

V.I.P. NEWS

Dear Volunteers:

Happy 2021!! As we start the new year, let us remember that we are here to provide learning and leadership opportunities to young people. Our purpose is for children to learn, feel good about themselves and others and have fun. I'd like to update you on a few items. If you have any questions or concerns, give me a call or email.

Sincerely,

Beth Miller

Elizabeth M. Miller

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Auglaize County

Membership Requirements

Ohio 4-H membership is based on a child's age AND grade as of January 1 of the current calendar year. Eligibility for Cloverbud participation begins when a child is age 5 and enrolled in kindergarten. Eligibility for participation in 4-H projects and competitive events begins when a child is age 8 and in third grade. Any youth age 9 or above is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level. Membership requires enrollment in an authorized 4-H club or group under the direction of an OSU Extension professional or an approved adult volunteer. A youth's 4-H eligibility ends December 31 the year the member turns 19.

Advisor Child Protection Training

All returning volunteers need to complete the Policy 1.50 Child Protection training by April 15, 2021. There is a new format this year, instructions will be sent separately when the training is available from state.

Advisor Rescreens

If this is your year to be rescreened, remember you need to be re-enrolled on the database and have your fingerprints taken by February 28, 2021 to remain an advisor. You should have received a letter if you are scheduled for rescreening this year.

Advisor Re-enrollment

Every advisor must re-enroll through 4-H Online, 2.0 including acceptance of all documents to be reviewed by April 15, 2021 to be an approved volunteer. Please note that the Volunteer Standards of Behavior has been revised, please read it carefully. ***We cannot make you active on the database until we have your online re-enrollment and child protection training complete.***

Organizational Volunteer Training

There will be a meeting for organizational advisors (or their representative) on February 9, 7:00 p.m. format to be determined. Please watch for future details.

Ohio 4-H Grab & Go Club Meeting Toolkit provides 4-H volunteers and teen leaders with seven (7) club meeting agendas to help plan for the 4-H year.

<https://go.osu.edu/clubmeetingtoolkit>

Annual Financial Reports and Club Charters

A reminder that your club's financial summary and equipment inventory are due by January 31. We will not process your members' enrollment without these forms. Club charter checklists are due by April 15.

4-H Committee Parent Rep

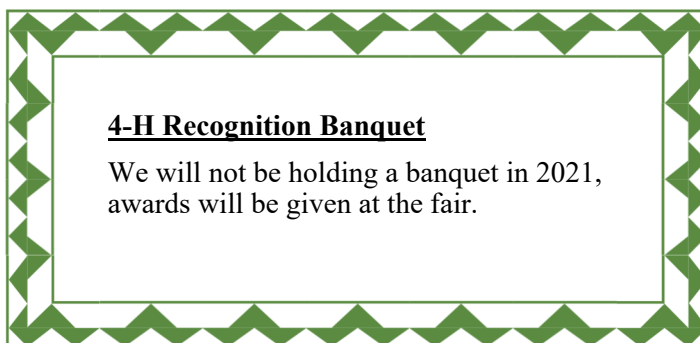
The 4-H Advisory Committee is looking for parent representation. There is one parent representative per district. Parent representatives may not be advisors, and must have children enrolled in the program. They are elected by ballot at the banquet like all other committee reps. Parents must be nominated by an advisor of the club in which their child is enrolled. ***If you are in District II and have a parent who you feel would be a good representative, please contact them and ask to have their name placed on the ballot.*** All names should be submitted to me by February 10th. You have some great parents out there, ask them to become involved! We need advisor representation for all districts, please let us know if you would be interested in serving. Balloting will be done electronically in 2021 since there will not be a 4-H banquet.

New Advisors

If you have new advisors, they must complete an application, BCI screening, schedule an interview and complete child protection training. This process must be complete by April 15 for them to appear on your club roster for 2021. This is at least a 6-8 week process to complete so please submit applications soon! It would be ideal to have everyone in process by March 1!

New Member Recruitment

We will be contacting all 3rd and 4th graders about joining 4-H through informational flyers distributed through the schools. We will have potential new members contact you as they come to us. It helps us to know how many new members you are willing to accept. Organizational advisors, please be sure to return the club survey.



Cross County Membership Applications

All cross county membership requests need to be submitted AND approved before a member enrolls through 4-H Online. I suggest that these forms be submitted no later than March 15 so that families can make alternate plans if their request is not approved. Please review the acceptable reasons for requesting a cross county membership.

Calendars, Family Guides and Project Requirements

The 4-H calendar will be posted on our website soon. We will not be printing copies for distribution. As we begin this new 4-H year, sadly everything is still subject to change. Each family will receive a Family Guide through the mail. Officer books can be picked up at the office or printed from the state 4-H website. There are some excellent officer resources on the state 4-H website! There is new information for members who think they might want to run for an office. Each family will receive the project requirements by email.

Food Safety Program

If your club does fund raising with food products, advisors must be certified in Food Safety. Certification is required every 5 years. The course is online, contact the office for information. A reminder that bake sale items must list the ingredients on every package. You don't have to share great aunt Suzie's secret recipe, BUT you must list all ingredients for potential food allergy concerns. Also each package must be labeled "Made in a home kitchen" in a minimum of a 10 point font.



Ohio 4-H Project Central!

Members and project helpers can preview project books AND share feedback about their project experiences on a new website called Ohio 4-H Project Central. Check out the website now at www.ohio4h.org/projectcentral for easy instructions and a direct link.

Horse Safety Program

The horse safety program is required for all new horse members. Clubs will be conducting these sessions. If you are not a “horse” club but have horse members, you will either need to offer the program or arrange for your members to go to another club’s training.

Weather Note

On case of bad weather, meetings may be changed to a virtual format. We will post information of our 4-H Facebook page. If it is a committee meeting, we will send an email out to the group. I will not hesitate to cancel meetings or go virtual when the road conditions are questionable, especially meetings that involve youth. Please listen to WCSM or call the office before 4:30 p.m. for actual cancellations. Cancellations will also be posted on our website during the week. For weekend events, we will notify the radio station and *try* to get it posted on our website and WLIO, Lima.

Have you returned your Advisor Interest Sheet? If not, please do!! Don't keep us guessing regarding your plans for 2021.

Cloverbud Clubs

A few reminders about cloverbud club guidelines:

1. Cloverbud clubs are to teach lessons from the new revised Cloverbud curriculum, which can be purchased from our office. There is also a cloverbud horse curriculum.
2. Cloverbud lessons are designed to be active and group oriented. “Group” implies that more than one child is to be enrolled in your cloverbud club.
3. Any club having cloverbuds must designate a minimum of one volunteer that specifically works with the cloverbuds. That is not to say other advisors don’t jump in occasionally but you must have an approved cloverbud leader. It is suggested you have 1 volunteer for every 6-7 youth but parents can help fill this role.

I think we are going to try the cloverbud passport idea again this year with a few changes. It will have a fair participation component but we will not be doing a scavenger hunt or show and tell event. Every cloverbud completing the activity will receive a completion award! More details will be coming soon!

Auglaize Co. Fair - August 1-7

2021 Fair Changes

Check your fair book for complete details. See March Gazette for any additions or changes to this information.

REMINDER FOR LIVESTOCK: Exhibitors must care for their animals until they are loaded off the fairgrounds. For market animals, if it is determined at load out that the animal has lacked food and/or water, a penalty will be deducted from the value of the animal: \$25.00 for steers, lambs, goats and hogs, \$10.00 for rabbits and poultry. This decision will be made by the packer and representatives from the Sale Committee. For breeding animals, if it is determined that the animal has lacked food and/or water, the exhibitor will not receive a fair pass the following year. This will be the decision of the Junior and Senior Fair Board superintendents of the department. Please stress to your members - care of their animals is never optional!!

Late arrival/early dismissal violations: livestock arriving late or leaving early without prior permission will be fined \$50.00 per exhibitor, payable in cash by December 1 of the year of the rule violation. If the fine is not paid by that date, the exhibitor will be ineligible for placings the following year.

Quality Assurance

First year QA members ages 8 to 11 as of January 1, must have a parent attend a quality assurance program. First year QA members 12 and over are not required to have a parent attend and may choose the test out option or program attendance.

*If a parent is required to attend a quality assurance with their first year member and they attend an out of county program - **written** proof from the sponsor must be submitted by the parent as proof of attendance.

REMINDER: All QA must be completed by June 10, 2021 to meet our county and state fair dates. There can be no exceptions. The state will not be extending the completion deadline of 45 days prior to a county's fair this year.

In an attempt to offer some in person programs, we will need to have much smaller groups in 2021. All members (and required parents) will need to pre-register for a specific program date. We will hopefully offer a combination of some in person, some virtual meetings. I will be sending this information out separately as well.

Test Out Option: Members, ages 12-14, can test out of Quality Assurance for up to three years. This means a child who passes the QA test would not have to take the test again until they reach the 15-18 age division. Members, ages 15-18, can test out of QA permanently. A member must take the test at the scheduled time and achieve a score of 70% or higher to test out of the program. Members failing to test out of QA participation will be required to attend a QA program for that year. They may attempt to test out of the program again the following year. There is no testing option for members ages 8 to 11.

There are several dates on the calendar for Quality Assurance programs and testing. We hope to be able to offer some programs in person and some programs by Zoom. **ALL programs, regardless of format, and all testing dates, will be limited in size and will require pre-registration. There will be no walk ins at any session.** Separate detailed information will be sent soon.

MARKET LIVESTOCK: the decision has been made to move to a partial terminal fair. Rules will be forthcoming from the Senior Fair Board, in consultation with Sale Committee and Junior Fair Board.

ALL LIVESTOCK ENTRIES INCLUDING SHOWMANSHIP:

All livestock entries, including showmanship sign up, will be done as part of Fairentury online again in 2021. Entries will be due July 1. **Entries after July 1 will be handled as follows:**

If entries are submitted between July 2 and July 8, there will be a \$10.00 cash late fee per entry, regardless of reasons or lateness. If entries are submitted between July 9 and July 16, the late fee is \$25.00 cash per entry, regardless of reason or lateness. **NO entries will be accepted after July 16 for any reason.** This rule applies to showmanship entries. Late entries will not be official until the fine is paid in full in cash. Late entry fee information will be submitted to the Junior Fair Board along with the cash fee.

Department Changes: No rule changes for the following departments: Clothing, Dairy, Goats, Nutrition, Showmanship Sweepstakes, Special Interest, Swine.

Beef: Add 3-5 overall ribbons to carcass show, award eligibility requirements apply to 3-5 overall also. Reviewing breed champion plaques.

Horses: consider adding Ranch Showmanship and Ranch Horsemanship classes. Discussion on if a member misses presentation class or if Monday show is postponed until later in the week how are grades and awards eligibility handled? Referred to horse advisors' meeting.

King and Queen: added dress code and guidelines for attending other events.

Poultry: no barn supervision. Require hatch date be provided on entry. Hatch papers should be available at weigh-in. Changes in market turkey class will be coming, based on partial terminal rules. There will be pullorum testing in 2021.

Rabbit: add single fryer class (one rabbit from pen of 2 market). Drop Polish and Florida Whites as separate breeds, move to Other Purebred. Add Best in Show - winner selected between Grand Champion Buck and Grand Champion Doe.

Sheep: 3-5 overall rosettes added to rate of gain class.

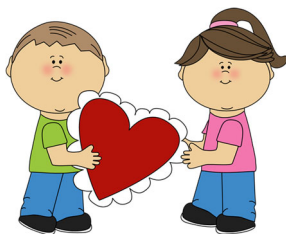
Showmanship: Entries can be scratched after July 1 (as with any entry) but will face a late entry penalty if added after July 1. Best advice - tell all of your members to sign up for showmanship by July 1!

Swine: 4-H clubs/FFA chapters will be offered an opportunity to donate hurdles for use during the fair.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

- 1 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 3 - Sale Committee, 7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 4 - Junior Fair Board - 7:30 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 6 - QA Testing, 8:30 a.m., Fairgrounds
- 9 - Organizational Advisor Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 15 - Quality Assurance -7:00 p.m.
- 18 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 25 - Quality Assurance -7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds



MARCH

- 1 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 4 - Junior Fair Board - 7:30 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 9 - Quality Assurance -7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 11 - 4-H Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 25 - Quality Assurance -7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 30 - Counselor Training - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



OSU Extension Auglaize Co.
208 S. Blackhoof St.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
Phone: 419-739-6580
Fax: 419-739-6581
<https://auglaize.osu.edu/>



ohio4h.org