

Tractor

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.

Welcome to the 4-H Tractor Project! Whether you are new to the project or a bit more experienced, the Tractor project has lots to offer. This newsletter will give you an overview of the Tractor project, answer some of your questions concerning expectations of the project, and provide you with project ideas and some resources. Project newsletters are an excellent reference to keep on hand to refer to throughout the year. Enjoy your year in the Tractor project and when working on your project, remember to "Learn to do by Doing." If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator (ALC).

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:

A Green project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:	A Silver project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:	A Gold project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:
<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
Plus one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	Plus two of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	Plus all three of the following: <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 non-livestock 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. 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). Members 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.

Tractor 4-H Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Tractor Project members will be required to display three (3) articles. The articles must fall under the sections listed in Class 21 listed below.

If a member wishes to do a larger or more difficult article, it could be considered as two project articles. However, be sure to receive approval from your Regional ALC Coordinator before starting the project, and prior to Achievement Day.

4-H NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL SHOW CLASS & SECTIONS:

Each county is eligible to send the top two junior and top two senior articles to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. The sections are as follows:

CLASS 21: TRACTOR

<i>SECTION 1:</i>	Reports - Write ups on any topic related to Tractors (ie. Field trips, safety, parts, innovative equipment (precision agriculture), tractor makes & models, etc.)
<i>SECTION 2:</i>	Posters - Photo stories, information on makes/models, safety, etc
<i>SECTION 3:</i>	Specialty Item - Anything that will not fit in other sections
<i>SECTION 4:</i>	Display - Models and or posters which include additional items
<i>SECTION 5:</i>	Display – Any display, model, or poster that includes additional items.

Note: If members require video/slide equipment to display their project, specialty item or project activity, they must provide their own equipment at Achievement Day, Exhibition and 4-H Show.

PROJECT RESOURCES

The following resources are available from your Regional ALC.

Unit 1: Tractor Care and Safety

Unit 2: Assuring Safe Efficient Operation

Unit 3: Improving Your Skills

Unit 4: Machinery Care and Safety

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.)

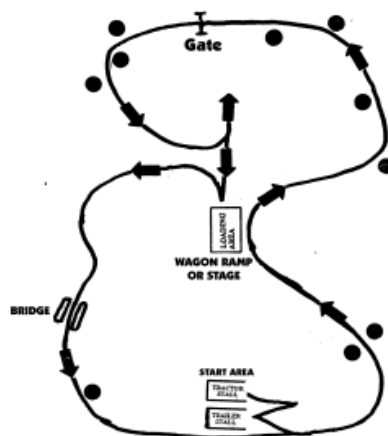
NOTE: If members require video/slide equipment to display their project, specialty item or project activity, they must provide their own equipment at achievement day, exhibition and 4-H show.

TRACTOR DRIVING (class #92)

Open Competition

RULES & REGULATIONS (4-H NS SHOW CLASS LIST):

1. Team to consist of three 4-H members (1 driver and 2 assistants). All contestants must sign a score sheet before participating in competition.
2. Driver must hold a valid Class 5 driver's license or a valid tractor license and present it to officials for examination at the start of the event.
3. Judging of the competition will be based on driving skills and use of safety procedure. The only time factor to be taken into consideration is if contestants are slowing down the progress of the event by taking too long. The maximum time for each course will be set beforehand by officials. Disqualification will not result from going over the time limit but when time expires, contestants must immediately return to starting point. Contestants will then be given a score on the parts the course they completed before time was called.
4. A two wheeled or four wheeled tandem trailer will be used for the competition **(4-H NS AGM, 2016)**.
5. A tractor with a seat belt, roll bar, and slow moving vehicle sign must be used. Tractor size is not to exceed 60 horsepower.
6. Assistants are not to give the driver instructions or directions during the event.
7. The tractor is parked when the motor is shut off, the tractor has been left in gear, and the brakes are locked. The driver may leave the seat when tractor is parked.
8. Excessive speed during the competition will result in teams being placed at the bottom of the class. The judge's decision is final.
9. There will be 3 minutes for each team to familiarize themselves with the tractor before beginning the competition.
10. The judge will ask the driver basic operating procedures and safety questions before beginning the competition. If the driver is unable to answer these questions to the judge's satisfaction, they will be disqualified.
11. When loading water, stopping at the gate, and unloading water, the tractor engine may remain running, with driver in seat. Tractor must be in neutral with parking brake applied and hands clear of the steering wheel. **(Clarification-4-H NS AGM 2016)**



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.

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://pdc.ednet.ns.ca/)
<https://pdc.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.