

Non-Recognized 4-H Project Newsletter

This newsletter will be updated in December of each year, if necessary, based on changes made to the project at the 4-H Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting in November.

4-H Nova Scotia offers over 30 official 4-H projects for members to choose from each year. With most of those projects, opportunities for exhibit exist at club Achievement Day, Exhibition and county level show, and Nova Scotia 4-H Provincial Show. If a member has an interest outside of the official project list, they are encouraged to talk with their Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator (ALC) about signing up for a Non-Recognized 4-H project.

4-H Nova Scotia Resolution Regarding Official Projects

A project must have fifteen (15) project completions, in at least three (3) counties, for two (2) consecutive years, to become an official 4-H Nova Scotia project. A non-Recognized project will be added to the official 4-H Nova Scotia project list when resolution requirements are met.

Accommodation will be made for Non-Recognized 4-H projects to complete at Achievement Day and Exhibition or county level show, if applicable. Non-Recognized 4-H Project articles are eligible for 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show if they are submitted to Class 19: 4-H Showcase. The top two Junior and top two Senior articles will move on to provincial show. Resource information will not be provided for Non-Recognized projects.

Non-Recognized 4-H projects completed across the province in 2017 include the following, but did not have sufficient project completion numbers to qualify as an official project for 2018:

Blacksmithing	Cavy	Automotive
Visual Arts	Working Goat	Plumbing
2 nd Year Sheep	Fisheries	Archery
Cat	Sign Language	Swine
Oxen	Shooting Sports	Chocolate
Fine Arts	Bee Keeping	

NOTE: The Lego project has met the requirement of 15 project completions, in three counties, for two consecutive years; therefore, as of 2018, Lego is an official project.

NOTE: The Cavy project met the requirements of 15 project completions, in three counties, in 2017. As such, if the Cavy project meets the same requirements in 2018, Cavy will be eligible for addition to the official 4-H Nova Scotia project list for 2019.

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

Ages for Members:

Junior Members: 9 - 13 years of age as of January 1, as of the current year.

Senior Members: 14 - 21 years of age as of January 1, as of the current year.

4-H members may register in the club and county of their choice, but must only be registered in one club, in one province. Members may register in one club and access projects in a neighboring club if that club is willing to assist with leadership of a certain project.

Project Completion:

All 4-H members must complete 'project requirements', for each of their projects, at their club Achievement Day. If you are unable to attend your own club Achievement Day, please make prior arrangements with your Regional ALC. Completion of your project qualifies you to move on to any further county, provincial, or national 4-H competitions relating to that project in the current 4-H year. School projects are not permitted to be used as 4-H projects. Each member must complete and display their own project work (i.e., two members cannot share a project for project completion).

What is Achievement Day?

Achievement Day allows members to display their project work to the public and have their projects evaluated, non-competitively. Project completion at Achievement Day is based on the following system:

<p>A Green project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:</p>	<p>A Silver project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:</p>	<p>A Gold project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work
<p>Plus one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	<p>Plus two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	<p>Plus all three of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging

RECORD SHEET – Each member must complete a satisfactory record sheet. Record sheets may be hand written or typed. *For more useful information, refer to Record Sheet Guidelines.*

PROJECT WORK – Each 4-H project (e.g., woodworking, dairy, etc.) has specific project work requirements. Each members' project work will be evaluated on the quality of the work, degree of difficulty for experience/age, the way articles are displayed/presented, and whether all requirements are met. A 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbon will be given for each project. Please review project

requirements for each project carefully. In life skills projects, members must complete the required number of items as outlined, unless prior approval is given by the Regional ALC. This request should be made in advance of the member's Achievement Day. Consideration of an item counting as additional items will be given based on members age, degree of difficulty, time required to complete, etc.

COMMUNICATIONS – Members who participate in public speaking and/or demonstrations at club level will receive recognition on their Achievement Day Certificate. Each club has its own standards for communications, so members should confirm with the general club leader.

CLUB CONTRIBUTION – Members are encouraged to be actively involved in their club, county, province, and community. The club contribution aspect is an assessment on such things as a member's attendance at meetings and events, attitude, effort, cooperation, and self-expression. Each club has its own standards for club contribution. Evaluation of this Achievement Day component is done by the Club General Leader and / or project leader(s). The standard for club contribution should be communicated clearly to all members by club leaders at the beginning of the 4-H year.

JUDGING – In each project, members are asked to compare four (4) articles or livestock (e.g., 4 wooden shelves in the woodworking project or 4 heifers in a dairy class), then evaluate them to place the class in order from first (closest to the ideal), to fourth (furthest from the ideal). Oral reasons, using proper terminology, are given to an official judge for the project to support those choices. There are many useful judging resources available through your Regional ALC, as well online at the [Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture](#) website. In each county, a judging box is also available to borrow to help practice judging skills. It includes judging information and cards as well as judging classes, with reasons. Clubs may book these supplies through the Regional ALC.

At 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show, 4-H animals participating in the 4-H Nova Scotia Show competitions are used to make up livestock judging classes (e.g., 4 intermediate Holstein calves). Member are responsible for notifying their Regional ALC by September 15, by email, if they do not wish to have their animal used. Please keep in mind that judging classes can only be provided if members are willing to offer their animals for a judging class. As such, 4-H members are encouraged to let their animal be used in a judging class if possible.

Non-Recognized 4-H Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Non-Recognized 4-H project members must meet the following project work requirements:

Non-Recognized Life Skills Projects	Three (3) project work articles
Non-Recognized Livestock Projects	Showmanship

At Achievement Day, articles are evaluated based on member's age, years in 4-H and the project, etc. therefore it is important to remember that quality and content of project work must be appropriate and adequate to receive project completion.

NOTE: All reports, posters or displays must include a bibliography for information taken from a source other than the 4-H member. For example, should a member utilize information or

pictures from a reference book or from the internet, then the member must include credit for the source of the information.

NOTE: 4-H members must complete their project at Achievement Day to compete in, or to participate in, any further county, provincial, or national 4-H competitions relating to that project in the current 4-H year. (i.e., judging, project competitions, etc.)

NOTE: Live animals are not to be used for display at 4-H Achievement Days, Exhibition or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. Reports, displays, posters or demonstrations are acceptable methods of displaying projects about live animals.

NOTE: If members require video/slide equipment to display their project, specialty item or project activity, they must provide their own equipment at 4-H Achievement Days, Exhibition or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show.

Non-Recognized 4-H Project Judging Requirement

Non-Recognized 4-H projects members must complete judging at the county level. Regional ALCs will try to provide an appropriate judging class for each non-recognized 4-H project.

Livestock Registration

4-H members must select their 4-H animals by May 1st of the current 4-H year, and must submit livestock registration information to the Regional ALC by May 15th of the current 4-H year. This information is necessary to assist with county show/exhibition planning, including judges, class schedules, awards, etc. The following information must be submitted for Livestock Registration requirements: name of member, junior member/senior member, conformation class entered, sex of animal, breed of animal, and date of birth of animal.

4-H animals may be substituted between the registration deadline of May 15th and Achievement Day in the case of injury, sickness, disease or death of the animal. If an animal is to be substituted prior to Achievement Day, pre-approval from the Regional ALC is necessary. A vet certificate may be required. After Achievement Day, no substitutions are permitted.

CONTAGIOUS/INFECTIOUS DISEASE & QUARANTINE:

4-H members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are reminded that 4-H achievement days and shows are showcases for the 4-H program, and the agricultural industry in this province. They are reminded that infectious diseases can be transmitted during transport, as well as at the show. As such, it is strongly recommended for the protection of the public, participants, and the animals at the show, that animals having or showing signs of infectious diseases not be brought to shows. As well, livestock exhibitors and owners must understand that in attending 4-H Shows, there is a risk of their animal contracting disease regardless of the best efforts of all involved.

If you suspect that your animal has a contagious/infectious disease, please contact your local vet immediately and learn more about the consequences, treatment, and transmission of the disease.

A brochure providing additional information on "Infectious and Contagious Diseases Affecting 4-H Livestock" is available. If you wish to receive a copy by mail or email, please contact your ALC for this information. It contains important information for all livestock members on this topic and will be critical to review with 4-H Clubs, livestock owners, and your local veterinarian when making decisions about attending 4-H achievement days and shows.

SPORTSMANSHIP – Be a Good Sport!

In 4-H, Sportsmanship plays a key role in living by the motto of 'Learn to Do by Doing'. Please take the opportunity to consider good sportsmanship when at 4-H events. Here are some key factors to good sportsmanship:

GOOD CONDUCT – Demonstrate and maintain high standards of personal behaviour and conduct. You are representing your family, your club, your community and the 4-H program.

FAIRNESS – Learn and follow the rules. Be objective and honest. No matter what the results try your best by using your true skills without cheating. Treat others fairly.

HONESTY – Be a reliable person, do not lie or deceive. Be straightforward in everything you say and do. Understand your abilities and skills, accept the fact that you cannot do everything perfectly, but you still can do many things well.

COMPETITION - Competition experiences enhance positive youth development and prepare youth with competitive knowledge, skills and attitudes. Take pride in your accomplishments and in improving your skills – you are all winners, even if the ribbon color doesn't appear to reflect this.

COURTESY – Be well-mannered in your conduct. Be respectful, thoughtful, considerate, cooperative, friendly, and cheerful, no matter whether you do well or not. When you have concerns, questions, or suggestions, be polite in expressing them. Be pleasant and nice toward other participants, spectators, program officials, judges, the media, your leaders, parents and others. Give others the benefit of the doubt. Treat people and animals kindly. Keep your emotions under control.

GRACEFUL ACCEPTANCE OF RESULTS – Accept judges' results and suggestions with a positive attitude. The judge's decision is final. Regardless of the outcome; thank all that were involved in helping you put forth your best effort. Thank the organizers for their efforts; Sponsors for their generous donations; Agriculture Leadership Coordinators for their wisdom and guidance; Judges for their skilled eye and time given to the 4-H program; and anyone else who has helped you along the way.

The work in any 4-H project should always be done by the members. Hiring, or the use, of professionals and/ or adults to prepare projects for 4-H shows are not acceptable. Using these people as resources provides 4-H members with the information and skills to do the job on their own.

4-H Nova Scotia has a Code of Conduct in effect for all members and leaders. It is to be followed always throughout the year. If you would like a copy of what are acceptable practices in the 4-H program, please visit <http://novascotia4h.ca/codeofconduct/>.

You might also be interested in...

For more information about any of the below opportunities, please contact your regional ALC:

4-H POSTER CONTEST – Create a hand-drawn or computer-generated poster focused around the annual 4-H Theme. Deadline and evaluation is normally at county rally.

4-H THEME CONTEST – Put on your thinking cap and be the one to come up with next year's 4-H theme! Submissions due to Provincial 4-H Office by July 1st. (i.e., "Let 4-H Reign Supreme in 2018").

WOOL & RECYCLING COMPETITION – Open to all 4-H members. These articles must be made from 100% wool or a minimum of 75% recycled materials and members must exhibit a Competition Report Sheet with their entry.

GIANT VEGETABLE COMPETITION – Each year a new vegetable is selected for the Giant Vegetable competition held at the 4-H Provincial Show. Each county can send one junior and one senior giant vegetable entry to the show.

TRACTOR DRIVING COMPETITION – The tractor competition is open to teams of 3 members (1 driver and 2 assistants); the driver must hold a valid class#5 driver's license or tractor license. The driver will drive a tractor and trailer through an obstacle course. The score is calculated based on safe operation and judge's evaluation. One team per county will advance to 4-H Provincial Show.

RECORD KEEPING COMPETITION – An entry will be one record sheet for a project completed in the current year by that member, with a detailed analysis included. Entries in this competition must include a 1 to 4 page analysis of the work and costs in the project for the given year in order to be eligible. Entries should be displayed in a binder/folder. The top two senior and top two junior record sheets per county will be eligible for the Record Keeping Competition at the 4-H Provincial Show, but entries must first qualify at county level. All county entries must be forwarded to Truro by September 15th of the current 4-H year for judging prior to the 4-H Provincial Show.

AWARDS, TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS – Each year, 4-H Nova Scotia covers the registration fee to National and International travel opportunities for members awarded such travel experiences. Also, there are several scholarships available to 4-H members in Nova Scotia.

JUNIOR LEADER PROJECT – This project is designed to build leadership skills by providing members with the opportunity to lead any aspects of their club which interest them (e.g., projects, recreation, communication, etc.).

GRADE 10 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT – Members must achieve GOLD completion and document at least 110 hours of 4-H related work to qualify. For more information visit the [NS Department of Education & Early Childhood Development Personal Development Credit website](https://pdcc.ednet.ns.ca/) <https://pdcc.ednet.ns.ca/>

NOVA SCOTIA YOUNG SPEAKERS FOR AGRICULTURE – Senior Members and screened volunteers up to age 24 compete by creating and presenting a speech on one of five topics from Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture (<https://cysa-joca.ca/>). The winner represents 4-H Nova Scotia at the Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition held annually in November at the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in Toronto. Deadline to register for the competition is September 15th of the current 4-H year.

Non-Recognized (Life Skills) RECORD SHEET



Name of Member: _____

Name of Club: _____ Level: _____

4-H Age: _____ Years in 4-H: _____ Years in Project: _____

4-H Project Experiences

Explain why you are taking this project and what you learned this year.

Please make a few comments about problems you may have encountered, how your goals were accomplished, and what you learned about the project.

Please make a few recommendations on your project articles, and how you feel they could be improved.

Project Articles (please complete one box for each article you made/exhibit)

Article	Skills/techniques learned	Materials used & individual cost breakdown for materials	Total cost

Meeting Summary

How many general club meetings did you attend this year? _____

How many project meetings did you attend this year? _____

Please list any other club/county activities that you may have participated in during the past year?

Non-Recognized/Self Determined Project Proposal

*Please refer to the Non-Recognized 4-H Project Newsletter for details on
Achievement Day requirements for Non-Recognized Projects.*

*This form must be Signed and submitted by December 1st, of the current 4-H year, to the Regional Agriculture
Leadership Coordinator and 4-H NS to ensure this meets 4-H standards and insurance requirements.*

If this project fits under an already established project, you must enter under that project.

***This sheet and any additional information about the project must be included with you project at all
levels. I.e. Achievement Day, County Show, Provincial Show.***

Name: _____

County: _____ Club: _____

Project Description (please explain): Livestock Life Skills

Why is this a unique project and not something that currently fits under an established project?

Please provide an outline of project outcomes i.e. Achievement Day requirements and scoring, judging requirements, record keeping etc.

Leader's Signature:

Please attach any resources you have developed for this project. This proposal must be submitted to your ALC and 4-H NS by December 1st and the project cannot proceed until you have written approval for your proposal.