

## **Tennessee 4-H Horse Program Adult Helmet Waiver**

We are aware that there are many adults and non-4-H member youth who ride at Tennessee 4-H horse program shows and events. While we strongly recommend that all riders, including adults, wear helmets to ensure their own safety and to set good examples for our youth, we realize that not everyone will be willing to do so. For these circumstances, we have developed an “**Adult Helmet Waiver**” form. Non-member youths are not eligible for the waiver. The waiver forms apply to adult riders only, and these forms are included in this document. All adult riders who refuse to wear a helmet must complete and sign the waiver form before the event or show, and a copy must be kept on file by the respective show or event management. Below is a FAQ regarding the adult helmet policy.

### **Tennessee 4-H Horse Program Adult Helmet Waiver FAQ**

**Are 4-H members who are 18 and older eligible to waiver out of wearing a helmet?**

NO. All 4-H participants, regardless of age, are required to wear a helmet. The waiver form is ONLY applicable to riders over 18 years of age who are not participating as a 4-H member.

**Are non-4-H members who are under 18 years old eligible to waiver out of wearing a helmet?**

NO. All youth, regardless of 4-H membership status, are required to wear a helmet.

**Are adults required to sign waivers for our county horse shows?**

If your county show is OPEN to adults and non-4-H youth, and is not sponsored by your 4-H program, then helmet waivers are not required. If your county show is a “4-H horse show”, then any adult riders who refuse to wear helmets will be required to sign helmet waivers.

**Are adult riders required to sign a waiver if they are putting on a non-4-H activity on their own farm or property?**

NO. If an adult is putting on a demonstration or clinic on their OWN farm or property they do NOT have to sign a waiver.

**Are helmet waivers required for riders in 4-H judging contests?**

YES. Adult riders in judging contests who do not wear helmets are required to sign helmet waivers. Youth riders (including 4-H members 18 years of age and older) in judging contests are required to wear helmets and cannot be exempted from this rule.

# University of Tennessee Extension Adult Helmet Waiver, Assumption of Risk, and Release of Liability

I, the undersigned, recognize the inherent dangers of riding equines (horses, mules, burros). I wish to participate in The University of Tennessee (“the University”) Extension riding activities. I realize that I am subject to injury from this activity and that no form of preplanning can remove all of the danger to which I am exposing myself. I am aware that the University of Tennessee Extension requires that all minor riders must wear and strongly recommends that all adult riders should wear ATSM/SEI approved equestrian helmets at all times while mounted. I am aware that an ATSM/SEI approved equestrian helmet can prevent head injuries and/or traumatic brain injuries in the event of an accident. Despite the University of Tennessee Extension’s policy I am refusing this critical safety precaution, and I am assuming all risk of injury to myself by my refusal to wear an equestrian helmet.

I, the undersigned, on behalf of myself, my successors, assignees, agents, and my heirs and executors, hereby release, waive, forever discharge, and covenant not to sue the University, and its trustees, officers, agents, employees, students, and volunteers (collectively “Releasees”), for any and all liability whatsoever for any and all damages, losses, or injuries (including but not limited to death) to persons or property or both, including but not limited to any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of actions, damages, losses, injuries, costs, expenses, and attorneys’ fees, that may be sustained while I am attending and/or participating in any University of Tennessee Extension activity or any activity carried on by me in connection therewith, **including injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of Releasees.**

I, the undersigned, hereby covenant and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees for and against any and all liability whatsoever for any and all damages, losses, or injuries (including but not limited to death) to persons or property or both, including, but not limited to, any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of actions, damages, losses, injuries, costs, expenses, and attorneys’ fees, that arise out of my while I am attending and/or participating in any University of Tennessee Extension activity or any activity carried on by me in connection therewith, whether or not caused by a party indemnified hereunder, **including, but not limited to, damages, losses, or injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of Releasees.**

**I have read, understood and accept the Adult Helmet Wavier.**

Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_