

2023 4-H CLUB POLICIES

CLUB ORGANIZATION

- A. Authorized Usage of Name and Emblem of 4-H in Ohio and Highland County
 - a. Follow guidelines for a club charter
 - a. A club charter is chartered annually.
 - b. New clubs should become chartered immediately
 - c. Each club's organizational advisor is responsible to complete a charter club check list and present it to the county 4-H Committee
 - d. The 4-H Educator will issue charters upon successful review
- B. Tax Exempt Status of 4-H Clubs
 - a. Obtain a Federal Tax Identification Number EIN number. <http://www.irs.gov>
 - b. Submit EIN number to the Extension Office for inclusion under the 4-H Group Exemption number
 - c. Complete on-line form 990-N (Extension Office files for each club).
- C. Clubs of Distinction-Coming 2024
 - a. Complete check list
 - b. List will be checked and reviewed by the Educator and /or sub-committee of the 4-H Committee

The Highland County 4-H Committee requires a minimum of six (6) events be held with both members and advisors attending with a minimum of six (6) of those of those events being club meetings. See member and advisor completion.

MEMBERSHIP

- Eligibility for 4-H membership begins when a child is age 5 and enrolled in kindergarten as of January 1 of the current year (Cloverbuds). Membership to the 4-H club program begins when a child is at least age 8 and enrolled in 3rd grade as of January 1 of the current year or 9 years old. Ohio 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year in which an individual attains the age of 19. Membership begins when an eligible individual is enrolled in a club or group that is under the direction of a trained adult and within the scope of Ohio State University Extension.
- A. All youth may be 4-H members and participate in the 4-H program on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability.
 - B. Each member must be enrolled in a local club by April 1 of the current year.
 - C. Advisors must turn in their club's enrollment by their deadline to the Extension Office.
 - D. Clubs must have a membership of a minimum of five (5) members and consist of three (3) different families.

PROJECTS

- A. It is recommended that those eligible to take a project are limited to one project if they are 9 years of age or younger as of January 1 or in 3rd grade. This project should be in accordance with the recommended age guidelines. If an additional project is desired, then review of the request will be made by the parent, advisor, and educator.
- B. School and FFA projects cannot be used as 4-H projects.
- C. All project books are to be evaluated by the advisors prior to the judging of that project. Advisors are to supply the 4-H office with a list of those who are not complete, as these members will not be permitted to show. **This must be done prior to picking up fair passes.** In finishing market animal books, the final weight is to be completed. Complete or incomplete should be marked on the outside of all books.

D. Only 1 market livestock project can be sold at the Highland County Fair:

- 1 steer*
- 1 barrow*
- 1 lamb*
- 1 feeder calf*
- 1 single fryer rabbit*
- 1 market goat*
- 1 pen of market poultry*
- or participation in the Jr. Fair Dairy Show*
- (with the exception of Grand and Reserve Champions)*

E. It is desirable that members be enrolled in a progressive project each year.

COMPLETION

- A. A member will receive completion rating and certificate of achievement by completing the following:
- a. Meeting the minimum requirements for one or more projects.
 - a. Project Interview is a requirement for all non-livestock projects
 - b. Skillathon OR a Project Interview is a requirement for all animal projects to be shown at the fair.Exhibitors must bring an up-to-date project book.
 - b. Completing and turning in a project book to his/her advisor.
 - c. Giving a talk or demonstration at a local club meeting.
 - d. Receiving a complete rating on the advisor's evaluation.
 - e. **Attending 6 or more** events (6 must be meetings) held after he/she is enrolled, except in unusual cases as determined by the educator and advisor.
- B. An advisor will receive completion rating and certificate of achievement by completing the following:
- a. Attend Annual Advisor Training including Youth Activities & Programs Policy Training (Policy 1.50).
 - b. Maintain current background check according to Ohio 4-H requirements.
 - c. Advisors are responsible for being present at 6 or more events (6 must be meetings) to receive credit for the club year.

FUND RAISING

- A. *There is a \$25.00 assessment fee for those grades 3 and up or age 9 and \$10.00 for Cloverbuds. These funds will be divided between the club and the 4-H Committee as follows: From the \$25.00 fee - \$13.00 to 4-H Committee and \$12.00 will remain with the club. From the \$10.00 - \$5.00 to the 4-H Committee and \$5.00 will remain with the club. The assessment fee will be due to the 4-H Committee by the first of May. If the fee isn't paid by the first of May there will be a \$50.00 late fee assessed.*
- B. *All clubs will be allowed to have approved fundraisers. The approval form can be found at: http://highland.osu.edu/sites/highland/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/Fundraiser%20Request%20Form.pdf*
- C. *Games of chance are not allowable per Ohio State University policy.*

FAIR PARTICIPATION AWARDS AND EXHIBITS

- A. Fair participation is optional; however, we strongly encourage all members to exhibit at the fair.
- B. Only members exhibiting at the Highland County Fair will receive ribbons and premiums.

A member may represent the county according to Ohio State Fair guidelines.

Individuals interested in participating in any of the 4-H awards or competitive events at the county, area, state, or national levels should check the rules for that specific event to determine his or her eligibility.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP

- A. Qualifications for Junior Leadership are:
- 1. Be at least 14 years of age by January 1 of the current year and an eighth grader.

Membership is not dependent on being a 4-H member in another club. Membership in Junior Leadership stands alone, a

leadership project may be taken to be a 4-H member. Applications are due January 23, 2023 and can be found at <https://highland.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/forms-applications-resources#Jr.%20Leadership%20Club%20Applications>. Late application will be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

STANDARDS FOR 4-H CLUBS

- A. A club consists of five (5) or more members from three (3) different families.
- B. A club must have an approved leader/volunteer to act as an advisor for the club.
- C. A club must have a minimum of six (6) events to be held with both members and advisors attending, with a minimum of six (6) of those of those events being club meetings.
- D. Officers should be elected by the club members and carry on the meetings according to parliamentary procedure.
- E. A treasurer's report shall be given at each meeting.
- F. It is the responsibility of the club, parents, and advisors to see that all club members complete their projects.
- G. Each club should have club activities which they participate in as a club. These may include community service projects, club tours or activities, parents' recognition programs and achievement meetings.
- H. Each club should have a certain time or day of the month for meetings. This makes planning easier for both the advisor and the club members. 4-H camp attendance counts as a meeting if it falls on a meeting day and the 4-H'er is at camp.
- I. Each club shall have the club constitution set by OSU Extension signed and on file.
- J. The 4-H Club Annual Report, constitution (new clubs), bylaws and club calendar is to be turned in to the Extension Office by May 15 of the current year. **(990N will be submitted by the Extension Office)**
- K. The Financial Summary is to be turned into the Extension Office by January 15 of the following year.
- L. All advisors, members and parents must sign the standards of behavior annually.
- M. ALL 4-H Clubs are required to work in the 4-H Food Booth during the Highland County Jr. Fair.
- N. An FCS Booth in the FCS Building must be completed by the club for Highland County Jr. Fair if a member in the club is enrolled and has completed an FCS/Summer Project.
- O. Clubs that have members show a project in the Jr. Fair Building and/or the FCS Building, the club has to sign up and guard the respective building(s) for at least one guard shift during the Highland County Jr. Fair.
- P. Must abide by Ohio 4-H Guidelines that can be found at <https://ohio4h.org/volunteers/volunteers/club-leaders/club-management-resources-policies-and-procedures>

HIGHLAND COUNTY 4-H POLICY CONCERNING ILLEGAL DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

- A. Possession or use of illegal drugs at 4-H sponsored activities is prohibited.
- B. Alcohol is prohibited at all 4-H sponsored activities.
- C. Tobacco:
 - Tobacco product possession and use by 4-H youth participants is prohibited at all 4-H sponsored activities.
 - Tobacco use by adults during 4-H sponsored events is discouraged and should be done only in designated areas and not in view of your participants.

OVERALL GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING AND CONDUCTING EXTENSION 4-H YOUTH PROGRAMS

- A. Start with people where they are.
- B. Learn by actual participation.

- C. Projects based on real-life, adult-like experiences.
- D. Effective use of volunteer leadership to expand the total effort.
- E. Projects are related to agriculture, family and consumer sciences, natural resources, leadership, and citizenship.

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