4-H Objectives For the Linn County Fair

For 4-H Youth:
- To provide a setting that encourages 4-H’ers to further demonstrate, learn, and apply practical and university researched methods of production, management, and/or marketing of their 4-H accomplishments.
- To assist in the continuing life skill development of 4-H’ers in the areas of self concept, communication, decision making, learning how to learn, coping with change, citizenship, and leadership.
- To provide an opportunity for 4-H’ers to measure their progress and skills against individual goals and accepted standards.
- To provide an opportunity for 4-H’ers to participate in a variety of program opportunities beyond the county level.
- To provide an opportunity for 4-H’ers to gain personal satisfaction, meet new people, share ideas and learn to work cooperatively with others.

For Public:
- To create an updated, comprehensive image of Iowa’s 4-H Youth Development program to the fair public.
- To provide a showcase for accomplishments of 4-H’ers.
- To stimulate interest and learn new ideas from the variety of 4-H projects and experiences available.

General Rules & Regulations

1. The Linn County Fair Board and Linn County Extension will not be held responsible for any participant’s accident or loss. Exhibitors are responsible to maintain insurance to cover any loss to persons or property which may occur.
2. The Linn County Fair Board and Linn County Extension will exercise due care for the safety of animals or articles entered for exhibit after their arrival, but will not be responsible for damage or loss by fire, theft, etc. All participants exhibit at their own risk.
3. The Linn County 4-H and FFA events are conducted by Iowa State University Extension Service in Linn County and the Linn County Fair Board in cooperation with Agriculture Education Departments at Alburnett, Central City, Linn-Mar and North Linn Community Schools.
4. Fair entry forms are available from 4-H organizational leaders. FFA members should request them from their instructor or the Extension Office. These should be turned into the Extension Office by May 15th.
5. All exhibitors must wear a 4-H or FFA related shirt or a green or white shirt during judging and auction.
6. Only such signs, decorations, and ribbons as approved by the Linn County Fair Board shall be used.
7. All 4-H and FFA exhibitors at the Linn County Fair must comply with the Iowa Youth Code of Ethics. Any youth who breaks the code of ethics or allows another person (adult or peer) to talk them into violating the code of ethics agrees to forfeit all prizes, awards and premiums. The youth may also be prohibited from exhibiting at this and future exhibitions including the Iowa State Fair and other county, state or regional exhibitions.
8. No weapons are allowed on the Fairgrounds.

Eligibility of Exhibitors

4-H/FFA
9. Agriculture Science instructors will certify the eligibility of FFA participants and students in agriculture education. To exhibit in the fair, a youth must be re-enrolled 4-H member by May 15, 2012. New members may enroll after May 15th, 2012.
10. 4-H’ers and FFA members may exhibit at the fair the first summer following high school graduation.
11. All exhibitors must be in 4th grade or above by September 15, 2011. 12. Grade divisions are: Juniors - 4th, 5th, 6th grade; Intermediate - 7th and 8th grade; Seniors - 9th - 12th grade.

Any Linn County resident can show in the Open Class. See Fair Board Open Class section.

Clover Kids

Clover Kids, children in grades K-3 as of September 15, 2011 may bring up to 3 items for display purposes only. Each item will receive a recognition ribbon. Items will be conference judged by an older 4-H’er on Wednesday June 27th from 1-3pm. Items may be brought to the Clover Kid check in station on Wednesday June 27th. Entry tags must be completed. See schedule for time of release.

Early Removal of Exhibits

11. Exhibitors will not receive premium money for exhibits removed early. In addition they will not be eligible to exhibit in next year’s fair in that project area.

Protests

12. All judge’s decisions are final, except in proven cases of mistake, fraud or misrepresentation not discovered at the time of the award.
13. Protests of any nature must be in writing, signed and dated and filed with the superintendent of the department from which the complaint arises. Issues of animal eligibility must be submitted before the judging begins. All complaints will be given consideration by the superintendent and/or the appropriate committee.
14. It is the responsibility of the department superintendent to determine eligibility of exhibits in that department. The decisions of the superintendent in this regard are final, subject to State Fair regulations.
Evaluation
Evaluation of exhibits is designed to be a learning experience for the exhibitor. Judges are selected on the basis of their knowledge of a project area and their ability to evaluate that project. It is the responsibility of the judge to point out good qualities of the exhibit and to make suggestions as to improvements needed or desired. Judges must evaluate each exhibit based on its individual merit.

State Fair: The exhibit meets all standards. The exhibitor has clearly stated an appropriate learning goal and included accurate information on how and what was learned in preparing the exhibit. The exhibit and workmanship are extraordinary.

Blue: The exhibit has exceeded the minimum standards. The exhibitor has clearly stated an appropriate learning goal, included information on how and what was learned in preparing the exhibit. The exhibit shows good workmanship.

Red: The exhibit has met the minimum standards and shows effort by the exhibitor, but has room for improvement in one or more areas of workmanship. The exhibitor needs to improve the learning goal statement and/or information on what was learned in preparing the exhibit.

White: The exhibit does not meet all of the minimum standards and expected quality of workmanship. Improvements are recommended in the learning goal statement, finished exhibit and the information on what was learned in preparing the exhibit.

Only the exhibitor will be allowed in the immediate judging areas.

Premiums
The Linn County Fair Association provides 4-H and FFA premiums.

2012 premiums will be Blue $3.00, Red $2.00 and White $1.00.

Animal Showmanship premiums for Senior, Intermediate and Junior classes will be:
1st $5.00, 2nd $3.00 and 3rd $1.00.

Communications premiums will be Excellence $7.50, Merit $5.00 and Participation $2.50.

All premium money will go directly to the club with a list itemizing how much each member should receive. The club can then decide how to distribute the premiums. All premium checks must be cashed within three months of being issued or they will be considered VOID.