

## **Larimer County 4-H Horse Helmet Rule**

Effective January 1, 2005, all participants in 4-H horse activities in Larimer County will be required to wear ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear with secured harness while mounted.

It is the responsibility of riders and parents or guardians of riders to ensure that the headgear worn complies with ASTM/SEI standards, carries the proper seals and is properly fitted and in good condition. The Larimer County 4-H program, Colorado State University, Extension personnel, volunteer leaders, show committees, officials and judges are not responsible for checking headgear for compliance with ASTM/SEI standards.

A helmet must be worn by riders when mounted at all times at all 4-H events or when representing 4-H or a 4-H club, with no exceptions. Examples of 4-H events include, but are not limited to, county workshops, 4-H open horse shows, practices, open rides, trail rides, drill teams, fairs and parades. A helmet must be worn every time, every ride.

The helmet rule applies to all riders under 19 years old at 4-H club sponsored open shows, even if the riders are not 4-H members.

At any 4-H equestrian activity, the official activity manager (e.g. show manager, clinic organizer, club leader) may, at his/her discretion, check a participant's equestrian helmet for proper standards. If the participant is found to be wearing an unapproved, defective or improperly fitted helmet, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any mounted activity until a proper helmet is acquired.

Failure to comply with the helmet rule may result in disqualification from the activity. Repeated offenses may result in disqualification from all 4-H Horse activities, including the county fair 4-H Horse Show.

Failure of a leader to properly enforce the helmet rule may result in loss of leadership status.