

POWELL COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL POLICY

I. ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY*

- A. Membership for Powell County 4-H members will follow the requirements set up by the State 4-H Office. 4-H membership is open to any boy or girl who will reach their 6th birthday during the Montana 4-H year and who have not passed their 19th birthday by the beginning of the 4-H year (October 1) unless they are still in high school. Membership is open to all youth regardless of race, creed, color, sex or national origin. Cloverbuds are not included in regular clubs.
 - i) Members pay for enrollment materials.
 - ii) Mandatory medical coverage (\$1.00 per member plus additional \$1.00 for horse project enrollees)
 - iii) To create a sense of belonging and stability club jumping between neighboring counties is allowed only once. Members may not return to Powell County 4-H once they leave unless the change was due to physically moving to the other county and then moving back.
- B. 4-H Clubs shall organize during the month of October and all organizational information is to be in the County Agent's Office during the month of November. For County Events attended in the fall to count, enrollment must be completed by the November deadline. For those enrolling after the deadline, County Events will count from the date enrollment is received. New clubs shall not organize after April 1st of the current 4-H year. A new club may start preparation to organize after April 1, but will not be eligible to participate in competitive events until the beginning of the new year.
- C. Local leaders' dues to State 4-H Council will be payable by December 1 of each year, and will be paid by each leader to the Council. These dues are used by the State Association to fund award trips for members and leaders, pay insurance for leaders, and in general better the 4-H program on a state-wide basis.
- D. Enrollment should be approved by the club's Organizational Leader before submitting enrollment materials to the Extension Office.
- E. Those taking the Market Beef or Replacement Heifer projects must be enrolled in the project no later than December 1 to be eligible to participate in weigh in during January.
- F. Final date for project drop/add is May 1.
- G. Organizational Project Completion Reports are due at the County Extension Office on September 30.
- H. If a problem arises concerning the council, it must be brought up at an official meeting for discussion. A decision will be made by the council (10-4-84 minutes).

II. EXPENSE POLICY*

- A. Expenses for county events, including hall rental, will be reimbursed by the Council. Refreshments, etc. will be furnished by the area or club sponsoring the event. Sponsoring club or individual should contact the council in advance when it is planning an event and if funding is needed, it will be considered by the council.

*Adopted 1994, Revised 01/06/2010; revised 5/6/2014

**Revised March 2003

***Revised 03/06/2013

- B.** Mileage paid to judges will be 37.5¢ per mile.
- C.** Compensation of Judges at County Events.
 - i)** Gift should not exceed \$20.00 per judge and should be paid by 4-H Council.
 - ii)** Gift should be purchased by chairman of the committee for the event or if there is no chairman by the president of the 4-H Council.
 - iii)** Gift should be presented to the judge at the time of the judging.
 - iv)** The following are county events which require judges
 - (1) Powell County 4-H Communications Rodeo (previously Demonstration Day)
 - (2) County Livestock Judging
 - (3) 4-H Week Informational Displays
 - (4) Public Speaking
 - (5) County Fashion Revue
 - (6) Judge for Secretaries' Books
- D.** Chaperons will be allowed 37.5¢ per mile round trip. Number of chaperons and names shall be determined by the council prior to the event. Mileage will be paid from the most prominent point nearest the county line on a major highway leading to a district or state event. Deer Lodge, Gold Creek, Avon, Elliston and Helmville are points of prominence.
- E.** A Scholarship fund will be available for members to apply for awards for out-of-county events. It is recommended that the 4-H member present his/her application in person to the Scholarship Committee* for consideration of the scholarship. Scholarship Committee meets in conjunction with the Powell County 4-H Council meetings.

III. EVENT GUIDELINES*

- A.** Pre-registration will be recommended for all competitive county events.
- B.** County events need not necessarily be held on Saturday.
- C.** A continuous calendar of county events shall be set up designating the community or club responsible for each event, giving each area of the county the responsibility for only one event each year. The calendar will give the order of succession by year for each community of the county.
- D.** The calendar committee will set dates for the year, and complete a calendar of events before January 1 of the 4-H year.
- E.** Powell County 4-H Communications Rodeo (previously Demonstration Day)
 - i)** A date will be determined each year
 - ii)** Divisions as follows:
 - (1) Super Starters – those members ages 9, 10 and 11 as of the beginning of the 4-H year.
 - (2) Juniors - those members ages 12 & 13 as of the beginning of the 4-H year.
 - (3) Seniors - those members 14 years old and older as of the beginning of the 4-H year.
 - (4) Illustrated talks are considered as demonstrations.
 - (5) Public Speaking
- F.** All applicants for major 4-H events (Congress, Ambassadors) must have one year 4-H experience.

*Adopted 1994, Revised 01/06/2010; revised 5/6/2014

**Revised March 2003

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- G. Fashion Revue**
 - i) State Fashion Revue winner is eligible to win state awards only once. County Fashion Revue winner may be eligible to compete in state contest as often as eligible.

- H. National 4-H Week Informational Display**
 - i) Held the first full week in October each year.
 - ii) Those wishing to enter informational display competition are to notify the County Extension Office.
 - iii) Displays are to be in place by the first day of National 4-H Week and must be displayed for the entire week or will be disqualified from judging.
 - iv) All clubs are eligible to participate.
 - v) Awards
 - (1) \$25.00 for first place club

- I. Tri-County Fair**
 - i) Entry deadlines and all pertinent information are in the premium book available at the County Extension Office each June.

- J. Year-End Celebration**
 - i) Procedure booklet available at the County Extension Office for host club to use, up-date and return.

- K. Citizenship Seminar**
 - i) One delegate and one alternate will be chosen
 - (1) Applicants are to send an essay letter to the Extension office stating why they want to attend and what they want to learn. A selection committee of three leaders will choose the best essays.

IV. AWARD POLICY**

- A.** It is recommended that the Year End Celebration should be held during National 4-H Week each year.
 - i) Awards to be recognized at this time will be:
 - (1) Longevity for leaders
 - (a) Certificates for years 1, 5, 10, 15, and 20
 - (b) Special award at 25 years and every 5 years thereafter
 - (2) Longevity for 4-Hers
 - (a) Certificates for first year
 - (b) Pins for years 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11
 - (c) Special award for 10 years
 - (d) Clubs will handle yearly accomplishments for years 2-4 and 6-7
 - (3) Secretary's award -- \$25.00
 - ii) Every member attending the Year End Celebration is to be recognized

V. PROJECT POLICY***

A. Life Skills Projects

- i)** For life skills projects, member will complete all required record forms plus the activities required in the project manual and/or attend at least 4 county events each year. Failure to complete these requirements will result in the member not being able to move to the next level of the project or the ability to sell a market animal at the fair the following year. In order to move on to the next level and to be able to sell, all animal record forms and project requirements from the previous year must be completed and turned into the Extension Office by February 1 of the following year.
- ii)** The life skills project workbook activities should serve as a means to an end, namely, to allow youth the opportunity to explore in greater detail all aspects of their chosen project. It should foster in youth an inquisitiveness that leads to better understanding and application of life skills in daily life.
- iii)** It is recommended that in order to facilitate the timely completion of projects, 4-H Organizational Leaders appoint Project Leaders for each project area.
- iv)** Project leaders will have the authority to tailor project activities to the needs of the club. For example, if the workbook requires a certain activity that is unavailable in the area, the Leader may seek alternatives that fulfill the life skills requirements. This rule should be used with discretion and the county Extension agent will have authority to render final decisions on appropriate workbook activity substitutions.
- v)** Project Leader duties
 - (1) Develop a yearly calendar of educational activities
 - (2) Conduct educational activities as appropriate to allow youth to reach project goals
 - (3) Facilitate completion of 4-H projects and life skills manuals by youth
 - (4) Attend Project Leader Training
- vi)** Responsibilities of county Extension agent
 - (1) Provide Leader Training opportunities
 - (2) Provide materials and support to assist leaders in developing yearly calendars and educational activities
 - (3) Be willing to attend project group meetings to offer support

B. Exploring 4-H

- i)** Entire book must be completed to qualify as a completed project.

C. Shooting Sports

- i)** A 4-Her must be 9 years old on October 1 of the current 4-H year to enroll in Shooting Sports.
- ii)** All Shooting Sports leaders must be certified by State 4-H. Shooting Sports leader certification must be renewed every 7 years.

D. Market Beef, Sheep & Swine

- i)** See Market Animal Rules in the current Tri-County Fair premium book.
- ii)** 4-Hers taking only a market animal to the Fair must also do an educational display or participate in Showmanship. If this requirement is not met, they will not be able to show a market animal at the next year's fair.

E. HORSE PROJECT POLICY ADOPTED 11/4/99 (MINOR CHANGES 4-3-00, 3-5-08)

- i) HORSE BREEDING PROJECT**
 - (1) To be carried as a self-determined project. Required to be assessed out of level 3 horsemanship and minimum age of 14 years old. Recommended for members with

advanced horsemanship knowledge. The fair entry should be either showing with project notebook or an educational display.

ii) HORSEMANSHIP LEVELS

(1) Knowledge of safety, anatomy, nutrition, equipment and riding skills.

(a) Enrollment

- (i) Organizational leaders must check if member is enrolled in correct project.
- (ii) Designated leader to check enrollment with county Extension office
- (iii) Purple ribbon winners two years in a row **must** advance.
- (iv) Independent study: members must show at fair and project must be accompanied by a notebook.
- (v) Horsemanship projects are best accomplished with an older mature horse (5 years and older).
- (vi) Project manuals are listed in the *Clover*. Obtain all project materials from your leader or the county Extension office.
- (vii) All Horsemanship level project animals shown by 4-H members in 4-H classes must be owned by the member or in a partnership with his or her immediate family, or the member must have access to a horse.

iii) COLT TO MATURITY

- (1) Members must turn 12 years old or older during the current 4-H year and must be assessed out of level 3 horsemanship.
- (2) This is a progressive project: start with a yearling colt and continue with the same animal, increasing the training yearly until age 5.
- (3) Members must register a description of their horse with the county Extension office by June 1 of each year.
- (4) Obtain the project materials listed from your leader or Extension office.

iv) GREEN HORSE:

- (1) Members must turn 12 years old or older during the current 4-H year and must be assessed out of level 3 horsemanship and have demonstrated an ability to handle the project to the county horse leader or designated person.
 - (a) Project is for those who have horses that are not fully trained, but don't fit into the colt to maturity project because of age or ability.
 - (b) Obtain the project materials listed in the *Clover* from your leader or Extension office.
 - (c) Members must register a description of their horse with the county Extension office by June 1 of each year.

v) DRIVING

- (1) Members must turn 12 years old or older during the current 4-H year and must be assessed out of level 3 horsemanship.
- (2) Members wanting to take this project with an older horse will follow the levels as stated in the 4-H *Clover*.
- (3) However, this can be a progressive project: start with a yearling colt and continue with the same animal, increasing the training yearly until age 5.
- (4) Members must register a description of their horse or mule with the county Extension office by June 1 of each year.
- (5) Obtain the project materials listed in the *Clover* from your leader or Extension office.
- (6) Recommended as a 5 year project.
- (7) Project requirements:
 - (a) Yearling
 - (i) Follow and use as a reference guide "Colt to Maturity for 4-H Clubs" to obtain basic knowledge.

- (ii) Exhibit basic knowledge of horse nutrition, health and anatomy.
- (iii) Lead at the walk and trot.
- (iv) Pick up any foot.
- (v) Two year old
- (b) Exhibit basic knowledge of parts of harness and hitch.
 - (i) Drive in breaking harness or full harness.
 - (ii) Drive in a full circle both directions.
 - (iii) Stop and back.
- (c) Three year old
 - (i) Driven while pulling a stone boat, or two, or four wheel vehicle.
 - (ii) Chariots are not allowed.
 - (iii) Simple maneuvers required.
 - (iv) Exhibit basic knowledge of harness and hitch parts.
- (d) Four year old
 - (i) Hitch and re-hitch in arena--headman required.
 - (ii) Basic maneuvers are required.
 - (iii) Option: to be driven with an older broke horse as a team.
- (e) Five year old
 - (i) Harnessed before judge in a safe enclosed area.
 - (ii) Pattern: advanced obstacle course with precision driving skills.
 - (iii) Option: to be driven as a team with a broke older horse.
- vi) RANCH HORSE**
- vii) PACKING HORSE**
- viii) ALL ABOVE LISTED HORSE PROJECTS**
 - (1) Must show at the Tri-County Fair to complete projects and advance. In the event of a problem it's the member's responsibility to contact their leader who in turn will contact the Powell county 4-H Council for consideration and action on the problem and have the project assessed by three Powell County horse project leaders or a qualified person designated by the Powell County Extension Agent.
 - (2) Are judged according to their project manuals.
 - (3) Basic list of requirements for judging available to the judge for each project area.
 - (4) Horses and members must participate in project judging to be eligible to compete in showmanship. All horse project members are highly encouraged to show in showmanship.
 - (5) While exhibiting at the Tri-County Fair, all horses must be under control at all times or they will be asked to leave the area.
 - (6) Refer to Tri-County Fair Premium List for further show rules.
 - (7) Horse patterns for the current year will be available at the Powell County Extension office by July 1.
 - (8) All entrants must complete a stall request form to be turned in with their Fair entry form. Those requesting a stall for only Wednesday evening are required to make a clean up deposit that will be refunded if stall is cleaned by 5:00 p.m. Friday.
 - (9) Recommendations for members wanting to attend the Montana State 4-H Horse Show:
 - (a) Members should receive a blue ribbon or better in their project at the Tri-County Fair.
 - (b) Member must have shown in showmanship at the fair to compete in showmanship at the state level.
 - (c) Completed record book is required and will be examined by the county Extension agent.

- (d) Member is responsible to acquire state rules and regulations--county policies do not always coincide. This should be done prior to the June 1 enrollment deadline.
- (e) It is recommended riders wear an approved helmet. If member chooses to not wear a helmet, a waiver form must be submitted with the fair entry form.

ix) OTHER PROJECTS AVAILABLE

- (1) Showing
- (2) Judging
- (3) Careers
- (4) Horseless Horse