

**6TH ANNUAL  
CONNECTICUT 4-H  
MODEL HORSE SHOW**

**May 14, 2022  
Middlesex County Extension Center  
Equine Events Day**

**UConn**  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,  
HEALTH AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES



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**Connecticut State Model Horse Show**  
**May 14, 2022**  
**Equine Events Day—Middlesex County Extension Center**

### **What is a Model Horse Show Class?**

So many young people who love horses most likely have one or two model horses – so why not show them in a 4-H model horse show?!

A model horse can serve as a teaching tool for either the 4-H horse owner or non-owner, encouraging the 4-Her who has some degree of horse knowledge/experience, as well as an introduction for those 4-Her's new to the world of horses! The Model Horse Show is a fun, educational way to learn about horse show classes, tack, barn safety, breeds and all sorts of horsey things. Gathering information, display organization, hand-making tack/accessories, and writing class descriptions all enhance the 4-Hers knowledge and skills.

A model horse show class captures a moment in the life of a real or imaginary horse. Model horses, such as a Breyer, Peter Stone or Hartland, are displayed in classes, such as fitting and showmanship, trail, or pleasure. Tack and other accessories may be included to create a realistic image of the class. Emphasis should be that the 4-H'er does his/her own work, just like in a real horse show. Expensive store bought items for the model horse are not necessary to participate. In fact, 4-Her's are encouraged to hand make lots of their own things!!

Entries should be on a display board that is no larger than 18" x 24". Poster board is acceptable as long as it is the correct size. Other boards or bases can be used. Size and type of the model horse/pony does not matter as long as the class is to scale. The horse and accessories should match the class being entered. The display must include a written description of the class, on a 3" x 5" card, which should explain what the horse is doing and the use of accessories.

Exhibitors must pre-register for the classes they want to enter and are given an exhibitor number. This number is used to identify your entry or entries. Prior to judging, exhibitors place their display on the table marked for their class. The classes are set up all day for exhibition. You can enter as many classes as you would like. You may also enter more than one display in a particular class. Since the classes are set up all day, horses and props cannot be used for additional classes. If you are entering more than one class, you will need enough horses and accessories for each class. The classes will be judged, and you can pick up your display at the end of the exhibition. **The preferred method of payment for entry fees this year is Venmo. Please note your child's name and the number of classes they are entering in the Venmo note.**

Model horses should be presented as clean and neat. The main criteria are to match the horse model to the class you are entering. Walking, trotting, and cantering poses, even standing models, offer performance options because you can explain what the horse is doing in the write-up. Rider dolls are not required, so if you choose to use a rider doll, the doll must be properly attired for the class and positioned well. Accessories should be proportional to the display. Keep it simple and natural. Hand-made accessories are encouraged. Model putty can be used to help position horses and accessories.

### **Rules**

1. The show is open to all registered 4-Hers. Contestants do not need to have a horse project to enter.
2. The New England 4-H rule book may be used as a resource. The rule book can be found [here](#).

3. **Classes must be set up by the 4-Her, not parents or leaders.** Older 4-H members may assist younger 4-Hers if help is needed.
4. Set-up time will be between 8:00 – 9:30 on the day of the show. Displays may be picked up after all classes have been judged and ribbons have been awarded.
5. Pre-registration is required to plan for time to judge, ribbons, etc.
6. Entry fee is \$3.00 per entry per class; entry fee of \$20 for unlimited entries. **All entry fees can be paid via Venmo to @CTState-Horse. Payment must be received by May 1, 2022.**
7. Exhibitor number will be received at registration and should be put with your display.
9. Explorer (5 & 6 yrs.) aged entries will receive feedback and a participation ribbon. Junior and Senior entries will be judged and receive Danish ribbons.
10. Classes will be judged on age, realism, relevance to the class, scale, correct fitting tack for discipline, detail, neatness and workmanship as well as condition of the model.
12. Displays should be no larger than 18” x 24” – a separate display is required for each class entered. The whole display should be to scale.
13. Displays must include a description of the class written on a 3” x 5” index card. On the back of the card, please include name and age of exhibitor, 4-H level, and name of class entered. Entries that do not have 3x5 cards present will not be judged; they will receive participation ribbons only.
14. Riders are optional – points will not be taken off for lack of rider figures - figures if used, should be appropriate size.
15. When the term “horse” is used, this refers to any equine species.
16. Store bought items are not necessary, items created by 4-Her’s welcome!

## **Class List**

Classes should follow the same rules and judging criteria as a live horse show. For example, a western fitting & showmanship horse would be shown with a halter whereas an English horse would be shown with a bridle. The written description on a 3” x 5” card tells the judge what he or she is seeing in your class. Entries will be divided by explorer, junior and senior levels.

**4-H Fitting & Showmanship.** Horse should have a halter/lead or bridle to reflect the show discipline. Rider (if used) should be properly attired for the discipline. Accessories may be used to show a pattern.

**Around the Barn.** Does not have to include a barn but does have to include a horse. Display might include a paddock, arena, grooming, or tack area or anything else found around a barn. Accessories should be appropriate for what is being shown.

**Western Pleasure Class.** Include description such as tracking left or right, which gait, show less contact, etc.

**English Pleasure Class.** Include description such as tracking left or right, which gait, show less contact, etc.

**Trail Class with 1 Obstacle/Ranch Horse** -Include description of what horse is doing at the obstacle, and name of obstacle

**Hunter/Jumper** - Must include a jump & written name of jump and description of what the horse is doing

**Famous Horse** - Include the name of the horse and why this horse is famous

**Schooling/Lesson Time** - Include description of what is being displayed

**Costume** - Include description of costume/theme – higher points may be awarded for home-made costumes

**Miscellaneous** -Any horse show class that is not mentioned above, examples: lunging, driving, dressage, reining, gymkhana, breed, minis. Include name and description of class and what horse is doing.

**Breed**—Models should be good examples of the breed or type being exhibited. Halter and lead or bridle appropriate for breed are permitted but not required. Include index card describing breed, breed origin, typical size and coat color, use and other characteristics of note.

