

Draft Horse

and Draft Horse Basics

4-H Project Newsletter

This newsletter will be updated in December of each year, if necessary, based on changes made to the project at the 4-H Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting in November.

Welcome to the 4-H Draft Horse Project! This newsletter will give you an overview of the Draft Horse project, answer some of your questions concerning expectations of the project, and provide you with project ideas and some resources. Project newsletters are an excellent reference to keep on hand to refer to throughout the year. Enjoy your year in the Draft Horse project and when working on your project, remember to "Learn to do by Doing." If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator (ALC).

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

Ages for Members:

Junior Members: 9 - 13 years of age as of January 1, as of the current year.

Senior Members: 14 - 21 years of age as of January 1, as of the current year.

4-H members may register in the club and county of their choice, but must only be registered in one club, in one province. Members may register in one club and access projects in a neighboring club if that club is willing to assist with leadership of a certain project.

Project Completion:

All 4-H members must complete 'project requirements', for each of their projects, at their club Achievement Day. If you are unable to attend your own club Achievement Day, please make prior arrangements with your Regional ALC. Completion of your project qualifies you to move on to any further county, provincial, or national 4-H competitions relating to that project in the current 4-H year. School projects are not permitted to be used as 4-H projects. Each member must complete and display their own project work (i.e., two members cannot share a project for project completion).

What is Achievement Day?

Achievement Day allows members to display their project work to the public and have their projects evaluated, non-competitively. Project completion at Achievement Day is based on the following system:

A Green project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:	A Silver project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:	A Gold project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work
Plus one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	Plus two of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	Plus all three of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging

RECORD SHEET – Each member must complete a satisfactory record sheet. Record sheets may be hand written or typed. *For more useful information, refer to Record Sheet Guidelines.*

PROJECT WORK – Each 4-H project (e.g., woodworking, dairy, etc.) has specific project work requirements. Each members’ project work will be evaluated on the quality of the work, degree of difficulty for experience/age, the way articles are displayed/presented, and whether all requirements are met. A 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbon will be given for each project. Please review project requirements for each project carefully. In non-livestock projects, members must complete the required number of items as outlined, unless prior approval is given by the Regional ALC. This request should be made in advance of the member’s Achievement Day. Consideration of an item counting as additional items will be given based on members age, degree of difficulty, time required to complete, etc.

COMMUNICATIONS – Members who participate in public speaking and/or demonstrations at club level will receive recognition on their Achievement Day Certificate. Each club has its own standards for communications, so members should confirm with the general club leader.

CLUB CONTRIBUTION – Members are encouraged to be actively involved in their club, county, province, and community. The club contribution aspect is an assessment on such things as a member’s attendance at meetings and events, attitude, effort, cooperation, and self-expression. Each club has its own standards for club contribution. Evaluation of this Achievement Day component is done by the Club General Leader and / or project leader(s). The standard for club contribution should be communicated clearly to all members by club leaders at the beginning of the 4-H year.

JUDGING – In each project, members are asked to compare four (4) articles or livestock (e.g., 4 wooden shelves in the woodworking project or 4 heifers in a dairy class), then evaluate them to place the class in order from first (closest to the ideal), to fourth (furthest from the ideal). Oral reasons, using proper terminology, are given to an official judge for the project to support those choices. There are many useful judging resources available through your Regional ALC,

as well online at the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website. In each county, a judging box is also available to borrow to help practice judging skills. It includes judging information and cards as well as judging classes, with reasons. Clubs may book these supplies through the Regional ALC.

At 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show, 4-H animals participating in the 4-H Nova Scotia Show competitions are used to make up livestock judging classes (e.g., 4 intermediate Holstein calves). Members are responsible for notifying their Regional ALC by September 15 by email if they do not wish to have their animal used. Please keep in mind that judging classes can only be provided if members are willing to offer their animals for a judging class. As such, 4-H members are encouraged to let their animal be used in a judging class if possible.

Draft Horse Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Draft Horse members must complete showmanship with their registered 4-H Draft Horse. Members may show their 4-H Draft Horse in a halter or a bridle which is suitable to that attire and draft horses/halflingers/draft ponies must be braided for showmanship at Achievement Days, County shows, exhibitions & 4-H Show.

Draft Horse Basics Members in addition to a showmanship class, must also exhibit a report or display on some aspect of horsemanship and should involve a horse (**Clarification at 4-H NS AGM 2012**) The horse which Horse Basics member shows must be a 4-H registered animal for the current year.

Record sheet note: There is a specific Horse Basics record sheet which differs from the other horse projects.

DRESS CODE:

Helmets: All 4-H members (Junior & Senior) must wear a SEI-ASTM approved equestrian helmet that is properly fitted and fastened at all times when driving or riding in a horse drawn vehicle at 4-H events. (4-H NS AGM 2009)

Draft Horse/Pony:

Boys - Long sleeved shirt and dress pants.

Girls - Dress, skirt or dress pants and long sleeved blouse.

Hard soled boots with steel toes are encouraged for all members' safety. A tie is optional.

Driving Class: "Sunday" attire or the above dress code depending on type of vehicle being used.

Livestock Registration

4-H members must select their 4-H animals by May 1st of the current 4-H year, and must submit livestock registration information to the Regional ALC by May 15th of the current 4-H year. This information is necessary to assist with county show/exhibition planning, including judges, class schedules, awards, etc. The following information must be submitted for Livestock Registration requirements: name of member, junior member/senior member, conformation class entered, sex of animal, breed of animal, and date of birth of animal.

4-H animals may be substituted between the registration deadline of May 15th and Achievement Day in the case of injury, sickness, disease or death of the animal. If an animal is to be substituted prior to Achievement Day, pre-approval from the Regional ALC is necessary. A vet certificate may be required. After Achievement Day, no substitutions are permitted. 4-H members who complete their livestock project with their own registered/approved animal on Achievement Day may use another 4-H member's 4-H animal in a showmanship class at county show/exhibition and the 4-H Nova Scotia Show.

Horse Basics Members must show a registered 4-H Miniature Horse and should register the horse they plan to use for their Showmanship class, on the Livestock Registration Sheets due on May 15th of the current year.

REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS BOOK:

An updated "4-H Light Horse Leaders' Guide, Regulations and Standards" book has been put in effect for 2014 (**4-H NS AGM 2013**). The information contained in the previous edition of this book in regards to the draft horse project can be found below. The most up-to-date Rule information for all Draft horse projects is contained in this newsletter. Please refer to this newsletter first as the Rules and Regulations are not updated on a yearly basis. If you have questions, please contact your Agriculture Leadership Coordinator

DRAFT HORSE OR DRAFT PONY PROJECT RULES

Mane and tail preparation will be awarded separate point values to be combined for an overall total score and a special class will be held. All competitors will start and complete the class at the same time.

A harness class will be split between draft horse and draft pony (Clarification, 4-H NS AGM 2013). The member must provide a suitable vehicle for the class - a two or four-wheel vehicle is acceptable.

Draft project horses shall be shown in halter or bridle. Foals shall be shown in a halter.

Members who are doing the driving portion of the draft project are asked to make their Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator aware at the time of livestock registration.

Draft Horse Members must use the draft horse that they registered for 4-H, in Mane and Tail, and Cart Classes, at County and Provincial Level Competition (4-H NS AGM 2008). Members may borrow a Draft Horse for competition in Showmanship Classes Only at County and Provincial Level Competition provided the borrowed horse is registered for the 4-H program and is not already being used in the same class.

Back numbers for Draft Horse will be assigned and provided at 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show.

Senior Draft Classes, when possible, will be followed by Junior Draft Classes at the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show.

Junior, Senior, and Champion Mane & Tail Classes will run concurrently at the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show.

In the 4-H Draft Horse project, the Mane and Tail Braiding will take place where the animal can be safely tied in a stall to keep members and animals as safe as possible (4-H NS AGM 2013).

For safety reasons members in Draft Horse Driving must have a header with horse handling experience, and Junior Members must have an assistant, also wearing a helmet, in the cart. **(4-H NS AGM 2007 & 2009)**. (See Dress Code: Helmets in this newsletter)

Only 4-H Registered animals that qualify for 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show and have been exhibited in the current 4-H Year can be housed at the show. Hence, no foals may accompany mares at the Show.

SHOWMANSHIP, MEMBERS WILL BE JUDGED ON:

- Appearance of Horse (groomed, braided, condition)
- Appearance of Exhibitor (attire)
- Showing Techniques in the Ring (leading, posing, pattern, alertness)
- A show bridle should be used
- At 4-H show you can use another member's horse in showmanship if you did not bring yours
- Show Sticks may be used

MANE & TAIL BRAIDING, MEMBERS WILL BE JUDGED ON:

- Neatness, even tension, straightness of braid, tightness of tail and degree of completeness at end of 20 minutes and no signs of ties/strings.
- At 4-H show members will be given 20 minutes to braid a showmanship mane (to the withers) as well as the tail and put in decorations.
- Undocked tails are to be braided. For example, they can be French braided to the end of the tail bone and the remaining tail placed into a bun.
- Fetlocks are not included in the braiding but if desired can be braided before the class.

DRIVING CLASS, MEMBERS ARE JUDGED ON:

- How the member handles the horse in a driving class, the vehicle can be a 2 or 4 wheeled. The purpose of the vehicle can be either work or show. For example, there may be many types of exhibits in the Driving class. For example:
 - That of a Sunday drive cart or wagon in "Sunday" attire
 - That of a working nature i.e.) work wagon or show wagon suitable for a single horse
- Members will be asked to work both ways of the ring at any gait requested by the judge and may be asked to execute a figure of eight and perform any other appropriate tests.
- Members must have a header (member or adult) available for line-up
- Members can have a second person on the vehicle for safety reasons
- Members can have assistance harnessing and hooking up vehicle provided they are helping and it is not being done for them.
- Members should have a whip in hand if they are comfortable driving with a whip.

4-H NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL SHOW CLASS & SECTIONS:

Each county is eligible to send the top junior and top senior Draft Horse members to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show for the following classes:

CLASS #1: SECTION #22: DRAFT HORSE JUDGING

CLASS #2: SECTION #10: DRAFT HORSE SHOWMANSHIP

Each county is eligible to send the top junior and top senior Miniature Horse members to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show for the following class:

CLASS #52: DRAFT HORSE

SECTION 1:	Mane and Tail Braiding
SECTION 2:	Driving Class

PROJECT MEETING IDEAS:

Veterinarian presentation on horse diseases; judging practices at neighboring horse stables; a session with a farrier about hoof care and proper shoeing; visit to a horse breeding farm; many horse breed organizations have audio-visual material, check with registered horse owners in your area; a session on proper care and safe tacking of your horse or pony; judging practices with other 4-H Clubs; fun trail rides or horse shows. An excellent resource (video) "Every Time Every Ride" deals with the importance of wearing a helmet is available from your Agriculture Leadership Coordinator.

RESOURCES:

In November 2008, a DVD set (4) titled 4-H Horsemanship was forwarded to all registered Horse Leaders in the Province. The resource deals with a wide range of topics - everything from haltering and grooming to specifics on reining. It has a great amount of detail on the 4 DVDs. If you are a horse leader and you have not received this resource, please contact your Agriculture Leadership Coordinator.

NOVA SCOTIA EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION: 4-H Members do have the opportunity to join the NS Equestrian Federation. There are both Individual and Family rates available and with membership comes Insurance - Accident and Liability, etc. There are also other insurance options available with the membership. For more information, contact the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation at nsefmembership@sportnovascotia.ca or visit the website at www.horsenovascotia.ca

CONTAGIOUS/INFECTIOUS DISEASE & QUARANTINE:

4-H members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are reminded that 4-H shows are showcases for the 4-H program, and the agricultural industry in this province. They are reminded that infectious diseases can be transmitted during transport, as well as at the show. As such, it is strongly recommended for the protection of the public, participants, and the animals at the show, that animals having or showing signs of infectious diseases not be brought to shows. As well, livestock exhibitors and owners must understand that in attending 4-H Shows, there is a risk of their animal contracting disease regardless of the best efforts of all involved.

If you suspect that your animal has a contagious/infectious disease, please contact your local vet immediately and learn more about the consequences, treatment, and transmission of the disease.

Livestock Health Checks will be done at the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. Members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are cautioned that decisions made during Livestock Health Checks at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show are based on visual analysis and the professional opinion of those doing the health checks. Their decision is final. Further, all animals that are put in quarantine cannot be shown; those responsible for Livestock Health Checks reserve the right to re-examine animals.

A brochure providing additional information on "Infectious and Contagious Diseases Affecting 4-H Livestock" is available. It will also be posted on the 4-H Nova Scotia website, as well as the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture website. If you wish to receive a copy by mail or email, please contact your ALC for this information. It contains important information for all livestock members on this topic and will be critical to review with 4-H Clubs, livestock owners, and your local veterinarian when making decisions about attending 4-H shows. This is the brochure that those responsible for Livestock Health Checks at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show will be using as a guideline in their decisions regarding quarantine.

SPORTSMANSHIP – Be a Good Sport!

In 4-H, Sportsmanship plays a key role in living by the motto of 'Learn to Do by Doing'. Please take the opportunity to consider good sportsmanship when at 4-H events. Here are some key factors to good sportsmanship:

GOOD CONDUCT – Demonstrate and maintain high standards of personal behaviour and conduct. You are representing your family, your club, your community and the 4-H program.

FAIRNESS – Learn and follow the rules. Be objective and honest. No matter what the results try your best by using your true skills without cheating. Treat others fairly.

HONESTY – Be a reliable person, do not lie or deceive. Be straightforward in everything you say and do. Understand your abilities and skills, accept the fact that you cannot do everything perfectly, but you still can do many things well.

COMPETITION - Competition experiences enhance positive youth development and prepare youth with competitive knowledge, skills and attitudes. Take pride in your accomplishments and in improving your skills – you are all winners, even if the ribbon color doesn't appear to reflect this.

COURTESY – Be well-mannered in your conduct. Be respectful, thoughtful, considerate, cooperative, friendly, and cheerful, no matter whether you do well or not. When you have concerns, questions, or suggestions, be polite in expressing them. Be pleasant and nice toward other participants, spectators, program officials, judges, the media, your leaders, parents and others. Give others the benefit of the doubt. Treat people and animals kindly. Keep your emotions under control.

GRACEFUL ACCEPTANCE OF RESULTS – Accept judges' results and suggestions with a positive attitude. The judge's decision is final. Regardless of the outcome; thank all that were involved in helping you put forth your best effort. Thank the organizers for their efforts; Sponsors for their generous donations; Agriculture Leadership Coordinators for their wisdom and guidance; Judges for their skilled eye and time given to the 4-H program; and anyone else who has helped you along the way.

The work in any 4-H project should always be done by the members. Hiring, or the use, of professionals and/ or adults to prepare projects for 4-H shows are not acceptable. Using these people as resources provides 4-H members with the information and skills to do the job on their own.

4-H Nova Scotia has a Code of Conduct in effect for all members and leaders. It is to be followed always throughout the year. If you would like a copy of what are acceptable practices in the 4-H program, please visit <http://novascotia4h.ca/codeofconduct/>.

You might also be interested in...

4-H POSTER CONTEST – Deadline and evaluation is normally at county rally. [Visit 4-H Nova Scotia's website for more information!](#)

4-H THEME CONTEST – Put on your thinking cap and be the one to come up with next year's 4-H theme! (i.e., *Let the Clover be Seen in 2017*). [Visit 4-H Nova Scotia's website for more information!](#)

WOOL COMPETITION – Open to all 4-H members. These articles must be made from 100% wool and members must exhibit a Wool Competition Report with their entry. For more information, please visit the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website.

RECYCLABLE COMPETITION – Open to all 4-H members. These articles must be made from a minimum of 75% recycled materials and members must exhibit a Recyclable Competition Report with their entry. For more information, please visit the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website.

GIANT VEGETABLE COMPETITION – Each year a new vegetable is selected for the Giant Vegetable competition held at 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. Each county can send one junior and one senior giant vegetable entry to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. For more information, please visit the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website.

TRACTOR DRIVING COMPETITION – The tractor competition is open to teams of 3 members (1 driver and 2 assistants); the driver must hold a valid class#5 driver's license or tractor license. The driver will drive a tractor and trailer through an obstacle course. The score is calculated based on safe operation and judge's evaluation. One team per county will advance to 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. For more information, please visit the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website.

RECORD KEEPING COMPETITION – An entry will be one record sheet for a project completed in the current year by that member, with a detailed analysis included. Entries in this competition must include a 1 - 4 page analysis of the work and costs in the project for the given year in order to be eligible. Entries should be displayed in a binder/folder. The top two senior and top two junior record sheets per county will be eligible for the Record Keeping Competition at the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show, but entries must first qualify at county level. All county entries must be forwarded to Truro by September 15th of the current 4-H year for judging prior to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show." For more information, please visit the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website.

AWARDS, TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS – Each year, 4-H Nova Scotia covers the registration fee to National and International travel opportunities for members awarded such travel experiences. Also, there are several scholarships available to 4-H members in Nova Scotia. For more information, interested members should speak to the Regional ALC and check out the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website and Visit [4-H Nova Scotia's](#) website.

JUNIOR LEADER PROJECT – This project is designed to build leadership skills by providing members with the opportunity to lead any aspects of their club which interest them (e.g., projects, recreation, communication, etc.).

GRADE 10 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT – Members must achieve gold completion and document at least 110 hours of 4-H related work to qualify. For more information visit the [Nova Scotia Department of Education & Early Childhood Development Personal Development Credit website](#) and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture website.

Horse
(Light Horse, Draft Horse, Miniature Horse)
RECORD SHEET

Name of Member: _____

Name of Club: _____

4-H Age: _____ Years in 4-H: _____ Years in Project: _____

Project: _____ (English/Western Light, Draft, Mini)

HORSE INFORMATION

Name: _____

Breed: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____ Height: _____ (Hands High)

4-H Project Experiences

Explain why you are taking this project and what you learned this year.

Please make a few comments about problems you may have encountered, how your goals were accomplished, and what you learned in this project.

Feed & Miscellaneous Expense Records

Month	Roughage (hay, alfalfa pellets, etc.)		Grain		Other Feed & Bedding Expenses (supplements, etc.)	Hoof & Health Care (immunizations, wormers, farrier, etc.)		Trailing, Board & Other Services (tack, clinics, etc.)		Total
	lbs./kg	Cost	lbs./kg	Cost		item	Cost	Item	Cost	
TOTAL										

NOTE: Roughage includes pasture, haylage, hay, grass silage; Ration/Feed includes corn, grains, etc.; Miscellaneous costs include registration, housing, saw dust, equipment, etc.

Financial Statement

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Prize		Hay, Feed & Bedding	
Other Income		Hoof & Health Care	
Total Income		Trailing, Board & Other Services	
TOTAL EXPENSES			

Animal owned by farmer or Animal owned by 4-H member/family

Meeting Summary

How many general club meetings did you attend this year? _____

How many project meetings did you attend this year? _____

Please list any other club/county activities that you may have participated in during the past year?
