The 4-H horse leaders meeting was called to order by Sandy Henry at the Ag service center conference room on January 14, 2009.

Leaders Present: Margo Mack, Sandy Henry, Sheryl doss, Carrie Hoffnagle, Pam Hoikka, Courtney Skeen.

Staff present: Carole Smith.

Copies of the new contest guide for leaders: 4-H members will get inserts of new rules, and leaders will be given new copies of the contest guide. Members present were given new copies. Leaders please see the 4-H office for your new copy.

Questions about the rule changes in contest guide (follow up response to questions from last meeting)

“1) Restriction's on Mecate reins- are only NOT allowed in western gaming. Because they have a loop that hangs down and it was felt they were dangerous in speed events as the horse can get a leg caught during turns and falls.

2) Fat babies- or similar boots are not prohibited. But the rules state the foot must be able to slide freely through the stirrup. A judge may disallow a boot if they feel the foot cannot slide freely.”

State Fair horse show updates: The schedule and rules were passed out to leaders present. New editions to the rules have been highlighted in yellow. Please see the office for your new copy of the rules.

Horse resources catalog- Carol found the Nasco skeleton horse in the catalog, and asked if the leaders wanted to look through the catalog to see if we want any other teaching or learning props.

The exhibitor agreement- Name was changed to animal science projects. Line 2 dated that you need to have your animals and lease agreements 90 days prior to the county and state fair. April first was decided to be the deadline for both EOLS and UCF. If you are not competing in 4-H you can register your horse project later.

Also, please read the new animal science project agreement to your members at a club meeting. Carol still needs to alter it. But it will be on the 4-H website to print off copies. Please have your members sign the form too.

Committees still needing to be filled: clerks, UCF fair superintendent, State fair coordinator, and grievance committee.

Other items:

- There is a 14 yr old gelding that needs new home ASAP due to not enough feed. Please talk to Elaine La Rochelle.
- If anyone wants colt training project Suzie (ask Carrie) has 2 ponies. Both are bay mares, one is a yearling the other a two year old. They should reach 13 hands. And they haven’t been worked with much.
- Margo – grooming contest is March 14. At ten till noon, lunch will be provided.
- 4-H survivor camp is February 13-15th for 8-12th grade. Members learn how to cook, pay their bills and much more in a friendly event held in camp elkanah.
- Eastern Oregon Leadership retreat is March 6-8th held in La Grande. Members will gain many new skills from workshops presented from their peers.

The next meeting is February 11, 2009 at 6:30 pm in the Ag service center conference room. Agenda items include the election of officers.

Submitted by Courtney Skeen