

July 2026

NYS 4-H Miniature Horse Inter-county Team Competition at Niagara County  
Fairgrounds, Lockport, NY

Hello Everyone!

We are going to be hosting the Eleventh Annual Miniature Horse Inter-county contest, which is a team competition, on Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27. The competition is for teams of four 4-H members or alumni to demonstrate their independence and knowledge of equines and most importantly - have fun with their team and others.

We do have an indoor arena, but two events may be going on at the same time, so please bring rain gear, warm clothes, etc., to adjust for unpredictable fall weather.

Please find the enclosed information regarding our multi-county event: a description of events, registration and camping fees, class lists, some basic guidelines, entry forms, medical releases and barn descriptions. We are limited to **12 team entries only. ONLY COMPLETE** entries will be accepted. (If you can only field a team of 3, please contact me).

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Bish, Niagara Co. 4-H Equine Volunteer Leader

Questions, contact me at 716-439-4499 or [CKRFARMS@aol.com](mailto:CKRFARMS@aol.com)

We will be following class rules from the 4-H rulebook, which can be found online.

**Make Checks payable to: CCENiagara**

Send entries and check to:

Cheryl Bish  
3796 North Ridge Rd.  
Lockport, NY 14094

## **NYS Miniature Horse Inter-County Competition**

### **September 26 & 27, 2026**

THIS IS A TEAM COMPETITION. Each team shall consist of **four(4)** exhibitors (contact me if you can only find 3 members). It is **Preferred** that teams be composed of **one senior, one junior, one beginner and one member of any age. You may have 1 4-H alumni** on a team. If you are unable to find 1 of each age, then you may have **two members** of the same age, BUT **no more than two** of any age and **ONLY 1** alumnus per team. All youth must be current 4-H members and it is suggested that alumni be signed up as 4-H volunteers. **1 horse may be shared by no more than 2 exhibitors on the same team, showing in separate class divisions. Each exhibitor may show only ONE horse.**

The event will consist of three phases:

1. **Horse Knowledge Phase** - Team of four, to be held Saturday afternoon. All members will be given an age appropriate written test. Questions will be taken from the state educational resources for the 4-H hippology and horse bowl. We will also schedule a team problem for each team on Saturday. ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of final score)
2. **Stable Management** - To take place Saturday and Sunday. All teams will have six (6) stalls. All items must be kept inside the tack room. Drapes are optional, decorations and/or themes for stalls and teams are encouraged and may score you "bonus points". Formal inspection (Fitting and Showmanship) will be included with this score. ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of final score)
3. **Showing Phase** - Formal inspection, jumping, timed cones and gambler's choice classes will take place on Saturday. Hunter, liberty, halter obstacle, pleasure driving and driving reinsmanship will be held on Sunday. An exhibitor may enter **EITHER** the in-hand **OR** driving phase of gambler's choice and timed cones, **BUT** not both. This is a one horse/one exhibitor competition. More than one exhibitor **MAY NOT** use the same horse in the same class, they must be in different divisions. ( $\frac{1}{3}$  of final score)

As you will see on the team checklist, there is a Beginner, Junior, Senior and Alumni division for all classes. We will hold a Team Versatility class based on showmanship, hunter, obstacle and timed cones class as the last class on Sunday, while scores are being tallied. This class will not count towards your team score, it will be a fun class.

All horses must be in place Friday evening by 9 PM. During competition, **No Adults are allowed in the barn area or area where horse and rider are waiting to enter classes during the competition. ABSOLUTELY NO PARENTAL HELP OR ADVICE OF ANY NATURE CAN BE GIVEN TO CONTESTANTS WHILE THEY ARE COMPETING.** This will be strictly enforced. Safety approved headgear and footgear will be required anytime that a participant is in the ring with the horse.

Entry for the entire weekend is **\$120 per team (\$30 per entrant)**. This covers stabling (bedding is NOT included), judges fees, entry fees and awards. When sending in your entry, please include the Team Entry Form and Class Entry Form, along with a current Rabies certificate and Coggins test for any horse which has not shown at a Niagara County Horse Show this year. Barn choice is first come, first serve if a request comes with the entry fee. Camping is available, camping fee of \$50 for the weekend per camper must be included with the entry.

### **ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 18, 2026**

#### **NYS 4-H Miniature Horse Inter-county Competition Rules**

This horse competition is a TEAM competition aiming to increase team spirit, to put team before self, to increase independence, to grow, to learn and to have fun. In order to reach these goals, it will be necessary for everyone to follow rules. Some of these are:

1. One horse may be shared by no more than 2 exhibitors on the same team, showing in separate class divisions. Each exhibitor may only show ONE horse.
2. We use 4-H ages as of January 1st of the current calendar year. Seniors must be 14-18 years of age.
3. All 4 team members will take the Horse Knowledge Test and participate in the team problem.
4. Each team must have a chaperone.
5. No one is allowed to stay in the barn overnight.
6. Barn lights out at 10 PM. If camping, please be respectful and considerate of those around you.

7. Food booth will be open Saturday and Sunday.
8. **No talking to adults or chaperones who are not on your team. No adults or chaperones allowed in the barns one hour before competition and until one hour after competition has ended. This includes electronic communication.**
9. Any team member caught speaking with an adult or adult caught coaching a team member will result in the disqualification of the entire team.
10. If any communication (scratches, problems, questions) needs to be transmitted, please have your team captain contact a committee official in the horse show office and we will take care of the problem immediately.
11. The knowledge test will take place Saturday. No parents or chaperones will be allowed in the building during the test.

**Classes:** Each team is allowed two entrants per class per age division. All exhibitors do not have to show in all classes. Youth exhibitors must be a current 4-H member.

- |                               |                                         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. Halter Obstacle - Alumni   | 21. Driving Reinsmanship - Alumni       |
| 2. Halter Obstacle - Senior   | 22. Driving Reinsmanship - Senior       |
| 3. Halter Obstacle - Junior   | 23. Driving Reinsmanship - Junior       |
| 4. Halter Obstacle - Beginner | 24. Driving Reinsmanship - Beginner     |
| 5. Hunter - Alumni            | 25. Gambler's Choice Driving - Alumni   |
| 6. Hunter - Senior            | 26. Gambler's Choice Driving - Senior   |
| 7. Hunter - Junior            | 27. Gambler's Choice Driving - Junior   |
| 8. Hunter - Beginner          | 28. Gambler's Choice Driving - Beginner |
| 9. Jumper - Alumni            | 29. Gambler's Choice In-hand - Alumni   |
| 10. Jumper - Senior           | 30. Gambler's Choice In-hand - Senior   |

- |                                 |                                         |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 11. Jumper - Junior             | 31. Gambler's Choice In-hand - Junior   |
| 12. Jumper - Beginner           | 32. Gambler's Choice In-hand - Beginner |
| 13. Liberty - Alumni            | 33. Timed Cones Driving - Alumni        |
| 14. Liberty - Senior            | 34. Timed Cones Driving - Senior        |
| 15. Liberty - Junior            | 35. Timed Cones Driving - Junior        |
| 16. Liberty - Beginner          | 36. Timed Cones Driving - Beginner      |
| 17. Pleasure Driving - Alumni   | 37. Timed Cones In-hand - Alumni        |
| 18. Pleasure Driving - Senior   | 38. Timed Cones In-hand - Senior        |
| 19. Pleasure Driving - Junior   | 39. Timed Cones In-hand - Junior        |
| 20. Pleasure Driving - Beginner | 40. Timed Cones In-hand - Beginner      |

## TEAM ENTRY FORM

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person for your team: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact # if staying off the grounds: \_\_\_\_\_

Barn Choice (first entered/first choice): \_\_\_\_\_

Barn Second Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

We will be camping and have enclosed payment: \_\_\_\_\_

### Team Checklist:

\_\_\_\_\_ Team Entry Form with payment

\_\_\_\_\_ Class Entry Form

\_\_\_\_\_ Proof of membership for non-Niagara county members

\_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Rabies vaccination and Negative Coggins for horses that  
Have not been shown at other Niagara County shows this year.

\_\_\_\_\_ Camping payment, if applicable

Name of adult contest helper from your team:

\_\_\_\_\_

## TEAM MEMBER SIGN UP

Name of member #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni    Senior    Junior    Beginner

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class #'s entered: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of member #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni    Senior    Junior    Beginner

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class #'s entered: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of member #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni    Senior    Junior    Beginner

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class #'s entered: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of member #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni    Senior    Junior    Beginner

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class #'s entered: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE make checks payable to: CCE Niagara**

**Send entries to:**

Cheryl Bish

3796 North Ridge Rd.

Lockport, NY 14094