



# Code of Conduct

Welcome to the Suwannee County 4-H Horse Program. It is our desire to ensure that everybody has a positive interaction within our organization. In support of this, every family/volunteer is expected to read, understand and sign this Code of Conduct agreement.

**As a Suwannee County 4-H Horse member/volunteer/family, I am expected to:**

1. Treat fellow 4-H members, their families, Extension staff, judges and others with respect, courtesy, and consideration while modeling the values we aspire to in the 4-H/Youth Development program. This includes treating others with a positive approach, with fairness and impartiality. I will teach and model fair-mindedness by being open to ideas, suggestions and opinions of others.
2. Refrain from rudeness, insults, profanity, name-calling, personal attacks (either verbal, physical or electronic), belittling, racial or ethical slurs, lying, any form of harassment or any other generally unaccepted behavior. None of these behaviors will be tolerated.
3. Adhere to all Suwannee County 4-H and state guidelines or rules governing 4-H the horse project. Rules can be found at <http://www.animal.ufl.edu/youth/horse/HorseInfo.shtml>.
4. Provide a safe and engaging learning environment by practicing sound safety principles, adhering to proper animal husbandry practices and being a good steward of the environment.
5. Set a performance goal against myself and not against another person while exhibiting my horse project. I understand I am representing the amount of time, effort and determination I have invested in my project.
6. Accept responsibility for my own actions, including the way I behave. I will not blame others for situations that occur because of my actions. As a parent or guardian I am responsible for the actions of all minor children under my care.
7. Treat all animals humanely. Cruelty or rough handling of horses or other animals will not be allowed. The stewards, judges, club leaders or show committee may disqualify or not allow anyone to participate who is mistreating an animal.
8. Wear proper headgear and safety equipment. ASTM/SEI approved headgear is required for all exhibitors, ages 8-18 by September 1, when mounted on a horse at any 4-H event.

By signing below I understand that any infraction of this code may result in my loss of privileges in the 4-H horse project for up to one year. This may include, but is not limited to: removal from 4-H sponsored events for the day; loss of points, class placing, etc.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_