Lake County 4-H Horse Program Requirements for Showing

4-H is a youth development organization, not a horse show organization. There are many opportunities for you in the 4-H Horse Program, participating in showing is just one of those opportunities. In order for you to get the most out of your 4-H experience, the following are required of you as a Lake County 4-H member to participate in the County Qualifier, Area, State, and/or Regional Horse Shows. It is the not the responsibility of the 4-H Leader or your parents to make sure that these requirements are met, but that of the member. Failure to meet the guidelines and deadlines will result in disqualification from show participation.

Membership:

1. 4-H'ers must be 8 years of age or older as of September 1st of the current 4-H year to participate in large animal projects.
2. All enrollment paperwork must be completed/signed and in the 4-H Office by 5:00 pm before the 3rd Monday of December. This includes enrollment forms, Lake County 4-H Requirements for Showing Statement of Understanding, horse project registration forms and lease forms(if applicable).
3. Manage the care of at least one horse of any age or breed as a 4-H Horse Project. Only 4-H Project horses are eligible to be shown at qualifying shows. Members may manage & show more than one horse at the County Qualifier Horse Show, but you will only be able to show one horse at the Area Show. The horse that is shown at the Area show is the only horse eligible for the State show.

Ownership & Leasing:

1. Horses/ponies must be owned prior to January 1st of the current 4-H year. A completed 4-H Project Registration Form must be on file in the 4-H Office before the 3rd Monday of December. No Exceptions.
2. Leased horses are permitted with the following:
   - A certified lease & 4-H Project Registration Form are on file by 5:00 pm before the 3rd Monday of December.
   - Dual leasing is allowed with approval of the State Office.

Participation:

1. Member must attend a minimum of 50% of their 4-H Club meetings during the current 4-H year. All youth must be members prior to the 3rd Monday of December for each new 4-H year. Members who are not planning to participate in the County Qualifier Show may join a club after that date.

2. Members must present a demonstration on a project they are currently enrolled in (does not have to be horse). While demonstrations may be given on the club level, all members are encouraged to present their speeches or demonstrations at County Events.

3. Members must complete 4-H Horse Project Book 4HHSR02 on their project animal prior to the Area Horse Show. Please note these record books are due earlier than other 4-H record books. It is the responsibility of the member to know when this deadline is each year.

4. Members must participate in at least one of the following Non-Horse Show 4-H activities prior to the County Qualifier registration deadline:

4-H Camp	Share the Fun	JR Congress		County Events Day
Fashion Revue	TLC Meeting	Pizza Social	or	TLC Christmas Party

Please be sure to stay updated on dates for above events. All event dates are subject to change and may not always occur before the County Qualifier deadline. Do not wait until the last minute to complete this requirement, as there may not be an activity available for you to attend to meet this requirement.

5. It is the responsibility of 4-H members to know and follow the rules and guidelines stated in the current Florida State 4-H Horse Show Official Rule Book and additional requirements set forth by Lake County. These additional requirements can be found in the Lake County 4-H Horse Program Policies and Procedures. Copies are available from the 4-H Office or your club leader. Individuals showing at the County Qualifier Show must participate in at least one class in order to qualify for the Area Show.

6. Only those horses shown at Area can be shown at State. Counties can allow for the substitution of a project horse prior to the Area Show if a veterinarian certifies the horse/pony unsound. Approval of the 4-H Agent and 4-H Horse Club leaders is required. Substituted horses must meet all the horse project criteria other than the January 1st ownership date. See the Florida 4-H Horse Show Rule Book for details.

7. Lake County 4-H Horse Program Required Meetings.
Exhibitor Meeting: Safety, showing requirement and county policies and procedures will be discussed at exhibitor meetings. All 4-H youth who wish to participate at the County Qualifier, Area, State, and Regional Horse Shows must attend one of the following Exhibitor Meetings biannually with their parent. Exhibitor meetings will be held in January and February of each year, please reference the current 4-H calendar for dates and times. Parents with legitimate excuses who cannot attend the meeting need to contact the 4-H Agent prior to 5:00 P.M. the day of the meeting. Members must attend an exhibitor meeting every other year. For example, participation in the 2010 exhibitor meeting would allow a youth to participate in the 2010 and 2011 qualifier shows. They would need to attend the 2012 meeting in order to compete again in 2012.

8. Your club may add additional requirements. These are listed below and must also be met in order to show:
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Lake County 4-H Horse Program Requirements for Showing
Statement of Understanding

Please detach and sign this final page, and return to 4-H Office prior to the 3rd Monday in December of current 4-H year.

I have read these guidelines and understand what the requirements are in order to show as a Lake County 4-H Member. I realize that if I do not meet these requirements, I will not be eligible to advance to the County Qualifier Horse Show. I also agree to exhibit good sportsmanship and a friendly competitive spirit when participating in 4-H shows and activities.
I will abide by the rules of the show and conduct myself in a sportsman like manner. I will accept the decision of the judge as final. I will make my trainer aware of the 4-H rules and guidelines. I know that by trying my best I am a winner even if I do not place first!

_____	_____
Parent Signature	4-H Member Signature
_____	_____
Club Name	Date

(revised August 2011)