

PREMIER EXHIBITOR NEWS

This letter is to announce the start of the Premier Exhibitor Programs for the 2009 show Season. A Premier Exhibitor Program will be conducted at the Parish, District, and State Horse Shows. These programs will be a continuation of the programs that were introduced five years ago. These programs are based on the knowledge and skills that an exhibitor knows in their project area. All 4-H members participating in the horse shows are urged to participate in the program(s) that you meet the requirements.

Participation in this program is voluntary, but additional awards will be given to the winners. Winners will be recognized in the horse project who exhibits a horse at the different show levels. The contest will consist of the exhibitors earning points from each of the following: an exam, skill-a-thon activity, a designated performance event score, and at Parish a "Showing Character" session.

Each of the programs for the Parish, District, and State Livestock Shows are similar; however, they each have their unique qualities. These programs are also open to different species, age groups, and grade levels. The exam questions will be based on the LCES horse project books. These are the project books that were given out last school year 2008-2009. If you would like a copy of the horse book(s), they can be picked up at our office.

LAFAYETTE PARISH PREMIER EXHIBITOR PROGRAM - General Rules

- ◇ Open to all exhibitors ages (9 years and older)
- ◇ Programs are available in the horse project
- ◇ Must participate in at least one session of "Showing Character"
- ◇ Must designate a specific horse and performance event to calculate your points

ACADIANA DISTRICT PREMIER EXHIBITOR PROGRAM - General Rules

- ◇ Open to all exhibitors in high school (7th - 12th grades)
- ◇ Programs available in the horse project
- ◇ Must designate a specific horse and performance event to calculate your points.

STATE PREMIER PROGRAM - General Rules

- ◇ Open to all exhibitors in high school (7th - 12th grades)
- ◇ Programs available in the horse project



As mentioned above, for the parish contest a series of "Showing Character" sessions designed to emphasize the important aspects of showing a 4-H animal. "Showing Character" is a program developed by the LSU Ag Center, which teaches the high ideals of respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and decision making.

In these sessions, 4-H'ers will be involved in hands-on, fun learning that will challenge and enlighten them. We will also be including some hands-on training for the premier exhibitor skill-a-thon stations. It is important that members participating in the premier exhibitor program attend as many of the three sessions, as possible. This is due to the fact that different skill-a-thon activities will be reviewed at each session.

The location of each of these sessions will be at the 4-H Office. If for some reason you cannot participate in all three sessions, please make it a priority to participate in part of the program. The dates are as follows:

Monday, January 5th @ 5:15 - 6:45 PM (Supper Provided After Session)

Monday, January 19th @ 1:00 - 2:30 PM—Blackham Coliseum

Tuesday, March 3rd @ 5:15 - 6:45 PM (Supper Provided After Session)

The rules listed above are basic rules of each contest. The specific rules will be mailed out to those members that participate in a "Showing Character" session in May 2009. At that time, you will have to complete the entry/resume form for each of the different levels of the program. Furthermore, on the entry form for the parish and district shows each exhibitor will have to select a specific horse and a performance event to calculate their score.

You will receive additional information and reminders in the mail. If you have any questions, please contact us at 291-7090.

Sincerely,

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