



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 has 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 or her discretion, check a person's equestrian helmet for proper standards. If the participant is found to be wearing an unapproved, defective, or improperly fitted helmet, he or 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 4-H 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.



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I have read the Alabama 4-H Horse Activity Helmet 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.

4-H member signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

County of 4-H membership: _____