

NORTH CAROLINA 4-H HORSE PROGRAM MEMBER DRESS AND BEHAVIOR POLICY WHEN REPRESENTING 4-H AT CLUB, COUNTY, DISTRICT, STATE AND NATIONAL EVENTS

The following guidelines have been adopted by the NC State 4-H Horse Program Advisory Board and are in effect for all events and activities attended by 4-H Horse Program members. **Please make copies for these guidelines and provide it to all participants prior to participating in 4-H Horse Program events.**

Chaperons

A well-chaperoned group is a well-behaved group! Each leader must discuss behavior with members. All members must act in a responsible manner and participate in all aspects of an event. Each group **MUST** be chaperoned by ONE or more adults.

Chaperone responsibilities are as follows:

1. Supervising student members at all times
2. Explain and enforce all conference rules and regulations:
 - Dress code
 - Curfew
 - Behavior
 - Conference policies and procedures

DRESS CODE FOR MALES AND FEMALES

The dress code is designed to assure that each member brings the appropriate attire resembling a school, community and program expectation.

4-H'ers are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with an effective learning environment. Presenting a bodily appearance or 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.

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

- Exposed undergarments
- Sagging pants
- Excessively short or tight garments
- Bare midriff shirts or shirts that expose the chest area
- Strapless shirts
- Attire with messages or illustrations that are lewd, indecent, or vulgar or that advertise any product or service not permitted by law to minors
- Head covering of any kind inside except special circumstances (please see a state staff member)

- See-through clothing
- Attire that encourages indecent exposure
- Any adornment such as chains or spikes that reasonably could be perceived as or used as a weapon or be dangerous to the participant
- Any symbols, styles or attire frequently associated with intimidation
- Pants with cut out areas showing parts of the body above the knee
- Hats, sweat bands, bandannas, scarves, sunglasses or other similar headgear worn during events inside buildings without leader approval
- Athletic attire during competition events
- Unnatural hair color (example: blue, green, purple, pink, etc.)

Any dress, hair color, and piercing that are disruptive to the educational environment will not be allowed. Shoes or boots must be worn at all times. The final decision on appropriate attire rests with the adult volunteer leader/chaperone and/or coach. Only members whose dress is consistent with the above will be allowed to participate in an event. Competitive event winners should pay particular attention to their personal appearance for the awards ceremony at national events and the opening ceremony during the Southern Regional Championships. For award events and banquets, volunteer leaders and/or extension professionals may require specific attire. Example: For females, a suit, dress slacks or skirt and blouse. For males, a shirt, jacket, sport coat, trousers, belt and tie.

Overnight Etiquette

Behavior in hotels, as well as public areas, is important. There should be no running in the halls, prank calls, unnecessary noise, excessively late hours, visiting in rooms of the opposite sex, using profane language, drinking, smoking, or using other toxic substances. Any report from the hotel staff may result in disqualification from an event and/or removal from the delegation.

Observe common sense precautions. Keep hotel doors locked, stay out of hotel stairwells, stay properly dressed in lobby and corridors, and do not open hotel doors for unfamiliar people. Go to bed at a reasonable hour and show consideration for others by being reasonably quiet in hotel rooms.

Revised 04/06/2005

Extension Horse Husbandry