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4-H PLEDGE

“I PLEDGE:

My Head to clearer thinking;
My Heart to greater loyalty;
My Hands to larger service; and
My Health to better living for
    My Club, my Community,
    My Country, and my World.”

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status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Thomas G. Coon, Extension Director, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI 48824
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>4-H Member/Leader Registration</td>
<td>December 31, 2016</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Horse Project Sponsorships-for Fairbook publication</td>
<td>March 1, 2017</td>
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<td>Horse Registration</td>
<td>May 1, 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pony Measuring – Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Date TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coggins Test Results Due</td>
<td>May 1, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance Policies Due</td>
<td>May 1, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for Show Registration</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>All Record Books due for Fair participation</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Service for State Consideration</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mecosta County Fair Registration</td>
<td>June 26, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Horse Show Registration &amp; Fee</td>
<td>July 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(only if qualified for State Horse Show)</td>
<td>(exact date TBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year-End Points</td>
<td>August Horse Leader meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
2017 HORSE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

President – Tiffany Spedowski – 231-287-0113

Vice-President – Liza Ing – 231-660-2975

Secretary – Karen GreenBay – 231-250-9369

Treasurer – Linda Probst – 231-912-0159

Show Secretary – Sheila Lee – 231-250-5804 with Nancy Robbins

COMMITTEES

Horse Show & Handbook Review – Sheila Lee - Chairman – 231-250-5804
   Linda Probst, Tiffany Spedowski, Debby Dygert, Liza Ing, Janet Snider, Jamie Bissett, Karen
   GreenBay, Nikki Simcoe, Dee Bozek

Year-End Awards – Tiffany Spedowski – Chairman – 231-287-0113
   Linda Probst, Deb Dygert

Budget Committee – Linda Probst – Chairman – 231-912-0159
   Tiffany Spedowski, Kim Wilber

Developmental & Educational – Liza Ing – Chairman – 231-660-2975
   Linda Probst, Tiffany Spedowski, Terri Ouderkirk, Connie Schultz, Dee Bozek, Nikki Simcoe

Tack Sale – Karen GreenBay – Chairman – 231-250-9369
   Tiffany Spedowski, Deb Dygert, Janet Snider, Dee Bozek, Terri Ouderkirk

Youth Committee – Liza Ing – Chairman – 231-660-2975
   Deb Dygert, Tiffany Spedowski, Kim Wilber, Nikki Simcoe, Karen GreenBay, Dee Bozek

State Horse Show – Tammy Belka – Chairman – 231-287-2784
   Janet Snider, Nancy Robbins, Jamie Bissett, Deb Dygert, Tiffany Spedowski, Terri Ouderkirk,
   Linda Probst, Liza Ing

ROC Committee – Nikki Simcoe - Chairman – 231-245-4048
   Chad Leal, Deb Dygert, Tiffany Spedowski, Amy Parker

1st Show: Host Club – Stanwood Pioneers     2nd Show: Host Club – Silver Spurs

Fair – All 4-H Horse Clubs               All Clubs will have assignments for all the shows
I. Purpose

A. To promote and provide educational experiences through horse husbandry and related activities.
B. To provide assistance in the selection of horses.
C. To provide assistance in raising and caring for horses.
D. To assist in carrying out Horse & Pony Project activities.
E. To promote and provide experience in leadership.
F. To establish rules and regulations governing Mecosta County 4-H Horse & Pony Project activities.
G. To develop a 4-H Horse & Pony program to benefit each and every member.
H. To recognize and recruit volunteer leaders and teen leaders.
I. To emphasize youth development.
J. To emphasize safety methods when working with youth and their horses.

II. Voting and Membership

A. Voting membership shall consist of one vote per active club.
B. An active club is one in which:
   1. Members and leaders are registered by December 1 of the program year.
   2. The club is represented by a registered leader, teen leader, or designated club parent at a minimum of 50% of the meetings of the Mecosta County 4-H Horse Leaders. Clubs that don’t attend 50% of the meetings will lose the right to stall at fair.
C. At least 50% of active clubs need to be present to make a quorum.
D. Roll call vote will be taken to record proposal votes.

III. Officers

A. Officers shall be elected by the voting membership. Elections will be held no later than early November. The term of office for all officers and committees is one year.
B. Duties of officers shall be as follows:
   1. President shall:
      a. Preside at all Mecosta Co. 4-H Horse Leader meetings according to accepted parliamentary procedure.
      b. Be an ex-officio member of all regular and special committees.
      c. Perform all duties as normally required for this office.
      d. Shall present a written agenda at each meeting.
   2. Vice-President shall:
      a. Conduct meetings in the absence of the President.
      b. Assist the President in proper conduct of meetings and business.
      c. Stand-in for other officers in case of their absence.
   3. Secretary shall:
      a. Keep a complete and accurate record of minutes of all meetings.
b. Take care of all correspondence.
c. Present minutes to all meetings.
d. Present minutes to 4-H Office.
e. Keep a record of attendance for each meeting.

4. Treasurer shall:

a. Shall, each month, accept and keep correct accounting of all money received and dispersed.
b. Shall deposit Horse Project money in a checking account with the treasurer’s, and president’s signatures on the signature card (persons may not be from the same family).
c. All checks must be signed by the treasurer.
d. All expenditures shall require approval of the Mecosta County 4-H Horse Leaders before checks can be written.
e. Follow all financial guidelines as described in the Michigan 4-H Financial Guideline Handbook.

5. Point Secretary shall:

a. Keep track of division each 4-H member rides in
b. Keep show points for each 4-H point show and fair
c. Keep track of qualifying points for state rider designation
d. Keep track of Jeanne Moss Award speed point tally
e. Submit point sheets to 4-H office in a timely manner after each show
f. Submit total show point tally to year-end committee chairman for year-end awards

IV. Order of Business (for regular meetings)

A. Roll Call
B. Minutes of previous meeting
C. Communications and Treasurer’s report
D. Extension Office Report
E. Old Business
F. New Business
G. Adjournment

V. Committees

A. Standing committees shall be determined at the time of officer elections on a volunteer basis followed by a vote selection of a chairman.
B. Each club leader or club representative to serve on a minimum of one committee.
C. Standing committees and their responsibilities are as follows:

1. Year-end Awards Committee

   a. Provide a description of county awards.
   b. Determine what awards are possible.
   c. Determine how points are to be accumulated. Accumulation shall start on 8/1 of fall preceding and end on 7/31 of the award year.
   d. Arrange with the 4-H office to compile and keep point records for award year.
   e. Plan Year-end Awards Banquet.
f. Order Awards, prepare certificates as appropriate.
g. Get Demonstration Award winners names following fair.

2. Horse Show Committee
   a. Be responsible for horse show events at Fair and other two qualifying shows.
   b. Propose showbill of classes for approval, then submit it to 4-H office.
   c. Propose show dates for approval.
   d. Secure show dates with the Fair Board for their approval.
   e. Submit showbill and rules to Fair Board to publish in the Fair Book.
   f. Propose all show judges for every event at all shows for approval.
   g. Submit judges contract information to 4-H office to be sent out.
   h. Submit overnight accommodation information for judges to 4-H office and the treasurer.
   i. Be available at the horse shows to assist hosting clubs, if needed.
   j. Order ribbons – 10 placings
   k. Prepare judge score cards and keep as record of placings.
   l. Organize workdays prior to the first horse show and insure grounds are in good shape.
   m. Responsible for coordinating liability insurance for point horse shows and make sure it is in place before the first show.
   n. Secure Jeanne Moss revolving trophy back from previous year’s recipient in time for fair presentation.

3. Budget Committee
   a. Propose a budget for the upcoming season.
   b. An audit of the books in November prior to election of new officers.

4. Handbook Review Committee
   a. Review By-Laws and Constitution of the Mecosta County 4-H Horse Project.
   b. Propose revisions deemed necessary or desirable.
   c. Submit revised Mecosta County 4-H Horse & Pony Project Handbook draft to 4-H office to print for February distribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFORMATION NEEDED FOR EACH HOSTING CLUB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Secure timers, First Aid Kit, PA system, trail, jumping, and gymkhana equipment, if needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Provide lunch and or refreshments for judge, ringmaster, announcer, record keeper, trail judge, and gymkhana judge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Be responsible for grounds clean up, including stalls. A $15.00 stall deposit may be charged at the two qualifying shows and will be refunded when stalls are cleaned and then inspected by hosting clubs. Stalls must be inspected prior to shows for cleanliness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Have copy of official 4-H Horse &amp; Pony Show Rules &amp; Regulations at announcer’s booth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Be aware of all rules and regulations regarding 4-H (appropriate tack, treatment of horses, safety standards set by Mecosta County and Michigan State University and Michigan 4-H Youth Development).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hosting clubs will be responsible to secure show help such as ringmaster, and announcer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Accepted Horse Show help assignments are obligatory. Remember volunteering is commitment to fulfill – however, if unable to handle obligation notify the Show Committee immediately.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IF A PROBLEM ARISES, CONTACT LEADERS TO ASSIST THE HOSTING CLUB WITH HANDLING ANY DECISION THAT AFFECTS OUR YOUTH.
5. **Youth Committee**

   a. All 4-H Horse & Pony members 13-19 are eligible to be on this committee.
   b. Organize novice clinic in May and fun show during fair. Must get approval from Leaders.
   c. Work on special projects as determined by the group.

6. **R.O.C. Committee**

   a. Set show times, events, practice schedules with times and locations, and eligibility requirements for participation.
   b. Organize, set-up and conduct ROC practices and show events. Obtain ribbons, timers, judges, obstacles and roping equipment.
   c. Prepare judges score card and turn in with placings to point secretary.
   d. Submit judge’s contract information for payment to Horse Leaders and Fairboard.

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**INFORMATION NEEDED FOR FAIR SUPERINTENDENTS**

1. Post phone numbers of vets.
2. Inspect stalls.
3. Herdsmanship as assigned
4. Attend superintendent meeting prior to fair.
5. Organize night barn duty assignments.
6. Assign tack trailer locations for clubs.
7. Other responsibilities as assigned or designated by Fair Board.

Barn Duty People are required to:

   a. Know names of leaders, superintendents and location of their campsites.
   b. Check stalls periodically.
   c. Make sure all 4-H’ers are out of barns by 11:00 p.m., lights out and quiet.
   d. Make sure no alcoholic beverages are being consumed in barn and show area.
   e. Make sure there is no smoking in the barns or use of illegal substances.
MECOSTA COUNTY 4-H HORSE AWARDS

1. Jeanne Moss Revolving Memorial Plaque – given to the 4-H member with the Highest Speed Point total from the two state qualifying shows and fair.

Jeanne Moss was a tremendous advocate of her children and grandchildren throughout their 4-H years. Not only was she caring, kind, supportive, and loyal, she was a friend to all. Everything you could possibly ask for in a mother, grandmother and friend. After her unfortunate passing in 1996, and with a very special thanks to Linda Bechaz (Schuberg) for her creativity and ingenuity, a plaque was made. This very special plaque is passed out every year at the fair to the person with the most speed points. This award will be presented after the Speed Show on Saturday.

The top 20 4-H members after the two point shows will be posted by back number during fair week at the announcer’s booth.

YEAR END AWARDS

Explanation of Mecosta County 4-H Horse Project Year-End Awards System:

The following year-end awards are available, depending on available funds, to all 4-H Horse and Pony project members, based on points earned during the 4-H year (August 1 – July 31) and will be presented at the Horse Year-End Awards Banquet in the fall.

1. Sportsmanship Award – Available to all project members. This award will be nominated through a 4-H leader. Areas of particular interest are helpfulness to others, attitude, and courtesy, although not limited to. Award will be awarded by voting at Year-End Banquet. One vote per club.

2. High Show Point Award – Ten places to be awarded for each division: Pony, Novice, 12 & under, 13-15, and 16-19. Points are compiled from the two state qualifying shows and fair only.

3. Educational Award – 1st – 6th places will be awarded in each age division: 12 & under, 13-15, 16-19. Recipients will be selected by points compiled in educational activities.

4. Community Service Award – One award for each age division: 12 & under, 13-15, 16-19. Awards will be determined by participation hours earned in community service.

5. Sponsorship Award – First, Second, and Third Place awards for top 3 members overall in earnings and sponsorship points and one award for Highest Total Donations collected.

6. ROC Points will not be added to Year-End points. ROC points will be kept separately and have their own awards. ROC education points will be included in this and will not count towards the Educational award. No ROC points will be considered for state competition.
**HORSE ACTIVITY POINTS**

**Sponsorship:**
- One point for each sponsorship (suggested donation $10.00)
- In support of the 4-H Horse Project, it is an expectation that each member raises a minimum of $20.00 in sponsorship donations. (a minimum sponsorship of $5.00 or over is required for sponsor’s name to be included in the fair book.) Sponsorships will be accepted all year – the deadline is for Fairbook publication only.

**Educational:**
- One point for each Youth Committee meeting and each Leader Committee meeting.
- One point for each Mecosta County Quiz Bowl practice
- Two points for State Quiz Bowl competition.
- One point for each Mecosta County Horse Judging Practice
- Two points for Regional or State Horse Judging Competition (per competition)
- One point for each oral report given to your group or to the entire 4-H group
- One point for each Demonstration given to your group or to the entire 4-H group
- Two points for each Clinic (special educational event you attend which is open to your group or the entire 4-H group). **Clinics eligible for point awards include all county and state clinics brought to the club or county leaders’ attention as well as club clinics, provided that they are available to everyone in the club and someone is present and running the clinic in an educational manner. Only one point per event per day will be awarded. You must sign-in on the provided sign-in sheet to receive points. Paid private lessons and fun get-togethers are not eligible for points in this category.**
- One point for each meeting of your local club containing an educational component
- One point for completing Project Book which is due June 1st.
- One point for being an Officer in your local group
- Two points for each Horse Demonstration given during Fair Week.
- Two points for being a member of 4-H Council
- ROC educational points will count for ROC only.

**Community Service:**
- Participation hours will be kept for each service you give to the community. Examples – your group singing carols at a foster care home; your group preparing and delivering holiday baskets; you joining county wide 4-H horse community services; general 4-H county “work bees” and PEP. A 4-H member cannot collect hours for community service projects completed with another organization or school sponsored events. 501(c)(3) organizations can be used for community service projects. The executive board will make the final decision if there is a question concerning an activity.

**Show Points**
- Two points for competing in Costume Class
- Two points for competing in Versatility Class
- Two points for competing in Team Competition

**Show Points** accumulated using the following schedule regardless of the number of riders in the class:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Third</td>
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<td>Fourth</td>
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<td>Ninth</td>
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<td>Tenth</td>
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EXPLANATION OF STATE SHOW/YEAR-END POINTS/HORSE REGISTRATION

STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW

1. Must be 13 or older to attend the State 4-H Horse Show.

2. Must complete a minimum of 5 hours Community Service time before June 1 which is offered through your club or open to all 4-H members. Community Service will be verified by the committee members who were at the State Horse Show Committee meeting.

3. Must have a minimum of 2 Education Points and a minimum total of $40 in sponsorships.

4. Must turn in age appropriate Project Record Book with an accuracy of 80% to the Educational Committee by June 1. **Books must be completed fully with no questions left blank.**

5. Must complete a Fitting & Showmanship class at one of the point shows. You do not have to use your point horse in this class.

6. Show points are kept on only 1 horse. **If you are showing more than 1 horse, you must designate which horse is your point horse on your horse registration form.**

7. Points earned in qualifying horse shows with the exception of ROC points, will be tallied for state horse show consideration. In the case of a “tie”: highest points in –
   a. Fitting & Showing (then to)
   b. Equitation – Huntseat & Western

8. Members showing in the Novice Division are not eligible for State Competition.

9. Coggins test is required to attend the State 4-H Horse Show.

10. State Delegates will pay registration fee at time of entry. Fee reimbursement is subject to availability of funds and requests must be made in writing to the Horse Leader’s Council and submitted by October 1 for consideration.

YEAR-END POINTS

1. All points must be turned in by August leaders meeting of the current project year in order to count for year-end awards.

2. ONLY ONE HORSE IS YOUR POINT HORSE. **BACK-UP HORSES WILL NOT COLLECT POINTS. ONLY ONE SWITCH ALLOWED PER PROJECT YEAR.**

3. All point sheets will be kept by leader(s) and must be signed by leaders and turned into the Year-End Committee to be valid.
HORSE REGISTRATION

1. Horses must be registered by May 1. Use registration form included in this handbook.

2. 4-H member may show no more than two horses, mare and foal count as one.

3. **Horse changes will be considered for the following circumstances ONLY:**
   a. Death of a project animal
   b. Lameness of project animal
   c. Project animal is considered unsafe for 4-H member

   The Horse Leaders Committee will review and make decisions regarding exceptions.

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MECOSTA COUNTY 4-H PROJECT GENERAL/FAIR RULES

1. To bring a project horse to fair, member must be at least 9 years of age on January 1, 2017. Cloverbud 4-H’ers may participate in Lead Line, Walk Trot 7-8, Cloverbud Fitting & Showmanship, and Cloverbud Trail only.

2. **In order to participate and/or stall at fair, members must show at one qualifying show. Record books must be completed by June 1 to show at fair. This does not apply to Cloverbuds.**

3. During lead-line classes, the rider **must be led by an adult (18 years or older)** and must have a lead-line attached to a halter, which has been placed under the bridle. This class is appropriate for all Cloverbuds 5-8 years old. No spurs will be allowed in this class.

4. Walk Trot 7-8 riders must have an adult (18 years or older) in the ring to act as a spotter. This person does not have to hang on to the halter, but must be close by in case of an emergency. This class is for 7 and 8 year olds only. Halters must be worn under the bridle and bump spurs only will be allowed if necessary.

5. 4-H Cloverbud members must wear SEI-ASTM approved helmets for all Cloverbud horse experiences. Bike helmets do not qualify. All Cloverbuds must have their feet in stirrups while on their horse.

6. Rules, announcements, Vet list with phone numbers, and safety information shall be posted at each barn and must be followed.

7. **The arenas may be used for practice only under supervision of an adult or leader.**

8. Only 4-H Horse & Pony Project members, leaders, and immediate family may ride a 4-H member’s registered horse on the fairgrounds during 4-H activities.

9. Appropriate boots and long pants must be worn at all times in the arena (**absolutely no tennis shoes or sandals**). It is also advised that club leaders and parents be responsible for seeing that appropriate shirts are worn for practice. Short sleeve Western shirts will be acceptable in Gymkhana classes (no t-shirts, tank tops, or sleeveless shirts). No sunglasses will be allowed in the show arena. Prescription transition lenses are accepted.

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**Negative Coggins Test required by May 1 for all horses registered. Coggins must be valid through August 31 of current calendar year. A photocopy must be attached to the Horse Registration papers.**
10. Horses and ponies may be mounted and walked in a safe manner between the barn and arena on show days. At all other times, horses and ponies shall be led to and from arena and mounted inside arena.

11. Wash racks may be used at any time with consideration being given to other species being prepared for classes. Horses should not be left unattended at the wash racks.

12. Bareback riding is acceptable inside the arena only.

13. Horses and ponies must be bridled when ridden, and halters must be accessible when in stalls at all times.

14. No stopping on the rail in the arena; mounting and dismounting in center of arena only.

15. Halter or lunging practice in the arena is to be done in the center of arena only.

16. All horses in the arena should be worked in the same direction at all times – pleasure gaits only.

17. One rider on a horse at a time.

18. No riding in the barns.

19. No riding near the midway rides, camping areas, livestock areas or stands at any time. Riding will be done only in designated areas.

20. Pleasure gaits only during all exercise practice times. Practice times for jumps and speed practice will be at pleasure gaits.

21. Project animals considered being a risk to the public and/or other exhibitors will not be allowed to exhibit. Determination will be made by the the 4-H Program Coordinator, and the Horse Superintendents.

22. No 4-H’er will be allowed with bare feet or open toed shoes while handling a horse at any Mecosta County 4-H function.

23. Any misconduct with or improper care of a horse/pony or youth may result in being asked to leave the fairgrounds with loss of premium.

24. Horse and Pony Project Record Books are available in four age groups – Cloverbud, 12 & under, 13-15, 16-19. The project record books are designed to be submitted at the county fair in the record book premium division. Premium classes are rated A, B, and C with Cloverbuds receiving participation ribbons only.

25. The Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in Fitting and Showmanship are eligible to and encouraged to compete in the Showmanship Sweepstakes.

26. Project members must be registered by December 31st of previous calendar year, and project animal registration forms submitted to the 4-H office by May 1 of current project year. 4-H members may show no more than two horses, mare and foal count as one.

27. Fair registration due at 4-H Office by July 1. Registration for other qualifying shows must be turned into the 4-H office by June 1. Additions and deletions will be accepted day of show.

28. Only one stall per 4-H member will be allowed at fair. Cloverbuds will not be allowed to stall their horses at fair. Any exceptions to this must be cleared through the Horse Superintendents and Horse Leaders Committee. Barns close at 11:00 pm during fair week.

29. Removal of horses/ponies before release time will result in loss of premium money, unless approved by the barn superintendents, horse leaders and County 4-H Program Coordinator.
30. Stalls must be cleaned before leaving the grounds. A $15.00 stall deposit may be charged at the two qualifying shows and will be refunded when stalls are cleaned and then inspected by hosting clubs.

31. Camping sites available at point shows for an additional fee.

32. All leaders or their adult representatives have the authority and responsibility to see that rules are followed. Violations may result in 4-H’er being disqualified and asked to leave with loss of all premiums.

33. All participants in hunter (both over fences and on the flat), all novice classes, and gymkhana (speed) classes must wear protective riding helmets correctly that bear the ASTM-SEI Certification label while mounted. Bike helmets do not qualify.

34. Exhibitor may show in the novice division no more than two years, unless approved by Horse Leaders Committee. Novice Walk/Trot is available for all novice riders who are not comfortable with the canter. Novice riders may only ride in Novice division classes. Novice Fitting & Showing does not count as years riding. The Novice Division is intended for beginning riders not green horses. Special concerns and considerations will be addressed by the Horse Leaders.

35. **Exhibitor must show in the same division all year**, unless approved by leaders committee. Novice Walk/Trot may be moved up in the Novice division with approval of leaders committee, but will not then be eligible to go back to Novice Walk/Trot. Novice exhibitors may participate in Gymkhana events in the appropriate division at the discretion of their leader. Novice Walk/Trot riders must trot if riding in Gymkhana classes.

36. Ponies may be ridden in pony division or in age division but not both. Ponies cannot be taller than 56 inches in height, with 1/2” allowed for shoes. All ponies must be measured by Horse Show Committee prior to first show the date and location to be set by committee. Ponies who have been previously measured and are under 50 inches and/or over 7 years of age do not have to be measured again. Special concerns and considerations will be addressed by the Horse Leaders.

37. Divisions are: 16-19 years of age, 13-15 years of age, 12 & under (9) years of age, Pony 9-19 year of age, Novice, ROC 15-19 & 14 & Under

38. In Gymkhana, the rider has to ride into the arena. The rider must dismount in the ring. **THE HORSE MUST BE UNDER CONTROL.**

39. Patterns cannot be changed once a class has started. A re-ride will be given to an exhibitor at the judges’ discretion.

40. Grand and Reserve Champions for Gymkhana at fair will be determined in each event. They will be determined by taking the top two speeds from each division and then the top two from those eight will be the Grand and Reserve.

41. Any disputes must go through club leaders.

42. Anyone showing unsportsmanlike conduct can be asked to leave the show grounds and will lose all show points accumulated during the show.

43. All class sheets & Horse Registrations forms must be turned into the Extension Office by the 4-H Leader only.

44. Registered 4-H Horse members may not ride in the fair open horse classes.

45. Horses cannot be brought to the arena for intentional rolling.

46. No rider can ride in a class twice.
PROUD EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM (PEP)

1. All riders should be able to ask their horse to walk forward, halt and turn right and left.

2. Riders must control the horse at all gaits in the show ring. Leaders and Sidewalkers are a safety element only and are not expected to influence the performance of the horse and rider.

3. Riders must be 4-H members currently enrolled in the Mecosta County 4-H Horse Program or enrolled in the Mecosta/Osceola 4-H PEP Program.

4. All riders will be required to wear SEI-ASTM approved riding helmets for riding and groundwork. Bike helmets do not qualify.

5. Riders are responsible for providing their own horse, volunteers as needed and headgear.

6. All riders must be accompanied by their 4-H PEP riding instructor who will act as their coach or as the head coach for the group if there is more than one participating rider from the program.

7. Horses must be in good condition and be suitably trained to meet the needs of the rider.

8. Horses may be borrowed from the riding program to which the rider belongs or from another source.

9. PEP members may show in Novice Fitting & Showmanship, PEP Western Horsemanship, PEP Western Pleasure and Novice Trail classes.
ROPING AND OBSTACLE COURSE
R.O.C.
Project Guidelines and Requirements

R.O.C. Committee Chair – Nikki Simcoe

1. The R.O.C. project is open to all 4-H youth who are currently registered and members in good standing in the Mecosta County 4-H Youth Development Program, in the following age groups: 15-19 and 14 & Under. 4-H age as of January 1, 2017.

2. Youth MUST pre-register for the R.O.C. project by the first Friday of the current program year.

3. Project meeting dates and certification dates, along with a list of items needed for the project will be furnished to participants at the first meeting.

4. All participants, regardless of experience, or number of years in the project are required to certify annually to participate in the project and R.O.C. classes during the pre-fair qualifying shows and the Mecosta County Agricultural Free Fair. To participate, required safety certification is required of all participants. Novice riders may do ground roping. Ground roping participants do not need to certify.

5. All youth must attend a minimum of 50% or more of all offered clinics and mounted practices. Certification will occur during these sessions. Ground Roping is available at all practices.

6. Youth do not have to own a horse to participate in the R.O.C. project. Youth without a horse may only participate in ground roping classes. Novice members and cloverbuds may only participate in ground roping events.

7. There may be an additional fee at riding sessions and clinics where you bring your horse. Fees are due at the time of the session.

8. Any participant not enrolled in the Mecosta County Horse Program will have an additional $2.00 fee for insurance coverage.

9. Participants that are ground ropers only and do not participate in the Mecosta County Horse Program will pay a $5.00 show fee at each pre-fair qualifying show. Horse program youth that participate in the weekend shows will pay the standard $20.00 weekend fee.

10. Educational points will be awarded for attendance at R.O.C. classes and show points will be awarded for participants using their designated point horse. R.O.C. points will go towards R.O.C. year end awards only.

11. Your roping horse MUST be one of your two (2) 4-H project horses. Youth may choose to certify both of their 4-H project horses in the R.O.C project.

12. All 4-H state and county rules apply.

13. All participants and their families will be required to assist with show set-up or take-down as well as the normal operations of the show.
FAIR WEEK EVENTS
For Horse Members

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY -
4:00 p.m.  Roping & Obstacle Course

MONDAY –
1:00 p.m.  Fitting & Showmanship Classes – all Divisions except Cloverbuds
7:00 p.m.  Demonstrations

TUESDAY – Judge -
12:00 noon  105 Crosspoles Open
           106 Equitation Over Fences Open
           107 Hunter Over Fences Open
           25 Hunter Hack Fences Open
           24 Crosspoles Hunter Hack Open
           48 English/Western Riding Open
           49 Reining Open

WEDNESDAY - Judge –
9:00 a.m.  51 Trail 15-19
          52 Trail 14 & U
          53 Trail Novice
10:00 a.m.  54 Cloverbud Trail
           7 Lead Line
           8 Walk/Trot 7-8
           6 Fitting & Showmanship
              Costume – Cloverbuds
7:00 p.m.  Costume 9-19

THURSDAY –
9:00 a.m.  108 Versatility 15-19
           109 Versatility 14 & U
           Team Competition
           Fun Show

FRIDAY –
8:00 a.m.  Horse Show – English & Western Classes

SATURDAY –
8:00 a.m.  Horse Show – Gymkhana Classes
FAIR WEEK EVENTS
For Horse Members

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

VERSATILITY (Open to all ages 9-19)

Exhibitors will need back numbers. Patterns will be posted. Exhibitors will ride:

1. ENGLISH first – exhibitors will be asked to perform a pattern and will be worked on the rail.
2. After they are lined up – attendants will be called in (a maximum of 3 attendants) and once in place, you will have 3 minutes to change into Western appointment.
3. You will then be asked to go to the rail for ring work, then you will have to perform a pattern.
4. All Exhibitors will go to a makeup area and be called in individually for the Cloverleaf pattern. When everyone is done, you will line up in the center of the arena again.
5. A question will then be asked of all exhibitors and placing will occur.

DEMONSTRATIONS (Open to all ages 9-19)

Demonstrations will be judged on the following:

- Eye Contact and Voice Projection will affect your score.
- Time should be 5-7 minutes. Too long or too short will result in loss of points.
- Introduction (15 pts) – grab and hold the audience’s attention.
- Body (30 pts) – clear, organized, correct information
- Summary (10 pts) – reinforce important points
- Use of Props (30 pts) – handling of horse and “tools”
- Questions (15 pts) – repeat the question and answer clearly
- Total – 100 points possible
- Demonstration guide available at 4-H Office.

COSTUME (Open to all ages) - All Cloverbuds participating in the costume class will receive a participation ribbon. Costume class may be split if more than 15 exhibitors on the discretion of hosting clubs. Each exhibitor will be required to write a brief description on a 3x5 card of who they are and what their costume represents for the announcer to read. Proper footwear must be worn during this class.

Costume Class will be judged on the following:

- Originality
- Tolerance of horse to costume
Theme consistency between exhibitor and horse.

Costumes must be safe for horse and rider,

**TEAM COMPETITION**

Any 4-H member (ages 9-19) may compete in these events with their Leader’s approval and MUST use their OWN horse.

1. Four (4) members to a single team. Members of each team drawn from hat.
2. Team members will meet and decide who will ride in each different event.
3. Competition consists of four events:
   a. Fitting & Showmanship
   b. English Pleasure
   c. Western Pleasure
   d. Cloverleaf
4. One member of each team rides in ONE event, unless not a complete team. Each team member will earn points in the event they ride in.
5. Team placings will be based on points earned by all members for each event. EXAMPLE: If there are 10 teams – 1st place = 10 points, 2nd place = 9 points, etc.
6. When points are added together for all events, teams will be awarded ribbons for 1st – 10th place.

**TRAIL**

Trail will be judged on the performance of the horse over obstacles, with emphasis on manners, response to the rider, and attitude. Credit will be given to horses negotiating the obstacles with style and some degree of speed, providing carefulness is not sacrificed, and to horses showing the capability of picking their own way through obstacles. The horse shall be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching the obstacles. After 3 failed attempts horse and rider must move on to next obstacle. Horses with artificial appearance over obstacles should be penalized. Except for junior horses shown with hackamore or snaffle bit, only one hand may be used on the reins, except that it is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle. While horse is in motion, rider’s hands shall be clear of horse and saddle. Horses must not be required to work on the rail. The course must be designed, however, to require each horse to show the three gaits (walk, jog, lope) somewhere between obstacles as a part of its work and will be scored as a maneuver.

CLOVERBUD TRAIL – This will be a simple walk/trot class. Lead line exhibitors must be led by an adult (18 years or older) and must have a lead-line attached to a halter, which has been placed under the bridle. Walk Trot 7-8 riders must have an adult (18 years or older) in the ring to act as a spotter. This person does not have to hang on to the halter, but must be close by in case of an emergency. All Cloverbud members must wear SEI-ASTM approved helmets.
MSU EXTENSION WEATHER POLICY FOR 4-H EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Prior to event being held, the program site should be evaluated for emergency shelter options if inclement weather occurs.

**Rain**

Depending on the amount of rain and the type of activities being held, programs may need to be suspended temporarily. If rain is hard or heavy, program coordinators must evaluate the site for safety before restarting events. This is especially important for events in which you are riding horses (for the safety of both the rider and the horse) or, when the possibility of injury might increase due to wet or muddy ground.

**Thunder & Lightning**

"If you hear it, clear it" It is impossible to have thunder without lightning, even if you do not see the lightning. When thunder is heard or lightning spotted, **all programming must cease** and participants must be moved to safe, indoor shelter until the person in charge of the event or program decides the weather is clear and safe to initiate programming again. “Safe to initiate programming again”, means no thunder and lightning are heard or seen for 20 minutes.

**Tornado**

If a tornado warning or watch is issued by the weather service, all program participants and observers should be encouraged to seek shelter in designated areas. Event cancellation may result if weather persists.

**ALCOHOL AT 4-H SPONSORED EVENTS**

There is NO ALCOHOL permitted at any 4-H sponsored event. This includes animal shows sponsored by 4-H clubs that may be open to non 4-H members, camps workouts where parents are observing and/or public clinics that may be sponsored by 4-H groups as fundraisers.

These are all 4-H sponsored events and even though the participants may not be 4-H members or volunteers we cannot permit alcohol on the premises. In the case of fairs, the policy of the fair board, regarding alcohol use on the fairgrounds would apply. However, during 4-H activities and shows at the fair, alcohol should not be consumed by anyone participating in or attending the event. It is also important to include the “No Alcohol Allowed on Premises” policy in any show bills or fliers that 4-H groups distribute so potential participants know about the policy prior to arrival at the event site.

If event participants (adults and/or youth) are not following the “NO ALCOHOL” rule, it is the responsibility of the hosting group to enforce this rule. The Extension Office will enforce this policy. Attendees would either need to leave the event or stop the unacceptable behavior.

Michigan State University liability coverage will not be in place for groups who do not comply with this policy.
My Last Boot Print- 2017 Project

GOAL:
To allow members who have reached 19 years old as of 4-H age to showcase THEIR journey through 4-H and allow others to “walk a mile in their boots”.

WHO DOES THIS APPLY TO?
Any 19 year old 4-H’er in Mecosta County planning to participate in any 4-H sponsored functions during their 19 year-old year in 4-H.

HOW SHOULD THE PROJECT BE DONE?
The easiest way would be through pictures; but they are not limited to only using those. They can also utilize trophies/ribbons/4-H gear won/belt buckles/narratives/etc. to help tell their story.

They can also create a display of their chose; examples include:
-Poster Board -Presentation Board -Professional Portfolio
-Website/Facebook Page -PowerPoint/Story Board -Another type of table display

WHAT SORT OF THINGS SHOULD BE SHOWCASE?
-Club/Committee Involvement -Trips/Event Opportunities and Participation
-Any and all 4-H experiences -Anything else 4-H related

Presentations should include at least two life lessons and two life skills that have been learned through 4-H.

MANDATORY?
Yes, for all members who are 19 years as of 4-H age. Participation in 4-H is a privilege and those choosing not to participate in this project will choose not to participate in the 2017 fair OR any other 4-H programming and events.

PRESENTATION:
Members will sign up to present their 4-H Display at the Mecosta County Services Building (conference room) during the June 6th 4-H Council Meeting starting at 6:30 pm. Each member will pick a 15 minute time slot that works best for their schedule to present to 4-H Council members as well as the 4-H Program Coordinator.

LOCATION:
Displays will be set up in the Exhibit Building during fair week in their designated section. For those members who choose to create a PowerPoint or any other sort of digital presentation, their presentation will be shown on a continuous loop via a computer in the Exhibit Building unless they choose to also make a display to put in its place.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:
A winner will be picked from all participants and that person will receive an award during fair week.
**HORSE SHOW CLASS SIGN-UP SHEET (Due June 1)**

Exhibitor Name _________________________________  Age _______   Division Riding In ________________

Horse’s Name __________________________________  Point Horse (circle one) YES   NO  Back # ________________

Club Name ____________________________________   Club Leader Signature___________________________________

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Number &amp; Description</th>
<th>Class Number &amp; Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Fitting &amp; Showmanship 16-19</td>
<td>54  Cloverbud Trail</td>
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<td>2  Fitting &amp; Showmanship 13-15</td>
<td>55  Polebending 16-19</td>
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<td>8  Walk/Trot 7-8</td>
<td>61  Stake Race 12 &amp; U</td>
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<td>9  Huntseat Equitation 16-19</td>
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<td>10 Huntseat Equitation 13-15</td>
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<td>11 Huntseat Equitation 12 &amp; U</td>
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<td>22 English Bareback Equitation 14 &amp; U</td>
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<td>24 Crosspoles Hunter Hack Open</td>
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<td>104</td>
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MECOSTA COUNTY 4-H QUALIFYING SHOWS
June 9-11 and June 23-25

SATURDAY – 8:00 A.M.
1. Fitting & Showmanship 16-19
2. Fitting & Showmanship 13-15
3. Fitting & Showmanship 12 & U
4. Fitting & Showmanship Pony
5. Fitting & Showmanship Novice
6. Cloverbud Fitting & Showmanship
7. Lead Line
8. Walk/Trot 7-8

10 MINUTE BREAK
9. Huntseat Equitation 16-19
11. Huntseat Equitation 12 & U
12. Huntseat Equitation Pony
13. Huntseat Equitation Novice
14. Huntseat Equitation Novice W/T
15. Huntseat Pleasure 16-19
16. Huntseat Pleasure 13-15
17. Huntseat Pleasure 12 & U
18. Huntseat Pleasure Pony
19. Huntseat Pleasure Novice
20. Huntseat Pleasure Novice W/T
22. English Bareback Equitation 14 & U
23. English Bareback Equitation Pony
24. Crosspoles Hunter Hack Open
25. Hunter Hack Fences Open
26. Saddleseat Equitation 15-19
27. Saddleseat Equitation 14 & U
28. Saddleseat Pleasure 15-19
29. Saddleseat Pleasure 14 & U
30. Western Horsemanship 16-19
31. Western Horsemanship 13-15
32. Western Horsemanship 12 & U
33. Western Horsemanship Pony
34. Western Horsemanship Novice
35. Western Horsemanship Novice W/T
36. Western Pleasure 16-19
37. Western Pleasure 13-15
38. Western Pleasure 12 & U
39. Western Pleasure Pony
40. Western Pleasure Novice
41. Western Pleasure Novice W/T
42. Western Bareback Equitation 15-19
43. Western Bareback Equitation 14 & U
44. Western Bareback Equitation Pony
45. English/Western Riding Open (1st show)
46. Reining Open (2nd Show)
47. Trail 15-19
48. Trail 14 & U
49. Trail Novice
50. Cloverbud Trail

COST: $20.00 COVERS FRI., SAT. & SUN.
THERE WILL BE A FAMILY CAP OF $50 PER WEEKEND
4-H RULES WILL APPLY - RIBBONS FOR 10 PLACINGS
AGE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2017
CANCELLATION DECISION TO BE MADE BY LEADERS
- Class Registration closed when prior class enters ring
- Gate will close TWO minutes after preceding class is dismissed unless there is a FIVE minute tack change which must be requested at least two classes prior to the Tack Change Time.
- Trail Class in a separate area with a separate judge from 11:00-3:00
- Novice Fitting & Showing does not count as years riding experience.
- Riding classes will be split when there are 15 or more entries as safety dictates.
- No Exhibition Rides
- Walk/Trot 7-8 may not ride in any other class
- Lead Line must be led by an adult and must have a leadline attached to the halter which has been placed under the bridle.
- All Cloverbuds must have their feet in stirrups when on their horse.
- Cloverbuds must have an adult in the ring in case of emergency. All Cloverbuds must wear an SEI-ASTM approved helmet. Bike helmets do not qualify.
- Only Mecosta County 4-H’ers are eligible for open classes
- Crosspoles entries cannot compete in any other jumping class

SUNDAY – 10:00 AM
JUDGE –

58. Polebending Pony 82. Down & Back Pony
59. Stake Race 16-19
60. Stake Race 13-15
61. Stake Race 12 & U
62. Stake Race Pony
63. Speed & Action 16-19
64. Speed & Action 13-15
65. Speed & Action 12 & U
66. Speed & Action Pony
67. Keyhole 16-19
68. Keyhole 13-15
69. Keyhole 12 & U
70. Keyhole Pony
71. Cloverleaf 16-19
72. Cloverleaf 13-15
73. Cloverleaf 12 & U
74. Cloverleaf Pony
75. Flags 16-19
76. Flags 13-15
77. Flags 12 & U
78. Flags Pony
COST: $20.00 COVERS FRI., SAT., & SUN.

- Non-horse participants showing ground classes only, Friday only, $5.00 charge.
- 4-H rules apply
- Ribbons for 10 placings
- Age as of January 1, 2017
- Cancellation decision to be made by leaders
- Participants must have passed certification and make minimum practice requirements to participate
- Novice riders and cloverbuds are eligible for ground roping events only.
- All participants must wear a SEI-ASTM approved helmet in all mounted classes. Ground ropers have the option of wearing a helmet or traditional western style hat.
- 5 minute tack changes can be requested as needed.
- All ground classes will be first. There will be a break for participants to get their horses prior to mounted classes.

FRIDAY – 5:00 p.m.

83. Stationary Ground Roping 15-19
84. Stationary Ground Roping 14 & U
85. Challenge Ground Roping 15-19
86. Challenge Ground Roping 14 & U
87. Goat Tying 15-19
88. Goat Tying 14 & U
89. Calf Tying 15-19
90. Calf Tying 14 & U

**Break**

91. Mounted Goat Tying 15-19
92. Mounted Goat Tying 14 & U
93. Mounted Calf Tying 15-19
94. Mounted Calf Tying 14 & U
95. Stationary Mounted Roping 15-19
96. Stationary Mounted Roping 14 & U
97. Challenge Mounted Roping 15-19
98. Challenge Mounted Roping 14 & U
99. Advanced Mounted Roping 15-19
100. Advanced Mounted Roping 14 & U
101. Cutting 15-19
102. Cutting 14 & U
103. Obstacle Course 15-19
104. Obstacle Course 14 & U
ROPPING AND OBSTACLE COURSE
FAIR WEEK

- 4-H rules apply
- Ribbons for 10 placings
- Age as of January 1, 2017
- Cancellation decision to be made by leaders
- Participants must have passed certification and make minimum practice requirements to participate
- Novice riders and cloverbuds are eligible for ground roping events only.
- All participants must wear a SEI-ASTM approved helmet in all mounted classes. Ground ropers have the option of wearing a helmet or traditional western style hat.
- 5 minute tack changes can be requested as needed.
- All ground classes will be first. There will be a break for participants to get their horses prior to mounted classes.
- Championship winners will be determined by score cards/times. If there is a tie there will be a championship class to determine overall champion.

83. Stationary Ground Roping 15-19
84. Stationary Ground Roping 14 & U
*Stationary Ground Roping Championship*
85. Challenge Ground Roping 15-19
86. Challenge Ground Roping 14 & U
87. Goat Tying 15-19
88. Goat Tying 14 & U
*Goat Tying Championship*
89. Calf Tying 15-19
90. Calf Tying 14 & U
**Break**
91. Mounted Goat Tying 15-19
92. Mounted Goat Tying 14 & U
93. Mounted Calf Tying 15-19
94. Mounted Calf Tying 14 & U
95. Stationary Mounted Roping 15-19
96. Stationary Mounted Roping 14 & U
97. Challenge Mounted Roping 15-19
98. Challenge Mounted Roping 14 & U
99. Advanced Mounted Roping 15-19
100. Advanced Mounted Roping 14 & U
101. Cutting 15-19
102. Cutting 14 & U
103. Obstacle Course 15-19
104. Obstacle Course 14 & U
*Obstacle Course Championship*
**Huntseat Equitation Open & Novice Open**

9  Huntseat Equitation 16-19  
10  Huntseat Equitation 13-15  
11  Huntseat Equitation 12 & U  
12  Huntseat Equitation Pony  
13  Huntseat Equitation Novice  
14  Huntseat Equitation Novice W/T  
15  Huntseat Pleasure 16-19  
16  Huntseat Pleasure 13-15  
17  Huntseat Pleasure 12 & U  
18  Huntseat Pleasure Pony  
19  Huntseat Pleasure Novice  
20  Huntseat Pleasure Novice W/T  

**Saddleseat Open**

28  Saddleseat Equitation 15-19  
29  Saddleseat Equitation 14 & U  
30  Saddleseat Pleasure 15-19  
31  Saddleseat Pleasure 14 & U  

***English Equitation Championship***

21  English Bareback Equitation 15-19  
22  English Bareback Equitation 14 & U  
23  English Bareback Equitation Pony  

***English Pleasure Championship***

24  English Bareback Pleasure 15-19  
25  English Bareback Pleasure 14 & U  
26  English Bareback Pleasure Pony  

**Western Horsemanship Open & Novice Open**

32  Western Horsemanship 16-19  
33  Western Horsemanship 13-15  
34  Western Horsemanship 12 & U  
35  Western Horsemanship Pony  
37  Western Horsemanship Novice  
38  Western Horsemanship Novice W/T  
39  Western Pleasure 16-19  
40  Western Pleasure 13-15  
41  Western Pleasure 12 & U  
42  Western Pleasure Pony  
44  Western Pleasure Novice  
45  Western Pleasure Novice W/T  

***Western Horsemanship Championship***

46  Western Bareback Equitation 15-19  
47  Western Bareback Equitation 14 & U  
48  Western Bareback Equitation Pony  

**Western Pleasure Championship**

49  Western Pleasure Pony  
50  Western Pleasure Novice  
51  Western Pleasure Novice W/T  

Pre-registration for Fair is June 26, 2017  

**See Fair Book under “Open Horses”**

Classes are open to NON 4-H Members only  

Classes will run in this order:  

Open Adult  
Open Adult Novice  
Open Youth  
Open Youth Novice  

***Championship classes are open to Mecosta County 4-H members only. Top two exhibitors from each qualifying class will compete***
Mecosta County 4-H Horse Project
Registration Form

CLUB ________________________________________________________________

EXHIBITOR’S NAME ___________________________ BACK # ______

EXHIBITOR’S AGE (as of Jan. 1) ______ DIVISION RIDING IN _______________

NAME OF POINT HORSE __________________________________________

BREED __________ AGE __________ SEX ______ COLOR ____________

OWNER SIGNATURE _________________________________________________

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NAME OF BACK-UP HORSE __________________________________________

BREED __________ AGE __________ SEX ______ COLOR ____________

OWNER SIGNATURE _________________________________________________

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Rules Signature Form

We have read the Mecosta County 4-H Horse Handbook and understand the Rules and
Deadlines of the Mecosta County 4-H Horse Program.

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EXHIBITOR SIGNATURE _____________________________________________

PARENT SIGNATURE ________________________________________________

LEADER SIGNATURE _______________________________________________