

Elk County 4-H News

September 2023

Rolling Prairie Extension District - Howard Office
130 South Pennsylvania
P.O. Box 647
Howard, KS 67349
620-374-2174 (Phone)
620-374-2889 (Fax)

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4-H Calendar of Events

September

- 4 Holiday -- Extension Offices Closed
- 7 Kansas State Fair Exhibits to Hutchinson
- 8 - 17 Kansas State Fair -- Hutchinson
- 22 Record Books, Achievement Pin Applications, Excellence Award Applications, Club Summary Reports and Officer Notebooks Due
- 29 - October 1 Kansas Junior Livestock Show -- Hutchinson

October

- 1 Beginning of New 4-H Year
4HOnline Open for Reenrollment for 2023-2024
- 1 - 7 National 4-H Week
- 4 Club Leaders Meeting -- 5:30 p.m.
4-H Council -- 6:30 p.m.
- 7 - 8 48 Hours of 4-H
- 16 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum Registration Deadline

November

- 4 4-H Achievement Banquet -- Grenola - 6:00 p.m.
- 18 - 19 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum -- Rock Springs



Kansas State Fair

Members are encouraged to bring exhibits to the Extension Office before September 6! For all non-food exhibits that the Extension Office will transport to Hutchinson, please have them to the office by **4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2023**. Food exhibits need to be to the office no later than **8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 7, 2023**.

Instead of ribbon premiums, two admission tickets to the State Fair will be given to exhibitors who have an entry in the 4-H division. These can be picked up when you drop off your exhibits.



Livestock Buyer Thank You's

There are still a few livestock sale folders that have not been picked up at the Extension Office. Folders will include buyer ribbons and a thank you list as well as a base bid check if you have one. Only donors that donated a set amount of money receive a buyer's ribbon.

Once you turn in your record book, you will receive your premium sale check. In order to receive your premium sale check, members must turn in at a minimum the livestock record(s) for the animal(s) that they sold in the premium sale as well as a permanent record and personal information page.

Once again, we had a tremendously successful premium sale this year. We are very fortunate in Elk County to have such a good sale. It is essential that members thank the donors, buyers and supporters of the 4-H program.

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## 4-H Record Books

**4-H Record Books are due September 22!** All forms and other information are located on the website at:

<https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html>

For Market Livestock exhibitors that went through the premium sale in order to receive your premium sale check, members must turn in at a minimum the livestock record(s) for the animal(s) that they sold in the premium sale as well as a permanent record and personal information page. For example, if you sold a goat and a hog in the premium sale, at a minimum you must turn in a market hog record and market goat record as well as the personal information page and permanent record to receive your check.

All forms and other information are located on the Rolling Prairie Extension website at:

<https://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html>

*Please note: when opening a form, please open it and save it to your desktop or documents or another folder before entering information. You must download or open the form, then "save as" or you run the risk of losing your work.*

When record books are handed in, they should be arranged in the following order:

1. **Achievement Pin Application** - (If you are applying for one). If not sure which pin you are to apply for, contact the Extension Office.
2. **Excellence in Project Achievement Award Check Sheet(s)** - (If you are applying for any.)
3. **Personal Information Page**--Should be current year's Personal Information Page; be sure to include a picture of yourself.
4. **General 4-H Story**--Not to exceed six pages, double-spaced on one side.
5. **Permanent Record**--A well completed Permanent Record should reflect growth of the project. Size of the project does not mean exhibits at the fair, it means number of animals, articles made, pictures taken, books read, etc.
6. **Current year's project report forms** -- Complete per the instructions on the project report forms.

**DIVIDERS:** Use tab dividers to make projects easy to find.

### Things to Remember:

- ✓ Your records are the only impression of you the judge has.
- ✓ Tell everything about your project--don't take anything for granted.
- ✓ Be neat.
- ✓ Be accurate.
- ✓ Be sure to get all signatures. If you don't have a project leader, your parents may sign as your leader.
- ✓ Fill in the blanks--even if it is with none or N/A.

- ✓ Add another page if you need more room on Permanent Record.
- ✓ Be sure to always fill out your own book.
- ✓ Do not include newspaper clippings, ribbons, awards or things like this in your record book. These go in a scrapbook or shoebox.
- ✓ Pencil, pen, or type? Whatever the 4-H'er feels comfortable with as long as the 4-H'er completes their own records. Be consistent with whatever you do. If you print or write, use blue or black ink, or type, try to do the same for all of your records.
- ✓ **DO NOT ADD MORE PICTURES THAN WHAT IS ASKED FOR OR REQUIRED!!!**
- ✓ Follow directions on assembly order, number of picture pages and information requested on the records.
- ✓ On Project Report Forms, extra pages or pictures cannot be added. Only use the spaces that are allowed on each page.
- ✓ **Do not use plastic page sleeves.**
- ✓ **Do not include pictures with no captions and level of participation.**
- ✓ **Ideally do not manually add pictures.**
- ✓ **Just use the boxes for the pictures.**
- ✓ *Do include all project related information. Information included needs to be project related and not about other projects.*

### General 4-H Story:

Your General 4-H story is an important part of your records. It should focus on how the total 4-H year impacted you and your family. Tell about experiences you have had this 4-H year; good and bad and what these experiences meant to you. Do not just tell what ribbons or awards you received. You can include these, but talk about your experiences, growth, and development.

The following outline may help you in developing your story. **Do not use** numbers or asterisks to outline your story when writing it.

- ✿ **Introduction:** Include your age, interests, parents, brother and sisters, where you live, where you go to school, and for first year members why you joined 4-H.

- ✿ **Project Information:** Tell about your projects -- things you learned, whether your project grew in size and scope, successes and failures, experiences and 4-H events participated in i.e. 4-H Club Days, Livestock Judging, Spring Livestock Shows, etc. Can also tell if you served as any officers on the club or county level, or other leadership roles, and other 4-H events participated in.
- ✿ **Future plans:** Tell how you have benefited from 4-H participation and what are some future plans you have.

## Achievement Pins

The Achievement Pins are based on activities participated in during the 4-H year and leadership activities the members had. The focus of achievement pins for each year moves from local club work for beginning awards to county, regional and state activities for more experienced members. Once again, members must apply and meet requirements in order to receive these pins.



## Summary of Achievement Awards Due 9-22-23

- 4-H Record Book
  - Achievement Pin Applications
  - Excellence in Project Achievement Awards
  - Project Report Forms
- Club Summary Reports
- Officer Notebooks
  - **Secretary**
    - Original Notes Taken
    - Minutes of Meeting
    - List of Members/Roll Call
    - List of Committees
    - List of Leaders
  - **Treasurer**
    - Monthly Record of Club Finances
    - Club Budget

- Yearly Summary of Club Finances
- Monthly Bank Statements
- Receipts
- **Reporter**
  - Monthly Meeting Reports
    - Include what you wrote for the paper
    - Include original article that appeared in paper.
  - Other stories written
- **Historian**

## Excellence in Project Achievement Awards

Community club leaders and the 4-H'er will determine if the Excellence in Project Achievement Award should be awarded. The record book should still be turned into the club leader by the 4-H'er. The form has been updated this year to a check sheet. Your record book **should include the completed Personal Information Page, General 4-H Story, Permanent Record, and the age-appropriate Project Report Form for the project you are applying for to receive the Excellence Award. INFORMATION IN THE PROJECT REPORT FORM, GENERAL 4-H STORY, AND/OR PERMANENT RECORD should answer the questions.**

Members basically decide how many projects they want to be recognized in by completing the requirements on however many projects they want to. Only members receiving the Excellence in Project Achievement Awards will be eligible for county project champion.

Excellence Award check sheets and record books are due in the Extension Office **Friday, September 22**. Also due **September 22** are achievement pin applications, key award applications, club summary reports, and officer notebooks.

The Excellence forms are available at the Extension Office or on the website. **Applications need to be completed according to the directions listed on**

**them. Listed by each requirement is where the information should be found in your record book to verify you met that particular requirement**

Excellence awards may be awarded to Juniors (members age 7-13); and Seniors (members 14 and older). Age is based on January 1 of the current year. County Champions will be selected in the Senior Age Division (14 and older) and in the Junior Age Division (Age 13 and under). Seniors are the only ones that are eligible to compete at the area level judging.

From the Excellence in Project Achievement Award winners in a project, a county champion may be selected, if the quality merits.

The Excellence in Project Achievement Awards that may be awarded at 4-H Achievement Banquet are as follows:

Beef  
 Bucket Calf  
 Civic Engagement (formerly known as Citizenship)  
 Clothing & Textiles (includes Clothing Construction & Buymanship)  
 Communications  
 Dairy (includes Dairy Cattle & Dairy Goats)  
 Dog Care & Training  
 Entomology  
 Environmental Science  
 Exploring 4-H  
 Family Studies  
 Fiber Arts  
 Foods & Nutrition  
 Geology  
 Health and Wellness  
 Home Environment  
 Horse  
 Leadership  
 Meat Goats  
 Performing Arts  
 Pets  
 Photography  
 Plant Science (includes Forestry, Horticulture, and Crops)  
 Poultry  
 Rabbits  
 Reading  
 Self-Determined

- Sheep
- Shooting Sports
- STEM (includes Aerospace, Robotics, Astronomy, UAS & Architectural Block)
- STEM: Energy Management (includes Electricity, Ag Mechanics, Small Engines, & Renewable Energy)
- Swine
- Visual Arts
- Wildlife (includes Sportfishing)
- Woodworking



## Club Officer Elections

The September club meeting is the time for clubs to elect officers for the new 4-H year. Electing officers can be a very educational process for both young and old members. Here are a few suggestions I have for your club in electing officers.

Election of officers should not be a popularity contest. Members need to be reminded to elect the individual(s) that will do the best job for each office.

- ✓ Talk to members about the election process and why we use it in a democracy.
- ✓ I strongly suggest that clubs use a nominating committee and prepare a ballot. Allow write-ins and let the 4-H'ers vote by written ballot.
- ✓ Allow the group to see the total nominating committee's report before taking nominations.
- ✓ New members probably should not be eligible to be elected to offices.
- ✓ Candidates should be introduced or allowed to introduce themselves with a very brief campaign "speech" before balloting.
- ✓ Numbering the candidates may allow very young members to vote without assistance. Writing a number instead of a candidate's name may be easier for younger members.
- ✓ A member does not have to be present to be elected. However, an effective officer must be someone that does have a good attendance and club participation record.

- ✓ Every leader, nominating committee member and current officer should review the club bylaws and be familiar with them before elections.

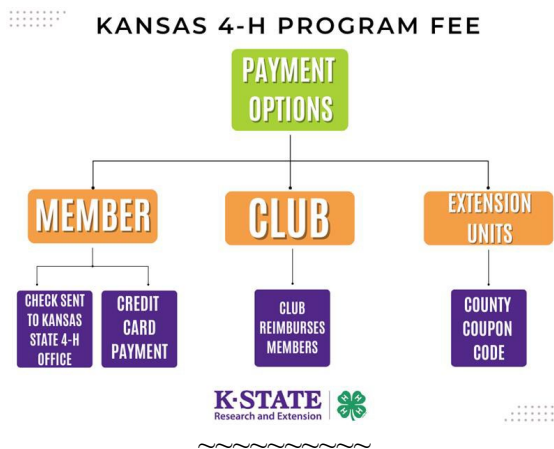
Clubs be sure to elect your 4-H Council representatives for the new 4-H year. Let me know who they are and have them attend the October 4-H Council meeting as we will elect officers at that meeting.



## 4HOnline Enrollment

4HOnline will be closed in September to complete end of the year reporting. It will re-open October 1 at 8:00 a.m.

**New this year: Clubs will no longer be able to use club funds to pay for their members program fee -- at least directly! A club can still assist with the 4-H program fee for its members. To sponsor their club members, families will need to pay the program fee initially (electronic or by check), and then the club will need to verify enrollment and can reimburse those funds to the family.**



## 48 Hours of 4-H

October 7 - 8 has been designated this year for the 48 Hours of 4-H. The weekend after National 4-H Week is the perfect opportunity to setup a service project to give back to our communities that have been so supportive.

For more information and to report your activities go to: <http://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/48-hours-of-4-h/index.html>.

## National 4-H Week

October 1 - 7 is National 4-H Week. This is a time to promote 4-H, encourage membership, celebrate the completion of a successful 4-H year and make plans and set goals for the new 4-H year.

It is recommended that all clubs do something to promote 4-H during this week. Let us know what you are doing and where. If we can provide assistance, let us know.

## Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

**What:** Build your leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the 2024 State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected and up to six National 4-H Conference delegates will be selected through an interview process at KYLF.

**When:** November 18 - 19, 2023

**Where:** Rock Springs 4-H Center

**Who:** Youth 14-18 years of age before January 1, 2024

**Registration Deadline - October 16**

## Community Club Leaders Meeting

**Wednesday, October 4 -- 5:30 p.m. (Prior to 4-H Council Meeting)**

Current club leaders or interested volunteers in being a club leader plan to attend as we will be

making plans for the new 4-H year and go over forms for clubs to complete for the new year and other items.

## Interested in Judging 4-H Club Day Events and/or County Fairs?

Adults interested in judging county and state 4-H projects, including animal exhibits (livestock, horse, dog, rabbit, etc. shows), static exhibits, communications and 4-H Day events, are invited to register for the Kansas 4-H Judges Database. By completing the online judges registration process, you are agreeing to be screened according to the Kansas 4-H Code of Conduct and Policy. Once the screening process is complete, your information will be made available to local Extension units. Staff interested in hiring you to judge will contact you directly.

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

This 4-H Judge Registration system will close on September 30 at 11:59 p.m. and will not re-open again until July 1, 2024.



# 2023 Fair Evaluation

Your comments and suggestions are needed as a basis for improving future fairs in Elk County. This is the time to make suggestions for 2024 while things are still fresh in your mind. Please take the time to respond.

1. What did you feel were the strong points and/or best parts of the fair?

2. What were the weak points of the fair and what suggestions or remedies do you have to improve these or fix them? **Please offer solutions to the problems you mentioned!**

3. Please rank your preferred time for the county fair. 1 is your most preferred choice and 5 is your least preferred choice.

- July 10 - 13, 2024
- July 17 - 20, 2024
- July 24 - 27, 2024 (Same time as Chautauqua County Fair)
- July 31 - August 3, 2024
- August 7 - 10, 2024

4. Comment on the fair schedule:

5. Any other comments or suggestions you may have:

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

K-State Research and Extension is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision or hearing disability, or a dietary restriction please contact the Howard Office.

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## **Rolling Prairie Extension District Elk County 4-H News**



**Rolling Prairie Extension District #8, Chautauqua and Elk Counties**  
130 South Pennsylvania  
P.O. Box 647  
Howard, KS 67349-0647