

# Littleton Regional Hack & Tack 4-H Club Rules

**Mission Statement:** Littleton Regional Hack and Tack 4-H Club has a long history, continuously active since its founding in 1949. The club will strive to welcome new members into the club each year, as we all continue to learn, to grow, and to have fun.



## I Pledge...

**My Head to clearer thinking,  
My Heart to greater loyalty,  
My Hands to larger service, and My Health for better living, for  
My Club, my Community, my Country, and my World**

## What do you learn through 4-H?

**Leadership:** Through 4-H, you learn pretty incredible skills to become effective leaders. How to stand up in front of an audience and make a speech or presentation. How to manage a project. How to conduct a meeting. And, what about butterflies in your stomach? Yeah, we all have them, and we learn to get over them. Best of all, we learn these skills now, not later.

**Citizenship:** In 4-H, citizenship is the opportunity to learn how we can make OUR world better. We learn that through helping others, we are actually helping ourselves. Yes, 4-Hers can change their world and make a difference. In 4-H, you learn how.

**Life Skills:** The project opportunities in 4-H are seemingly infinite, and you can always create a new one! 4-H members learn useful knowledge and skills in all areas, from photography, to sewing, to rocketry, to animal showmanship, to horticulture. You also learn how to work in a group, make new friends, and more, all while having a lot of fun.

## Goals:

1. Make new friends who share common interests, both within our own club, and by connecting with members of other 4-H clubs.
2. As a club, perform at least one Community Service Project Each 4-H Year.
3. Have members take part in Horsebowl, Hippology, and Horse Judging Contests, Visual Presentations at the County and State level, and other 4-H challenges.
4. Support one another during all of the riding events, in addition to all of the other competitions that 4-Hers can enter in. (Static, photography, County and State Level events. Etc.)

## Membership Rules:

- The Littleton Hack and Tack is primarily a horse-riding club. However, you do not have to own, ride, or lease a horse to be a member of this club.. Anyone age 5 – 18 is welcome to join. 4-H age is calculated by the age you are as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current 4-H year. Age categories are as follows: Ages 5-7 are Cloverbuds, Age 8 to 13 are Juniors and Ages 14 – 19 are Seniors.
- There is no limit to the number of members in the club.
- Members in good standing should attend at least 50% of the monthly meetings.
- Club members are expected to learn the pledge and live by the 4-H Creed and Motto.
- Each Junior and Senior club member is required to complete a visual presentation prior to County competition in March (exceptions at the discretion of the leaders of the club).
- Each member is required to choose a project, manage it according to 4-H rules, and is encouraged to maintain 4-H records on the project, including a record summary, and a yearly 4-H story about what you learned / accomplished during the 4-H year. Cloverbuds are exempt from this.

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## General Etiquette Rules:

Listen attentively and respectfully when someone is speaking, including to other members, guests, and presenters. Acknowledge and be open to all points of view and do not ridicule others or leave them out of activities or discussions. Swearing is not permitted. Cell phones are to be set on vibrate, and texting is not allowed. Please excuse yourself and use your cell phone/Blackberry/Droid outside of the designated meeting room if necessary. Practice good sportsmanship, including the polite recognition of other competitors who may not be affiliated with the club.

## Officer Rules:

- Elections for Officers are held at the beginning of each new 4-H Year in October.
- A valid vote may only be taken with a minimum of 50% of membership present.
- **4-Hers** – If you want to run for an office, you may be nominated or nominate yourself. If you are nominated, and accept, you must present yourself in front of the group at the election meeting and let everyone know why you think you will be a good candidate for the position.
- The offices include: (includes a brief description)
  - **President** – Must be a Senior Club Member. This person must be a suitable role model for the 4-H club. They will set the agenda for, and run the 4-H the meeting, and attend officers meetings as coordinated by their leader.
  - **Vice President** – Must be a Senior Club Member. Will take over the duties of the president when he / she is unable to attend. Introduces “guest” speakers at regular club meetings. (as indicated on the agenda) Assist with running the 4-H meetings and attend officers meetings as coordinated by their leader.
  - **Secretary** – This role requires recording the minutes of the meeting, tracking open issues to closure, maintaining attendance records and disseminating the information to the club on a regular basis. Attend officers meetings as coordinated by their leader.
  - **Treasurer** – Assists the leader with financial transactions and records for the club. Attend officers meetings as coordinated by their leader.
  - **Jr. Vice President** – May be a Junior or Senior Club Member. Attend officers meetings as coordinated by their leader. Learn by example of the President and Vice President, and fill in for an officer at meetings.
  - **Pledge Leader** – leads the pledge during each 4-H meeting and assures that all new club members have a copy of the pledge.
- Officers are elected for a one-year term (beginning with the October meeting each year).
- If an officer drops out of the club, the president shall appoint a new officer to complete the 4-H Year. If the president drops out of the club, the leader shall appoint a new president for the remainder of the 4-H year.

## Club Structure

The club is structured with a Leader and assistant leaders and screened volunteers. Per 4-H requirements, all leaders and chaperones must have the appropriate screening requirements on file with the 4-H office in order to chaperone any 4-H sponsored events or activity. In addition, volunteers for specific activities can fill out a one-day form (available from the club leader) and assist, provided that a screened volunteer accompanies them.

The club may have separate Project Leaders, who may volunteer on a yearly basis. If the Project Leader positions are not filled, the Leader will be responsible to assume the role(s).

The club will continue to meet monthly on Fridays at 7:00 pm at the Congregational Church in Littleton (unless otherwise specified). In addition to the regular club meetings, the Project Leaders may also meet monthly with the Club Leader, and Club Officers.

The club's website is [www.hackntack4h.org](http://www.hackntack4h.org), maintained by a leader with contributions from the club. Official communication is primarily through email and the club yahoo list.

**Note: Anytime our club runs an event, our own 4-Hers are covered by insurance since they are enrolled in 4-H. When we are interacting with the public, we need to pull a one-day certificate of insurance. The leader must give the name of the event/place, the date, times (including set up and break down) and the street address to Wendy Marcks. She will email the certificate back to the leader and keep a copy on file in the office.**