

# KEEP Horseless (HL) Elements Requirements

## Who is the Horseless (HL) Project designed for?

Any youth interested in learning and experiencing more about horses within the format of a 4-H club but unable to bring a horse to the Kent County Youth Fair.

- \* Youth may or may not have access to a horse
- \* Youth may or may not be able to ride
- \* Youth may or may not be working toward the mounted project

Youths benefiting from Horseless Project: first year in Horse Project; safe show horse unavailable; financial constraints; personal or family choices; project horse unable to go to Fair; away at collage; riding discipline not included in 4-H Rule Book; more siblings than horses available

## Goals:

- \* Provide a quality Horseless Project for Kent County 4-H members:
- \* Equine learning advancement opportunity for 4-H members unable to bring a horse to Fair.
- \* Consistent project materials that can be graded and scored.
- \* Preparation of Horseless Project member for a possible future mounted horse project.
- \* Allow for and encourage hands on opportunities if available.
- \* Provide a project that is self-directed by member or member/parent.
- \* Provide a project that will still be of interest if duplicated year after year.
- \* Create a consistent, workable and manageable project at the leader level.
- \* Flexibility of element portion will allow for various resource options a non-mounted member may or may not have to complete elements.

## Enrollment Requirements:

- \* 4-H age of 9 – 19.
- \* State enrollment through Extension office – deadline for new enrollments, May 1.
- \* Horseless Declaration and fee due at appropriate deadlines.

## KEEP Horseless Guidelines:

- \* Horseless Project consists of three divisions: Novice, Junior, and Senior.
- \* HL Novice Elements are the minimum completion division for first year HL Project member.
- \* HL Junior and Senior elements may be completed in order as HL Project member desires.
- \* When HL Project member becomes mounted member, the riding level will be determined by completion of appropriate riding level pattern.

## Project Requirements: 2 separate books

- \* KEEP Project book (age-appropriate) except purchases and show record.
  - o Information in the KEEP Project Book should reflect an actual horse or pony that the 4-H member has “adopted.”
  - o The “adopted” horse/pony must be an actual animal. *Imaginary horses are not acceptable.*
  - o The 4-H member should interview the owner of the horse s/he has selected and use the information obtained to complete the appropriate sections of the book.
- \* KEEP Skills Evaluation except mounted abilities included with the KEEP Project book as instructed.
- \* Horseless Project Elements will be considered the member’s “project”.
- \* Combine the KEEP Project book and Horseless Element Reports into ONE book.
  - o Put the Horseless Element Reports BEHIND the KEEP Project book.

## KEEP HL SENIOR ELEMENTS

- \* **Senior Members:** Choose five (5) elements from the Senior section topics. Each element must be from a different topic area.
  - o An extra credit element may be selected from the Design and Create Topic.
  - o Each element needs to be submitted in the member’s HL Project Notebook except where noted.
  - o Use various methods when completing each element: captioned pictures, documented photo display, personal drawings, written form, video, CD, etc.
  - o Any copied article or copied research will not be accepted.

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## HEALTH & CARE

- \* Select and complete TWO elements below.
- \* Describe or show how to tighten and remove a loose shoe
- \* Describe or show three things that could poorly affect grain or hay and the equine health risks involved with each
- \* Describe/chart the life cycle of a common equine internal parasite; include preventative measures
- \* Develop a diorama of a training/boarding facility for 10 or more horses
- \* Describe or show how to groom and prepare a horse prior to a promotional photo shoot
- \* Draw and describe your fantasy breeding horse. Include: breed, color, markings by name; age, gender & size; description of conformation; pedigree and productivity
- \* Develop a budget for showing a horse. Include costs of tack and show clothes
- \* Describe or show one procedure an equine dentist may need to do for an aged horse not maintaining their weight.
- \* Research the cost and efficiency of four recognized forms of equine fencing. Include: safety factor; materials cost; installation time & cost; short term & long term maintenance; area availability.
- \* Select two unsoundness' and describe treatments or procedures that could keep the horse productive. What things could aggravate each unsoundness? What is the best and worst possible outcome?
- \* Independent study – limited to one per bracket. Each independent study element must be pre-approved by both your club leader and a member of the Executive Committee.

## HANDLING & SAFETY

- \* Describe or show how to safely bath a horse for the show ring. Include clipping for the show ring.
- \* Describe or show how to safely lead a horse through or past something that scares the horse.
- \* Describe or show how to long line or drive a horse with long lines.
- \* Describe or show how to safely approach and halter one horse in the middle of a group of horses.
- \* Establish both short term and long term riding goals you would like to accomplish over the course of a season utilizing weekly lessons.
- \* Describe or show how to teach a horse the basic elements it would need to know for Showmanship.
- \* List in order of importance to the horse five ways a horse will defend itself in the wild. Describe a scenario where a domesticated horse might inappropriately choose each defense.
- \* Describe or show how you would put on a surcingle and side reins for lunging. Include why you would lunge a horse with side reins.
- \* Describe or show how someone might train a young horse during its first 30 days under saddle
- \* Independent study – limited to one per bracket. Each independent study element must be pre-approved by both your club leader and a member of the Executive Committee.

## BREEDS & DISCIPLINES

- \* Select one breed from each of four continents and compare the conformation differences between each of the four breeds. Include each specific breed standards.
- \* Select a breed originating in the United States and another originating outside the United States prior to 1850 and provide a history of both.
- \* Compare two similar disciplines within the same area (hunters and jumpers; reining and Western riding; dressage and freestyle; endurance and cross country). Include differences in: training, equipment, scoring, goals, etc.
- \* Name and describe three different pieces of training equipment that could be used to re-school an older horse that is recovering from an injury or has learned some bad habits. Include what each piece would hope to accomplish in the re-schooling
- \* Explain the various physical discomforts that could come to a horse with a saddle that's too tight or too wide. Include how any of these discomforts may affect the horse's movement.
- \* Select at least one unnatural gait to a specific breed. Name the breed and describe the unnatural gait. Include when it would be called for.
- \* Select a breed registry and research history, membership requirements, governing body, names of local associations and any local competitions.
- \* Select a breed registry and research some of the most recent rule changes for competitions or the membership. Were these rule changes well accepted or controversial? Why?
- \* Select a European registry association and describe the selection process used to allow stallions to be used for registry breeding purposes.
- \* Design a show bill for a local 4-H club show used for their fund raising.
- \* Independent study – limited to one per bracket. Each independent study element must be pre-approved by both your club leader and a member of the Executive Committee.

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## CAREERS & EDUCATION

- \* Volunteer 8 hours at a local equine facility or event. Document your hours and what you learned or observed.
- \* Attend a local horse show. Interview the Show Manager and the announcer. Document your interview. Select questions prior to the interview and include them in your element.
- \* Read a book on horse care. Evaluate the book. Was it informative, easy to understand without owning a horse? What was the most interesting thing you learned?
- \* Job shadow two different people in two different horse related jobs. Compare the two jobs: income, hours, health risks, schooling, level of possible future success, biggest draw backs.
- \* Tour a breeding or training farm. Document your observations. What indicates industry success for this farm? What is one current financial issue the farm is facing? Does this issue seem to industry related or unique to this farm? Explain.
- \* Collect 8 different pictures of 8 horses of various breeds, sizes, etc. Place them as if they were in a halter class at a local 4-H show with no specific breed, age or gender guidelines.
- \* Read a current monthly horse magazine. Evaluate the overall look and content of the magazine. What suggestions would you give to the Editor in Chief?
- \* Attend a clinic, seminar or educational event that is horse related. What did you learn?
- \* You are now a 4-H Horse Leader for a new Kent County 20 member club. Design a series of winter meetings, a fund raiser and a community service project for your new club.
- \* Independent study – limited to one per bracket. Each independent study element must be pre-approved by both your club leader and a member of the Executive Committee.

## DESIGN & CREATE (extra credit)

- \* Make flash cards for at least 20 different horse and pony breeds; each card including the national origin of the breed
- \* Write a children's book featuring a therapy horse, a horse rescued from neglect, an ex-race horse or a retired show horse
- \* Write a short story with yourself as the main character featuring a horse you have created
- \* Draw a horse scene using paints, charcoals, pastels, pencils or ink
- \* Create a photo study of a selected topic. Examples could be: grazing horses, herds, ponies, working horses, foals, heads of horses, etc.
- \* Design a promotional banner to be hung at a local equine event. The banner will depict a horse farm or equine business of your choosing
- \* Develop a game that can be used to teach at least 30 parts of a horse
- \* Independent study – limited to one per bracket. Each independent study element must be pre-approved by both your club leader and a member of the Executive Committee.

# KEEP Horseless (HL) Elements Requirements

## Element # \_\_\_\_\_ Cover Sheet

(Make additional copies of this cover sheet as needed)

Member Name:		Phone #	
Club Name:			
Leader Name:		Leader Phone #	
Novice	Junior	Senior	
Element Topic			

Independent Study Element (Juniors/Seniors Only)
Leader Signature
EC member Signature

List all Resources used for the completion of this element
Resources include: web sites, books, articles, people, clinics, or seminars, club meetings, tours, event attendance, personal experience, etc.

Judge's Comments:
Judge's Signature & Date

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## ELEMENTS SCORE CARD

Element #1	Score Possible	Score Achieved
PRESENTATION: NEATNESS AND CREATIVITY	10	
ACCURACY: INFORMATION AND COMPLETION	10	
RESEARCH: Diversity, Relevance and Resources	10	
Element #2		
PRESENTATION: NEATNESS AND CREATIVITY	10	
ACCURACY: INFORMATION AND COMPLETION	10	
RESEARCH: Diversity, Relevance and Resources	10	
Element #3		
PRESENTATION: NEATNESS AND CREATIVITY	10	
ACCURACY: INFORMATION AND COMPLETION	10	
RESEARCH: Diversity, Relevance and Resources	10	
Element #4		
PRESENTATION: NEATNESS AND CREATIVITY	10	
ACCURACY: INFORMATION AND COMPLETION	10	
RESEARCH: Diversity, Relevance and Resources	10	
Element #5		
PRESENTATION: NEATNESS AND CREATIVITY	10	
ACCURACY: INFORMATION AND COMPLETION	10	
RESEARCH: Diversity, Relevance and Resources	10	
Required Elements Total Points	<b>150</b>	

Extra Credit Element		
PRESENTATION: NEATNESS AND CREATIVITY	10	
ACCURACY: INFORMATION AND COMPLETION	10	
RESEARCH: Diversity, Relevance and Resources	10	
Extra Credit Total Points	<b>30</b>	

HL Elements Total Points (Required + Extra Credit)	<b>180</b>	
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Questions about this score can be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Comments from judge: