

2008 WASHINGTON 4-H COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS ACTION TAKEN

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

1. **Robotics**—King. Recommends that State level judging standards be developed for the robotics project so that State level competition may occur.
Supporting Statement: Whereas: robotics is now a state recognized project complete with curriculum. Whereas: several counties have robotics programs/clubs. Whereas: a robotics for exhibit only event is scheduled for the 2008 State 4-H Fair. Whereas: expansion of the robotics project aides in fulfilling the national mission Mandate of "Science and Technology." Whereas: expansion of the robotics project aids in fulfilling the National Mission Mandate of "Science and Technology." Whereas: State level standards encourage continuity amongst counties and facilitate inter-county competitions and collaboration. Therefore, Be it that the proceeding recommendation be accepted.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted

State 4-H Fair Board: Accepted and referred to WSU Staff to develop the scorecard for use at the 2010 State Fair.

State 4-H Faculty/Staff: Under development

2. **Environmental Stewardship**—King. Recommends a complete revision of the Environmental Stewardship Scorecard (C1024).
Supporting Statement: Revising the Environmental Stewardship Scorecard – C1024 to make it objective, science-based, and program relevant will help achieve learning outcomes for youth participating in project fair entries. Additionally, the scoring rubric will aid youth in the development of entries which meet a higher standard as well as foster clarity in the criteria used in assigning point values for both youth and judges.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted

State 4-H Fair Board: Accepted and referred to the WSU staff to revise the scorecard for use at the 2010 State Fair.

State 4-H Faculty/Staff: Under development

3. **Environmental Stewardship**—King. Recommends that the State 4-H Fair Premium Book entry for Environmental Stewardship be completely revised to bring it in line with the most current 4-H Publications & Projects (EM2778).
Supporting Statement: By bringing the State Premium book entry for Environmental Stewardship into alignment with the Projects and publications listings under Environmental Stewardship it would allow for maintaining annual updates in order to keep current with any and all changes within the state Environmental Stewardship program. As this is an evolving program with many diverse projects within it I believe that it is imperative that youth have entry categories that directly correspond to the projects that they are pursuing and 4-H publications that they are using at the club level. However, it is critical that

some allowance needs to be made for independent environmental study and work done in an area that is, as yet, unidentified or non-categorized within the 4-H project listings.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted

State 4-H Fair Board: Accepted with Modifications to the original proposal for the 2009 State Fair. Implemented in the 2009 State 4-H Premium Book, pg. 48-49.

4. **Show Barns**—Snohomish. Recommends that all show barns have hand sanitizer available to the public, especially when a petting area is offered.
Supporting Statement: Hand sanitizer is mostly alcohol and can eliminate the spread of germs and viruses better than soap and water.

Committee/Council Action: Rejected. Local health department responsibility, recommendation unclear as to which events would be covered, studies do not validate alcohol is more effective than proper hand washing.

5. **Premium Points for Afghans**—Pierce. Recommends that in the State Fair Premium Book, pg. 36-37, Class 103, Knitted Afghans, and Class 106, Crocheted Afghans, the premium points should be increased to be comparable to quilts (e.g., Blue-20, Red-15, White-11).
Supporting Statement: It takes a lot of tenacity (and yarn) to complete an afghan. That should be recognized and rewarded. Maintaining the same stitch tension throughout a large article is not easy.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification

Recommend refer to CTT for evaluation of educational level of the projects along with evaluation of quilting classes and scorecards.

State 4-H Fair Board: Accepted to increase the premium points for Class 103 (Knit Afghans) and Class 106 (Crocheted Afghans) to Blue=20, Red=15, White=11. Implemented in the 2009 State 4-H Premium Book, pg. 38-39.

6. **Textile Arts Entries**—Pierce. Recommends that the State Fair Premium Book, pg. 34, Textile Arts #2, be changed to read, "An exhibitor may enter a total of three entries in Classes 83-85 (instead of one entry in Classes 83-85).
Supporting Statement: More 4-H'ers sew a variety of small items like pillows, gabs, hats, etc. than sew garments and quilts. Let's give them equal opportunities to exhibit those items at State Fair.

Committee/Council Action: Rejected.

We want to encourage more clothing entries, with Class 92 there is already an opportunity for 2 non-clothing entries.

B. SMALL ANIMALS

1. **Cats**—Clark. Recommends Fitting and Showing dress standards for the cat project.

Supporting Statement: (A page-long statement was attached to the recommendation.) Promote safety and promote a professional image within 4-H and to public.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification
Accept recommendation with modification to accept line 1 of the recommendation to add to existing publication EM4810E and that lines 2-5 are already existing in the publication EM4810E.

Refer to Cat Project Committee: Response pending

2. **Cats**—Pierce. Recommends the adoption of a proposed score sheet for use with 4-H Household Pet Type class.

Supporting Statement: Currently, there is no scoresheet for cat type classes. Judges often give comments as they judge, but this is not always helpful. Exhibitors often make comments like “she just doesn’t like tabbies” when maybe the truth was the cat had dirty ears. A scoresheet would make showing more of a learning experience. This sheet is adapted from a TICA form. A scribe could be used to speed up judging.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification
Accept with a modification to refer item to the Cat Committee for further review.

Refer to Cat Project Committee: Response pending

3. **Cats**—Pierce. Recommends the adoption of a proposed score sheet for use with Cat Purebred Type class.

Supporting Statement: Currently, there is no scoresheet for cat type class. Judges often give comments as they judge, but this is not always helpful. Exhibitors often make comments like “she just doesn’t like Persians” when maybe the truth was the cat had dirty ears. A scoresheet would make showing more of a learning experience. I have scoresheets for the most common breeds and am willing to make more. A scribe could be used to speed up judging.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification
Accept with a modification to refer item to the Cat Committee for further review.

Refer to Cat Project Committee: Response pending

4. **Cats**—Pierce. Recommends the adoption of a proposed score sheet for use with Cat Fitting and Showing class.

Supporting Statement: Cats are judged one at a time, so individual scoresheets would not be difficult to complete. A scribe could be used to speed things up.

This scoresheet is very similar to the current one except for the question section. It specifies one question from 5 different categories. This would encourage exhibitors to study broadly and show their understanding of both cats and 4-H.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification

Accept with a modification to refer item to the Cat Committee for further review.

Refer to Cat Project Committee: Response pending

5. **Rabbits**—Snohomish. Recommends that rabbit judges should sanitize hands between the examination of each rabbit during a class and between classes.
Supporting Statement: Some diseases and viruses do not show symptoms right away and animals may pass vet check. Judges examine genitals, nails, and between without sanitizing between exhibitors.

Committee/Council Action: **Rejected.** Unrealistic and logistically impossible to implement.

6. **Rabbits/Poultry**—Snohomish. Recommends that, for rabbit and poultry exhibits, barriers be provided between exhibits to isolate better, contain urine that is sprayed, and avoid biting and pecking.
Supporting Statement: Suggest this sheet steel panels clipped on to cages. Some diseases and viruses do not display symptoms early on – allowing entries to pass through vet check and expose other entries unaware.

Committee/Council Action: **Rejected.** Recommendation too vague and should be addressed by individual show management.

C. EQUINE

1. **Dressage**—Grays Harbor. Recommends that the tests to be ridden at State Fair for Intermediates and Senior are Test 2 of the level entered for Intermediates and Test 4 of the level entered for Seniors.
Supporting Statement: The current rules states test ridden will be announced 1st week of July – but ends up being later. Announcing standardized tests earlier allows rider to train for specific skills needed by each test.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification

Test 3 for Intermediates and Test 4 for Seniors.

State 4-H Fair Board: **Accepted.** Approved for 2009 and refer to the Equine Advisory committee to recommend tests/processes for future years.

2. **Equitation Over Fences**—Grays Harbor. Recommends having two levels (heights) of jumps – 2'6" for both Intermediates and Seniors, and 3' for both Intermediates and Seniors (4 Classes).

Supporting Statement: Jumping presents safety issues – we would like to encourage safety and allow Seniors to jump 2'6" as well as Intermediates would have to qualify at the height they would jump at State Fair.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification
Height was modified to 2'3" to 2'6" for Intermediates and Seniors and 2'6" to 2'9" for Intermediates and Seniors.

State 4-H Fair Board: Accepted to offer two height levels (2'3" to 2'6" and 2'6" to 2'9") at the State 4-H Fair with the modification that participants may enter one level or the other, but not both, and that participants must have qualified at that height at the county qualifying show.

3. **Equitation Over Fences—Snohomish.** Designate that the height of fences in the over Fences section be 2'6" for Intermediates and 2'9" for Seniors at State 4-H Fair.

Supporting Statement: It is important for members to know what will be expected. Also qualifying events need to be planned to prepare participants properly.

Committee/Council Action: Combined with C.2.

4. **Dressage—Snohomish.** Designate that the Dressage tests ridden at State Fair be the 4th test in each level.

Supporting Statement: Several counties have qualifying events prior to the announcement being made near the end of July. Members and leaders would appreciate consistency and ability to plan correctly.

Committee/Council Action: Combined with C.1.

5. **Horse/Pony Driving—Pierce.** Reinstate Horse/Pony Driving at the State Fair by including it as another class option with Intermediate/Senior Performance (that same way that Saddle Seat is included).

Supporting Statement: The Harness division dropped from state competition this year. We were told to increase participation in order to return, but what has happened is that exhibitors have migrated to the performance or min/pony divisions in order to continue going to state. A better approach would be to combine driving with another small section and then offer clinics, increase the quota, to increase participation.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted – See C.6.

6. **Horse Pony Driving—Pierce.** Reinstate Horse/Pony Driving at the State Fair by combining it with another section that does not have enough horses to fill the barns.

Supporting Statement: The Harness division dropped from state competition this year. We were told to increase participation in order to return, but what has

happened is that exhibitors have migrated to the performance or min/pony divisions in order to continue going to state. A better approach would be to combine driving with another small section and then offer clinic, increase the quota, to increase participation.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted

State 4-H Fair Board: Accepted to offer an equine section, combining the dressage, harness, and equitation over fences disciplines into one section for 2009.

7. **Miniature Horses**—Pierce. Set the height requirement for the miniature horse program as “38 inches and under.”

Supporting Statement: There are many breed of miniature horse. Most are height registries recognizing miniatures as horses which stand 38 inches and under. Some of the registries restrict the height to even smaller heights. In the United States, the two largest registries are the American Miniature Horse Association (AMHA) and the American Miniature Horse Registry (AMHR). Of these, the AMHR sets the upper height at 38” and the AMHA sets it a 34”. Beyond this, the American Driving Society and the United States Equestrian Federation, the two organizations that deal with the showing of miniature horses, class them as “Very Small Equines” and set the upper height at 38”. As the majority of registries and organization recognize 38” as the upper limit for miniature horse, it makes sense for 4-h to do so as well.

Another reason for setting the height limit at 38” is that it will allow more children to participate. In the miniature horse world, the smaller the horse, the bigger the price tag. This means that the more affordable minis are the larger ones. More than 80% of our 4-H mini exhibitors have minis that are larger than 34”. A 38” mini only weights about 250 pounds. That is still too small to ride. The miniature horse program was developed to give children with equines that are too small to ride something to do in the 4-H horse program. Setting the height limit at 38” will allow all miniature horse owners to participate.

Committee/Council Action: Accepted with Modification

Modified to say “set height requirement for miniature horse as 38” and under as measured at last hair in mane.

State 4-H Faculty: Rejected. There is not a WA State Miniature Horse Program as this time; it has yet to be established. However, curriculum and policies are under development by the State 4-H Equine Advisory Committee. Such details as addressed by this recommendation will be taken under consideration.