

Winnebago County Horse & Pony Mentor Program

Mission:

The Winnebago County Horse and Pony Mentor Program is based on the 4-H mission and goals. Participating in a mentor partnership provides the opportunity for both members to make decisions and solve problems. It is the mission to build self confidence, learn to accept responsibility, increase the sense of belonging, provide the opportunity to develop mastery and practice skills. Providing the opportunity to mentor new members also allows members to develop skills in leadership and citizenship and helps them to build life skills.

Policy:

It is the Winnebago County Horse and Pony Mentor Program policy to match new members with qualified mentors to help support new member growth and skill development.

Participation Qualifications:

Mentor qualifications include:

- Member must have been a member of Winnebago County Horse and Pony Project for at least 3 years
- Member must have qualified for and attended State 4H competition at least one time (this is in order to be able to guide the mentee in the event that they qualify to attend the state competition)
- Member must be at least 14 years of age
- Member must be in good standing with the Winnebago County 4H and must be able to follow the code of conduct (member will conduct themselves in a 4H manner in all their interactions with the mentee)
- Member must be available to answer questions at fair
- Member must have received formal training (take lessons from a trainer)
- Member must be willing and able to contact the prospective mentee and set up meeting times
- Member must complete mentor application form
- Member must be willing to meet with the mentee at least 3 times

Mentee qualifications include:

- Mentee must be a member of Winnebago County 4H Horse and Pony Project
- Mentee must complete a mentee application form

Procedure for Requesting a Mentor:

1. Members interested in having a mentor will contact the Mentor Committee Chairs (Amanda or Michelle Stone) or sign up at a Horse and Pony Meeting
2. Upon contact, they will be given the appropriate application. It will be returned to a Mentor Committee Chair no later than the April meeting.
3. It will be verified that they fulfill the qualifications to be a mentee

4. The application will be completed and returned to the Mentor Committee Chairs. The application will include contact information as well as what disciplines they are most interested in receiving a mentor for. This application will be used in the matching process to help match them with as suitable a mentor as possible.

Procedure to Apply to be a Mentor:

1. Members interested in being a mentor will contact the Mentor Committee Chairs (Amanda Stone or Michelle Stone) or sign up at a Horse and Pony Meeting
2. Upon contact, they will be given the appropriate application
3. Mentor will fill out the application and verify that they meet the qualifications to be a mentor.
4. The application will be completed and returned to the Mentor Committee Chairs no later than the April meeting.

Procedure to Match Mentee and Mentor:

1. Review all mentee and mentor applications and qualifications.
2. If a mentor/mentee is not qualified to participate, they will be contacted and informed of this fact.
3. Review applications and match mentor and mentee based on the following considerations:
 - a. Location, distance from each other
 - b. Disciplines that mentee is seeking to improve upon and experience of potential mentor in those areas.
 - c. Specific mentee/mentor requests
4. Contact assigned Mentor and share mentee application information
5. Ask Mentor to contact Mentee to set up initial practice

Procedure for Completing Match Expectations:

1. Mentor will contact mentee to set up initial meeting times. Please note that it is highly encouraged to meet at Open Ride times set up by the Horse and Pony Project. Mentor will attempt to contact Mentee within 3 days of receiving the match. If the Mentor is unable to reach the Mentee after 3 attempts in one week's time, the Mentor should contact the Mentor Committee Chairs to inform them of the difficulty in contacting the Mentee.

During this contact the following will be discussed:

- The mentor will discuss the mentee's expectations for the match with the mentor (i.e. how many times are they hoping to meet? how often? what would they like to learn? what disciplines would they like to improve/focus on?)
 - Decide when and where meeting will occur
2. When meeting with the Mentee, the Mentor will be a leader and use positive communication
 3. The Mentor will set up the next meeting with the Mentee.
 4. The Mentee will contact the Mentor Committee Chairs with any issues or concerns about the match.

Mentor Application

Contact Information:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Address:

Mentor Qualifications: Check all that apply

- I have been a member of Winnebago County Horse and Pony Project for at least 3 years (List number of years: _____)
- I have qualified for and attended State 4H competition at least one time (this is in order to be able to guide the mentee in the event that they qualify to attend the state competition)
(Strongly Recommended)
- I am at least 14 years of age (List age: _____)
- I am in good standing with the Winnebago County 4H and am able to follow the code of conduct (I will conduct myself in a 4H manner in all their interactions with the mentee)
- I will be available to answer questions at fair
- I will be attending fair.
- I am willing and able to contact the prospective mentee and set up meeting times
- I have completed the mentor application form
- I am willing to meet with the mentee at least 3 times.
- I have received formal training (take lessons)

Areas I am confident in mentoring:

I would be most interested in mentoring the following areas:

I am NOT interested in mentoring the following areas:

All information on this applications is true to the best of my knowledge. I will comply with all 4H Horse and Pony code of conduct expectations.

Signature of Proposed Mentor

Date of Signature

Signature of Parent of Proposed Mentor

Date of Signature

Mentee Application

Contact Information:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Address:

Parent Phone Number:

Mentee Qualifications: Check all that apply

- I am a member of Winnebago County 4H Horse and Pony Project
- I have completed a mentee application form
- I will sign a waiver of liability to participate
- I will sign the code of conduct form
- I will be showing at fair
- Model Horse
- Riding/Handling
- Horse Bowl

Classes I am competing in at fair:

Areas I would like a mentor to help me with:

All information on this applications is true to the best of my knowledge. I will comply with all 4H Horse and Pony code of conduct expectations.

Signature of Proposed Mentor

Date of Signature

Signature of Parent of Proposed Mentor

Date of Signature

****Feel free to include a short bio/or pictures about you and your horse****

Current Mentor Committee Chair Contact Information

Please feel free to contact the Mentor Committee Chairs with any questions, application requests, or concerns.

Youth Chair: Amanda Stone

Email: 20stonea@w-csd.org

Phone: (920)-585-8992

Adult Chair: Michelle Stone

Email: chetstone@att.net

Phone: (920)-585-7274

