

Clay County 4-H Recognition and Award Guide

RIBBONS

Members receive ribbons for project work on a county level. 4-H uses the Danish System of Recognition. In this system, entries are not judged against one another, but projects are placed into groups according to standards developed for that class. The defined groups are designed to recognize youth for their achievement relative to set standards. The 4-H Youth Development program awards ribbons in these colors:

Purple (Superior): A purple is awarded to those entries that far exceed the average standard or meet the standards established for that particular class. This award indicates a near perfect exhibit.

Blue (Excellent): A blue is awarded to those entries that exceed the average standard. This award indicates a certain degree of excellence that exceeds the average expectation.

Red (Good): A red is awarded to those entries that meet the average standard or are slightly below the average standard established for that respective class. The general level of accomplishment meets expectations but is less than excellent. Shortcomings are found in certain aspects to cause this ranking.

White (Fair): A white is awarded to those entries that do not meet average standard. The level of accomplishment is less than expected. A ranking of white is deserved due to the severe shortcomings from the good standard.

Green or Rainbow (Participation): This ribbon is given to all Cloverbud entries. Cloverbuds (ages 5-7) are judged non-competitively.

4-H PROJECT PREMIUMS

Premium is paid on County level ribbon placings for projects. 4-H members are awarded purple, blue, red or white ribbons on the basis of a standard of excellence of their presentation or exhibit.

The 4-H member will receive payment for all exhibit premiums, **upon completion of the members 4-H Record Book or Journal by the set deadline**, at the 4-H Recognition Event. 4-H record books or journals must be complete and submitted by the deadline to receive awards, pins and premium money. **The deadline for submitting the 4-H record book or journal will be announced in the 4-H newsletter. This deadline is strictly enforced.**

RECOGNITION EVENT

The 4-H Recognition Event is traditionally held in November. This is the grand finale of our 4-H year. All 4-H members, parents and leaders are urged to attend to share recognition for the past year's efforts. Everyone deserves recognition for a job well done. You may not receive a medal or trophy, but this is a time to share the 4-H appreciation in our lives. Next year you may be recognized, and you will want your friends to share the excitement when you receive your award.

The following is a comprehensive list of awards that are available to be given at Recognition Event. Please take note of requirements for each award. For awards requiring a specific application, they can be found on the Clay County 4-H Website (<http://claycountysd.org/extensionoffice4h.cfm>), by emailing clay.county@sdstate.edu, or, during the month of September, you can check the 4-H Kitchen for the file of forms and take what you need. **All applications are due with the record book or journal.** As always, please to not hesitate to contact the office if you need help or have questions.

4-H YEAR PINS – First year members get their member year pins automatically. Second year members get their pin if they complete and submit their record book/journal, do a club demonstration, attend at least four club meetings and participate in a county level event (fair, judging, YIA). If not, they receive a clover patch. Third year members and beyond must complete specific year application to receive a member pin. Member year pins do not have to be applied for in the current year – if you miss a year, you may apply in any subsequent year to make up for it.

4-H PROJECT MEDALS – Must complete application. Must be enrolled in 4-H for three years, enrolled and completed two years in the project area applied for, done two club or one county demonstration, attended a judging school in related area (if no judging in that area, must attend a different judging school, and shows project accomplishment (ex: exhibit at county fair, show improvement of shooting sports scores, etc.).

CLOVERBUD CLUB PARTICIPANT – Cloverbuds are youth who are 4-H age 5-7. Cloverbuds who participate in their club receive a certificate of completion.

MISCELLANEOUS STATE AWARDS – Awards earned at state level events are often given out during the clubs portion of recognition event. These may include but are not limited to: Consumer Decision Making – Top 10 Individuals and Team, Horticulture Judging - Top 10 Individuals and Team, Livestock Judging, Special Foods, Fashion Revue, Communications (formerly Public Presentations), State Fair Livestock, State Horse Show, State 4-H Finals Rodeo, or State Shooting Sports.

4-H AMBASSADORS – We recognize youth ages 13-18 that have been very active by attending a majority of meetings and activities scheduled over the year.

YOUTH-IN-ACTION AWARDS – Awarded to the highest scoring person in their age division. Must participate in the Youth-In-Action activity in Clay County. Currently includes (but not limited to): Communications (Illustrated Talk, Demonstration, Public Speaking), Special Foods, Fashion Revue (Constructed Outfit).

SECRETARY'S BOOK AWARD – Club secretary must turn in their book to be eligible. Judged on neatness and completeness; must use the correct SD 4-H secretary's book.

RECORD BOOK & JOURNAL AWARDS – Must turn in a completed record book or journal. Books are judged on neatness & completeness. Top 3 record books and journals are awarded in each age division.

FAB 5 AND TERRIFIC 10 – Must fill out scoresheet. Fab 5 is awarded to the 5 highest scoring in the Senior division ages 13 and older. Terrific 10 is awarded to the 10 highest scoring in the Beginner and Junior division, ages 8 – 12. This award is not meant to replace the record book or journal, but to recognize members who are active in club, county, and state events.

BEST OF SHOW AWARDS – Presented to members who had the best display exhibits at County Fair in the areas of agriculture, horticulture, constructed and selected clothing, home environment, personal development, home environment quilt, educational posters, foods, photography and STEM. Awards are chosen by judges on exhibit judging night.

HIGH POINT JUDGING SCHOOL – Awarded to the highest scoring person in the county judging schools in each age division. Must participate in Consumer Decision Making, Horticulture, or Livestock Judging on a county level.

FRUIT SALES – The top three sellers of our 4-H Fruit Sales fundraiser receive a gift card when sales are complete and are recognized at recognition event in November.

DILLON JOLLEY AWARD - Must complete application. Awarded to one member between the ages of 14-18. Recipient receives a scholarship to attend Teen Leadership Conference (TLC) the following summer. The award is judged on the application form, the member's record book or journal, and the member's leadership activities and responsibilities. This award may only be received once.

OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – There are three different overall achievement awards: Agriculture, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Personal Development. Member must complete application. Member must be at least 14 years old, must indicate leadership involvement in record book/journal submission. This award is judged on member's record book or journal being comprehensive. See the application for details – member must have already received at least one project medal in three different project areas as indicated on the application. Award can only be applied for once.

COUNTY LEADERSHIP AWARD - Must complete application. Must have completed four years as a member, be an active member of the county ambassadors, has written or arranged for a newspaper/magazine article about 4-H, attended and participated in a 4-H educational event or activity and shared the knowledge received by presenting a workshop to a club or county members, plan & conduct a training on the club level, planned & assisted with 4-H promotion, & helped a 4-H Program Advisor with a workshop or 4-H event. Being enrolled in the leadership project is not a requirement for this award. Award can only be applied for once.

COUNTY CITIZENSHIP AWARD - Must complete application. Must have completed four years as a member, be an active member on a county or community board for 3-6 months, planned, organized, and implement a citizenship activity for multiple 4-H clubs or the county, present an educational public presentation on a patriotic theme, work with a charity or community need, studied & expressed opinions to decision makers at either local, state, or national level. Being enrolled in the citizenship project is not a requirement for this award. Award can only be applied for once.

KEY AWARD – Must complete application. It is the highest award for a Senior 4-H member. Members must have earned the County Leadership and Citizenship awards, show consistent growth in their 4-H involvement, developed and applied their leadership skills and actively participated in club, county, state and national 4-H events.

HELPING HANDS AWARD - Given to 2 members who have shown growth over the past 4-H year and provided support to the County 4-H program. This award is nominated and voted on by the Leader's Association.

FARM BUREAU AWARD - Must complete application. Awarded to one Junior and one Senior member. Awards are based on the quality and quantity of the current 4-H year's exhibit record and community service in the areas of citizenship, leadership, and safety. Recipients are chosen by the sponsor, Clay County Farm Bureau organization. Award is a \$50 check, amount subject to change.

CLINTON SOLOMON OVERALL RABBIT AWARD – This award is given to the top overall rabbit as chosen by the judge during the County Fair. Award recipient is announced at Recognition Event and will receive their name on the Clinton Solomon plaque at the 4-H Center.

MOLLY'S AWARD – Must complete application. Outstanding 4-H Dog project member award. This award recognizes a hard working member who shows dedication, participation, personal growth, confidence, patience, responsibility, & teamwork. Applicants must be enrolled and participated in the dog project for at least two years, participated in the County 4-H Dog Show, displayed a willingness to learn, and displayed an enthusiasm for the dog project area. Award recipient will receive a plaque, check, and their name on the Molly's Award plaque at the 4-H Center.

JOE MILLETTE OUTSTANDING HORSE AWARD - Must complete application. Applicants must be enrolled and participated in the horse project for at least three years, participated at the County Horse Show, and displayed a willingness to learn. Award recipient is chosen by sponsors and will receive a plaque, and their name on the Joe Millette plaque at the 4-H Center.

SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS – The following five sweepstakes awards are based on the quantity of the current 4-H year's exhibit record. It includes projects entered at the County Fair and any county level Youth-In-Action activities that relate to your award application. Recipients receive a monetary award. Beginner Division is sponsored by Clay County 4-H Leaders and Junior/Senior Divisions sponsored by Clay County Youth Trust Fund except for Horse and Shooting Sports.

1. **AGRICULTURE SWEEPSTAKES** - Must complete application. Awarded to one youth in each age division. Includes project areas of: animal science, beef, dairy, dairy goat, meat goat, embryology, meat science, poultry, rabbit, sheep, swine, veterinary science, dog, companion animal, conservation, crops, ecology and environment, entomology, horticulture, forestry, wildlife and fisheries, outdoor education, geology and minerals, aerospace and rocketry, automotive, bicycle, computer, electric, engineering, farm/home energy, small engines, tractor, welding, wood science, range and pasture management, and soil conservation.

2. HOME ECONOMICS SWEEPSTAKES – Must complete application. Awarded to one youth in each age division. Includes project areas of: clothing and textiles, fashion revue, foods and nutrition, food preservation, child development, consumer education, home environment, special foods.
3. HORSE SWEEPSTAKES - Must complete application. Awarded to one youth in each age division. Includes project area of Horse and Pony, any Youth-In-Action activities related to Horse, and County Horse Show placings. Recipient receives a belt buckle sponsored by Lucky Trailblazers 4-H Club.
4. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SWEEPSTAKES - Must complete application. Awarded to one youth in each age division. Includes project areas of: Career exploration, citizenship, community service, economics and business, first aid, graphic art, health, hobbies and collections, leadership, leisure education, music, performing arts, photography, physical fitness, sports, rodeo, public speaking, recreation, safety, visual arts, geology and minerals, cultural education.
5. SHOOTING SPORTS SWEEPSTAKES - Must complete application. Awarded to one youth in each age division. Includes the project area of Shooting Sports and any entries in County Matches (include scores.) Recipients receive a check from the Clay County Flyers 4-H Club.

TOP SHOT AWARDS - Awarded to Clay County Flyers Shooting Sports club members that had the highest score in each discipline, regardless of age division.

ROUND ROBIN AWARD – This award is presented to a Senior 4-H member who won their large animal livestock species showmanship contest at the County Fair, then participated in and won the Round Robin Showmanship contest. The recipient receives a 4-H belt buckle and their name on the plaque at the 4-H Center.

HERDSMANSHIP AWARD – Presented to the clubs that keep their barn stalls clean, their livestock looking presentable at all times, and show 4-H spirit throughout the County Fair. Awards are given for livestock species in: Beef, Goat, Sheep, and Swine. The club name will be put on the plaque at the 4-H Center.

RATE-OF-GAIN CONTEST – Rate of Gain is the average pounds per day an animal has gained from the time initial weight is reported in the spring, until weigh-ins at the County Fair. If you do not report initial weights, you are not eligible for this contest. The top two members in beef, sheep, and goat are recognized at the county fair during their respective shows. Monetary awards are given out at recognition event.

SHOWMANSHIP AWARDS – Grand and Reserve Champion Showmanship is recognized during individual species shows at the County Fair or Horse Show. Awards are given out at recognition event.

OUTSTANDING 4-H CLUB – Must complete application. Presented to the two clubs who score the highest number of points on the club award application. This award is based on program planning, membership, club participation, reports, community, and promotion. Recipients receive their club names on the plaque at the Extension Office and a monetary award from the sponsor, Bank of the West.

CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD - Clubs must submit a book or list describing their club projects and how they benefited the community. The recipient receives their name on the plaque at the 4-H Center and a monetary award from the sponsor, Bank of the West.

CLUB 4-H PROMOTION AWARD - Clubs can submit a scrapbook or list sharing the activities their club and members have accomplished in promoting the 4-H Program to our community and non 4-H families. The recipient receives their name on the plaque at the 4-H Center and a small monetary award from the sponsor, Bank of the West.

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT AWARD – This award is given to the top two clubs who have had the most new members join in the current 4-H year.

GRADUATING 4-H MEMBERS – Members who have graduated out of the 4-H program for the current year receive gifts at recognition event.

LEADER AWARDS – Leaders who have volunteered years of service are recognized for their efforts at recognition event. These include: Bronze First Year Leader, Silver Clover Award at 5 years, Gold Clover Award at 10 years, Pearl Clover Award at 15 years, Diamond Clover Award at 20 years, Emerald Clover Award at 25 years, Ruby Clover Award at 30 years, Sapphire Clover Award at 35 years, and Diamond Clover Award at 40 years. Each year we also recognize all 4-H Leaders and Shooting Sports Coaches for their volunteer hours and dedication to the program.

ALUMNI AWARD - Recognizes 4-H Alumni who still actively participate and help with the 4-H program. Award is chosen by nomination and a vote of Leader's Association. You may nominate someone by contacting office staff.

FRIEND OF 4-H AWARD - Recognizes individuals or businesses for their continuing support and cooperation with and in the interest of the 4-H Program. Award is chosen by nomination and a vote of Leader's Association. You may nominate someone by contacting office staff.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD - Recognizes a person or business that has gone out of their way to promote & support the 4-H Program. Award is chosen by nomination and a vote of Leader's Association. You may nominate someone by contacting office staff.