

2025-2026 GCHC Information

HORSE COMMITTEE: [HTTPS://WWW.GALLATINCOUNTY4HHORSE.COM/](https://www.gallatincounty4hhorse.com/)

gc4hhorse@gmail.com

gallatin@montana.edu

4h Office	406-582-3280
Dave Casto, President	406-581-7969
Working Ranch Horse leader	
Sheila Smart, Vice President	406-5391806
Jumping/Dressage leader	
Jon Reed, Treasurer	406- 580-1442
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Amy Free	406-581-4140
Colt to Maturity/Green Horse Leader	
Jessie Sheperd	352-304-1648
Twister's Drill Team Leader	
Sierra Stahl	406-312-3367
Jess Woodring	406-580-6707
Julie Fambro	406-404-9598
Horsemanship	
Toni Berger	406-539-3747
Cody Flammond	406-480-0303

JUNIOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS: (Applications are being accepted! [Jr. Horse Committee Member Application](#))

1. Projects:

a. Horsemanship Project Western or English (required by all horse project members): Julie Fambro

i. Materials

1. Horsemanship Levels 1-3 and 4-7
2. Horsemanship Resource Manual

ii. Levels/Assessments

1. Every horse project member begins in Horsemanship Level 1.
2. Members are encouraged to move through the levels at a pace that is appropriate for their riding experience and ability.
3. If the 4-H member can master everything on the assessment list already, it is appropriate to advance them to the next level. Once they get to a level where they cannot do everything on the list but it is reasonable for them to work on the items they have not mastered throughout the 4-H year, they are in the correct level. This is their project level and the level they will show in at the Fair and also the level they would show in at the State 4-H Horse Show.
4. At the end of each section of your horse project levels book is the list of things you will be assessed on.
5. People that can assess you include: Sheila Smart, Julie Fambro, Jess Woodring, Sierra Stahl, Brady, Peggy Lucas, Julie Schumacher, Jill Stephens and Andi Shockley.

iii. Fair classes (general classes open to ALL horse project members)

1. Showmanship-Showing your horse at halter. Divided by members' age.
2. Horsemanship Level Pattern-Ride your horse in a designated pattern that will show the skills appropriate for your level. Divided by levels.
3. Equitation on the Rail-Ride your horse on the rail as a group being judged on riders' equitation and how your equitation affects your horse's way of going. Divided by members' age.
4. Trail-Ride your horse over and through obstacles to challenge your skills. Divided by members' age.
5. Bareback Equitation-Ride your horse bareback on the rail being judged on

riders' equitation and how your equitation affects your horse's way of going. Divided by members' age. (Level 1 and Juniors are both Walk/Trot in bareback)

6. Reining- Ride a reining pattern. Divided by horsemanship levels and grouped 1-3/4-7.

7. Classes that are divided by age will be as follows:

- a. Level 1 - Walk/Trot (Any Age)
- b. Junior (8-10 yrs)
- c. Intermediate (11-13 yrs)
- d. Senior (14 & over)

iv. Workshop Requirements

1. To compete at Fair each member must participate in a minimum of 3 riding Gallatin County 4-H horse sponsored workshops. If you may end up using a different horse (a backup incase of injury, etc), each horse must have been ridden at least once in a workshop during the year.
2. The 3 workshop requirement can be fulfilled by any Gallatin County 4-H horse sponsored workshop including:
 - a. Horse Committee hosted workshops
 - b. Working Ranch Horse workshops
 - c. Jumping/Dressage workshops
 - d. Colt/Green Horse workshops
 - e. Reining class workshops
 - f. Twisters Drill team riding practices
3. Workshop Requirements must be met by June 1. If clinic requirements are not met by June 1st, a written letter must be submitted to the Horse Committee by June 1st with explanation of how the member plans to meet the requirement (ie, Prefair clinic) or for consideration to waive requirements to participate in the fair. Please do not wait until the last minute to consider this requirement!

b. Working Ranch Horse Project: Dave Casto

i. Materials: Montana 4-H Working Ranch Horse Manual (levels 1-4), 5250

ii. Fair Classes

1. Knowledge Test
2. Pattern
3. Ranch Horse Trail
4. Roping
5. Sorting
6. Cow Work (Levels 2-4)

iii. Workshop Requirements:

- Level 1: 3 WRH Clinics, at least one on cattle plus 3 Horsemanship clinics for members in Horsemanship Levels 1 and 2. All first year Level 1 WRH members must attend two of these horsemanship clinics before attending a WRH Clinic.
- Level 2: Completion of WRH Level 1 and Horsemanship Level 2; 3 WRH Clinics, at least one on cattle;
- Level 3: Completion of WRH Level 2 and Horsemanship Level 3; 3 WRH clinics, at least 2 on cattle
- Level 4: Completion of WRH Level 3 and Horsemanship Level 3; 3 WRH clinics, at least 2 on cattle

c. Jumping Projects: Sheila Smart

i. Materials: Hunt Seat and Jumper Manual and Workbook pages(available in 4H office)

ii. There are 4 Jumping levels. They are not affected by Horsemanship levels.

1. Jumping Level 1 – Poles on the ground
2. Jumping Level 2 – 18" X-rails

- 3. Jumping level 3 – 2'
 - 4. Jumping level 4 – 2'6"
- iii. Project leader will help you decide which level you will be at for the fair.
- iii. Fair Classes: All levels will have Hunter Hack and 2 Jumping courses.
- iv. Workshop Requirements: Two jumping clinics required to compete at fair for horsemanship levels 1-3, one jumping clinic required to compete at Fair for horsemanship level 4-7.
- d. Dressage Project – USDF and WDAA (Western Dressage): Sheila Smart
 - i. Materials: Dressage Manual and Workbook pages (available in 4H office)
 - ii. Levels/Assessments - The 4 Dressage Levels relate to your English Horsemanship level.
 - 1. Dressage Level 1 – Horsemanship Level 1
 - 2. Dressage Level 2 – Horsemanship Level 2
 - 3. Dressage Level 3 – Horsemanship Level 3
 - 4. Dressage Level 4 – Horsemanship Levels 4 and above
 - iii. Fair Classes: Each Level will have 2 classes available. You may enter in classes A and B.
 - iv. Workshops Required: None. Dressage will be taught with the Jumping Project.
- e. Colt To Maturity/Green Horse Projects: Amy Free
 - i. Materials: 4-H Training Horses - Yearlings to Five-Year-Old, 5336
4-H Colt to Maturity Manual, 5248
 - ii. Levels/Assessments
 - 1. Members must have completed Horsemanship levels 1, 2, 3 and be in level 4 or above and be at least 11 years of age on Oct. 1, of the current 4-H year. Once a horse is entered in these projects it is not allowed to have any professional training unless the member is present.
 - 2. C2M is based on colt's age.
 - 3. GH starts with Level 1 regardless of horse's age and is open to member who is beginning with an unbroke or green broke horse.
 - iii. Fair Classes
 - 1. C2M 2 will compete in the same class as GH 1 and correspond up the levels.
 - 2. Showmanship, Pattern, Rail, Trail in Hand (yearlings), Trail, Obstacle Challenge
 - 3. Colt/Green Horses can also show in WRH, Jumping, Dressage and Freestyle Reining for Danish placings only.
 - iv. Workshop Requirements: 2 Colt/Green Horse workshops are required to be able to show at the fair.
 - v. A colt to maturity and a green horse buckle will be awarded to a member in each project with the highest cumulative score from 4 divisions. Workshop attendance, Community Service, Record Book and Fair performance.
 - vi. Green Horse Independent Study is an option for non-traditional colts, horses or members. Ask the leader about this option.
- f. Gallatin Twister's Drill Team:
 - i. A group of horse project members whose mission is to represent the diverse opportunities 4-H offers and promote 4-H. Drill team itself presents horse project members with another fun and valuable learning opportunity. This team is not a 4-H project, but rather a group of seasoned horse project members dedicated to being ambassadors of 4-H and their project(s).
 - ii. Members have several requirements to be on the team.

1.1 Workshops

- a. At Every Workshop...
 - i. Be sure all of the fields requiring signatures on the Paperwork Requirements Google Form is

completed as well as all required documentation is submitted for vaccines and coggins per rules of the arena being used.

- ii. Please Check in with a leader and Sign in before bringing your horse into the arena.
 - 1. Check in with a leader before bringing your horse into the arena.
 - 2. Sign in-Members name, Horse name, pay \$10 fee
 - a. venmo @GallatinCounty-HorseCommittee, cash or check to GCHC
 - 3. Find out which group you will be in and start at
 - 4. Prepare for the workshop as instructed
 - 5. Possibly warm-up or familiarize your horse with the facility
 - 6. Arrive early enough so you can be ready by clinic start time.
 - 7. Clean up all manure at your trailer, in the arena and inbetween.
 - 8. Do not enter any facility until a horse committee member opens it.
- b. Horsemanship workshops
 - i. Will usually be held on the first Saturday of the month. (December and January will be the 2nd Saturday and others may change)
 - ii. @ MSU Miller Pavillion West Lincoln Street, Bozeman, MT 59718
 - 1. [MSU Miller Pavilion Map](#)
 - iii. 1-5 PM
 - iv. Workshop will be broke into 2 main time slots by levels.
 - 1. Each time slot will be broke into several small subgroups based on levels
 - 2. There will be several rotations that may include horsemanship, equitation, specific riding instruction, ground work, community service, record books, etc.
- c. Jumping/Dressage workshops
 - i. Will usually be held on the same day as the horsemanship.
 - ii. @ MSU Miller Pavillion
 - 1. [MSU Miller Pavilion Map](#)
 - iii. 9-12 AM
 - iv. Do not bring your horse into the arena until you check in and Sign in.
 - v. Workshop will be split into 2 groups - Jumping levels 1-2 and 3-4
 - a. Arrive early and help set jumps, stay after and help pick up jumps
- d. Working Ranch Horse workshops
 - i. Will usually be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month beginning in January
 - ii. @ MSU Rodeo Arena
 - 1. [MSU Rodeo Arena Map](#)
 - iii. @Stock Ranch
 - iv. 1-5 PM
- e. Colt To Maturity/Green Horse
 - i. Will usually be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month beginning in January
 - ii. @ MSU Rodeo Arena
 - 1. [MSU Rodeo Arena Map](#)
 - iii. 9-12 AM

2. Vaccination Policy

- a. Vaccinations play a critical role in helping keep all 4H horses safe. **Strongly Recommended** vaccinations for all horses are: Fall vaccination with Rhino/Flu and Spring vaccination with 6-Way (Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis, West Nile, Tetanus, Rhino & Flu). Fall and Spring Strep-vax is recommended for horses five years old and under. Please check with your vet for what they recommend.
- b. Rhino/Flu vaccine is **REQUIRED** to show at Fair. The vaccine must be given between Feb. 1 and June 1.

Proof of vaccine is on the honor system. We do ask you please write date given, where purchased and horses given to as well as lot # and expiration date if purchased and given yourself in the "2021-2022 4-H Horse Project Members" Google Form. The State 4-H Show also requires that all horses must be vaccinated for Equine Herpesvirus ("rhinopneumonitis") for competition at the State 4-H Horse Show.

- c. Please be aware that the vaccination requirements vary at many of the facilities used. Please make sure the horse you intend to bring is current on all facility requirements. The Horse Committee must show responsibility to our generous facility providers by making sure all requirements are met by our participants. Therefore, proof of vaccinations must be provided to the Horse Committee before attending any clinic held at a facility that has requirements and vaccines must have been given at least 2 weeks prior to the clinic date. Record all vaccines on the google form mentioned above. Horse Committee will do our best to inform you with ample time to get vaccinations done if we will be holding clinics at an arena with additional requirements.

3. Paper Work and Record Book Requirements

- A. The [24-25 Paperwork Requirements](#) Google Form Must be completed before you ride.
- B. Record Keeping and Education through the project manuals is an important part of your 4-H horse project.
 - a. You will be offered help with these at the workshops and on a county level.
 - b. Completion of these is strongly encouraged and to participate at fair, it is required.
- C. Horse Project Manuals (ie, Horsemanship Levels, C2M/GH, WRH Manual, Jumping, Dressage, etc)
 - a. For fair, your Horsemanship Levels project book must be $\frac{2}{3}$ completed and turned in by the county deadline (usually at the end of June or early July).
- D. For fair, you must also complete the "My 4-H Year" and "Animal-Non Market" pages for your record book and turn it all in by the county deadline. This can be done through the 4-H zsuite app on your phone or computer. Downloadable fillable pdf copies are also available online at http://montana4h.org/projects/support/record_books/index.html.
- E. All members are encouraged to showcase their horse project to the public by creating a poster to display on their horse's stall at Fair.
- F. Learning to communicate effectively is an important part of the 4-H experience. Thus, prior to competing at Fair, all members are interviewed regarding their record book and project.

4. Sponsorships: In order to keep costs low for members and provide quality workshops, shows, facilities, and awards all members are asked to help raise funds. Members can do this in a couple of ways.

- a. Solicit sponsorships from businesses, private parties or buy-out directly.
 - i. \$50 value per member or \$75 per families
 - ii. Sponsorship form is available; All donations are tax deductible.
 Charitable Donation Receipt - GCHC .pdf
 - iii. Checks should be made payable to GCHC and given to Jon Reed, Treasurer by March 1, 2025.
- b. Work a fundraiser with funds going to the Gallatin County Horse Committee.

5. Summary/Other Miscellaneous Bookkeeping To Do Items

- A. Read and Complete the [24-25 Paperwork Requirements](#) Google Form!
 - a. To complete this form you will need
 - i. Read and Sign and Follow the directions on each field
 - ii. Photos of each of your horses
 - iii. Photo of each last signed assessment page from your project book (Level 1 members will not have a signed assessment page yet),
 - iv. Photo of vaccine receipts
 - v. Photo of coggins test
 - b. You may not have all of the above information yet. As information needs added throughout the year, please fill out an additional form with ONLY

NEW information. You do not need to re-enter any information after you have completed it once. Just add as needed.

- B. All member families wishing to participate at fair must turn in a sponsorship by March 1.
- C. All horses going to fair must be vaccinated for Flu/Rhino between Feb 1 and June 1 and info of receipt submitted on the [24-25 Paperwork Requirements](#) google form by June 1.
- D. Horse Committee email address is gc4Hhorse@gmail.com
- E. Horse Committee Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the Gallatin Extension Office.
- F. Check in with Anika Yeley and confirm she has proper registration and contact information for you.
- G. Assessments can be done throughout the year at workshops.
- H. Coggins Clinic and Open Arena will be held on November 16.
- I. First horsemanship riding workshop will be held on December 14, then, next on January 11.
- J. Go to our website for project info, calendar and forms.
 - a. <https://www.gallatincounty4hhorse.com/>

Trainers in the area...

2025-26 LINKS

Gallatin County Horse Committee: gc4hhorse@gmail.com

Gallatin County 4-H Horse Committee Webpage

<http://www.gallatincounty4hhorse.com/>

2025-26 Paperwork Requirements

*****must be completed before riding!*****

Gallatin County Horse Committee Informational packet

 2025-2026 GCHC Information

Vaccine Guidelines by the American Academy of Equine Practitioners

<https://aaep.org/guidelines/vaccination-guidelines>

Sponsorship

Work during a 4-H fundraiser and list the Gallatin County Horse Committee as the beneficiary of the proceeds to meet your families sponsorship requirement. Collect a sponsorship or donation from a business or family friend. Or pay a \$50 sponsorship/member or \$75 sponsorship/family.

 Sponsorship Script.pdf

 Charitable Donation Receipt - GCHC .pdf

GCHC Volunteer Signup

 Horse Project Volunteer Opportunities

Twisters Drill Team

 Twister info/app packet (not updated yet)

[Twisters Application Google Form](#)

[Twister Reference Google Form](#)

Horse Committee Junior Member Application (DocuSign)

[GCHC Jr Member Application](#)

Venmo address: @GallatinCounty-HorseCommittee

Gallatin County 4-H Newsletters

The Newsletters can be found on our website here:

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/gallatin/4hnewsletters.html>

4-H Web pages, forms, rule books, etc:

Gallatin County 4-H Forms Horse Webpage

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/gallatin/4hforms.html>

[Horse- Montana 4H - Montana State University Extension](#)

[State Horse Show - Montana 4H](#) Website needs updated

[MT State Horse Show Rules \(July 2022\)](#) Website needs updated

[Montana 4-H Horse Program: Bit Rules & Equipment Guide](#) (June 2019)

[Working Ranch Horse Finals - Montana 4H - Montana State University Extension](#)

[Ranch Horse Rule Book - Montana 4H - Montana State University Extension](#)

[Montana 4-H Rules Working Ranch Horse](#) PDF Website needs updated

Join 4-H

[Join 4-H - Montana 4H - Montana State University Extension](#)

Record Books

[Record Books & Project Completion - Montana 4H](#)

Complete forms online and then print before fair...

[Record Book Using ZSuite](#)

Leader's Training

 Volunteer Orientation How to Guide.pdf