

# Working Ranch



## 4-H Horse Program

The 4-H Working Ranch Horse provides an opportunity for youth to be involved in western horsemanship activities beyond the traditional show ring. Participants learn the age-old techniques of handling livestock while on horseback, as well as the leadership and responsibility that comes with being engaged in 4-H.

**Heading** – The purpose of the heading competition will be for youth participants to show their skill in throwing head loops and demonstrating their ability to safely dally their ropes.

**Heeling** – The purpose of the heeling competition will be for youth participants to show their skill in throwing heel loops and demonstrating their ability to safely dally their ropes.

**Ranch Sorting** (Timed/Judged Event) - Ranch Sorting is a timed event class consisting of a rider with the objective of sorting 3 head of cattle from one pen into another in designated sequence. The rider that sorts the most cattle in the correct order, with the fastest time, will be declared the winner.

**Working Ranch Horse (Pattern + cow work)** - This class combines the reining ability and cow sense of the horse and will be judged on the rider's and horses' ability, cow sense and smoothness. Each contestant will perform individually. The event will begin with the reining pattern and then releasing one cow into the arena. After the exhibitor has completed his/her reining pattern, he/she will call for the cow to be turned into the arena. Upon receiving the cow, contestant shall hold the cow on the prescribed end of the arena sufficient time to demonstrate the ability of the horse to contain the cow on that end. After a reasonable amount of time, the contestant shall take the cow down the fence, making at least one turn each way on the fence.

**For more information:**

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