



Horse Project FAQs

- When do I have to have my horse ID'ed?
 - Horses must be ID'ed by May 1 each year. The Horse Identification Certificate can be found at <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/P1039.pdf>. 4-H'ers must have a certificate for each horse they plan to show during that 4-H year. This form can be filled out and then re-signed each additional year. An example certificate can be found at http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/docs/horse/Horse_ID_Certificate_Example.pdf.
- What if my horse gets injured after the ID deadline?
 - Unfortunately, if your horse gets hurt after the deadline, you cannot emergency-register a new horse. All horses must be registered by May 1st.
- How does leasing work?
 - You may lease a horse if you do not have access to family-owned horses. If you lease a horse, you must care for the horse 75% of the time between May 1st and September 30th. The leased horse must still be ID'ed by May 1st.
 - Please refer to page 6 the of the [Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook](#) for complete leasing rules.
- When do levels have to be completed?
 - Both the written and riding portion of the level testing must be completed by the entry deadline for your district show.
 - If your county requires you to do level testing for your county fair show, you must have both portions completed by the entry deadline for your county show.
 - Please keep in mind that level testers for the riding portion are busy people. They may need a few weeks' notice to get you worked in to their schedule. We recommend that you communicate with your fellow project members in your county or extension district and try to coordinate a group to be tested at the same time.
- Can I switch district shows if I can't make it to mine?
 - No, you cannot currently switch districts.
 - Page 14 of the [Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook](#) states "Members must show at their designated district 4-H horse show..."

- Can we switch horses at the district or state show?
 - You are allowed to switch horses at the district show.
 - Page 15 of the [Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook](#) states “At the district show, substitutions may be made before exhibiting if the horse is identified on or before May 1...Substitutions should be made at check-in or with the show secretary prior to the class. There will be no substitutions at the gate.”
 - You are NOT allowed to switch horses at the state show.
 - Page 15 of the [Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook](#) states “At the state show, the 4-H’er must show in exactly the same classes with the same horse in which he or she qualified at district show. There will be no substitutions and no exceptions.

- If my 2-year old or 3-year old project gets hurt and is unable to be shown at the Kansas State Fair show, can I still participate in the interview portion?
 - Yes! These projects are educational and even if you are unable to show your project horse for any reason, we still want you to be able to gain interview experience and share your learning and understanding with our judges. We highly encourage you to participate in the interview even if you don’t bring your horse with you for the show.

- Can other people ride my 2-year old/3-year old project horse?
 - After the May 1st deadline, project horses can only be shown and ridden by the 4-H member. We encourage you to seek advice from outside sources, but you must not let others ride your horse after the ID deadline.
 - 2-Year-Old Snaffle Bit Project rules are on pages 71-72 of the [Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook](#).
 - 3-Year-Old Project rules are on pages 72-74 of the Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook.

- Can I show in both traditional Western classes and the Ranch Horse classes?
 - Yes, you can show in both the traditional and ranch type classes. However, please keep in mind that the ideal look and movements for these types of classes are different. If you take a traditional western horse in a ranch class, the horse may not do as well in these classes. The same is true for the reverse. A ranch style horse would not do as well in the traditional western classes.
 - We encourage you to read the rules for both Western classes and Ranch classes in the [Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rulebook](#) to determine which classes are the best for you and your horse.

- How does the Horseless Horse Project work?
 - Horseless Horse Project is for those members that do not own or lease a horse. 4-H members participate by learning about horses and can participate in judging contests, quiz bowl, hippology, and give presentations. Project members may also volunteer to assist with horse shows and trail rides.
 - Project member may exhibit at their local fair with a borrowed 4-H Identified horse in the showmanship class only. There will be NO riding.