



To: Junior Fair Youth Exhibitors, Parents and/or Guardians, and Youth Advisors Participating in the 2024 Saddle Horse Programs: Saddle Horse Shows, Year End Points, PAS, and the Junior Fair Show
 Re: 2024 Saddle Horse Symposium & Mandatory Equine Safety Requirement
 March 14, 2024

The Mahoning Saddle Horse Committee, the Mahoning County Junior Fair, OSU Extension 4-H – Mahoning County have joined efforts to provide an excellent Saddle Horse Symposium for the equine youth in 2024. We hope you will join us! We encourage you to *share this information with any new members planning to exhibit at the Mahoning County Junior Fair in 2024.*

The 2024 Mahoning Saddle Horse Symposium is March 23 at the Michael Kusalaba Fund of the Youngstown Foundation Event Center at the Canfield Fairgrounds. The Symposium will offer a variety of guest speakers, vendors, feed & supply information, and sessions needed to fulfill the safety requirements. If you would like to join us with a vendor space, please contact Christine Morozov at 330-717-5960. We still have room. Vendor booths can be equine related, or could be Tupperware, Lularoe, Avon, or your own company. Vendor forms are also available on the Saddle Horse Symposium page at www.mcjrfair.com.

If you would like to RSVP, you can send your name and child's name to mcjrfair@gmail.com stating that you plan to attend. However, RSVP is not required. Join in the Art Show and plan on trying the Skillathon. Art Show rules and categories are listed on the Horse Symposium page at www.mcjrfair.com.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR 2024:

- **All youth participating in the program must complete the Ohio State Equi-Step Program ONLINE IN 2024.** Each youth will need to create their own password and complete this individually. The link can be found at www.mcjrfair.com. In Mahoning County, this requirement must be completed prior to participation in any riding event or the first show you participate in. Ohio State requires the Equi-Step program **TO BE COMPLETED BY June 1, 2024.**
- **Each youth MUST also attend 2 sessions of their choice and the What's New in 2024 session and a parent/guardian must attend one session and What's New for You at the 2024 Horse Symposium.** If you cannot attend the day of the Symposium, make-up sessions have been posted on the Junior Fair Calendar and can be found on the Junior Fair Website.

These requirements are for all Mahoning County youth planning to participate in the 2024 Saddle Horse Programs to include Saddle Horse Shows, Year End Points, PAS, and the Junior Fair Show. **There will be no fee to attend the Saddle Horse Symposium.** The schedule is set up to offer the requirements and to allow for optional sessions at the beginning and the end of the day to offer more for everyone attending.

- **Members taking the roping project or participating as a mentor or mentee must also complete these requirements.**
- **Parents and youth exhibitors must also read the 2024 Mahoning County Saddle Horse Guidelines, which** are posted on the website with a link on the Saddle Horse page. The Saddle Horse paperwork will be completed online in 2024. The link to complete these forms is available online. Computers will be available at the Horse Symposium for members to complete these forms. A check list for paperwork will be available on the Saddle Horse page on the Junior Fair website. **We would like as much information completed as possible by the Saddle horse Symposium.**
- In addition, we highly recommend that first year members and his or her parent(s) read "Safety and You," Circular 191R which can be purchased at the Ohio State University Extension. This is an excellent source of safety information.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SYMPOSIUM:

Each youth and parent/legal guardian planning to participate in the 2024 equine program must register at the registration desk. Each will receive an equine safety participation card at registration. These cards will be validated in each session. Individuals **MUST ATTEND ENTIRE SESSION** to receive credit for attendance. **Cards must be returned to the registration desk at the Saddle Horse Symposium prior to leaving the symposium. Cards not turned in at the symposium, will not be accepted for credit.** Youth and/or parent will be required to attend a make-up session. **All of the requirements must be complete before youth may participate in horse activities involving horses.**

OHIO 4-H HELMET POLICY:

All youth age 19 & under, participating in any 4-H and/or Mahoning County Junior Fair equestrian activity, are required to wear properly fitted protective headgear which meets or exceeds current ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards with the chin harness securely fastened at all times while riding or driving an equine. It is the responsibility of the rider, or the parent or guardian of the youth participant, to make sure that the headgear worn complies with the appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, and properly fitted and in good condition. The Ohio 4-H Program, Mahoning Saddle Horse Committee, Mahoning County Junior Fair and related committees, Officials, Extension Personnel, and Volunteer Leaders are not responsible for checking headgear worn for such compliance. The Ohio 4-H Program, Mahoning Saddle Horse Committee, Mahoning County Junior Fair and related committees, Officials, Extension Personnel, and Volunteer Leaders make no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about any protective headgear, and cautions riders that death or serious injury may result despite wearing such headgear, as no helmet can protect against all foreseeable injuries in equestrian activities. The Ohio 4-H Program, Mahoning Saddle Horse Committee, Mahoning County Junior Fair and related committees, Officials, Extension Personnel, and Volunteer Leaders may, at his/her discretion, check a participant's protective headgear for proper standards. If the youth is found to be wearing unapproved, defective, or improperly fitted headgear, he/she will not be permitted to participate in riding or driving activities until proper headgear is acquired.

EQUINE SAFETY T-SHIRTS: WITMERS HAS ONCE AGAIN OFFERED TO PROVIDE T-SHIRTS FOR EACH YOUTH ATTENDING A MAHONING COUNTY EQUINE SAFETY PROGRAM. THESE SHIRTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON ENTRY DAY OF THE CANFIELD FAIR AT THE JUNIOR FAIR OFFICE. T-shirts can be ordered on the required enrollment form. Please make sure to THANK Witmer's Feed & Grain for their continued support of this program.

JUNIOR FAIR WEB-SITE: www.mcjrfair.com

2024 Junior Fair Calendar is available on the website. Newsletters, committee info and more Junior Fair and youth organization information will be available at this site. The website and email save on postage, but we are happy to send information by mail if needed. We are also using texting to send out reminders for meetings and provide basic information. If you have not received a text message and would like to; text your name, the word "Equine" and your cell phone number to me at 330-718-0444.

MANDATORY PARTICIPATION RULE: Must participate in at least two of the MSHC Open and/or 4-H Shows, or 1 MSHC sponsored show and 1 MSHC approved Mahoning County horse show sponsored by a Mahoning County Saddle Horse 4-H Club with the horse they plan to exhibit at the fair. The Mahoning County PAS Show is an approved option. Youth exhibiting in the Junior Fair will be required to submit an equine record book between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on entry day to the Saddle Horse Show Office. **All youth will be required to submit a Certificate of Equine Inspection (to include Body Scoring). Body Score Forms will be available to print online. Body Score forms will be uploaded to an online link when completed.**

GRADUATING SENIORS & YOUTH AGES 15 - 18: Please check the dates for submission of the following scholarships and award opportunities: Pop Shop Educational Assistance Award, 4-H Alumni, Royal Court, Outstanding Youth....every \$\$\$\$ counts for college. Also, Seniors or last year members please bring a photo and a brief summary of your accomplishments and turn in at the symposium or email them to mcjrfair@gmail.com so we can prepare a salute for our fair display.

The 2024 Saddle Horse Show & Guideline Books will be available for sale for \$7.00 at the Saddle Horse Symposium. This book includes the 2023 Show Rules, Guidelines & Shows for the 2024 Show Season.

If you have questions regarding Mahoning Saddle Horse Symposium, please contact
Christine Morozov at 330-717-5960, or Kimberly Moff at 330-718-0444.

Questions regarding the Mahoning Saddle Horse Committee may be directed toward. **Christine Morozov at 330-717-5960**

Questions regarding Mahoning County Junior Fair may be directed toward **Kim Moff at 330-718-0444.**

Questions regarding the 4-H Youth Program may be directed toward **Beth Smith, Extension Educator at 330-533-5538.**

COME JOIN US & HAVE FUN!

A LUNCH & SHOPPING BREAK HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IN THE SCHEDULE. GREAT TIME TO ASK QUESTIONS, ROPING WILL BE OFFERED IN THE ALL DAY. ENCOURAGE YOUR KIDS TO JOIN IN THE ART SHOW!

**For more information about Mahoning County Saddle Horse Program
& activities throughout the year visit www.mcjrfair.com.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU MARCH 23, 2024!
PLEASE MARK YOU CALENDAR FOR THE SYMPOSIUM!**

Mahoning County Junior Fair and Mahoning Saddle Horse Symposium Committee