

## 2007 WASHINGTON 4-H COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS ACTION TAKEN

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

1. **4-H Fair Participation**—Grays Harbor. Recommends that to participate at fair, county and state level, 4-Her must be enrolled in the project in which they want to participate in.

**Supporting Statement:** In State Fair Premium Book, under “Participant Eligibility,” it is not stated that a 4-H member must be enrolled in project they are showing.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted

**State 4-H Fair Board Action:** Accepted.

**Implementation:** Included in the 2008 State 4-H Fair Premium Book, pg. 8.

2. **Animal Showing Policy**—Pierce. Amend the current State Fair rules to allow 4-H members to show two species of animal at the State Fair, providing that the two species are not on exhibit on the same days.

**Supporting Statement:** The current rule made sense back when the fair was shorter and all animals were exhibited at the same time. Today, however, the case has changed. Exhibitors work hard to qualify with two species for State Fair and they should be allowed to reap the rewards for their efforts. As our state becomes more urban, many animal projects cannot fill their allowed quota. The animals left at home because they are the second species would have helped to fill that gap. A child can show 5 chickens, but not a cat and a horse. Let’s do what’s best for kids and modify the rule.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted with modification: No more than two species of animals at the State Fair, providing that the two species do not have the same show times.

**State 4-H Fair Board Action:** Accepted as Modified. Exhibitors will be allowed to show two species of animals at the State 4-H Fair, providing that the two species do not have the same show times. Fair management will not adjust show times/schedules to accommodate exhibitors showing two different species.

**Implementation:** 2008 State 4-H Fair.

3. **Dressage**—Snohomish. Expand the Dressage/Over Fences State 4-H Horse section to 2 days and add additional classes (i.e., Dressage Seat Equitation, Hunt Seat Equitation, Working Hunter).

**Supporting Statement:** It is a huge commitment to exhibit a horse at State 4-H Fair and would be appreciated if they had more than 2 classes available.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted with Modification. Recommend that the State 4-H Fair Board address the possibility of expanding dressage classes at State

4-H Fair.

**State 4-H Fair Board Action: Accepted.** The Dressage/Equitation Over Fences section at the State 4-H Fair will be expanded to include a Hunt Seat Equitation Class. **Implementation:** 2008 State 4-H Fair.

4. **Miniature Horses**—Pierce. Recommends that miniature horse and pony projects be shown at State Fair, housed in the livestock barn, and shown in hand in the livestock arena.

**Supporting Statement:** Showing mini/ponies in the livestock barn would increase the animals in the barn and allow spectators to view the animals. With more and more growth in urban areas, 4-H members are increasing and turning to the mini and pony projects. This project differs from current equine project because of the in hand classes.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** There is not currently a WSU-approved state curriculum.

**Comment:** Plans are underway for a 4-H in Action activity for Miniature Horses at the 2008 4-H Fair. The Equine Advisory Committee will be reviewing project material for future adoption.

## B. FOODS & NUTRITION

1. **4-H Food Activity Guidelines**—Lewis. #9, pg. 2, 4-H Food Activity Guidelines (EM4733E), add "All food items used in food activities must be purchased at a grocery store or other approved food source, and brought to the event in original packaging."

**Supporting Statement:** Consistency is needed between food guidelines and State Fair Premium book—making it easier for all to understand.

**Committee Action:** Accepted

**Council Action:** Rejected; no reason provided.

**State 4-H Food/Nutrition Team Action: Accepted with Modification.**

Modified statements in EM4733E, *4-H Food Activity Guidelines*, and in the State 4-H Premium book to reflect the consensus of the 4-H Council.

**Implementation:** 2008 State 4-H Fair Premium Book, pg. 25, paragraph 6: Members are encouraged to utilize food from approved food sources. Home canned foods are not to be used in any of the food activities. Safe food handling and transporting procedures must be used. Food is not to be served or offered to the public. All food preparation in Classes 23-30 must be done in the fair activity kitchens. Meals prepared in Class 27, Foods for All Occasions, will be served only to the judge and the exhibitor's immediate family members, but not to any other persons. Judges have the option of not tasting food projects for several reasons including, but not limited to, allergies or food handling techniques.

2. **Food Preservation Activities**—Lewis. Food Preservation activities need to have their own score sheet.

**Supporting Statement:** Form C1098E (4-H Food Activity Scoresheet): Table service, eating quality and food served attractively and conveniently does not apply to food preservation activities.

**Committee/Council Action:** **Rejected.** The scoresheet (C1098E) already reflects this recommendation.

### C. SMALL ANIMALS

1. **Cats**—Clark. A cat must be free of ear mites when presented at check-in. If ear mites are present, cat must be disqualified. Vet must have proper equipment to determine if ear mites are present.

**Supporting Statement:** Ear mites are highly contagious and cannot be treated in a single application of medicine.

**Committee/Council Action:** **Rejected.** State 4-H Fair already requires that animals be parasite-free. To address this issue for State Fair, the recommendation should be resubmitted for the State Fair committee to address. Counties should deal with this issue for their shows. This could be cost prohibitive due to the expense of hiring a veterinarian and having proper equipment available. The risk of contagion is extremely low in a show setting and appropriate treatment at show renders animal free of suspected parasite.

2. **Rabbit/Cavy Resource**—Pierce. Add the book "Raising Better Rabbits & Cavies" as approved resource material for Rabbit Project at county and state level.

**Supporting Statement:** As a main club leader, rabbit project leader, and rabbit barn superintendant, I feel this book would be a valuable resource and learning tool for all levels of rabbit project participants.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted.

**State 4-H Staff Action:** Accepted.

**Implementation:** Reference will be listed as an additional resource for the Rabbit Project on the '09-'10 EM2778 CD.

### D. LIVESTOCK

1. **Horned Animal Policy**—Snohomish. The current statement in the Washington State 4-H Youth Development Policy (EM0758E) under Animal Management and Ownership (Section 5.b.) states, "Goats and sheep entered in market and showmanship classes must be polled or dehorned. Horned animals in breeding classes must have horn tips covered as a safety precaution." I recommend that the wording be changed by eliminating the first statement and changing the full

statement to read, "All horned animals in all classes must have horn tips covered as a safety precaution."

**Supporting Statement:** Our 4-H group, Angel Angoras, has spent years developing a program that prides itself on producing and maintaining quality Angora goats that meet the Angora breed standards. Our members spend hours practicing their showmanship and presentation skills with these gentle animals. They want to show the goats that they have worked so hard with, not a substitute from a different breed. All of our members recognize the danger that dehorning would cause their animals. The Angora goat is a long fibered goat that requires shearing twice a year. Because goats don't perspire, the horns help keep the animal cool in the heat. The animal's blood flows through the horns and helps regulate the animal's temperature. Dehorning or polling Angora goats is not recommended. In a recent interview with Dr. Frank Craddock, professor and extension sheep and goat specialist at Texas A&M University, he stated, "I have known Angora goats since I was six years old, done seminars and classes throughout the world and in other countries all over the world and nobody dehorn Angora goats. It is totally against the standards of the breed." Dr Craddock has said that he would welcome calls from the Washington 4-H administration to help clarify the issues related to 4-H members exhibiting Angora goats. I have included a copy of Dr. Craddock's resume and to help substantiate his expertise in the fields of sheep and goats.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** Based on the proposal is too all-encompassing and not specific to the breed concerns apparent in the supporting statement proposal spoke of fiber breeds versus all other breed of sheep and goats.

2. **Tail Docking of Lambs**—Lincoln. Adopt the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners (AASRP) position regarding tail docking of lambs. Lambs should be docked distal to the caudal tail fold.

**Supporting Statement:** The AVMA and AASRP position is supported in policy statements by both the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) and the Washington State Sheep Producers (WSSP). Scientific research (J. Animal Science, 2003, 81:2725-2732) has shown a casual link between short tail docs and rectal prolapse. We believe this policy is best for both animal health and the public image of sheep producers in Washington State.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted.

**State 4-H Staff Action:** Accepted

**Implementation:** The WA State 4-H policy regarding tail docking of lambs has been finalized, reflecting the intent of this recommendation, and is available online at <http://4h.wsu.edu/projects/publications/animsci/taildocking.pdf>

## E. EQUINE

1. **Horse Contest Guide**—Snohomish. In PNW574, "4-H Horse Contest Guide," eliminate pin/tie requirement for Western riders.

**Supporting Statement:** Current rules were written when style was stand-up collars, i.e., "decorated collars." Styles have changed and "decorated" collars are found on many laid down collars.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted with modification to read, "Pin/tie is optional for western riders."

**State 4-H Equine Advisory Committee:** Accepted

**Implementation:** Wording has been changed in PNW574, 4-H Horse Contest Guide, pg. 6, to make the pin/tie requirement for Western Games riders optional

2. **Horse Contest Guide**—Snohomish. Specify in PNW574, "4-H Horse Contest Guide," that showmanship contestants must keep two hands on the lead at all times (i.e., executing sidepass or turn on forehand).

**Supporting Statement:** It is difficult for members when rules are not specific and left to the judge's personal preference.

**Committee/Council Action:** **Rejected.** Return to State Equine Advisory Committee for further clarification and review. This committee would like to see the use of one hand on the lead at all times (i.e., executing sidepass or turn on forehand).

**State 4-H Equine Advisory Committee:** Response pending.

3. **Horse Contest Guide**—Snohomish. Revise PNW574, "4-H Horse Contest Guide," to allow drivers to have a senior member or adult in the vehicle for safety reasons.

**Supporting Statement:** The Washington State Driving Manual encourages this safety precaution, but the current Contest Guide does not.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted with Modification. Add the word, "experienced" before "senior member or adult."

**State 4-H Equine Advisory Committee:** Accepted

**Implementation:** Response pending.

4. **Horse Contest Guide**—Whatcom. Recommends that Washington 4-H adopt the same start lines for the Texas Barrels Western Games Event as the Oregon 4-H Council, as per the 4-H Horse Contest Guide (PNW574). Currently Washington uses a 30 foot start line width, while the state of Oregon uses a 60 foot start line width.

**Supporting Statement:** The advantage to the 4-H member when using the 60 foot start line is that it allows the rider to line up correctly with the first barrel with less wasted movement on the part of the horse and rider, hence improving

the rider's time. In addition, many 4-H members who participate in 4-H Western Games events also participate in Washington State Horsemen Games Division events which also use the 60 foot start line. This rule change would allow there to be continuity between 4-H and non-4-H events which our members participate in simultaneously. Currently, this continuity exists in Oregon, but not in Washington, putting our members at an unfair disadvantage when competing against Oregon in interstate competition. This rule change would benefit our members and their ability to ride and train with consistency.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted

**State 4-H Fair Board & Management:** **Rejected.** The arrangement of the Paulhamus Arena at the State 4-H Fair does not allow us to go to the 60' starting line for the Texas Barrels event. In 2008, we were able to go to a starting line of 49'2" by closing one arena entrance and moving the course off center. We understand the desire to have a 60' starting line, however our current arena configuration does not allow for it.

5. **Halters/Hackamores**—Snohomish. Allow 4-H youth to use rope halters/hackamores for riding in controlled events (i.e., clinics with qualified instructor).

**Supporting Statement:** Several counties include "natural Horsemanship" clinics where instructors encourage use of a halter at early stages of riding to develop good hands and avoid abusing the horse's mouth. Current 4-H rules do not allow this.

**Committee/Council Action:** Accepted with modification. Modify to read: allow 4-H youth to use rope halter/rope hackamores for riding in controlled non-contest clinics/camps with qualified instructor.

**State 4-H Equine Advisory Committee:** **Rejected.** Concern for overall control of horse because of varying experiences and skill levels of horses and/or riders in 4-H.

6. **Boots**—Wahkiakum. Recommends the use of protective boots for 4-H Performance and Driving classes allowed for protective purposes.  
**Supportive Statement:** These classes are judged on the rider not the horse. Boots are allowed as part of equipment in jumping and gaming to protect horses' legs. They should be allowed in performance and driving for the same reasons.

**Committee/Council Action:** **Rejected.** Further clarification is needed.

7. **Miniature Horses**—Pierce. Recommends that miniature horses and ponies become their own state-wide project, separate from the Equine Project.  
**Supporting Statement:** As the equine project and mini/pony project grows, availability for stall space is limited. Mini/ponies are able to use and fill those

livestock barns, making them viewed easier to the public. Urban youth are able to own a horse and show with "like" project.

**Committee/Council Action: Rejected.** For further review by State Equine Advisory Committee per consensus of Horse Round Table discussion that there be a discipline under the horse project for miniature horses.

**Comment:** The Equine Advisory Committee is working on miniature horse curriculum that originated in Pierce County for proposed future adoption.