

Walker County 4-H Horse Club



Closed Shows/Awards Program Rules and Guidelines

The following are the Rules and Guidelines set forth for participating in the Closed Shows offered by the Walker County 4-H Horse Club Leaders. These rules are subject to be updated or changed every year. The Horse Club Leaders will make changes and present the changes at a scheduled meeting prior to the next club year starting.

Adopted 2016

General Rules and Regulations

1. At local shows
 - * Novice level competition—each contestant may enter only one horse.
 - * Superior Horsemanship competition—each contestant may enter only one horse
 - * Advanced— Judged and Timed division competition,—each contestant may enter only one horse in each division
2. In no situation in any 4-H Horse Show will a contestant or a horse be allowed to enter the same class twice.
3. A 4-H member that qualifies for District or State shows must follow State 4-H Horse Show Guidelines.
4. The rules committee has the authority to rule if a hardship exists or to clarify any situation that may arise that is not specifically covered by the rules and regulations.
5. The rules committee is composed of 5 members selected by the adult leaders. At no time can this committee make a ruling with less than 3 members present. An adult leader will be present at each meeting to serve in an advisory capacity.
6. The Rules Committee has the authority to suspend at anytime any member of the 4-H Horse Club for violation of the Rules and Guidelines or for lack of cooperation with the adult leaders, judges, or anyone assisting with the work of the club at shows, practice sessions, trips or meetings.
7. The 4-H Horse Club year is from September 1 to August 31.
8. The members will be excused for absence due to sickness, summer camp, church camp, church or school activities, 4-H activities, and vacation with family. If the member is absent he/she will submit, to the secretary of the club, a written excuse delivered in hand at the next horse club function. Points are not given, but absences are not counted against the members requirement to attend 4 practices.
9. In order to change from primary to an alternate horse, for safety or health reasons, member must **notify the County Extension staff**.
10. When a club member changes from primary or designated horse to a second horse that was registered by May 1st, the show points go with the horse. Should the primary horse become usable during the same 4-H project year, and should the club member wish to return to the first horse, be aware that the change will be treated as a new or third horse.

11. Parents participation is defined as fulfilling an assigned obligation. ***IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EACH PARENT FULFILL HIS OR HER ASSIGNED DUTIES . FAILURE TO MEET THESE OBLIGATIONS WILL TERMINATE ELIGIBILITY OF 4-H MEMBER FOR YEAR END AWARDS. PARENTS MAY EXCHANGE JOBS OR SUBSTITUTE FOR ONE ANOTHER. THE PARENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE CHANGES, NOT THE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE.***
12. If for any reason a member is suspended or eligibility ceases, reinstatement could be possible if the member and his/her parents come before the Rules Committee and the Adult Leaders with their plea. The decision of this committee will be final.
13. No Stallions, Mules, Donkeys, or any horses under 10 hands or 40 inches will be allowed in Walker County 4-H Horse activities.
14. Adult leaders reserve the authority to remove unsafe animals from the arena. All tack is subject to approval by adult leaders.
15. No classes will count more than 10 points, or more than the number of horses entered in the class, when there are under ten animals in the class.
16. If a show is called in the middle of a class, that entire class will be run over again at the make-up show.
17. Split reins must be used for judged classes & held in one hand with no more than one finger between the reins, unless the exhibitor is riding a validated 2 or 3 year old futurity horse project.
18. If a 4-Her chooses to exhibit a futurity or 2-3 year old horse in non-futurity classes such as Western Pleasure or Western Horsemanship, those horses may be shown in the tack and style of a futurity class without penalty. The horse **MUST** be a validated Texas 4-H Futurity Horse Project, validated through the County Extension Agent, prior to the May 1 deadline. Staff will identify the horse as a futurity horse project for shows.

Eligibility for Shows

1. Entry must be a member of Walker County 4-H Horse Club as prescribed in rules for membership.
2. For participation in State, District and the three Closed Shows, the horse must be owned and designated as a 4-H project on or before ***MAY 1st*** of the current year.
3. Entry forms and all fees must be in by the time and date shown on entry forms.
4. Members must have their horse at the show and ready to show when a designated class is called. *Parents are responsible for seeing that youth and animal are ready for show.*
5. Equipment must be approved by the judge and based on 4-H rules. Riders shall wear western hats during judged classes. Long sleeve shirts are required for judged classes. Cowboy boots with heels **MUST** be worn when riding horses. (No flat bottomed soles) Lace-up boots accepted. No hats or caps worn during speed events. Short sleeved shirts with collars and buttons are acceptable wear in timed events only.
6. The rules committee has the authority to suspend, at any time, any member of the 4-H Horse Club for violations of the Rules and Guidelines or for lack of cooperation with the adult leaders, judges or anyone assisting with the work of the club or at any club activity. **Exhibitors/parents are not allowed to talk to judges unless 4-H Leader is present.**
7. **All 4-H members must attend 4 practices.** To receive credit for practices that are scheduled “with horse” the member must attend this practice and participate with the horse. Practice meetings scheduled “without horse” count as long as a member is in attendance and actively participates. A member may receive an excused absence only if #8 of the General Rules and Guidelines applies.

Eligibility for District and State Shows

As per official rules *Texas State 4-H Horse Show* all horses ridden in District or State must be validated by the May 1 deadline.

Eligibility for Year-End Awards

1. Be a member in good standing.
2. Members must compete in at least 2 of the 3 closed shows for points to count towards year-end awards.
3. Parents must have fulfilled their assigned responsibilities for members to be eligible for year-end awards. A substitute may be designated. (as defined in general rules and regulations.) This includes any scheduled fundraiser of the Horse Club and scheduled parent work shifts at Closed Shows.
4. There is no limit to the number of classes a contestant can enter. Classes offered for Novice and Advanced are as follows:

Novice — Halter, Showmanship, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Barrels, Poles, & Stakes. These classes will accrue year end points. High Point tiebreakers will follow guidelines in the State 4-H Horse Rule Book.

Advanced

Halter point class (accruing year end points)

Judged division point classes (accruing year end points) will consist of: Showmanship, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail.

Speed division point classes (accruing year end points) will consist of: Barrels, Poles, Stakes.

High Point tiebreakers will follow guidelines in the State 4-H Horse Rule Book.

Year End Awards Program

1. Advanced Awards (Point Based)

- * The number of awards given is based on the number of Advanced level participants. See chart below.....
- * Advanced members are eligible for only one point based award per year.
- * Points accrued in the Halter classes will count towards the High Point Halter Award only.

Superior Horseman Award Saddle /Scholarship

*** Horseman Awards
2nd-10th Place
of awards based on # of participants**

1-5	Participants	Superior Horseman Award
6-7	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 3rd place
8-9	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 4th place
10-11	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 5th place
12-13	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 6th place
14-15	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 7th place
16-17	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 8th place
18-19	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 9th place
20+	Participants	Superior Horseman Award, 2nd through 10th place

Superior Horseman Award is awarded to the member with the highest points accumulated in 5 of the classes offered, with a maximum of 3 classes accumulated out of one division and 2 classes from another division. A member will be asked to chose those 5 classes prior to the first show.

One Superior Horseman saddle or Superior Horseman Scholarship will be awarded per year. 11th grade or 12th grade Superior Horseman Award recipients will have a choice between receiving the Superior Horseman Scholarship or Superior Horseman Saddle. All other Superior Horseman recipients must take the saddle option. In the event that a member has already received the Superior Horseman saddle this member will have the option to receive the Superior Horseman Scholarship or the Superior Horseman Saddle.

The Superior Horseman Saddle must bear the 4-H Clover and club name in the leather.

Champion Buckle Awards

**Champion Judged Horseman
Buckle**

**Champion Timed Horseman
Buckle**

Champion Buckle Awards are awarded to the advanced members with the highest accumulated point totals in each of the following divisions—Judged, Timed

High Point Halter Award

2. Novice Awards (Point Based)

- › Points will be kept for High Point Novice, Runner-Up Novice and Novice placing awards based on the number of Novice level participants.
- › Novice members that win the High Point Novice Award in 2 consecutive years must move to the Advanced level.
- › Novice members must promote to the Advanced level after competing 3 years at the Novice level.

High Point Novice Buckle

Runner-up Novice Buckle

1-5 Participants	High Point and Runner-up
6-7 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd place
8-9 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 4th place
10-11 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 5th place
12-13 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 6th place
14-15 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 7th place
16-17 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 8th place
18-19 Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 9th place
20+ Participants	High Point, Runner-up, 3rd through 10th place

3. Year End Awards –Non Point Based (members selected by Club Adult Leaders)

Carol Jo Heaton Award: Awarded to a Advanced level 4-H Horse Club Member exhibiting participation in all levels of the 4-H Horse project, including local, district, State events, judging activities, leadership, method demonstrations, etc.

All-Around Horseman Scholarship: to go to a 4-Her demonstrating abilities in horsemanship and showmanship inside and outside the ring. Must be active in showing horses at other events and activities, must be helpful and active in other 4-H activities such as judging teams, meetings, shows, and social activities. This will be an application-based award that a member will apply for. The application can be received from the County Extension Office. This scholarship is awarded to graduating senior club members only.

Sportsmanship Award: to a 4-H member with the best sportsmanship attitude throughout the year, helping others, and being cooperative with all. A Novice and Advanced Award will be presented.

Achievement Award: to a 4-Her showing most improvement for the year this includes meeting attendance, progress at shows.

4. Other Year End Awards

High Point Dummy Roper Buckle will be awarded to the Novice member with the highest total points accumulated in the Calf and Steer Dummy roping events.

5. Clover Points

Clover Points give members the opportunity to accrue additional points towards their end of the year point totals. These points are based on learning experiences within the 4-H Horse Project. Clover Points totals are due at the conclusion of the final Horse Show each club year.

Pee Wee Group Rules

1. Age limit 6 to 8+ years of age. Must be 6 years of age by May 1st of the current year. Not eligible for the Pee Wee Program if a child turns 9 prior to May 1st. If a child is 8 and in the 3rd grade and wins High Point, they **must** move to Novice. 8 year olds that are in the 3rd grade have an option to move into Novice at Adult Leaders discretion.
2. Must be properly enrolled at County Extension Office with all paperwork complete.
3. PARENTS AND PEE WEES WILL COME UNDER THE SAME RULES AND REGULATIONS AS STATED IN GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.
4. Must attend 4 practices.

Dummy Roping Rules

Competition: Mixed boys and girls

Division: Pee Wee and Novice

Events: Calf Roping – Steer Heading

Contestants must be Walker County 4-H Horse Club members.

Contestants must attend a minimum of four regular (Monday night) Horse Club practices.

Dummy Ropers are subject to all by-laws of 4-H Horse Club.

Contestants must furnish their own ropes.

Members taking part in Dummy Roping events must participate in at least one event other than Dummy Roping at each closed show.

Attire: Exactly like timed events. Long sleeve shirts and western hats are optional. If a western hat is worn it must be affixed in a manner to keep it from coming off the roper's head. **No caps will be allowed.**

Legal catches:

Calf Roping – Must be a bell collar catch

Heading – Must be a slick horn catch, no neck or 1/2 head catches

Line Rules: The ropers will begin roping from a line 3 feet behind the dummy in both the calf roping and heading. Each roper will rope in rotation and rope until you miss. Once you miss you are finished, unless there is a tie for the placing. After each rotation the line will be extended by 1 foot.

Ropers must take at least one twirl around their head before throwing their loop. Fishing or trying to place the rope on the dummy will be counted as a miss.

Points will be given thru six places.

At the Awards Banquet the following will be presented:

High Point Pee Wee Dummy Roping Buckle

High Point Novice Dummy Roping Buckle