



Kids n' Horses News

Happy Valentines Day!

Howdy to all the 4-H Horse Project members in Kansas!

This is the February, 2020 edition of the Kids n' Horses Newsletter to help keep you informed about 4-H Horse events happening around the state; AND give you a little educational information too!

IF you have not already done so, it is a GREAT time to complete a new 4-H Horse Identification Certificate for the 2019/2020 4-H year. If you need a new form, go to: <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/P1039.pdf>

Or if you need help, an example is at: https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/docs/horse/Horse_ID_Certificate_Example.pdf

This form should be printed front & back of 1 sheet of paper with a picture (a standard size photo, not an 8x10) attached to the back of the form.

ALSO VERY IMPORTANT, there is a **new Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rule Book**. Check the back cover of your rule book to make sure it is the most current; it should say: S133 Revised January 2020. Be sure to download it or have your local Extension Office order it for you. It can be found at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/horse.html> under General Horse Resources. There are several rule changes you need to be aware of and this will be the rule book used at District 4-H Horse Shows and the KSF State 4-H Horse Show.

There is a TON of information about the Horse project at: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/horse.html> Check it out and bookmark that page for future reference.

If you would like to submit an article or have a horse event you would like to publicize, please e-mail that information to Jean at jhuntley@ksu.edu.

Happy trails and safe riding!

Dates to Remember:

Mar 6	State 4-H Horse Judging Contest, Equifest, Salina; Entry Deadline is Feb. 15th
June 3	South Central District 4-H Horse Show, Hutchinson
June 25	Southwest District 4-H Horse Show, Dodge City (entries due Jun 15) North East District 4-H Horse Show, Topeka (entries due Jun 1)
June 29	North Central District 4-H Horse Show, Salina (entries due Jun 1)
June 30	North West 4-H Horse Show, Norton (entries due Jun 12)
July 1	South East District 4-H Horse Show, Parson (entries due Jun 15)
Sept 17-19	State 4-H Horse Show, Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson (entries due Aug 1)



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Horse Panorama Results

Senior Public Speaking

1. Kendall Schoenhals
2. Sean Wagner
3. Lakyn Roehrich-Putthoff
4. Cassidy Schumann
5. Paige Soper

Intermediate Project Talk

1. Layla Pickerign
2. Kiana Roehrich
3. Avery Bergen
4. Kendall Craig
5. Genayla Warnken

Intermediate Demonstration Or Illustrated Talks

1. Rose Dean
2. Degnan Boggs
3. Karina Tuttle
4. Taylor Stapleton
5. Amy Dean

Logo Contest

1. Kendall Schoenhals
2. Taylor Tiffany
3. Savanna Richmeier
4. Madison Hammond
5. Taylor Kibbee

Poster Contest – Sr.

1. Kendall Schoenhals
2. Ally Wells
3. Cassidy Schurmann
4. Lakyn Roehrick-Puthoff
5. Taylor Kibbee

Poster Contest – Int.

1. Kelsey Reynolds
2. Mackenzie Reynolds
3. Adessa Prosser
4. Trista Warnken
5. Danica Peterson

Ad Layout – Sr.

1. Lakyn Roehrich- Putthoff

Ad Layout – Int.

1. Rose Dean

Model Horse – People's Choice

1. Taylor Tiffany

Power Point – Int.

1. Lane Sharp

Photo Contest – Sr.

1. Emma Aufdemberge
2. Emma Aufdemberge
3. Kendall Schnoehals
4. Wyatt Jordan
5. Allyson Wells

Photo Contest – Int.

1. Kelsey Reynolds
2. Kylee Miessler
3. Grenayla Warnken
4. Adessa Prosser
5. Kylee Miessler

Sr. Quiz Bowl

1. Douglas: Raelynn Keefer, Lakyn Roehrich-Putthoff, Cassidy Schumann, Paige Soper, Claire Wilson
2. Shawee 1: Reagan Dailey, Amber Eggenberger, Logan Rockers, Makinze Grittmann

Hippology Sr Overall Team

1. Douglas: Lakyn Roehrich-Putthoff, Cassidy Schumann, Paige Soper, Claire Wilson.
2. Shawnee: Brooke Boland, Elizabeth Fecteau, Alyssa Hogelin, Alexis Studebaker

Hippology Sr. Overall Individual

1. Claire Wilson
2. Paige Soper
3. Cassidy Schumann
4. Lakyn Rohrich-Putthoff
5. Kirsten Miessler
6. Mandy Wainwright
7. Alexis Studebaker
8. Brooke Boland
9. Alyssa Hogelin
10. Braiden Turner-Warriax

Open Hippology Overall Team

1. Leavenworth: Emma Aufdemberge, Mackenzie Colgrove, Gracey Laver-Foster, Allison Megee
2. Wyandotte 1: Chandler Harris, Madison Bone, Macey Schempp, Paige Metzger
3. Wyandotte 2: Cassidy Waite, Delaney Schempp, Adelyn Rempel, Zella Kiewiet
4. Wild West District 1: Lainey Cox, Channing Dillinger, Grace Dillinger, Lindy McClure
5. Douglas1: Raelynn Keefer, Avery Bergan, Kianna Roehrich, Mackenzie Reynolds

Open Hippology Overall Individual

1. Jeannie George

2. Madison Bone
3. Emma Aufdemberge
4. Gracey Laver-Foster
Kayla Bigam
6. Lainey Cox
7. Chandler Harris
8. Delaney Schempp
9. Raelyn Keefer
10. Adelyn Rempel

Lope Along

Learning the ABCs of this three-beat gait.

By Cheryl West with
Holly Clanahan

1-2-3, 1-2-

3...The cadence of the lope is unmistakable and just plain fun to ride. But it's so important to have full understanding of this gait, so you can ride it to the best of your ability and keep your horse in his best balance.

First, what exactly is this three-beat gait? Western riders most commonly call it a lope, while English or dressage riders refer to it as a canter, and their version may have a bigger stride. Horses lope either in a right lead or a left lead, depending on which direction they will be turning or circling. If you're riding to the left in an arena (meaning your left shoulder is toward the center of the arena and your right shoulder is toward the fence), your horse should lope in his left lead.

Here's how a left lead comes together: the horse will first step off with his right, or outside, hind leg. The second footfall is the diagonal pair of his left hind foot and right front foot landing together. Then finally, his left front leg will finish the stride. A brief moment of suspension – all four legs in the air – occurs before his right hind leg strikes the ground again. The reverse is true for a horse loping on his right lead.

A fun way to teach leads is to put numbers on four cups and let students play with those to see how the footfall of the lope really works. Adults love these games as much as kids. I've also seen two people strap cans to their feet, and



one person plays the front feet, while the other acts as the hind feet.

Once you're in the saddle, how do you know what lead you're on? First, don't lean down and look at your horse's shoulders. It's a bad habit, and it could cause your horse to break gait or stumble because your weight just shifted too far forward. Plus, it makes it impossible to sit on your seat bones – which you need to be doing to correctly feel your leads.

Instead, sit in the saddle with your weight directly over your seat bones (something that is correct, no matter what discipline you ride). You should feel your body matching your horse's. If he's loping on his left lead, your left hip will come slightly more forward than your right hip. Your shoulders should remain square so your reins stay even.

That same principle comes into play when you ask your horse to lope in a certain left lead. When you're asking for a left lead, your right seat and your right leg are going to move backward just a bit and ask the right hip to lope, because that's the horse's first step. That's why we put our outside leg on.

As the horse steps into the lope, you should feel your left hip come forward, matching the inside hip and right shoulder. As you squeeze and lift with your legs, you'll feel the final step, which is the horse's left shoulder moving forward.

If you're having trouble with the lope, always look to yourself first to see if your cues are clear and consistent, and if your body position is correct. Arena mirrors and videotaping your rides can help you with this awareness, and watching instructional YouTube videos can also be helpful. But nothing is better than an instructor to help you in the moment, so that you and your horse can both be soft and balanced for a lovely lope.

Source: *America's Horse*, January-February 2020

