

General Entry Regulations

1. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.
2. According to Michigan State Law a copy of negative Coggins test that is twelve months from draw date for each horse is required.
3. The exhibitor's 4-H age is determined as of January 1st of the current year.
4. All entry fees must be paid for at the time of registration. No refunds.
5. Weekend Blanket Fees, stall fee discounts, and show from trailer fee discounts are only available at the time of registration. For all Open Shows, the morning class registration is closed at 9:30am and afternoon class registration is closed at the end of lunch break.
6. NSF fee is \$40.00. No open checks.
7. The show committee will delay and/or cancel a show due to unsafe weather conditions. Show fees are nonrefundable.
8. According to the 4-H rule book, ASTM-SEI F1163 and above approved helmets are required for all youth participants while in the show ring in bareback, saddleseat, Hunt seat and gymkhana classes.
9. Leaders/Members are not responsible for theft, loss, or damage to property, injury to any person(s) or animal(s).

General Show Rules

1. All Genesee County Parks and Recreation rules shall apply to all exhibitors and spectators.
2. All 4-H rules from the current Horse & Pony/Project show rules and regulations shall apply.
3. All dogs must be under the control of a six foot leash at all times.
4. Per Genesee County Park and Rec Rules, golf carts/scooters are not allowed on the grounds unless written approval is granted by the commission.
5. No staples, nails, or screws are to be used on stalls. Stall decorating suggestions include using conduit piping, plastic piping, wood, lattices, etc. and use wire, ropes, or zip ties to secure them.
6. The Judge's decisions are FINAL.
7. Good sportsmanship is the basis of the 4-H program and is required by the exhibitors and spectators.
8. The show committee reserves the right to cancel, split (if over 20), or combine (if less than 5) any classes, and judge as a single class.
9. Any show official reserves the right to check helmets and tack at any time to verify compliance with the 4-H rules.
10. Per 4-H rules, stallions are only to be shown during the calendar year in which they are foaled.
11. Pony height is 56 inches and under. Show committee reserves the right to challenge and measure a pony.
12. No riding or lounging in the arena inside the 4-H barn due to health issues related to dust inhalation.
13. Out of courtesy, we request that during any showmanship classes, you refrain from riding/lunging horses by the main arena. Ring B is available for warm-up at this time.
14. Exhibitors must display a visible number or numbers in all classes. If it is on the side of horse, it should be on both sides.
15. Horses five years and under may be shown with a snaffle bit or bosal in western classes.
16. If a horse becomes loose in the arena or on the grounds, all riders are to dismount, no one should attempt to chase the horse, youth should not be instructed to block or corral the horse.
17. All horses should have water available when tied to a trailer, stalled or if participating in multiple classes during the show day.
18. Exhibited animals should not be excessively thin or fat but should demonstrate a Body Condition Score of 4 or greater, as determined by the Henneke Body Condition Scoring System. For more information on Body Condition Scoring visit www.extension.org/horse and search "horse body condition scoring". Decision of ability to participate to be made by judge, pictures are able to be submitted prior to show to adult Executive board members to share with show judge.

Class Rules

1. Class placing points will be awarded as follows:
1st=6pts, 2nd=5pts, 3rd=4pts, 4th=3pts, 5th=2pts, 6th=1pt. Regardless of the number of exhibitors in the class.
2. All equitation classes may have at least a simple pattern at judge's discretion. Patterns will be available online at gchla4h.com, on the Genesee County 4-H Horse Leaders Association Facebook page, and posted at the show office day of show.
3. All classes are open to gaited horses.

Hunter Hack & Equitation Over Fences

1. All riders participating in Hunter Hack or Equitation Over Fences must have successfully completed the Jump Qualifier class that will occur on Friday between 7-8pm or Saturday during the lunch break. This class is free. Horse and rider combination need only to qualify once per year.
2. Fences are no higher than 2'6".

Novice

1. Novice classes are for novice riders, not novice horses.
2. Novice rider is defined as the first and second year cantering in a placing class.
3. Novice riders may only show in Novice designated classes

Walk/Trot

1. Walk/Trot riders may not show a horse/pony in a bosal.
2. Walk/Trot exhibitors are to have not cantered in any show, regardless of animal used. Exceptions can be made with the consultation of the Executive Board.
3. W/T/C riders may enter W/T 12 & over division to be audited (not placed) only. Back number must be flipped over for indication to the judge.
4. In Walk/Trot Gymkhana classes, taking more than three strides of a canter will result in disqualification from the class.
5. The Walk/Trot 9-11 division is not designed for the schooling of inexperienced mounts.

Cloverbud

1. Beginner rider mounts should be appropriate. The Cloverbud division is not designed for the schooling of inexperienced mounts.
2. For Cloverbud leadline classes, handlers must use a halter for leading in conjunction with the bridle. Handlers must be an adult and must wear appropriate shoes.
3. Cloverbuds ages 5-6 must be on a lead at all times, both inside and outside of the arena. Cloverbuds age 7 must be under the supervision of an adult at all times.
4. Cloverbuds may change project designated horses at any time, in order to help provide the safest possible mount. (Can be during a show, with no need to change horse and number in computer since no points are involved)
5. Cloverbuds who are age 7 can go in BOTH Cloverbud leadline (5-7) and Cloverbud WT (7) Classes.

Gymkhana

1. All exhibitors who wish to compete in Gymkhana Showmanship and Gymkhana Equitation classes must also compete in at least two timed events.
2. Rider's tack and clothing must be of the same seat.
3. Exhibitors are not allowed to secure rubber bands around their feet while competing.
4. All youth riders competing in gymkhana classes are required to wear ASTM-SEI F1163 or above approved helmet.
5. Per 4-H rules, exhibitors must be mounted before entering the arena and must dismount before exiting the arena.

Dressage

1. Rider must use a plain snaffle bit and English snaffle bridle with cavesson, flash, figure eight or dropped noseband. Current approved bit list will be available in the show office.
2. Martingales, side reins, or running reins are prohibited.
3. Whips 4 feet or less (including the lash) are allowed.
4. Only blunt English spurs are allowed (except Western Dressage classes).
5. Hunt or dressage appointments are permitted.
*Western and Gaited Dressage Rules will be available in the show office.

Project Horse Rules (Apply to GCHLA members only)

1. GCHLA members must designate Project horses if they wish to compete for year end highpoints, compete in Achievement Days Championship classes, and compete for the 4-H State Horse Show.
2. GCHLA members are allowed up to two project horses. Project forms are due at the April GCHLA Members Meeting and final project designation is May 1st. Both project horses are eligible for weekend and year-end highpoint awards. Limits for year-end highpoint: two project horses under the same exhibitor cannot both be entered in the same year-end highpoint division. (example: Project Horse 1 and Project Horse 2 cannot both enter Gymkhana year-end highpoint.) Two project horses under the same exhibitor can be entered in multiple year-end divisions. (example: Project Horse 1 can be entered in Rail and Saddleseat year-end highpoint and Project Horse 2 can be entered in Gymkhana and Dressage year-end highpoint.) Exhibitors can accumulate points for the State 4-H show with both project horses, however only one horse can qualify for the show. The project horse with the most points accumulated will be the horse that qualifies for the State 4-H Show.
3. Project horses may be shared between two riders.

Weekend Highpoint Award Rules

1. Weekend Highpoint Awards: Points will be accumulated for the same horse/rider combination over the two day show weekend.
2. Divisions are as follows; Rail 8-14, Rail 15 & over, Gymkhana 8-14, Gymkhana 15 & over, SaddleSeat 8 & over, Novice 8-19, Walk/Trot 8-11, and Walk/Trot 12 & over. See showbill for qualifying classes in each division.
3. In the case of a tie, the tie will be broken by the number of first place winnings, then seconds, and so on. If this rule is not effective, Equitation classes will decide tie followed by showmanship.
4. Highpoint must be entered by 7:30 a.m. Saturday and awards must be picked up from the show office within fifteen minutes of announcement at the end of the show.
5. More than one highpoint may be entered by a rider and multiple horses may be used. Separate fees apply.

Year End Highpoint Award Rules

1. Year End Highpoints will be entered at no cost.
2. Divisions are as follows: Rail 8-14, Rail 15-19, Gymkhana 8-15, Gymkhana 15-19, SaddleSeat 8-19, Novice 8-19, Walk/Trot 8-11, Walk/Trot 12-19.
3. Riders must complete and submit their Year End Highpoint entry forms by the April GCHLA Members meeting with their chosen highpoint classes.
4. Points will be tallied from a rider's chosen highpoint classes at the May Open Show, and the June Open Show.
5. Year-end highpoint is offered only to the members of GCHLA. A rider may compete with two project horses in different divisions, but not two project horses in the same division.

State Show Candidate Rules

1. Walk/trot and Novice riders are not eligible to be state candidates.
2. Exhibitors must be at least 13 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
3. Exhibitors must have a signed form from their leader stating that they have passed Level One Testing. (Riders are not required to pass Level One each year once they have passed the test initially.)
4. Exhibitors must complete and submit a class designation form by the April GCHLA Members meeting. If changes are requested, a new form must be submitted. (NO EXCEPTIONS).
5. Exhibitors must designate five classes (1 showmanship class, 1 equitation class, and 3 other eligible classes that are listed on the State Designation form).
6. Each 4-H member wanting to participate in the State 4-H show must complete a Genesee County 4-H Horse Program Participation/Involvement form.
7. Exhibitors must provide a potential adult volunteer for the state show (parents are not recommended). If the required number of volunteers do not commit, volunteers will be pulled from this pool. Exhibitors' family will be excluded from volunteer pool if they served at the State show within the previous two years.
8. Exhibitors must attend at least one GCHLA Members Meeting through July of the current year.

9. Exhibitors must write or type an essay at least 250 words in length. Essay must be attached to and submitted with their class designation form at the April GCHLA Members Meeting.

GCHLA Achievement Days

1. All exhibitors must have shown in at least one GCHLA Show days with a minimum of four classes total with their project horse/pony to be eligible to show Achievement Days. Extenuating circumstances to be considered by the executive board, such as late entry into a 4-H club or health issue and option to pay \$80 in lieu of participation.
2. Each 4-H member wanting to participate in Achievement Days must complete a Genesee County 4-H Horse Program Participation/ Involvement Form.
3. Exhibitors are required to have completed Horse & Pony Project Record Book. Due at registration at the last June Members meeting.
4. Exhibitors who are unable to compete in a Championship class must notify the show office as soon as possible. This may only be done for extenuating circumstances.
5. A jump qualifier must be completed during the GCHLA shows prior to Achievement Days, it will not be offered at Achievement Days.
6. Exhibitors that qualify for trail championships must ride the class with the same seat as they originally qualified.
7. Achievement Days All-Around points will be totaled as follows:
Walk/Trot: Showmanship, Equitation, English and Western Pleasure, Commands and Trail class
Novice: Showmanship, Equitation, English and Western Pleasure, Commands and Trail.
SaddleSeat: Showmanship, Equitation, Pleasure and SaddleSeat Pattern/Gaited Pattern
Gymkhana: Showmanship, Equitation, all timed events.
Achievement Days All Around (For members that are not state candidates): Showmanship, Equitation, English and Western Pleasure, Trail, jumping classes, reining, eng/west riding pattern, and Dressage.
Canterino All Around (For members that are state candidates) Showmanship, Equitation, English and Western Pleasure, Trail, jumping classes, eng/west riding pattern, and Dressage.
Championship classes are not counted for All Around points.
8. Revolving trophy inscriptions are the responsibility of the member. Revolving trophies are to be turned in on Saturday of the June Open Show.

Fees

1. See class, blanket and office fees, on individual show bills.
2. Blanket fees shall apply to only one rider and horse combination.
3. Any check written to GCHLA and returned due to Non-sufficient funds shall be charge an additional \$40 Non-sufficient funds fee
4. Fees for shows are due prior to rider entering a class.