MINIATURE HORSE & DONKEY SUPERINTENDENT

Ruth DeBoer
(269) 649-4877
ruthdeboer@aol.com

MINIATURE HORSE & DONKEY PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, and sportsmanship.
- To experience the pride and responsibility of owning a horse and to learn care, feeding management and health of the animal.
- To learn safety precautions, to prevent injuries to themselves, others and their animals.
- To prepare for citizenship responsibilities by working together in a group and by supporting community projects and activities.
- To develop an appreciation for driving as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation as well as an appreciation of our conservation and natural resources.

4-H MOTTO..... "TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER"

4-H PLEDGE

I PLEDGE
MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING - Working with animals provides mental relaxation from schoolroom studies and at the same time stimulates quick thinking and alertness.

MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY - The close bond of comradeship which develops between a horse and his master and between young people planning and working together in common interest is conducive to a deepening sense of loyalty and consideration for others.

MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE - Service includes sharing time and knowledge of horses to benefit others, such as demonstrations, teaching and driving for charities.

MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING - Out-of-door activities affects every nerve, muscle and organ of the body in a healthful way.

FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD - The association and varied activities in 4-H Club work provide many opportunities for young people to prepare themselves for active participation in the social and economic life of their community.

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KALAMAZOO COUNTY 4-H MINIATURE HORSE & DONKEY PROJECT RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

1. Youth who plan to show at the Kalamazoo County Fair must be enrolled with the Miniature Horse Project Superintendent by July 1st, and project animal must be identified at this time.

2. Project is open to miniature horses and donkeys 38” in height or under. Stallions shall be shown only in the year in which they are foaled, unless approved by Miniature Horse Superintendent.

3. Ownership is not required. A written permission slip from the owner must be on record with Miniature Horse Project Superintendent. Youth must be working with their project animals by July 1st. NO project animal changes are allowed after July 1st without approval of Miniature Horse Superintendent.

4. Parade Rules:
   a. Members are encouraged to participate in at least one winter and one summer parade as designated by the Miniature Horse Superintendent.
   b. Members participating in parades as part of the 4-H Miniature horse group must be in proper attire as designated by the Miniature Horse Superintendent.
   c. Members driving carts will have an adult walking beside the cart, adult must be in proper parade attire.
   d. No other friends or family members will walk in the parade unless approved by the Miniature Horse Superintendent.

5. Special Events: Members may be asked to participate in special events (library or nursing home visits, living nativities, demonstrations, etc.) at various times throughout the year. Members are encouraged to attend events whenever possible but not required. Not all members and their project animals may attend each event due to size or safety issues, the Miniature Horse Superintendent and/or Project leader may decide which members will be asked to attend an event. Superintendent’s decision is final.
II. AGE POLICIES & REQUIREMENTS

1. All 4-H members can enroll in the 4-H Miniature Horse & Donkey Project and exhibit at the Fair the calendar year they are age 9 through 19.

2. 4-H Cloverbud members who are 5 to 8 years of age during the calendar year are eligible to exhibit at fair in the Showmanship class In Hand Jumping, with Superintendent and/or Leader approval.

III. STATE 4-H HORSE JAMBOREE

The following competitions are offered to all horse project members who wish to participate in STATE 4-H HORSE JAMBOREE:

   Equine Communications Contest
   Horse Judging Contest
   Hippology & Horse Bowl

IV. MINIATURE HORSE & DONKEY PROJECT

1. The member enrolling in this project should own, or have access to, a miniature horse or donkey for the summer season (June, July, August). Member’s leasing an animal must spend a minimum of four (4) days working with the project animal. Member will have the responsibility of grooming and getting the animal ready for showing at fair.

2. The member must enter a Miniature Horse & Donkey Science Notebook and/or Poster at fair in order to show a miniature horse or donkey at the fair.

3. Members MUST enroll, through a community club.

4. 4-H members participating in the Fair must be under the supervision of an ACTIVE, RECOGNIZED 4-H MINIATURE HORSE LEADER. (See Leader Responsibilities and Rights).

5. Fitting and Showing is a REQUIRED class at fair for all exhibitors.

6. Cart class entries of youth under the age of 11 must be accompanied by an adult in proper attire unless approved by Miniature Horse Superintendent.

7. Obstacle class exhibitors are required to wear an approved ASTM helmet. Exhibitors' attire will be neat and clean.

8. Jamboree participants are strongly encouraged to enter and present their demonstrations at the Fair.
V. **FAIR RULES**

1. The 4-H Miniature Horse & Donkey Superintendent is responsible for the enforcement of all Kalamazoo County 4-H Miniature Horse & Donkey Project rules. The Superintendent’s decision is final.

2. Miniature Horse & Donkey Project leaders will notify Superintendent of the number of project animals from their club and who will be attending the Fair no later than July 1st.

3. Any member exhibiting a horse must have the animal under control at all times or be dismissed from the show ring.

4. Members are expected to assist, to the fullest extent possible, in the daily care and exercise of their project animal.

5. Horses must be led to and from the exercise area. Additional rules will be posted.

6. Guidelines for conduct, show procedures, barn cleanliness, etc. may be outlined for all 4-H exhibitors by the 4-H Miniature Horse & Donkey Superintendent and/or Project Leaders at the Fair. Member will need to fill out an Emergency information card for their animal.

7. Members shall be prompt in feeding, watering, and utilizing the entire exercising period(s).

8. The Kalamazoo Fair Book regulates class entries and premiums.

VI. **STABLING OF HORSE/DONKEY DURING THE FAIR**

1. Horses/donkeys will be free from infectious and contagious diseases.

2. Miniature horses & donkeys are to be stabled at the fairgrounds.

3. A coggins test must be obtained within the calendar year to attend fair. Original proof of negative Coggins must be brought to fair along with a copy to be given to the 4-H Miniature Horse & Donkey Superintendent.

4. Miniature horses & donkeys should be vaccinated for tetanus, encephalitis, and flu and have the appropriate form stating same as provided by the Kalamazoo County 4-H Horse Project.

5. Miniature horses & donkeys will be released at 10 p.m. Saturday, at conclusion of Fair.

VII. **PROPER SHOW ATTIRE AND BEHAVIOR**
1. Each exhibitor will be required to be in English or Western attire, including long-sleeves, belt, hat, proper neck attire, gloves, and proper foot ware. Hair done neatly with back number visible. No shorts are allowed in any class.

2. Good Sportsmanship and respect for fellow exhibitors is expected.

3. Judge's decisions are final.

VIII. LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS

A. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Report to the 4-H Agent and project superintendent, if, in their opinion, the member has failed to comply with the before-mentioned project requirements.
2. Meet in committees with the 4-H Agent and Project Superintendent to settle any and all disputes that arise regarding rules and regulations.
3. Establish direct communication with the Community Club Leaders.
4. Be aware of all available awards, programs workshops, etc. (County, State, and National) and relay this information to the members (reference: MSU Extension Office).
5. Establish that all members in their group are signed up with a Community Club and have met all Community Club requirements.
6. Leader must give a copy of the Miniature Horse & Donkey Project Guidelines to each project member.

B. RIGHTS

1. Limit the size the project club.
2. Schedule the frequency and the methods of conducting project meetings.
3. Dismiss any member from the project whose behavior is disruptive.
4. Refuse the responsibility for a member and horse at the Fair.

IX. 4-H MINIATURE HORSE & DONKEY SCIENCE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH YEAR

Project notebook or poster MUST be done by 4-H member. Member must be able to explain the project to the judge.

Member’s 4-H Project Record sheet must be completed and presented to the judge.
POSTER REQUIREMENTS

1. Size 22” x 28” poster.
2. Poster should be designed to be read from a distance.
3. Poster should be informative and educational about miniature horses or donkeys.
4. Member’s Personal story (pictures are optional) on the back of the poster.

NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS

1. Required topics by year.
2. Personal story with optional pictures

CLOVERBUDS

1. Personal story with optional pictures.
2. Poster - “You and your Miniature”

FIRST YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION:

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS for
1. Caring
2. Showing
3. Trailering

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE of the above topics.

SECOND YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION:

1. Grooming
2. Grooming tools
3. Hoof care

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE of the above topics.

THIRD YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):

A. NORMAL VITAL SIGNS (explain how to take and normal ranges)
   1. Respiration
   2. Temperature
   3. Heart Rate
   4. Color

B. Miniature horse & donkey colors
POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.

FOURTH YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):
A. ROUTINE VET CARE
   1. Worming
   2. Vaccines
   3. Dental

B. EQUINE FIRST AID KIT - List common items and their use

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.

FIFTH YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):
A. HARNESSES - Illustrate and label a single or double harness

B. LEATHER TACK - Care or storage

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.

SIXTH YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):
A. CARTS - Pick one style of cart, illustrate and label

B. What to look for when purchasing a miniature horse or donkey

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.

SEVENTH YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):
A. GAITS- Showing in Pleasure or Roadster Cart classes
   1. Walk
   2. Trot
   3. Road Trot

B. DISEASES and AILMENTS (at least 3)
   1. Symptoms
   2. Treatments

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.
EIGHTH YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):
A. MINIATURE HORSE or DONKEY
   1. Characteristics
   2. History
   3. Current Use

B. PARASITES (at least 3)
   1. Prevention
   2. Control

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.

NINTH YEAR

NOTEBOOK OPTION (choose A or B):
A. FEEDS AND RATIONS
   1. Grains - Discuss different types and compare
   2. Hay - Types and how to determine quality
   3. Pastures - Types and quality
   4. Discuss your horse's feeding regimen

B. TRAINING - Explanation of any phase of training you choose.

POSTER OPTION: Choose ONE topic from A or B.

TENTH YEAR (choose A or B)

A. Judging - What to look for: desirable conformation, faults, unsoundness, blemishes, and way of going.

B. Judging - Describe a method or system used in evaluating a class giving terms and reasons.

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Statement of Understanding and Support

Kalamazoo County 4-H Miniature Horse Project Rules and Regulations

To be an active member of the Kalamazoo County 4-H Miniature Horse Project, I agree to abide by the following rules and deadlines:

1. Complete an educational notebook or poster.
2. The Horse Registration Forms and Non-Premium Forms are due by June 1st.
3. Coggins Forms and Vet Check Form are due at the time of VET CHECK. Horses will not be permitted onto the fairgrounds without proof of negative Coggins.
4. All project rules and regulations as stated in the 4-H Miniature Horse Project guidelines must be followed, as well as those for current project year.
5. All Community Club requirements must be met, as well as the Miniature Horse requirements.
6. That you must send an entry form to the Open Pony Tent, to reserve a stall for Fair and you may also enter the Open Pony class with your Miniature at that time.
7. I understand that all volunteers, including: Horse Superintendent(s), Leaders, parents, volunteers at 4-H events, Miniature Horse workouts and the parades are not to be held liable for any injury that may occur to equine, property, or persons involved.
8. All 4-H members and parents are expected to follow code of conduct rules signed on enrollment forms.
9. In parades, we encourage parents to be in the parades but they must dress the part (white pants and red sweatshirt). Children and adults, plus the horses and carts, must dress the part (Christmas, 4th of July theme, i.e.).

The 4-H member and his/her parents voluntarily assumes these risks and dangers. It is understood that horses are unpredictable by nature and that there are unavoidable inherent risks in riding, driving and handling horses, including but not limited to bodily injury and physical harm to horse, rider, driver, and spectator. The 4-H member understands that upon mounting the horse, driving a cart or leading the horse by taking up the reins, lines or lead rope, the 4-H member is in primary control of the Miniature Horse and the leader, superintendents, and volunteers are not to be held liable for any injury that may occur to equine, property, or persons involved.

Under Michigan Law, an equine professional is not liable for any injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from inherent risk of the equine activity.

Failure to follow the rules and meet the deadlines will result in not being able to attend the Fair as a 4-H Miniature Horse Member. You may not take part in parades (as part of the 4-H Miniature Horse Project) unless this form is signed and turned into the Miniature Horse Superintendent.
Statement of Understanding and Support
For
Kalamazoo County 4-H Miniature Horse Project Rules and Regulations

I, as a Kalamazoo County 4-H Miniature Horse Project Member, have read, understand, and agree to follow and support the rules, regulations, and deadlines on these two pages.

Member’s Signature _____________________________ Date __________________

I, as a parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above signed member have read, understand, and agree to follow and support the above rules, regulations, and deadlines. I understand that there are risks to child and equine.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) _____________________________ Date __________________

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