

**Sheboygan County**  
**4-H Horse and Pony Project**  
**By-Laws and**  
**Guidelines for Operations**

This document contains the following relative to the  
Sheboygan County 4-H Horse and Pony Project:

1. The Motto
2. The Mission Statement
3. The By-Laws
4. The Guidelines for Operations
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**(1)**  
**MOTTO**

“Developing blue ribbon youth through horses and horsemanship.”

**(2)**  
**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Sheboygan County Horse and Pony Project is to help develop “blue ribbon youth” who will carry with them a lifelong commitment to excellence in all aspects of their lives.

The Sheboygan County 4-H Horse and Pony Project will provide a program that focuses on growth and development of the individual. Emphasis will be given to developing leadership, maturity, and discipline in every aspect of equine science and horsemanship.

**(3)**  
**BY-LAWS**

1. The governing body will be called the SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 4-H HORSE AND PONY PROJECT COMMITTEE, hereafter referred to as the “Committee.”
2. The responsibility of the Committee will be to organize and conduct the Horse and Pony Project countywide meetings, events, and business. The 25 voting members will handle the business of the Sheboygan County 4-H Horse and Pony Project.
3. The Committee consists of the following elected positions:
  - A. Fourteen (12) voting adult members to include the following offices (must be 18 years or older as of January 1 of the upcoming 4-H year):
    - 1) Current Chairperson(s) (1-year term)
    - 2) Past Chairperson(s) ( 1-year term)
    - 3) Chairperson-elect(s) (1 year term-3 years remain on committee)
    - 4) Secretary (1-year term)
    - 5) Treasurer (1-year term)
    - 6) Treasurer elect (1-year term to follow current treasurer)
    - 7) Members at Large, (six ) (2-year term)
    - 8) Alternates, first and second (1-year term)

- B. Twelve (12) voting youth members to include the following (must be 13 years or older on January 1 of the year in which they serve):
- 1) Youth President(1-year term)
  - 2) Youth Vice President(1-year term)
  - 3) Youth Secretary (1-year term)
  - 4) Youth Treasurer (1-year term)
  - 5) Youth Members at Large (8) (1-year term)
  - 6) Alternates, first and second (1-year term)
- C. All voting will follow rules of Parliamentary Procedure. (Refer to Supplement to 4-H 201 on “How to Conduct a Meeting.”)
- D. When an adult Committee member is elected to the position of Chairperson(s) Elect, they are expected to serve three years from that point, as Chairperson(s) Elect, Chairperson(s). In addition, they will be asked to serve in an advisory capacity as Past Chairperson(s).
- E. Each year, five to eight adult Members at Large will be elected to the Committee to serve a two-year term. This number will vary, based on the terms served and the Chairperson(s) Elect process, to ensure that the adult representation on the Committee is 12 members.
- F. First and second adult alternates will be elected for a 1-year term. They will be permitted to vote when any regular member is absent. Alternates may not run for any office EXCEPT Chairperson(s) Elect. Alternates years served do not apply to maximum of 4 years served.
- G. No adult member is to serve more than 4 consecutive years, with the exception of the Chairperson(s) Elect position.
- H. Youth representation will be 12 members all elected to 1-year terms. They must follow youth behavior/expectation agreement.
- I. First and second youth alternates will be elected for 1-year terms. They will be permitted to vote when any regular member is absent. Alternate years served do not apply to maximum of 4 years served.
- J. No youth member is to serve more than 4 consecutive years.
- K. All committee members need to sign in for all meetings.
- L. If a situation exists such that any member cannot fulfill his or her obligation to the Horse & Pony Project, the Committee may ask for the resignation of the member.

M. Three meetings missed by any committee member will prompt a discussion with the chairs. The committee may then ask for the resignation of member.

N. When a member resigns their position, an alternate will be moved up.

#### 4. Election of Committee members

A. Nominations for the adult and youth Horse & Pony committee must be in by the August mandatory meeting, in order to have bio published. Write-ins will be accepted on the actual ballot.

B. Written ballots will be available for all Horse & Pony achieving members and leaders at the County Fair.

{Achieving members are those that have attended five meetings, including one of the 3 mandatory handbook meetings, completed their two hours of volunteer service and are in good standing with their local 4-H club }

D. Absentee Ballots may be obtained from the chairperson(s) and mailed to the UWEX within one week of Labor Day. Written ballots to be tabulated and the new committee will be in effect by the October Committee meeting.

E. Both Incoming and Outgoing Committee members present at the October general meeting may vote for Committee position vacancies.

F. Youth members of the Committee must be 13 years of age or older on January 1 of the 4-H year in which they serve.

G. Term of service for Committee members is from the October meeting of the year of election to the beginning of the following October meeting.

H. Adult officers will be elected from Committee members at the October general meeting by a simple majority of the Committee (51% of the 25 votes). Officer positions are all one-year terms.

I. Youth officers will be elected from Youth Committee members by a simple Majority vote of the 12 youth members. All officer positions are one-year terms.

#### 5. Elected Positions – Adult Committee Members

A. Past Chairperson(s) – The continued involvement of the past Chair is requested, although this is an advisory position and does not carry voting privileges. The past chair will co-chair the June show with the chair-elect

for the year they are past chair and will also serve as chair for the nominating committee.

B. Chairperson(s)

- 1) Plan and organize agenda for Committee meetings.
- 2) Preside over general Committee meetings.
- 3) Delegate responsibility of Committee business and oversee completion thereof.
- 4) Act as ex-officio member of all sub-committees.
- 5) Chair the County Fair Committee.
- 6) Coordinate annual project calendar for publication with the Handbook
- 7) Preside over Handbook Committee (which consists of all Committee members)
- 8) Cast tie-breaking votes. In the case of co-chairperson(s) one co-chair must be designated with voting rights.

C. Chairperson-elect(s)

- 1) Assist Chairperson(s) with responsibilities as required.
- 2) Become familiar with the role of Chairperson(s).
- 3) Agree (by acceptance of this position) to serve an additional year on the Committee as Chairperson(s).
- 4) The vice chair will co-chair the June show with the past chair for the year they are vice-chair.
- 5) In the absence of Chairperson(s), Chairperson-elect(s) will preside.
- 6) Shall submit Cloverleaf Crier Announcements by 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. .

D. Secretary

- 1) Take minutes at all Committee meetings and distribute minutes to Committee members for approval.
- 2) Correspond as directed by the Committee.
- 3) Supervise attendance records at all Committee meetings and notify members when they have missed two consecutive meetings.

E. Treasurer

- 1) Deposit all funds into appropriate banking institutions.
- 2) Collect, record, and process funds for clinics, meetings, shows, and all ongoing projects. Keep current record of all financial disbursements.
- 3) Record sponsorship donations per club.
- 4) Maintain change box for all Sheboygan County 4-H Horse and Pony Project shows and other activities requiring available funds.
- 5) Present Committee with written report on current status of funds at each regular monthly Committee meeting. From the 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of month.
- 6) Present Treasurer's books and records to the UW Extension Office for audit in July and distribute an annual financial statement to the Committee.
- 7) Adhere to guidelines for this position as outlined below:
  1. Expenses under \$50 may be paid at the discretion of the Treasurer; amounts over \$50 and up to \$100 can be approved by the treasurer and chair. All other expenses must be pre-approved by the Committee
  2. All reimbursements will be made with documented receipts only.
  3. Bills incurred by the Sheboygan County 4-H Horse and Pony Project will be paid in a timely manner.
  4. The Committee will not make payment toward interest on charges.
- 8) Shall prepare budget to include Educational Team and Drill Teams by January Committee Meeting.

F. Treasurer Elect

- 1) Will work with treasurer to learn methods and software associated with this position.
- 2) Will assist treasurer in preparing a budget for the upcoming year.

G. Members at Large

- 1) Attend all regular monthly Committee meetings, providing input and casting a vote where appropriate.
- 2) Contribute time and talents to advance the Mission Statement of the Sheboygan County Horse & Pony Project.

H. WI State 4-H Horse Association Representative

- 1) No Voting privileges unless an elected committee member.
- 2) Yearly election unless holding office on state board

6. Elected Positions – Youth Committee Members

A. President

- 1) Plan and organize agenda for Youth Committee meetings.

- 2) Preside over Youth Committee meetings.
  - 3) Delegate responsibility of Youth Committee business and oversee completion thereof.
  - 4) Report Youth Committee activities to Committee
  - 5) Submit Youth Secretary Minutes to be included with Committee minutes.
  - 6) Cast tie-breaking votes
- B. Vice President
- 1) Assist Assist Chairperson(s) with responsibilities as required..
  - 2) In the absence of Chairperson(s), Chairperson-elect(s) will preside.
  - 3) Shall submit Cloverleaf Crier Announcements by 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- C. Youth Secretary
- 1) Take minutes at all Youth Committee meetings and distribute to youth members for approval.
  - 2) Submit approved minutes to Chairperson for inclusion in Committee minutes.
  - 3) Complete correspondence as directed by Youth Committee.
- D. Youth Treasurer
- 1) Provide a yearly budget of additional funds not already allotted in overall budget to adult committee. (ex. Food & bonding activities, clothing, hats etc.)
  - 2) Keep record of all youth activities and turn in all receipts to adult committee treasurer in a timely manner.
  - 3) Provide a monthly 1<sup>st</sup> to end of month report.
- E. Youth Members at Large
- 1) Attend all regular monthly Youth Committee meetings and regular Committee meetings, providing input and casting a vote where appropriate.
  - 2) Serve as liaison between the Committee and project members.
- F. WI State 4-H Horse Association Youth Representative
- 1) No Voting privileges unless an elected committee member.
  - 2) Yearly election unless holding office on state board

**(4)**  
**GUIDELINES FOR OPERATIONS**

1. Subcommittees

- A. The Committee will set up subcommittees when necessary, securing a chair for each.
- B. Subcommittee chairs may be asked to report to the Committee on a regular basis and certainly on a need-to-know basis.
- C. Subcommittee members do not need to be Committee members.
- D. The Committee has set up several standing subcommittees. When additional standing subcommittees are formed, they should conform to guidelines of existing subcommittees, which are:

1) Nominating Committee

- The chairperson(s) of this subcommittee will be the Past Chairperson(s) of the Committee.
- The purpose of this subcommittee is to contact members and adults interested in serving on the Committee. It is encouraged that nominees be obtained from throughout the county and various equine areas. Interested persons must submit nomination forms to Chairperson of the Nominating Committee by the Mandatory Meeting immediately prior to fair. Submitting a photograph is recommended.

2) By-Laws/Guidelines Committee

- A chairperson(s) of this subcommittee will be appointed by the Chairperson(s).
- The purpose of this subcommittee is to meet annually to review By-Laws and Guidelines for Operation.
- The By-laws and Guidelines Committee can present recommendations for changes at any regular monthly meeting of the Committee. Recommended changes cannot be ratified until the following regularly scheduled meeting by a majority vote.

3) Handbook and Fair Rules Committee

- This subcommittee will include all Committee members and will be chaired by the Committee Chairperson(s).
- The purpose of this subcommittee is to meet annually to review the Handbook and the Fair Rules and present recommendations for changes.



- These Handbook and/or Fair Rule changes will be approved by the Committee at the November meeting.

#### 4) Awards Committee

- A chairperson of this subcommittee will be appointed by the Chairperson(s) of the Committee
- The purpose of this subcommittee will be to evaluate all award nominations and make recommendations to the Committee. These recommendations will be made and voted on before the Awards Ceremony, held Monday of the Sheboygan County Fair.
- This subcommittee will consist of adult members only. A minimum of 5 adult members must be present to conduct a vote.
- Only 1 member of a family may serve on this Subcommittee.
- A member may not participate if their child/horse is under consideration in the narrowing-down process.

#### 5) Show Committees: Committees will be set up at the November meeting for countywide horse shows which include, but are not limited to, the Mock Show, June Show (Chaired by Past Chair and Chairperson-elect(s), and Speed Show.

- The purpose of these committees is to organize and coordinate each show, including obtaining judges, securing sponsors, and in general, handling all functions of each show.
- All advertising requests for these shows will be given to the Chairperson(s) for review and placement in appropriate markets.

#### 6) County Fair Committee

- This subcommittee will be chaired by the Committee Chairperson(s). All members of the Committee will serve on this subcommittee.
- This committee will be charged with determining eligibility to show at the Sheboygan County Fair based on mandatory meeting attendance and stall availability.
- The purpose of this committee is to organize and coordinate the 4-H Horse and Pony Project at the County Fair, including, but not limited to:

1. Grounds control
2. Stall set-up
3. Ring Stewards
4. Second ring set-up
5. Sound system for 2nd ring set-up.
6. Arena supervision
7. Tent assignments/locations
8. Purchasing awards
9. Ribbons and master list
10. Fair program
11. Fair folders
12. Water for the arena and barns
13. Horse trailer parking
14. Overnight patrols
15. Announcers
16. Warm-up ring supervision
17. In and out gates
18. Fair passes and parking
19. Fair check-in
20. Judges' cards
21. Stall assignment by club
22. Fair duty sheets

E. State Horse Expo Committee: The Chairperson(s) of this committee will be the county's contact person at the State 4-H Horse Expo for all needed business during the Expo and will be available (or delegate availability) during the State Expo. Other responsibilities include:

- 1) Prepare State Expo packets for distribution at the State Expo meeting on Sunday of the Sheboygan County Fair.
  - Disperse information at the State Expo meeting about new rules, correct entry procedures, sponsorships, volunteering for State Expo, bringing photo for State Expo plaques, and all other applicable information for State Expo participants. Volunteer opportunities:
  - Make names to insert in State Expo plaques.
  - Take State Expo plaques to State Expo.

- Help put State Expo plaques on stalls.
  - Variety of State Expo volunteer positions.
- 2) Coordinate collection and processing of State Expo entries, making appropriate copies to retain in the county file, including copies of entry form, copies of checks submitted, and copies of Coggins.
  - 3) Prepare, copy, and make available (at State Expo) a county show bill listing when each Sheboygan County participant is showing.
- F. The Committee will also have several “Resource Leaders” to head up (not necessarily chairing) the following areas:
- 1) Art
  - 2) Clothes Horse
  - 3) Clover Buds
  - 4) County Campouts/Trail Rides
  - 5) County Representative to the SE District
  - 6) County Youth Representative to the SE District
  - 7) Demonstrations/Speeches
  - 8) Education
  - 9) Educational Arenas
  - 10) English Drill Team
  - 11) First Year Members
  - 12) Horseless Horse
  - 13) Horse Judging
  - 14) Model Horse
  - 15) Photography
  - 16) Project Representative to the Sheboygan County 4-H Leaders Assn.
  - 17) Western Drill Team
  - 18) Youth Advisor

**(5)**  
**ATTACHMENTS TO GUIDELINES**

AWARDS COMMITTEE

- A. The Awards Committee will record all 4-H project awards throughout the year.
- B. The Awards Committee will organize, coordinate, and acquire award items including, but not limited to:
  - a. Receiving award applications by mandatory meeting
  - b. Reviewing applications with Committee, picking award winners before County Fair
  - c. Notifying previous year's winners to return trophies to mandatory meeting.
  - d. Taking trophies to engrave new winners' names and make any repairs.
  - e. Obtaining records to determine outstanding and perfect attendance awards.
  - f. Determining awards for graduating members and order plaques.
  - g. Obtaining judges for stall barn awards, calculating points, determining placings.
  - h. Ordering pins and certificates for attendance winners.
  - i. Ordering drill team and educational ribbons for County Fair.
  - j. Ordering Horseless Horse Coach ribbons for the County Fair.
  - k. Ordering State Expo show pins.
  - l. Ordering Chairperson(s) Gift.
  - m. Post annual award winners in arena office.
  - n. Complete State Sportsmanship Application and letter or delegate, to be completed by State deadline.
- C. Guidelines for Award Donations
  - 1. Any person interested in donating a year-end award to the Sheboygan County Horse and Pony Project will submit a request to the Committee. This request will be forwarded to the awards subcommittee, which will render a recommendation back to the Committee based on the following criteria
    - a) Each award should be designed with different criteria than any previously established awards

- b) Award donation nominations must provide the following information:
  - 1) Name and history of award
  - 2) Purpose of award
  - 3) Target recipients
  - 4) Binding rules or policies for the award, such as designating how points are accumulated, criteria for determining award recipient, which competitive events are eligible to county toward award, age of intended recipients, whether a horse/rider combination is to be an issue, or any other pertinent criteria.
  - 5) Length of time award will be supported by donor (five-year minimum).
  - 6) Donor contact information (name, address, phone)
  - 7) Donor must agree to fund original award cost plus engraving and maintenance for the pledged term. Total projected cost will be paid upon approval of award by the Committee.
  - 8) The award subcommittee reserves the right to limit size or style of donated award.

## 2. Maintenance of Established Awards

- a) This policy applies to all previously existing awards.
- b) Any award having been won by the same exhibitor three (3) times will be given that trophy.
- c) The awards subcommittee will contact the current trophy sponsor (if available) to see if they would like to fund a new trophy.
- d) If a replacement trophy is needed before the original sponsor's donation term is past, the Committee will be responsible for the replacement of the trophy.
- e) The Committee Treasurer will maintain a specific awards account to maintain and engrave unsponsored trophies. Donations will be accepted to this account at any time through the awards subcommittee, which will keep records as to what trophies are fully sponsored and for how long.
- f) Awards subcommittee may recommend retiring of trophies due to lack of applicants or lack of sponsorship.

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