

2009 WASHINGTON 4-H COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

A. GENERAL 4-H/GENERAL 4-H FAIR

1. **Record Books**—Thurston. The covers of the Level 1 (C0932) and Level 2 (C0934) Record Books should be revised to eliminate the Address and Date of Birth lines.

Supporting Statement: Record books are often displayed at fairs and other public events. The public can view the information on the cover of the record books. The address and birth date are not needed and are not relevant for judging of record books (The member's age and year in 4-h are sufficient information for judging). For our members' safety and for the protection of their identity, the address and birth date should be removed from the cover information.

2. **Photography Scorecard**—Cowlitz. It is recommended that the current 4-H Photography scorecard add columns as on other still life project scorecards to reflect a check system of scoring you in the three categories of Excellent, Good, and Fair. If the judge so chooses they could also use the point system with a set amount of points. It is also recommended that some additional language be added to the judging criteria to make the categories more clear.

Supporting Statement: As a judge and superintendent for photography and in consultation with surrounding county peers it has been suggested that a system similar to the scoring on educational posters would be an easier way to score 4-H photography. Several others have contributed to this scorecard and made suggestion on what would make it an easier judging tool. (Suggested changes included.)

3. **Explore the World of Small Animals Scorecard**—Cowlitz. It is recommended that a scorecard be developed for 4-H Statewide use in the project area of Explore the World of Small Animals.

Supporting Statement: As we try to encourage 4-H project participation in non-traditional areas there has been an increase in the number of youth that are showing animals in the project Explore the World of Small Animals. Several leaders in the SW District have contributed to this scorecard and made suggestions as to what has worked well for them. Please consider this scorecard as a starting point in this project area. (Suggested scorecard included).

4. **State Fair Passes/Dorm Privileges**—Skagit. Active 4-H leaders attending the state 4-H Fair to support their club members, even though they themselves do not have a child attending the fair, should be allowed to receive passes and have dorm privileges just the same as parents who do have children in attendance.

Supporting Statement: Presently, active leaders who have worked diligently with our children all year cannot receive passes unless they have a child attending the fair, nor can they stay in the dorm.

5. **Horned Goats in Showmanship Classes**—Thurston. Allow horned goats in showmanship classes at fairs.

Supporting Statement: Fleece goats, such as Angora, Pygora, and Cashmere, have a biological need for horns. Other types, such as utility, draft, and pack goats have a functional need for horns. Meat goats are required to have horns, according to ABGA standards. Many members have goats that have been dehorned but have scurs or short horns that grow back and have to be cut off every year for fair if the member wants to participate with their goat. Cutting the goat's horns is difficult for both the goat and the 4-H'er. At times it can lead to pain and infection for the goat.

With the current policy, members who have goats with horns are left out of showmanship altogether unless they have a second dehorned goat of the same type of showmanship in that class. The "No Horn" policy effects kids with any breed of goat and all showmanship classes. So, we hope you will consider allowing horned goats in showmanship classes with the following possible conditions:

- Horn tips will be covered securely with tennis balls and tape
- Superintendent can restrict animal from showmanship if it appears to be a danger to others.
- Other showman may be allowed to decline having to switch to a goat that has horns during showmanship class.
- Member with horned goat may assume cost of additional liability coverage and sign special responsibility contract.

The person submitting this recommendation has an additional typed page of explanation addressing concerns over safety (which can be reviewed at the Council Committee meeting).

B. FOODS

1. **Food Preservation Scorecard**—Grays Harbor. Score sheets for 4-H food preservation exhibits be modified to state that jar rings may be present on jars, but must be removable for judging purposes. Score sheets affected include C0573, C0203E, C0204, C0539, and C1062.

Supporting Statement: State 4-H Fair is asking jar rings be included on food preservation exhibits. It is not uncommon for jars to come unsealed in the lighted cases that get quite warm over 17 days.

2. **4-H Canned Food Exhibit Label**—Grays Harbor. C0803, "4-H Canned Food Exhibit Label," be revised to include "type of pack" and "altitude."

Supporting Statement: Type of pack and altitude influence the processing time for several types of food. The information is needed for proper judging.

3. **4-H Food Activity Guidelines**—Grays Harbor. Update EM4733, "4-H Food Activity Guidelines" to adjust time for Lunch on the Go to one hour maximum.

Supporting Statement: Current maximum time is 1½ hours. One hour is ample for this activity.

4. **4-H Food Activity Guidelines**—Grays Harbor. Update EM4733, “4-H Food Activity Guidelines” and the State 4-H Fair Premium Book to change maximum time for juniors in My Favorite Foods and Foods of the Pacific Northwest to 2 hours.

Supporting Statement: Current time limit for juniors is 1½ hours. The State 4-H Fair Board selected this time when deciding to allow junior participation at the State 4-H Fair. Two hours would allow more creativity and more advanced projects.

5. **Bread Baking Activity**—Grays Harbor. Adjust the time for quick loaf breads in the Bread Baking Activity to 2½ hours. All other non-yeast items to remain at 2 hours.

Supporting Statement: Many quick loaf breads bake for 1½ hours or more, leaving little time for mixing, cleanup, and judge’s interview.

6. **Table Setting Activity**—Grays Harbor. Change the maximum time for Table Setting Activity to one hour.

Supporting Statement: Current maximum time is 1½ hours. One hour is ample for this activity.

C. CATS

1. **Cats—Pierce.** Change the minimum age of cat for State Fair Cat Senior Type classes (currently class 405) from 10 years to 8 years.

Supporting Statement: In many areas, such as cat feeding recommendations, 8 years is considered a senior. By lowering the age for the State Fair type class more cats would be eligible for the senior class, thus removing them from the over-full regular classes.

2. **Cats—Pierce.** Change the age requirement for the State Fair Cat Kitten Type classes (currently class 406) to read, “open to kittens who were over 4 months and under 12 months on the type judging day of their county fair.”

Supporting Statement: All common literature, including our 4-H material, considers a kitten to be any cat under 12 months of age. This recommendation raises the maximum age for a kitten from 8 months to 12 months. It also allows cats who reach the 12 month mark between their county fair and the state fair to remain in the kitten class for state fair.

3. **Cats—Pierce.** Change the State Fair Cat Household Pet Type classes (currently classes 403 & 404) to the attached classes, divided first by coat type and then by coat pattern:

Class 403: Household Pet – shorthair solid/smoke (includes solid/smoke with white & solid white)

Class 404: Household Pet – shorthair tabby (includes tabby with white)

Class 405: Household Pet – shorthair pointed (includes pointed with white)

Class 406: Household Pet – shorthair tortoise shell/calico/patched tabby (with or without white)

Class 407: Household Pet – longhair solid/smoke (includes solid/smoke with white or solid white)

Class 408: Household Pet – longhair tabby (includes tabby with white)

Class 409: Household Pet – longhair pointed (includes pointed with white)

Class 410: Household Pet – longhair tortoise shell/calico/patched tabby (with or without white)

Supporting Statement: The current class configuration makes for very large classes. To compensate for this, donations are solicited to offer rosettes down to 10th place. By dividing the classes into smaller sections, these extra ribbons would not be needed. Also, it would encourage exhibitors to learn more about colors and patterns.

D. EQUINE

1. **Horse Contest Guide**—Lewis. Clarify pg. 31 of PNW574, 4-H Horse contest Guideline. Contestants may ride only once in each event. Event being a fair or 4-H qualifier (exception: re-rides).

Supporting Statement: Too many counties have different opinions on how this rule is interpreted. This will make all counties uniform.

2. **Horse Contest Guide**—Grays Harbor. Change the rule on pg. 31 of PNW574 to read: “Contestants may ride only one in each event on any given day (exception: re-rides).”

Supporting Statement: The rule as originally written was intended to address a particular problem in those counties where the exhibitors have to qualify in outside shows and the rule is intended to prohibit them from just paying for another run at a particular show just so they can get the time they are looking for. Although we understand the purpose, we don’t believe the rule is stated in a way that says what they want. Our county runs gaming on Wed. and Friday and takes the best time. As written this rule could be a problem for us.

3. **Horse Contest Guide**—Grays Harbor. Change the rule on pg. 34 of PNW574 to read: “If the horse’s hip passes any obstacle on the wrong side it is a disqualification.”

Supporting Statement: The rule as currently stated is vague – we would like it to be more clear for both exhibitors and judges.

4. **Horse Contest Guide**—Pierce. Change the 4-H Horse Contest Guide, pg. 10, "Saddle Seat Clothing and Equipment," Saddle section to read: Flat English-type saddle required. Forward seat, Western and side saddles are prohibited.
Supporting Statement: The above sentence is from the USEF Saddle Seat Equitation Rules. It does not specifically require a cut-back saddle. Current 4-H requirements are too restrictive, making it more difficult for 4-H'ers to find and afford to purchase, the required saddle.

5. **Horse Contest Guide**—Lincoln. Recommends the following changes be made to rules regarding 4-H Horse shows:
 - 1) Under Penalties & General Disqualifications (PNW574, pg. 34), we recommend that small rubber bands be allowed in Washington for Western Games classes to safely secure riders feet to stirrups and to help them stay centered, balanced, and in the saddle. Bands should not exceed the following dimensions: ¼ inch wide x 1/8 inch thick x 6 inch diameter. A single wrap of band will be allowed to be hooked over the toe, underneath the stirrup, and around the edge of the heel or spur. Only one band per foot.
Supporting Statement: Size limit of bands and use specified above allow bands to break if rider falls from saddle. AQHA allows this practice in youth competition.
 - 2) We recommend that judges or show personnel be allowed and encouraged to post a diagram of the pattern or trail and walk contestants on foot through pattern or trail courses prior to the start of class so that contestants full understand the expected pattern or trail.
Supporting Statement: This is a common practice allowed in most shows but not specifically allowed by 4-H rules. Youngsters learn by doing, and walking the course helps them learn the pattern and ride safely.

6. **Equitation over Fences**—Grays Harbor. Reinstate the 2'9"-3' Equitation over Fences class at State Fair.
Supporting Statement: last year we expanded each height to each level but also we ended up eliminating the highest jump height. Those exhibitors that take over fences seriously regularly jump heights greater than 2'9". Horses that regularly compete at greater heights do not make the adjustment to the low heights very smoothly.