

Ohio 4-H Horse Program Guidelines for Leasing a 4-H Horse Project

Introduction

One purpose of 4-H horse projects is to teach young people how to feed, fit show and care for their animal(s). The more important purpose is to provide an opportunity for personal growth and development of the young person. Ohio 4-H realizes that some youth are unable to have an actual horse for their 4-H horse project. Options available to these youth include:

1. Lease a horse from another individual.
2. Take a horseless horse project (Cir #173 or a self determined project).

What is the purpose of leasing a horse as a 4-H project?

A lease program is appropriate in the 4-H program when one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. The youth does not have the financial ability to purchase a horse.
2. The youth has a horse, but it is unable to be used (i.e. lameness, pregnancy, too young, etc.)
3. The youth has a horse, but it is of the wrong type for the educational experience the youth wishes to obtain.

What are the expectations of the horse's owner?

An individual (lessor) who leases a horse must be willing to:

1. Relinquish all rights to train, handle, to give riding lessons on the horse and to provide care for the horse so that the youth can complete the requirements of a 4-H project. Owners should not lease horses they want to ride or show on a regular basis during the term of a lease.
2. Not take the horse back prior to the end of the lease unless the youth agrees to return the horse.
3. Have the youth (or parent/legal guardian) sign whatever agreements they decide upon in regard to care of the animal under the lease.
4. Allow the youth to transport and show the horse in 4-H, open or breed shows.

What are the expectations of the 4-H participant?

An individual (youth) who leases a horse as a 4-H project:

1. To be responsible for the care of the animal in whatever manner that is mutually agreeable to both the owner (lessor) and the youth (lessee).
2. To complete a horse identification form as required by local county to identify the horse as a 4-H project.
3. As part of the educational experience of leasing a horse, to work in consultation with the owner (lessor) to develop a lease agreement on the horse selected for the Ohio 4-H program (see suggestions for developing a lease agreement on page 2).
4. Prior to any deadline date established by your local County Extension Office, to submit to that office a completed copy of the horse identification form and lease agreement for verification purposes only.

What should be included in a lease?

Every lease is unique in the items that must be covered to protect both the owner (lessor) and the youth (lessee). A lease should be drawn and signed by the owner and the youth to insure adequate care of the animal, protect the investment of the lessor and to detail the responsibility of the youth in regards to caring for the animal. It is wise to have a written lease agreement any time you are using someone else's horse even if the owner is a family member. A lease can assist in preventing misunderstandings and unhappiness between the horse's owner and the youth leasing the horse.

We suggest the following issues, but not limited to, be addressed in a lease:

1. Identification of the horse (name, registration number if registered); the name, address and phone number of the youth leasing the horse, name of parent or guardian if the youth is under 18 years of age; and the name, address, and phone number of the owner (lessor).
2. Who is responsible in case of injury or death of the horse. Who pays veterinarian bills and what would be the maximum amount you are expected to pay in veterinarian costs if injury costs are your (lessee's) responsibility. In addition if the animal is injured and unusable who has to nurse the animal back to health. An owner (lessor) may require you to take out an insurance policy on the horse with the owner as the beneficiary to cover possible loss due to the death of the animal.
3. Where the horse will be housed and who is responsible for the daily care of the horse; any feed, health care (i.e. deworming, vaccinations, etc), foot care and/or special stabling requirement made by the owner.
4. The purpose(s) for which the horse will be used and that it can be transported at the youth's discretion to horse shows.
5. Any limitations that would be placed on the owner's use of the horse. Refer to the current Uniform Rules for 4-H Shows (circ. 179) for limitations caused by the animal being a 4-H project and include them in the lease or reference them in a statement and make a copy of the rules available to the owner of the horse.
6. A statement on the time period covered by the lease and under what conditions and time frame the lease can be discontinued.
7. The owner should have a statement included relieving them of liability in cases of property damage, injury to the youth or injury to a third party while the horse is under the lessee's supervision.
8. A place for signatures for the owner (lessor) and the youth (lessee) with a line for a parent or guardian to sign for a youth under 18 years of age.
9. The above mentioned issues are only suggestions and we can not advise you as to specific terms or wording for a lease agreement. You may even want to consult an attorney.

Effective Dates of Lease: Beginning _____ Ending _____

Name of Lessor _____ Name of Horse _____

Name of Lessee _____ Value of Horse _____

Preferred Vet _____ Preferred Farrier _____

De worming Routine _____ Feed: Type & Amount _____

Lessor should check and approve stabling. Lessor and Lessee should agree on an objective 3rd party to settle disputes on care and handling.

Third Party Name: _____

Address & Phone: _____

<u>Responsibility</u>	Lessor	Lessee	Other
Vaccinations & Routine Vet Care	_____	_____	_____
Other Than Routine Vet Care	_____	_____	_____
Routine Farrier Care	_____	_____	_____
Special Farrier Needs	_____	_____	_____
Feed	_____	_____	_____
Housing	_____	_____	_____
Pasture	_____	_____	_____
Daily Stall Care	_____	_____	_____
Extra Barn Chores	_____	_____	_____
Tack & Equipment	_____	_____	_____
Hauling Expenses	_____	_____	_____
Show Entries	_____	_____	_____
Name of other if any: _____			

Receipts

Prizes	_____	_____	_____
Money from Sale	_____	_____	_____

List Other Expectations: _____

Other Requests or Stipulations: i.e. visitation rights, informed of transport dates and destinations

4-H Member _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Lessor _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Parent or Guardian _____
Address _____
Phone _____

4-H Advisor _____
Other Party _____

Date: _____

Horse's Identification Form

4-Her's Name _____ County _____

Horse's Name _____ 4-H Club Name _____

Horse _____ Pony _____ Height _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Breed or Type (saddle, hunter, stock) _____

Basic Color _____ Face & Leg Markings _____

Check if horse is leased.

Outline with dark solid lines all white markings.

Show all scars and brands.

DRAW IN HEAD MARKINGS

Right Side View

HOCK KNEE

ANKLE ANKLE

PASTERH PASTERH

R (4) Hind Legs L (3) L (1) Fore Legs R (2)

DRAW IN EVERY WHITE AREA

Left Side View

KNEE HOCK

ANKLE ANKLE

PASTERH PASTERH

L (1) Fore Legs R (2) R (4) Hind Legs L (3)

Rear View

HOCK KNEE

ANKLE ANKLE

PASTERH PASTERH

L (3) Hind Legs R (4) L (1) Fore Legs R (2)

INDICATE ALL DARK SPOTS WITHIN WHITE AREAS

Front View

KNEE HOCK

ANKLE ANKLE

PASTERH PASTERH

R (2) Fore Legs L (1) R (4) Hind Legs L (3)

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