

Richland County 4-H Member in Good Standing and Club Attendance Rules

County-wide minimum club attendance discussion notes: (Beginning 2023 4-H Year)

Each club must hold six (6) business meetings minimum per year by July 1

- Each meeting shall have a roll call, officer reports and at least one business item (unfinished or new)
- Family/parent, community service, fund raising and worknight gatherings do not count unless a business focus (stated above) is included
- Clubs failing to have six (6) meetings that year will be on probation for at least the following year. A 4-H Committee member will monitor a club in the probation* status.

Member requirements on an annual basis to remain in “good standing” as a Richland County 4-H member:

- Shall attend 50% of six meetings to remain in good standing (3 minimum)
- Members expected to meet the three (3) meeting minimum prior to participation in any competitive event or other activity related to 4-H (local, regional, state, national, etc.) unless stated otherwise (i.e., public speaking contest in April)
 - Facetime or zoom can only be used for illness, quarantine, one-time vacation out of town, members in college, special/required school events, or other events with pre-Extension approval
- If club holds more than 6 meetings, 3 minimum meetings still holds
- All members to have a Code of Conduct on file by April 1 (in 4-H Online)
- Additional Junior Fair Code of Conduct to be signed by July 1 if participating at the county fair level (advisor extended deadline until July 15)

How will club advisors report attendance?

- Advisors shall report attendance to the Extension office by July 1 annually
- Submit a club roster with members in good standing highlighted; unhighlighted names indicate member is not in good standing (meeting attendance minimum requirements)
 - A member may attend an additional meeting(s) after July 1, but before August 1 to get into good standing status, but must meet this minimum prior to competition*
- Must maintain sign in attendance sheets (each club meeting) as a back-up
- Special interest group attendance (i.e., shooting sports, robotics)
 - Attendance requirements must be met in regular club programs
 - Must meet program standards for safety and achievement

Adjustments made in club bylaws (meet the minimum, could be more stringent)

- Adjustment sheet should be signed and included with each club constitution and bylaws during **January 2023**. Clubs can be more stringent, if desired.

Consequences of a member not being in “good standing”

- Lose privilege to participate in county, regional, state and national 4-H related events, including project judging for grades (requirement for fair participation), the Richland County Junior Fair and Ohio State Fair, plus not eligible for awards and leadership roles (club, county and state)

Definitions:

Probation Status* - if put on probation the following year, club must submit a list of meetings (time, date, location) for the following year by December 1 current year to the Extension office. A 4-H Committee member will stop in to view a meeting(s) unannounced. If a club's status is still not meeting the six meeting requirement during the probation year, the club could be disbanded the following year.

Competition** - competition shall include project judging, awards such as outstanding exhibit, outstanding market livestock exhibitor, market/breeding/show classes at county fair (since these require members to have a project grade before exhibition), fair shows/activities and any other event where a member shall be in a competitive structure.

Approved by the Richland County 4-H Committee: August 29, 2022