

**STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW CODE OF CONDUCT**

Welcome to the Pennsylvania State 4-H Horse Show. The State Show Committee congratulates you on qualifying for the show. Please help us make this an enjoyable, educational experience by adhering to the following:

1. **It is the responsibility of the 4-H member and their parent or guardian to be aware of and abide by the PA 4-H Code of Conduct and all rules as stated in the current PA 4-H Horse Show Rule Book and any appropriate supplement(s). These rules will be in effect for the State 4-H Horse Show.**
2. **Ethical, sportsmanlike conduct is expected of all exhibitors, parents, coaches and spectators.** When an exhibitor, parent, guardian, 4-H leader, coach, agent, or representative acting in behalf of an exhibitor is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, the 4-H Horse Show Committee may require the 4-H member to return all trophies and ribbons, forfeit the transportation allowance, and may suspend the 4-H member and the horse or pony involved for such a period as judged appropriate from participating in qualifying 4-H horse shows. A parent, guardian, 4-H leader, coach, agent, or representative acting in behalf of an exhibitor, deemed guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct may also be prohibited for such a period as judged appropriate from participation in qualifying 4-H horse shows. Person deemed guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct may be expelled from the show grounds at the direction of the Show Committee.
3. **Humane treatment of horses is expected by all participants.** Cruelty or rough handling of horses will not be allowed. The stewards, judges, or show committee may disqualify anyone mistreating an animal.
4. **Horses in randomly selected classes will be drug tested throughout the show. I agree to submit my horse for drug testing upon request of show officials.**
5. **ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear is required for all exhibitors when mounted or driving anywhere on the show grounds.** Riding shoes or boots with heels, and appropriate safety equipment is recommended for all exhibitors at all times when mounted on the show grounds. See current rules for details.
6. Please exercise caution when riding horses around the Farm Show Complex. **NO RIDING OR DRIVING OF HORSES IN THE BARNS**, except when immediately entering or leaving the arena.
7. Scheduled exercise periods are time for arena familiarization. An outdoor exercise area is also provided and available for use. Riders should use caution in all exercise areas according to arena conditions. Riders should be supervised by their parents, guardians, chaperones, or coaches during exercise.
8. No unmounted persons are permitted in the arena during exercise periods except for emergencies.
9. Horses should not be cross-tied in the aisles so that the passage of other horses and/or people is impaired.
10. Emergency stall cards must be posted on your horse's stall door.
11. **NO DISMANTLING of any stall or part of a stall is allowed. There must be no damage of any type to stalls. No staples, nails or glue may be used on stalls. Stall decorations must be in compliance with this policy and completely removed at end of show. Exhibitors will pay for any and all damage to their assigned stall(s).**
12. **There must be no damage of any type to Farm Show Complex facilities or property (this includes, but is not limited to hoof black marks on floors). Exhibitors may not post ads or signs on complex walls, facilities or structures. Exhibitors will pay for any and all damages to Farm Show Complex property, if responsible.**
13. The only acceptable bedding material is straw. Check with barn stewards concerning exceptions. Please place manure in designated areas **only**.
14. All participants are expected to help keep the stall and show complex clean.
15. **No pets** are permitted in the Farm Show Complex buildings.
16. **No roller blades, skateboards, bikes, scooters or motorized vehicles** allowed in Farm Show Complex buildings or show grounds.
17. Barn Stewards, not to be confused with Show Stewards, will be designated for each District. The Barn Stewards will assist the Show Committee in implementing this code of conduct and general activities in the stable area.
18. All exhibitors are expected to be prompt and on time for your class(es).

**GOOD LUCK!!!**

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

## PENNSYLVANIA 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

A goal of the 4-H Youth Development Program of Penn State Cooperative Extension is to provide opportunities for children and youth to develop character. Pennsylvania 4-H supports the **CHARACTER COUNTS!**<sup>SM</sup> six pillars of character: **TRUSTWORTHINESS, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, FAIRNESS, CARING, and CITIZENSHIP.** In order to assure that the 4-H Youth Development Program of Penn State Cooperative Extension provides positive environments for all individuals to learn and grow, participants agree to abide by these expectations of behavior:

**I will be trustworthy.** I will be worthy of trust, honor, and confidence. I will be a model of integrity by doing the right thing even when the cost is high. I will be honest in all my activities. I will keep my commitments by attending all sessions of the planned event. If I am not feeling well or have a schedule conflict, I will inform my chaperone or a person in charge. I will be in the assigned area (e. g. club meeting room, building, dorm) at all times. Pennsylvania 4-H does not permit dishonesty by lying, cheating, deception, or omission.

**I will be respectful.** I will show respect, courtesy, and consideration to everyone, including myself, other program participants, and those in authority. I will act and speak respectfully. I will treat program areas, lodging areas, and transportation vehicles with respect. I will not use vulgar or abusive language or cause physical harm. I will appreciate diversity in skill, gender, ethnicity, and ability. Pennsylvania 4-H does not tolerate statements or acts of discrimination or prejudice.

**I will be responsible.** I will be responsible, accountable, and self-disciplined in the pursuit of excellence. I will live up to high expectations so I can be proud of my work and conduct. I will be on time to all program events. I will be accountable by accepting responsibility for my choices and actions. I will abide by the established program curfew. I will be responsible for any damage, theft, or misconduct in which I participate.

**I will be fair.** I will be just, fair, and open. I will participate in events fairly by following the rules, not taking advantage of others, and not asking for special exceptions.

**I will be caring.** I will be caring in my relationships with others. I will be kind and show compassion for others. I will treat others the way I want to be treated. I will show appreciation for the efforts of others. I will help members in my group to have a good experience by striving to include all participants.

**I will be a good citizen.** I will be a contributing and law-abiding citizen. I will be respectful to the environment and contribute to the greater good. I will not use any illegal substances such as alcohol and drugs and will refrain from the use of tobacco or tobacco products in the presence of youth.

\* \* \* \* \*

4-H members participating in or attending club, county, regional, district, state, and national programs, activities, events, shows, and contests sponsored for youth by the 4-H Youth Development Program of Penn State Cooperative Extension are required to conduct themselves according to the Pennsylvania 4-H Code of Conduct and the Code of Conduct, rules, policies, and regulations for each specific 4-H activity. The code operates in conjunction with the Pennsylvania 4-H Youth Development Program Behavioral Expectations and the rules and regulations of the specific activity.

Adults attending or participating in 4-H youth activities are expected to conduct themselves according to the code and to assist and support youth in their efforts to adhere to the code.

The following are not permitted at 4-H sponsored programs, activities, or events:

- Possession, consumption or distribution of alcohol.
- Possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs.
- Possession or use of all tobacco products.
- Sexual activity.
- Sexual harassment.
- Boys in girls' rooms and girls in boys' rooms or lodging areas.
- Cheating or misrepresenting project work.
- Theft, destruction, or abuse of property.
- Violation of an established curfew.
- Unauthorized absence from program site.
- Physical, verbal, emotional, or mental abuse of another person.
- Possession or use of a weapon.\*
- Possession or use of a harmful object with the intent to hurt or intimidate others.
- Other conduct deemed inappropriate for the youth development program by an event chair; a designated Penn State extension agent, faculty, or staff member; or a 4-H volunteer leader

If the code is violated, the following steps may be taken:

- The adult chaperone for the youth involved in the violation (extension agent or 4-H leader) will be made aware of the situation.
- The parent(s) may be called and arrangements made for transportation home at the parent's expense.
- The 4-H'er(s) may be barred from participating in 4-H.
- When a violation occurs at a competitive event, 4-H members may be disqualified from the contest and be ineligible for any awards. Competition in later contests may also be barred. This will be determined by the event chair; a designated Penn State extension agent, faculty, or staff member; or a 4-H volunteer leader.
- If any laws are violated, the case may be referred to the police.
- All chaperones are responsible for all youth at an event.

\*This does not refer to the equipment used in authorized shooting sports practice or competition.