# 2017 North Carolina 4-H State Horse Show Schooling Information & Guidelines

**General Information:**
**ALL riders must wear an approved safety helmet with fastened harness whenever they are mounted, anywhere on the showgrounds.**

**Only horses registered in the show are allowed on the show grounds during the show and only persons registered in the show are allowed to be on the horses anywhere on the show grounds. No adult is allowed on a horse anywhere or at any time the horse is on the show grounds without written permission of the schooling organizer or show management.**

*** All riders should check in at the show office and receive their show packets before any schooling. However, if a rider arrives on the grounds during the hours the show office is closed, they will be allowed to school with a hand written number if they present their Coggins verification slip to the schooling supervisor. No-one will be allowed to school using a show number other that the physical number provided in their show packet without the Coggins verification form.**

1. Schooling in the main and covered arenas is restricted to times and disciplines listed on the schooling schedule provided in the show packet, and then only if an approved schooling supervisor is present at the arena. Otherwise these arenas are closed to all horses and riders, and anyone found riding or working their horse in the arena will be reported to the show office for possible disciplinary action.

2. The schooling supervisors are in charge of the main and covered arenas during schooling, and have the right to ask any rider to leave the arena if their actions are judged to be reckless or dangerous. Anyone refusing to leave the arena when asked, or any rider, parent or trainer who refuses to take direction from, argues with, or is rude to the schooling supervisor will be reported to the show office for disciplinary action. **This includes any violation of the dress code or 4-H Code of Conduct.**

3. Schooling is permitted in the outdoor arenas at any time during the show as long as there is an adult watching the rider. Use of these arenas is on a first come, first serve basis, and we expect the riders to be considerate of others and to exercise good judgment to insure that everyone in the ring is safe.

4. No lunging is permitted in either the main or covered arenas at any time. Lunging is permitted in any of the outdoor rings, or anywhere else on the grounds that is not being used for show related activities (ie: holding pen for horses that have been inspected by the DQP in the non-trotting classes or set up with the dressage arena).

5. Riders must have their number either on the horse or on their person anytime they are mounted, anywhere on the show grounds. In order to be permitted to school in either the main or covered arenas, this must be the actual number provided in their show packet, not a hand written or computer generated copy, or the exhibitors must provide their coggins slip in lieu of using the actual number.

6. The evening schooling schedule is always conditional, depending on when the show classes end for the day. If the show runs late, we will try to make sure everyone who has signed up for over fences schooling has a chance to school, however the rings must close no later than midnight.

7. The main and covered arenas are closed to all horses and riders between midnight and 6 AM. No horses or riders are to be in these arenas during these hours.

**Tack and Attire:**

1. Saddles and bridles are required when schooling in either the main or covered arenas.

2. All riders must have appropriate footwear, which is defined as a shoe or boot with functional heel. Regular riding boots, paddock boots and heels downs are considered appropriate. Athletic shoes, flip flops, other shoes without a heel or bare feet are not permitted. All riders must wear long pants when on horseback, even if they are riding in chaps. Exhibitors are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with other 4-H activities and proper horsemanship. Wearing clothing which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive or obscene, or which endangers the health and safety of the youth or others is prohibited. Exhibitors failing to adhere to these guidelines are subject to dismissal from the schooling area and disciplinary action from show management.

   **Examples of prohibited dress or appearance include but are not limited to:**

   - tank tops whose straps are less than three fingers width wide
   - exposed undergarments (including sports bras)
   - sagging pants
   - excessively short or tight garments
   - bare midriff shirts
   - strapless shirts or spaghetti strap tank tops
   - open-toe shoes
   - overly large clothes which may allow a rider to possibly become caught on the saddle
   - attire or hats with messages or illustrations that are lewd, indecent, or vulgar or that advertise any product or service not permitted by law to minors
   - see-through clothing attire that encourages indecent exposure
   - any adornment such as chains or spikes that could be deemed dangerous while handling animals or that reasonably could be perceived as or used as a weapon
   - any symbols, styles or attire frequently associated with intimidation

   *Adopted from the NC 4-H Congress Manual*

3. ALL RIDERS are required to wear an ASTM/SEI certified safety helmet with *fastened* harness whenever mounted. The schooling supervisor has the right to ask the rider to remove their helmet to check for the required certification.

4. **NO riders will be allowed in the schooling arenas with cell phones, Ipods, MP3 Players or any devices where the rider has earphones or earbuds.**

**Over Fences Schooling:**

1. Over fences schooling times are designated by fence height. During the schooling time: fences may be raised or lowered as long as they are not set higher than the maximum height or lower than the minimum height for that schooling time (fence heights must stay within the advertised range for that time slot). We ask that those adjusting the fences be courteous to all riders in the ring when resetting the fence heights.

2. Riders must sign up for over fences schooling. The times are broken down into 15 minute periods, with a maximum of 8 riders per period. Each rider may sign up for only one 15 minute period per schooling session. Each morning and afternoon is a separate schooling session.

3. The fences will be 'flagged' by the show jump course crew so that all the riders will be taking the fence from the same direction. Any rider jumping a fence 'backward' will be warned once, and then excused from the arena the second time. No one but the jump course crew will be permitted to change the way a jump is 'flagged'.

**Flat Schooling:**

1. No signup is required for 'Flat' or 'Open' schooling. Riders are allowed in the ring on a first come, first serve basis. Riders must check in with the schooling supervisor prior to entering the ring. The supervisor will allow as many riders in the ring as they deem safe. Each rider will be allowed a minimum of 15 minutes, but if the ring becomes crowded or if there are more riders that are waiting to enter the ring, those who have been in the longest will be asked to leave.

2. The supervisor has the authority to allow horse to be hand walked in the arena during flat schooling, provided the ring is not crowded and the horse is under control.

3. Riders for games schooling must be in a western saddle and must be wearing an approved safety helmet with a fastened harness.

4. Flat schooling is designated on the schooling schedule by riding discipline, and that discipline has control of the ring for that schooling period. If they choose to, they may allow riders from other disciplines to use the ring with them, but that is completely up to them. The only exceptions are Games, Little Britches, and Cloverbud schooling, which is restricted only to the riders in those divisions.