

Policy # 6.08 6.09	Refer to Policy #
4-H Alberta Equine Project Policy All projects involving an equine fall under the auspices of the Equine Project Policy. All 4-H members registered in the equine project must follow the requirements as set out by 4-H Alberta in consultation with the Provincial Equine Advisory Committee (PEAC).	1.01, 2.01,
	Approved
	July 2015
	Review Date
	July 2018

Definitions:

- Invitational 4-H Event – when one organization organizes the event and invites 4-H clubs to attend and participate. An invitational 4-H event must be organized or sanctioned by an approved 4-H entity.
- Interclub 4-H Event – when one or more 4-H clubs are involved in the organization and members of two or more clubs participate in the event.

4-H Equine Project Minimum Requirements

- A member must enroll in at least one (1) equine 4-H project and work on the assessments required for that project. Members work at their own pace. There is no time required for completion of each level. A member must register the projects that he/she will be working on during the 4-H year at the time the club registers (ex. Horsemanship, Rodeo, Ranch, Dressage, etc.).
- A member must have completed Horsemanship Level 3 (as certified by their club leader), prior to registering in any of the offered equine project options (such as jumping, reining, ranch, etc.).
- Members who wish to do non-mounted projects may replace mounted assessments with modified assessments appropriate to their project.

4-H Equine Helmet Requirement

- Effective October 1, 2011, a properly fitted ASTM/SEI (American Society for Testing and Materials Safety Equipment Institute) or BSI (British Standards Institution) approved equestrian helmet must be worn by:
 - all Horsemanship Level 1, 2 and 3 members while mounted and
 - all 4-H members born in 2000 and later while mounted.
- It is highly recommended that all other riders wear a properly fitted ASTM/SEI (American Society for Testing and Materials Safety Equipment Institute) or BSI (British Standards Institution) approved equestrian helmet.

Project Identification

- All equine project animals must be identified in their project record book(s) as required by the current Horse Record Book by January 1st of the current club year.

Project Animals

- **Project Animal:** Equine project members can have only one project and one project animal, until Horsemanship Level 3 is completed. Once the member has graduated beyond Horsemanship Levels 1-3, the member can have only one (1) animal per project option unless the project option has two

components which require significantly different horse skills (i.e. speed events and roping in the Rodeo Project, English and western in Horsemanship).

- Appropriate project records must be kept for a minimum of one hundred and eighty (180) days as per the 4-H Alberta equine record keeping guidelines for each animal.
- 4-H members are expected to provide the major part of the feeding, care, and management for their animals. (Check with your local club for clarification).
- Members or their immediate family are encouraged to own their project animal(s) or the member may borrow or lease project animal(s) utilizing a formal agreement which must be included in their animal's project record book.
- A member's 4-H project animal may be replaced for any of the following reasons with clubs' approval:
 - ❖ If a member's animal is deemed unsuitable or unsafe.
 - ❖ Animal medically unfit or long term unsoundness.
 - ❖ If a project animal dies.
- The member may be granted permission by the club to participate in their achievement day event with a substitute horse. The club may choose not to grant permission if a new animal of superior ability and training is substituted.
- **Stallions:** The use of stallions over one (1) year of age in 4-H projects is prohibited. Where testicles are not descended, members may present their yearling with an accompanying veterinarian certificate identifying this condition and the member assumes all risks and costs. Male 2 year olds must be castrated without exception.

Tranquilizers

- The use of tranquilizers on 4-H project animals immediately preceding or at any 4-H project event is prohibited. Any animal that is tranquilized cannot be shown at a 4-H event.
- Any participant or member of a participant's family can make a protest to a committee member responsible for the show regarding suspected use of a tranquilizer. The committee must deal with the protest immediately by contacting a veterinarian who will inspect/test the animal. If the animal is deemed to be tranquilized, the member will be required to pay the veterinarian costs. If the animal is deemed to be not tranquilized, the protester will pay the veterinarian costs incurred.

4-H Riding/Skill Levels

- These are defined by the assessments for each specific horsemanship or project option.

4-H Events

- Event organizers have the authority to remove dangerous, unsafe or unsound project animals from 4-H classes or events.
- Members are required to abide by event rules.
- Members must have completed Horsemanship Level 1, (as verified by their club leader), prior to competing in any equine 4-H rodeo events, and must use an equine for which they have maintained a project record book during the current 4-H year to compete in any equine event at any 4-H rodeo. Non-equine events are open to any 4-H member who can show proof of prior training for the event in which they wish to compete.

Achievement Day Event

- Each club shall hold an achievement day (suited to club goals). Clubs are responsible for the selection and adequate remuneration of achievement day officials.

Local, Invitational or Interclub Project Regulations

- In addition to these 4-H Alberta requirements there may be additional regulations from the local or interclub project committees. It is your responsibility to know these rules and regulations. The individual organizing committee is responsible for administration and enforcement of rules and regulations.

4-H Rodeos

Chaperones

- Each club, which enters participants in the rodeo, must provide a minimum of one (1) adult chaperone for every ten (10) participants.

Minimum Safety Requirements

Organizer(s) must:

- Ensure that all rodeo and event rules and regulations are followed and enforced.
- Ensure all participants wear proper western attire.
- Ensure use of helmets, mouth guards and flak jackets (which are mandatory) in steer/cow riding.
 - Facemasks are highly recommended.

Participant Requirements

- Participants are responsible for reading and understanding current 4-H rodeo rules.
- Participants are responsible to supply their own safety equipment – helmet, flak jacket and mouth guard as required.
- Participants are expected to abide by the #1.01 4-H Alberta Code of Conduct Policy. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the entire rodeo.

Rodeo Committee Requirements

- The host club/4-H entity is responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of all participants, spectators, officials and animals.
- A committee must be designated to ensure:
 - ❖ Eligibility of all participants.
 - ❖ Proper use and care of animals:
 - Humane treatment of animals at all times.
 - Disqualification of any participant using an animal that is obviously sore, lame, or injured in any way.
 - Disqualification and/or removal from an event or the entire rodeo, of any person who is abusive to any animal.
 - All animals prior to the event are in good health and are sound.
 - Disqualification or removal of any participant from the event if they are not in control of the animal used, or show incompetence in the event. The participant and animal may compete in subsequent events.

- ❖ Removal from the entire rodeo, of any person found to be interfering with or harassing any judge or official.
- ❖ A process is established to accept for discussion and decision any complaints/grievances/appeals, received within thirty (30) minutes of the infraction containing two (2) signatures from someone other than the complainant or the complainant's immediate family.

Acceptable 4-H Rodeo Events

- 4-H Alberta sanctions the following events as approved 4-H rodeo events. All applicable rules and guidelines for each event can be found in the 4-H Rodeo Manual available from the 4-H Branch. All rules must be strictly adhered to. Any additions to this list must be submitted to the 4-H Council of Alberta along with appropriate rules, guidelines, assessment tools and safety precautions for approval. Approval process can take up to one year. The events are as follows:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Barrel Racing ❖ Keyhole Race ❖ Thread the Needle ❖ Break Away Roping ❖ Pole Bending ❖ Stake Race 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Big T Race ❖ Steer/Cow Riding ❖ Steer Daubing ❖ Team Roping ❖ Goat Tying
---	--
- Only the rodeo events included on the above list are approved/ sanctioned by the 4-H Alberta. The 4-H program/ 4-H Council of Alberta will assume no responsibility for injuries or insurance claims relating to non sanctioned events.

Regulation Violation Consequences:

Anyone violating any of the above requirements will not be able to participate at any 4-H event relating to that project area, during the remainder of the project year.