

## **2026 GUIDELINES FOR 4-H CLUB DAY PRESENTATIONS**

### General Guidelines:

- Juniors are 7-12 and Seniors 13 & older
- Cloverbuds may only participate in the Sharing Division.

### **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

#### Sharing - Non-competitive

- A. Recommended for Cloverbuds and 1st and 2nd year 4-H members 10 years old and under, but not limited.
- B. Time: Recommend 2-3 minutes.
- C. Props or posters may or may not be used.
- D. Topic must be any 4-H related project or item.
- E. Cloverbuds and 4-H members come prepared with short presentation.

#### Project Talks - Junior

- A. For 4-H members 7 to 12 years old.
- B. Time: Recommend 3 to 4 minutes, 7 minutes maximum.
- C. Visuals encouraged but not required.
- D. Individual presentations only.
- E. Topic may be on 4-H project or aspect of project 4-H member is currently enrolled in.
- F. PowerPoint is allowed for this category and age division. Contestant is responsible for providing a computer and projector. A projector can be checked out from the Extension Office on a first come, first serve basis. No internet access will be provided.
- G. Questions are not asked.

#### Demonstrations - Illustrated Talks - Junior

- A. A **demonstration** is a show and tell type of presentation. An **illustrated talk** tells how rather than shows how. Needs end product.
- B. For 4-H members 7 to 12 years old.
- C. Time: Recommend 4 to 7 minutes, 10 minutes maximum.
- D. Either individual or team presentations.
- E. All necessary equipment provided by 4-H member, i.e. computer, posters, etc.
- F. Topic may be related to 4-H project currently enrolled.
- G. The endorsement of brand names is discouraged.
- H. PowerPoint is allowed for this category and age division. Contestant is responsible for providing a computer and projector. A projector can be checked out from the Extension Office on a first come, first serve basis. No internet access will be provided.
- I. Questions asked.
- J. Summary is required.

### Demonstrations - Illustrated Talks - Senior

- A. A **demonstration** is a show and tell type of presentation. An **illustrated talk** tells how rather than shows how. Needs end product.
- B. For 4-H members 13 years old or older.
- C. Time: Recommend 5 to 10 minutes, 15 minutes maximum.
- D. Either individual or team presentations.
- E. All necessary equipment provided by 4-H member, i.e., computer, posters, etc.
- F. Topic may be related to 4-H project currently enrolled.
- G. The endorsement of brand names is discouraged.
- H. PowerPoint is allowed for this category and age division. Contestant is responsible for providing a computer and projector. A projector can be checked out from the Extension Office on a first come, first serve basis. No internet access will be provided.
- I. Questions asked.
- J. Summary is required.

### Public Speaking - Senior

- A. For 4-H members 13 years and older.
- B. Time: Recommend 5 to 7 minutes, 15 minutes maximum.
- C. Visuals are optional. They should enhance the talk - not distract. PowerPoint is allowed for this category and age division. Contestant is responsible for providing a computer and projector. A projector can be checked out from the Extension Office on a first come, first serve basis. No internet access will be provided.
- D. Individual presentations only.
- E. Topic selection is unlimited.
- F. Outline required for judge (Judge will deduct one ribbon if outline not available).

### Spontaneous Speaking-Senior

- A. For 4-H members 13 years and older.
- B. Draw for a topic from list, "4-H Promotion", "Current Events", "Personal Interest" (hobby, sports, school, future plans)
- C. 10 minutes allowed to prepare speech. Time: Recommend 3-5 minutes, 5 minutes maximum.
- D. No questions asked.

## **Recording Guidelines for Digitally Submitted Presentations**

In light of several considerations, an option to submit pre-recorded presentations will be available for 4-H Club Day 2026. This option is intended to encourage all 4-H members to participate in preparing and giving a presentation, regardless of health situation or scheduling conflicts. The guidelines are as follows:

- The option to record and submit digitally is available only for: Sharing, Junior Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks, Junior Project Talks, Senior Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks, & Public Speaking.
- If this option is selected, the participant forfeits the in-person opportunities.
- In the registration, there will be an option to state if the 4-H member's presentation will be given in-person or virtually.
- Presentations submitted digitally will be "participation only" and not regional eligible, but participants will still receive comments from the judge.
- Virtual participants will not be eligible for incentive prizes or to participate in the talent portions of 4-H Club Day (Music, Dance, Drama).
- All presentations submitted digitally will be due by 12:00 p.m. (noon) the Friday before 4-H Club Day (February 13). Directions on how to submit will be sent directly to the individuals who have registered for this option.
- A link will be available for digital submissions when the 4-H Club Day schedule is published.
- If a 4-H member has signed up for an in-person presentation and a health situation necessitates switching to a digital submission after the January 20 registration deadline, families will need to communicate with Kate to move to the digital option by calling 785-309-5850 or emailing her at [klittich@ksu.edu](mailto:klittich@ksu.edu).
- Video must be continuous with no editing whatsoever. Your presentation must be shot in one continuous take. Please do not use any kind of title screens, credits, special effects, or captioning. The idea is to create a video of your presentation as it would be seen at an in-person 4-H Club Day.
- Presenter/performer must be in front of the camera throughout the presentation. Do not move "off-camera."
- If you need an easel or projector, please contact either Extension Office to make arrangements. Equipment may be checked out on a first come, first serve basis with a 3-day checkout period. Please note the Extension Offices may be closed over the holidays. Projectors may not be checked out during the office closure time.
- Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks for Junior & Senior categories - As questions would normally be asked in an in-person environment, presenters are encouraged to ask for questions and have a family member ask questions from off-camera. Please try to avoid asking known or "scripted" questions as the goal is to have the 4-H member field the question on the spot as they would in an in-person setting.

## **TALENT**

- Member must present a **prepared** Public Presentation (demonstration, project talk, public speaking, or sharing) to be eligible for individual talent. **Spontaneous Speaking is not included in the prepared Public Presentation category.**
- 4-H member may participate in group (3 or more) without presenting individual prepared public presentation. (Individual and Duet entries must also present demonstration, project talk, public speaking, or sharing.)
- A club may have more than 1 ensemble, skit, etc., as long as different members are in it.
- All music entries must have an original of the music for the judge. If original music is not available, judge will deduct one ribbon rating. An original is NOT a photo-copy. Music purchased online must have the license information that states it was purchased for the particular family using it.

## **Music**

### **A. Chorus**

1. Sixteen or more members or 12 or more members if club under 16 (may easily change to ensemble).
2. Two numbers required.
3. Musical originals with measures numbered required for judge. If not available, one ribbon deducted.
4. Singing may or may not have accompaniment. Director and accompanist need not be 4-H members.
5. Selections should be memorized, but not required.

### **B. Vocal Ensemble**

1. Group may be composed of 2 to 15 4-H members, not including accompanist.
2. Each group will sing two numbers of their own choosing.
3. Music originals of selections will be given to judges before performing, with measures numbered. If not available, one ribbon deducted.
4. Accompanist need not be a 4-H member.
5. Selections must be memorized or may influence the rating.

### **C. Orchestra - Band – ***Must be able to provide own instrument(s), with the exception of a piano.*****

1. Groups may be composed of 16 or more 4-H members (may be from different clubs).
2. Each group will play one number of their own choosing.
3. Music original of the conductor's score is to be given to the judge before playing, with measures numbered.
4. Memorization of number is not required.
5. The director is not required to be a 4-H member; an individual may not play with the group unless he or she is a 4-H member.

### **D. Instrumental Ensemble – ***Must be able to provide own instrument(s), with the exception of a piano.*****

1. Group may be composed of 2 to 15 4-H members, (may be from different clubs) not including the accompanist.
2. Each group will play one selection of their own choosing.
3. Music original of selection will be given to judges before performing, with measures numbered.
4. Memorization of numbers is not required.
5. The director is not required to be a 4-H member; an individual may not play with the group unless he or she is a 4-H member.

E. Vocal Solo

1. Participant will sing one number.
2. 4-H member judged on vocal presentation.
3. Music original of selection will be given to judge before performing, with measures numbered. If not available, one ribbon deducted.
4. Accompanist need not be a 4-H member.
5. Memorization of number is required. Ribbon rating deducted if not memorized.

F. Instrumental Solo – ***Must be able to provide own instrument, with the exception of a piano.***

1. Participant will play a composed solo number.
2. Music original of selection will be given to judges before performing, with measures numbered.
3. Accompanist need not be a 4-H member.
4. Memorization is not required.

Dance – (Country dance, folk, choreographed, other) Maximum 5 minutes. – Must provide own equipment to play music (i.e., CD player, speaker).

A. Junior Solo

B. Senior Solo

C. Group (2-15 members)

## Drama

### A. Plays

1. Limited strictly to one-act plays. One set. No set changes allowed.
2. Minimum 30 minutes, 45 minutes maximum.
3. Clubs responsible for all scenery.
4. No copy of play required.

### B. Skits

1. Designed as original plays or skits.
2. No number limitations.
3. Performance set-up 5 minutes. Each group will be responsible for all scenery, property and props.
4. Maximum 15 minutes.
5. No copy of skit required.

### C. Reading - Poetry Interp. or Prose Interp.

1. Dramatic or Interpretive, humorous or other type of reading.
2. Individual presentation.
3. No minimum time limit, 10-minute maximum time limit.
4. Members are expected to have an attention getting intro that includes description of performance which should include the title, author and setting, and the name of the participant and 4-H club). The intro also sets the scene for the cutting.
5. No props beyond a folder or book may be used in Readings. Props may be used in Solo Acting.
6. No extra points will be awarded for memorized work. While this may be memorized, it needs to look as though it were a reading.

### D. Solo Acting

1. The material is generally something that was published as a script but can be done from a story. The pieces may be single or multiple characters (one person does all the parts).
2. Individual Presentation.
3. No minimum time limit, 10-minute maximum time limit.
4. Members may move around and may even use a chair as a prop.
5. The piece must be memorized.
6. Members are expected to have an attention getting intro that includes title and author. The intro also sets the scene for cutting.

### E. Other

1. Miscellaneous grouping: novelty, stunts, pantomime, puppets, marionettes, ventriloquist acts, etc.
2. Individual or group.
3. Maximum 5 minutes.