

Making the Best Better



Statewide 4-H Equine Science Webinar Series

The State 4-H Horse Work Team will be offering a variety of free online webinars for those involved in 4-H Horse related projects (Horse, Miniature Horse, Horseless Horse and any other county specific projects that involve horses) to help supplement the 4-H member's educational experience. These are available to members, parents, or volunteers! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS.** Start times are at 6 pm every Thursdays starting March 26-May 7th The sessions can be accessed via the following zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/98227902145>

We hope you can join us for these educational programs and will enjoy these opportunities! Subjects are as follows but dates for each are not finalized yet. Specific dates for each topic will be sent out ASAP.

March 26th- Exploring Opportunities in the 4-H Miniature Horse Program

Emily Green- Extension County Specialist, El Paso County

This seminar will introduce 4-H members, volunteers, and families to the many resources available within the miniature horse project. Participants will learn about statewide 4-H opportunities, educational resources, clinics, and events that help youth develop horsemanship, leadership, and animal care skills. The session will also review miniature horse opportunities at the state fair, including classes, requirements, and how to prepare for participation. The goal is to help 4-H members better understand the miniature horse program and take full advantage of the experiences available through 4-H.

April 2nd- How to Manage and Run a 4-H Horse Show

Mercedes Glenn- Extension County Specialist, Douglas County

Managing and running a successful 4-H horse show required careful planning, knowledgeable volunteers, and attention to both educational and safety standards. This webinar will provide a comprehensive overview of the essential components involved in organizing a 4-H horse show, from initial planning to show-day execution. Topics will include: booking facilities, hiring judges, required paperwork and insurance considerations, assembling and coordinating volunteers and officials, selecting appropriate classes and divisions, and choosing effective patterns that support youth skill development. Participants will also gain insight into facility needs, budgeting, risk management, and common challenges faced by show managers and secretaries. Whether you are new to horse show management or looking to refine your process, this session will offer practical guidance and resources to help ensure a safe, efficient, and positive experience for exhibitors, families, and volunteers.

April 9th- Bits & Bridles

Rebecca Sheriff, Extension County Specialist, 4-H Youth Development, Chaffee and Lake Counties

This webinar explores the purpose, function, and proper selection of bits and bridles to support clear communication between horse and rider. Listeners will learn how different bits work, traditional training progression for horses, and how to match equipment to a horse's training level. The webinar will also cover proper bridle fit, adjustment, and common behavior issues. There will be an opportunity for Q&A, and information from the 4-H horse show rule book will be shared.

April 16th- Interpreting Your Score Sheets- What's it all mean?

Jonathan Vrabec- CSU Extension Specialist/ Horse Show Judge

This webinar is designed to help horse show exhibitors better understand how to read and interpret score sheets across a variety of events. Participants will learn how judges evaluate performance, penalty application, and how scores are calculated and ranked. The session will break down common scoring systems used in events such as showmanship, English equitation/horsemanship, reining, ranch riding and individual cow work. You will be provided with clear explanations and real-life examples. By the end of the webinar, exhibitors will feel more confident reviewing their results, identifying strengths and areas for improvement, and using score sheet feedback to set meaningful goals for future competitions.

April 23rd- Horse Hauling/Trailer Safety

Kelsey Story- Extension Fremont County Specialist, Agriculture Natural Resources

This horse hauling webinar will provide essential guidance for transporting your horse with confidence and care. Participants will learn to implement safe loading and unloading practices, essential items to carry, routine trailer maintenance, and more! Whether hauling across town or across state lines, this session equips horse owners with the knowledge and tools to prioritize safety every mile of the journey.

April 30th- Navigating Lease Horses

Rebecca Sheriff, Extension County Specialist, 4-H Youth Development, Chaffee and Lake Counties

This webinar provides practical guidance on understanding horse lease agreements. Listeners will learn about different lease types, financial responsibilities, and how to evaluate whether a lease arrangement may fit their goals & experience. The webinar will also address thoughts on risk management and care expectations while helping 4-H families approach leasing with confidence and clarity.

May 7th- Equine Careers

Devan Catalano, CSU Assistant Professor of Equine Science and Equine Extension Specialist

This webinar provides an overview of career opportunities in the equine industry. Learn about the variety of ways you can work in the industry, required skills and education pathways, and practical considerations for building a career in the horse world!

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