

WELSH YOUTH AWARD PROGRAM

Paperwork to be sent by Chairman upon enrollment. Completed materials due back by **November 30** of that year.

The youth member must complete 5 activities during the calendar year, one under each of the categories below to spell WELSH (complete the spelling of the breed name). The components of the program recognize volunteerism, education, outreach, promotion, and pony care/health.

W – Writing about the Welsh breed, your experiences, etc. (to a pen pal, former owner, newspaper story or blog, school assignment, WPCAC Bulletin, etc.). This can be done electronically or via U.S. mail.

E – Education (learning about your pony/cob and its history, from its former owner, by studying its pedigree, etc.) or reading a book/section of a book/article about the Welsh breed).

L – Living with your pony/cob (what do you enjoy doing most with your pony/cob, and what is his/her life like (daily, special events)(; do you have any concerns about your pony/cob's life?)

S – Shows and events (what have you done at pony/cob shows or related events – parades, demonstrations, etc. The pony/cob need not participate, but just attend and share the experience).

H – Helping (volunteerism) – how have you helped others with their ponies, helped at our shows, or in other events in your community (where you live).

This is a suggested list of potential activities that will fit in the above:

1. Write a letter to the last owner and/or breeder of your pony. Tell them the adventures that you have had with the pony, what you have learned, your successes and frustrations. Ask about the pedigree, early training, etc. of your pony. This may be done electronically or via U.S. mail.
2. If you receive a reply to your letter/e-mail, use the information to write a short article or a letter to the newsletter and website and share what you have learned.
3. Look at the pedigrees of friends' ponies and see if they contain some of the same names. Share what you have learned about ponies and see if they add to your information. Write a short article for the Bulletin or website about one of the interesting ponies.
4. Write/e-mail the British Welsh Pony and Cob Society (WPCS). See if you can find a "pen pal" to exchange experiences and information about your Welsh pony experience.

Other suggestions:

1. Plan a short activity for junior members to enjoy at a pony show.
2. Volunteer to help a local riding group with an open show. What do they do differently from our Welsh shows? What other classes do they include? What do they do that seems like a “good” idea? Why? How?
3. Volunteer to help for some time at a Welsh show. Consider jobs like counting or ironing ribbons, creating internet ads to attract entrants, or helping with food.
4. Write a thank-you letter to a judge or show official at a Welsh show. Be specific about
5. what you appreciated.
6. Complete a year of membership with another horse or pony club such as U.S. Pony Club or 4-H. If your participation requires some sort of a diary or story, use that to complete an activity. What did you learn from this group? What activities could we “borrow” for youth functions?
7. Find a young pony enthusiast. Using your pony, teach him/her how to ride leadline or walk-trot. Help them enter a show and participate in one or more classes.
8. Make and distribute posters advertising a local Welsh or open event. Write a short announcement for newspaper or TV community bulletin board. Volunteer to be interviewed.
9. Attend a clinic to improve your skills in some phase of riding or driving.
10. Attend a day camp or over-night camp with your pony. Make a poster or advertisement for the camp.
11. Choose a new skill or type of riding.
12. Do a photographic essay to help others become interested.
13. Come to the aid of an ill or injured neighbor or friend, and help with feeding and care of ponies.
14. Sketch or use swatches to design a wardrobe for a particular class.
15. Try to set up an activity such as a movie night or game night to bring juniors together at a Welsh show or activity.
16. Assist with the WPCAC AGM. Suggest a speaker or activity for junior members. Secure materials, etc., and assist the presenter.
17. Work up a budget for your pony. Keep an account of expected costs and surprising costs. Create a budget for show expenses.
18. Attend a games day, play day or gymkhana. Make a plan to teach your pony/cob how to do one event.

19. Plan a local trail ride for beginning riders. How could you finance the ride? Include a map. Mark the trail.
20. Volunteer to help a local organization involved in trails or zoning problems faced by the horse community.
21. Organize a tack sale or swap to be included at a WPCAC show. Try to make it a money-making project.
22. With the help of a veterinarian or trainer, plan a conditioning program for your pony. Follow it as much as you can and examine the results. Include feed as well as exercise.
23. Suggest one or more activities to add to this list. Group activities are hard to arrange when so many people are scattered, but internet or website or website contact might be fun if shared.
24. Complete a Science Fair Project about your pony/cob.