

2020 Miniature Horse and Small Equine Fact Sheet

Ohio State University Extension
Erie County 4-H
2900 Columbus Ave, Sandusky, OH 44870
419-627-7631 or 1-888-399-6065

Project Number

1897 – Miniature Horse

Required Books

#897 Miniature Horse Owner Manual & #190R Equine Record Book

** Book #897 is a Miniature Horse Resource Manual and it only needs to be ordered once and can be used for several years. This book can be shared among household members.

Important Dates:

May 15th: Project Information with photo, certified immunization record, liability release and lease agreement due to Extension Office

Skill-A-Thon July 23th: Book check and skill-a-thon from 5-8 p.m. at *EHOVE in the Science & Technology Center*

Tuesday, August 11th: Barn Judging on Tack & Horse Cleanliness at 10:00 a.m.

Extension Educator Responsible: Angela Holmes

Miniature Horse Key Leader: Jessica David

****Changes for 2020 are in Italics and red****

Mandatory Helmet Rule applies to driving, please see “Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows”

“Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows” serve as the rules and guidelines along with the following:

Miniature Horse – Entry Rules

1. Exhibitors may take two horses and one mare and foal horse project. To enter mare and foal, the exhibitor must be 4-H age 13 years or older. Exceptions to the age rule may be approved at the county level only.
2. Exhibitors may have only one entry per class.
3. All equine must be handled and shown by the same exhibitor, unless it is a shared horse.
4. An exhibitor may obtain help from another exhibitor when showing in the Mare and Foal class. (Helper to hold the mare and foal while the project exhibitor is showing the individual horse.)
5. No equine over 45 inches is permitted to exhibit in any miniature horse or small equine class.
6. A header (assistant who is 18 years of age or older) will be allowed in all cart classes.
7. All miniature horses and small equine entries are non-riding animals and must be exhibited as such for the duration of the fair. These entries cannot be ridden for fun shows.

ARTICLE I – General & Class Rules

1. 4-H members are encouraged to do their own project work. Members should take total responsibility for the care of their project. Parents need to play a supportive role during the fair, ready to insure the safety of the 4-H member. We recommend parents do not do the daily grooming of the horse.
2. As stewards of horses, be mindful that horses with a body condition score of less than 4, when using a scale of 1-9, obviously sick horses, or lameness may be excused from showing by show management, fair vet, or fair judge.



3. Members must have their project animal(s) pictures (including both the horse and member, full body view of horse), member medical form, liability release, safety program form, lease agreement form, and horse certified immunization record or extension for immunization record form submitted **by May 15** to the OSU Extension Office. Any paperwork turned in after the May 15 deadline will be assessed a \$10 per week, per form late fee. No forms will be accepted after June 1 and will result in a forfeit of brining the horse/pony to fair.
4. Hardships are granted on a case-by-case basis. Hardships can be granted for medical and safety reasons. Medical reasons must be presented with a written veterinarian excuse. Hardships must be submitted on the Hardship Request Form. This form is posted on the Erie County Extension website at <https://erie.osu.edu>
5. **Immunizations required for fair: Eastern & Western Equine Encephalitis, Tetanus, Equine Influenza, and Rhinopneumonitis (must include both EHV-1 and EUV-4).** Highly recommended, but not required: Strangles and West Nile Virus. Acceptable forms of verification are a Health Certificate, Vaccination Certificate, or Vaccination Receipt from the administering veterinarian. Documentation must contain the names of horses being vaccinated, vaccines administered, and the date of vaccination. **All required vaccinations must be given after 1/1 and before 5/15 and must be administered by a veterinarian.** *If attending the Ohio State Fair for the 2020 show season, it is required to have a Negative Coggins test result for your mini. (To be completed after January 1, 2020)*
6. An animal carried as a project can be shown by two 4-H members for grade and championship classes. Only when both members are in the same club and one of the members has only one horse project. Remember only one horse with one exhibitor per class.
7. Classes requiring course work will have patterns posted as soon as provided by the judge.
8. Any improper entry of a horse shall be eliminated, without waiting for protest.
9. Classes may be added to accommodate exhibitors with special needs. These classes could include a halter and a showmanship class. Such classes would allow the exhibitor the opportunity to have an aide or assistant in the show ring.
10. Chain for in hand classes is optional, with the exception of jumping, where it is prohibited.
11. Tack for mini & small equine jumping must be a halter with a lead that is 12-25 feet. No chains or bridles are allowed. Exhibitors may show in Western or English showmanship attire.
12. Throat latches are not required on Arabian style halters.
13. In classes with canter optional, a higher scored may be awarded to those who canter. In longe line class, exhibitors should demonstrate 3 gaits. Acceptable gait combinations are walk/trot/canter or walk/park gate/road gate.
14. Project year ends after the fair.

ARTICLE II – Erie County Fair Rules and Regulations

1. Miniature horses and small equine must be checked in by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, unless Extension Educator or Horse Program Secretary gives written approval. They will be released Sunday at 7:00 p.m.
2. All Miniature Horse/Small Equine entries will be measured for official height on Monday at 4:30 p.m. Please be present with your Miniature Horse/Small Equine.
3. All livestock trailers must be removed from the fairgrounds after the animals are unloaded. No trailers are to be left in the fairground's parking lot per Sr. Fair Board.
4. Stall cards will be provided; each club is responsible for printing and putting them up.
5. All horses must use sawdust/shavings for bedding; straw is prohibited. Each club is responsible for securing their own bedding.

6. No appliances will be permitted in the horse barns (i.e. microwaves, fridges)
7. **If you alter a stall, it must be restored at the end of fair. All boards must be replaced and all staples must be removed before leaving.**
8. No blocking of aisle ways.
9. No roughhousing in or around the barns, and in the arena area when horses are present. No climbing on horse or beams while in the barn. Excessive loud music will not be tolerated.
10. **Driving will be in designated areas only. Horses will be LED in hand with lead rope or reins, at a walk, to and from the barns and round pens.**
11. **No horses in front of the barns or on blacktop. The area immediately in front of the horse barns may be crossed while leading the horses to the work area. Please keep the blacktop and wash rack area clean. Clean up after the horses!!**
12. All exhibitors must be off the fairgrounds or at their campsites by midnight.
13. 4-Her's are encouraged to use the buddy system on the fairgrounds.
14. All persons (member, parent, advisor) should refrain from using vulgar language, unsportsmanlike conduct, or exhibiting personal harassment of another person or animal. Issues of this nature concerning 4-H members and/or 4-H volunteers should be brought to the attention of OSU Extension personnel.
15. If any horse is removed from fair without written approval from the fair board, veterinarian, and advisor, that member will not be allowed to compete in any junior fair horse competition the following year.
16. Members **MUST** wear boots or the approved footwear when working with and caring for horses. Helmets are required when driving a horse.
17. Grievances will be handled according to the Junior Fair Rules as posted on the Erie Co. Fair website.

ARTICLE III – Judging

1. All 4-H members shall be assigned a back number the first day of fair; it is to be worn for grading, Championship classes and fun shows.
2. All miniature horses and small equine will be measured Monday at 4:30 p.m. for official fair height.
3. Members must be judged in all classes pertaining to their project to receive a grading. Each member/horse team must average a Superior or Outstanding per horse to be eligible for championship classes. The grading system is as follows: Superior = 4 points, Outstanding = 3 points, Good = 2 points, and Fair = 1 point. Decimals will be rounded to the nearest whole number. For example, 2.25 = 2 and 2.5 = 3.
4. If a member cannot attend the book and skill-a-thon judging, they must schedule a make-up judging with the extension office.
5. While participating in all judgments, including skill-a-thon (10 point deduction for improper attire), members should be dressed in a collared long sleeve shirt, jeans, belt, hat, gloves, and boots. Hat, gloves, and ties are optional for skill-a-thon judging. Members are required to complete book activities and submit up-to-date records for each horse. Record Books must be completed in order for exhibitors to show at fair! Failure to do so will result in exhibitor and horse being ineligible for fair. Record books will be checked during the skill-a-thon. Members can keep records for up to two horses in one Equine Record Book #190R.
6. Wearing spurs during any Miniature Horse/Small Equine class is prohibited. Additionally, bare shoulders are prohibited in driving classes.
7. For showmanship classes, the exhibitor should use a 2-point position.
8. Driving class may be divided if eight or more exhibitors are entered. Classes may also be run together if entries are low.
9. For driving classes, reverse will be on the diagonal.
10. Driving class terms will be walk, park gait (slow trot), and road gait (extended trot).



11. Age divisions are:
 - Junior Division: 8-13 years of age as of January 1
 - Senior Division: 14-18 years of age as of January 1
12. Driving horse must be at least 3 years old.
13. For driving be sure to check uniform rules (copyright 2018) page 83 rule 1 that refers to cavessons.
14. For all classes, only one entry per class is allowed.
15. Exhibitors showing in a jumping class cannot jump the course with the horse.
16. Jumping class will be judged on the accumulated faults only, unless there is a tie for first, in which case there will be a jump off.
17. The minimum age for a horse to enter the jumping class is 3 years old.