

2024 CHERRY COUNTY 4-H HORSE PROJECT INFORMATION

Welcome to another exciting year in the Cherry County 4-H Horse Program. Be sure to read through this information carefully. It contains important information regarding the 4-H Horse Project and summer 4-H horse activities. If you have any questions, please call/text Eve Millar at 402-389-0119 or email emillar2@unl.edu If you need hard copies of any of this information, we will make it available to you.

IMPORTANT ENTRY DEADLINES:

- ❖ HORSE IDs DUE June 1 for State, June 3, 2024 for County (*please ID ALL horses you may have to use during the season.*)
- ❖ Advancement Levels must be completed for State 4-H Horse Show Entries by June 1, 2024
- ❖ STATE HORSE SHOW ENTRIES DUE via ONLINE ENTRY – 5:00 PM JUNE 1, 2024.
- ❖ State 4-H Hippology Contest and the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest Entries due June 1, 2024. Entries can be downloaded at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse-expo-contests#hippology> .
- ❖ Advancement Levels for county competition at Cherry County 4-H Horse Show must be completed and turned in to the Extension Office by July 15, 2024.
- ❖ Cherry County 4-H Horse Show Entries Due to the Extension Office by July 15, 2024.

****New members will need the following books which can be ordered through the 4-H Marketplace at the links below.**

4-H Horse Study Manual

<https://marketplace.unl.edu/ne4h/horsemanual.html>

4-H Horse Advancement Levels Book

<https://marketplace.unl.edu/default/4-h-horse-project-advancement-level.html>

4-H 2023 Judging Guide (RULE BOOK) (Current members may want to purchase a new book)

<https://marketplace.unl.edu/default/4h373.html>

Horse IDs

Horse IDs will be due by June 1, 2024. ID forms can be downloaded at

<https://4h.unl.edu/documents/Horse/F29777%20Horse%20ID%20new.pdf>

Please be sure to ID all horses that may be used during the season. Horses that are not ID by June 1st will not be able to be used. IDs need to be mailed, emailed to emillar2@unl.edu, or dropped off to the Extension office by the June 1st deadline. **Text message IDs will not be accepted.**

Horse Advancement Levels

a. Levels Testing requirements are listed in detail in the following information. All testing and proof of completion must be submitted to the Extension Office no later than **July 15, 2024** for County Fair competition.

Note above, the ONLINE ENTRY deadline for State is 5:00pm June 1, 2024! NO LATE ENTRIES will be accepted. It is the responsibility of the Horse Project members to verify the appropriate level has been passed for their age or event as shown below. Call/Text Eve if you have questions. See also <https://4h.unl.edu/horse>

b. Plan ahead and order the Advancement Levels book so it is available for signatures of leaders doing the testing. 4H 426 must be obtained from marketplace.unl.edu. The 4H Horse Project Member Manual, 4H 458, must also be purchased as it is needed for studying in preparation for the written tests. (the direct links to these books are listed above)

Purpose of Levels Testing: The levels of advancement in the 4-H Horse Project are designed to serve as guides for instruction and evaluation of each member's progress. The correct handling of horses is emphasized from

the beginning level to the most advanced level. This emphasis will develop the member's self-discipline, patience, self-reliance, responsibility and pride of accomplishment within the horse project.

ADVANCEMENT LEVEL TESTING PROCEDURES

Levels Information can be found at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse-advancement-levels> (study guides, feed chart, etc.)

LEVEL 1-3 REQUIREMENTS

Written exam: Level I, II, III Written Exams: Administered at Extension Office 8:30 am-12:00 pm or 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm. Please allow yourself plenty of time to take the test between these hours and **SET UP YOUR TEST APPOINTMENT TIME IN ADVANCE** by calling 402-376-1850.

Skills test: can be completed at scheduled Ride Nights or by appointment.

Demonstration: Skills test: can be given at 4-H Meetings, at Ride Nights or to any Horse Leader.

LEVEL 2 & 3 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Written report and feed chart emailed/delivered in person to Extension office at time of completion. Send report/chart to emillar2@unl.edu

LEVEL 3 – ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT

Health care paper emailed/delivered in person to Extension office at time of completion. Send report/chart to emillar2@unl.edu

LEVEL 4 – REQUIREMENTS - Demonstration, written report, and skills test – follow same protocols as above.

District and State 4-H Horse Show:

THERE WILL BE NO DISTRICT SHOWS THIS YEAR

STATE 4-H Horse Show will be held in Grand Island July 13-17, 2024.

- a. State Horse Show is applicable to members 8 and older (8 & 9 year-olds limited to Levels 1 & 2). Information about this show is available at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse>
- b. To enter the Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Show, all youth must complete the [Horsemanship Advancement Level requirements](#), [horse identification process](#), and [entry process](#) by **5:00 p.m. on June 1**. See details below. No late entries will be accepted. No refunds will be given. If youth enter classes for which they are not eligible or if youth decide not to participate, their entry fees will be forfeited. Before beginning, please review all the [State 4-H Horse Show rules](#) and the current [Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide](#).

County Fair:

- a. Horse ID sheets for County Fair participation are due to the Extension Office by **June 3, 2024**. They are available at the office or at <http://4h.unl.edu/documents/Horse/F29777%20Horse%20ID%20new.pdf>
- b. The **County Fair 4-H Horse Show**, including the Working Ranch Horse and Break Away Roping competitions, will be **Tuesday August 6, 2024**. Entry forms will be posted on the web site with all other county fair entry forms at a later date. 4-H County Horse Show entries will be **due to the Extension office on July 15**. **The stock fee for Working Ranch Horse and Roping will be due with those entry forms.**
- c. Dress code requirements can be found in the Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide (4-H 373). **(Arm bands are no longer required on the County level.)** This is available for purchase from <https://marketplace.unl.edu/default/4h373.html>.
- d. It was decided by the Livestock Committee to drop Horse from the Round Robin Showmanship Competition which is usually held on Saturday during the county fair.

Levels Testing Completion Requirements for Events: (SEE ALL UPDATED INFORMATION BELOW)**

COUNTY FAIR

<i>To compete in</i>	<i>Level must be completed</i>
Junior Riding Events	Level I
Intermediate or Senior Riding Events, Ranch Horse Pleasure & all Roping Events	Levels I & II
2-3 Year Old Western Pleasure	Levels I, II, III
Showing at Halter	Level I (written test only)

STATE HORSE SHOW

** Must be completed no later than June 1, 2024.

** Extension personnel must certify that proper levels have been passed before entries can be submitted.

<i>To compete in</i>	<i>Level must be completed</i>
State	Levels I & II
State Level III and/or IV classes	Levels III and/or IV

Advancement Level Records: Each 4-Her must provide a copy of the Record Sheet from the *4-H Horse Project Advancement Levels* book. The Record sheets must be completed entirely and signed by the testing leaders to be noted as a successful pass. **Plan Ahead:** Completing the levels testing requirements is a process. Waiting to complete the requirements at the last minute is not recommended. **Only one horse may be used for the entire skills (riding) test for each level.** Horses used for Advancement Level III should be at least 3 years old, and at least 4 years old for Advancement Level IV.

Demonstrations: A different demonstration must be done for each advancement level.

Written Exams: Written tests are to be taken for Level I, II, and III. These exams are administered at the Extension Office. Questions for each exam are taken from the following:

Level I, II, III, IV	Nebraska 4-H Horse Project Manual Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide
Level III, IV	Horse Science (available to borrow from Extension Office or purchase at https://shop4-h.org/collections/animal-agricultural-science-curriculum)

**No written exam will be given for Level IV; however, oral questions will be asked during the skills test. Questions on the skills test were taken from the same sources as those of Level III.

Levels Passing Requirements: A passing grade of 80 percent must be received on any written test and proficiency demonstrated on all areas on the advancement levels test to gain eligibility to advance to the next level of certification. Levels testing must be completed in sequential order starting at Level I. If a 4-H member fails to pass any section of the levels test that entire section must be repeated, until is it passed. Each part of any level may be repeated as many times as necessary for successful completion. However, only two attempts per day are allowed for the written exam. Level advancement will not be granted to a 4-Her until all parts

(written exam, demonstration, etc.) of each advancement level (Level I, II, III, or IV) are completed satisfactorily. If 4-Hers need special testing considerations, please discuss this with Extension Staff.

Levels Testing Examiners: Each section of an advancement level record sheet must be signed and dated by a certified examiner. UNL requires leaders that do skills testing to complete a certification course in order to give Level I and Level II skills test. Below is a listing of who can observe and sign off on levels testing requirements.

Skills (Riding) Tests: Only certified individuals can conduct the riding skills test.

Level I & II – Ann Neiffer, Eve Millar, Kari Sage, Ryan Sexson

Level III - Ann Neiffer, Kari Sage

Level IV -

2024 Summer Practices and Clinics Sessions are listed below:

The Cherry County 4-H Horse Committee will have scheduled Ride Nights in order to allow 4-H Horse project members to practice their riding skills.

CHERRY COUNTY HORSE 4-H PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

These are guidelines approved and set forth by the Cherry County Horse 4-H Committee. These guidelines were implemented in the 2018 calendar year. These guidelines are open to amendment by the committee members.

1. All members must be enrolled in 4-H.
2. Participants shall follow all rules and guidelines outlined by the Nebraska Horse 4-H Manual and 2023 Nebraska 4-H Horse Show & Judging Guide. (Manuals and rulebooks can be ordered from <https://marketplace.unl.edu/extension/nebraska-4-h/4-h-curriculum>). It is the member's, as well as the parent's, responsibility to read that information, so they know what is expected. By doing so, they can be prepared at practices and clinics. If they have questions, they will be able to ask a leader.
3. All 4-Hers who participate must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian (this is for liability purposes). Parents are encouraged to follow along during practices, so that they can help their children practice at home. If a parent does not accompany their child, the child will not be allowed to participate.
4. It is expected that each child will attempt to pass the Horsemanship Advancement Levels and prepare to show at the County Fair Horse Show.

Cherry County 4-H Horse Committee Members

Eve Millar, Ryan Sexson, Kari Sage, Amanda Jones, Ann Neiffer, Shalee Arendt, Derek Kenner and Shirley Kime.

If you would like to assist with Ride Nights/Practices please contact Eve at 402-389-0119.

2024 Calendar of Cherry County Horse Project Events as known at this time.

***Please note these dates and events are subject to change.**

Information on additional events will be sent via Cherry County 4-H Alerts when it becomes available. Check <https://4h.unl.edu/horse> for additional horse activities offered across the state.

MAY – JULY Ride Night Practices are listed below with other important deadlines.

ALL TIMES ARE CENTRAL TIME unless otherwise noted

- Tuesday May 21 6:00 to 7:30 pm Ext Office **Written Levels Study**
- Saturday June 1 **HORSE IDs are DUE to Extension Office** – ONLY by mail, email (emillar2@unl.edu) or dropped off in person. Text message IDs will not be accepted. We will need newly completed ID forms from each 4Her this year.
- Saturday June 1 Advancement Levels Completed for State Show
- Saturday June 1 State 4-H Hippology Contest and the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest Entries Due. Entry Forms can be downloaded at <https://4h.unl.edu/horse-expo-contests#hippology>
- Thursday June 6 6:00 to 8:00 pm Fairgrounds- Riding Skills
- Thursday June 13 6:00 to 8:00 pm Fairgrounds- Riding Skills
- Saturday June 15 Cherry County 4-H New/Reenrollment Deadline**
- Monday June 17 7:00 to 9:00 pm (CT) Kilgore Bordertown Arena- Riding Skills
- Thursday June 20 6:00 to 8:00 pm Fairgrounds- Riding Skills
- Monday June 24 7:00 to 9:00 pm (CT) Kilgore Bordertown Arena- Riding Skills
- Thursday June 27 6:00 to 8:00 pm Shelbourn's Arena- Riding Skills
- Monday July 1 7:00 to 9:00 pm (CT) Kilgore Bordertown Arena- Riding Skills
- Thursday July 4th NO PRACTICE – Happy Independence Day
- Monday July 8 7:00 to 9:00 pm (CT) Kilgore Bordertown Arena- Riding Skills
- Thursday July 11 6:00 to 8:00 pm Fairgrounds - Final Practice before levels are due.
- Monday July 15 Horse Advancement Levels Testing must be completed and record page and reports/charts turned in to the Extension Office.**
- Monday July 15 Cherry County Fair 4-H Horse Show Entry Forms Due**
- Monday July 15 7:00 to 9:00 pm (CT) Kilgore Bordertown Arena- Riding Skills
- Sat-Wed July 13-17 State 4-H Horse Show -- Fonner Park, Grand Island
- Thursday July 18 6:00 to 8:00 pm Fairgrounds- Riding Skills
- Monday July 22 7:00 to 9:00 pm (CT) Kilgore Bordertown Arena- Riding Skills
- Thursday July 25 6:00 to 8:00 pm Fairgrounds- Riding Skills - **FINAL PRACTICE**
- Monday August 5 Cherry County Fair Open Horse Show –Valentine
- Tuesday August 6 9:00 am Cherry County Fair 4-H Horse Show – Valentine