Alabama 4-H Horse Activity Helmet and Mount Area Policy

Helmets:

All participants in 4-H horse activities in Alabama will be required to wear American Society for Testing and Materials/Safety Equipment Institute (ASTM/SEI) approved protective headgear with secured harness while mounted.

It is the full responsibility of riders and parents or guardians of riders to ensure that the headgear worn complies with ASTM/SEI standards, carries the proper seals and is properly fitted and in good condition. The Alabama 4-H program, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Extension personnel, volunteers, show committees, officials and judges are not responsible for checking headgear for compliance with ASTM/SEI standards.

A helmet must be worn by riders when mounted at all times at all 4-H events or when representing 4-H or a 4-H Club, with no exceptions. Examples of 4-H events include, but are not limited to, county workshops, 4-H open horse shows, practices, open rides, trail rides, drill teams, fairs and parades. This policy includes the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show Championships that starting in 2014, has implemented a mandatory helmet policy. A helmet must be worn every time, every ride.

The helmet policy applies to all 4-H members.

At any 4-H equestrian activity, the official activity manager (show manager, clinic organizer, club leader) may, at his/her discretion, check a participant’s equestrian helmet for proper standards. If the participant is found to be wearing an unapproved, defective or improperly fitted helmet, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any mounted activity until a proper helmet is acquired.

Failure to comply with the helmet policy may result in disqualification from the activity. Repeated offenses may result in disqualification from all 4-H horse activities, including local, regional, and state horse shows.

Failure of a volunteer to properly enforce the helmet policy may result in loss of leadership status.

Mount Areas:

Riders may only be mounted in designated mount areas at the Alabama State 4-H Horse Show. Mounted riders will not be permitted on asphalt or concrete surfaces unless they are clearly marked as a designated mount area.

I have read the Alabama 4-H Horse Activity Helmet Policy and Mount Area Policy and understand its requirements. I have been given an opportunity to ask any questions I may have and voluntarily agree to adhere to its requirements wherever/whenever I represent Alabama 4-H.

I have read the Alabama 4-H Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it.

_____________________________/________         _____ ________________________________/________
Signature of 4-H member and Date                                   Signature of Parent or Guardian and Date

_________________________________
County of 4-H Membership