



Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club

www.loupvalleyhorseconference.org

2018 4-H Horse Show Rules

Please Note: This set of rules supplements “Nebraska 4-H Horse Show Judging Guide (4-H373).

- **ELIGIBILITY**—In order to show in the Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club Horse shows, each contestant must have completed the following prior to showing:
 - a. enrolled as a 4-H member in his or her respective Nebraska county by the county 4-H enrollment deadline,
 - b. be a member in good standing enrolled in the Nebraska 4-H Light Horse Project
 - c. pay a yearly \$15 membership fee to the Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club
 - d. signed an Entry & Liability waiver form.
- **IDENTIFICATION**—Conference 4-H members may identify any number of horses for conference competition. The Nebraska identification deadline and requirements will be followed. Horse ID’s must be presented at the first show attended and will allow participation at any Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club Show.
- **ENTRIES**—No pre-registration will be required to participate in the Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club shows. Liability waiver form, office fee and LVC membership dues may be paid/completed at the first show attended. Each 4-Her who has met identification and eligibility requirements may participate by reporting to the gate when a class is called and presenting the gate person with a class ticket. **Cost of tickets is \$3.00 each** and they may be purchased at the shows. Tickets can be used at any conference show for **that year only**. No refunds will be made on unused tickets. Exhibitors may only enter one horse per class.
- **RETURN CHECK POLICY**—Returned checks will be charge an additional \$15.00 + the amount of the check. Cash entries thereafter will only be accepted from guilty parties.
- **LIABILITY WAIVER**—Liability waiver on the show entry form must be signed by both the member and a parent, and relieves the management of the show of any liability in case of accident to the 4-H member and or his/her horse. This form must be turned in with paid yearly membership to ensure the receipt of assigned numbers.
- **CLASSES**—Classes will be divided according to age of 4-H members and/or size of horse in the following divisions:

Senior member	15 years old and not turned 19 as of Jan. 1, current year
Intermediate member	12—14 years of age as of Jan. 1, current year
Junior member	8 – 11 years old as of Jan. 1, current year

CLASSES cont.

Open Walk-Trot class entries will **NOT** be allowed to enter Reining, Western Riding, Ranch Horse Pleasure, Barrels or Poles. A rider may enter Walk-Trot classes for a maximum of two years. Participants in Open Walk-Trot classes will be eligible for class prizes but will not receive class points for the overall awards presented at the end of the year. If individuals enter a walk-trot class then they can NOT enter any pleasure, horsemanship or trail classes.

Halter classes will be held at ALL shows.

Showmanship will be held at ALL shows.

Contestant order of show in reining, barrels, poles, trail and western riding should be randomized.

EVENTS: The order of events may vary.

ENGLISH PLEASURE

ENGLISH EQUITATION

HALTER CLASSES:

In case of five or fewer entries in a halter class division, ribbons shall be awarded at the discretion of the judge. Each class shall have all member age groups together.

- Yearlings and 2 – 3 year-olds may be combined if numbers are small.
- Pony Halter – either sex, 14.2 hands or under
- Yearling Fillies—one division
- Yearling Geldings—one division
- 2 & 3 Year Old Fillies—one division
- 2 & 3 Year Old Geldings—one division
- Aged Mares—one division
- Aged Geldings—one division

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES: Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions

PERFORMANCE CLASSES:

Participant show order will be Seniors, Intermediates, and Juniors.

- **3 YEAR OLD and UNDER SNAFFLE BIT**(horse may not be used in any other Pleasure class), no minimum # of participants.
- **WESTERN PLEASURE** (Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions)

- **OPEN WALK-TROT PLEASURE**—A member who is entered in Walk-Trot may ride a horse owned by a family member entered in a pleasure class only in the Walk-Trot class. A member may NOT enter Reining, Western Riding, Ranch Pleasure, Barrels, or Poles. A member can only enter the Open division if it is his/her first or second year of riding. Participants in Open Walk-Trot classes will be eligible for class prizes but will not receive class points for the overall awards presented at the end of the year.
- **PONY PLEASURE** (no age limit, horses may not be used in any other Pleasure class) 14.2 hands & under as per state rules. Minimum of three participants.
- **WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP** (Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions)
- **OPEN WALK-TROT HORSEMANSHIP**—A member who is entered in Walk-Trot may ride a horse owned by a family member entered in a horsemanship class only in the Walk-Trot class. A member may NOT enter Reining, Western Riding, Ranch Pleasure, Barrels or Poles. A member can only enter the Open division if it is his/her first or second year of riding. Participants in Open Walk-Trot classes will be eligible for class prizes but will not receive class points for the overall awards presented at the end of the year.

ONE-HALF-HOUR BREAK

- **TRAIL CLASS** (Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions)
The Trail Class will be held at each of the conference shows. If participant enters a walk-trot class then they must compete in a walk-trot pattern in trail. The course will be patterned after the guidelines suggested in EC 2-97-82. Each county show superintendent will be responsible for the course when the show is in that County.
- **OPEN WALK-TROT TRAIL**—A member who is entered in Walk-Trot may ride a horse owned by a family member entered in a trail class only in the Walk-Trot class. A member may NOT enter Reining, Western Riding, Ranch Pleasure, Barrels or Poles. A member can only enter the Open division if it is his/her first or second year of riding. Participants in Open Walk-Trot classes will be eligible for class prizes but will not receive class points for the overall awards presented at the end of the year. **At least two entries required or class will be canceled.**
- **WESTERN RIDING:**
Western Riding will be held at each of the Conference Shows. There will be only one division.
- **RANCH RIDING:** (Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions)
Junior competitors do not have to have passed a level; Intermediate and Senior competitors must have passed level 2.

- **REINING:** (Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions)

Junior competitors do not have to pass a level; intermediate and Senior competitors must have passed level 2. Measurements between cones for reining classes will be approximately 50 yards.

TIMED EVENTS

- **POLES:** Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions; **NO Walk-Trot participants.**
- **BARRELS:** Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions; **NO Walk-Trot participants.**

PENALTIES: For Poles and Barrels only.

Hats—Hats are optional in timed events but must stay on after crossing the starting line or rider will be penalized two (2) seconds.

Touching a pole with a hand shall cause disqualification. A two (2) second penalty will be assessed for each pole that is tipped over.

Touching a barrel with a hand shall cause disqualification. A two (2) second penalty will be assessed for each barrel that is tipped over.

Someone leading a contestant's horse past the gate will result in a two (2) second penalty.

- **GOAT TYING:** Senior, Intermediate and Junior divisions; **NO Walk-Trot participants.**

GENERAL RULES

1. A clearly visible starting line shall be provided.
2. The stake and the starting line will be permanently marked for the entire go-round.
3. A contestant may change horses in this event.
4. A contestant may enter the arena at the speed of contestant's choice.
5. Arena permitting, the gate will be in the center between the two goats allowing each contestant the same length run at the goat.
6. Arena gate must be closed immediately after contestant enters the arena and kept closed.
7. Time to be taken between two flags.
8. Time will start when the horse's nose crosses the starting line.
9. Have collars the same and snug. Ropes the same length. Goats the same size and weight.
10. Flagmen stand in identical places each performance.
11. Goats to be tied; right, left, right and left. (This will be posted on the stock draw). This will be reversed on next go. All goats used in the draw to be tied a maximum of five (5) runs before another run on the goats can begin.
12. During Goat Tying, the arena will be dragged at regular intervals, to be determined by the Arena Director.

13. Goat handlers must stand directly behind goat. Judges and directors will position themselves so they are able to have a clear view of the goat rope and horse.

TIME LIMIT

There will be a thirty (30) second time limit.

EVENT RULES

1. This event is open to both girls and boys.
2. There should be at least a 15-yard starting line.
3. Starting line will be 100 feet from stake.
4. The goat should be tied to a stake with a rope ten feet in length.
5. Stake should be completely under the ground so that no part of it is visible or above ground.
6. The contestant must be mounted on a horse when entering the arena and must ride from the starting line to the goat, dismount from horse, throw the goat by hand, cross, wrap and tie by hand, at least three (3) feet together with a leather string, pigging string or rope. No wire is to be used in the goat string.
7. If the goat is down when the contestant reaches it, goat must be elevated high enough that it has the opportunity to regain its feet and then stand clear of the goat when the tie is finished.
8. Legs must remain crossed and secure for 6 seconds after completion of tie.
9. While the judge is performing the 6-second procedure, the contestant will make no gestures, motions or noises to distract the goat. This will be considered trying to take an unfair advantage and will result in a disqualification.
10. To qualify as a legal tie, there will be at least one complete wrap around at least three legs, and a half hitch, hooey or knot. The contestant must tie the goat by hand with no pre-made wraps, coils, knots, hooeys or half hitch.
11. Time will start when the horse's nose crosses the starting line.
12. Time will stop when she signals the completion of the tie.
13. The contestant must move back three (3) feet from the goat before the judge will start the six (6) second time limit on the tie - for the goat's legs to remain crossed and tied. If contestant gets rope that is holding goat wrapped around their leg, they may ask the judge if they can remove it. After getting permission from judge, removing rope and moving back three (3) feet her six (6) second time limit will start.
14. Qualified persons other than goat tying contestants will be used as goat holders.
15. If a goat is injured, the contestants involved with the injured goat will automatically be assigned the extra goat regardless of the possible difference in runs or ties on the goat.

SCORING and PENALTIES

1. Timed event judge will not flag contestant out until time is recorded.
2. Judge is to flag time, then flag contestant out if run is not legal.
3. The tie will be passed on by a field judge and if it is not secure for six seconds, the contestant will receive no time.

4. Contestant will receive a no time for touching the goat or tie string after signaling they are finished.
5. If the contestant's horse crosses over the rope or goat, or if the contestant's horse comes in contact with the goat or rope prior to the contestant signaling for time, a ten (10) second penalty will be assessed.
6. If the goat should break away because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will receive no time between flags.
7. Hats are optional, but must stay on after crossing the starting line or rider will be penalized two (2) seconds.
8. Assistant helping the goat tying contestant will not be allowed to go past the plane of the main arena gate when they are entering the arena or the contestant will receive a no time.

RERUNS

1. No run will be given due to faulty or broken equipment furnished by contestant in any event.
2. 2. If the goat should break away, it will be left to the judges' discretion whether contestant will get a rerun.
3. 3. If electric eye malfunction and no time was recorded from digital watches, if stock was qualified on in the field, contestant will be given a rerun at a time designated by the Judges and the Arena Director, plus any penalties.
4. 4. If the judge sees he has made an error in flagging, he must declare a rerun before the contestant leaves the arena.

OPTIONAL RULES

Electric timer and at least two (2) digital watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer, or, if necessary, the average of the watches used by the official timers to be the official time.

EQUIPMENT

1. Leather thong, pigging string or rope. (Pigging string--a piece of rope used for securing animals).
2. Western type equipment must be used.

LIVESTOCK REQUIREMENTS

1. Goats shall be uniform in size and breed with a weight limit of 40 to 60 pounds per goat. Pigmy goats are not allowed to be used in the goat tying event.
2. Sharp horns shall be tipped.
3. If you are holding a single performance and the entire goat tying contestants are run at one time, you must have an extra goat in case one of the other goats get injured.
4. Extra goat must be drawn for.

- **EXHIBITOR DRESS:**

Dress shall be according to standards in “Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide.” 4-H armbands are required at all shows. No chaps will be allowed in Pleasure and Horsemanship, but will be allowed in Ranch Riding and Reining.

Exhibitor numbers will be furnished at the first show attended and are to be used throughout the season, including the OPEN Scholarship Show. Numbers are to be attached so as to prohibit flapping.

The gate man and ring steward will have the authority to refuse any contestant to enter the ring if not in proper attire as listed in the “Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide.” (4-H373).

- **RUNNING OF SHOW:**

Delegation of responsibility and general management considerations in “Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide” should be followed.

- Two or three people should check entries at each show to speed up process.
- Every show should have a good ring man.
- Each show, after the first, should be able to replace lost exhibitor numbers.
- The Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference club board will assist in setting up rules and regulations for the conference shows and will act in advisory capacity to the individual shows unless other plans are made in advance. The major responsibilities should go to the parents and leaders of the counties in the 10 County Conference Club.

- **AWARD SYSTEM:**

Ribbons will be awarded on the Danish System; Purple, Blue, Red and White. Senior division participants have the option of taking a ribbon.

- The top exhibitor in each age division in riding, showmanship, and halter classes will be awarded a tack prize. This tack prize will be different at each Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club Horse Show.
- A points system will be used to determine the recipients of the Champion and Reserve Champion overall year end awards in each age division, and one (1) Showmanship award (all ages), and one (1) Speed award (all ages). The points system will award points for all classes **except** Halter Classes and Open Walk-Trot. The points system will be as follows:

1 st Purple—	6 points
All Other Purples—	5 points
1 st Blue—	4 points
All Other Blues—	3 points
All Reds—	1 point
All Whites—	0 points

- c. ***ALL Nebraska 4-H Youth enrolled in the 4-H Light Horse project are eligible for the overall Year-End High Point awards.*** Winners are determined by the total number of points earned at all 4-H shows and the OPEN Scholarship show, and are given per each age division. There will be a special awards ceremony held at the end of the year to present the overall winners in each age division with their awards. The date, time and location will be announced at later date.
- **CHANGE OF SHOW LOCATION:**

In case it is necessary to change a show location or to postpone a show, information regarding the change will be sent to the following radio stations for your convenience. KNLV-Ord, and KZ100 Columbus/Central City, or posted on Facebook and the conference web site www.loupvalleyhorseconference.org . If a show is moved due to rain the new show time will be 9:30 a.m.
 - **SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:**
 - a. Applicants must be a resident of one of the 10 counties the Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Club which are Boone, Garfield, Greeley, Howard, Loup, Merrick, Nance, Sherman, Valley, and Wheeler Counties.
 - b. Applicants must have participated in at least five (5) Loup Valley 4-H Conference Horse Shows in his/her last two (2) 4-H eligible years. If he/she does not receive a scholarship as a Senior in high school they may apply during their Freshman year of college, as long as they have NOT turned 19 on or before January 1 of the current year. NOTE: The Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference Open Scholarship Show WILL count toward the total show count for the Loup Valley 4-H Horse Scholarship.
 - c. A local committee will be formed to determine eligibility of the applicants before scholarships applications are given out.
 - d. Application deadline is April 1st of each year with winners announced on or around May 1st.
 - e. Application form may be found on the Loup Valley 4-H Horse Conference web site. www.loupvalleyhorseconference.org and must be mailed to the scholarship contact address listed on the form.