2017 Berrien County 4-H
Versatility Scholarship Event

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event is to identify and recognize the most versatile 4-H teen-member and horse team in the Berrien County Horse and Pony Project. The scholarship recognizes the outstanding 4-H horse and rider versatility combination at the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event. It will be held during the Berrien County Youth Fair week. We encourage the 4-H youth to further his/her post high school education or training.

**Sponsor:** Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association.

**Date:** Sunday, August 13, 2017, 2:00 PM at the beginning of the Berrien County Youth Fair.

**Eligibility:** Open to any Berrien County 4-H member who is 14–19 years of age and has completed the ninth grade. Maximum years participating in the event are not to exceed five. Age/grade to be determined as of January 1, 2017.

Exhibitors must be enrolled in a Berrien County 4-H Horse and Pony Project by June 1, 2017. You can double check your eligibility through the Michigan State University Extension office in Berrien County at 269-927-5674.

It is required for all participants, or a representative, to volunteer for a minimum of 2 hours at the 4-H Horse Leaders Fun Show on Sunday, August 6th, 2017. This horse show is a fundraiser to support the scholarships given to the winners of the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event.

The horse used for the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event must be pre-registered and exhibited at the Berrien County Youth Fair by the 4-H member and on the grounds during Fair week.

Member and horse must be pre-registered or post marked for the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event by **Wednesday, July 5, 2017.** Registration Forms must be mailed to:

**Jeannie Fogarty**
4-H Versatility Scholarship Event
4468 Bundy Road, Coloma, MI 49038.

A head shot photo of member and their equine should be e-mailed to jeanettefogarty@att.net, preferred format is jpg. Please see page 4 for picture criteria.

For further information, e-mail Jeannie Fogarty at jeanettefogarty@att.net or call 269-876-6681.

**DO NOT TURN APPLICATION INTO THE BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH FAIR OFFICE.**
Classes:

1. Hunter Hack: Cross rails (not to exceed 18” in height) and rail work will be in one direction. Rider and horse are to be correctly appointed. Approved safety helmets are required. There is no need to qualify for BCYF jumping for this event.

2. Open English Equitation: Riders may ride hunt seat, dressage, or saddle seat. Whips are optional. Approved ASTM safety helmets are required for hunt seat riders.

Mandatory Tack Change (4 minutes)

3. Western Horsemanship: Riders and horses to be correctly appointed.

4. Gymkhana: Speed and Action: Western or English—Tack and apparel to complement one another. Approved ASTM safety helmets are required. Horse and rider must maintain a minimum jog/trot and not lose forward motion.

5. Top 10 (minimum or at the discretion of a Versatility Event Committee)

Exhibitors will be required to compete in trail. Western or English tack and apparel to complement one another. Approved ASTM safety helmets required for hunt seat.

Rules:

1. The exhibitor and parent/leader are responsible for all written rules.

2. One horse/one rider.


4. Once the horse and rider enter the arena, neither may leave until the completion of the Versatility Event without direct permission from the chairperson.

5. The exhibitor must participate in Hunter Hack, English Equitation, Western Horsemanship, the Mandatory Tack Change, Gymkhana, and Trail (for the Top 10). Failure to participate in the required classes and tack change will result in disqualification from the Versatility Event and no points will be given.

6. Four minutes will be allowed for the tack change. The time does not start until all grooms are in place inside the ring. Any participants not ready to compete, in proper tack and attire, at the end of the 4 minutes will be disqualified from the Versatility Event.

7. Two grooms are allowed per entry.

8. Horse and rider must have proper attire for each class.
9. All riders and parents/guardians **must attend** a meeting on Saturday, August 12, 2017 at 4:30 PM, in the grandstands before the fairgrounds clean up. Failure to be in attendance and sign in, will result in disqualification from the Versatility Event. At the time, you **must** declare which equine you will exhibit.

10. All patterns will be provided during the mandatory meeting on Saturday, August 12, 2017.

11. Grievances must be submitted, in writing and signed, to the Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association Versatility Committee, at the BCYF Horse Show Office, within one hour of completion of the last class.

12. Calling the event due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. weather, etc.) will be at the discretion of the Versatility Committee.

**Judging:**

The Versatility Committee will hire judges.

A maximum of 10 points per judge, per contestant, will be awarded in each class.

If a horse is deemed to be out of control, at the judges’ discretion, the exhibitor will be asked to come to the center of the ring and will receive no points for the class.

Based on the judges’ scores, final placings will be tallied and awarded by the Versatility Committee.

Individual points will be posted no earlier than one hour after the completion of the last class, if there are no grievances pending.

**Tie Breaker:**

The tie breaker judge will be “Judge A.”

**Awards:**

Placing ribbons will be awarded to the top ten participants, participation ribbons will be awarded to the remainder of the exhibitors. There will also be a Champion and Reserve Champion Scholarship awarded. No BCYF premiums. The Champion will receive a **$500.00** education scholarship from the Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders. The Reserve Champion will receive a **$250.00** educational scholarship. The Champion and Reserve Champion will also receive a keepsake plaque in addition to the traveling trophy. All Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders scholarships awarded must be used by the recipient to further his/her education within one year of their high school graduation. If it is not used within that time, the Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association will make a donation to the Berrien County 4-H Foundation in the awardees name, in the amount of the scholarship.
**Peer Sportsmanship Award**: Exhibitors participating in the Versatility Event will vote on a fellow exhibitor who exhibits the most positive and appropriate sportsmanlike behavior throughout the Versatility Event. The award will be given prior to the Event’s placings. In the event of a tie, duplicate awards will be given.

**Examples of Announcements and Publicity & Picture:**

*Example #1 – Not Ideal Statement:*

Sarah is riding her 15 year old Quarter Horse gelding
Sarah is riding her 15 year old Quarter Horse gelding, Zips Big Shadow. Sarah enjoys sports and competing on the Bridgman Equestrian Team. She will be a freshman at Lake Michigan College with plans of majoring in Business Management. This is Sarah’s first year with the River Valley Wranglers 4-H Club and her eighth year in 4-H, where she participates in Horse, Sheep, and Craft Projects.

*Example #2 – Ideal Statement:*

Emma has been a member of the Great Expectations 4-H Club for 5 years and is the current Treasurer. She is the daughter of Julie and Dan Smith of Berrien Springs. Emma is riding her mare, Sugar Coated Rapper, also known as “Sugar.” They have been a team for 3 years. In the fall, Emma will be a senior at Berrien Springs High School. There she is on the Equestrian Team, Varsity Softball, and Volleyball team.

![Ideal Picture Examples](image1.png)
![Not Ideal Picture Example](image2.png)
2017 Berrien County 4-H Versatility Scholarship Event
Registration Form

Please print or type all of the following information:

4-H Member Name: ____________________________ Birth Date: ____________

Street Address: ______________________________________________________

City, State, & Zip Code: ______________________________________________

Phone Number: ____________________________ E-mail: ______________________

Parents Names: _______________________________________________________

4-H Club Name: ______________________________________________________

Grade Completed: ________ School Attending: ______________________________

Horse’s Name: ________________________________________________________

Breed: ____________________________ Horse’s Age: ____________

Alt. Horse’s Name: ____________________________________________________

Breed: ____________________________ Horse’s Age: ____________

Provide a brief description of the horse and rider to be used for announcements and publicity (e.g., 4-H Club, number of years in 4-H, 4-H activities, 4-H and school awards, number of years with this horse, school sports and extracurricular activities)

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
We have read and understand the rules and information concerning the 2017 Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event, and agree to hold the Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association harmless.

______________________________  ___________________________
Member Signature                  Parent/Guardian Signature

Registrations must be postmarked by **Wednesday July 5, 2017** and mailed to be eligible:

**Jeannie Fogarty**  
4-H Versatility Event  
4468 Bundy Road  
Coloma, MI 49038

Photographs can be submitted via e-mail in preferred jpg format to:  
jeanettefogarty@att.net

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