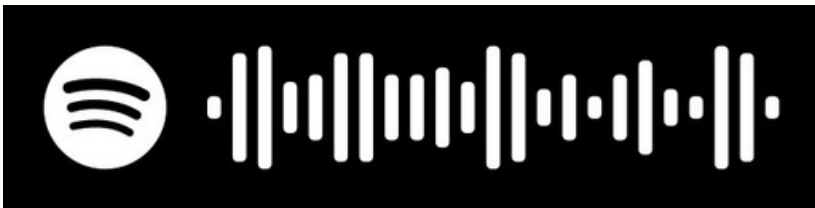


CLUB MANAGER CONNECTION

DISTRICT 8 4-H CLUB MANAGER CONNECTION



Check out the Daily Dose!



Check out our new podcast! The District Council Officer team, along with their advisors release new episodes each week on all things related to 4-H! Check it out on Spotify & Apple Podcasts, or catch the video cast on YouTube!



Scan to view our YouTube page! or Search "District 8 4-H"

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District 8 4-H
Making the best better



As we approach the time for club officer elections, we're not just preparing to fill roles; we're creating opportunities for youth development and leadership growth within our 4-H clubs. These elections mark a significant moment where our young members step forward, voice their aspirations, and commit to shaping the direction of their clubs. It's a chance for them to exercise their democratic muscles, while also embarking on a journey of personal and collective growth. Here are a few ways to ensure that hosting club officer elections becomes a powerful tool for youth development:

1. Cultivate Leadership Skills:

The process of running for office and serving as a club officer provides invaluable opportunities for youth to develop and hone their leadership skills. Encourage potential candidates to reflect on their strengths, set goals, and articulate their visions for the club.

2. Foster Civic Engagement:

By participating in club officer elections, youth engage in the democratic process firsthand. They learn about the importance of voting, campaigning, and respecting differing viewpoints. Encourage discussions about civic responsibility and the impact of leadership within their communities. Help them understand how their involvement in the club translates to broader civic engagement and social change.

3. Promote Collaboration and Teamwork:

Being part of a club officer team requires collaboration, compromise, and effective communication. Emphasize the importance of working together towards common goals, respecting diverse perspectives, and finding creative solutions to challenges. Through their roles as officers, youth learn how to build consensus, delegate tasks, and support each other's growth.

4. Nurture Confidence and Self-Efficacy:

Running for office can be a transformative experience that boosts self-confidence and self-efficacy in youth. Even if they don't win, the act of putting themselves forward as candidates and articulating their ideas can be empowering. Encourage them to celebrate their courage and resilience, and provide constructive feedback to help them continue to grow and thrive.

5. Instill Values of Service and Responsibility:

Being a club officer is not just about holding a title; it's about serving others and taking on responsibilities for the betterment of the club. Help youth understand the importance of integrity, accountability, and servant leadership. Encourage them to lead by example, inspire their peers, and make meaningful contributions to their club and community.

6. Provide Ongoing Support and Mentorship:

Support newly elected officers as they transition into their roles by offering mentorship, training, and resources. Create opportunities for them to connect with experienced leaders, attend leadership conferences, and develop their skills further. By investing in their ongoing development, we help them become effective leaders not only in the club but also in their future endeavors.

As club managers, let's seize this opportunity to empower our youth, foster their leadership potential, and create a culture of inclusivity, collaboration, and service within our 4-H clubs. Together, we can inspire the next generation of leaders who will make a positive difference in their communities and beyond.

Recognizing Student Efforts

At the heart of our 4-H clubs are the incredible efforts and achievements of our members. As we continue to foster a culture of growth and excellence, it's important to take the time to recognize and celebrate the outstanding work of our youth. Here are a few ways we can do just that:

- 1. Member Spotlights:** Highlight exceptional members in your club newsletter or on social media platforms. Share their achievements, contributions, and stories to inspire others and showcase the diverse talents within your club.
- 2. Awards and Certificates:** Establish awards or recognition programs to honor members for their accomplishments. Recognize achievements in areas such as leadership, community service, project mastery, and overall dedication to the club. Present certificates or plaques at club meetings or special events to publicly acknowledge their efforts.
- 3. Peer Recognition:** Encourage members to nominate their peers for recognition based on qualities such as teamwork, innovation, and mentorship.
- 4. Mentorship Opportunities:** Pair outstanding members with mentorship opportunities where they can share their expertise and experiences with newer or less experienced members.

By implementing these recognition strategies, we not only celebrate the achievements of our members but also reinforce the values of excellence, leadership, and community within our 4-H clubs.

RECOGNITION OF HARD WORK

What's in a project?

WHAT IS.... 4-H PROJECT INFO

Public Speaking

Does the thought of speaking in front of large groups make you nervous? Do you want to learn how to be a better speaker? Overcome fear of crowds and improve your presentation skills in the public speaking project! You'll learn how to prepare with research, organization, and then present on any given topic. By the end of this project, you will be able to speak on fascinating topics with style and poise.

Skills Learned:

- Conflict Resolution
- Leadership Skills
- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork
- Presentation Skills

Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through guest speakers
- Learn through the Public Speaking contest (Roundup)
- Learn through Educational Presentations

Other Speaking Opportunities

- Major Stock Show (Public Speaking Contests)
- Club meetings

 **CONTACT YOUR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT FOR MORE INFORMATION**

WHAT IS.... 4-H PROJECT INFO

Shooting Sports

If you enjoy the outdoors and hunting, you'll love the shooting sports project! This project covers firearm safety and teaches responsible handling and use. Get ready because this project is hands on. You'll learn about a variety of firearms - including pistols, rifles, shotguns, muzzleloading, and even archery!

Skills Learned:

- Safety
- Firearm Maintenance
- Proper firing techniques
- Parts & Accessories
- Loading

Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through industry professionals
- Learn through practice
- Learn through contests

Optional Contest Opportunities

- State 4-H Shooting Sports Games
- Major Stock Shows
- Texas 4-H Indoor Archery Tournament
- Various shoots across the state (locally hosted competitions)

Disciplines

- Archery
- Hunting & Wildlife
- Pistol
- Muzzleloading
- Rifle
- Shotgun

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WHAT IS.... 4-H PROJECT INFO

Horse Project

Whether you grew up with horses or simply have always loved them from afar, you can learn a lot in the horse project! This project offers activities in horsemanship, horse development and training. You can compete with your horse through breed and event associations. Or you can be the judge as you learn to compete in horse judging!

Skills Learned:

- Responsibility
- Nutrition
- Proper care for your animal
- Decision Making
- Public Speaking
- Leadership
- Community Service

Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through industry professionals
- Learn through research of breeds/characteristics
- Learn through tours
- Learn through contests

Optional Opportunities:

- Horse Shows
- Hippology
- Horse Judging
- Educational Presentations
- Horse Quiz Bowl

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WHAT IS.... 4-H PROJECT INFO

A 4-H Recordbook

Why is it important you keep a record of your 4-H activities? Because, by recording your activities you can remember all the fun you've had so far, and set future goals! Keeping records of 4-H projects could help you when you apply for college scholarships too! 4-H Record books are books you make to record your annual projects.

Why put together a recordbook?

- Recordbooks allow the members to tell how they have grown, what they have learned, where they came up short, and to do it creatively within outlined parameters
- Recordbooks demonstrate the importance of keeping a written document of what has been done
- Recordbooks provide a written platform for goal setting and documentation of the actions required to reach goals

Record-keeping process


- Goal setting-getting started
 - Set goals to help you grow through your 4-H project
- Journaling-as things happen
 - Keep records of everything that happens with your project (calendars, index boxes, binders, or apps are great tools)
- Reflecting-looking back
 - Reflecting on your progress helps you prepare to complete your recordbook

Parts of a Recordbook

- Check Sheet
- Personal Information Page
- 4-H Story & Photo Portfolio
- Report Forms

Categories

Agricultural Sciences	Gardening & Horticulture	Public Speaking
Beef	Goat	Rabbit
Citizenship & Civic Education	Health & Personal Safety	STEM
Dog Care and Training	Horse	Sheep
Consumer Education	Leadership	Shooting Sports
Entomology	Natural Resources	Swine
Fashion & Interior Design	Photography	Theater & Performing Arts
Food & Nutrition	Plant & Soil Science	Veterinary
	Poultry	

 **CONTACT YOUR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Be sure to check out these resources in our Club Manager Google Drive!

REMINDERS & LINKS TO REMEMBER

