



HAC 4-H Open Show Sunday July 26th 2026

Show starts at 8:30 a.m. RAIN or SHINE

**Westford 4-H Fairgrounds
55 South Chelmsford Rd Westford, MA**

**New for 2026–
Pre-register
online!**

**Use the QR code
on the entry form
to sign up now.**

Food booth will be open all day!
For more information please visit the
Middlesex County 4-H Horse Advisory Council (HAC)
FB Page www.facebook.com/Middlesex4hHAC and
HAC website <https://4hmiddlesexhac.org>

Or contact Lanea Tripp @ 978-846-8400 or
leader@stoneybrook4hsaddleclub.com

HAC 4-H Open Horse Show

RULES

1. A Lead-line rider is 5 to 7 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
2. A Walk/Trot rider is 8 to 18 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
3. A Junior rider is 8 to 13 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
4. A Senior rider is 14 to 18 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
5. An Adult rider is 19 and over as of January 1 of the current year.
6. 4-H classes are open to enrolled 4-H members 8 years old and up. 4-H mounted classes are walk trot canter.
7. All horses that kick must wear a red ribbon in their tail.
8. Safety is our first concern. Unruly horses/people will be asked to leave the show grounds without refund.
9. The show committee reserves the right to dismiss any horses that appear to be lame or sick.
10. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the fairgrounds. No smoking in the vicinity of horses, riders, or trailers. No cooking appliances or grills permitted.
11. ASTM Approved helmets must be worn by ALL participants (including Adults) and all riders must wear hard soled shoes with a heel (for in-hand, see Additional Rules below).
12. **Western division** riders must use an *approved* curb bit, half-breed or spade bit and ride one-handed. Snaffle bits/two handed riding only permitted for horses under 5 years old. **Gymkhana riders** may use an *approved* snaffle, hackamore, or curb bit for any seat and may ride two-handed. Use [2026 NE bit guidelines](#) for approved bits.
13. Participants are responsible for their own property. Middlesex Horse Advisory Council shall not be held responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged property.
14. This horse show is being run under the rules of the [New England 4-H Horse Show Rules and Guidelines 2026](#) and the [MA 4-H Addendum](#).
15. Stallions are not permitted at this show.
16. MA 4-H sanctioned animal events follow [MDAR animal health and safety rules](#). A negative Coggins within 12 months is required for all equines, and those equines crossing state lines must have an OCVI for the 2026 show season.
17. The show committee reserves the right to combine or cancel classes or change class order if needed.
18. All riders who enter the ring without a number will be disqualified from that class.

In-Hand Class Rules (open to horses, ponies, small equine, donkeys/mules)

1. An in-hand exhibitor is 8 and over as of January 1 of the current year.
2. Classes are judged on manners and performance. Neatness/cleanliness of horse, tack, handler also considered.
3. Handlers should be dressed in a long-sleeved shirt, pants (solid colored jeans or dress pants without holes) but not necessarily dressed in riding attire.
4. A hat must be worn and may be seat specific. ASTM approved riding helmets are not required but are encouraged.
5. Horse and rider combinations may enter both Open Horse in-Hand and mounted divisions.
6. Handlers must wear boots with a distinguishable heel except in ground poles in which sneakers are optional.

Please refer to [New England 4-H Horse Show Rules and Guidelines 2026](#) for further rules for specific class, etc. Links to all applicable rules can be found on our website: <https://4hmiddlesexhac.org/>.

2026 HAC 4-H Open Show

When: Sunday July 26, 2026
Where: Middlesex 4-H Fairgrounds 55 South Chelmsford Rd, Westford, MA
Starts: Starts at 8:30 a.m. (rain or shine)
Main Judge: Julia Adams
Trail Judge: Caitlin Curry

RING 1

1. 4-H Fitting & Showmanship
2. Open Showmanship
3. Lead-line Equitation
4. Lead-line Egg & Spoon
5. Walk/Trot Equitation
6. Jr. English Equitation
7. Western Equitation (8 - 18 years old)
8. Sr. English Equitation
9. Adult Equitation
10. 4-H Equitation
11. Open Equine in Hand Performance Rail
12. Walk/Trot Pleasure
13. Jr. English Pleasure
14. Western Pleasure (8 – 18 years old)
15. Sr. English Pleasure
16. Adult Pleasure
17. 4-H Pleasure
18. Open Equine in Hand Pattern
19. Western Discipline Rail (8-18 years old)
20. Walk/Trot Discipline Rail
21. Jr. English Discipline Rail
22. Sr. English Discipline Rail
23. Adult Discipline Rail
24. Open Hunter Hack (2')
25. Open Equitation Over Fences (2')
26. Open Hunter Over Fences (2')
27. Walk Trot Cross Rails (not incl. in Championships)
28. Open WTC Cross Rails (not incl. in Championships)

Gymkhana (following classes in Ring 1)

29. Walk/Trot Hourglass
30. Jr. Hourglass
31. Sr. Hourglass
32. Adult Hourglass
33. Walk/Trot Pole Bending
34. Jr. Pole Bending
35. Sr. Pole Bending
36. Adult Pole Bending
37. Walk/Trot Barrel Race
38. Jr. Barrel Race
39. Sr. Barrel Race
40. Adult Barrel Race

**Trail Classes will be held from
9:00A.M. until 12:00 P.M. in RING 2**

41. Lead-line Trail
42. Open Equine in Hand Trail
43. Walk/Trot Trail
44. Jr. English Trail
45. Sr. English Trail
46. Western Trail (8 - 18 years old)
47. Adult Trail

RING 2 (Classes will start after trail)

48. Open Equine in Hand Egg & Spoon
49. Walk/Trot Egg & Spoon
50. Jr. Egg & Spoon
51. Sr. Egg & Spoon
52. Adult Egg & Spoon
53. Walk/Trot Keyhole
54. Jr. Keyhole
55. Sr. Keyhole
56. Adult Keyhole

Ages are as of January 1st of current year:

- **Lead-line Ages: 5 - 7**
- **Walk/Trot Ages: 8 - 18**
- **Junior Ages: 8 - 13**
- **Senior Ages: 14 - 18**
- **Adult Ages: 19 and over**
- **In Hand Division Ages: 8 and over**

Championships will be awarded for the following:

4-H Division Classes: 1, 10, 17
Walk/Trot Classes: 5, 12, 20, 43
Junior English Classes: 6, 13, 21, 44
Senior English Classes: 8, 15, 22, 45
Western Classes: 7, 14, 19, 46
Adult Classes: 9, 16, 23, 47
Open Equine in Hand Classes: 2, 11, 18, 42, 48
Gymkhana W/T Classes: 29, 33, 37, 49, 53
Gymkhana Jr. Classes: 30, 34, 38, 50, 54
Gymkhana Sr. Classes: 31, 35, 39, 51, 55
Gymkhana Adult Classes: 32, 36, 40, 52, 56
Open Hunters Classes: 24, 25, 26

HAC 4-H Open Show

July 26, 2026

Rider's Name: _____ Age as of January 1, 2026: _____

4-H Club: _____ Horse's Name: _____

Rider's Address: _____ City _____ State _____

Rider's Phone #: _____ Email address: _____

Circle Classes Entered:

1 (free) 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

***Cost of pre-entering classes: \$10 per class. Pre-entries must be submitted by July 23. New this year – use the QR code below to register online by July 23rd! Late or day-of-show entries incur a flat fee of \$25.**

You do not need to send money to be pre-entered. Please pay when you arrive the morning of the show (or leave a blank, signed check with the show secretary if you plan on entering more classes during the day). Make checks payable to: 4-H Middlesex County Horse Program.

New!
Register Online
with this QR
code



Number of Classes entered (not including class 1)	_____
Multiply by \$10	_____
Admin Fee	+ 5.00
Post Entry flat fee (after July 23rd): \$25	_____
Total Cost of Entries	_____

How did you hear about this show? _____

Release and Hold Harmless Agreement:

The undersigned assumes the unavoidable risks inherent in all horse related activities, including but not limited to bodily injury and physical harm to horse, rider and spectator. In Consideration, therefore, for the privilege of riding and/or working around horses at the Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds, located at 55 South Chelmsford Road, Westford, MA, the undersigned does hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Middlesex County 4-H Fair, Inc., 4-H Middlesex Horse Advisory Council, UMASS 4-H County Extension Office, the show personnel, Judges and all their designees and further release them from any liability or responsibility for accident, damage, injury, or illness to the Undersigned or to any horse owned by the Undersigned or to any family member or spectator accompanying the Undersigned on the premises.

WARNING: UNDER MASSACHUSETTS LAW, AN EQUINE PROFESSIONAL, EVENT SPONSOR, OR FACILITY OWNER IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY TO, OR THE DEATH OF, A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 128, SECTION 2D OF THE GENERAL LAWS.

Rider's Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____ Date _____

Email completed pre-entry forms to: Lanea Tripp, leader@stoneybrook4hsaddleclub.com