GENERAL RULES

TO: West Virginia State Fair Junior Horse and Pony Show Exhibitors

FROM: David J. Workman Alexandria Straight
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DATE: May 22, 2017

SUBJECT: 2017 State Fair 4-H/FFA Junior Horse and Pony Show

GENERAL RULES

A. 4-H and FFA members from West Virginia during this current year, October 1 to September 30, are eligible to participate.

B. All Horses and/or Ponies used in this show must be designated as the 4-H project animal(s) or part of the Agriculture Supervised Experience Program by May 1, of this year. At the time of entry, a County Extension Agent or Agriculture Teacher must have approved the application indicating this was a bonafide project. If for any reason (lameness, sickness, etc.) a change of animal must occur after the registration form is submitted, the substitute animal must have been registered as well as a project animal by the May 1 date. There will be NO substitutions after the July 7, 2016 deadline for any reason.

C. Entries must be made on the official State Fair Junior Horse and Pony Show online entry forms. They must be received on or before July 7, 2017.

D. This show will be governed by the West Virginia 4-H Horse and Pony Show Rule Book, 4-H 856-04. Copies may be obtained from your County Extension Office or downloaded from the WV 4-H Horse & Pony Show Rule Book at http://4-hyd.ext.wvu.edu/learning/publications/horse_guides

E. *PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR: On January 1, 1988 an equine headgear policy was instituted. All participants in any mounted 4-H horse activity or show in West Virginia must wear protective headgear which meets or surpasses current applicable American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) standards with Safety Engineering Institute (SEI) certification. In addition, the harness must be secured whenever mounted. This rule applies for all 4-H youth sponsored trail riders, gymkhana, and organized shows. This policy applies to all 4-H youth and other youth participants in related mounted horse activities.
events at local, county, area, district, and state levels. All youth participants must wear and use safety headgear and other safety items in any 4-H event at any level without judge discrimination.

It is recognized that in some instances, availability of approved safety headgear for saddle seat and other riding styles may be a problem. Judges will be instructed that suitability of safety headgear for a specific class is not to be a factor in placing the class. Participant will not be penalized if his/her hard hat does not meet the hat style required in the clothing specifications for a particular class.

The show manager, the show steward, and the county Extension agents, or their designated representatives are authorized to inspect each hard hat. If a member/youth comes to the ring/gate without protective headgear, he/she will be refused entry to the class. Anyone caught riding outside the ring without a helmet may be disqualified from further participation in the show or event. The show superintendent, steward, or County Extension Agent, or designees will rule on any disputes regarding the use of hard hats.

Anyone riding inside or outside the ring without his/her helmet at any time will be disqualified from further participation in the 2016 State Fair Junior Horse and Pony Show.

F. Upon entering the fairgrounds, all 4-H and FFA exhibitors should proceed as directed to an inspection site for further instructions and stall assignments. Stalls will be pre-assigned for each entry. Stalls WILL NOT be provided for horses or ponies other than those participating in the Junior Horse and Pony Show. You must stay in the stall to which you are assigned. Under no circumstances should an exhibitor, parent, or family representative change stall cards without prior permission from the Show Committee. Any violation will cause a member to be barred from the show and/or forfeit money and prizes won. Tack stall availability will be limited and based upon the number of entries. There is no guarantee tack stalls will be available.

G. Horse and ponies are NOT to be ridden anywhere on the fairgrounds except the exercise ring provided in the infield above the Blue Grass Bowl. Riding anywhere except this ring constitutes a great safety hazard. Only 4-Hers shall ride and school horses while on the fairgrounds. Horses and ponies must NOT be ridden bareback or with halters; they must be ridden with bridles and saddles at all times.

H. When a mare with a foal is being shown, the foal is not permitted in the ring. The foal must remain secured in the stall.
I. All animals MUST be in their respective stalls by 9:00 pm unless they are still showing.

J. Courtesy to fellow exhibitors and safety precautions should be exercised at all times.

K. All stalls must be vacated by 9:00 am, Thursday, August 18.

L. All exhibitors should bring equipment for cleaning your own stall completely before leaving the fairgrounds. Clean out your stall and pile it by the stall door.

M. Each exhibitor will be provided with one vehicle pass per family.

N. Exhibitors will be provided three exhibitor passes per horse – maximum of 6 passes total.

O. Horses brought on the grounds are required to be shown in at least one class for points; not showing will cause an exhibitor to be barred from showing in the Junior Horse and Pony Show the following year. The only exception is for sickness, and the horse must be certified unfit to show by a veterinarian.

P. The Show Committee will review all classes and/or divisions with two or less participants on an annual basis. A determination will be made whether or not to continue that class or division for the next year.

Q. Champion & Reserve Champion Awards:

   • An exhibitor can show a maximum of two horses or ponies. A rider can ride one and the same horse or pony English and Western. However, the entry form must show which high point award is being sought. An exhibitor can win only one championship or one reserve championship with one and the same horse.

   • An exhibitor may show more than one animal with points being kept separately on each. However, if an exhibitor is exhibiting more than one animal, he/she may qualify for the maximum of either two championships, two reserve championships, or one of each.

   • Hunter horses and ponies must compete in at least one class over fences to qualify for a champion or reserve champion award in Jumping Hunter Divisions. By the rules set forth, the posted height will never be exceeded, but the show committee reserves the right to lower fence heights for prevailing safety or other conditions.

   • In certain classes, an exhibitor may show more than one horse or pony in the same class. However, he/she must always exhibit his/her own animal.
• No more than one member can use the same horse.

• For all class purposes, a horse will be 14.2 hands and over; a pony will be under 14.2 hands. A ¼ inch allowance will be made for shod animals. A miniature horse shall not exceed 38 inches.

• If there is only one entry in a division and the entry is not first place in the assessment of the judge, the Champion and/or Reserve Champion trophy or ribbon may not necessarily be awarded.

• ATTENTION REGISTERED QUARTER HORSE EXHIBITORS: In order to be eligible for the West Virginia Quarter Horse Association Award, a copy of your AQHA registration papers must accompany your official entry form due to the WV State Fair Office on or before July 7, 2015.

R. Junior and Senior Divisions:

• Junior Division - The exhibitor must be at least 9 years of age during the current year, October 1 2016 to September 30, 2017, and under 14 years of age on January 1, 2017.

• Senior Division - The exhibitor must be 14 years of age and not have been 21 years old on or before January 1, 2017.

S. Therapeutic Riding:

• This will be a special feature of the State 4-H and FFA Junior Horse and Pony Show. All 4-H age youth who are enrolled in the 4-H horse project, or who have been involved in a therapeutic riding program that has involved regular 4-H members, will be eligible to participate.

• Those who participate in this class cannot participate in any other class in the show.

• Appropriate supervision will be required from either adults or older 4-H members who are accustomed to working with the participant in riding situations.

• The class routine will be walking both directions of the ring. The show management will take under advisement any youth who might have a higher skill level such as jogging or loping. At the time of show, these riders will be able to exhibit their skill level if the show committee deems it feasible.

• Riders for therapeutic classes will:
  • Be responsible for securing their own horses/ponies. The show management will not provide animals.
• Be allowed to ride under the circumstances in which they are accustomed, i.e., special equipment, outriders.
• Receive ribbons for participation.

IAFE (International Association of Fairs and Expositions) National Code of Show Ring Ethics
Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to livestock to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.
All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:
1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of drugs. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and
provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal’s performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the approved laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise at any hearing in regard to the matter conducted by the fair or livestock show.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal’s performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.

7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.

9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal’s condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.

10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have any disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock
show against such individuals published in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expositions and any special notices to members.

11. The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

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