

FAIRS AND YOUTH SHOWS

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WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION’S ROLE IN FAIRS & SHOWS

Young people need to be engaged in positive activity that helps them develop a sense of responsibility and build self-esteem. The Fair is a successful learning laboratory to enhance youth development using a hands-on approach. Washington State University Extension is strongly committed to continued 4-H member participation in Fairs. The following model memorandum of understanding regarding Fairs was developed to facilitate the improvement of working relationships among the key organizations that make the Fairs possible.

The role of the Extension Educator with the fair is to:

1. Provide leadership to Fair Board for organization of the 4-H youth show.
2. Be responsible for the 4-H sections of the Fair Book including appropriate classes and activities which meet the objective of the 4-H program but are conducted at the fair.
3. Recommend judges and types of recognition such as ribbons, trophies and trips. Assist with preparing the Fair budget request, and guidance on financial management and accountability; however, this should not include custodial responsibilities for any funds generated in support of Fair activities.
4. Work with the Fair Board to communicate information to leaders, parents and 4-H Youth members.

5. Develop specifically for 4-H and assist through leadership and guidance with those 4-H educational events.
6. Assist as appropriate with other Fair activities as time and expertise permit.

Role of Fair Boards

1. Be responsible for the overall management for the fair.
2. Provide financial management of all activities related to Fair including collection, deposit, and payment of any funds as appropriate for:
 - a. Judges and other Fair employees
 - b. Ribbons, trophies, premiums and other awards
 - c. Junior Livestock Auctions and sales as appropriate.
 - d. Facilities and maintenance
 - e. Financial management of the Fair
3. Approve and support Junior Fair activities such as parades, Junior Fair Day, Queen/King Contest, livestock sales, etc.
4. Involve Washington State University Extension personnel in decisions that affect participation of 4-H youth and adults such as fair passes, premiums, exhibit housing, show schedules and facility usage.
5. Provide and maintain adequate facilities for Fair events.
6. Maintain control of scheduling, maintenance and improvement of fair facilities on a year-round basis even though 4-H members and adults may have been instrumental in constructing or improving those facilities.
7. Understand and appreciate the objectives of the different youth groups participating.

The Value of the Washington State 4-H Fair

The young people who participate in the Washington State 4-H Fair are more capable, more confident around people and they like themselves better as a result of their participation in State 4-H Fair. These are the results of a survey of 955 respondents (from 3088 participants) in the 1990 State 4-H Fair.

These young people learn project knowledge and skills, how to get along with people, how to make good decisions, how to communicate their ideas and how to plan their time according to the study.

Washington state 4-H Fair is a 17 day event held on the ground of the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup at the same time as Western Washington Fair (starting the first Friday after Labor Day). Exhibitors qualify at county fairs and other qualifying events. Their participation is usually for one to five days during the fair.

The purpose of the State 4-H Fair is to:

- ❖ provide 4-H members with an educational experience relating to projects, activities personal skills and accomplishments;

- ❖ provide recognition and inspiration to 4-H members and leaders for encouragement toward greater accomplishments;
- ❖ provide an opportunity and challenge to 4-H members to broaden their relationships with other 4-H members and with other 4-H programs;
- ❖ Provide a dynamic and comprehensive review of 4-H and its accomplishments to the people of the state of Washington.

The first set of questions in the survey asked "How important is State 4-H Fair to you?"

Only 6% indicated that this is "just another thing to do." Nearly half of the respondents said "It is an important event to me." And 45.2% said "It has a great influence on what I do in 4-H" or "State 4-H Fair has kept me in 4-H." It is apparent that exhibitors who qualify to participate are greatly influenced in their careers by this event and it is important to them.

The second set of questions asked "How has State 4-H Fair changed your life?" 11.5% of the respondents said that State 4-H Fair had little effect on their life. While 82% of the respondents indicated that as a result of State 4-H Fair "I have learned a great deal" or "I am a more capable person." And 6.4% said the fair has "changed the direction of my life." If we compare this with the first set of responses it is clear that State 4-H is an important learning event for these members.

The third set of questions in the survey asked "What have you learned as a result of State 4-H Fair?" The learning that occurs at State 4-H Fair is clearly dominated by "Project knowledge and skills" with 90.4% of the respondents saying they have learned "some" or "a lot" as a result of the State 4-H Fair.

Closely grouped in second place are four personal growth and development areas of learning- "How to get along with people" (86.5%), "How to make good decisions" (85.7%), "How to communicate my ideas" (82.8%) and "How to plan my time" (81.1%). "How to understand my feelings" (60.5%) is an area of learning that is hard for most people to grasp so it is significant that these members gave it this much value.

The fourth set of questions in the survey asked "How have you changed as a result of State 4-H Fair?" These questions are designed to learn what behavioral changes occurred as a result of what was learned.

Two responses led this group as 88.1% said "I feel (some or a lot) more capable" and 86.4% said "I am (some or a lot) more confident around people" as a result of State 4-H Fair.

Closely behind these two at 78.3% is the response "I like myself better."

Lesser responses were obtained for "I have a better sense of humor" (68.0%) and "I perform better in school" (60.6%). Trailing the group is "My family is closer together" (53.2%).

It is clear from these results that State 4-H Fair is an important event that has a great influence on what many young people do in 4-H. These young people learn project knowledge and skills, how to get along with people, how to make good decisions, how to communicate their ideas and how to plan their time. As a result these respondents perceive that they have changed their behavior in significant ways as a result of the State 4-H Fair. They feel more capable, more confident and they like themselves better.

Fairs serve as important educational laboratories that provide:

1. A vehicle for educational methods:
 - a. Teaching to enhance the learning experience of the individual and volunteer 4-H advisors of the local club.
 - b. Evaluation, both non-competitive and competitive.
 - c. Showcase for demonstrations and educational activities.
2. Recognition of 4-H members:
 - a. Exhibits, display, demonstrations.
 - b. Awards for participation and excellence.

The visibility of the 4-H program is an opportunity to show the public what 4-H is all about. It is also good public relations for Washington State University Extension.

4-H is one of several youth organizations involved or potentially involved in the Junior Fairs.

A strong tradition of leadership from Washington State University Extension for Fairs exists in many counties.

The Junior Fair is one of the major components of most county and independent fairs.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Effective August 1994
Between
AGRICULTURE EDUCATION
WASHINGTON FFA ASSOCIATION
and
WSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
concerning
4-H AND FFA PROGRAM OPERATION IN WASHINGTON STATE

Agriculture Education/FFA and the 4-H Youth Development Programs in Washington State exist to promote the maximum, personal development of participants. To achieve this and avoid program duplication, guiding principles must be understood and used by all professional leaders. We recommend that the following principles be used in carrying out the two programs in Washington State's 39 counties.

1. Agriculture Education teachers should encourage students to enroll and reenroll in the 4-H program.
2. County extension agents and adult volunteer leaders should encourage members to enroll in Agriculture Education classes available in local secondary schools and to become members of the Washington FFA Association.
3. A member may participate in all judging or bowl division activities in FFA and 4-H unless contests are held simultaneous. Then the member must choose one.
4. Members simultaneously enrolled in 4-H and FFA must have separate projects or animals for each program during the same calendar year. The program year is October 1 to September 30. For example a member may carry a dairy project for FFA and 4-H as long as he or she uses a different animal and project for each program. The goal of both organizations is youth education. Involvement in both programs should result in the enhancement of the educational experience.
5. Members cannot exhibit the same product or individual animal in both FFA and 4-H divisions during one program year. Project records that inventory project or enterprise must accompany each article or animal when it is entered at an exhibit or fair.

Statements 3, 4, and 5 will be used to govern policy for state 4-H and FFA members in the future. These policies should also be followed at district, county,

and community shows and fairs.

6. Publicity should reflect the total contributions of both organizations.
7. For the benefit of both 4-H and FFA, separate divisions should be provided in all fairs in the state to eliminate competition between the members of the two organizations. Champions representing the two organizations will not compete against each other. However, when a situation in a particular fair or show indicates that the creation of a youth division (without 4-H or FFA identification) is desirable, a single division may be organized with the agreement of the local agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, the county extension agents, show management, and state leaders in 4-H and FFA. Local fairs or shows may set up special rules and regulations to manage that event. However, these must be in accordance with this memorandum.
8. Other cooperative programs, such as summer training programs, can be jointly planned and administered by representatives of FFA and 4-H. When practical, youths from 4-H and FFA shall be encouraged to work together in their home communities. In these cases, FFA and 4-H should both receive proper recognition.
9. Cooperative Extension of Washington State University; the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Special Services and Vocational Education; Agriculture Education; and Washington State FFA as the "approving agents" for youth shows and fairs (15.76.120 (4) RCW) will inform each other in advance of basic changes contemplated for the specific youth fairs and shows for which each has the contracted responsibility; each approving agency will co-sign contracts on youth shows where both FFA and 4-H are involved. Administration of funds for the Marysville Junior Livestock Show, Washington Junior Poultry Exposition, Northwest Junior Livestock Show, Toppenish Livestock Show, Washington Spring Fair, and Washington State FFA Exhibition will remain with the Washington Association of FFA. Washington State University will continue as administrator of funds for Spokane Junior Livestock Show, Eastern Washington Junior Horse Show, Washington State 4-H Fair, Washington Junior Lamb Carcass Show, and Enumclaw Junior Dairy Show.
10. The existing agreement concerning youth shows and fairs is terminated. The provisions of that agreement of April 1962 as amended in April 1970, 1973, 1976, and 1983 are either no longer applicable or are covered by Department of Agriculture regulations.

It is recommended that district or county meetings be held with agents and vocational agriculture and natural resources teachers periodically to discuss their roles and to determine local application. Frequent contacts between the agents

and teachers for mutual support and planning of leadership development programs are encouraged.

ANIMAL PROGRAMMATIC POLICIES AT 4-H DIVISIONS IN FAIRS AND SHOWS

Animal Management and Ownership

1. When participating in the Washington State 4-H Youth Development Program individuals must provide humane treatment and care to animals. Cruel or negligent treatment and handling will not be tolerated. The use of illegal drugs and/or the improper use of animal health products or foreign substances will not be tolerated in the Washington State 4-H Youth Development Program. Extension personnel, 4-H volunteers, families, youth, and fair/show officials have a legal and moral obligation not to misuse these products. We have the responsibility to tell others not to use these substances and report those who do use any illegal substance. The administration of any drug or medication which could affect an animal's disposition or performance, resulting in an unfair advantage, is unacceptable. Additionally, there are federal penalties for using illegal substances in animals that are going into the nation's food supply.
2. 4-H members in Washington State need not own their 4-H project animals. Members may lease a market animal if it is not to be sold at a junior livestock auction.
3. Two 4-H members may jointly care for and show one animal. These two 4-H members may not compete in the same class or lot at an event.
4. Animals must be under the 4-H member's regular care and management for the following periods of time prior to the official county exhibit activity, including junior livestock shows.

Equine—90 days

Market Beef—120 days

Breeding Beef—90 days

Llama—90 days

Dairy (except Dairy Heifer Replacement)—90 days

Dairy Heifer Replacement—60 days

Goat—60 days

Sheep and Swine (Breeding and Market)—60 days

Cats—60 days

Cavies—60 days

Dogs—60 days

Rabbits and Poultry—45 days

Animals raised by the 4-H member from birth or hatching are exempt from the minimum time periods.

5. Showing horned animals:
 - a. Market steers must be polled or dehorned; healed or re-growth must not extend more than two inches from the hairline. Horned breeding animals must have the horn tips covered as a safety precaution.
 - b. Goats and sheep entered in market and showmanship classes must be polled or dehorned. Horned animals in breeding classes must have the horn tips covered as a safety precaution.
 - c. No dairy animals with horns are permitted except in the Junior Heifer Calf class. The definition of horns includes “scurs,” “nubbing,” or “stubs” that extend more than one inch beyond the skin.
 - d. No horned dairy goat animals are allowed.
6. 4-H youth may exhibit unaltered male breeding animals of the following ages:
 - Beef Bulls—born in the current 4-H year (Oct. 1 to Sept. 30)
 - Rams—under 24 months
 - Swine Boars—under 6 months
 - Buck Goats—under 6 months
 - Yearling Equines—under 12 months
7. Bison and Bison-blooded Animals: The bison is not a domesticated animal and must be treated with caution and respect. Each animal has its own distinct personality, each animal is unpredictable, and only a professional wildlife trainer should attempt to train a bison. Therefore, bison and animals with bison blood are not to be used as project animals in Washington State 4-H.
8. Showmanship is a required educational activity for each species of animal shown in 4-H classes at community fairs, county fairs, State 4-H Fair qualifying events, youth shows, and the State 4-H Fair. Showmanship must be a part of each event.

Animal Health and the Use of Illegal Substances

Our Washington State Policy is based upon the National Show Ring Code of Ethics. I am requesting that you put our Washington 4H Policy into the 1997 edition and future editions of your premium books. This policy is not new. As far back as 1984, Washington State 4H has had an anti-drugging policy. This policy is a re-statement and clarification of these previous policies. It is to be interpreted as a very clear statement of the importance that 4-H as a youth development organization places on ethics education for young people. We cannot succeed in raising the animal and fail in raising the young person.

Policy

The use of illegal drugs and/or the improper use of animal health products or foreign substances will not be tolerated in the Washington State 4H Youth Development Program. Extension personnel, 4H volunteers, families, youth, and fair/show officials have a legal and moral obligation not to misuse these products. We have the responsibility to tell others not to use these substances, and to report those who do not use any illegal substance.

The administration of any drug or medication which could affect an animal's performance resulting in an unfair advantage or the disposition of the animal, is unacceptable. Additionally, there are federal penalties for using illegal substances in animals that are going into the nation's food supply.

It is the expectation that all Fairs and Shows in Washington State who wish to use the 4H name and emblem will fully adhere to this policy. Additionally, it is strongly encouraged that all fairs/shows within Washington State adopt, implement, and adhere to the National Show Ring Code of Ethics.

Appropriate Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem in Regards to Livestock Sales, Auctions and Similar Events

4-H Youth raising livestock and other farm animals to be sold at auctions, county and state fairs and other 4-H events has long been a vital part of the 4-H educational experience. The income received and the funds paid at these events are subject to Federal tax laws and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations. Due to the complexity and varied applicability of IRS regulations, all 4-H members, organizations and contributors involved in these sales and events are strongly encouraged to seek guidance from their tax advisors regarding their specific accountability and situation.

In the vast majority of these sales events, fairs, etc., the 4-H Name and Emblem are used to identify the sponsoring organization, location or participating groups. States are responsible for insuring the proper use of the 4-H Name and Emblem in conjunction with these events. Groups using the 4-H Name and Emblem in these fairs for livestock sales or auctions etc. should be properly authorized, chartered or have completed a Memorandum of Understanding with the State 4-H office.

Additionally, the States need to insure that the entities using the 4-H Name and Emblem have completed the process to be included under the General Tax Exemption for 4-H or in some other status are recognized by the IRS as a 4-H organization and therefore tax exempt. This insures that contributors and donors involved in the livestock sales, auctions, etc. can have their contributions verified by the IRS as a charitable contribution if it is given to a 4-H identified group.

In situations where the 4-H member retains ownership of the animal and the proceeds from the sale pass through the 4-H organization sponsoring the livestock sale or auction and go directly to the 4-H member, the 4-H organization is only a conduit for the sale of the animal. When acting as a conduit for the sale, the sponsoring 4-H organization cannot view the sales proceeds as income to the

organization and should clarify for the purchaser that they have not made a charitable contribution to the organization, but have purchased the animal through the organization for the direct benefit of the 4-H member.

It must be noted that if these livestock sales, auctions or similar events are used as fund raising for 4-H, State and local Extension officials must insure that the funds are given and used in accordance with Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations section 8 guidelines pertaining to 4-H educational programs. In brief, these fund raising

activities must have the approval of the appropriate Cooperative Extension office, be given and used for priority educational purposes, accounted for efficiently and there must be a definite plan to account for funds raised prior to authorizing the use of the 4-H Name and Emblem for the livestock sale, auction, etc.

Livestock Sales and Prize Winnings Related to 4-H Programs Taxable Income

Frequently Asked Questions

The Internal Revenue Service Office of Governmental Liaison has provided the National 4-H Headquarters-USDA with a set of FAQ's regarding the taxability and 1099 filings required from the sales of livestock at county fairs. These are posted for your information. Additional information may be found at <http://www.irs.gov>.

Is income from the sales of livestock and premium payments taxable?

Internal Revenue Code section 61 specifically states that "Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, gross income means all income from whatever source derived," This income is clearly taxable to the 4-H member. In most situations, the member would file a Schedule F to report the income. There is no basis for a position that only income in excess of \$600 is taxable. This seems to be a misunderstanding of the filing threshold for Forms 1099.

What are reporting requirements (Form 1099) for income received from the sale of the animal at the auction?

Treasury Regulation section 1.6045-1(c)(7) provides an "exception for certain sales of agricultural commodities and commodity certificates". It states, "No return of information is required under section 6045 for a spot or forward sale of an agricultural commodity". In the definitions at 1.6045-1(c) (7) (iv), livestock is defined as an agricultural commodity and a spot sale is defined as "a sale that results in the substantially contemporaneous delivery of a commodity." Thus, there would be no Form 1099 filing requirements for the sale of the animals at auction.

Is Form 1099 required for premium payments?

The entity paying the premium does not receive the animal in return for the premium payment. The person who won the bid at the auction gets the animal; the payor of the premium gets only the good feeling or advertising value of the

premium payment. The premium payments are paid as a prize or award. Therefore, since this is not a spot sale and no exception has been identified for this type of income there would be a Form 1099 filing requirement for the payor of the premium.

Source: IRS (4-2007)

NATIONAL SHOW RING CODE OF ETHICS

This code of ethics applies to anyone exhibiting animals at livestock shows in the United States. It includes Juniors as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. All classes of livestock offered at the livestock event are included: Cattle (Beef and Dairy), Goats (Angora, Boer, Dairy, Meat, Cashmere), Equine (Donkey, Horses, Mules) Llamas and other specialty animals, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, Swine and any other livestock classes offered. This "National Show Ring Code of Ethics" will be enhanced with additional rules and regulations which individual fairs and livestock shows impose on the local, county, state regional and national levels.

The following practices or procedures are unacceptable and are defined as being deceptive, fraudulent, unethical and inhumane in the care, fitting, preparation and showing of all classes of livestock. The use of any illegal drugs is prohibited. Legal or illegal substances used to phenotypically alter the appearance of an animal entered in livestock events is prohibited. (See rule #4). Use of illegal drugs is considered a pre-meditated act! Furthermore, any information obtained in the practice of illegal alteration of an animal will be turned over to the proper authorities for criminal prosecution. THIS IS A ONE STRIKE YOU ARE OUT POLICY! Exhibitor will forfeit any premium, awards, or auction proceeds and will be prohibited from further competition at shows in the United States as well as being subject to criminal prosecution if proven guilty.

The following is a listing of guidelines all exhibitors must follow to enter livestock at organized competitive events.

1. All exhibitors must have viable proof (Junior division) of ownership available to prove length of time animals have been owned. Market animals (Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats) must be owned and under exhibitors daily care according to established rules and regulations for the fair or livestock exposition. This also includes all small market animals (rabbit and poultry). The official ownership date is the date shown on the bill of sale, unless the animal was bred by the exhibitor, in which salving or births records must be shown. (Local rules may determine ownership requirements for non-market animals). Registered breeding livestock must show the exhibitor as the sole owner of the animal on the breed association paper or certificates.

2. No exhibitor may show an animal which has been previously sold at an auction or sale as a market animal through another fair, livestock show, whether or not there is an actual change of ownership (progressive level shows excluded). Any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal for a class in which it is shown is deceptive and considered illegal. Showing an animal for another individual by claiming ownership in order to show in a specific livestock class or event is prohibited. False ownership is illegal.
3. Junior exhibitions are expected to care for and groom their animals while at the fair or livestock show. (Individual consideration will be given in extenuating circumstances). Adults will not be allowed to physically assist in the preparation of the animal while at the show. Verbal instruction will be allowed, but no physical assistance is permitted. Physical assistance may be rendered by other junior aged members in good standing in the 4-H and FFA programs. Any violations of this rule will result in immediate disqualification from the show.
4. Treating an animal internally or externally, with any irritant, counter-irritant, or other substance used to artificially change the conformation or appearance of an animal for show is considered unethical, inhumane and is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of graphite powders, hemp, artificial hair coloring, common products such as fly spray, ointment or liniment used to the point that it is irritating (unless required to reduce edema at time of calving) or similar type products. The use of dyes, spray paint or other artificial coloring which result in altering an animal's true and natural appearance and/or color is prohibited. Adding false hair or hair-like material, fleece or skin at any point, spot, or area of the animal's body is illegal and will result in immediate disqualification. Any liquid or substance not considered, part of an accepted and normal diet for livestock is deemed illegal and inhumane. For example: the use of alcoholic or carbonated beverages as a drench or filler, etc.
5. The use of tranquilizers, sedatives, or depressants which alter the physical or physiological state of the animal is illegal. Exceptions to this rule would be a licensed, certified veterinarian's treatment for a recognized disease or injury, or recommendation for tranquilizing breeding animals in heat that might compromise the safety of others. The drugs must be approved by The Food and Drug Administration for use in meat producing animals. All exhibitors shall advise show management of any drugs and/or medication administered to an animal that might be detected at the time of showing or at meat inspection. The name of the drug, it's purpose, the person who administered the drug, time and date of administration shall be presented to show management prior to the showing and sale of the animal. Failure to report this information to the show management will result in severe penalty and/or disqualification. Any use of drugs or substances not approved by the Food and Drug Administration is strictly prohibited. All animals entered into livestock competition shall be subject to testing for foreign substances that

exceed acceptable levels established by the FDA, FSIS, USDA, or EPA. During the livestock events, in the case of animals requiring treatment, all medications shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian and the livestock show officials shall be notified.

6. Surgery, injection or insertion of foreign material under the skin and/or into the flesh of an animal to change the natural contour, conformation or appearance of an animal's body is illegal. This includes vegetable oil, silicon or any other substance used to alter the shape of the animal. Acceptance practices of physical preparation which are allowed included, clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, dehorning or removal of ancillary teats.
7. The balancing of the udder by abnormal means that includes the use of a mechanical contrivance or the injection of fluid or drugs, setting the teats and/or occluding (sealing the ends) with a mechanical contrivance or with the use of a chemical preparation is illegal. Treating or massaging the udder or its attachments with an irritant or counter-irritant is prohibited.
8. The use of inhumane fitting, showing and/or handling practices or devices shall not be tolerated. For example: breaking of tails, striking of the animal to cause swelling or for bracing purposes, use of an electrical contrivance, or use of overly severe bits is not acceptable.
9. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited.
10. At the time an animal is sold at auction at the livestock show, the exhibitor shall be held directly responsible for animals that are rejected at the processing center due to the presence of foreign residues. The seller may be liable to the buyer for an amount equal to three times the purchased price and may also be liable for attorney's fees and civil penalties. Show Management may share acceptable intelligence and evidence information with FDA and USDA. If for any reason, any part of the meat animal carcass must be removed by the FDA or USDA inspectors, the market price will be discounted.
11. Show management reserved the right to require animal health certificates. Health inspections and diagnostic tests may be made before or after animals are on the livestock show premises for exhibitor and animal safety, or to inaugurate disease control procedures which may become necessary in emergencies as determined by animal health officials.

Any violation of "The National Show Ring Code of Ethics" or specific rules as designated by individual fairs and livestock shows will result in forfeiture of premiums and awards, disqualification, and may result in probationary status and/or loss of eligibility for future participation in organized livestock competition.

Possible civil penalties may be imposed by the proper authorities based on evidence provided by the livestock show or exhibitors in violation of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic act/or the animal mistreatment, neglect, and abandonment laws that apply on the local, state, and national levels.

The decision of the livestock show management will be final.

Other cooperating shows, (The International Association of Fairs and Expositions, The American Livestock Show and Rodeo Managers Association, and Western Fairs Association) will be notified of the action taken by the show management, which may affect the eligibility of the individual, group, or sponsoring organization for participation at other shows who are also members of these organizations.

By making entry in a livestock show or event you are verifying you have read "The National Show Ring Code of Ethics" and understand the consequences of the penalties involved for illegal, unethical, inhumane, and unfair practices of competition. You also verify that you and your family may be prohibited from future participation in organized fairs and livestock shows in the United States, and could face possible criminal prosecution and/or civil penalties if implicated in any of the aforementioned acts.

THE DANISH OR GROUP METHOD OF JUDGING IN THE 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The group method of judging has been developed to evaluate exhibits and meet the needs of the 4-H Youth Development Program. It is used almost exclusively in the program in Washington State and it is the accepted method in use throughout the 4-H Youth Program in the United States. The group method of judging is sometimes referred to as the "Danish System," or "Modified Danish System" of judging.

What Is the Group Method?

The Group Method is a method of evaluating entries or exhibits in a particular class or contest according to the standards developed for that class or contest. The entries, exhibits, or contestants are evaluated and arranged into groups for recognition of their achievement based upon how close the exhibit meets the pre-established standards.

How Do You Use the Group Method?

After evaluation of each item in the class, the entire class may be subdivided into four groups according to their own merit. All exhibits in this approach are judged in comparison with a standard as opposed to comparison with other exhibits in a class. The standard for each exhibit is established by the characteristics of the "ideal" product in each category. If the performance of 4-H members is being

evaluated, due consideration of their age and/or development and experience must be taken into account.

The three groupings are:

Excellent or Blue: A blue is given to those entries or members who most nearly meet the standards established for the particular class or level of performance. Excellent does not indicate perfection, but is a wide grouping indicating a high degree of achievement toward the elements in the standards for the exhibit.

Good or Red: The second or red grouping indicates those exhibits or individuals who rank good in relation to the particular standards or expected achievement of the class or contest. Either the general level of the accomplishment is less than excellent or enough specific shortcomings are found to cause the placing to drop from excellent to good.

Fair or White: The white grouping contains those exhibits or contestants who upon evaluation are found lacking and rate only average, acceptable, or satisfactory rating for the standards established.

No Award or No Ribbon: maybe given if exhibits or individuals who for one reason or another fail to produce that level of achievement which can be reasonably expected in relation to the specific class or performance in which they are entered.

The difference between the Danish and Modified Danish system is the degrees of specificity in the number of exhibits distributed between the Blue, Red, White, and no award groups. In the Danish System exhibits are generally assigned an award based on a numerical score for blue, red, and white ribbons. Some projects have history of assigning different scores from the general rule. The scoring most often would be a blue ribbon score of 90-100; red ribbon would be 80-89; white ribbon would be 70-79; and no award or a participation ribbon for a score of 69 or below. When the Modified Danish System is employed individual entries or contestants within each group are further ranked in relation to their relative standing within each group giving strict adherence to a standard of characteristics for a blue, red, or white ribbon that is used by the judge.

Why Is the Group Method Used in the 4-H Program?

It provides recognition for the maximum number of 4-H members. We realize that recognition is a basic need of all young people (and adults, too) and that public recognition for achievement helps fulfill this basic need.

The Group Method or Danish System of evaluation recognizes the existence and allows for the relatively minor differences between two or more entries or performances of any two individuals or groups of individuals. The method

promotes the educational objectives of 4-H and furthers the motto “Make the Best Better” by providing incentive for the maximum number of youth.

The group method attempts to distribute awards (ribbons, premiums, and public recognition) among the majority of those participating.

When the Group Method of Judging Is used, the following should be considered:

1. The exhibit should be judged against outlined 4-H project standards and applied equally to all participants, not against other items.
2. The exhibitor should not be judged, except in Fitting and Showing, horse classes as Equitation Class, Fashion Revue, demonstrations, public presentations, etc.
3. The judge should not determine what members should make, grow, etc., or enter in the fair. This is a program decision!
4. The judge should not assume that a member has experience because of age; or if a person makes an error, they are inexperienced.
5. When selecting champions, the exhibit must be of blue ribbon quality and be the first and second best blue ribbon exhibits in the class.

References

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Pope, E. 1965. What 4-Hers Learn From Failure.” National News, March 1965,pp.22-23.

FAIR MANAGEMENT

Fair and Show Checklist

Tasks to be Done			
What	Who	When	How
<i>Example: Order Trophies</i>	<i>Fair Committee</i>	by 5/1	
Order Trophies			
Order Ribbons			
Secure Donors			
Select Judges			
Prepare Fair Book			
Confirm and Orient Judges			
Obtain and Process Entries			
Set Up Record Books			
Pre-Fair Publicity			
Work with newspaper			
Work with radio and television			
Get exhibit rules to members and advisors			
Inform Participants of Special Judging Schedules			
Keep Office Secretary informed on things to be done			
Set up exhibit areas and assign exhibit space:			
Hogs			
Beef cattle			
Dairy			
Sheep			
Horses			
Small Animals			
Dogs			
Goats			
Rabbits			
Poultry			
Engineering			
Crops and Gardens			
Conservation			
Clothing			
Style Review			

<p> Nutrition Home Furnishings Creative Arts Family Life Health Projects Special Interest Projects Communication Demonstrations King and Queen Contests Others: Livestock sale management Contact livestock buyers Sale publicity before and after Pay premiums Set up and staff the junior fair office Arrange for and distribute passes Pay judges and other expenses Identify exhibits and exhibitors Order and distribute exhibitor numbers Pre-fair orientation of fair helpers Thank those who helped </p>			
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Basic Information Check List

For the new 4-H professional - getting to know your fair

When is the county fair?

Fair Boards

Do you have one?

When does it meet?

What youth groups are involved?

Who are the members?

How are members selected?

What are the board's functions?

Who is responsible for seeing that the board functions effectively?

Who are the key members I need to work with?

What is the relationship between the board and Washington State University 4-H?

What can I do to improve the relationship?

Am I invited to attend meetings?

What is the 4-H agent's role with the board?

What does the fair board expect of me? What can I expect of them?

Is there a written memorandum of understanding?

What board policies affect the Fair and 4-H exhibits?

Exhibit Rules

Are they written?

Do I have copies handy?

Are people aware of the Exhibit Rules?

How are they informed?

Who is informed of the rules?

Who makes the rules?

Who enforces them?

What are the penalties for violation?

Schedule of Events

Is it written?

Do I have a copy handy?

Who determines what events are scheduled?

Are people aware of the schedule?

How are they informed?

Who is informed?

Improving and Evaluating the Fair

Planning for next year's fair begins at this year's fair. By being mobile, visible, and a listener you can pick up many suggestions for improving next year's event. A small note pad carried with you or a sheet posted in the Junior Fair Office could be used to jot down suggestions and ideas.

Several sources of information are available to help evaluate the fair and the activities that took place. These include the, Fair Board, Washington State University Extension personnel, members, parents, 4-H council, 4-H standing committees, and newspaper, TV, and radio people. You can probably think of more.

Things to look for in evaluation may include timeliness of events, confusion because of inadequate information, poor communication due to sound systems, quality of judges, timeliness of supplies, record standing of rules and many more

Evaluation Checklist

What issue needs my attention for improving this year's fair?

Problem	Possible Solutions	Who Can Help

Planning and Conducting Livestock Fairs and Shows

1. Fair Livestock shows should support management and production practices that are sound for the industry. (Desirable weight and age, daily rate of gain, animal well being, etc.).
2. Unsound economic practices should be discouraged; purchasing feeder calves specific for show with unrealistic prices; holding or shrinking of project animals, feeding costly uneconomic rations, unrealistic selling prices, etc.
3. Spectators should be able to easily identify that the show is a Junior Fair activity with 4-H participating. Stall cards, picture backdrop, show arena and barn decorations should have 4-H front and center. Junior Fair barns should be neat and clean. Contests to encourage clean barns are appropriate.
4. Participation in livestock shows and sales should be optional on the part of the 4-H member. You can be a successful 4-H member and complete your project without showing.
5. Safety of exhibitors and spectators is most important. Be alert for safety factors; large animals and small exhibitors, animals in heat, adequate and safe stall space, availability of emergency first aid, etc.
6. If possible have a Junior Show (4-H and FFA). If this is done, both groups must be involved in developing plans, rules, and regulations.
7. Showmanship classes by age of exhibitor should be an important part of Fair Livestock Shows. They support 4-H objectives.

8. Fair time is a busy time and schedules are tight, but a special effort should be made for county staff in all shows. You need to be visible. Appropriate dress is most important in conveying a proper image.
9. A show announcer that is knowledgeable about livestock and 4-H is a must. While the judge is making the decision there is a real opportunity to tell the 4-H story to the listening audience. Also people that are showing (including winners) like to hear their name and club. A good announcer alerts exhibitors of upcoming classes and provides a rough time schedule. The announcer also gives the judge a proper introduction at the beginning of the show and reminds the audience periodically of who is judging the class.
10. A bulletin board for each department is a must. Post the judging schedules, messages, notices, results, etc.
11. Classes, rules, and procedures need to be evaluated annually. These must appear in print in the Fair Book. If it does not appear in print in the Fair Book do not plan on enforcing the rule or regulation. If there is a change after the book is printed, you should delay the action one year in order for it to appear in print. Advisors and parents must be informed of classes, rules, and procedures.
12. There should be a written statement in the Fair Book on how grievances and disagreements will be handled. For suggestion see Protests and Appeals, State Fair Junior Division Book. Because of potential legal challenges, representation from the Fair Board should be involved.
13. Encouraging potential buyers to participate in Junior Fair Livestock Sales is O.K. providing it is done in a professional and ethical manner with no threats or pressure of withdrawal of business.
14. Ribbons, trophies, and awards should be ordered early enough to assure delivery for presentation during the show. All awards should be presented at the time of the show. Awards given late lose their meaning. In addition to winners, every member participating in the class should be recognized (participating ribbons, medallions, etc.). Check awards two-to-three days prior to the show to make sure they are available and in order. Donors and sponsors should be recognized at the time of the presentation. Awards should be appropriate and of good lasting quality.
15. Fair premiums and ribbons should be paid and presented on fair judging only.
16. Recommendations for judges should come from an interested or advisory group (representation from the species involved, 4-H, FFA and Fair Board). These recommendations (name, address, phone number, and priority listing) should be given to the Fair Board and the Fair Board should contact and hire

the judge. Your chance of getting the judge you want is much better if the contact is made early. If contacted early, a follow-up two weeks prior to the show is important. A list of judges as suggested by counties is available for some species. Contact the State 4-H Staff if you need names; this is not a recommended, approved, or certified list of judges.

Contacting and Working with Judges

Depending on the circumstances in your county, you may be called upon to judges for your fair and other events requiring judges. For livestock, horse and the dog project a list of judges is available on the 4-H project web site. The following are thumb rules for contacting and hiring judges.

Contact judges well in advance of the contest- 4-6 months. There are few, if any, full time judges. They all have other jobs with full schedules.

When making a contact be sure to give date, time and place of event. Also indicate the size of job to be done, the teaching objectives, and the time to allot. If the contact is made by phone, follow-up with a letter to confirm conversation and ask for a written reply for the file. This is the best time to discuss finances. Any special requirements or unusual concerns should be mentioned before getting a requirement.

Write the judges again one to two weeks before the event and send a copy of rules of the show, any special awards which need to be considered, and a reminder of date, time, place (specific meeting spot at the fair grounds) and an admission ticket if needed. A map showing the location of the fairgrounds is helpful to a judge who is not familiar with your area.

The judge will probably arrive early. Assign someone to meet the judge and show the judge to the building or room where the activity will take place.

The person in charge should make sure the judging area is set up ready to go at least one-half hour before the scheduled starting time. All supplies needed - judge's book, ribbons, special awards - should be available and ready to use. If several people are helping, they should be instructed on the show procedure and their responsibilities.

Introduce the judge to those assisting. Explain the show procedure, number of placing needed, special awards, etc.

Start on time! Explain to audience the how's and why's of judging.

Introduce the judge publicly.

Call classes and indicate to judge when all exhibitors are present.

Line the top placing animals so they can be moved out easily when the judge is ready to make comments. Immediately following the judge's comments is a good time to publicly recognize the high placing exhibitors.

If the show takes a break for a meal, see that someone is host for the judge. Pop or lemonade is a welcome sight during a break between classes.

Let the judge grade and/or place the exhibits. Don't ask the judge to interpret rules made by the fair board or some other committee.

When the judging is completed, have the judge sign any official books or records, complete financial obligations, thank him or her for his or her assistance.

You are on review when you work with judges. Make a good impression!

Staff and Human Relations Practices

At the County Fair

1. Be visible.
2. Be knowledgeable.
3. Never lose your cool.
4. Listen.
5. Have time for people.
6. Don't be afraid to get your hands dirty.
7. Provide advice.
8. Let people do their jobs.
9. Be friendly.
10. Tackle problems and solve them.
11. Be fair- people are individuals.
12. Plan on long hours- County Fairs don't operate 8-5.
13. Carry a fair book.
14. Avoid being forced into immediate decisions without complete information.

Fairs can be fun- if you are ready.

Preparation for the Washington State Fair

1. Read the State Fair Premium Book available at <http://4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm>
2. Become familiar with entry deadlines and procedures.
3. Become familiar with eligibility rules governing various activities.
4. Establish procedures in advance for selecting participants in activities.
5. Inform advisors and/or members and judges of procedures in advance.
6. Inform members of entry deadlines in areas where entries are open to 4-H members on a non-selected basis.
7. Provide information on procedures, schedule, judging score sheets, passes, heavy equipment letter, parking, etc., to members participating in activity classes as provided in the State Fair Premium Book.
8. Secure an adequate number of entry forms and Premium Books (if possible) for members entering non-activity areas.
9. Provide publicity for participants via newspaper and radio both before and after their participation.
10. Get entries in on time.
11. Count tickets and parking passes when they arrive (you should have one ticket per participant and one parking pass and one ticket per four participants-for drivers. If you need more tickets, or parking passes, contact the State Fair in writing and explain the needed increase.

Ideas for Making Junior Fairs More Educational

Demonstrations - The best promotion tool any youth program has is young people showing or telling what they have done or learned. Find donors to provide scholarships or other incentives for everyone giving demonstrations at the fair. Demonstrations teach the general public what youth are doing, teach the presenter speaking skills and motivate the presenter to learn their subject or skill really well.

Judging activities give participants an opportunity to apply what they have learned and improve decision-making skills. Try an activity where the members place four pictures, bicycle riders, articles of clothing, wood working projects,

extension cords, tools, menus, crops, vegetables, or elect the best buy on film, camera, bicycle, tool, clothing, food items, fertilizer. This event highlights decision-making skill, judgment, and consumerism. If you add oral reasons for placing you add a communications experience also.

Praise is a powerful tool. Train Fair Board and volunteer leaders to "catch people being good" and thank them. Many counties have Blue Ribbon Kid Award or Grand Champion Person Awards which consist of a button or ribbon the Junior Fair Board or some designated group have to award when people are "caught" being good.

Interview evaluation of fair projects (and skillathons) gives the judge a chance to probe and find out what the member really knows about the project or has learned. This may not fit the philosophy of a contest which is designed simply to produce the best product or market livestock; however, if the fair is interested in youth development, it makes sense to provide interview opportunities for all who wish to participate, including livestock members. To encourage participation, offer attractive recognition vs. making the interview required. A more important reason to offer interview evaluation is the development of important life skills, like decision-making and one-to-one communications. Most participants will interview many times in their adult life for jobs and/or promotions. This learn-by-doing experience helps them prepare for future interviews.

Still exhibits in the livestock barns and show arenas can teach the public a lot about the species, the enterprise, or the youth organizations participating. This is a great opportunity to let them know all about our products, programs and participants.

Stall or pen cards should include the name and club of the exhibitor and the species, breed, sex and weight of the animal.

Recreation such as Barn Olympics and Dances can teach good sportsmanship as well as healthy alternatives to more passive ways to be entertained.

Carcass shows are excellent ways to improve the educational value of market livestock programs, especially if you can include photos of the live animals with exhibits of the carcass, etc.

Showmanship activities give young people a chance to excel based on their knowledge and abilities. This can be used in all animal shows. Some counties require fitting the animal in the ring, provide animals for all participants, or include a knowledge test on identification of tools, retail/wholesale cuts or nutrition information.

Judge or evaluator selection is a good place to improve learning at the fair. Select judges or evaluators who have a reputation of giving feedback to

participants and explaining what they like to see. Make it clear that you hold the teaching responsibility of this job of equal or greater importance to the placing of animals, projects, or participants. Provide written feedback to participants whenever possible. Some fairs involve the Fair Board in selecting and contracting judges, which teaches organization and communications. Adequate training and orientation is needed to insure that judges and evaluators perform well.

Scheduling of judging and evaluation events is a key factor. There must be enough time for the judge to talk with each participant. Whether in interviews, performance, or project placing, the judge cannot give reasons and individual feedback without time. You may need more judges or more days, but the educational payoff will be worth it.

Show announcing can be a great learning experience for those doing the announcing. Improve this by providing training with the help of local professional announcers or speech teachers. Improve the learning of the general public by having Fair Board members research the aspects of the show to announce during down times. Perhaps the judge or junior fair committee could develop a written set of criteria being used and it could be explained periodically throughout the event.

Make signs and exhibits to explain the award system, criteria for judging, hours and/or money invested and other information on the enterprise, industry, economics, nutrition, skills, attitudes, breeds, etc. These can be posted during the show and in the barns throughout the fair to help the public learn what is involved in these programs. This is especially needed in the livestock area.

Workshops help participants get ready for the fair. Some counties ask judges to conduct a workshop several months before the fair as a part of their duties. This helps participants prepare for competition and learn how to plan for success.

Recognition is an important part of the fair. Young people need praise for their achievements and work. Parades can include all who wish to participate. Winner's Boards can list the names of persons who have participated or achieved a certain level of performance. They should be neat, well lighted, and located in a prominent place.

Meals are planned and served in some counties to raise money for buildings or programs thus teaching participants how to raise money to support a community need.

Alumni/Parent/Volunteer shows help teach adult supporters the current criteria for judging, especially if they include demonstrations or explanations by the official judge.

Clean Awards for barns, buildings, grounds, etc. help to teach participants the importance of housekeeping in developing an image for marketing. Another way to use this type of event is to go to the other organizations or your donors to recruit the judges. They will learn a lot about 4-H and possibly increase their support.

Friend of 4-H Awards can be presented at the Fair. By reading their accomplishments and the judging criteria, you reinforce the desired behaviors.

Skill Tests in bicycle riding or repair, woodworking, art, food preparation, animal grooming, electricity, small engine, welding, knot tying, can really show off skill of participants and motivate individuals for additional study.

Scripts for announcers at Style Reviews, King/Queen Contests and other events should include information that will help the audience learn more about the event, subject matter or enterprise.

Media Packets for radio, television and newspaper can be developed by the Fair Board and include the information that is important for the public to know. Have a different theme each day or each year, such as self confidence, decision-making, responsibility, achievement, or leadership.

Exhibits or public service announcements could be used to transmit a message on energy conservation, litter, waste management, recycling water quality, economic education, careers, programs, etc.

Trash barrel decorating contests help highlight the importance of the environment.

A 4-H Ambassadors or Teen Leaders can be scheduled to answer questions about 4-H participation in the Fair, or 4-H in general, at an information booth.

Beautification projects on the fairground teach citizenship and can teach gardening, repair, or painting skills.

Petting Zoos can be a great place to teach public relations skills, public speaking, animal science subject matter, and the economics of animal enterprises.

Bowl-type contests can be developed on the dairy bowl or horse bowl model to increase the learning in any of the areas of knowledge in your fair.

Tour other fairs or exhibits to get exciting new ideas to improve your fair.

Posters could be required for all exhibitors to include information on the hours spent, money spent, value added, money saved, knowledge gained, skills learned etc. related to their projects.

Have fitting and showing demonstrations between classes or during meal breaks or other down times.

Signs with messages about responsibility, teamwork, cooperation, sportsmanship, etc. can be made to improve peripheral communications.

Write a letter to each trophy winner with instructions on pictures, sale, thank you to donor, news article, radio interviews, etc. taped to each trophy- for each organization.

Develop more equity between the awards and rewards for all Junior Fair participants. By organizing volunteer or Junior Fair Board members to seek donors now, you increase the value of recognition in areas that have been under-recognized in the past.

Animal welfare information should be developed into posters exhibited in all animal barns to help the public understand the excellent care your animals are receiving.

Skill Contests or Exhibitions for projects that have been traditionally displayed at county fairs by still displays and posters could be greatly improved by setting up contests on demonstration opportunities which allow or require 4-H members to show what they have learned. Examples are: saddle horse grooming and cleaning, woodworking rodeo, photography event requiring loading the film and taking pictures which are developed immediately and displayed during the event.