

Transitioning the State 4-H Horse Advancement Levels Program February 2025

Levels Implementation

- Starting for the 2024/2025 4-H year all new 4-H members in the 4-H Horse Project will follow the current posted 4-H Horse Advancement Levels Policy/Guidelines- October 2024. All new members should at minimum pass the pre-level Safety test and follow the new current policy/guidelines for levels and competencies.
- Current 4-H members will have until July 1, 2026 to migrate into the new system where they have not already been “grandfathered” in.
- Members will be grandfathered in, in the following ways:
 1. Any Horse/Rider Combo IDed in 4HOnline in 2024/2025 will receive the levels assignments and competency assignments.
 2. Any horse and member combination will maintain their current Levels Achieved. However, since some Levels have been eliminated or transitioned into a Competency those Levels/former disciplines will be transferred to the appropriate competency and level as follows in the chart below:
 3. During the 2025-2026 program year, members can use the declaration form for identifying a horse/rider combo level that will be different than the highest level achieved. (Example if a level 3 rider gets a new horse, they can declare that new horse at a level 2 or level 3.) This is subject to review and approval by the county 4-H office.
- Riders should not be exhibiting in classes they have not received a competency certificate for but they can practice/clinic to develop the skills.
- Over fence should be rode in hunt/hack attire.

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<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>2024-2025 Level Achieved</u>	<u>Competency – reassigned to the relevant competency Grandfathered in</u>	<u>Level – Equivalent reassigned to the relevant level Grandfathered in</u>	<u>Notes</u>
R1	Ranch Level 1	Beginner Ranch horse Competency	Western Level 1	
R2	Ranch Level 2	Ranch/Cow Horse Limited Competency	Western Level 2	
R3	Ranch Level 3	Ranch/Cow Horse Advanced Competency	Western Level 2	
R4	Ranch Level 4	Ranch/Cow Horse Advanced Competency	Western Level 2	
	N/A	Beginner Over Fence/Jumping Competency	X	
E3HS	English level 3 Hunt Seat	Over Fences/Jumping Limited Competency	English Level 3	
E4HS	English Level 4 Hunt Seat	Over Fences/Jumping Advanced Competency	English Level 4	
E3SS	English Saddle Seat 3	X	English Level 3	
E3D	English Dressage 3	X	English Level 3	
E4SS	English Saddle Seat 4	X	English Level 4	
E4D	English Dressage 4	X	English Level 4	
SHM	Showmanship levels	X	NO LEVELS RECOGNITION (take individual discipline of western/english level test)	
W1	Western Level 1	X	Western Level 1	
W2	Western Level 2	Gymkhana Competency	Western Level 2	
W3	Western Level 3	Gymkhana Competency	Western Level 3	
W4	Western Level 4	Gymkhana Competency	Western Level 4	
E1	English Level 1	X	English Level 1	
E2	English Level 2	Gymkhana Competency	English Level 2	
E3	English Level 3	Gymkhana Competency	English Level 3	

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E4	English Level 4	Gymkhana Competency	English Level 4	
TR	No Relevant pre-existing level for Trail Riding (everyone must test)	Trail Riding Competency		
RP	No Relevant pre-existing level for Roping (everyone must test)	Roping Competency		In counties that do have an equivalent certificate on riders will be grandfathered in to hold this competency.
DR	No Relevant pre-existing level for Driving (everyone must test)	Driving Competency		In counties that do have an equivalent certificate on riders will be grandfathered in to hold this competency.

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Rater Transition in Levels Program

- Starting for the 2024/2025 4-H year all new volunteer raters will follow the current posted 4-H Horse Advancement Levels Policy/Guidelines.
- Current 4-H Volunteer Certified Raters will be transferred to be certified in the appropriate competency and level as follows in the chart below:

<u>2024-2025 Rater Trained</u>	<u>Competency –</u>	<u>Level – Equivalent</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Certified Rater in Ranch horse	Certified to Rate all of the Ranch/cow horse competencies	X	
Certified Rater in Hunt Seat Level ¾	Certified to Rate the Over Fence/Jumping Competencies	Same Relevant Level: English Level 2, 3, 4	
Certified Rater in English Level 2, 3, 4	Certified to rate the Gymkhana Competencies	Same Relevant Level: English Level 2, 3, 4	
Certified Rater in Western Level 2, 3, 4	Certified to rate the Gymkhana Competencies	Same Relevant Level: Western Level 2, 3, 4	
Certified Rater in English Level 2, 3, 4	Certified to rate the Trail Riding Competencies	Same Relevant Level: English Level 2, 3, 4	
Certified Rater in Western Level 2, 3, 4	Certified to rate the Trail Riding Competencies	Same Relevant Level: Western Level 2, 3, 4	
Any Rater- Needs to Following the Rater Certification Process – New training for driving or Roping	No Grandfathered in for the driving or Roping Competency or Trail Competency	X	If a rater has been rating roping for those counties that have had this certification, they will be grandfathered.