
**Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall and Putnam County 4-H
Revised 2020 Illinois County 4-H Horse Show Guidelines -
INFORMATION FOR EXHIBITORS & STAFF**



College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

Due to COVID-19, horse classes have been altered to accommodate our shows that have been moved to a virtual setting. No showmanship is being offered with the new format.

Classes being offered:

1. Mare Halter
2. Gelding Halter
3. Walk/Trot English*
4. Walk/Trot Western*
5. English Pleasure*
6. Western Pleasure*

*Members entering Walk/Trot cannot enter into Pleasure classes and vice versa. Members can only pick one.

Class Descriptions:

Halter: Horse is judged in hand based on conformation including balance, structural correctness, breed and sex characteristics.

Walk/Trot: Shown Western or English. Exhibitors are required to show their horse at a walk and trot/jog both directions along with reversing, backing, and standing quietly.

English Pleasure: Exhibitors are required to show at all gaits, both directions of the arena demonstrating free movement and maneuvers. May be asked to stand quietly and back easily.

Western Pleasure: Exhibitor is judged at all gaits on a loose rein or light contact without restraint, in both directions. May be asked for extension of gaits and to back.

1. Exhibitors must have a helmet on anytime they are mounted on the horse in the video.
2. Proper, appropriate attire (helmet, pants, boots with heel) is required in all class submission videos.
3. Target video length should be between 1 and 2 minutes where possible, and not to exceed 3 minutes. Videos should just be long enough to capture the necessities of the class which will vary between events and classes entered.
4. Use common sense for gauging proper distance when filming as different class nuances may require slightly adjusting distance, movement, and angle.
 - a) Videos should capture the horse and rider while still maintaining enough distance to see the patterns covered when appropriate – Think of the camera lens as the judge’s eyes.
 - b) Rail/pleasure classes should be filmed from the center of the arena
5. Remember 15 seconds is all that is needed on any look, angle, or view – More than that may not get viewed, and cause problems with increased uploading times.
 - a) Halter classes must show: side/profile view of non-mane side, front view, rear view, side view of walk, trot
 - b) Rail/pleasure classes are an exception to above and should be viewed as follows: tracking in the arena right shoulder on rail, walk (10 seconds), trot/jog (30 seconds), canter/lope (30 seconds), return to walk and reverse direction on rail, walk (5 seconds), canter/lope (30 seconds), trot/jog (30 seconds), stop, back 5 steps.
6. Audio is required on videos of mounted classes for judges viewing and placement.
7. All exhibitors must have completed the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification and are expected to be familiar with and abide by both the principles of that certification and the Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act.
8. A horse being shown in the county 4-H horse show must be owned by or leased to the exhibitor who is showing it for the length of the project and a signed agreement should be on file with local 4-H extension office by June 1, 2020, or whatever deadline the county has established.
9. All participants should use appropriate show equipment/tack as outlined by the local show committee rules.
10. Judges’ and local show committee/4-H Extension decisions are final.
11. Non-recommended classes are classified as such because of the amount of detail, precision, and number of things happening, that both need evaluated and would be very difficult to capture on film in a manner that a judge would feel comfortable placing.
12. **FYI** - In addition to these classes, if you are enrolled in the horse project, educational horse topics of any kind may still be entered under animal science as a static poster display using the 3 photo or Power Point format.

Connectivity:

Higher-speed internet access may be helpful to upload videos in certain parts of Illinois. If you have bad connectivity or slow internet at home, please visit

<https://illinois.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=23e8046edd2940bc8ad3ad1725e47cd0> to see if there is a free drive-up WIFI hotspot near you. I strongly encourage you to do some testing of drive-up WIFI performances in advance.

State Fair Entry Office Address:

**Illinois State Fair
Competitive Events
P.O. Box 19427
Springfield IL 62794-9427
PH: 217-782-0786**