

COLUMBIA COUNTY 4-H LEADER'S ASSOCIATION

STANDING RULES

Revised 2015

Youth and adults participating in the Columbia County 4-H program must be in compliance with all policies and program safety regulations as outlined by the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development and Columbia County 4-H. These standards apply to all 4-H activities, regardless of location.

Columbia County 4-H Club in Good Standing – In order to be a 4-H club in good standing in Columbia County:

1. Each club will help staff the Eat Stand during the Columbia County Fair.
2. Each club will provide an adult representative at a minimum of four council meetings during the 4-H year running October 1st – September 30th. Any parent or adult leader is eligible to fulfill the requirement.
3. Each club will participate in their designated rotation for making BBQ, cleaning the Eat Stand and providing refreshments at Awards Day.
4. A club not fulfilling these stated requirements will not be considered in good standing, resulting in:
 - a. The Leader's Association will not pay for leader literature or leader training the following 4-H year.
 - b. Participation restrictions follow the members of a club that is determined to be "not in good standing" no matter which Columbia County 4-H club the member joins the following year even if the not in good standing club disbands.
 - c. Club members will not be eligible to participate in the M.E.S. process the following 4-H year.
 - d. Club members will not be eligible to participate at events requiring Extension Educator approval the following 4-H year. (*Examples include: State Fair, State Horse Show, M.E.S. Trips/Awards, State Dog Show*)
 - e. A hearing with the Executive Committee of the Columbia County 4-H Leader's Association will be scheduled with club members and leaders to determine an agreed upon plan of action when a club receives a "not in good standing" designation.

4-H Youth Enrollment/Membership:

1. Cloverbud members: Youth in 5 year old kindergarten, first and second grades may participate in the Cloverbud program and may only enroll in the Cloverbud Project. The Cloverbud program is not competitive. Cloverbud record books are encouraged but not required. Cloverbuds are encouraged to participate in age appropriate club and county activities and may vote.
2. Exploring members. Exploring members are typically in 3rd grade. These members are encouraged to participate in educational and competitive events in most project areas. They must adhere to all policies and program safety regulations as outlined by the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development and Columbia County 4-H.
3. Members in 3rd grade are encouraged to enroll in a maximum of two projects.

4. Members are encouraged to re-enroll by November 1st.
5. Enrollments are taken at any time, but enrollment and project selection must be in by December 31st to exhibit at the current year's Columbia County Junior Fair.
6. Members may drop projects until May 1st. Members need to inform their General Leader and the Extension Office if they wish to drop specific projects.
7. The deadline for Columbia County 4-H members to switch from one Columbia County 4-H Club to another Columbia County 4-H Club is May 1 with notification by the family to the Extension Office and the General Leaders of both 4-H Clubs.
8. A member assessment of \$5.00 is paid by each Columbia County 4-H member to the Columbia County 4-H Leader's Association. Each club establishes a policy for paying the member assessment. (\$1.50 supports the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and \$3.50 supports county 4-H programming.
9. Columbia County 4-H members must be enrolled in a specific project (or related project) in order to participate in project related competitions and contests. Non 4-H members may participate in educational activities if they are required in order to show at the Columbia County Junior Fair. Clubs and county project teams may offer community-wide invitational events. Non 4-H members participate in camping programs, robotics and county Cloverbud activities.

Financial:

1. The 4-H Leader's Association will pay ½ the cost of one award trip granted through the Member Evaluation process per member annually. Members may attend each experience only one time.
2. An exception will be made for a member selected to attend National Conference. The Leader's Association will pay ½ of the member's financial responsibility.
3. The 4-H Leader's Association will pay \$75.00 per member per year for approved 4-H opportunities not granted through the member evaluation process per reimbursement procedure.
4. The 4-H Leader's Association will consider reimbursing the cost of training meetings and workshops attended by leaders and junior leaders. The participant must identify how the training will benefit the Columbia County 4-H program.
5. The 4-H Leader's Association will pay for 4-H leader literature.
6. Funds raised by committees for program use will be held in a restricted fund within the Columbia County 4-H Leader's Association for their use. If a committee has restricted funds and is not active for a period of three years, the restricted funds will be absorbed back into the 4-H general fund.
7. Money budgeted to county 4-H committees will be used first, followed by any money raised by specific groups. Budgeted money not used by a committee during the current 4-H year will return to the general fund. Money raised by the group and held in a restricted fund will carry over to the following year.

Columbia County 4-H Activity and Program Policies and Guidelines

4-H Clothing Revue

- Open to 4-H youth in grades 3- 13 who are in any of the following projects: exploring, clothing, knitting, crocheting, quilting and consumer savvy.
- Two delegates and two alternates can be selected to represent Columbia County at the Wisconsin State Fair (WSF).
- Clothing revue delegates must be 14 years old at the time of the WSF and have received a blue (1st place) ribbon at the county clothing revue.
- Clothing revue delegates may not attend the WSF in clothing revue two consecutive years unless there is no one eligible or interested in attending.

4-H Member Evaluation

- 4-H trips and awards are available only to 4-H youth in grades 8-13 who complete a member evaluation form (MES).
- Columbia County 4-H Leader's Association pays for half the cost of award trips.
- Only one MES trip per member will be awarded per year. A member is only eligible to participate in each 4-H MES trip one time.
- Youth must attend State 4-H & Youth Conference before being eligible for all other award trips, except the Chicago Daze trip.
- WI 4-H & Youth Conference participants must be in grades 8-10 as of October 1st. No interview is required for this trip.
- Chicago Daze trip participants must be in grades 8-11 as of October 1st. No interview is required for this trip.
- Citizenship Washington Focus trip participants must be in grades 10 – 12 as of October 1st. An interview is required.
- National 4-H Congress trip participants must be in grades 10-11 as of October 1st. An interview is required.
- National 4-H Conference trip participants must be in grades 10-12 as of October 1st. An interview is required.

4-H High School Senior and Alumni Scholarships

- Applicants must have five or more years of active membership in the Columbia County 4-H Program (excluding Cloverbuds) to receive a 4-H Scholarship the first time and seven or more years of active membership in the Columbia County 4-H Program (excluding Cloverbuds) to apply for a 4-H Scholarship a second time. An applicant may not receive a Columbia County 4-H High School Senior and Alumni Scholarship more than two times total.
- Applicants must receive a 70% or higher evaluation score to receive a 4-H scholarship.
- The maximum age, as of January 1st, is 25 years old. 4-H High School Senior Scholarship recipients will receive their scholarship when the first semester is completed and a copy of passing grades (*2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale*) is received by the Leaders Association.
- 4-H Alumni Scholarships require that a past Columbia County 4-H member be re-enrolled in a post high school educational institution and have successfully completed at least one semester (*2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale*), plan to continue in a post high school educational institution during the coming year, submit a copy of their college/technical school's transcript or grades. Scholarship money will be sent when a copy of confirmation of registration for that coming year and proof of payment for at least the first installment of fall registration is received by Leaders Council.
- Completed scholarship applications must be to the UWEX office by March 15th.

Wisconsin State Fair (WSF) Livestock Eligibility

- Columbia County youth exhibiting livestock at the WSF must attend one approved educational activity in each species they are exhibiting, and that the species card(s) be turned into the Columbia County UWEX Office by June 20th.

- Columbia County youth exhibiting livestock at the WSF must attend a WSF orientation meeting conducted by the Columbia County Extension Office.

Columbia County 4-H Record Book and Awards Policy

- First time County 4-H Project Award Winners will be recognized by a permanent plate and project disk, and repeat winners will be recognized with additional disks to be affixed to the project award plate.
- One medal will be made available for 15% of the membership enrolled in a project or the largest fraction thereof.
- The Columbia County 4-H Leader's Council will pay for Cloverbud awards and bronze 1st year, silver 5th year, and gold 10th year member pins.
- Overall Outstanding 4-H Performance Awards in addition to the project awards at 15% of enrollment for each grade.
- The following awards will be given for club activity:
 - Outstanding Secretary's Books - 15% of clubs
 - Outstanding Historian's Books - 15% of clubs
 - Outstanding Treasurer's Books - 15% of clubs
- There is no limit to the number of books in a specific project that can be sent to the county level.
- Each club *MUST* send one (1) leader to help check county record books for every ten (10) overall, project, treasurer, secretary, & historian book nominated. Failure to do so will mean not all your club's record books will be considered for a county award.

4-H Music Festival

The trophy winning club 4-H Music presentation will be eligible to go to the Wisconsin State Fair.

4-H Ambassador

- 4-H members going into grades 9-12 are eligible to apply for the 4-H Ambassador positions.
- Both new applicants and returning Ambassadors need to complete the application form.
- New applicants must have a 4-H leader, who is not a relative, send a written recommendation to the UW-Extension Office by the due date. New Ambassador applicants will present a 3-5 minute speech on any 4-H related subject that they would like to promote if selected as one of Columbia County's 4-H Ambassadors. After presenting their speech, new applicants will be interviewed.
- Returning Ambassador applicants do not need to include a recommendation, present a speech or participate in an interview.

Communication Arts

- 4-H Clubs with 25 or fewer members can be represented by no more than two (2) individuals in each of categories in each grade division.
- 4-H Clubs with 26-50 members can be represented by no more than three (3) individuals in each of the categories in each grade division.
- 4-H Clubs with 51 or more members can be represented by no more than four (4) individuals in each of the categories in each grade division.
- 4-H Clubs may be represented by as many Cloverbuds (K-2nd grade) as desired in each of the categories (*with the exception of Original Speech, Original Project Activity and Creative Writing, which they are not eligible to enter*).
- Grade divisions are: K-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-6th, 7th-8th and 9th-12th.

4-H Enrollment

Individual 4-H Clubs can develop their own rules and requirements for membership as long as they comply with federal and state nondiscrimination laws. All new 4-H members must be informed of these rules and requirements prior to joining the Club.

- Literature should be requested on the enrollment form. Each Club has a policy to cover the payment of literature. Leader literature is free as long as the Club is a Club in good standing.

4-H Eat Stand

A letter will be mailed, e-mailed or delivered to each General Leader indicating shifts.

- In an effort to make the selection unbiased for all clubs, envelopes will be drawn in random order after the deadline date to determine the schedule.
- The schedule will be determined prior to the April 4-H Leaders' Association meeting by the Executive Board and County Extension Staff.
- Youth under age 14 may only work until 9:30 P.M., and youth under age 16 may only work until 11:00 P.M. on a non-school week.
- All clubs will work one shift, with larger clubs working two shifts and small clubs sharing a shift. Clubs with more older youth will be asked to work one evening shift (6:00 – 10:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday)
- Clubs must select and rank at least six possible time period choices and indicate any shifts that will not work and the reason.
- 1997 - Clubs will be assigned a year to make BBQ for the Eat Stand under the supervision of the Eat Stand staff.
- 1997 - \$2.00 Eat Stand worker tickets.
- 2000 - 2002 - The 4-H Eat Stand provides \$5.00 food passes for fair judges and superintendents. They also provide water judges and superintendents. Each Eat Stand shift will deliver bottled water as needed.
- 2001 - Clothing worn should be conservative and hats should be clean and free of offensive advertising.
- 2001 - Clubs need to identify an adult shift advisor for their club.
- 2001 - The last Eat Stand shift is designated as a cleanup shift. (Tickets need to be given to workers prior to their shift.)
- 2002 - 4-H Clubs and groups may use the Eat Stand during the fair if the proceeds benefit the Columbia County 4-H program and must be approved by the Leader's Council.
- 2002 - Superintendents will set the prices at easily added increments with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Leader's Council.
- 2015 – Prices will be set at even dollar amounts

Wisconsin State Fair General Exhibit Selection

Quota number is split into project areas according to enrollment.

4-H Literature

- Literature received in the current 4-H year must be returned in good condition by March 15th to receive credit.
- Literature must be picked up by January 15th to have out of stock literature re-ordered.

Dress Code

Policy was developed by State 4-H and approved by the Columbia County 4-H Leader Council.

- Proposed dress code would be implemented at out-of-county 4-H events, and all 4-H participants and their parents will be informed of the dress code before the event.

✓ Recommended Clothing for Girls	✓ Recommended Clothing for Boys
Sleeveless or short-sleeved tops Appropriate T-shirts Slacks Neat jeans Longer shorts	Appropriate T-shirts Polo shirts Short-sleeved shirts Slacks Neat jeans Longer shorts



Dress Code Violations



- Backless, halter, tube or one-shouldered tops
- Tops with spaghetti straps (straps must be 2 fingers wide and not show undergarments)
- Low cut tops (neckline of tops must be no lower than the armpit)
- Shirts low under armpits (must be tight up under the arm)
- Vulgar language, alcohol/tobacco pictures, inappropriate or poorly placed logo
- Revealing pants (excessive rips, holes) or short shorts
- Short shirts/tops that show midriff (pants and shirts must meet when arms are fully extended over head)
- Excessive accessories/chains
- Visible underwear