

## **VIRGINIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW “HORSE SHOW HERO” PROGRAM**

The 2008 Virginia State 4-H Horse Show committee and its participants must work together to meet the financial challenges of the 2008 horse show. Efforts are being taken to address this challenge via avenues such as program advertisements, solicitation of new corporate sponsors, and the “Hero” program for our youth to get into the “action” of making the show more independent of government funding.

The 4-Hers exhibiting in the horse show may solicit friends, family, and businesses to become a “Horse Show Hero” with their tax deductible dollars given in support of the Virginia 4-H Horse Show and Program. Small donations can add up if a 4-Her gathers at least \$150.00 in Hero sponsorships....the 4-Her would need to only pay \$50.00 of the required \$100.00 entry fee! Youth who gather \$200.00 in Hero sponsorships would pay NOTHING in entry fees! To receive credit, hero sponsorship money and a form (next page) for each “hero” must be sent with show entries. After the entry deadline, no alterations in credit can be given but additional money can be accepted. All checks will be cashed soon after receipt, even if the youth is unable to participate in the horse show. Donations are transferable but not refundable. If a youth is not showing but wants to gain support from their “heroes”, they are welcome to turn in money or give it to another 4-Her planning to show.

If a 4-Her secures more than \$200.00 and wants to assign an amount to a fellow 4-Her and credit toward their entry fee, this is permissible but **MUST BE EASILY UNDERSTOOD**. To give credit appropriately, include the name of the fellow 4-Her, county and horse they have entered. To be credited, only money secured before the show will be counted for discount credit on the entry fee.

**Please DO NOT send cash.** It is dangerous and often times gets lost in the mail. Checks and money orders made payable to the Virginia 4-H Foundation – Horse Show will only be accepted. The tax deductible credit can only be given to the name on the check according to the Virginia Tech Foundation policy. It money is collected from numerous sources and one check is written; only the name on that check will receive a tax credit.

There is no pressure for youth to solicit Horse Show Heroes, but the rewards are many. First, there is the pride gained for embracing the financial responsibility of the horse show, along with the potential financial credit for entry fees if the minimum amount is met. Also, all youth who secure *any* amount of Hero sponsorships will be entered in a drawing for numerous free prizes donated by our sponsors, vendors, and friends. A collection has already begun of horsey type items, food give aways, and other items that may be fun for the 4-Hers to win! Hopefully clubs and other supporters around the state will come forward with items for many awards to give away on Friday night! And for the 4-Her who secures the highest dollar amount of sponsorships . . . . they will receive for them and their family four box seats on Saturday of the Washington International Horse Show in October 2008 and a motel room in the area! A trip like this is a just reward for that special 4-Her! **In addition to the 4-H member who secures the highest dollar amount of sponsorships, the top five solicitors for 2008 who raise over \$750 in donations will receive a special 4-H Horse Hero Jacket.** Make sure 4-H members identify what size jacket you wear on the donation forms.

Be A  
4-H Horse Show HERO!

The Virginia 4-H Program is proud to host the Virginia State 4-H Horse Show in one of the finest show facilities in the country. The outstanding Virginia youth work hard to train and show their own horses at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington. Despite reduced legislative funding, YOU can become a Horse Show Hero with your tax deductible donation to the program. And then come see your investment in action on September 18 - 21, 2008! The BEST will be competing in the spirit of good horsemanship and sportsmanship as they constantly strive to "Make the Best Better."

**2008 4-H Horse Show Hero**

*Please Print clearly!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Given \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Specify if there is a particular class or division you would like your name associated with in the show program as a sponsor. Include the class number and name where appropriate.

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Make check payable to Virginia 4-H Foundation - Horse Show

Mail Hero sponsorships ***with the horse show entry to:***

VA State 4-H Horse Show Entry  
Animal & Poultry Sciences (0306)  
Litton-Reaves Hall, VA Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

**4-Her responsible for this Hero:** \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Jacket Size (Adult): \_\_\_\_\_

Note: This form must accompany ***each*** Hero check so that tax credit may be provided to the Hero! VA Tech will send tax credit to donors of \$20.00 or more. Tax credits will only be sent to the name on the check. Please **do not** send CASH.

There will be no refunds of Horse Hero donations due to tax credits from Virginia Tech. However, they can be transferred to another 4-H member up until the scratch deadline of September 11, 2008.

Additional copies of this form may be downloaded and printed from the web page at:  
[www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/horse](http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/horse)

This should be sent with entries prior to the deadline of July 18, 2008.