

## 2006 WASHINGTON 4-H COUNCIL “Action Taken” on Recommendations

### A. GENERAL 4-H

1. **Performing Arts Committee**—Pierce. Recommends that a State Performing Arts Steering Committee be formed to develop standards by which performing arts could be evaluated (judged).

**Supporting Statement:** This would enhance the quality and encourage growth of the program in complimentary fashion around the state as well as to give credit to the youth who are putting their time and effort into it.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted

**State Staff Action:** Accepted with the provision that county Extension professional/staff personnel can be found to give leadership to this effort.

2. **Small Animal Group**—King. Recommends the formation of a Small Animal State Advisory Board/Group for the Washington State 4-H program.  
**Supporting Statement:** Because in some counties an increased emphasis has been placed on breed/type rather than Fitting and Showing/Showmanship in small animal projects. This Board/group would aid in answering such questions as proper small animal Fitting and Showing/Showmanship attire. Should a level of knowledge of professional show/breed organizations (i.e., American Rabbit Breeders Association Inc.) be required of members? If so, how much? Can 4-H small animal projects partner with professional show/breed organizations?

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted with Modification to read: Form a State Small Animal Steering Committee for the WA State 4-h Program.

**State Staff Action:** Accepted with the provision that county Extension professional/staff personnel can be found to give leadership to this effort. It is recommended that focus be on an advisory group for the rabbit project, as committees are already in place for the dog and cat projects.

### B. GENERAL 4-H FAIR

1. **Critter Pal Contest**—Yakima. Allow Critter Pals to become a state 4-H project contest.  
**Supporting Statement:** There are five participating counties with this project. To include mammals, reptiles, birds, aquatics. Expanding opportunities to 4-H members.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted.

**4-H Fair Board Action: Rejected** on the basis that judging criteria needs to be established and approved by WSU before including this at the State 4-H Fair.

**State Staff Recommendation:** Those already participating in the project at the county level are encouraged to collaborate, develop standards, recommend appropriate curriculum and present a proposal for a state Critter Pals project.

- Historical Activities**—Pierce. Class 11--Historical Activities, Lot 2, needs to have some other qualifying criteria than Class 36, Creative Consumers of Fashion.  
**Supporting Statement:** Many of us have garments we made in 4-H decades ago. Most kids wouldn't choose to wear them (they have waistslines!). Since they were not made by or for the 4-h member of today, the Creative Consumer worksheet would not apply to this activity. It's OK to have a Historical class, just figure out a different qualifying activity. Many 4-H members use patterns from previous decades; but alter them to suit today's fit and style. There are often Fashion Revue Garments.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted

**4-H Fair Board Action: Rejected** as this entire class was eliminated from the State 4-H Fair due to lack of participation. All items in this class can be entered elsewhere in the State 4-H Fair.

- Textile Arts Classes**—Pierce. Allow at least two (2) entries in Textile Arts Classes 83-85, instead of just one (1), or go back to the old wording, "A total of three (3) entries per exhibitor are allowed in Classes 83-92."  
**Supporting Statement:** Many 4-H members sew a wide variety of household and personal items to learn their sewing skills. They then sew a garment or outfit for Fashion Revue. Because fitting a garment is sometimes hard for fast-growing youth, household and personal items are more practical. They should be allowed to show them at the State 4-H Fair.

**Committee/Council Action:** Rejected as written, as it is a multiple item and there fore unable to vote upon.

- Performing Arts Class**—Pierce. Recommends a new class be added at State 4-H Fair for Performing Arts Still Life, to include such things as dioramas, displays, vocabulary notebooks, costumes, props, etc.  
**Supporting Statement:** Still life is a way to showcase and document the work and learning of performers and encourage them to go beyond their experiences on stage. Many are already showing at their county fairs.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted

**4-H Fair Board Action:** Approved as amended – replace the word "class" with the word "lot" and strike the words "vocabulary notebooks,".

5. **Junior Participation**—Lewis. Recommends that Junior 4-H members be allowed to participate in the State 4-H Fair Consumer Revue.

**Supporting Statement:** Youth of the Junior age division are becoming aware of fashion and the cost difference between buying a new outfit and remodeling a used or second hand piece making this revue a good contest fit.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** Juniors may not comprehend or be developmentally ready to discuss consumer issues and economics.

6. **Pygmy Goat Judging Contest**—Snohomish. Recommends that the Pygmy Goat Judging Contest be brought back as part of the State 4-H Fair.

**Supporting Statement:** Our 4-H kids attend 3 judging contests each year to qualify for the honor of representing Snohomish County at Puyallup. Please consider resuming this event—we will help!

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted

**4-H Fair Board Action: Rejected** as there is not enough participation on a state-wide basis to include this contest at the State 4-H Fair. **The Fair Board also decided to try a “fun day activity,” similar to a judging contest to include all types of goats...pygmy, diary, meat, pack/utility, fleece, etc.**

## C. EQUINE

1. **Dressage**—Grays Harbor. Recommends that Dressage be part of Performance Horse, not its own class.

**Supporting Statement:** to encourage participation in Dressage.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** Needs to be referred to appropriate committees and boards because of criteria on time constraints and qualifications.

2. **“4-H Horse Contest Guide” Revision**—Grays Harbor. Recommends that Rule #4, Pg. 1, in the 4-H Horse Contest Guide (PNW574) be deleted. [“Exhibitors should not pat their horse while being judged in the class, except during a cold or ground training class.”]

**Supporting Statement:** We feel like the horse should be rewarded for good performance by a touch or pat no a disciplinary stroke.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** Rule is for all contests, and the change proposed is only for Western Games. Please refer proposal to the appropriate committee or board.

3. **“Training Horses” Revisions**—Grant. Recommends the following revisions [to EM4714E, “Training Horses: Yearlings to Five-Year-Olds.”]

- a. Under Project Requirements [pg. 19]. Remove Item #7. Ride under saddle at a walk, trot and canter. Showing recognition of proper lead. (Refer to Three-Year-Old section for leads.)
- b. Under Working [pg. 19]. Remove Item #1. Walk, trot and canter both directions in the ring. Showing recognition of proper leads. The horse must follow its head and show flexion. The change in gait will be progressive walk, to trot, to lope, to trot, to walk (See Figure 15.)
- c. Remove riding pattern. (Figure 15.)
- d. Under Faults of the Horse and Rider [pg. 20]. Remove Item #1.c. Bouncing in saddle at any gait.
- e. Reword paragraphs starting with Preparation [pg.21] in the Two-Year-Old Horse section to coincide with changes.

**Supporting Statement:** Our 4-H mission is about youth development. To teach our youth “life skills while learning about the equine industry.” The Green Horse program requires our youth to ride Two-Year-Old horses at a walk, trot and canter. See Project Requirements.

This could lead to starting horses as long yearlings in order to be ready for the show ring in some counties. (Horses are considered a year older as of the first of January no matter what month the horse was born in.) Although discretion on the part of the horse owner should be used, we need to consider what the program is encouraging in this case.

It is proven that when horses are ridden that early in their development they will have long-term soundness issues.

Let us remove the requirement in order to discourage riding a horse at such a young age.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** Manual is no longer used.

**State Staff Recommendation:** EM4714E is, in fact, still in our system. However it is an older publication and has largely been replaced by PNW574, 4-H Horse Contest Guide and PNW587, 4-H Horse Project Manual. It is recommended the Equine Advisory Committee review EM3714E and determine if it should either be revised or put out of print.