

MOHAVE COUNTY 4-H HORSE EVENTS RULEBOOK 2024-2025



The Mohave County 4-H Horse Events will follow Rules and Regulations in the 2019- 2022 Arizona State 4-H Horse Show Rule Book

with the following changes and additions: State Rule book available online at:

<https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/mblock/2019-2022az-4h-horse-show-rulebook.pdf>

Beginning January 1, 2015, Arizona 4-H will require that an industry approved ASTM/SEI equestrian helmet be worn by all Arizona 4-H members when they are participating in an Arizona 4-H horse event/activity/project meeting. The harness must be secured and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time will be immediately prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place.

CHANGE TO PAGE 3, RULE 2

A Mohave County 4-H Project Horse Registration Certificate must be on file at the County 4-H Office thirty (30) days prior to a County 4-H Horse Show/Gymkhana-Roping and ninety (90) days prior to the State 4-H Horse Show. **Exceptions:** New residents in Mohave County & NEW 4-H members.

ADD TO PAGE 4, RULE 3

No spectator will be allowed on fences or to stand in front of gates at EVENTS. All spectators will be requested to remain in the seating area.

ADD TO PAGE 20, RULE 13

B. The start of the run begins when the contestant crosses the start line or electric eye. (You may not start your run until the gate is closed & secure.)

ADD TO PAGE 14

TACK #1 c) Permissible- change to required with any western type of shanked bit.

ADDITIONAL COUNTY RULES

OBJECTIVES:

1. The 4-H Horse Project aims to help 4-H members to:
2. Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other desirable character traits.
3. Experience the cost of maintaining a horse, mule, or pony and being responsible for its management, recordkeeping.
4. Develop an appreciation of horseback riding as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation.
5. Learn skills in horsemanship and an understanding of the business of breeding, raising, and training horses.
6. Increase knowledge of safety precautions to prevent injury to themselves, others, and their mount.
7. Promote greater love for animals and a humane attitude toward them.
8. To be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities through working in groups and supporting community horse projects and activities.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Members must wear ASTM/SEI approved helmets any time they are participating in a 4-H horse event/activity/project meeting and anytime handling a horse.
2. A Mohave County 4-H Project Horse Registration Certificate must be on file at the County 4-H Office thirty (30) days prior to a County 4-H Horse Show/Gymkhana- Roping and ninety (90) days prior to the State 4-H Horse Show. **Exceptions:** New residents in Mohave County and NEW 4-H members.
3. A member may change **project horse** in case of death or disablement; condition to be verified by veterinarian or two (2) leaders from other horse clubs. Points will be totaled for the horses used, member must return to original horse unless still disabled, or points will be credited to project horse with other points lost. Points will not be totaled for the All-Around Horse Awards only for determining State

4-H Horse Show qualifications.

4. Only one (1) horse may be used per class. In case of death by natural causes the 30-day rule may be waived by written application to the 4-H Horse Event Committee.
5. A member may register more than one (1) project horse if that member keeps a complete financial record covering all project horses registered.
6. There will be schooling runs for horses not properly registered or late entries.
7. Once an entry blank is turned into the Event Committee, there will be no additions, changes, or substitutions unless the contestant presents a certificate from a veterinarian stating the horse's disability, which will be referred to the Event Committee whose decision will be final.
8. All Novice Classes: Novice riders can be any age; novice riders cannot advance to the State Show. Novice riders in Western and English classes will NOT be required to Canter or lope.
9. To qualify for the All-Around Show Horse Award members must participate in both areas; English and Western. To qualify for a Class Award, members must have participated at least twice in the respective class.
10. All Entry Forms must have all signatures to be valid. **ENTRY FORMS and FEES are DUE (postmarked or delivered) the Friday the week prior to the event.**
11. To be eligible for year-end championship awards, a member must have satisfactorily completed the Horse Master program for the current year.
12. At County Horse Shows, Gymkhanas and Fundays NO GRIEVANCES will be allowed, the decision of the Judge is final except for illegal equipment use.
13. A completed Horse Handling Form MUST be on file prior to an entry form being ~~post~~
14. Each class will have one (1) minute gate for Gymkhana-Roping events and two (2) minute gate for Horse Shows, then the gate will be closed. Gate will be closed during all events.

YEAR END AWARDS

The Horse Project **All Around Showmanship** Trophy is awarded to the member with the highest points in both English and Western Showmanship classes in the Senior, Junior, and Novice divisions.

The **All-Around English / Western Horse Trophy** is determined by all scores totaled ~~for~~ ALL classes and the trophy is awarded to the member with the highest points in the Senior, Junior, and Novice divisions.

The **Gymkhana Trophy** will be awarded to the Senior, Junior, and Novice member with the highest total points in Pole Bending, Goat Tying and Barrel Racing.

TOTAL POINTS at years end are the sum of your shows, your gymkhanas, and judging contests. As noted above, members must participate in the same event at least twice to qualify.

The **Horse Judging Trophy** is awarded to Senior and Junior members. Only Novice members may compete for the trophy by judging as a Senior or Junior member determined by their 4-H age. The scores from the four sanctioned horse judging events are totaled.

In the event of a tie, members will share the trophy. There are NO reserves for trophies.

All Trophies are TRAVELING. This means that the winner of a trophy will hold that trophy for one year. The trophy is then passed to the next recipient.

RECORDKEEPING

RECORD BOOKS: Current and up to date Record books need to be checked by at the final show.

THE POINT SYSTEM:

RIBBONS	BLUE				RED			WHITE		
PLACINGS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
POINTS	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Points for blue and red ribbons will be awarded up to the number receiving a blue or red ribbon, if ten blue ribbons are awarded 10th blue would receive one point, first red would not receive any points. In no case can a red ribbon receive more than six points, a white ribbon can only receive up to three points no matter how many in the class.

TIME SPLITS FOR GYMKHANA EVENTS:

DISQUALIFICATIONS & NO TIMES receive NO RIBBON, NO POINTS

Goat Tying			
Senior	>20.99 Blue	21-30.99 Red	<31 White
Junior	>22.99 Blue	23-32.99 Red	<33 White
Novice	>24.99 Blue	25-35.99 Red	<36 White
Poles			
Junior/Senior	>26.99 Blue	27-33.9 Red	<34 White
Novice	>32.99 Blue	33-44.99 Red	<45 White
Barrels			
Senior	>20.99 Blue	21-25.99 Red	<26 White
Junior	>21.99 Blue	22-26.99 Red	<27 White
Novice	>25.99 Blue	26-32.99 Red	<33 White

HORSEMASTER PROGRAM

ALL TESTING MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE FINAL HORSE EVENT. This program consists of: **WRITTEN QUIZ** on general knowledge and tack identification. 70% correct is required to pass.

JUDGING CLASSES of horses. A member must earn one (1) blue ribbon or two (2) red ribbons in at least two (2) County contests at his/her specified judging level or participate at 75% of judging held to pass.

HORSE HANDLING testing will be given at the Club Level by Horse Leader. The evaluator will grade each member's performance as pass or fail (70%).

SERVICE LEARNING—A minimum of 5 (five) Volunteer hours per horse member is required to be recorded to qualify for Horse Master. This "volunteer" time may be served at Shows, Gymkhanas, or Roping and can be served by members or other family members. See Project Director for qualifying positions. Entries into Passports must be completed on the day of the event. Transfer of "time" to members is permitted. To be eligible for year-end championship awards, a member must have satisfactorily completed the Horse Master Program for the current year.

HORSEMANSHIP QUIZ

Members may have two attempts at passing. The test will be available at each show.

JUDGING CONTESTS

Junior Judging Level—Members 8-13 years of age: After judging at least one full class of horses (4 horses), members testing at Junior level will present orally to judge a comparison of two horses (top pair, middle pair, or bottom pair) from one designated class.

Senior Judging Level—Members 14-18 years of age: Members testing at Senior level will present orally to a judge a complete set of reasons on one or more full classes of horses.

HORSE HANDLING TESTING

Contact your Horse Project Leader for information regarding horse handling. Horse Handling will be completed at Club level and must be submitted to Office prior to first Show or Gymkhana entry.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification Numbers:

Schooling **000 numbers**

For late entries or horses not registered at the 4-H Office for 60 days

Novice **100 numbers**

Open to members 8-18 with limited riding experience

Junior **200 numbers**

Members 8 to not 14 on January 1 with advanced riding experience

Senior **300 numbers**

Members 14 to not 19 on January 1 with advanced riding experience

Novice - Members may move up during the club year but will lose points gained when he/she makes the change. Exhibitors must remember that after they move up, they may never move back.

Riders will be classified in Western, English, and Gymkhana. To ride over fences, the rider must be in the Junior or Senior Class.

Any project member is eligible to submit for the County Award; a cumulative record of his/ her 4-H experiences in major project and/or any other projects. The record is written on the 4-H report forms and must meet the requirements of the County Awards Committee and must meet an August submission deadline.

STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW

Members compete in the Arizona State 4-H Horse Show in those specific classes in which he/she has qualified.

TO QUALIFY

1. Be one of the top four contestants in the County in a specific class in the Junior or Senior classification. Points to select the top four will be totaled for all specific shows.
2. Members completed the Horse Master program for the current year.
3. Member participated in at least two times in the respective class. EXAMPLES: Participation in one Goat Tying and one Western Pleasure class DOES NOT qualify a member, two Western Pleasure classes at different times DOES.
4. Members who do not fulfill their class participation obligations at the State Horse Show may not be eligible to compete at State level the year of their next horse enrollment. Final decisions will be processed through the Horse Science Committee.
5. Alternates may fill the top four positions for State if one of the top four contestants cannot attend.

ENTRY FORMS are DUE (postmarked or delivered) the Friday of the week prior to the event. Late entries will be given schooling numbers and points will not be earned.

ALL FORMS AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT:

<https://extension.arizona.edu/programs/4-h-mohave-county/horse-science-program>

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Horse Helmet Policy for Arizona 4-H

Approved August 13, 2014

Arizona 4-H places a high priority on providing for the health and safety of all our participants. Ensuring the safety of those in 4-H horse projects is a high priority. The potential for concussions or other traumatic brain injuries are very real possibilities in the horse program. In fact, the rate of serious injury per number of riding hours is estimated to be higher for horseback riders than for motorcyclists and automobile racers.

For many years, Arizona 4-H has required that helmets be worn in certain jumping events in English horsemanship. In addition, several county 4-H programs and 4-H horse clubs have been requiring that helmets be worn whenever a child is on a horse. The vast majority of state 4-H programs already require helmets to be worn during all horse events.

Beginning January 1, 2015, Arizona 4-H will require that an industry approved ASTM/SEI equestrian helmet be worn by all Arizona 4-H members when they are participating in an Arizona 4-H horse event/activity/project meeting. The harness must be secured and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time will be immediately prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place.

It is the responsibility of the rider, or the parent or guardian of the youth exhibitor to see to it that the headgear worn complies with the appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, is properly fitted, and in good condition. Arizona 4-H, leaders, show committees, officials, and judges are not responsible for checking headgear worn for such compliance.

For safety purposes, Arizona 4-H strongly encourages helmets to be worn around horses at all times whether or not it is a 4-H event. In addition, 4-H horse leaders will be required to review and complete an equestrian safety training module in 4HOnline. We strongly encourage each family involved in the 4-H horse program to review the video, "Every Time, Every Ride" and learn about how the use of a helmet will help prevent serious brain injury. This video is available from your local county Extension office.