

DEPARTMENT 009

4-H & OPEN YOUTH HORSE SHOW

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chairpersons: Nancy McCarthy

Co-Chairpersons: Lorraine Morando, Sara Ponikvar,
Emily Enos, Erica Bethke

Show Secretaries: Nancy McCarthy

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IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Form Due: Friday, September 22nd, 2023

Show Date: Saturday, September 30th, 2023 at 2:00PM

Entry Fee: \$25 per day pre-enter & \$50 per day or \$12 per
class after Friday, September 22nd, 2023, (*online
only*) **\$3.00 per exhibitor**

**STALLS AVAILABLE starting in the morning – must
sign up!**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All exhibitors must be between the ages of 5-18 yrs. as of January 1st, 2023. Ages: Cloverbud 5-7 yrs., Junior 8-13 yrs., Senior 14-18 yrs.
2. Entry fees, Coggins and Health Certificates must accompany entry forms. You may enter online at www.topsfieldfair.org (see Exhibitors' Handbook) and pay or you can mail in your entry form and make checks payable to: Topsfield Fair, and mailed to: **Topsfield Fair, P.O. Box 134, Topsfield MA 01983** to be received by Friday, September 22nd, 2023 entry fees will be \$25 a day. Entries submitted after September 22nd, 2023 will be \$50 for the day or \$12 per class.
3. SEI/ASTM approved hard hats required when mounted.
4. Shoes with heels required (NO SNEAKERS).
5. Judge and Show Management decisions are final.
6. Classes/Divisions may be combined/divided or cancelled at judge or show committee discretion.
7. Current Negative Coggins and **Health Certificate Required.**
8. No Schooling allowed in the parking lot.
9. Bitless bridles and bosals are allowed. Any bit or bridle that is extreme and can cause pain to a horse's mouth is not allowed.

10. Lead Line and Walk Trot riders may not enter other divisions except for in hand. Person leading must be at least 14 years of age.
11. **SMALL EQUINE** – is 12 hands and under are "IN HAND" – not mounted.
12. Responsibility – All reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent accidents, but it will be the responsibility of each exhibitor to insure the safe conduct of his/her horse at all times. Riding without proper gear or equipment will not be permitted on the grounds. No BAREBACK (except costume and you must have proper footwear). The Topsfield Fair (Essex Agricultural Society), The State Horse Advisory, the University of Mass, the 4-H leaders, the Essex County Advisory Council, and the show officials assume NO responsibility for accidents to animal(s), persons, or property: entries are accepted on this basis ONLY.
13. No dogs allowed.
14. We will follow the *New England 4-H Horse Show Rules and Guidelines*.
15. Stalls must be cleaned before you leave the grounds.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS:

- Barrel Race – CLOVERLEAF BARREL RACE – Starting Line – The contestant is allowed a running start and a choice of two methods of running the course. In the first method, at the signal from the starter, the entry will circle barrel number 1 clockwise, circle barrel number 2 counter-clockwise, circle barrel number 3 counterclockwise and then cross the finish line and the second method would be circle barrel number 1 counter clockwise, barrel number 2 clockwise and barrel number 3 clockwise and then cross the finish line.
- Command Class – This is an elimination contest where any rider not executing the judge's exact commands *promptly and correctly will be eliminated*. Delivery of the commands will be at the show committee's discretion and explained to all contestants prior to the start of the class. *This is an elimination class. Horses/riders are excused as they fail to follow commands as directed above.*
- Costume Class – Any type of costume is allowed. Appropriately 4-H themed (meaning no profanity). Class Routine is walk only both ways of the ring. Either riding or in-hand proper footwear required, proper headgear required if mounted. Safety is of major importance.

- **Egg and Spoon Race – Class Set Up** – The exhibitors are each given 1 egg and 1 spoon (preferably hard boiled or wooden eggs will be used). Regular silverware teaspoons should be used. Plastic spoons or regular silverware shall not be mixed. After everyone has received an egg and spoon the riders must proceed at a walk around the ring. It is permissible to hold the egg in place with the thumb until everyone has entered the ring and the judge gives the word for the class to begin. The exhibitors must then hold the spoon by the handle at least 1 inch from the bowl and not touch the egg with the thumb or fingers. Touching of the egg with any part of the body after the class begins shall result in disqualification.
- **Sit-A-Buck** – Each exhibitor must ride in a saddle. Upon entering the ring, the judge places a piece of paper (approximately 3"x5") under the rider's leg between the knee and buttocks. The horses are then worked at a walk, trot, and canter both directions of the ring. Any rider not performing the gaits asked by the judge in a reasonable amount of time is eliminated. As exhibitors lose their paper, they are eliminated. The last to lose the paper is first; next to last, second, etc.
- **Pole Bending** – Poles (stakes) shall be approximately 1 1/2" in diameter of the safe material that will not splinter. Each shall be from 6' – 7' high with a safe stable stand not more than 14 inches in diameter. Distances between poles and starting line to first pole should be 21' but may be reduced to 18' for pony competitors in a pony pole bending class.
- **NEW: Horse Lovers Classes** – we will have some relay races, barrels, it will be fun things for the Horse Lovers, grooms, helpers to do!
- **To enter** – go online to: www.topsfieldfair.org (see Exhibitor's Handbook) put in your entries and you can upload your Coggins and **Health Certificate** and make a payment or you can print the entry form using a separate entry form for each exhibitor and make check payable to: Topsfield Fair. Mail to: **Topsfield Fair, P.O. Box 134, Topsfield MA 01983.**

DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

4-H CLASSES

Awards: RIBBONS

EGG & SPOON

CLASS A

1. Lead Line Egg & Spoon
2. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon
3. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot-Canter Egg & Spoon
4. Small Equine Egg & Spoon
5. Alumni Egg & Spoon

BARREL RACE

CLASS B

6. Lead Line Barrel Race
7. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot Barrel Race
8. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot-Canter Barrel Race
9. Small Equine Barrel Race
10. Alumni Barrel Race

KEYHOLE

CLASS C

11. Lead Line Keyhole
12. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot Keyhole
13. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot-Canter Keyhole
14. Small Equine Keyhole
15. Alumni Keyhole

COMMAND CLASS

CLASS D

16. Lead Line Command Class
17. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot Command Class
18. Jr. Sr. Walk-Trot-Canter Command Class
19. Small Equine Command Class
20. Alumni Command Class

SIT-A-BUCK

CLASS E

- 21. Lead Line Sit-A-Buck
- 22. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot Sit-A-Buck
- 23. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot-Canter Sit-A-Buck
- 24. Small Equine Sit-A-Buck
- 25. Alumni Sit-A-Buck

POLE BENDING

CLASS F

- 26. Lead Line Pole Bending
- 27. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot Pole Bending
- 28. Jr./Sr. Walk-Trot-Canter Pole Bending
- 29. Small Equine Pole Bending
- 30. Alumni Pole Bending

RELAY – NON-ANIMAL

CLASS G

- 31. Cloverbud Horse Lovers Class - Relay
- 32. Jr. Horse Lovers Class – Relay
- 33. Sr. Horse Lovers Class – Relay
- 34. Alumni Horse Lovers Class - Relay

POLE BENDING – NON-ANIMAL

CLASS H

- 35. Cloverbud Horse Lovers Class – Pole Bending
- 36. Jr. Horse Lovers Class – Pole Bending
- 37. Sr. Horse Lovers Class – Pole Bending
- 38. Alumni Horse Lovers Class – Pole Bending

COSTUME CLASS – *Class may be moved to an earlier time or combined depending on size of class.*

CLASS I

- 39. Lead Line Costume Class
- 40. Jr. Costume Class
- 41. Sr. Costume Class
- 42. Small Equine Costume Class
- 43. Alumni Costume Class

OFFICIAL RULES

Topsfield Fair General Rules & Information

Topsfield Fair General Livestock Rules & Information

Commonwealth of Massachusetts 2023 Fairs Animal Health Rules – Health Certificates required