



4-H Hoofbeats



Hocking County / 4-H Youth Development

December 2023

Dear 4-H Horse Members/Families/Volunteers,

Congratulations on a great 4-H year! You should be proud of your achievements this year.

4-H Horse Sub-Committee

Thank you to the following volunteers for giving their time and energy to serve on the 2023 Hocking County 4-H Horse Sub-Committee.

Evie Bennett	Kara Hicks	Shellee Robers	Chrissy Robers
Jarrold Dicken	Kayle Bond	Alasyn Smith	Sydney Ogle
Trish Edwards	Becky Keyes	Raven Rau	Brenna Schluep

2024 Hocking County 4-H Horse Sub-Committee Members

Evie Bennett	Trish Edwards	Shellee Robers	<u>Youth</u>	
Cynthia Ogg	Becky Keyes	Raven Rau	Eden Bennett	Abi Smith
Anna Keyes	Christina Bond	Alasyn Smith	Carmen Robers	

When you see these individuals, please thank them. The Hocking County 4-H Horse Program would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers. If you are interested in running for the committee, please contact our office. The committee is comprised of nine adult volunteers and four older 4-H youth.

The committee's job is to provide advice and lead 4-H horse activities. It is important for ALL horse families to support the committee and the program. Offering help with fundraisers, filling work positions at shows, and serving on the Hocking County 4-H Horse Sub-Committee are only a few ways to show your support. They have some great educational clinics planned for 2024 – keep check for updates.

Congratulations to Abigail Smith; our 2024 4-H Horse Queen! Abi is a 9-year member of the Hocking county 4-H Horse Program. She is an 8-year member of the Hocking County Horse team and has represented Ohio at national competition 2022-23. Abi is a member of the Cedar Falls 4-H Club. She is a graduating senior and college freshman at Liberty university. She is looking forward to a great year representing as our Hocking County Horse Queen.

The Horse Royalty Court for 2024: Princess – Ember Bennett and Prince – Gunnar Rau

2024 Activity Fee

The horse program activity fee for 2024 will be \$25 per member. This is in addition to the \$6 county fee. The activity fees help fund the Hocking County 4-H Horse Program, including judges' fees, awards, etc.

4-H Horse Team

Any member enrolled in a horse project (including Horseless Horse) in 2024 may submit a completed team member agreement to become a member of the Hocking County 4-H Horse Team. Youth are divided into Junior and Senior Teams based on age. Teams compete at state events, with the opportunity to compete regionally and nationally depending on team performance.

Please read the enclosed information regarding 4-H Horse Team requirements and expectations. It is important to understand the commitment that is required to be a 4-H Horse Team member.

Agreements can also be found at hocking.osu.edu. Returning and NEW horse team members must submit a completed 4-H Horse Team Agreement by March 8, 2024, by 1PM to the Extension Office.

For more information contact Mandy Thompson (740-503-8379) or Jessica Klingelhafer (740-216-0409).

4-H Horse Volunteer Opportunity

State 4-H Horse Advisor/Volunteer Training will be offered Saturday, January 27, at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center in Columbus, Ohio. Registration will be available soon at: ohio4h.org/events/state-4-h-horse-advisorvolunteer-training

Important Reminders for 2024

- ALL members enrolled in a horse project (excluding Horseless Horse) must complete the online EquiSTEP Program. This program replaces the Safety & Ethics Training and is an annual requirement.
 - Members may complete the course from **January 1 through May 1, 2024**
 - Members must have their own individual email. Emails cannot be shared in the EquiSTEP system. A copy of the member's Certificate of Completion must be submitted to the Extension Office no later than 4pm, May 3, 2024. **Note: course must be completed no later than May 1*
 - Link will be available at horse.osu.edu
 - Enroll to complete the online course at
 - Members must ID their equine in 4-Honline.
 - Add your animal to your 4HOnline account as part of your 2024 enrollment.
 - 2024 Member enrollment must be submitted before you are able to add your animal(s).
 - 4-HOnline will be open for 2024 enrollment **January 3 thru March 29**.
(Enrollment instructions are included in the Clovergram Newsletter, December 2023 edition)
 - See enclosed instructions for adding animals to your 4-HOnline profile.

New for 2024

- ☐ Change in the Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows Book. Be sure to order a new edition.
- ☐ Rules updates and changes Clinic **March 11, 2024**, lead by Mandy Thompson and Kayla Nihiser.
- ☐ Horse paperwork night – **April 29, 2024** - to get assistance for completing required horse paperwork
 - ✓ Horse Paper must be submitted to the office by **May 3, 2024**

Please share the information in this newsletter to any members you know that are planning to take a horse project for the first time in 2024. This includes the Horseless Horse project. This newsletter is only being sent to 2023 horse project families and volunteers.

Please feel free to contact Kayla Nihiser, 4-H Educator, with any questions or concerns at 740.385.3222 or thompson.1860@osu.edu.

Wishing you a safe and joyous holiday season!

Kayla Nihiser

Kayla Nihiser

Educator,
4-H Youth Development

Enclosures:

- Hocking Co 4-H Horse Team Information Sheet
- Hocking Co 4-H Horse Team Member Agreement
- Adding Equine to Your 4HOnline Account

Hocking County 4-H Horse Show dates:

- PAS – June 8
- Point Shows – June 29 & August 17 (Rain Date September 28th)
(Horse show participation is NOT a requirement to complete your project)

2024 State 4-H Horse calendar:

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| • January 27 | 4-H Advisor & Volunteer Training @ Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center; Columbus |
| • March 2 | Hippology, Horse Bowl & Horse Judging Clinic; Communications Contest; Year-End Award Recognition; State Poster Contest |
| • April 6 | Horse Bowl & Hippology Contest |
| • July 15-19 | Ohio State Fair Junior Horse Show |
| • August 24 | Groom & Clean Contest |
| • September 6-7 | Competitive Trail Ride |

To stay up to date on the statewide 4-H horse information and events, visit: ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/horse/.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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