GLADWIN COUNTY
4-H HORSEMASTER
PROGRAM

Name: _______________________________ 4-H Age: _____
Address: ___________________________ City: _______
Name of Club: _______________________
Name of Club Leader(s): ______________
Years in 4-H Project: __________________

NOVICE DIVISION
Level 1 – Novice
Last Updated: November, 2001

Section 1 – Knowledge

1. Describe where the best position(s) to handle your horse is and explain why you should always try to stay in it.

2. Which side should you lead a horse from?

3. Which side should you mount a horse from?

4. When combing a horse’s tail, where should you stand?

5. Give an example of a blemish.

6. Give an example of an unsoundness.

7. Define each of the following terms:
   a. foal
   b. weanling
   c. yearling
   d. colt
Section 1 – Knowledge (Continued)

7. Define each of the following terms:
   
e. filly ____________________________
   
f. gelding ____________________________
   
g. mare ____________________________
   
h. stallion ____________________________

8. Name the three things you should feed a horse: (3)
   
   1. ____________________________ 2. ____________________________ 3. ____________________________

9. What should you do if your horse runs away with you while you are riding him? (1)
   
   __________________________________________________________
   
   __________________________________________________________
   
   __________________________________________________________

10. What kind of footwear should you wear when you are working with your horse? Why? (2)
    
    __________________________________________________________
    
    __________________________________________________________

11. List four parts of a bridle: (4)
    
    1. ____________________________
    
    2. ____________________________
    
    3. ____________________________
    
    4. ____________________________
12. Number the correct parts of a horse: 

1. Back  
2. Face  
3. Fetlock  
4. Thigh  
5. Hock  
6. Knee  
7. Muzzle  
8. Poll  
9. Shoulder  
10. Withers  

(Total Knowledge Points: 35)
Section 2 – Dismounted Abilities

Properly demonstrate the following to a designated inspector, who will check off each of these items on the date(s) you complete them.

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<tr>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Inspector</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Identify three basic grooming aids. (3)</td>
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<td>2. Demonstrate how to use each of the above aids with safe handling techniques. (3)</td>
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<td>3. Correctly identify the color of your horse. (1)</td>
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<td>4. Discuss or demonstrate how to water and feed a horse. (2)</td>
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| 5. Discuss or demonstrate how to catch a horse:  
a. in a stall with a halter on  
b. in a pasture or field with a halter on (2) |       |           |
| 6. Demonstrate how to safely approach a horse that is unaware of your presence. (1) |       |           |
| 7. Discuss or demonstrate how to properly clean out and bed a stall. (2) |       |           |
| 8. Demonstrate how to lead a horse or pony with a:  
a. halter and lead rope  
b. bridle (2) |       |           |
| 9. Demonstrate the proper distance to be maintained between horses when leading or showing in showmanship or halter. (2) |       |           |
| 10. Demonstrate how to properly tie a safety knot. (2) |       |           |
| 11. Demonstrate proper spacing between horses when setting up in the ring for showmanship. (1) |       |           |
| 12. Demonstrate proper stopping distance from the judge during showmanship. (1) |       |           |
| 13. Demonstrate the proper height at which a horse should be tied up. (1) |       |           |

(Total Dismounted Points: 23)
Section 3 – Mounted Abilities

Properly demonstrate the following to a designated inspector, who will check off each of these items on the date(s) you complete them.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Mount and dismount a horse or pony. (2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(With assistance if necessary)</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Sit in the saddle and pick up the reins properly. (1)</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Assume reasonably good equitation at:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>a. the walk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>b. the jog/trot (2)</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Move from a halt to a walk and a walk to a halt. (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Move from a walk to a jog and a jog to a walk. (2)</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>At the walk, turn right, turn left, turn right and left about. (2)</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Properly reverse the direction of travel. (1)</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Demonstrate how to properly pass a slower horse. (1)</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Using proper aids, back up 4 steps and walk forward 4 steps. (1)</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Demonstrate the proper distance to be maintained between horses at all times. (1)</td>
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(Total Mounted Abilities: 15)
NOVICE DIVISION

This 4-H member, ____________________________, has successfully completed all of the requirements in Knowledge, Dismounted Abilities, and Mounted Abilities for Level 1 in the County Horsemaster Project with an overall score of __________ points out of a total 70 points.

4-H Leader

Date

Designated Inspector

Date

This page should be removed from the test booklet and kept in the 4-H office for records.
Gladwin County Horse Masters Project Guidelines

Jan. 2009

1. If you win your division you must move up to the next division.

2. You may only stay in any division a max. of 3 years unless the Ability Comm. Warrants a longer stay.

3. The Ability Comm. Will consist of one parent/guardian, two leaders (different clubs), and a trainer/resource person and/or show judge.

4. You must pass a written knowledge and safety evaluation with a 80% and you must ride before the ability comm. before you may move up to the next division, this includes moving up to division 3 and 4. Novice and Division 2 will be evaluated by their leaders.

5. Evaluations will be made up based on the basic knowledge from the 4-H books, ring etiquette, proper care of horses and equipment and safety.

6. You do not need to start with the Novice evaluation if you are an established rider. However, the Novice evaluation will not be as long as the advanced divisions and some of the same questions will be on the advanced evaluation.

7. The riding part will be arranged, either at regularly scheduled times or at an individual’s appointed time if they desire. Riding does not need to be done on your horse as long as the Ability Comm. Agrees that you have the ability to produce the same results with your horse.

8. We will come together 2-3 times a year during the winter months to learn together. All leaders will be available to help with the different divisions. One or two clubs will be responsible for the agenda. This will provide continuity of learning. As well as share the load of teaching.

9. Showmanship classes will be divided according to ages of the other large animal livestock divisions. This will allow for individuals to compete for overall.

10. Basic rules of mandatory showmanship and one other class will still apply if you take your horse to the fair.

11. Division 5 will be written only and can be entered into the fair as an educational exhibit.

12. Divisions are to be determined by May 19th.

13. You must turn in the back sheet of your division booklet to the MSU Ext. Office once completed before May 19th.

14. This is a start for our Gladwin County Horsemaster Guidelines. Please feel free to get involved and give your input for this program. We are open for all, and encourage your suggestions!!

Thank-you,
Darrin Beebe
Kay Gawel
Gordie Willford
Chuck Bennett
Denise Shears