

Audubon County 4-H Policy Statement

Approved by Audubon County Clover Commissions – August 2018

4-H Program

- Program year runs Sept 1 – August 31.
- Program is open to all youth in grades 4th-12th as of Sept 1 of the current year.
- Residence in the county/attendance at school in the county is not required. Member may only hold membership in ONE county at a time.

4-H Member

- 4-H Classification is determined by current grade in school
 - **Junior** – 4th – 6th grade
 - **Intermediate** – 7th – 8th grade
 - **Senior** – 9th – 12th grade
- **FIRST YEAR members** must complete a 4-H enrollment form along with Iowa Medical Information/ Release form by **May 15** of current year. “Graduated” Clover Kids are considered **NEW** members.
- **RETURNING** 4-H’ers must re-enroll in 4-H Online by **November 15** of current year. If re-enrollment form is completed after this deadline, member will pay current state 4-H membership fee in full (\$30).
- 4-H’er may participate in more than one 4-H club in the county; but membership requirements for the designated **primary club** must be met to be eligible to exhibit at County Fair. Being a part of two 4-H clubs (dual-enrolled) does not mean you can exhibit double quota at County Fair.
- Members may request project materials **FREE** of charge through Extension Office.
- EXPECTATIONS:
 - **RETURNING MEMBERS:** Must attend six (6) regular 4-H business meetings of enrolled club in order to exhibit at County Fair.
 - A member may attend educational, species/topic-specific workshops and complete a **waiver** with the county office. These workshops must be pre-approved and could replace attendance at *not more than* 2 (two) regular club meetings.
 - **NEW MEMBERS** are encouraged to attend at least 6 meetings but are not required.
 - **ALL MEMBERS:**
 - Give an education presentation, or conduct a working exhibit at a club meeting.
 - Complete county fair entry form by July 1. (If July 1 falls on a day of the week the office is not open, the date will be adjusted.)
 - Complete annual record book by October 1.
 - Additional:
 - **Livestock Exhibitors** complete animal identification in 4hOnline (or form in office) by May 15.
 - **Dog project members** must work with their identified dog at a minimum of four project meetings under the supervision of the dog superintendent prior to exhibiting at the county fair.
 - **Horse project members** must work with their identified horse(s) at a minimum of three horse project meetings, under the supervision of the horse superintendent or identified horse project leaders prior to exhibiting at the county fair.

4-H Volunteers/Leaders:

- Must re-enroll on 4-H online by **November 15** of current year.
- Attend annual, required leader training of current 4-H year.
- Provide appropriate supervision of activities/meetings/field trips.
- Complete volunteer application and background screening for new and lapsed leaders (when notified by Extension Office Staff).
- Club leaders must inform Extension Office Staff of county fair- ineligible members **prior to fair entry deadline**. Please communicate any attendance concerns by May 15 deadline with staff and families.



4-H Clubs:

- Clubs must have a minimum of five members from two or more families.
- Club members are encouraged to work together under guidance of 4-H leader in completing a club program for current year.
- Club programs are due to the Extension Office by **November 15**.
- At beginning of each program year, club members have the responsibility of selecting club officers.
- All clubs are encouraged to have regularly scheduled business meetings each year.
 - “Business Meetings” are called to order, attendance recorded, reports read, pledges recited and adjourned (at the very least) New & Unfinished Business should be discussed regularly.
 - “Community Service events” are community or county betterment activities. Ex: Fall Clean Up, voluntarily working a concession stand
 - “Fundraisers” are events where clubs are working to earn money for their individual clubs or the county 4-H program.
 - “Other activities” are tours, trips or other events attended by the members, but no business meeting is held.
 - It is common to have one or more of these components when the club is together.

Project Qualifications:

- 4-H and FFA Livestock ID forms for breeding heifers, feeder calves, bottle bucket, dairy, goat, swine, horse and dog are due to Audubon County Extension Office by May 15 or entered in 4-H Online. Market beef, market goat and sheep ID forms are completed at respective weigh-ins and verified in 4hOnline by 4-H member within 2 weeks of weigh-in.
- Animals identified as a 4-H project **cannot be** identified or exhibited as an FFA project.

County Fair Eligibility/Expectations:

- During each program year, member **must attend six (6) 4-H business meetings* of primary club and complete one (1) educational presentation** to be eligible to exhibit at County Fair. *A member may attend educational, species/topic-specific workshops and complete a **waiver** with the county office. These workshops must be pre-approved and could replace attendance at not more than 2 (two) regular club meetings.
- 4-H member is expected to personally exhibit their animal during the sale in order to receive support money. 4-H members that cannot attend the sale must have prior approval from Clover Commissions to have another 4-H member exhibit their animal during the sale.
- **4-H/FFA uniform** is required when exhibitor is with a judge, before an audience, or participating, or assisting in a 4-H or FFA activity. Uniform consists of:
 - Clean 4-H/FFA t-shirt and blue jeans. **NO** skirts, **NO** walking shorts, **NO** sandals allowed.
 - Caps/hats are **not** permitted.
 - Hard-soled shoes or boots are recommended for livestock exhibitors. All other exhibitors must wear tennis shoes or boots during static judging. Exhibitor must wear correct exhibitor number while showing livestock.
 - Horse members **must** wear any solid color long-sleeved button down shirt (no bling, no zipper), 4-H armband or emblem, hard-soled shoes or boots. **Helmet required while mounted and riding anywhere on the fairgrounds - every time/every ride.**
 - **Violation of 4-H/FFA uniform will result in disqualification.**
- Member must submit an annual Record Book to club leader to receive fair premiums.

