

# DOUGLAS COUNTY 4-H POLICIES

## I. AGE AND ENROLLMENT

- A. To enroll, a child must be at least 5 and under 19 years of age on October 1<sup>st</sup> of the current member ship year.
- B. The 4-H year is October 1<sup>st</sup> through the following September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Deadline for enrollment in each club is up to the leader. Members wishing to exhibit animal projects at the North Central Washington District Fair must be enrolled by the animal ownership date (Beef-February 15; all other animals-May 15). Except for fair lots that allow younger animals in goats, poultry, rabbits. No late enrollments or addition of animal projects to current enrollments will be accepted after the ownership deadlines.
- D. Membership is open to all, ~~without regard to race, color, national origin or economic position~~, per the State 4-H Policy Guidelines.
- E. An activity fee will be required for each member and leader. The fee must be paid before participation in county 4-H activities is allowed.

## II. PROJECT GUIDELINES

- A. First year members should be encouraged to not carry more than two (2) projects. Cloverbud, (Ages 5-7) are encouraged to take projects specifically written for their age group. They **may not participate in the following projects**: Food preservation, beef, large goat, horse, sheep, swine, and projects using firearms or motorized vehicles. (They may, however, enroll in a pygmy goat, miniature goat, novelty goat, and horseless horse projects.) Cloverbud members may not compete.
- B. During the second and subsequent years, the number of projects should be left to the discretion of the member, parents, and leaders. Members should strive for quality work in projects, rather than quantity.
- C. The number of different projects in a club will be determined by the club leader.
- D. Parental involvement should be kept to a minimum at the Fair each year. Members shall be responsible for care of project and exhibit areas. A negative reflection is caused when parental involvement is too great.
- E. Livestock deadlines: In order to exhibit a NCW Fair, all animals in livestock projects shall be in club member's care by the following dates:
  - 1. February 15 Market Beef
  - 2. May 15 Horse, Breeding Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Rabbits\*, Poultry\*, Dairy and Dairy Heifer Replacement, Dogs, Swine, Goat\*, Cats.
    - a. \*Except Fair lots that allow younger animals to be entered.

## III. Contests and Awards

- A. *Leaders Council Awards*
  - 1. Record Book Project awards will be awarded to Junior, Intermediate, and Senior members. They will compete only with members in their age category.
  - 2. Member's Record Books must be judged for a Leaders' Council Record Book Project Award. Members may apply for awards as long as that specific project in their record book received a minimum score of 80 at the club level.
  - 3. Record Book Project Awards will be as follows: first place will receive a medallion; second and third get a pin. All members judged at the county level, receiving a score of 80% or higher will receive a Certificate of Merit.
  - 4. Scholarships. To qualify, applicants must:

- a. Be a current, active, and enrolled member in good standing of a Douglas County 4-H Club.
  - b. Have been an active 4-H member the past two (2) years.
  - c. Be graduating from high school the year applying for the scholarship and going to attend an accredited school (trade, business, college, etc.) the following fall.
  - d. Members must turn in the past 2 years record books.
- B. *Achievement Pins*. In order to receive recognition for having completed a year in the 4-H program, a member shall be required to participate in the following:
- 1. Attend 70% of the 4-H club's regularly scheduled meetings.
  - 2. Attend training in project area (at club level or higher).
  - 3. Present a demonstration at the club level (or higher).
  - 4. Complete a 4-H record book per the leader's specifications.
    - a. And shall participate in two of the following:
      - i. Enter a judging contest
      - ii. Participate in a community service activity
      - iii. Participate in fund-raising project at the club or county level.
      - iv. Enter a showmanship contest.
      - v. Carry out responsibilities as a club officer or as a committee member.

#### ~~IV. ALTERING STATUS OF CLUBS~~

- ~~A. **Disbanding Club**. A club that has chosen to go out of existence. All of the club's assets are to go to the County 4-H Leaders' Council.~~
- ~~B. **Inactive Club**. A club that has no club leader but the members are still interested in the club continuing to function.
 
  - a. The club assets will be held by the Douglas County Leaders' Council for 2 months in hope that a new club leader will be found. If no club leader is found during that two month period, the club will be considered disbanded and the club's assets will go to the County Leaders' Council. No other club will be allowed to take the name of the inactive club until after the two month waiting period.~~
- ~~C. **Merging Clubs**. Clubs wishing to merge members, leaders, assets (money, equipment, awards, etc.) into one club.
 
  - a. One club name will be used and the other name(s) dropped, or the group can take a completely new name. The new club leader will be indicated on the enrollment form. The new club will not be enrolled without the club leader being indicated.~~
- ~~D. **Splitting Club**. A portion of the members and leaders of a club break a way and form their own club.
 
  - a. Both groups may divide the original club's assets (money, equipment, awards, etc.) if they can come to a mutual agreement. The 4-H agent must be notified in writing with the signatures of both head leaders. If mutual agreement is not reached the club's assets will remain with the original club. The club name also remains with the original club. The new club will have a new beginning.~~
- ~~E. Funds and properties raised in the name of 4-H cannot be divided among club members. Money solicited for support of livestock projects should be processed through the livestock auction office.~~
- ~~F. 4-H funds and properties MUST be used by 4-H members only.~~
- ~~G. Club names are not proprietary and may be used again.~~
- ~~H. The Extension Office must be notified by a new club when its status is being altered.~~