

## Bridle Bunch Youth Leadership Information

There are several ways you can assist and support the Bridle Bunch club. Please read the information thoroughly before deciding which option would work best for you considering the requirements, expectations, and time commitment, as well as your personality and availability.

**Volunteer as able** – this option requires the least amount of time and fewest expectations. You choose when you want to volunteer (shows and fair) and what position. This position is ideal for those who do not have a lot of time for meeting or completing assignments, but who want to support our club.

**Youth Leadership Team** – there is one youth leadership team which is divided into two parts based on different criteria.

### Senior Youth Leadership Team (grades 9-12)

- Able to run for an office (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary)
- Assist adult club leaders in promoting member interactions
  - Interaction with members – intentionally interacting with all members with special focus on new and junior level members for the purpose of them feeling welcome, ensuring they are comfortable asking questions & seeking help when needed, and desiring to continue & actively participate in Bridle Bunch
  - Plan activities for meetings and other events to help members get to know each other better
  - Being available for questions members have, offering encouragement, being approachable, and being a good role model at all times
- Assistant adult club leaders with administrative task as needed
  - Clinics/Shows/Open Arenas
    - Help with check in
    - Check vaccine records
  - Book signings
    - Help adult leaders check project books
- Meetings
  - Plan meeting agenda
    - Pick a topic and make any necessary arrangements for speakers and/or supplies
    - Plan games or activities for members to get to know each other and feel welcome
  - Be available to answer questions and help members (if unsure, please refer member to an adult leader)
  - Interact with members to make them feel welcome
  - Set-up and tear-down
  - Help at the check in table and payment table as necessary
- Volunteering
  - Implementing planned activities, primary volunteer positions: helping members, ribbons & prizes, gates, concessions, but volunteer in whatever position is needed
- Junior Leadership Team
  - Mentor and teach new leadership members

## Junior Youth Leadership Team (grades 6-8)

- Assist adult club leaders in promoting member interactions
  - Interaction with members – intentionally interacting with all members with special focus on new and junior level members for the purpose of them feeling welcome, ensuring they are comfortable asking questions & seeking help when needed, and desiring to continue & actively participate in Bridle Bunch
  - Plan activities for meetings and other events to help members get to know each other better
  - Being available for questions members have, offering encouragement, being approachable, and being a good role model at all times
- Meetings
  - Plan meeting agenda
    - Work with the senior leadership team to pick a topic and make any necessary arrangements for speakers and/or supplies
    - Work with the senior leadership team to plan games or activities for members to get to know each other and feel welcome
  - Be available to answer questions and help members (if you're unsure please refer the member to an adult leader or a senior leadership member)
  - Interact with members to make them feel welcome
  - Set-up and tear-down
  - Help at the check in table and payment table as necessary
- Volunteering
  - Implementing planned activities, primary volunteer positions: helping members, ribbons & prizes, gates, concessions, but volunteer in whatever position is needed
- Senior Leadership Team
  - Be mentored by a Senior member to learn about what it takes to be part of the leadership team

Because these are voluntary positions and are important roles to our club, we expect you to:

1. Prioritize Bridle Bunch Youth Leadership over other clubs, breed shows, etc.
2. Complete all assignments on time and be willing to serve where assigned and needed
3. Communicate as requested with adult leaders and other youth leaders
4. Attend all club meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month beginning in January) and youth training sessions & meetings (30 minutes immediately following club meetings)
5. Assist with two clinics or open arena sessions (You will need to sign up at the January meeting; if you are unable to attend assigned date, you will be responsible to find a replacement)
6. Assist with 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year member event and schooling show (April 14)
7. Assist with our club shows (May 25 and June 22)
8. Attend barn clean-up & fair prep event (July 11)
9. Assist at fair as assigned during days you are not showing or preparing to show at fair (July 14-21)

**Requirements for Bridle Bunch Youth Leadership positions:**

1. Sixth grade or older
2. Be enrolled in the Bridle Bunch club and pay Bridle Bunch club dues
3. Active member in Bridle Bunch for at least 2 years including the previous year (attended meetings regularly, volunteered, paid dues)
4. Complete Bridle Bunch Assistant/Leader application (parent signature required)
5. Sign Bridle Bunch Assistant/Leader Behavioral Expectations (parent signature required)
6. Attend an Informational meeting and interview on October 17, 2023 at 6:30 (parent attendance required for all 6th-8th grade members).

## Bridle Bunch Youth Assistant or Leader Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Bridle Bunch: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please thoroughly read the following requirements and expectations before completing, signing, and turning in this application. Please note there are a limited number of positions and the final decision will be determined by adult leaders.**

### Youth Leadership Requirements:

1. Sixth grade or older
2. Active member in Bridle Bunch previous year (attended meetings regularly, volunteered, paid dues)
3. Complete Bridle Bunch Youth Leadership Application (parent signature required)
4. Sign Bridle Bunch Youth Leader Behavioral Expectations (parent signature required)
5. Attend informational meeting and interview on **October 17 2023, 6:30 pm** (parent attendance required for all 6th-8th grade members)
6. Pay Bridle Bunch club dues

**Youth Leadership Expectations:** (failure to comply with these expectations can result in removal from the leadership team.) Because this is a voluntary position and is an important role to our club, we expect you to:

1. Prioritize Bridle Bunch Youth Leadership over other clubs, activities, breed shows, etc.
2. Complete all assignments on time and be willing to serve where assigned and needed
3. Communicate as requested with adult leaders and other youth leaders
4. Attend all club meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month beginning in January) and youth training sessions (after club meetings). However, we will have a get-to-know-each-other event as well as training sessions before the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year member event and fair. If this format is not effective we will schedule regular meetings.
5. Assist with two clinics or open arena sessions (dates will be assigned to each leader; if you are unable to attend assigned date, you will be responsible to find a replacement)
6. Assist with 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year member event and schooling show **(April 14)**
7. Assist with our club shows **(May 25 and June 22)**
8. Attend barn clean-up & fair prep event **(July 11)**
9. Assist at fair as assigned during days you are not showing or preparing to show at fair **(July 14-21)**
10. If any of the above dates conflict with another event, the member must write down the conflicting date and reason and turn in with this application. If the conflicting date is not known at the time this application is turned, a written note must be turned in to an adult leader as soon as it's known.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/legal guardian initials

\*Members who have 2 or more unexcused absences may be asked to leave the leadership team.

What is your leadership experience? How can your experience benefit our club?

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What skills make a good leader?

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How would you motivate and encourage member participation at our meetings, clinics, and open shows?

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What strengths will you bring to the leadership team?

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Are there any other clubs or activities that might limit your ability to fulfill the Bridle Bunch role?

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**We have read the requirements and expectations and agree to fulfill them if selected to be on the Bridle Bunch Youth Leadership Team.**

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Member signature & date

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Parent/Legal Guardian signature & date

# *Hendricks County, Indiana 4-H Horse & Pony Club*

## **Bridle Bunch Youth Leader Behavioral Expectations**

*“Those who believe in and work with youth have confidence in our future.”*

These Youth Leader Behavioral Expectations give 4-H teen leaders the opportunity to reaffirm their commitment and dedication to the well-being of 4-H members. When all individuals sign a copy of this document, they are making a collective statement that youth in the Hendricks County Bridle Bunch are being treated with respect, dignity, and attention to individual needs.

In my role as a youth leader I will:

- Respect, adhere to, and enforce the rules, policies, and guidelines established by the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and the Hendricks County 4-H Handbook.
- **Conduct myself in a courteous, respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship, and demonstrate reasonable conflict management skills.**
- Be truthful and forthright when representing the Hendricks County Bridle Bunch.
- **Accept my responsibility to represent the Hendricks County Bridle Bunch with dignity and pride by being a positive role model for other youth** by willingly and actively participating, assisting, and mentoring.
- Avoid inappropriate interactions with and displays of affection toward other persons, including boyfriend/girlfriend when representing the Hendricks County Bridle Bunch.
- Wear clothing that is appropriate for the event or activity... modesty, safety, and respectful. Preferably your leadership t-shirt when possible.
- Accept supervision and support from adult club leaders or designated volunteers by being respectful and cooperative.
- Treat animals in a humane manner and teach program participants appropriate animal care and management.
- Accept my responsibility to promote and support the Hendricks County Bridle Bunch in order to develop an effective county, state, and national program.

I have been given the opportunity to review these expectations and the opportunity to ask questions, and those questions have been answered to my satisfaction. **By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to abide by the behavioral expectations in this document. I understand that my failure to comply with these expectations may result in disciplinary action or termination of my youth leadership position in the Hendricks County Bridle Bunch.**

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4-H Member Name (Printed)

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4-H Member Signature and Date

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4-H Member Parent/Legal Guardian Signature & Date

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Adult Club Leader Signature and Date

A signed copy of the Youth Behavioral Expectations will be on file with the adult club leaders.

These Behavioral Expectations and related policies have been developed by faculty, educators, staff, and volunteers to strengthen the work of those who believe in the 4-H Youth Development Program.