

2018 Van Buren Youth Fair Horse and Pony Rules

- **Important Information**

- Horse registration forms must be received by the Extension Office by May 1st. All equine class forms, stall fees, jumping consent forms, and fair premium forms with your equine showmanship class must be received at the Extension Office and/or the Fair Office by June 15th.
- Each exhibitor may register up to 2 in-hand equine that are 38” or under and one riding horse/pony.
- One approved educational class per species is required to be eligible to show at fair.
- The Fair Book Rules, VBYF Horse and Pony Rules, and MSU 4-H Horse and Pony Project Show Rules and Regulations www.msue.msu.edu/programs/horses_ponies) will be the rules followed for the fair. These rules supersede all previous rules. VBYF rules revised for 2018.
- An approved ASTM/SEI helmet must be worn by: 1) mounted Lead Line, Pee Wee, and Novice exhibitors, 2) exhibitors in Hunt Seat/Jumping disciplines, 3) exhibitors in Gymkhana disciplines. The mandatory helmet(s) check will be on Sunday afternoon following the mandatory meeting; an inspection ID will be affixed to the helmet. All helmets worn at fair must have the inspection ID attached. Helmets that have been stressed should be replaced. It is ultimately the parent/guardian/exhibitor’s sole responsibility (not the show officials or judge) to ensure compliance with this rule.
- All exhibit horses/ponies, shall be entered and stabled on Sunday, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. and remain on exhibit until the following Sunday at 6:00 A.M. If any equine exhibit leaves the fairgrounds before the official release time without Fair Board approval, the earned equine premium money, all trophies, and/or state show privileges may be denied the exhibitor.
- The Mandatory Meeting will be held Sunday at 5:00 P.M. On the Saturday of Fair Week at 4:00 P.M. the Awards Meeting will be held. Senior Rides will be just before the Awards Meeting unless otherwise requested.
- Any youth not affiliated with an organized 4-H club or FFA chapter by April 1 of this year or any youth 6-8 years of age will be considered an Open exhibitor. These exhibitors are not eligible for State Show or High Point 4-H trophies; they are eligible for the Special Memorial Awards.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct, unfavorable attitude and other objectionable behavior of exhibitors may result in the loss of: all points, State Show selection, class trophies, and/or media attention. The judge and/or horse show superintendent will have the option to have the exhibitor removed for the day. Available Executive Members of the

Horse Committee , Fair Board Representatives, and Directors of Fair Board will meet to decide if the exhibitor should be removed for the rest of the fair week. The exhibitor has the option to attend this meeting. Time and place of meeting will be announced.

- Cruelty to any equine, including the use of illegal tack, by an exhibitor will be handled as stated in rule 8 for unsportsmanlike conduct. Cruelty to any equine inflicted by any other individual should be addressed to the Barn Superintendent or Horse Representative of the Fair Board. This may result in this individual's removal from the Horse Complex.
 - The Code of Conduct from the Fair Board will be enforced.
 - Do not damage or deface any structures or plantings on the fairgrounds.
 - All commercial and personal advertising will be placed in the designated area with the approval of a barn superintendent.
 - Appropriate clothing will be worn by exhibitors while at the horse complex. No strapless tops or skin exposure from chest to mid-thigh for males and females.
 - All horse and pony exhibitors are required to attend the working set-up meeting during the week prior to fair.
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- **Van Buren Youth Fair Board and Horse Committee**
 - The Van Buren Youth Fair Board meetings are the first Monday of every month. Call the Van Buren Youth Fair Office (226-621-2038) or the 4-H extension office for the location and the time (269-657-8213).
 - The Fair Board meetings are the first Monday of every month. Call the extension office for the location and the time. (269) 657-8213.
 - No rule changes will be made during fair week. Complaints and/or suggestions for changes are to be submitted in writing and brought to Van Buren Youth Fair Board for review. Recommendations for rule changes will be submitted to the Fair Board by December 1st for approval in order for the change to be effective at the next fair.
 - All bills for horse related activities or expenses will be submitted for Fair Board approval. It is also recommended that alternative funding should be sought before submission.
 - Horse Committee meetings are the second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. of every month starting April 12, 2018. Usually there are no meetings in December and January. Any meetings falling on a school holiday may be moved to another date. Look on Facebook or call the extension office for the location and the time. (269) 657-8213.
 - At the April Horse Committee meeting, each club representative will get a copy of the general rules, fair horse registration form and copies of the State Show paperwork.

Sanitation

- The Michigan Department of Agriculture Health and Sanitation requirements must be met by all horse/pony exhibitors. Please refer to the Health Regulations located in the back of the current year's Fair Book.
 - Wheelbarrows should not be left (empty or full) by the spreaders or between the barns. Let's not make unsightly obstacles. Manure must be cleaned up around the spreaders at all times. Please: No twine in the spreaders—Thank you!
 - Each exhibitor is responsible for cleaning up any manure deposit left by his/her animal. This rule applies to all areas of the horse complex including the wash rack area and the areas around the barns.
Remove manure from wash pad before hosing it off.
 - Exhibitors must help clean barns during fair week.
 - All exhibitors are encouraged to attend the cleanup at the fairgrounds the Tuesday after fair at 6:00 P.M.
- **Barns**
 - In the horse complex, exhibitors riding or handling their horse, including when they are in the stalls, must be wearing boots.
 - No horse/pony, tack, or feed is allowed in the aisle-way of the barns. The aisle ways must be passable at all times for safety purposes. Any obstacles, such as chairs, should be placed on the same side of the aisle.
 - Equine are to be led and walked at all times near the barns.
 - No horses are allowed in the middle barn where the stalls have been removed.
 - The wash rack and the horse trailers are the only places that an exhibitor may tie their horse or pony.
 - No nails or screws allowed into the supporting wood (6" X 6" of the barn.)
 - A bulletin board (suggested 2' X 3') should be furnished by each 4-H club to be used in the horse barns during fair week.
 - Water barrels (painted red) are located at each horse shelter and are to be used for fire safety purposes only. 4-H leaders are requested to check them periodically during the week to make certain they are full of water and free from debris.
 - **Horses/Ponies**
 - An exhibitor with a mare and foal must choose which he/she will show. A stallion may be exhibited only during the year in which he is foaled. As a safety factor, proof of gelding may be requested by the superintendent.

- All horse/ponies exhibited at the fair must have an original EIA test (Coggins test) with negative results which is valid thru fair week.
- A limit of two exhibitors sharing a horse is permitted, as long as it does not conflict with classes. Both exhibitors may enter individually run classes, common courtesy would suggest that the exhibitors request changes in the order of go if a tack change is required.
- Exhibitors of equine creating a biting or kicking problem may be asked to voluntarily take their animal home. Premiums earned will be paid. Fair Board decision will be final.
- For any animal that measures 56", the exhibitor will have the choice to show as a pony or horse but will be required to remain in that classification as long as they are shown by that exhibitor. A ½" allowance will be made for animals with shoes. All ponies and miniature horses must be measured each year until age 6. New horses and ponies over 6 will be measured their first year and the record will be kept. Measurements will be done at check-in.
- A veterinarian's certificate may be required for a health related change of a horse/pony. A leader and/or exhibitor may request a change for safety reasons to the Fair Board. Exhibitors will not receive points or be eligible for sweepstakes with their replacement horse.
- No horses are allowed between the arenas.
- A 3" x 5" index card with exhibitor/parent/owner phone numbers, preferred veterinarian number, medications and supplements, and any other pertinent information will be collected at check-in. This information will be available on site in the case of emergency.
- **Exercising**
 - No practicing gymkhana during regular exercise hours. Barn superintendents will announce a special time to practice gymkhana.
 - When mounted, exhibitor must remain straddling the horse and facing forward.
 - Exercise time will be from 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. daily as space allows. No horses out of the barns after 10:00 P.M. Pee Wees, Novice, In-Hand, and HRH exhibitors, with permission, may use the North arena for exercise providing they have adult supervision. Please avoid riding on the grass.
 - Lunging may only be done between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M. in the designated areas. Under normal circumstances only the exhibitor may lunge his/her own animal. Pee Wees must be supervised.

- No riding double or bareback.
- No one other than the exhibitor may ride their horse/pony during fair week; the exceptions to this rule would be a Posse horse (Horse Committee shall be notified at or by the May Horse Committee meeting) and groom's class at the fun show.
- **Divisions for Registration**
 - **Classes**
 - General
 - Class corrections shall be made by Monday of fair week by noon. Classes cannot be added.
 - Classes of over 18 participants will be split at fair for safety.
 - All championship classes are optional. Peewee, HRH, and Novice may not go in any championship classes.
 - Classes that do not receive any points are Lead Line, Novice, HRH, and Versatility.
 - A lead line is required in Lead Line classes. Lead Line Exhibitors are not eligible for championship classes
 - Exhibitors are eligible to show as a Novice only if this is their first year at a youth fair in the State of Michigan, even if they switch horses/ponies. Novice exhibitors: 1) may ride either English or Western, 2) will not receive any points, 3) may not enter any championship classes, 4) may show in Novice, trail, gymkhana, and versatility classes, and 5) must wear helmets.
 - HRH competitors may only enter HRH classes and are restricted to walk/trot.
 - Pee Wee competitors may only enter Pee Wee classes and are restricted to walk/trot, with the exception that 9 year old Pee Wees may enter gymkhana and lope/canter/gallop in that class.
 - Versatility

Versatility will consist of one showmanship class, one English class, one Western class, and one Gymkhana class. Each class will carry equal weight in determining the overall placements with the Gymkhana placing used in the event of a tie. The judge will place each class and the show superintendent or their appointee will then determine overall placement using the point system.
 - Performance

Our performance classes are designed for horses or ponies that may not have the skills or training to compete in the regular classes, or for the exhibitor who wishes to compete for the high-point Gymkhana Trophy. These exhibitors must enter Performance Showmanship, Performance Western Horsemanship, and Performance Western

Pleasure along with at least four of these six classes: reining pattern, western riding, and a minimum of 3 of the 4 gymkhana classes. Only the previous 9 classes will count toward the Gymkhana Trophy. They may enter other classes and accrue points toward the High Point Overall Trophy or the Afton Newton Trophy but are not eligible for any other High Point Trophies.

- **Jumping**

A parent and leader must sign the jumping release form. This form states that this horse and exhibitor have either been seen jumping safely by the leader or had previous schooling in jumping. Exhibitors with an approved horse change may still enter jumping classes with the approved paperwork. After 2 years with the same horse exhibitors cannot do green as grass. All exhibitors must be 13 to 19 years old. This rule does not apply to In-Hand Jumping.

- **Gymkhana**

Gymkhana classes start with a mandatory inspection. (We will also inspect helmets prior to gymkhana on Friday, should there be a need.) All exhibitors and their horse/pony should be in the make-up area for the inspection following Trail Class. Appointments shall not be changed after the inspection is complete. Exhibitors must be at least 9 years old to enter gymkhana. Any and All questions will be addressed with the Judge thru through the show committee. The Judge's decision is final. The order of go will be announced. All exhibitors will be 9 to 19 years old.

- **Dressage**

Exhibitors may choose their entry level, but may not begin in Level 1 Test 2. You must progress to the next level after receiving a score of 60% or higher if still riding the same horse. With a score of 50-59% you may choose to stay or move up a level. You must ride in hunt seat or dressage appointments. See Horse and Pony guidelines for full appointments. Exhibitors should check with their leader to determine their level before signing up on June 15th.

- **In hand**

The equine must be 38" or under. In-hand classes are shown in a halter and lead. Classes offered will be Showmanship, Trail, Jumping, and Barrels and Poles in Gymkhana. Baiting to encourage an animal to perform one of the obstacles is not allowed. Any baiting is a disqualification. If the exhibitor brings 2 In-Hand equine, they will choose which one to enter in Showmanship. They may enter one or both in the other classes.

- **Fun Show**

This show is run by the teens on Saturday. An announcement will be made.

- **Point System**

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<u>PLACE</u>	<u>POINTS BY NUMBER (#) IN CLASS:</u>									
	#:10+	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
1ST	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
2ND	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
3RD	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
4TH	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
5TH	6	5	4	3	2	1				
6TH	5	4	3	2	1					
7TH	4	3	2	1						
8TH	3	2	1							
9TH	2	1								
10TH	1									

(For example: If a class has 10 or more exhibitors first place would get 10 points, second would get 9, sixth would get 5. If a class has 8 exhibitors first place would get 8 points, second – 7 points, and sixth – 3 points. If a class has 3 exhibitors first place would get 3 points and third – 1 point.)

- Showmanship and Versatility place 10, Grand Champions place 2, and other classes place 6.
- Special Circumstances concerning an exhibitor changing horses during fair week will result in the exhibitor going into remaining classes as exhibition only. Back number will be worn upside down. No points received.
- **Shows**
 - Judges may not judge more than two years in a row regardless of the day.
 - Adults are to lead in Lead Line Class.
 - All horse shows will run rain or shine. In the event of lighting or thunder, there will be a delay of 30 minutes after the last observance of either.
 - It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to be at his/her classes on time. Once the gate is closed he/she may not be able to enter the class.
 - Order of go for the pattern classes will be announced.

- The Riding Pattern is the same every year and Reining Pattern is #1 in odd years, #2 in even years. They and the gymkhana patterns are in the current 4-H Horse and Pony Project Show Rules and Regulations book.
- **Trophies/Awards**
 - General
 - As a courtesy, any individual receiving a trophy will be asked to fill out a thank you note upon receiving their trophy. Thank you notes and stamps will be available at the show booth (except during a show) and the awards meeting.
 - All Revolving Trophies must be returned to the MAY Horse Committee meeting!!!!
 - 4-H High Point Trophies
 - All championships are included.
 - To be eligible to compete for 4-H high point trophies, an exhibitor must belong to a 4-H club and be showing as a 4-H member at the fair.
 - In the case of a tie the highest points in this order will be used to break the tie: 1) Showmanship 2) Horsemanship/Equitation 3) Pleasure 4) Showmanship Championship
 - **4-H High Point Revolving All Around Horse Trophy:** The total points that the exhibitor earns will count toward this trophy. Trail class points will be added to the Exhibitors total score, not as either English or Western. Excludes Pee Wee, HRH, and Novice Divisions.
 - **4-H High Point Revolving Gymkhana Trophy:** All Points must be earned in performance classes, western riding, reining, and gymkhana. The exhibitor must be in the Performance Division and have met the minimum requirements of showing in the 3 Performance classes, and at least four of the following: Western riding, reining, and at least 3 of 4 gymkhana classes. Performance exhibitors will be eligible for the All Around Revolving High Point Trophy and Performance ponies will be eligible for the Afton Newton Trophy. Performance exhibitors will not be eligible for any of the other high point trophies.
 - **4-H High Point Revolving English Horse Trophy:** All points are from English showmanship, English day classes, and English Riding Pattern. No gymkhana or trail points will apply.
 - **4-H High Point Revolving Western Horse Trophy:** All points are from Western showmanship, Western day classes, and reining. No gymkhana or trail points will apply.

- **4-H High Point Revolving English Pony Trophy:** All points come from English showmanship, English day classes, and English Riding Pattern. No gymkhana or trail points will apply.
- **In-Hand Trophy**
This trophy is available to both 4-H and Open Exhibitors. All points come from in-hand classes. The minimum requirements are a showmanship class plus either in-hand trail or in-hand jumping. The overall points will be calculated by all points earned by the qualifying mini.
- **Memorial High Point Trophies**
 - These trophies are available to both 4-H and Open exhibitors.
 - **Abbey Baker Memorial Revolving High Point Western Pony Trophy:** All points come from Western showmanship, Western day classes, and reining. No gymkhana or trail points will apply.
 - **Stephanie Tucker Memorial Revolving Pee Wee Trophy:** This trophy is the only revolving trophy that PeeWees are entitled to earn. Points are determined by Showmanship, highest points in Horsemanship or Equitation and highest points in Western or English Pleasure. Tie to be decided with Showmanship class, then the Horsemanship/Equitation, then Pleasure.
 - **Afton Newton Memorial All Round Pony Revolving Trophy** The total points that the exhibitor earned while showing a pony will count toward this trophy except jumping points.
- **Jessica Branch Memorial Sportsmanship Award**
Each 4-H club nominates one candidate and submits the name to the show superintendent by Friday at noon. All nominated candidates will receive a rosette
- **Sweepstakes**
The Junior and Senior Grand Champion Showmen will be eligible to compete in the Large Animal Sweepstakes. Information is in the Fair Book and the exhibitors will be given more information from the Show Superintendent. If you would like to offer your horse for use during the sweepstakes please contact the show superintendent by Thursday at noon. You would then be required to prepare your horse and to work with the sweepstakes contestants.