

State Fair Update: Notes of May 3 Webex

Discussion Agenda:

1. Review summary of changes for 2010
2. Share problems of 2009 that are avoidable in 2010
3. Question & Answer

Summary of Changes: Allen reviewed the *2010 Summary of Changes* posted <http://www.ohio4h.org/statefair/guidebook.html>

Of special note

- The Remote Control vehicle will be in a new location, on a RC race track!
- Since Cake Decorating is going to be a separate class at state fair, and not in Self-Determined, it was recommended that county professionals consider judging it as a separate class at the county judging. That will increase the number of 4-H'ers from each county that can attend the state fair.
 - It was noted that members can bring decorated cakes, but those cakes do not have to be real cakes. The purpose is to demonstrate their skills at decorating.
 - A separate score sheet will be developed for cake decorating
 - Cake decorating participants will not have to know elements of design
 - Do not need 3 fold poster table top display
- Foods & Nutrition changes:
 - Encourage all 4-H'ers to study from the most current version of My Pyramid, which can be found at MyPyramid.gov
 - The portfolio station for Foods & Nutrition, is intended to be a more personalized, discussion station in which the 4-H'er can share, based on the one-page journal pages prepared, with the interviewer what they did in the project, what they liked, what worked, what didn't work, etc. It is not intended to be a category of competition for the quality of the journaling. It is not a scrapbook, but more of a discussion tool for the 4-H member and the interviewer.
 - The MyPyramid activity at state fair will be based on the categories of the food pyramid, perhaps more hands-on for the younger members. Younger members will be asked to identify what category foods belong to, older members may be asked questions that pertain to providing a variety of foods in a menu or daily plan.

Problems of 2009 that can be avoided in 2010

- County professionals should make sure that all registration cards for state fair events are signed. This is the only means by which staff at state fair can be assured that the 4-H member truly completed the work, and is the legitimate representative for the county at the state fair event.
- Please send the electronic list of all participants expected from your county to state fair. The template will be posted on Allen's webpage. This information helps avoid phone

calls to county offices to verify a participant, and is not a substitute at this time for the registration card.

- Try to make sure that 4-H'ers attend on the county assigned day of the event. If it's a multiple day event, and they come on a day other than the county assigned day, the state fair judges will do the best to work the child into competition. If the event has already happened, and the child arrives a day after, then there is no way the state fair superintendents can provide that experience.
- If a child is expected in 2 events for the same day, please notify the Superintendent as soon as possible so adjustments can be made enabling the 4-Her to participate in both events.

Question & Answer

Map of State Fairgrounds: Will be updated to include the name Youth Discovery Center on the building where much of our 4-H activity takes place.

Age of child and recommended age of project:

It's recommended that 4-H members select a project designed for the same age group that they are in. For example, a 9 year old would have the most success if they choose a beginning level project.

- Older youth – can complete projects designed for younger members, and can represent their county at state fair. However, members older than the age group for which the project is designed will not be eligible for the Clock Trophy in their category, although they can earn an Outstanding of the Day award, which is the top 20% of the members based on the scores. For example, a 15-year-old member can take *Time out for Clothing-Beginner*. The project is intended for youth ages 11 and younger. If the 15 year old earns the opportunity to represent the county at the State Fair, then s/he will be eligible to earn an Outstanding of the Day Award, but will be ineligible for the Clock Trophy award.
- Younger members – again, while it is recommended that 4-H members select projects designed for their age group, a younger member can compete in the state fair competition. They would be eligible for the Outstanding of the Day award as well as the Clock Trophy award.
- Discrepancy of age recommendations in project books, family guides, and State Fair events. State Staff are aware of the discrepancies. Jane Wright, as projects are revised, is adjusting so that all age recommendations are the same in project books, Family Guides. Allen Auck is then making adjustments for state fair classes

Questions about specific events at state fair are best directed to the Superintendents: A question about the ATV classes was asked, and it's recommended to ask Randall Reeder,

superintendent of that event. Those providing leadership to state fair events can be found at <http://www.ohio4h.org/aauck/documents/2010OSFAssistantSupt.ForDistribution.pdf>

Allen's page on the state 4-H webpage: Allen posts information about the state fair which is not necessarily confidential, but is not intended for the public, on his page of the 4-H webpage. That can be retrieved at <http://www.ohio4h.org/aauck>

Should the county woodworking activities use the same tools as the state fair? It was recommended that county staff try to expect the same of 4-H'ers at the county level judging as what will be expected at state fair. That's a good way to prepare the 4-H member for state competition too.