

RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES THAT CAN LEAD TO INCREASED MEMBER MOTIVATION

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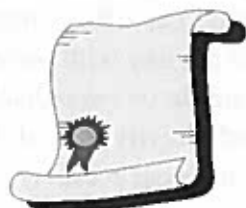


Intrinsic/Informal Types of Recognition (self-reward, self-confidence, sense of accomplishment):

- (Volunteer) Smile and make EVERY member feel welcome and appreciated at EVERY meeting
- (Volunteer) Be pleasant with each member and take the time to talk to each person + accept each person's individuality
- (Volunteer) Develop club scrapbook or video program of members throughout the year; share at a parent/family night celebration
- (Volunteer) Send impromptu, special occasion and/or fun cards to members
- (Volunteer) Give praise to members in front of the club; all should receive at some point during the year (i.e., special awards for speeches, project completion, activities)
- (Volunteer) Say "we missed you" in person or by phone when a member is absent
- (Volunteer) Say "thank you" or "good job" immediately after member completes an assignment, report, project skill, etc.
- (Volunteer) Involve members in decisions and activities
- Opportunity to lead pledges or give a committee report (public speaking)
- Giving a demonstration or health & safety talk (public speaking)
- Voice opinions during a club meeting or write a story based on their feelings of 4-H
- "Member-of-the-Meeting" (introduce self + tell interests, activities, hobbies, etc.)
- Completing all 4-H projects
- Participate in club tour/trip, educational activity, health program, promotional activity and/or community service project
- Prepare and display 4-H Week poster
- 4-H members evaluate own projects, then volunteers add comments, suggestions and encouragement; mock judging experience
- Help other members with a project/project book and/or officer book
- Attend county 4-H camp or participate in a county public speaking contest
- Serve as a club officer and participate in an officer installation ceremony
- Serve as a Junior Leader (assist club advisor with projects, special activities)
- Club representative to leadership training (+ come back to club and share with others)
- Participate in a county project related activity (i.e., style revue, showmanship)
- Club Family Night (share progress and goal achievement in projects and activities)
- Teaching officer training workshop
- 4-H CARTEENS instructor (based on public speaking, teaching and leadership skills)
- Club talent show, showcase of project achievement or club reunion
- Service on a county 4-H, livestock, food/fashion, subject matter, etc. committee

Extrinsic/Formal Types of Recognition (tangible items recognizing member accomplishment; setting an example for others to work hard; personal attention):

- Give a “lifesaver” candy as thanks when a member completes an important task
- Mint candy given with a note, “You are worth a mint to our club!”
- Parents/fellow 4-H volunteers given seed packet with a note, “You helped us grow!”
- Candy kisses left on a member’s project book before/after a judging day experience (especially first year members who are/had been very nervous)
- New members receive a four-leaf clover (real, a coin or a picture) with a note, “We feel lucky to have you in our club!”
- Gifts: pin, certificate, small items, gift certificate for food, bowling, putt-putt, etc.
- Club President (receive club’s banner award)
- Certificates for outstanding work in projects, activities, events, committee work
- Member awards (i.e., Member-of-the-Year, Most Improved Member, Most Spirited Member, Best Leader)
- Outstanding Member Award (based on attainment of a list of skills/achievements – all members can attain; agreed upon by club early in year as member goals)
- Club recognition program honoring individual and club accomplishments (every member must be recognized)
- Scholarships for 10-year members or those completing special programs (i.e., CARTEENS)
- Special article in community newspaper highlighting individual and club achievement
- Design a bulletin board/decorate the club meeting place, community or school
- Create member-of-the-month/meeting with a special item (i.e., 4-H record book) gift
- Implement a “Member Fun Day/Meeting” where activities are the members’ choice
- Plan a Member Recognition Party (all members tell, show, share what they feel best about)
- Admission ceremony for new club members (+ parents and volunteers)
- Telling parents what 4-H members have accomplished
- Some unique awards:
 - Oil cans – to those who made other people feel good (greased the wheels)
 - Towels – to those who sweat the most
 - Feathers – to those who make others laugh and feel good
 - Good & Plenty Candy – to those who consistently offer a hand to others
- Formal installation of officers (candlelight ceremony with county Extension educator)



*Recognition is meant to **make the member’s best even better.***

Recognition Examples: 2004; updated 2011, 2021