

Ring Steward Guide for **4-H Horse Classes**

1. Read and sign the Volunteer Agreement form
2. Attire should be appropriate for the ring (clean and neat.) Boots or hard-soled shoes are preferred. Sandals are not allowed.
3. Be familiar with show procedure and etiquette.
4. **Do not discuss or comment on any horse or exhibitor with the judge.** Say nothing that might influence the judge. Limited conversation is preferred while in the ring.
5. Do not repeat any comments made by the judge. Leave what you see and hear in the ring.
6. If judges need to confer, stay way until they are done.
7. Give no instructions or comment to any exhibitor unless given to the entire class or unless directed to do so by the judge.
8. Place yourself in a position so as not to interfere with judging or with the view of the spectators. Be available for the judge's instructions.
9. Relay prearranged signals for changes of gaits and lining up to the announcer.
10. Encourage exhibitors to keep their horses spaced. When lining up exhibitors, watch spacing.
11. Have all exhibitors line up the same way so that each exhibitor has the opportunity to approach the judge in the same manner.
12. Keep exhibitors coming to the judge so as to avoid delay.
13. Watch for hazardous situations and conduct class accordingly. If necessary, help exhibitors with unruly horses.
14. In classes with obstacles or markers, make sure that everything is as close as possible to the same position for each contestant.
15. Check with the show chairman on any abnormal situations.
16. Excuse the exhibitors from the ring after their name and award have been announced.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING!