

2026 Porter County Horse & Pony Project General Info & Important Dates

Welcome to the Porter County Horse & Pony 4-H Project! Listed below are some important dates and project information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the project superintendent:

Paula Smith Cell #219-628-0626

Check out Porter County 4-H News @<https://portercounty4h.org> for updates and deadlines.

- **Project Enrollment Deadline!** May 15th, 2026: Absolute last day you can enroll your project horse. No late enrollments & No exceptions! If you do not enroll by this date you will not be allowed to exhibit at the fair.

Please enroll all horses you have available to you on Animal ID by May 15!

- **A few reminders:**
 - Parent/Guardian must be present with you at 4-H Horse & Pony Events, shows, and activities.
 - Long pants, riding boots, & ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet is required whenever mounted or driving.
 - Please like "Porter County Horse & Pony Project" on Facebook – Info, schedule changes & weather updates will be posted!
- **First Meeting, Hippology, & Used tack swap: Sunday April 19th, 2026 @ 2PM** Porter Co. 4-H Building.
 - Project updates/Q & A, what to expect your first year, & used tack swap. This is a great time to meet with other 4-H members and expand your horse knowledge!
 - \$10.00 Club T-shirts will be available for purchase as well. (Please bring cash)
- **Drill Team Riders**
 - Please call Paula @219-628-0626 if you would like to be on drill team! Drill Team signups will be at Hippology.
- **2026 Workshops**, we meet at the Horse & Pony Complex – Please bring your horse! Workshops are on Tues & Wed evenings beginning the first week of June and are held each week up until the week before fair. Workshops are free and very informative! Great way to gain experience for both horse and rider.
 - 😊 Gate opens @ 6PM – workshop starts @ 6:30PM. Please use gate 2 to enter the fairgrounds. Workshop dates, topics & jumping requirements will be available in the near future.
- **4-H Horse Show - Sunday June 21st, 2026 @ 9AM – Porter County Fairgrounds.**
- **Horse & Pony Project Check In - Sunday July 26th, 2026, from 7-11AM.**
 - For each horse you plan to bring to fair: You must bring your signed certificate of vaccination, and complete class sign-up sheets to Sunday Check In.
- **2026 Barn Theme is: Happy 250th Birthday America!**
 - Stall decorating is fun and makes our barn stand out. If you are not decorating, please put up a horse-related poster or educational info.

What's new for 2026 Porter County Horse & Pony!



Vaccinations: Please have vaccinations administered January 1st through July 1st, 2026.

- If possible, please attach vaccination sheet to your 2026 Fair Entry submittal.
 - o Otherwise please turn this form in at the July 7th or 8th, 2026, Horse & Pony Workshops.
 - o A vaccination sheet is required for each horse you are bringing to fair.

Stall Reservation Form: Please turn this form in at the July 7th or 8th, 2026, Horse & Pony Workshops. (Please do not turn into 4-H office)

Record Sheets: Porter Co 4-H is introducing a new 4-H General Record Sheet.

- Instead of completing a record sheet for each project, 4-H members in grades 3-12 will now complete ONE record sheet for all their projects. (Please check with your other livestock projects, as some may still require a species-specific record sheet.)
- Please note: To receive 4-H's complimentary fair pass and show your livestock, these record sheets must be turned in to the Fair 4-H Office at fair pass pickup, as it is required for project completion.

Week of fair schedule updates to note:

- Check In - Sunday July 26th – 7AM to 11AM
- Opening Meeting & Test – Sunday July 26th @ 1PM
- Potluck – Sunday July 26th @3PM

- MONDAY July 27th – Show will begin at 10AM
 - o Please see showbill for updated class schedule

Class Requirements Update:

Please see box on top of page 1 of "Participation Requirements, General Info, & Week of Fair Schedule" for full description.

Showmanship is still a required class, but the ride requirement is no longer.

1. Participate in one showmanship class (English or Western)
 - o 4-H members are required to participate in one English or Western showmanship class to be eligible to show in any other classes. All other classes for the week are optional.
 - For those exhibiting a second horse – you may show that horse in showmanship as well. (For example: Exhibit Horse A in English Showmanship & Exhibit Horse B in Western Showmanship. Exhibitor may not take two horses in same showmanship class.)
 - o *Versatility Exhibitors: Horse must exhibit in English or Western Showmanship to participate in Versatility as well as horse must be stalled at fair for the week.*

New Class for 2026!

Timed Trail

- This class is similar to trail BUT with the contesting horse in mind. Riders may wear legal contesting tack & attire.
- Class will be placed with obstacle completion, rider & horse harmony & quickest time with minimal penalties in mind.
- Check out the 2026 workshop schedule for in person practice opportunity!

Porter County 4-H

Vaccination Requirements

Horse & Pony, Draft Horse, & Miniature Equine

Vaccinations are to be given Jan 1st through July 1st, 2026

4-H-1031-W

(10/25)



(Vaccination Form)

The 4-H member should hand-carry this completed form to all 4-H Horse and Pony Events. Failure to meet guidelines on this form, an incomplete form, or outdated vaccinations will result ineligibility from Indiana 4-H Horse and Pony Events.

4-Her's Name _____ Grade in School _____ County _____ (as of January 1st, 2026) (County you are enrolled in 4-H) Address _____ (Street or P.O. Box) _____ (City) (State) (Zip)	Name of horse/pony _____ Color and Markings _____ Breed _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender: ___ Gelding ___ Mare
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Body Condition Score (BCS)

BCS of this horse _____ (1-9 scale; where 1 = extremely thin and 9 = extremely fat)

Body condition scoring resources are located at <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AS/AS-552-W.pdf>

Required Vaccinations¹

	Name of Administrator	Vaccination Date
Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis	_____	_____
Rhinopneumonitis/EHV type 1 and 4	_____	_____
Equine Influenza	_____	_____
Tetanus	_____	_____
West Nile Virus	_____	_____
Strangles	_____	_____
Rabies² (required signature by administering vet below)	_____	_____

X _____
Licensed Veterinarian (Signature) (Date) Print name _____

¹ If home vaccination is completed for the required vaccinations, the receipt of purchase **and** the label from the vial(s) must be attached to this form. Your veterinarian is the best way to ensure horses are vaccinated for appropriate disease risks, and make certain the vaccines are handled and administered properly. Improperly handled vaccines can become ineffective or even increase the risk of side effects.

² Indiana law requires rabies immunization be administered by a licensed and accredited veterinarian.

Recommended Vaccinations/Procedures

Upon consultation with a veterinarian and an evaluation of risk, the following vaccinations/procedures are recommended.

1. Oral Exam	4. Rotavirus
2. Potomac Horse Fever	5. Negative Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) Test within 12-months of event.
3. Botulism	6. Negative Fecal Egg Count to determine level of parasite infection. This should be used to determine appropriate de-worming protocols.

I hereby certify that the horse/pony described on this form has met the above requirements and that the form is complete and accurate.

X _____ X _____
4-H member (Signature) (Date) 4-H Parent or Legal Guardian (Signature) (Date)

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony Project Stall Reservation Form



Please turn this form in at the July 7th or 8th, 2026, Horse & Pony Workshops.

This form is not a substitute for the online FairEntry process!

4-H Member: _____

4-H Club: _____

Level of Enrollment (Please Circle One): Junior Junior Senior Senior
Grades 3 & 4 Grades 5-7 Grades 8 & 9 Grades 10-12

Listed below are the exact Horse & Pony animal(s) that I will be exhibiting at this year's Porter County Fair:
4-H PROJECT HORSE OR PONY:

Breed	Name	Sex (Gelding/Mare)	Date of Birth

If you wish to have a second stall for the week, please list horse or pony:

Breed	Name	Sex (Gelding/Mare)	Date of Birth

By signing below, we understand that if our animal(s) is/are barred from the fair due to health concerns expressed by the project superintendent and committee, our animal(s) will only be admitted onto the fairgrounds and allowed to exhibit with written notice verifying the good health of the animal(s) from your family's veterinarian. We also understand that any related veterinarian expenses are the responsibility of your family.

Signature of 4-H Member: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Please list who you would like to be stalled with during fair week - we will do our best to accommodate all requests.



Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony Sponsorships



The Horse & Pony Project once again is asking for your support to purchase awards for our classes at the fair and for our Fun Show. We give awards in more than 100 fair classes each year.

We rely on and appreciate support from each family, their relatives, friends, and local businesses to continue to have the funds to provide these awards. Our project is one of the few that is almost completely self-supporting.

Our children spend many hours learning and preparing for our events and we like to see them rewarded for their hard work. Each sponsor's name will be posted on the horse barn Sponsor Board and their name will be announced during the Fair and Fun Show to acknowledge their generosity and support of the project.

The project members, their parents, and many volunteers greatly appreciate and want to thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony Project

Please return the bottom portion of this letter with your sponsorship information to:

Paula Smith
3500 N. Dirksen Pkwy Lot #200
Springfield, IL 62702

Questions? Please call 219-628-0626

Please indicate the awards you would like to sponsor and the exact wording you would like to appear on the Sponsor Board. Specific class sponsorship will be assigned in the order requests are received.

_____ Sponsor award(s) to be given during fair week - \$40.00 per award

_____ Sponsor award(s) to be given at the Fun Show - \$20.00 per award

Please make checks payable to the Porter County Horse & Pony Project

Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony Project

FUN SHOW

SUNDAY JUNE 21, 2026

9:00 AM CST – Rain Or Shine



\$2.00 per Class /Ribbons 1st – 6th Place

1. Open Halter – Mares – 56" & Over
2. Open Halter – Geldings – 56" & Over
3. Pony Halter – Under 56"
4. Miniature Horse Halter
5. Senior Showmanship
6. Junior Showmanship
7. Lead Line (6 Years & Under) Not to ride in any other class.
8. Pee Wee Walk/Trot Pleasure – 8 Years & Under
9. Senior English Pleasure
10. Junior English Pleasure
11. Senior English Equitation
12. Junior English Equitation
13. Hunter Hack – 1 Ft

****LUNCH BREAK** Please eat up!**

This is a fundraiser for our project! ☺

14. Junior Open Walk/Trot Pleasure – (May not ride in Class 10-12-16-18-20-22)
15. Senior Western Pleasure
16. Junior Western Pleasure
17. Senior Western Horsemanship
18. Junior Western Horsemanship
19. Senior Ranch Pleasure
20. Junior Ranch Pleasure
21. Senior Ranch Horsemanship
22. Junior Ranch Horsemanship
23. *Senior Michigan Pick Up*
24. *Junior Michigan Pick Up*
25. Senior Barrels
26. Junior Barrels
27. Senior Flags
28. Junior Flags
29. Senior Poles
30. Junior Poles
31. Apple Under the Chin
32. Egg & Spoon

Friendly Reminder: This show is not an open show – Porter 4-H members only.

Juniors: 3rd – 7th Grade

Seniors: 8th – 12th Grade

Proper show attire required 😊

Attire for Gaming: Button down shirt with collar.

* Contestant or horse may only show in one of these classes.*

Patterns will be posted on Facebook event page prior to show & posted morning of show on back of tower.

You may show in:

Western Pleasure & Horsemanship classes

OR

Ranch Pleasure & Ranch Horsemanship classes

Cannot show same horse in both disciplines, but you are welcome to show a separate horse.

Parent/Guardian signature required on entry form.

Parent/Guardian must be present while 4-Her is showing.

Not responsible for accidents to contestants, spectators, or animals. Not responsible for loss of property or equipment.

Protective headgear required while mounted.

Judge's decision is final.

Be green and please bring this show bill with you.

For further info please contact Paula Smith @ 219-628-0626

2026 Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony Workshop Schedule

It is recommended to attend 3 workshops for a minimum of 1 hour.

Jumpers: It is recommended that you attend 2 jumping workshops.

You must ride the horse you plan to compete with in jumping at the workshops.

1st Meeting, Hippology & Club Tack Swap
Sunday April 19th 2PM @ 4-H Building
(Please don't bring horses to this meeting 🐾)

PC 4-H Horse & Pony Project Fun
Show
Sunday June 21th @ 9AM

ATTENTION DRILL TEAM RIDERS

Please call Paula Smith @ 219-628-0626 no later than May 15th if you would like to be on drill team.

🙏 THANK YOU 🙏

WORKSHOP VOLUNTEERS!!!

🙏 A few reminders 🙏

- Gates open at 6PM for Clinics. Please use gate 2 to enter fairgrounds. (Week before fair please use Gate 3)
- Long pants, riding boots, & ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet is required whenever mounted or driving.
- Parent/Guardian must be present with you at 4-H Horse & Pony Events, shows, and activities.
- **Please like "Porter County Horse & Pony Project" on Facebook – Info, schedule changes & weather updates will be posted!**
- Unsure about the weather? Call before you haul! Paula Smith: Project Supt. 219-628-0626

TUESDAY'S

June 2nd Main Arena – Jumping with Jennifer Houck
 Makeup Arena – Equitation/Showmanship with Mike & Lynn Frame

June 9th Main Arena – Equitation with Tammy & Maggie Sever

June 16th Main Arena – Jumping with Jennifer Houck
 Makeup Arena – Equitation/SMS with Emily Lundstrom

June 23rd Main Arena – Riding Harmony & Balance with Morgan Van Soest

June 30th Main Arena – Jumping with Jennifer Houck
 Makeup Arena – In Hand Trail & Score Sheet Q&A with Cece M.

July 7th Open Arena & Score Sheet Q&A with Tab Somers

July 14th Main Arena – Jumping with Jennifer Houck
 Makeup Arena – Dressage & Western Dressage with Tracy Biggs

July 21st Open Arena! (Please use Gate 3 to enter Fairgrounds)

WEDNESDAY'S

June 3rd Main Arena – Timed Trail with Janet Hartwig
 Makeup Arena – Horsemanship/Showmanship with Emily Lundstrom

June 10th Main Arena – Barrels & Poles with Janet Hartwig
 Makeup Arena - Horsemanship/Showmanship with Emily Lundstrom

June 17th Main Arena – Ranch Riding Basics with Dave & Barb DeWell

June 24th Main Arena – Horsemanship/Showmanship with Emily Lundstrom

July 1st Main Arena - Horsemanship with Danielle McDermott
 Makeup Arena – Open Trail Practice

July 8th Main Arena – Speed & Action Intro with Tab Somers

July 15th Main Arena – Dressage & Western Dressage with Tracy Biggs

July 22nd – No Workshops – Have a great 2026 Fair!

Porter County 4-H General Record Sheet

Fill out only one record for all 4-H projects you complete and turn in when you pick up fair passes prior to fair. We will return them at project check-out for you to add to your records. Please be sure to also fill out your 4-H record of achievement for your own records.

*Make sure to carefully read the Porter County 4-H Handbook for any additional documentation required for a specific project.

Life Skills | Circle ALL the skills you used and/or learned this year through your 4-H projects in the table below.

<p><u>Head</u> <i>Thinking</i> Learning to Learn Decision Making Problem Solving Critical Thinking Service Learning</p> <p><i>Managing</i> Goal setting Planning/Organizing Wise Use of Resources Keeping Records Resiliency</p>	<p><u>Heart</u> <i>Relating</i> Communication Cooperation Social Skills Conflict Resolution Accepting Differences</p> <p><i>Caring</i> Concern for Others Empathy Sharing Nurturing Relationships</p>	<p><u>Hands</u> <i>Giving</i> Community Service Volunteering Leadership Responsible Citizenship Contributor to Group</p> <p><i>Working</i> Marketable/Useful Skills Teamwork Self-Motivation</p>	<p><u>Health</u> <i>Living</i> Healthy Lifestyle Choices Stress Management Disease Prevention Personal safety</p> <p><i>Being</i> Self Esteem Self-Responsibility Character Managing Feelings Self Discipline</p>
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Life Skills Reflection | List 4 skills along with how you learned or improved that skill. Please try to relate it to a project that you completed.

Skill | EXAMPLE Goal Setting Completed my photography poster project during Spring Break.

Skill | _____

Skill | _____

Skill | _____

Skill | _____

How have the life skills that you have learned in these projects helped you outside of 4-H?

4-H'er Signature

Parent or Leader Signature

2026 Porter County Horse & Pony Project

Participation requirements, General info, Week of fair show schedule.

4-H Horse & Pony Project Fair Participation Requirements

1. It is recommended to attend 3 workshops for a minimum of 1 hour.
Jumpers: It is recommended that you attend 2 jumping workshops.
 - You must ride the horse you plan to compete with in jumping at the workshops.
 - You will need permission from the jump instructor to show at fair.
2. Participate in the written test. (Study your 4-H horse books!)
3. Participate in one showmanship class (English or Western)
 - 4-H members are required to participate in one English or Western showmanship class to be eligible to show in any other classes. All other classes for the week are optional.
 - For those exhibiting a second horse – you may show that horse in showmanship as well. (For example: Exhibit Horse A in English Showmanship & Exhibit Horse B in Western Showmanship. Exhibitor may not take two horses in same showmanship class.)
 - *Versatility Exhibitors: Horse must exhibit in English or Western Showmanship to participate in Versatility as well as horse must be stalled at fair for the week.*
4. Family members (brothers and/or sisters) may share a horse if only one (1) suitable horse is available. Please note only one (1) of the 4-H'ers can register for State Fair.

General Information

1. Horse & Pony Project check in is Sunday - July 26th, 2026 from 7-11AM
 - a. *Horse & Pony members are not to begin **moving into the barn until Sunday July 26th** – We share our barn with the 4-H Draft Horse Project and want to allow them plenty of time to show and enjoy their project!*
2. Vaccination sheet is required for each horse you plan to show during the week. No horse will be allowed in the barn without this paperwork. (Vaccinations must be administered January 1st through July 1st, 2026)
3. Bring this packet with you. You will need the enclosed information to sign up for classes.
4. There will be a general meeting for all members and parents at 1PM on Sunday July 26th, 2026 in the Horse & Pony Grandstand. The 4-Hers' will be given the project written test immediately following. Please bring your own pencil. No cell phones allowed during the test. Study your horse & pony books ☺
5. Our Horse & Pony Picnic will be on Sunday - July 26th at 3PM, please bring a dish to share. Horse & Pony will provide the main dish. Picnic will take place in the horse & pony grandstand.
6. Participation permission slip - Class sign-up sheets for all horses being exhibited are to be turned in during check-in. Parent's signature is needed on all forms. Please pay close attention to the class lists, requirements, and age divisions when signing up for classes.
7. Patterns will be posted daily as well as distributed with your fair packet.
8. We require that a parent or responsible adult (Over 18 years) to be present at the fairgrounds, in the horse complex while their 4-Her is showing or working with their animals.
9. Riding boots and helmets must be worn at all times while riding or driving. The required helmet must be an approved, properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 certified equestrian type. Boots or closed toe shoes (NO flip-flops or sandals) must be worn while handling your horse or cleaning stalls.
10. NO riding in the barn. Horses may only be ridden in the Horse & Pony area, not to cross gravel or blacktop boundaries. 4-H member must only walk their horses at all times unless they are in the main or warm up arena. Working horses in any grass area is not allowed.

11. Horse & Pony project members are the only ones allowed to ride horses and/or ponies on the fairgrounds at workshops and during fair week. Please Note: Adult assistance with groundwork is acceptable, but we request the 4-H member be present. (Examples: Lunging, Showmanship practice etc.)
12. Whipping, striking or spurring your horse in front of the saddle is NOT allowed. It will lead to a disqualification in that class.
13. Horses must enter/exit the arena in a controlled manner; the gate must be closed before you are allowed to start your pattern or class. You must complete your pattern and come to a stop before exiting the arena.
14. If your horse/pony tends to kick out at other horses, please tie a red ribbon in its tail as a warning for others to give plenty of room.
15. Stalls must be cleaned by the 4-Her and ready to be inspected between 8:00AM and 9:00AM each morning of the fair. A well cleaned stall means manure and wet bedding has been removed and dry clean bedding spread evenly in the stall. Water buckets MUST be hung in stalls. Buckets on the ground will not be allowed. A full bucket of clean water must be provided at all times. Please do not put trash in the manure dumpster. MANURE ONLY
16. Aisle and outside stall fronts are to be kept clean, raked, and tidy. A light sprinkle of water will help keep the dust down.
17. All equipment, tack, hay, bedding etc. should be kept in assigned tack stalls. Tack boxes may be kept in the aisle. Grain should be stored in a sealed container. Tack stalls rules: Be courteous and respectful of others belongings.
18. In respect to our fair visitors, fellow members, animals, and everyone's safety, no water fights or pranks are to be played.
19. Please read the general livestock rules in the 4-H handbook.
20. **NO SMOKING IN THE BARNs – Please remind visitors of this rule.**
21. Senior members and Junior Leaders can be of great help to our new members and horseless horse members. Remember we were all first-year members! 😊
22. Stall guards are available to rent at check-in. We will collect a deposit check for \$25.00 that will be returned to you when the stall guard is returned. Those members with outside stalls will have the first opportunity to rent stall guards.
23. It is the 4-H member's responsibility to make sure the horses have enough water for the night. Most use a second bucket for water during a hot week of fair.
24. No one is allowed to stay overnight in the barn. Lights will be turned off by a 4-H committee member around 10PM each evening - Lights are to remain off for the night. Horses as well as people need plenty of rest!
25. No 4-H members will stay on the fairgrounds, overnight, unsupervised or without a parent or responsible adult.
26. If your horse makes a mess in the wash rack or any walkway, it is your responsibility to clean it up.
27. Use Gate # 3 when coming into the horse complex for check in day, as well as each day of the fair. Please be respectful of the fair workers and allow them to see your passes. DO NOT park too close to the barn or block aisle ways. You may drive up close to drop off heavy items, please immediately move your vehicle. There will be no roping off of parking places or parking trailers prior to check in. First come, first serve.
28. Stall decorating is fun and makes our barn stand out. If you are not decorating, please put up horse related poster or educational info. NO decorating before check in, we share our barn with the 4-H draft horse project.
29. Check out is Friday – July 31st AFTER mystery class (no earlier than 8PM) or Saturday Morning – Aug 1st
Closing meeting is Saturday – August 1st @ 9AM.
 - Horse & Pony to have stalls cleaned and decorations down and be out of the barn no later than 11AM on check-out day.

Objectives and purpose of the Indiana 4-H Horse & Pony Program

1. To develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other desirable traits of character.
2. To develop an appreciation of horseback riding.
3. To experience the pride and responsibilities of owning a horse.
4. To learn proper horsemanship and have a better understanding of management for breeding, raising, and training horses.
5. To provide an opportunity to observe and learn through participation and observation.
6. To accept constructive criticisms and learn new ways of training and caring for animals.
7. To provide an opportunity for educational experience through county area and state functions.

BASIC FAIR EQUIPMENT

- Saddle, Saddle Pad, Show Pad, Bridle, Show Halter (Must be leather, and leather lead)
- Grooming Brushes, Hoof Pick, Fly Spray, Sunscreen, Mane/Braiding bands, Hoof Black/clear.
- Shampoo – Conditioner – Hose to wash your horse with – towels
- First Aid kit for horses & people
- Water Bucket (2 if your horse drinks a lot!) Water bucket hangers for stall
- Feed Pan & Feed for the week of fair – (We find it easiest to portion out the weeks feedings & supplements in zip lock baggies with each day marked)
- Hay bag & Plenty of Hay for the week.
- Fan for your horse
 - (No Box Fans – Only Closed Motor / Agricultural Rated Fans with ground plug in barns & minimum extension cord weight of 14/3 gauge rated for outdoor use will be accepted)
- Shavings for stall, Wheelbarrow/muck bucket, manure fork for stall cleaning

Western Riding Attire: You will need a western show shirt – Long sleeve shirt with collar - clean jeans or slacks (Boot cut style OVER your boots). Approved riding helmet – Chaps are optional. Clean & shaped western hat.

English Riding Attire: Tan or light-colored breeches – Hunt Jacket – Gloves – Approved riding helmet – Undershirt with collar. Black tall English riding boots.

- Refer to the IN 4-H Horse & pony attire requirements for more examples.
- Have play clothes for cleaning the barn & preparing your horse for show day.
- Boots must be worn anytime you are riding, driving, or handling your animal.
- You must wear an approved, properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 riding helmet while riding or driving.

4-H Horse & Pony Class Schedule & a few show reminders!

- Your grade is the grade that you just completed in school.
- Exhibitor numbers MUST be on both sides of saddle pad for riding classes.
- If you have questions about a certain class – please refer to the Indiana 4-H Horse & Pony Handbook. We are happy to help with clarification.

Good luck everyone - Let's have a great week! 😊

SUNDAY – July 26th, 2026

7:00 AM – 11:00AM @ Horse & Pony Tower

Horse & Pony Project Check In

- Please bring your horse and class sign-up sheets to tower before entering the barn.

1:00PM @ Horse & Pony Grandstand

Opening Meeting & Test

- Opening parent & 4-Her meeting / Written test (Friendly reminder there are no cell phones allowed during test time!)

3:00PM @ Horse & Pony Grandstand

- Horse & Pony Project Picnic Lunch – Please bring a dish to share! (Horse & Pony will provide the main dish) 😊

MONDAY – July 27th, 2026

10:00AM

- M1 – Dressage – Grades 3rd – 12th
- M2 – Western Dressage – Grades 3rd – 12th
- 30 Minute Break for Arena Set Up*
- M3 – Senior In Hand Trail Grades 8th – 12th
- M4 – Junior In Hand Trail Grades 3rd – 7th

Please pick between Trail, Ranch Trail or Timed Trail – Cannot compete in all “ridden trail” classes with same horse. You are welcome to use your second horse for one of the ridden trail classes

- M5 – Senior Trail – Grades 8th – 12th
- M6 – Junior Trail – Grades 3rd – 7th
- M7 – Senior Ranch Trail – Grades 8th – 12th
- M8 – Junior Ranch Trail – Grades 3rd – 7th
- M9 – Senior Timed Trail – Grades 8th -12th NEW for 2026! Please see pattern for rules.**
- M10 – Junior Timed Trail – Grades 3rd – 7th**
- M11 – Speed & Action Senior Grades 8th – 12th
- M12 – Speed & Action Junior Grades 3rd – 7th

<u>Monday Class Placings:</u>

Class M1 through M12 will be placed 1 st through 6 th .

TUESDAY – July 28th, 2026

10:00 AM

Tuesday Class Placings:

Class T13 through T20 will be placed Grand Champion, Reserve
Grand Champion, A Honor, A, & B.
Class T21 through T37 will be placed 1st through 6th.

ENGLISH SHOWMANSHIP

**Reminder a showmanship class is required. (Exhibitors may not take two horses in same showmanship class.)*

*T13 – Showmanship Senior – Grades 10th -12th

*T14 – Showmanship Senior – Grades 8th – 9th

*T15 – Showmanship Junior – Grades 5th – 7th

*T16 – Showmanship Junior – Grades 3rd – 4th

LUNCH BREAK

Drill Team Performance & Flag Presentation immediately after lunch break.

ENGLISH RIDING

T17 – Equitation Senior – Grades 10th – 12th

T18 – Equitation Senior – Grades 8th – 9th

T19 – Equitation Junior – Grades 5th – 7th

T20 – Equitation Junior W/T – Grades 3rd – 4th

T21 – English Walk/Trot – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th (*Rider may not show in classes T23-T31*)

T22 – English Walk/Trot – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th (*Rider may not show in classes T23-T31*)

T23 – English Pleasure – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

T24 – English Pleasure – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

T25 – English Discipline Rail – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

T26 – English Discipline Rail – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

T27 – English Pleasure – Junior horse/pony - 5 Years or under

T28 – English Pleasure – Middle aged horse/pony – 6-15 Years

T29 – English Pleasure – Senior horse/pony – 16 years and up

T30 – English Pony Pleasure Grades 3rd – 12th

T31 - Non-Stock English Pleasure Grades 3rd -12th

- This class is open to anything not stock bred: Examples are Arabians, Thoroughbreds, Morgans, Saddlebreds, Horses that gait. (Drafts & Draft ponies are not considered Non-Stock)

30 Min break to set up jump course

- ✓ **Jumping warm up will take place immediately after set up - This is mandatory for jumpers!**

T32 – Hunter Hack – 1 ½ Ft.

T33 – Working Hunter Novice – Cross Rails (May Not Show in T35,36,37)

T34 – Working Hunter Novice Equitation – Cross Rails (May Not Show in T35,36,37)

T35 – Working Hunter Novice – 2 Ft. (May Not Show in T33,34,37)

T36 – Working Hunter Equitation – 2 Ft. (May Not Show in T33, 34,37)

T37 – Working Hunter Intermediate – 2 Ft. 3 In. (May Not Show in T33,34,35)

WEDNESDAY – July 29th, 2026

10:00 AM

WESTERN SHOWMANSHIP

**Reminder a showmanship class is required. (Exhibitors may not take two horses in same showmanship class.)*

*W38 – Showmanship Senior – Grades 10th – 12th

*W39 – Showmanship Senior – Grades – 8th – 9th

*W40 – Showmanship Junior – Grades 5th – 7th

*W41 – Showmanship Junior – Grades 3rd – 4th

W42 – Supreme Showmanship – Senior Winners only from English & Western Showmanship

- o Supreme Showmanship class winner will go on to compete in Master Showmanship on Friday!

Lunch Break

Drill Team Performance & Flag Presentation immediately after lunch break.

**You must pick Horsemanship OR Ranch Horsemanship – Cannot compete in both classes on same horse, but you are welcome to use your second horse. 🐾 **

W43 – Western Horsemanship – Senior – Grades 10th – 12th

W44 – Western Horsemanship – Senior – Grades 8th – 9th

W45 – Western Horsemanship – Junior – Grades – 5th – 7th

W46 – Western Horsemanship W/T – Junior – Grades 3rd – 4th

W47 – Ranch Horsemanship – Senior – Grades 10th – 12th

W48 – Ranch Horsemanship – Senior – Grades 8th – 9th

W49 – Ranch Horsemanship – Junior – Grades 5th – 7th

W50 – Ranch Horsemanship W/T – Junior – Grades 3rd – 4th

W51 – Western Walk/Trot – Senior - Grades 8th – 12th *(Rider may not show in classes W53-W61)*

W52 – Western Walk/Trot – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th *(Rider may not show in classes W53-W61)*

W53 – Western Pleasure – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th *(May not show in Class W51,58)*

W54 – Western Pleasure – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th *(May not show in Class W52,59)*

W55 – Western Discipline Rail – Senior – Grades 8th - 12th

W56 – Western Discipline Rail – Junior – Grades 3rd - 7th

W57 – Western Pony Pleasure – Grades 3rd – 12th *(May not show in Class 51,52)*

W58 – Ranch Horse Pleasure – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th *(May not show in Class W51,53)*

W59 – Ranch Horse Pleasure – Junior - Grades 3rd – 7th *(May not show in Class W52,54)*

W60 – Western Riding – Grades 3rd – 12th (IN 4-H Horse & Pony Rulebook Pattern 2)

W61 – Reining – Grades 3rd – 12th (IN 4-H Horse & Pony Rulebook Reining Pattern 2 - NRHA Pattern 10)

W62 - Costume Class Senior Grades 8th – 12th

W63 - Costume Class Junior Grades 3rd – 7th

W64 – Freestyle – Grades 3rd – 12th (Please keep songs to 2 ½ minutes & turn music into tower by Wed @ Noon 🎵)

Wednesday Class Placings:

Class W38 through W50 will be placed Grand Champion,
Reserve Grand Champion, A Honor, A, & B.

Class W51 through W64 will be placed 1st through 6th.

THURSDAY – July 30th, 2026

10:00 AM

HALTER CLASSES

- TH65 – Junior Mares Halter (Horses 5 & Under)
- TH66 – Middle Aged Mares Halter (Horses 6-15)
- TH67 – Senior Mares Halter (Horses 16 & Up)
- TH68 – Junior Geldings Halter (Horses 5 & Under)
- TH69 – Middle Aged Geldings Halter (Horses 6-15)
- TH70 – Senior Geldings Halter (Horses 16 & Up)
- TH71 – Pony Mare Halter (56" & Under)
- TH72 – Pony Gelding Halter (56" & Under)
- TH73 – Color Horse Halter
- TH74 – Non-Stock Halter – (Please see class description for Class T31 if you are unsure)
- TH75 – Ranch Horse Halter
- TH 76 - Grand & Reserve Halter (1st & 2nd from Above Halter Classes)

Thursday Class Placings:

Class TH65 through TH75 will be placed
Champion, Reserve Champion, 3rd through 6th.

Class TH76 will Placed Grand Champion &
Reserve Grand Champion

Versatility is placed 1st through 10th overall.

Noon

Intro to Horses – Showmanship & In Hand Trail Classes

6:00PM

Versatility

Drill Team Performance & Flag Presentation prior to versatility class.

TH77 – Versatility Class – Seniors – Grades 8th – 12th

Classes: English Pleasure – Western Pleasure – Reining – Barrels

Versatility Rules:

- Horse must exhibit in English or Western Showmanship to participate in Versatility as well as horse must be stalled at fair for the week.
- You must have completed 8th grade or above to participate.
- You are required to write a short speech to tell the audience a little about yourself, your horse, and your helper. Please turn in speeches by 3PM on Thursday.
- Your helper must be a Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony member.
- All equipment must be loaded on trucks prior to class – once class starts, you may not leave the designated area or have anyone bring anything to you. (Equipment, clothing, etc.)
- No one may enter designated area, and you may not talk with any spectator (friends, family, trainers, etc.) except your helper and fellow versatility members during class.

FRIDAY – July 31st, 2026

Drill Team Performance & Flag Presentation @ 10AM

10:00AM SPECIAL CLASSES & CONTESTING

Friday Class Placings:

Class F78 through F99 will be placed 1st through 6th.

For Classes (F78 – F98) You must wear a button-down shirt with collar – Any length of sleeve is acceptable.

F78 – Junior Special Pleasure – Ride without stirrups – Grades 3rd – 7th

F79 – Senior Bareback Pleasure – Grades 8th – 12th

F80 – Novice Horseman Walk/Trot Pleasure – Grades 3rd - 7th

(First year members only – May not ride in F78,F81,F82)

F81 – Novice Horsemen Pleasure – First year members only – Grades 3rd - 4th (May not ride in F80)

F82 – Novice Horsemen Pleasure – First Year members only – Grades 5th - 12th (May not ride in F80)

F83 – Water Cup Challenge – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F84 – Water Cup Challenge – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

F85 – Apple Under the Chin – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F86 – Apple Under the Chin – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

F87 – Michigan Pick Up – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F88 – Michigan Pick Up – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

You may ride two horses in classes F89 – F98. No horse can be ridden twice in the same class.

F89 – Cloverleaf Barrels – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F90 – Cloverleaf Barrels – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

F91 – Flag Race – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F92 – Flag Race – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

F93 – Dash for Cash – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F94 – Dash for Cash – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

F95 – Poles – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F96 – Poles – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

F97 – Keyhole – Senior – Grades 8th – 12th

F98 – Keyhole – Junior – Grades 3rd – 7th

6:30PM Drill Team Performance & Flag Presentation - Master Showmanship

F99 – Mystery Class (No Horse Used) You will need a partner – please wear play clothes!

- ✓ *You are welcome to check out horses on Friday evening after Mystery Class is over (no earlier than 8PM) You are still required to be at the Awards & Closing meeting on Saturday Morning at 9:00AM. Your stalls must be cleaned and checked out by a Porter County 4-H Horse & Pony Committee Member.*

SATURDAY – August 1st, 2026

9:00AM AWARDS & CLOSING MEETING

- All members are required to attend.
- Stalls are to be cleaned, and horses moved out no later than 11:00AM Sharp!

PORTER COUNTY 4-H HORSE & PONY PROJECT
4-H CLASS SIGN UPS/PARTICIPATION PERMISSION

EXHIBITOR NAME: _____ EXHIBITOR NUMBER: _____

HORSE/PONY NAME: _____

 PLEASE CIRCLE ALL CLASSES YOU PLAN TO SHOW 

MONDAY:

M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 M6 M7 M8 M9 M10 M11 M12

TUESDAY:

T13 T14 T15 T16 T17 T18 T19 T20 T21 T22 T23 T24 T25 T26 T27
T28 T29 T30 T31 T32 T33 T34 T35 T36 T37

WEDNESDAY:

W38 W39 W40 W41 W43 W44 W45 W46 W47 W48 W49 W50 W51
W52 W53 W54 W55 W56 W57 W58 W59 W60 W61 W62 W63 W64

THURSDAY:

TH65 TH66 TH67 TH68 TH69 TH70 TH71 TH72 TH73 TH74 TH75 TH77

FRIDAY:

F78 F79 F80 F81 F82 F83 F84 F85 F86 F87 F88 F89 F90 F91 F92
F93 F94 F95 F96 F97 F98 F99

AWARENESS AND CONCERN CLAUSE

We know and appreciate the risks and dangers involved not only in showing, but in particular events in which we participate, and the unanticipated dangers that may arise during my participation. We assume all risks of injury to my person and property in connection with or in any way related to my participation in these events.

4-Her Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____