Elk County 4-H News

September 2020

Rolling Prairie Extension District

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4-H Calendar of Events

For the most up to date list of events, go to the Rolling Prairie/Elk County 4-H website.

September
7  Holiday -- Office Closed
11-13 Kansas State Fair 4-H/FFA Livestock Shows
17-19 Kansas State Fair 4-H Horse Show
20  Teen Leaders
23  Record Books, Achievement Pin Applications, Club Summary Reports and Officer Notebooks Due

October
1  Beginning of New 4-H Year
2-4  Kansas Junior Livestock Show
4-10 National 4-H Week
7  4-H Council -- 6:30 p.m.
10-11 48 Hours of 4-H

November
1  4-H Achievement Banquet -- Grenola
21-22 Kansas Youth Leadership Forum -- Virtual Format

New 4-H Year

The new 4-H year begins October 1. Yes we have record books and a few other things going on in September before this 4-H year ends. However, I wanted to make everyone aware of enrollment for the new 4-H year. Members cannot enroll until October 1 as 4HOnline is not open until then. One change from previous years, ELK COUNTY MEMBERS MUST BE ENROLLED BY DECEMBER 1 TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE 2021 COUNTY FAIR. You will still have until May 1 to drop or add projects but you need to be enrolled by the DECEMBER 1 deadline in order to be eligible to exhibit at the 2021 County Fair.

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For more information about the Youth Leadership Council positions go to https://www.kansas4-h.org/events-activities/conferences-events/kansas-youth-leadership-forum/index.html

Summary of Achievement Awards Due 9-23-20

- 4-H Record Book
  - Achievement Pin Applications
  - Excellence in Project Achievement Awards
- 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. It should include the completed personal page, permanent record, ALL project record sheets and pictures.

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 applications and record books are due in the Extension Office Wednesday, September 23. Also due September 23 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. Be sure to answer questions completely and accurately. For example, question 1 asks if you attended/participated in 3 project meetings or educational activities or list 3 things you learned in the project this year. No application should have listed that no meetings were held. If you didn’t have any meetings, that is why it also asks for 3 things you learned in the project.
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
- Buymanship
- Citizenship
- Clothing & Textiles
- Communications
- Dairy Cattle
- Dairy Goats
- Dog Care & Training
- Energy Management
- Entomology
- Exploring 4-H
- Fiber Arts
- Foods & Nutrition
- Forestry
- Geology
- Health and Wellness
- Home Environment
- Horse
- Leadership
- Meat Goat
- Performing Arts
- Pets
- Photography
- Plant Science
- Poultry
- Rabbit
- Reading
- Self-Determined
- Sheep
- SpaceTech
- Shooting Sports
- Swine
- Visual Arts
- Wildlife
- Woodworking

Record Books

4-H record books are rarely one of the most favorite tasks for anyone, yet they can be one of the most valuable learning tools. One of the real values of 4-H record keeping is as a monitor of growth. For project work, charting the number of items made, books read, demonstrations or talks given, members helped, tours taken and items exhibited--really makes progress obvious.

Many of the rewards of 4-H record keeping are not immediate. Record keeping is one of those temporarily painful experiences that leaves a young person with a good feeling when it is completed--a sense of pride and accomplishment. Record keeping is filled with personal lessons in diligence, decision making, self-expression, time management, creativity and honesty.

All records are available from the Rolling Prairie Extension website http://www.rollingprairie.k-state.edu/elkcounty4h/recordbooks/index.html They are available in both form filler versions and a hard copy version.

P.S. if any of the links on the website do not work, please let me know so I can get them fixed and working for everyone. I don’t know if a link doesn’t work unless someone lets me know.

One other resource on the website is the publication “Rolling Prairie District 4-H Records Guide.” This contains much of the information in this newsletter as well as other stuff. Check it out or pick up a copy at the Extension Office.

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

1. **Achievement Pin Application** - (If you are applying for one.)

2. **Excellence in Project Achievement Award Application(s)** - (If you are applying for any.)

3. **Personal Page**--Should be current year's Personal Page; be sure to include a picture of yourself.
4. **4-H Story**—Not to exceed six pages, double-spaced on one side. Younger 4-H'ers can write on the back of your Personal Page and continue on white paper. Older members should write their story on white paper and place it behind their Personal Page.

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. **Photographs**—A maximum of three pages of pictures on one side only. Photography project members may have an additional 10 pages of photos that they have taken placed with their photography record. Captions for each photograph improve the quality of your record book.

6. **Current year's project sheets**—Only include current year's records. Pictures should only be added to project records if the record requires them and then only include the amount asked for. Take other years out and put in a safe place.

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. Extra pages can be copied or picked up at the Extension Office.
- 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.

**4-H Story:**

Your 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.
48 Hours of 4-H

October 10 - 11 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.

What is an Elk County 4-H Member

With the new 4-H year upcoming and recruitment of new members is starting to happen, here is some information to remember about who is and isn’t eligible to be an Elk County 4-H member.

- 4-H is for youth 7 - 18 years of age.
- Youth who turn 7 before January 1 of the current 4-H year may enroll. Youth who turn 19 before January 1 of the current 4-H year are ineligible to enroll.
- 4-H age is based on age of the members as of January 1 of the 4-H year.
- May 1 is the project drop/add deadline.

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.

- 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.

National 4-H Week

October 7 - 13 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, we will be glad to.

Club By-Laws

With the end of the 4-H year nearing, another item that needs to be reviewed is the club bylaws and constitution. The constitution and bylaws of your club should be reviewed annually. A suggestion would be to include reading the constitution and bylaws at the October or November 4-H club meeting. Upon the conclusion of the reading members are encouraged to sign the constitution and bylaws, indicating their approval. If changes are made send a copy to the local Extension Office.
Elk County 4-H
Achievement Pin
Exceptions and Clarifications for 2020 (COVID-19)

If there is no clarification for a requirement, that requirement stands like normal. If you have questions on certain events counting for requirements for pins, please contact the Extension Office to plan accordingly.

4-H Membership Pin
- #1- Meetings that are held virtually would count.

Bronze Pin
- #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)
- #2- Club meetings hosted virtually would count towards this requirement.

Clover Pin
- #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)
- #2- Club meetings hosted virtually would count towards this requirement.

Optional Requirements
- #2- 4-H Camp will be hosting a virtual camp out, this would count for this requirement.
- #4- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.).
- #7- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.

Emerald Pin
- #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)
- #2- Club meetings hosted virtually would count towards this requirement.
- #3- Presentations given virtually at virtual meetings would count towards this requirement.

Optional Requirements
- #2- 4-H Camp will be hosting a virtual camp out, this would count for this requirement.
- #4- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.).
- #7- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.
• #8- This does not have to be a club community service project. This may be done individually. (i.e.- sewed masks for medical professionals, retrieved groceries for shut in residents, wrote cards to nursing home residents, etc.)

Silver Pin
• #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)
• #2- Club meetings hosted virtually would count towards this requirement.
• #3- Presentations given virtually at virtual meetings would count towards this requirement.

Optional Requirements
• #2- 4-H Camp will be hosting a virtual camp out, this would count for this requirement.
• #4- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.)
• #7- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.
• #8- This does not have to be a club community service project. This may be done individually. (i.e.- sewed masks for medical professionals, retrieved groceries for shut in residents, wrote cards to nursing home residents, etc.)
• #10- Attended non-competitive event on campus/state level/county level not already listed (KSU Jr Producers Beef Day, or other non-competitive event)

Silver Guard Pin
• #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)
• #2- Club meetings hosted virtually would count towards this requirement.
• #3- Presentations given virtually at virtual meetings would count towards this requirement.

Optional Requirements
• #2- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.)
• #10- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.
• #15- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
• #16- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
• #17- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
• #19- This does not have to be a club community service project. This may be done individually. (i.e.- sewed masks for medical professionals, retrieved groceries for shut in residents, wrote cards to nursing home residents, etc.)
Leadership Pin

- #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)
- #2- Club meetings hosted virtually would count towards this requirement.
- #3- Presentations given virtually at virtual meetings would count towards this requirement.

Optional Requirements

- #2- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.)
- #11- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.
- #12- Discovery Days will be hosted virtually in 2020. Kansas Leadership Forum and Citizenship in Action took place before the COVID-19 restrictions.
- #17- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #20- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #21- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #24- This does not have to be a club community service project. This may be done individually. (i.e.- sewed masks for medical professionals, retrieved groceries for shut in residents, wrote cards to nursing home residents, etc.)

Gold Pin

- #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)

Optional Requirements

- #2- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.)
- Remember #10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 29 may have been done in previous years. Date must be noted.
- #11- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.
- #12- Discovery Days will be hosted virtually in 2020. Kansas Leadership Forum and Citizenship in Action took place before the COVID-19 restrictions.
- #17- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #20- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #21- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
Gold Guard Pin

- #1- Exhibiting at virtual events would count for this requirement (club tour, county fair, etc.)

Optional requirements

- #2- The 4-H Quiz at the 2020 Elk County 4-H Club Days would count for this requirement. Southeast Area 4-H contests will be held virtually, and would count for this as well (livestock judging, crops, photography, favorite foods, etc.)
- *Remember #7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 29 may have been done in previous years. Date must be noted.*
- #11- If you qualified for Regional 4-H Club Day, this will count for this requirement even though it was not held.
- #12- Discovery Days will be hosted virtually in 2020. Kansas Leadership Forum and Citizenship in Action took place before the COVID-19 restrictions.
- #17- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this.
- #20- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #21- Virtual exhibitions would be accepted for this requirement.
- #32- This does not have to be a club community service project. This may be done individually. (i.e.- sewed masks for medical professionals, retrieved groceries for shut in residents, wrote cards to nursing home residents, etc.)