

DATE: June 22nd, 2023

TO: 2023 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo Hippology and Judging Exhibitors

FROM: Lena Luck, Equine Extension Specialist
Grace McCarthy, Equine Extension Assistant

Hello exhibitors! Below you will find important information for the upcoming expo. **Please carefully read the enclosed information and refer to the additional information available from the web link: <https://4h.unl.edu/state-horse-expo-contests>**

The 2023 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo is scheduled for Saturday, July 15th to Wednesday, July 19th at the Fonner Park grounds in Grand Island, Nebraska.

GENERAL SHOW PROCEDURES:

The show procedures, attire, and rules are described in “2023 Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide”.

Upon Arrival for the – Hippology Contest:

Check-in will start at 5:30 pm Saturday, July 15th at the Fonner Park Bosselman Center (directions can be found on the map listed below). It is preferred that coaches come and check in with teams during this time, but parents can also if coaches are not planning to attend.

It is recommended that youth bring their own writing utensils.

Upon Arrival for the Horse Judging (& second portion of the hippology contest):

Check-in will be on Sunday, July 16th from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm at the Bosselman Building (directions can be found on the map listed below). It is preferred that coaches come and check in with teams during this time, but parents can also if coaches are not planning to attend. Hippology teams will also have to check in “again” for the Horse Judging portion of the contest.

It is recommended that youth bring their own writing utensils and paper.

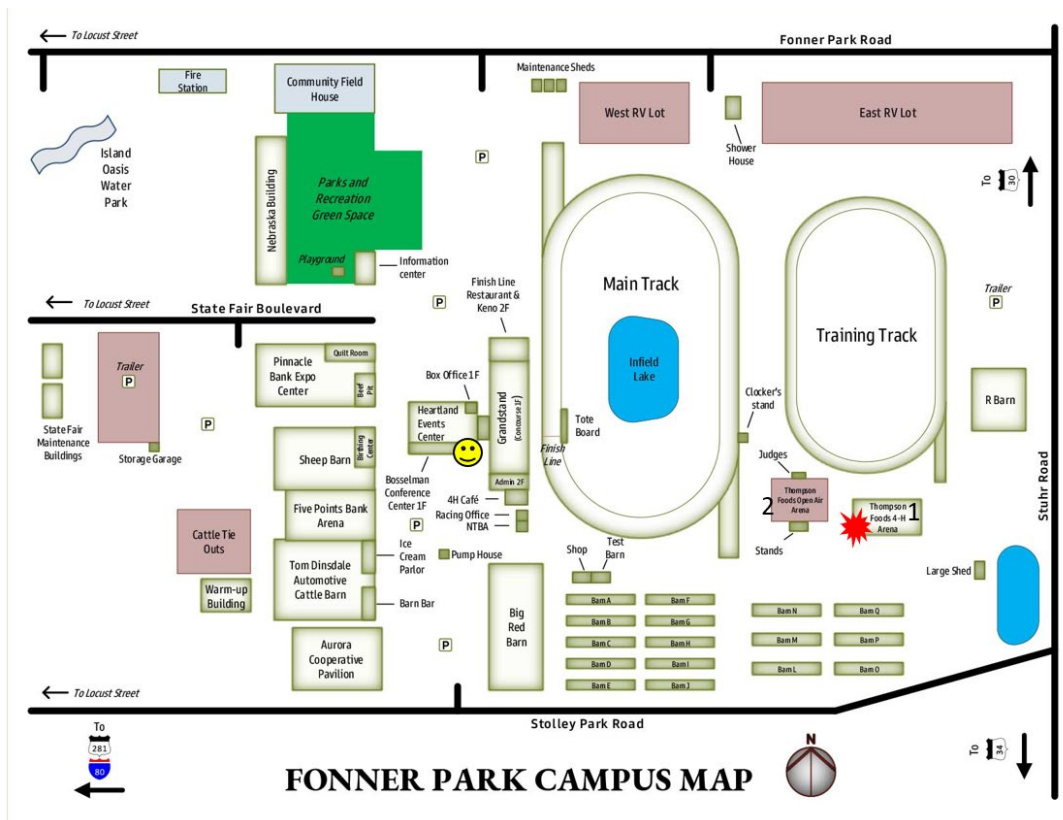
Results of both Hippology and Horse Judging contests will be announced in the Indoor Thompson Arena on Monday, July 17th after all Western Pleasure classes have finished. We strongly recommend that teams attend the awards ceremony to have a professional photo taken for future use. Please note that awards will only be distributed during this event and will not be sent by mail at a later time. If members of a team will not be in attendance, please find a designated representative to pick up all your team's awards.

Eligibility

- See General Contest Rules to determine the number of teams each county may enter at the State Contest.
- Contestants must be enrolled in the 4-H horse project.
- Nebraska 4-H Horse Show dress code required. Exception - no hats or headgear permitted.
- At the Fonner Park State 4-H Expo, an individual may compete in either Judging or Hippology, not both.
- Contestants must not have participated in any post-secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) competitive horse judging or hippology contests. Neither can a contestant be a member of a post-secondary team undergoing training in preparation for such an event.
- Youth who previously represented Nebraska at a national contest in the hippology or horse judging contest area is not eligible for further participation in that event at the state level.
- The winning team will have the first choice of the contest they wish to compete in; the reserve team will also be allowed to represent Nebraska at a different contest. Financial support for these teams will be supplied through the State 4-H Office.

Fonner Park Map- <https://fonnerpark.com/maps-directions>

- ☀ Show check-in
- 😊 Hippology check-in



Show Schedule can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/state-horse-expo-show>

4-H Family and Exhibitor Discovery at Dusk

Sunday, July 10th at Island Oasis Water Park from 6:00pm-8:00pm at 501 E Fonner Park Road, Suite 100, Grand Island, NE 68801. No passes are needed, all 4-H youth and their families are welcome to attend the fun night.

HOST HOTEL

Reserve your hotel rooms for the Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo with our host hotel! Call and get your reservation today!



Other types of lodging

4-H families are highly encouraged to book hotel rooms and reserve camper/RV hookups as early as possible. Camper/RV hookups will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis, and reservations can be made by contacting Kathy at 308-382-4515. Camper parking will be on the north side of the grounds along Fonner Park Road in the RV Park. Fonner Park requests that NO camper/living quarter trailers be on the ground prior to noon, Friday before the start of the show on Saturday. Parking will be available in the afternoon on Friday. However, trailers/campers cannot be left unattended to prevent theft and vandalism to your property as this has been an issue in the past. A \$35 fee per day will be charged for all trailers/campers throughout the event. Camping on the show grounds next to the barns is only permitted if you have your own generator. Anyone that is plugged into the barns for electricity will be cited and unplugged for each day of use.

Good sportsmanship is expected of exhibitors, their families, and friends at all times. Being pleasant and respectful of others is as important in the show arena and on the show grounds.

Travel Tips & Things to Bring

- Nebraska Fonner Park 4-H State Horse Expo Exhibitor Letter
- Lots of water to stay hydrated
- Pencil and notepad

The State 4-H Horse Exposition is held for Nebraska 4-H horse exhibitors. parents, leaders, friends, Fonner Park, and Extension congratulate your efforts in qualifying and participating in this great horse show. If 4-H exhibitors are physically able to exhibit their horses, they are also expected to prepare their horses for all events. Family and/or friend assistance is welcomed and expected but warm-up riding, lunging, etc. by persons other than the exhibitor may require immediate and appropriate action from the show superintendent and the [Nebraska 4-H Horse Advisory Committee](#).

Questions - If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at:

Lena Luck – lena.luck@unl.edu; 402-472-9098

Grace McCarthy – gmccarthy3@unl.edu; 402-472-6085

CLINICS & FUN NIGHT INFORMATION

Contact Melissa Mracek for questions regarding the clinics at mmracek2@unl.edu

Or

Kari Valentine at kari.valentineequineservices@gmail.com or 402-984-6256

**FREE TO ALL
PARTICIPANTS
AND FAMILIES**

Raising Nebraska
invites

Fonner Park
State 4-H Horse Expo

participants and families
to join us

Sunday July 16

6pm to 8pm

for

Discovery at Dusk

Exhibits - Games - Activities



This event is organized and presented by Raising Nebraska, in partnership with the Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo.





Clinic: Intro to Jumping 4-H State Horse Expo

SATURDAY
JULY 15
FONNER PARK

featuring Andrea Simpson



DID YOU KNOW

Clinics are open to ALL 4-H youth. Your rider does not have to be participating in the 4-H State Expo to attend
*The University does not discriminate based upon any protected status.

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

3:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Thompson Outdoor Arena



[Register Now](#)



4-H State Horse Expo
Intro to Working Ranch Horse
THOMPSON OUTDOOR ARENA
Following horsemanship classes

JULY 17
FONNER
PARK



OPEN TO ALL 4-H YOUTH
•THE UNIVERSITY DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE BASED UPON ANY PROTECTED STATUS.



REGISTER



WELCOME FROM FONNER PARK

Dear 4-H Horse Show Exhibitor:

We are excited to have the 2023 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Exhibition in Grand Island, Nebraska. Fonner Park has been the proud sponsor of this prestigious state-wide event since 1976 and our entire staff welcomes you. We know you will enjoy the experience and wish you much success in the competition. If we can assist in any way during your stay, please contact us at the Fonner Park admin office.

Fonner Park is a non-profit public service corporation, conducting Thoroughbred horseracing from February - May. The

Heartland Events Center is located on our campus to provide community entertainment and business gatherings throughout the year. We are also the home of the Hall County Fair and the Nebraska State Fair. Numerous livestock & expo shows are also conducted here throughout the year.

From all of us at Fonner Park, we are excited for you to show at the 2023 Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Exposition.

Chris Kotulak, CEO
(308) 382-4515
www.fonnerpark.com

Please post photos of your Fonner Park and 4-H experience on Fonner Park social media. Share the joy!

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA...

 @FonnerPark  @FonnerRacing  @FonnerParkFun



Grand Island, Nebraska
GRAND
life