

June 1, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Contestants - Texas State 4-H Horse Show

FROM: State 4-H Horse Show Management Team

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SUBJECT: 2016 State 4-H Horse Show Information

Congratulations and welcome to the 55th Texas State 4-H Horse Show. The week of July 22nd – 29th is intended to be an educational and fun experience for you and your family. Please read the following letter carefully. Understanding show philosophy and procedures will add greatly to your enjoyment of the show.

STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW ENTRY

2016 State 4-H Horse Show **entries** for each horse **MUST** be completed in **4-H CONNECT**. Entries and fees from families are **due at the District Horse Show or within 48 hours after the District Show is complete**, in order for Counties and Districts to approve entries by the July 1 deadline. County and District approval is **REQUIRED**. Absolute entry deadline is July 1st in 4-H Connect. No late entries will be accepted.

Registration and payment for **Drill and/or Precision Teams** **MUST** be completed **by the Drill Master in 4-H Connect**.

All Drill/Precision riders MUST enter and reserve stalls in 4-H Connect. Each 4-H'er must reserve and pay for their own stall; otherwise, we cannot determine actual stalling needs for each district at the State Show.

Families can pay with a credit card or a club/county check. If paying with a club/county check, please make checks payable to: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension (indicate State 4-H Horse Show in memo). Please send payment to: Texas 4-H Office, 4180 State Hwy 6 S, College Station, TX 77845.

SHOW MANAGEMENT

The Texas State 4-H Horse Show is not just another horse show. Many hours of work go into putting together a State Finals that is consistent with the quality of the Texas 4-H Horse program. Qualified judges, based on their knowledge, arena mechanics, objectivity, and attitude, regarding youth programs, will judge. Judges will make decisions based upon relevant criteria, not tricks and biases. Contestants will compete within a show environment set by a State Show Management Team (50 County Extension Agents and over 50 support persons and 4-H leaders). Class procedures will be used to help each contestant make the best run possible in each class. Scores and times will be called in many classes, immediately after each run. All judges' sheets will be posted when possible. **The goal of the horse show management team is to manage and run the Texas State 4-H Horse Show as objectively, educationally sound, and efficiently as possible. Every adult at the State Show is on the team to help achieve that goal.**

SPECIAL GROUND RULES

Please refrain from allowing your horse to be ridden by any other person. Obviously, many of you have family members who will want to help you hold, groom, saddle, and bridle your horse in preparation for the show. This is encouraged as family involvement is one of the many benefits of the 4-H horse project.

Pay Close Attention

Motorcycles, scooter, bicycles, skateboards, skates, golf carts, any motorized vehicle (excluding automobiles driven by licensed drivers), and other rolling vehicles are prohibited on the grounds of the Taylor County Exposition Center during the State 4-H Horse Show. Taylor County Exposition Center prohibits their use during the State 4-H Show. Due to safety concerns, the State 4-H Horse Committee also unanimously supported the decision to prohibit their use at the State 4-H Horse Show. Exhibitors found to be in violation of this ruling will be disqualified from the State 4-H Horse Show. It is the responsibility of all exhibitors, family members, and friends to make sure that such equipment is not used. The only golf carts that will be allowed on the grounds will be those used by the staff of the Taylor County Exposition Center, the Official State Show Veterinarian, and the State Show Management Team. Any persons requesting the use of golf carts or other motorized apparatus, due to handicap or disability, must be able to provide documentation that such transportation is required, and this must be approved prior to use of the equipment on the grounds.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the show grounds. Violators are subject to dismissal from the show.

Dogs may be kept in trailers, but dogs will not be allowed in facilities where horses are being exhibited.

Trainers, instructors, and other adults are asked not to give lessons and/or instructions in arenas where other contestants are riding.

SAFETY

Safety is a high priority at the State Show. Contestants are asked to review all safety information in the Texas 4-H Horse Show Rules and Regulations. Understand the exhibitor's responsibility in the Hold Harmless Agreement you signed. **FOLLOW SAFETY PROCEDURES THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SHOW.** In case of an accident, call 911. An EMT unit is on standby and can be at the Expo Center within minutes. Someone should go to the main gate to direct the EMT unit to the accident site. Come to the Show Office to pick up an insurance form. Persons taking contestants directly to the hospital should go to Hendrick Health System @ 1242 North 19th Street in Abilene (325-670-2000). Report all accidents to the Show Office.

TAYLOR COUNTY EXPOSITION CENTER AND HOST COMMITTEE

The Taylor County Exposition Center is a 3-arena facility with up to 800 stalls under permanent cover. The coliseum is air conditioned and very comfortable. The horse barns are sufficiently wired to handle a fan on each stall. The Coliseum is located at the intersection of State Highway 36 and Loop 322 in Abilene. Extension District 7 and Taylor County are the hosts for the State 4-H Horse Show. Below are names and telephone numbers of key host committee persons.

Taylor County Extension Agent	Kit Horne	325-672-6048
District 7 Extension Director	Marty Gibbs	325-653-4576
Taylor County Exposition Center Manager	Rochelle Johnson	325-677-4376
Abilene Conv. & Visitors Bureau	Pam Sites	325-676-2556

MOTELS

Rooms are blocked in Abilene for the State 4-H Horse Show. Hotel information will be posted on the following website under the State 4-H Horse Show link: <http://horse.tamu.edu> . **Please make reservations well in advance.** To get discount rates, identify yourself as a contestant with the State 4-H Horse Show.

MOTOR HOME - TRAVEL TRAILER HOOKUPS

There are hookups at the Taylor County Exposition Center. Contact the Expo Center for pricing. Hookups are in several locations on the grounds. **Reservations are not taken, and hookups are on a first-come, first-serve basis on the grounds. Check with grounds personnel in the Horse Barn office to secure your hookup.** No hookups will be allowed on the south side of the Livestock Barn between the Livestock Barn and the permanent food booths, due to electrical system overloads. Please honor this request as a courtesy to all exhibitors. Violators will be moved.

NEGATIVE EIA DOCUMENTATION

In accordance with current Texas Animal Health Commission guidelines, EIA papers (Coggins) or Texas Equine Passports will be checked on each horse when packets are picked up at the show office. **Health certificates are not required. EIA documentation papers will be stamped. Also, due to the large number of respiratory problems at shows, Dr. Mike Martin, Official Show Veterinarian, strongly recommends that all horses be current (60 days) on equine influenza and equine rhinopneumonitis vaccinations.**

ARRIVAL TIME, PARKING, AND STALLING

Your earliest arrival time is 12:00 noon on Saturday, July 22nd, 2016. Only 4-H'ers with 1st stalling period or all-week stalls paid for can arrive at this time. Enter the grounds at the West entrance (Gate C) where the greeting committee will provide stalling information. The gates will not be unlocked until 12:00 noon. Horses can be stalled before contestants register. Parking is not restricted, except for marked fire lanes. Please do not park in these "tow away zone" areas.

This earliest arrival time of **12:00 noon on Saturday, July 22nd**, is only for those who paid for an All-Week Stall (Saturday (12 noon) to Sunday) or for a 1st Stalling Period stall (Saturday 12 noon to Tuesday 5 p.m.). Please do not try and arrive prior to this time because stall preparations and facilities adjustments will likely not be completed.

This year, there will be tack stalls allowed at the State 4-H Horse Show. ONLY 1 TACK STALL PER 4 HORSES ENTERED WILL BE ALLOWED. This will be subject to availability by Show Management.

Due to the size of this show, no stalls will be available for extra horses that are not entered in the show. Youth cutters bringing turn back horses should call the Horse Specialists' office (979) 845-5264 by July 15th, so we can arrange for stalling for turn-back horses. **Open show contestants have the option of showing out of the trailer (but will be required to pay a haul-in fee, or purchase a stall); qualifying show contestants must purchase a stall.** Grounds insurance policies forbid horses to be tied to trailers overnight. Stalling periods are shown on the entry form. Each District must stall in their assigned area, without exception.

Any willful damage done to a stall by a 4-H'er, parent, spectator, or participant can be cause for disqualification from the show, accompanied by a minimum fine of \$500 by the Taylor County Expo Center.

Get stall location information and your stall card at the entrance gate. Stalls are assigned by districts within district blocks posted. You must stall in your assigned stall. **1st Stalling Period Contestants must vacate stalls no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.** State Show Management will coordinate stalling assignments and transitions within districts. **2nd Stalling Period Contestants will move in Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.** Most of the stalls are bedded with sand, while others are set up on concrete. Shavings are available for purchase, or you may bring your own shavings. Contact grounds personnel in the Horse Barn Office under the announcer's stand. Please bring rakes and shovels. **Manure from all stalls must be cleaned before contestants leave.** During the show, please place manure in manure dumpsters or barrels. **Please do not wash horses in the aisles of the barns.** There are wash racks adjacent to stalling areas. Decorate stalls as you desire. Please take down decorations before leaving. For emergency purposes, write the location of where you are staying and an emergency phone number on your stall card.

REGISTRATION

The Horse Show Office is located in the Southwest end of the Coliseum. **Please check the Schedule of Events for REGISTRATION OPENINGS.** Contestants do not need to register before stalling. At registration, contestants will receive a packet containing: 1) official show program, 2) contestant numbers, and 3) other last minute information. **Contestants should check the Official Show Program at registration, to be sure they are listed in all classes they entered at District. A 4-H'er who is already entered in the State Show by the July 1 deadline may make a class change or may add a class at the State Show for a \$50.00 fee. These class changes or class additions should be handled in person at the show in the Horse Show Office. Bring current Coggins papers for horses entered, as this negative EIA documentation is required before packet pickup.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The State 4-H Horse Show schedule has a few changes from past years, so please look over it carefully.

Three arenas are being used. Class locations, arena practice times, and starting times have changed in some classes. **Please be familiar with the times, order, and location of activities.** No class will begin before the time listed on the schedule. The Show Management Team anticipates the show to run close to the printed schedule. Awards will be given at the conclusion of each class with champion awards given at the conclusion of appropriate divisions.

There will be schooling over fences, for contestants entered in the Working Hunter, Equitation Over Fences, Open Jumping, and Hunter Hack. This schooling opportunity will be held Wednesday morning, beginning at approximately 10:00 a.m. Exhibitors will receive an assigned schooling time when they register. The over fences classes will be conducted in the Covered Outdoor Arena (CODA).

CLASS INFORMATION - DESIGNATED AREAS

All State Show classes will be held in arenas either in the **Coliseum, Horse Barn, or the Covered Outdoor Arena (CODA).** Outside each arena, an area will be designated where the Horse Show Management Team will post class information. Class patterns and/or class mechanics will be posted in the designated areas at least one (1) hour prior to the classes' scheduled starting time. **IT IS THE EXHIBITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO BE KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THIS POSTED INFORMATION AND CLASS STARTING TIMES.** Sometimes classes move much quicker than anticipated. There is no guarantee that all announcements will reach every stalling or warm-up area.

RULE CHANGES

Please review all the rules carefully. All contestants are responsible for being knowledgeable regarding **Texas 4-H Horse Show Rules and Regulations.** Remember, **long sleeve shirts are REQUIRED in all western classes, as are western boots.** During all over fence classes and schooling over fence events it is **MANDATORY** that all riders wear properly fitted headgear with a fastened chin harness.

WORKING ORDERS

The working orders for performance classes are drawn randomly by computer and printed in the official show program. Events are scheduled in the most logical sequence considering contestants showing a horse in more than one event. **CONTESTANTS (AND CONTESTANTS' PARENTS) ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING TRACK OF WORKING ORDERS AND BEING IN LINE OR IN THE MAKEUP ARENA WHEN THEIR RUN OR HEAT TIME ARRIVES. CONTESTANTS WHO MISS THEIR HEAT OR RUN WILL FORFEIT THEIR RUN IN THE CLASS MISSED, UNLESS THEY NOTIFY THE CLASS SUPERINTENDENT OF AN UNPREVENTABLE EMERGENCY BEFORE THEIR TIME TO WORK HAS PASSED.** Show Management has attempted to catch all schedule conflicts that will impose a hardship, but it is difficult to foresee all scheduling problems. Contestants should carefully look at the show class order, and if a problem is anticipated with a contestant's showing schedule, contact show officials. If warranted, officials will make a working order change at the Horse Show Office. **REQUESTS FOR CHANGES NEED TO BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND USUALLY AT LEAST THREE (3) HOURS BEFORE THE CLASS.** If a class scratch is necessary, please let us know ASAP. Note: Sometimes classes move much quicker than anticipated. It is easy to miss announcements in the barns due to the noise, and **there is no guarantee that all announcements will reach every stalling area.**

PATTERNS AND COURSES

Showmanship, Horsemanship, Equitation, Versatility, Trail, 2-Year-Old Futurity, and 3-Year-Old Futurity - Patterns will be posted well in advance.

Western Riding, Working Cow Horse, and Reining - Patterns are printed in the Texas 4-H Horse Show Rule Book. Patterns will be announced and also posted for exhibitor review.

Hunter Hack, Working Hunter, Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences, and Open Jumping Courses. Courses will be posted well in advance of class.

SCORING SYSTEMS

Scored Classes - The 0-20 point scoring system will be used in Showmanship, Horsemanship, and Hunt Seat Equitation classes; 0-100 system in Western Riding, Reining, and Working Cow Horse, and the 60-80 point system will be used in Cutting. In all classes where 2 judges are used, scores will be added together. Where semi-finals and finals are held, scores will be cumulative, meaning that both judges' scores will be added and carried forward to the semi-finals, and also to the finals. (Example: Showmanship will consist of a prelims, semi-finals and finals. Those 4-H'ers who advance to the finals will have a total possible score of 120 points). Western Trail will be scored 0-infinity, with 70 denoting average. Scores are not cumulative in Western Trail; finals scores will determine final placings. Each obstacle in Stock Horse Trail and each gait in Stock Horse Pleasure will be scored 0-10.

Cutting - All riders will show in the first go. Finals will consist of the top 15 contestants plus ties; however, only those scoring above 121 or higher will advance to the finals, and awards will be based on cumulative scores.

Working Cow Horse – There will be a final go round in working cow horse. The finals will be held on a separate day from the prelims.

Stock Horse Pleasure – There will be a finals, which will be held on a separate day from the prelims.

Stock Horse Horsemanship – There will be a finals, which will be held on a separate day from the prelims.

Hunt Seat Versatility – will be scored like western trail. A prelims and finals will be held back-to-back.

Timed Events - Times will be carried forward to the semi-finals and/or finals.

Western Pleasure and Hunter Under Saddle - Where horses work in heats, any horse listed on either judge's card will advance to the semi-finals or finals. Finalists will be placed by each judge independently and points assigned to the placing (1st = 10 points, 2nd = 9 points 10th 1 pt.). Placing points will be added together over both judges to determine final placing.

Futurities - In halter and longe line, horses will be judged by more than one judge and will receive an overall placing. The 2-year-old futurity will consist of three (3) go-rounds, which include a pleasure pattern class, a versatility class, and a finals western pleasure class. In the 3-year-old futurity, there are three (3) go-rounds, which include a pleasure pattern class, reining, and trail. Overall futurity class placings will be determined by adding points together from all go-round placings.

Tie breaker judges will be designated before a class begins.

FUTURITY HORSE CHECK-IN

Yearlings - See check-in time. Horses will be toothed by veterinarian.

2-Year-Old Futurity - See schedule for check-in time. Horses will be toothed by a veterinarian. **Snaffle bits and bosals should be brought to the check-in to ensure all equipment is legal, prior to the actual class.**

3-Year-Old Futurity - See check-in time. **Snaffle bits and bosals should be brought to the check-in to ensure all equipment is legal, prior to the actual class.**

Pre-Class Re-check - Equipment will be checked again pre-class. Any intentional or unintentional evidence of abuse (raw noses, chins) will be noted and reported to the judge(s) of that go-round.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Monday night prior to the drill team competition a special recognition ceremony will be held.

FIRST, SECOND, THIRD PLACE, AND OVERALL CHAMPIONS PICTURES

Immediately after each class finals, and after High Points and Reserve High Points are awarded, pictures will be taken at the backdrop in the coliseum. Pictures are needed of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place class winners. News release information will be discussed when your picture is taken. First place and high point pictures are needed for the next year's show program. If class winners desire an action picture be shown in next year's official show program, indicate this (with a proof number) to the official show

photographer before leaving the State Show.

DRILL/PRECISION RIDING TEAMS PRACTICES

Times are blocked for individual teams to practice by themselves in the Coliseum as shown on the schedule. **The practice time for Mondays in the morning from 8:00 am to noon.** Practice times will be announced at the scheduled Drill/Precision Riding Leader's Meeting.

SPECIALIZED HELP

Photographer – Mr. Jay Hardy, will serve as the official show photographer. This professional photographer will be taking pictures of winners for next year's official show program and post show publicity. **If contestants would like a picture taken in a particular class or during a run, for purchase, please give the class, contestant number, and working order information to the photographer.** Photographers will process pictures so contestants can take their pictures home with them from the show. **If an exhibitor does not want their picture taken, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor or exhibitors parents/guardian to notify the photographer prior to their class(es).** (Note: Exhibitors and parents should refrain from taking personal pictures at the Hardy backdrop. It is their backdrop and does not belong to the State Show).

Veterinarian - Dr. Mike Martin and a crew of students from the TAMU Veterinary Medical Center - Large Animal Clinic are the official show veterinarians. The vet crew will be on site during the entire show to handle minor problems. Contact the show office or a Horse Show Management Team member who can radio directly to them. Phone numbers of several local veterinarians may be posted on arena bulletin boards at the Taylor County Exposition Center.

Farrier - Local farriers will be in and out daily at the grounds during the show. Phone numbers are usually posted in the show office.

SOUTHERN REGIONALS

Location: Perry, GA

Dates: August 2-5, 2017

If interested in attending, contact Jennifer Zoller at jennifer.zoller@tamu.edu.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

If you have any additional questions, please contact your local CEA, DEA, or the Horse Specialists' office at Jennifer.zoller@tamu.edu or chelsie.huseman@tamu.edu . See you in Abilene!

WEBSITE

State 4-H Horse Show information is posted on the website: <http://horse.tamu.edu>
(Click on the **State 4-H Horse Show** link.)