MEMORANDUM

FROM: Neal Smith, Extension Area Specialist, 4-H

TO: Western Region 4-H Horse Show Participants and Parents

RE: Helmet Waiver Clarification

Dear 4-H Contestants and Parents:

The new 4-H Helmet Rule does NOT give permission for Adults (Parents and/or Trainers) to ride, train or prepare a 4-H Member's horse at the Western Region or State 4-H Horse Shows.

The following rule is still in place:
6.19. No trainers, parents or other adults are allowed to ride horses in primary show rings at any time.

The helmet rule applies for anyone (including adults) that is mounted or while in a vehicle being pulled by equine at 4-H Events and Activities. This would apply to any adults that are assisting, in an official capacity, with the actual event or activity. Examples include, but are not limited to, riding a horse at a judging contest, serving as a herd holder during a ranch boxing class or assisting with a horsemanship clinic, etc.

Adults are still NOT ALLOWED to be mounted to train or tune a horse in any of the arenas during a 4-H Horse Show.

The waiver allows those Adult Riders, assisting in an official capacity, to get permission to not wear a helmet at 4-H Events and Activities. However, ANY CONTESTANT, no matter their age, MUST wear a helmet while mounted.

The Tennessee 4-H Horse Show Championship Handbook can be accessed at the following website:


All Contestants, Parents, Coaches and Trainers are encouraged to review the horse show guidelines.

If questions arise, contact your County Extension Office or the Western Region Office.