VA 4-H HORSE PROGRAM

EQUISMARTZ
VIRGINIA 4-H KNOWLEDGE COMPETITIONS™

EquiSmartz 2017

EquiSmartz is just around the corner, **March 24-26,** held in conjunction with the Virginia Horse Festival in Doswell, VA. Entry deadline is March 6th. Those coming should book your room now, especially for those competing in Hippology which spans Friday and Saturday. The communications contests will be on Friday with Seniors checking in at 10am, Juniors at 1pm. Special parking arrangements will be emailed directly to communications contestants. Every contestant, one parent and the coach will receive a free pass into the VHF for the day they compete, checking in through Gate 6. Please be sure to read through ALL the contest rules which also includes language on qualifying. Those wanting to participate in Horse Bowl or Communications need to qualify at the District level. See the calendar for qualifying dates. *Ticket booth volunteers are needed for approximately 2-hour time slots.* Please email horse4h@vt.edu.

Southern Regionals

Sign up for Southern Regionals with your pre-application due postmarked by March 29th and a $40 deposit. Due to the location of this show, in Perry, GA, we will likely fill the 60 horse/rider cap and will hold a waitlist. The show is August 2-6, 2017. Applications will be accepted on a ranking system based on performance at the 2016 State Show.

WHICH IS MY DISTRICT?

Find your County / District

PLANNING AHEAD

Plan ahead on your 4-H calendar: EquiSmartz entries are due March 6th, Southern Regional applications due March 29th, and many qualifying shows are coming up for those going to the state show or state fair. And April 1-2, come to a volunteer leader's conference at Wintergreen.

EQUISMARTZ NOTIFICATIONS

Keep up with EquiSmartz notifications as we are nearing the contest and on the contest weekend. Sign up with the Remind app on your smartphone by texting **@17eqismart** to this number: **81010**

VT Hokie Horse Camp

The VT Horse Camp is full but we will still accept riders on a waiting list. Email Leona Ransdell for more info at leonar@vt.edu

New Ambassador Program

The VA 4-H Horse Program is proud to introduce a new Teen Ambassador program which will begin with applications in early summer and interviews conducted at the State Show in September. This will operate much like State Cabinet and the Shooting Sports Ambassador program with the goal of offering teen leadership opportunities through outreach and growing the 4-H Horse program and the equine industry as a whole. Look for more information to come out via email and on the website.

Educational Materials

1) Online resources - a sampling compilation
2) Practice judging a trail class, more on YouTube
3) Publications - Borrow from VT; Hippology and Horse Bowl Resources; Extension Curriculum
4) Horse Learning Lab Kits - some are available to borrow in each District. Here is a list of the housing District agent contacts. OR Clubs can purchase directly at Ohio State University.
5) Contact the various breed organizations for free guides, judging criteria and educational materials.
6) Make your own! Get and share ideas at the volunteer conference April 1-2 at Wintergreen.

2016-2017 Calendar

- Feb. 18 - ND HJ and Hippology Contest
- Feb. 25 - Central District Horse Bowl Contest
- Mar. 4 - ND Horse Bowl & Comm. contests
- March 6 - EquiSmartz entry deadline
- March 18 - SW District Model Horse Show
- April 1 - ND Horsemanship Skills Testing
- April 29 - SEDR1 Qualifying Horse Show
- April 30 - SEDR1 Qualifying Dressage Show
- May 6 - ND Qualifying Horse Show
- May 6 - Central District Open Qual. Horse Show
- May 20 - ND Open Qualifying Horse Show
- May 20 - SEDR2 Qualifying 4-H Hunter Show
- May 21 - SEDR2 Qualifying 4-H Horse Show
- May 21 - ND Qualifying Open 4-H Horse Show
- June 4 – ND Qualifying Open 4-H Horse Show
- June 24 - ND Qualifying 4-H Horse Show

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Be sure to sign up on the 4-H State Horse

4-H GROWS HERE

Promoting with 4-H Hashtags: #TrueLeaders   #4HGrowsHere   #VA4H   #4HGrown

Virginia Cooperative Extension
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University
www.ext.vt.edu

See Also the VA State 4-H Horse Program Google Calendar

click on dates in Google calendar to see more details for documents (entry forms, flyers, etc.)

2016-2017 4-H Horse Program Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
February 18, 2017	Northern District Hippology and Horse Judging Contest	Herndon, VA	Michelle Dionne wolfview35@aol.com
February 25, 2017	Central District Horse Bowl Contest	Madison Heights, VA	Darla Marks dmarks@vt.edu
March 4, 2017	Northern District Horse Bowl and Communications contests	Charlottesville, VA	Bertha Durbin berthadurbin@earthlink.net or Carrie Swanson horse@vt.edu
March 6, 2017	EquiSmartz entry deadline	postmarked	Sandy Arnold horse4h@vt.edu
March 18, 2017	Southwest District 4-H Model Horse Show	Abingdon, VA	Sam Leech spleech@vt.edu
March 18, 2017	Southeast District Region 2 Communications Equismartz qualifier	New Kent, VA	Carl Frick chf70@vt.edu
March 24-26, 2017	EquiSmartz (State Equine Educational Contests)	VA State Fairgrounds Doswell, VA	Sandy Arnold horse4h@vt.edu
March 29, 2017	Southern Regional Applications due		Leona Ransdell leonar@vt.edu
April 1, 2017	ND Horsemanship Skills Testing	Free Union, VA	Bertha Durbin berthadurbin@earthlink.net
April 29, 2017	Southeast District Region 1, Qualifying 4-H Horse Show	Airfield Conference 4-H Center, Wakefield, VA	Brooke McCall seabreezeponies@yahoo.com
April 30, 2017	Southeast District, Region 2, Dressage Qualifying 4-H Horse Show	Beaverdam, VA	Lynn Whiteside-Jones Lynnj67@vt.edu
May 6, 2017	Northern District Qualifying 4-H Horse Show	Free Union, VA	Bertha Durbin berthadurbin@earthlink.net
May 6, 2017	Central District 4-H/Open Qualifying Horse Show	Celebration of the Horse, Powhatan, VA	Rose Borkey at (804) 598-7255 Davina Lancaster (804) 598-1372
May 20, 2017	Southeast District, Region 2 Qualifying 4-H Horse Show (hunters)	Dorey Park, Henrico, VA	Pinky Dowdy pinkydbr@comcast.net
May 21, 2017	Northern District Qualifying 4-H Open Horse Show	Winchester, VA	Rose McDonald at 540-877-4935 or Faye Strickler at 540-533-7029
May 21, 2017	Southeast District, Region 2 Qualifying 4-H Horse Show (western, speed, mini, gaited)	Dorey Park, Henrico, VA	Pinky Dowdy pinkydbr@comcast.net
June 4, 2017	Hear the Beat and Northern District Qualifying 4-H Open Horse Show	Lexington, VA	Linda Swenson 540-464-3303 take_the_rein@comcast.net
June 19-22, 2017	VA State 4-H Congress	Blacksburg, VA	Your Extension Agent!
June 24, 2017	Northern District Qualifying 4-H Horse Show	Front Royal, VA	Jackie McClintic 540-338-9631 Brio16@aol.com
June 25-29, 2017	Mary Cole 50 Mile Horsemaster Trail Ride	Location TBD in VA	Celeste Crisman ccrisman@vt.edu

July 8-12, 2017	Hokie Horse Camp	Blacksburg, VA	Leona Ransdell leonar@vt.edu
August 2-6, 2017	Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships	Perry, GA	Leona Ransdell leonar@vt.edu
September 14-17, 2017	Virginia State Championship 4-H Horse & Pony Show	Lexington, VA	Leona Ransdell leonar@vt.edu
October 7-8, 2017	Virginia State Fair Horse Show – Ranch Riding, Drill Team, Fun Show	Doswell, VA	Leona Ransdell leonar@vt.edu
Plan ahead with us! State Championship Horse & Pony Show 2018 Dates - September 13 - 16			