

Boulder County Horse Project and Show Rules
(revised 10/01/07)

Project rules:

1. To participate in Boulder County Fair, members must be enrolled by May 1 and must have new horse identification sheets on file with Horse Leaders Council (HLC) on or before June 1.
2. Project completion requires the following: participation in a horse judging activity, giving a demonstration, participation in a community service project, exhibiting a project animal, and completion of a horse record book. The required activities must be listed in the record book prior to Boulder County Fair to be eligible to show at Fair.
3. If a member passes a horsemanship test given by a leader, rating team or State rater, he or she will have 30 days to take the written test. Failure to take the written test within the 30-day period means the member is ineligible to show at Boulder County Fair or in any Boulder County 4-H horse shows until the test has been taken. During this interim period, the member will ride at the higher level.
 - a. Level Advancement cards will not be given until the member has passed both the written and riding tests.
 - b. Members will be allowed to retake both written and riding tests until they have been passed.
 - c. Level III and IV written tests shall be administered, by appointment, in the Extension Office by the Extension Agent or Extension staff.
 - d. Members must pass both the riding and the written tests at one level before taking the riding or the written test at the next higher level.
4. A member must be rated prior to the Fair registration deadline.
5. Horse leaders are required to have their members reviewed by the March Horse Leaders Council meeting and reviewed or rated by the Fair registration deadline each year and to provide the Horse Leaders Council and the Extension Office with a list of all club members and Level Card held.
 - a. A preliminary Rating list must be turned in to the Extension Office or Horse Leaders Council by the March HLC meeting. A final list must be turned in by the first July Horse Leaders Council meeting each year, even if there are no changes from the preliminary list.
 - b. Copies of **all** written and riding tests taken shall be turned in to the Extension Office by leaders or raters within 30 days of the testing date.
 - c. Club leaders may request State-approved raters to assist in rating Level I riders.
 - d. Level I and II written tests may be administered by horse project leaders or State-approved raters.
 - e. Level II, III and IV riding tests must be administered by State-approved raters who are not leaders in the member's club.
 - f. Parents shall not rate their own children.

6. FFA and Lone Scout (independent) members are required to be reviewed or rated before the Fair registration deadline by a State-approved rater. Written results of these ratings must be received by the Extension Office before the Fair registration deadline for these members to be eligible for participation in Boulder County Fair. FFA and Lone Scout members participating in the Boulder County Fair horse show must also comply with all rules and deadlines.
7. Members must be rated separately and may be rated at different levels in Western Horsemanship, English Horsemanship, Working Ranch Horse and Showmanship for participation in Boulder County 4-H shows.
8. If a member is required to be rated for any reason, failure to be rated will result in ineligibility to show at any Boulder County 4-H horse show, including Boulder County Fair.
 - a. If two written requests are received from horse leaders, Horse Leaders Council has the right to require the rating of a member. The member shall be notified in writing and will be required to comply with the request within 30 days. Ratings shall be accomplished by a State-approved rater who is not a leader in the member's club. These ratings will be paid for by Horse Leaders Council and may be accomplished at a scheduled rating or at any competition.
 - b. Any horse project member who receives the 4-H year-end overall high point award must be rated before March 1 of the following year by a State-approved rater who is not a leader in the member's club.
 - c. Any horse project member who receives a Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion at the Boulder County Fair 4-H and FFA horse show must be rated before March 1 of the following year by a State-approved rater who is not a leader in the member's club.
Exception: Level IV riders.
9. Members must have declared their project horse(s) by June 1 of the current year. The hardship clause may be applied to members whose project animals have died or had serious injury (after June 1) with written verification from a veterinarian. Hardship cases must be submitted to and approved by Horse Leaders Council, including information about the horse that will be used as a substitute for the unavailable project horse. Hardship cases must be submitted by the Fair registration deadline.
10. Members must hold a Level I card or above in the appropriate discipline to enter:
 - a. English Control
 - b. Western Riding, Reining or Trail
 - c. Dressage tests
 - d. Gymkhana classes
 - e. Working ranch horse
 - f. Cross-rail classes
11. Members must hold a Level II card or above in the appropriate discipline to show in:
 - a. Over-fences classes
 - b. Show hack classes
 - c. Trainer horse classes
 - d. The cow horse division (as defined in the State Rule Book)
 - e. The State Fair 4-H horse show (see specific State Fair rules.)

12. Horse record books shall be submitted to a designated club leader (not to be the member's parent) prior to the Boulder County Fair 4-H and FFA Horse Show registration deadline. Horse leaders shall check the record books for completeness prior to accepting entries for Boulder County Fair. Members with records that are not up-to-date and those having no record book may not show at Fair. Lone Scout (independent) members must submit record books to the Extension Office on or before one week prior to the Boulder County Fair 4-H and FFA Horse Show registration deadline. FFA members must submit their record books to their FFA advisor on or before one week prior to the Fair registration deadline. Completed 4-H horse record books will be submitted to the Extension Office by the second Friday of September.
13. No one but a 4-H member may school horses under saddle during any 4-H horse show, including the Boulder County Fair 4-H and FFA Horse Show (except in the Nelson Road practice arena).
14. Local judges will not be used for Boulder County Fair, if possible.
15. If any unsportsmanlike conduct or action is committed by an exhibitor or by any other person on his or her behalf, that exhibitor may be expelled from the show and the show grounds and forfeit all awards, as determined by show management. Abuse of a horse is considered unsportsmanlike conduct.
16. Trainer horse classes are intended for horses trained by 4-H members. Trainer level horses shall not have been in professional training (not to include lessons) within 90 days prior to Fair.
 - a. Trainer Horse: first year ridden
 - i) can be shown one year in this class
 - ii) must be in its first year of riding
 - b. Trainer Horse: second year ridden
 - i) can be shown one year in this class
 - ii) must be in its second year of riding
 - c. Trainer horses can be shown under saddle only in Trainer Horse horsemanship classes. However, they may be shown in pleasure classes at local 4-H shows at the option of show management

Show Rules: These rules shall apply to all closed 4-H shows in Boulder County and the Boulder County Fair. Other applicable rules are found in the current Colorado 4-H Horse Rule Book, Boulder County Safety Rules, Boulder County Driving Rules and the Boulder County Fair premium book.

17. Trainer Horse classes shall be judged as horsemanship classes. Show requirements:
 - a. Trainer Horse first year ridden – must be shown with two hands when using a snaffle or bosal. Running martingales, dropped nose bands and figure-8 nose bands are permitted. Refer to Colorado 4-H Horse Rules for prohibited equipment, with the exception of the above-mentioned. Any equipment considered cruel or inhumane, as determined by the show manager or judges, must be adjusted and/or removed.

- b. Trainer Horse second year ridden - shall be shown according to rules governing horsemanship classes (refer to Colorado Horse Rule Book). Trainer horses, if shown in a snaffle bit or bosal, must be ridden with two hands.
18. Exhibitors or parents may not approach the judge for discussion until the show has been completed. In addition, the judge shall not be approached without the consent of show management. Any exhibitor, parent or leader acting in a disrespectful manner to the judge or other show personnel will be asked by show management to leave the show grounds. All prizes and fees will be forfeited.

Boulder County Fair show rules: These rules shall apply to the Boulder County Fair. Other applicable rules are found in the current Colorado 4-H Horse Rule Book, Boulder County Safety Rules, Boulder County Driving Rules and the Boulder County Fair premium book.

19. In western and English horsemanship classes, exhibitors will be asked to walk, jog or trot, and lope or canter in both directions of the arena. After rail work has been completed, unrated riders **may** be asked, and Level I and above **will** be asked, to back and do individual work upon request of the judge. The individual work will be **appropriate for the advancement level**. Instruction for pattern work will be provided to exhibitors. Classes will be judged **equally** (50/50) on both rail work and pattern work.
20. Western Riding & Reining Patterns are as shown in current Colorado 4-H Horse Rule Book. Levels III and IV must perform flying lead changes; simple lead changes must be penalized. Levels I and II must perform simple lead changes; flying lead changes must be penalized.
21. Standard score sheets for western riding and reining, and scoring for same, shall be used at Boulder County Fair and shall be posted or available for review after the performance.
22. Competitors in trail and working ranch horse classes will be allowed only 3 attempts per maneuver. A "per-maneuver" time limit for these classes may be imposed by the judge.