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## 2009 NYS 4-H HORSE PROGRAM

### A GREAT PROGRAM FOR YOUTH!!!

**2008 was a busy, FUN-FILLED year – one that proved that volunteers are priceless!! It was a good year for those involved in the NYS 4-H HORSE PROGRAM!!** The educational opportunities were excellent and many. Last year approximately 7,396 youths were involved in the NYS 4-H Horse Program!! Youth are involved in almost every county in the state through the Cornell Cooperative Extension system.

The NYS 4-H Horse Program is offered through the leadership of **outstanding Extension staff** in each county. **THANK YOU** to each of them for their continued support of this very **valuable youth education program!**

The Cornell Cooperative Extension office in every county relies heavily on volunteers to provide excellent educational programs. **THANK YOU** to all of the many volunteers and 4-H leaders, as well as parents who support this very positive program for youth. **“If it weren't for volunteers, there would be no 4-H Horse Program in New York State!”**

**THANK YOU** to all the members of the NYS 4-H Horse Education Committee (HEC), for providing leadership to the 4-H Horse Program.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to each of the **Educational Events Chairs** and the program support team for all of their hard work:

**Horse Bowl** – Ann Janson

**Communications** – Rich Miller

**Media and Press** – Deborah Saroff

**NYS Fair 4-H Horse Program Superintendent** – Robin Bartholomew

**Hippology** - Vicki Bolton

**Horse Judging** – April Winslow

**Public Relations** - Bob DeVisser

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to Terry Kinsman, Judy Sherwood, Betsy Bartz, and Linda Poppleton - who are constantly working behind the scenes. And April Winslow for her exceptional effort on the Educational Events rule book this year.

The **NYS 4-H Horse Program Educational Rule Book** is available on the web site at:

[www.ansci.cornell.edu/4h/horses](http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/4h/horses)

*Jeannie Griffiths  
Extension Horse Specialist  
Cornell University  
January 2009*

# **REMEMBER**

Please remember, as you work with the 4-H youth this year, that the program is about "kids" ..... not about winning ribbons:

- \* We are here to have FUN...if we do well besides, then we had more FUN!
- \* If you don't want the judge's opinion, don't go through the gate.
- \* You win some, you lose some, and some get rained out!
- \* In 20 years from now is it going to make a difference?
- \* Youth and Horses...a Natural Combination
- \* Learning + FUN = Positive Self Esteem
- \* Youth Development Through Positive Life Experiences

We believe that the NYS 4-H Horse Program can be a positive life experience for youth - PLEASE help make it happen!

*Jeannie Griffiths  
Extension Horse Specialist  
Cornell University  
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# **NYS 4-H HORSE PROGRAM** **THEMES**

**1993 - “*POSITIVE ATTITUDES*”**

**1994 - “*TEAM BUILDING*”**

**1995 - “*EXCELLENCE*”**

**1996 - “*COMMUNICATIONS AND COALITION BUILDING*”**

**1997 - “*LIGHTEN UP THE LOAD*”**

**1998 - “*EVALUATION*”**

**1999 - “*KEEPING THE FUN IN 4-H*”**

**2000 - “*MOVING FORWARD*”**

**2001 – “*I THINK WE’VE GOT IT!!*”**

**2002 – “*PRIORITIES*”**

**2003 – “*PERSEVERANCE*”**

**2004 – “*VOLUNTEERS ARE GREAT!!*”**

**2005 – “*LET’S KEEP THIS BOAT AFLOAT!*”**

**2006 – “*KEEP PRESSING FORWARD*”**

**2007 – “*RAISING THE BAR*”**

**2008 – “*RENEWED SPIRIT*”**

***2009* – “*LET THE GOOD SHINE THROUGH*”**

*Jean T. Griffiths  
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Cornell University  
4-H Program Year - 2008-2009*

## **I - NEW YORK STATE 4-H HORSE EDUCATIONAL EVENT POLICY**

The rules, regulations and procedures contained in this section of the manual represent a combination of the rules and policies derived from national and interstate 4-H education events modified only enough to reflect the philosophy of the New York State 4-H Horse Education Committee and its subcommittee membership.

The information contained in this manual has been designed to serve two functions. The primary function is that of representing a single source of rules, regulations and procedures for all Animal Science 4-H horse educational events conducted at the state level, in particular, the events conducted at the New York State Fair. The secondary purpose is that of providing a set of guidelines or suggestions to counties, districts and regions for their competitive events and to serve in a similar manner for non-4-H organizations and agencies in organizing and conducting events open to 4-H'ers and to which 4-H'ers are specifically invited. The information contained herein is subject to annual review. It is the responsibility of the users of this information to be sure that this manual is kept up to date. It is also the responsibility of each participant in these events, especially in state level events, to be knowledgeable of all aspects of the rules, regulations, and procedures governing the events in which they participate.