following year's fair.
17. Equine to be housed at the Adams County Fair in 2021 must be in place on the fairgrounds by 11:00 AM on Sunday, July 11. Equine will be released from the fairgrounds on Friday, July 16, at 11:00 PM. No animals may leave the fairgrounds on Saturday between 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

18. Adams County Fair Barn and Safety Rules:

- a. Each member is to clean and have an advisor inspect the stall and area in front of stall before the animal is allowed to leave the fairgrounds. Non-compliance may interfere with a member's participation in future years.
- b. Barn decorations may not be removed until 10 pm on Friday of fair week.
- c. Each animal must either wear a halter while in its stall or have a halter attached to the outside of its stall in a conspicuous place. A lead rope must be readily available. Anytime an animal is being led outside of its stall, it must be led with a halter and lead rope or lead shank or with bridle reins.
- d. All hay nets and hay bags must be removed from the stall when empty and must be removed by 12:00 midnight or whenever the member leaves the barn area for the day.
- e. All members must be out of the barn by midnight. Only the center aisle lights will remain on during the night.
- f. No smoking is allowed in the barns at any time.
- g. No alcoholic beverages are allowed in or around the horse barns at any time.
- h. Camping is permitted only in the designated areas and not around the horse barns at any time during the fair.
- i. Active loading and unloading are permitted in the barn areas but otherwise there is no parking by the barns.
- j. Boots or other safe footwear must be worn by participants when mounted or driving. Safe footwear must be worn at all times in the wash rack area and while handling or leading a horse.
- k. Wash rack must be kept free from manure as it causes drainage problems. Members should be courteous and clean up after their animals.
- l. Animal(s) must have access to clean water at all times.
- m. Barn areas must be kept clean and open to the public.
- n. Manure should be placed in designated areas only.
- o. Sitting or standing on arena fences or gates is prohibited.
- p. If an animal is a known kicker, a red ribbon must be attached to the stall and in the animal's tail when out of the stall.
- q. All riding, driving, or use of special equipment including jumps, gymkhana, or trail equipment must be done under the supervision of a screened and approved Adams County 4-H volunteer.

- r. Any 4-H or FFA advisor, the Extension Educator, or Junior Fair Board member has the authority to remind members, family members, and visitors of these or other applicable rules.
 - s. Failure to comply with these or other applicable rules may result in expulsion from the fairgrounds.
19. The procedure for handling protests and appeals at the Adams County Fair and during all Fair junior horse shows is described in the Adams County Junior Fair General Rules of the current year's Fairbook.