

## Fair Judging

The 4-H philosophy is “learn by doing”. 4-H believes that young people learn best if they are involved in an experience, not just watching or listening to others. 4-Hers get involved through their projects. They show their project work at the county fair.

### When you judge youth exhibits, your responsibility is to:

- Help youth improve their project skills
- Help them recognize their efforts and accomplishments
- Help them develop standards for future self-evaluation
- Encourage them to continue in the project
- Advise them on what they might learn next.

Judging is a vital part of the educational process. We ask that your comments be encouraging but honest. Try using the “sandwich method” when adding comments to the scoresheet or comment section. Give a compliment, add in the critique, then end it with another compliment.



\*Remember “age does not equal knowledge.” A 4-Her maybe 18 years old but in this project for the first time.

### Rating—Accomplishment

Blue—Project meets/exceeds project standards

Red—Project needs improvement

White—Project needs much improvement

\*Remember the ribbons do not represent 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Judge against the standard, not the other exhibitors. This is an individual process, not a comparative process. Think of it has an A, B, C grading scale like we use in school.

You are NOT required to send anyone to state. If the project work has not met the standard...that is OK and honest.

### Process for virtual judging:

- Visit <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2020-06-05-virtual-4-h-show-2020> view the fair book and the virtual show addendum to familiarize the expectations in your area before judging begins. You may also access the judges recording and the “logging in and viewing exhibits” document from this website as well. (Look at the bottom under the headline “Information For Judges”)
- You will be logging on to Fair Entry to view all exhibits.
  1. Please provide 4-H staff with the email address you would like to use for judging purposes.
  2. Once staff has set up your “account” you will be emailed an invitation. Please accept.
  3. Create a password that is easy to remember. You will use your email and this password to log in to Fair Entry throughout the week.
  4. View entries, indicate B, R, W using the drop-down box, and offer any comments you have regarding the exhibit.
  5. Each 4-Her has been asked to fill out a project report form for each entry. Please read this report for each entry. This information will give judges a glimpse into the 4-Hers thought process during project completion.
- We will once again be offering our judges an honorarium. You will be emailed the honorarium which is in a fillable format. Please complete the information, sign, and return. You may use a digital signature and email it back to staff or print the form, sign, and mail or scan/email it back.

- Staff will also provide a class list that will have the name of every exhibitor for each class. This is for reference only.
- We are asking that you fill out a scoresheet for every exhibitor. Scoresheets play a major role in our judging process. This allows members to get feedback from the judges. This is also a familiar process which is important since so much is new to our members this year. We will provide you with a scoresheet for each member in your area. The 4-Her information will already be complete. Simply fill out the score section, the award the exhibit received, fill in the comment section with your feedback, save it, and email it back to staff when complete. You may provide additional comments and/or copy and paste from your comments in Fair Entry.
- You will also be asked to pick State Fair Delegates, Alternates, and other top awards. The champion sheet(s) will let you know the number of delegates and alternates you can choose. This form is also fillable. Once you decide, fill it out, save it, and email it back to staff.
- Please email staff when judging is complete.
- Staff will be available to answer any questions you have during this process.

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