

## BOULDER COUNTY

### 4-H PARTICIPANT YEAR END AWARDS

#### POINTS ACCRUAL PROCEDURE

(Revised 10/6/25 , Reviewed: 10/6/25 Approved: 11/3/25)

In 1998 the Boulder County 4-H Horse Leaders Council began a program to award year-end high point awards for each of the achievement levels in the horsemanship program. The awards are intended to increase interest in competing at Boulder County 4-H horse shows. All references to “high point award” in this document refer to the Horse Leaders Council high point award, not to other shows or competitions.

#### GENERAL RULES

1. Before the annual Horse Leaders show in March, the Horse Leaders Council will identify which shows are considered eligible for competition in the program during the show season and will appoint a point tracker for the season. It is required that show management for each eligible show submit the show schedule to the HLC Committee for approval of eligible classes at least one month before the show date. Classes which are eligible for the high point award **MUST** be specially marked with an asterisk on the show schedule. Points for all Boulder County 4-H horse project members will be tracked.
2. All eligible shows **MUST** place all classes to sixth place, or fifth place and a reserve, and must record all six placings on a results sheet. All shows must provide to the point tracker an exhibitor log, listing all exhibitors, their club names, and the classes each exhibitor competed in, as well as the results sheet, within two weeks after the completion of the show. If the show is less than two weeks before the Boulder County Fair 4-H horse show, the results must be provided to the point tracker no less than **FOUR DAYS** before the beginning of the Fair horse show.
3. A class that is noted as both 4-H and Open may count towards high point if the member is rated in that discipline.
4. If classes of different disciplines or levels are combined, the show manager must track the discipline or level ridden with each placing for any combined classes. In the event of combined levels in a class, the judge must place all riders in the class, regardless of the number of entries. Show management should provide the point tracker the placings as if the disciplines and/or levels were not combined.
  - a. Example: Level 2-3-4 Show Hack is run at a high point show as one class with 3 level 2 riders and 3 level 3-4 riders. They place as follows in the class for the high point show:
    - i. Class 10 - Show Hack L2-3-4

1. Rider A - 1st place (Level 3-4)
2. Rider B - 2nd place (Level 3-4)
3. Rider C - 3rd place (Level 2)
4. Rider D - 4th place (Level 2)
5. Rider E - 5th place (Level 3-4)
6. Rider F - 6th place (Level 2)

- b. The show manager will split the class into two groups by level, solely for the high point calculation, and should provide this information to the point tracker:

- i. Class 10.1 - Show Hack L2
  1. Rider C - 1st place
  2. Rider D - 2nd place
  3. Rider F - 3rd place
- ii. Class 10.2 - Show Hack L3-4
  1. Rider A - 1st place
  2. Rider B - 2nd place
  3. Rider E - 3rd place

5. Year-end awards will be announced during the Awards Ceremony at the Fair 4-H Horse show.
6. Individual Champion winners will be given a check from the Horse Leaders Council, with the expectation that it will be cashed promptly. No checks will be reissued if they are allowed to expire. Horse Leaders Council shall set the value of the individual prizes based on the amount of money available to the program and the number of awards to be presented. The Reserve high point winners shall be awarded a prize such as a gift card.
7. The point tracker shall use a spreadsheet program, such as Excel, to record and total the points in all categories. The point tracker must also keep the individual records of each show available so that all calculations can be clearly demonstrated. Participants may view the results at any time during the year. A reviewer may be appointed by the Horse Leaders Council to review the final results before they are announced.
8. A member who wins a champion individual high point award shall not be eligible to win in succeeding years at the same level and discipline. This rule is intended to encourage members to move onto the next level of competition once the high point award has been achieved. Exceptions: Level 4 members will continue to be eligible for Level 3-4 high point awards, and reserve high point winners are eligible in succeeding years at the same level and discipline.
9. High point awards will be given for all levels including walk/trot in Showmanship, English and Western. In the event there is a tie in the final results, the award will be given to the participant with the higher score on the written test at the Boulder County Fair. In the event a tie still exists, the total number of high point eligible classes entered throughout the season will determine the winner.

10. Participants may exhibit any project horse during the season. Points are accumulated solely on the participant. It is expected that the show management of each show will enforce any 4-H rules concerning use of project horses or other horses or participant eligibility. Enforcement of these rules or determination of a horse's or participant's eligibility shall not be the responsibility of the point tracker. Horse Leaders Council will mediate in the event of a dispute.
11. Points are accumulated using the rules below and are not influenced by individual shows' high point calculations or other summary awards.
12. Members will be required to enter Showmanship classes according to their highest riding level, whether that be English or Western. They will be allowed to exhibit in English or Western attire and tack. An example would be - a member rides Level 1 English and Level 2 Western. They would compete in Level 2 Showmanship, but may choose English or Western attire and tack.

### **INDIVIDUAL LEVEL AWARDS and QUALIFICATIONS**

High Point and Reserve awards will be given for the participant earning the most points in each of the following categories:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| ❖ Walk-Trot (trophy only, no other prizes) – all walk/trot/Jog classes |                         |
| ❖ Unrated Showmanship  | ❖ Level 2 Showmanship   |
| ❖ Unrated English  | ❖ Level 2 English       |
| ❖ Unrated Western  | ❖ Level 2 Western       |
| ❖ Level 1 Showmanship  | ❖ Level 3-4 Showmanship |
| ❖ Level 1 English  | ❖ Level 3-4 English     |
| ❖ Level 1 Western  | ❖ Level 3-4 Western     |

1. An achievement certificate will be awarded to both the high point winner and the reserve high point winner for each of the above achievement levels.
2. All participants must participate in at least three of the eligible shows to receive a high point award.
3. Gymkhana and Ranch Classes will not count toward individual high point awards.
4. Points are awarded on the following basis in accordance with the placing of the class:
  - a. First Place      6 points
  - b. Second Place    5 points
  - c. Third Place      4 points
  - d. Fourth Place    3 points
  - e. Fifth Place      2 points
  - f. Sixth/Reserve    1 point

5. Points are awarded on the above scale regardless of the number of participants in the class. Even if there is only one entrant in the class, the entrant is awarded 6 points if the judge places the entrant in first place.
6. For each participant, the top THREE accumulative points from all eligible shows will be counted. This is intended to encourage participants to compete even if they are unable to attend all of the designated shows. If a participant competes in five shows, and receives scores of 17, 10, 25, 15, 16; the lowest scores will be dropped and the participant would receive 58 points for that discipline.
7. Participants will be tracked for the level that they currently hold. Should the participant advance to a higher level; the points already accrued from the prior level will move with them to the higher level. The participant must notify their Organizational Leader of their advancement and then the Organizational Leader must notify the point tracker.
8. All participants must register for and take the Horse Knowledge Written Test at the Boulder County Fair 4-H Horse Show to be eligible to receive a high point award.