March Essentials

EquiSmartz is just around the corner, April 1-3! The entry deadline is March 14. The Virginia Horse Festival schedule is online now so encourage friends and family to come experience a weekend of fantastic horse education and entertainment!

Horsemanship Skills 3&4 is in the works! Here is what you need to know. First, it is not required! The only Horsemanship Skills that are required to participate in District Shows and the State Show are Levels 1&2. Horsemanship Skills 3&4 are designed for those who want to go above and beyond the minimum requirements and accomplish a higher degree of horse knowledge and skills. The testing will be open to Senior Level 4-H members. We hope to have the testing ready for the 2016 State Show. Level 3 will be an advanced knowledge and skills based test. Some skills that could be tested include taking TPR, leg wrapping, advanced showmanship and horse care. Only upon passing Level 3 will 4-Hers be able to move on to Level 4. Testing will be discipline specific by their respective judges at the State Show for Level 4. Special awards will be presented to those who complete Levels 3 & 4. We hope that Senior 4-Hers will be excited and ready to take on this new achievement challenge. More information will be forthcoming as the committee continues to formulate plans. Email Leona for questions!

Flu/Rhino Vaccinations
USEF has adopted a new rule requiring proof of the Flu/Rhino vaccine within 6 months of showing. For this year’s State Show we will highly recommend but not require that horses and ponies follow this USEF rule.

DO - Know what you’re asking for! The more information you are able to give, the more willing donors are to give. Tell them about you and the Horse Show Hero Program, 4-H and the State Show!

DO - Know who you are asking! Whether its friends, family members or a local business, make sure you know something about them, who they are and what they do!

DO - Have a positive attitude! Let people know how much their donations will help you and the 4-H Horse Program

DO - Think outside the box! Have some fun with it!

DON’T be afraid of rejection! You won’t get a donation from everyone. Thank them for their time and move on!

DON’T be overly formal! The potential donors are all real people, if you come off as too formal, it might sound untrue to them. Have some fun with it; let them get to know you.

If you need some talking points, email Leona for more info.

HORSE SHOW HERO FORMS

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

Thank you leaders and parent volunteers for making this world a better place for our kids to enjoy with horses!