New Year Goals . . .

New Year’s Resolutions are a hot topic in January, but let’s be honest – few of them stick. Sure, the gym is packed for the first two weeks of the month, but it’s easy to slip back into old habits as we get back into our normal work, school, and home routines. I’ve never much cared for resolutions as sudden and dramatic change – usually giving up something we enjoy or picking up something we don’t – can be hard to sustain, leaving us with a feeling of failure.

Instead, I think the New Year is a good time to set goals that we can work toward steadily and incrementally. I do this at the beginning of every year for my herd of show rabbits. While I aim high and my ultimate purpose is to win at the most prestigious national shows I attend, that doesn’t happen without setting and achieving goals along the way. These goals focus on the improvement that I need to make, closing the gap between where I am now and where I’d like to be. Each year I set aside time to evaluate every rabbit on the same day, noting strengths and weaknesses both for individuals and overall. I take some time to evaluate my management practices to see if there are areas that I can improve in order to streamline work and provide a better environment for finishing and conditioning.

I’d encourage all of you to think about some goals for this year. What are your high aspirations for your projects or activities? Where are you at now? What steps do you need to take in order to get from where you are to where you want to be? If you haven’t already, the relative calm of early January is a good time to begin setting and writing down some goals for this 4-H year. When you do, or if you have already, be sure to share these with your grownups, your project and club leaders, and me so that we can help you take the steps you need to achieve them. The best part about setting and achieving goals is that even if you don’t achieve quite the success you wanted this year, you’ve built a better foundation for next year and beyond!
Leader’s Lounge

January Check-Up
- Plan a Holiday gathering or community service project for the Holiday season
- Take time to Relax!
- Encourage 4-H’ers to ask their friends to attend a meeting
- Ask your 4-H parents to encourage others to get involved

Review
- Read the 4-H Newsletter and mark important dates on the calendar.
- Review highlights from the 4-H Newsletter at your club meeting.

To-Do
- Make sure 4-H Council report is given to the club
- Remind 4-H’ers to complete registration for 4-H Day
- Project Leaders conducting project meetings.
- Check club mailbox at the Extension Office.
- Continue discussion of 4-H Day plans
- Check club’s progress toward goals.
- Remind volunteers and 4-H’ers to enroll / re-enroll in 4-H Online

Promote/Recruit
- 4-H Day in February
- CIA in February

Remember
- Make it a fun and rewarding year!
- Work with your co-leader!

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING
“THE SMALLEST ACT OF KINDNESS IS WORTH MORE THAN THE GRANDEST INTENTION.”
- OSCAR WILDE
Important Dates and Deadlines

January
- January 9th: Horse Panorama Registration deadline
- January 14th: Club Quarterly Report Due
- January 14th: 4-H Day Registration Due
- January 14th: National 4-H Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl
- January 27th: YQCA In-person Training
- January 28th-30th: Horse Panorama

February
- February 1st: Volunteer Registration Deadline
- February 1st: Citizenship in Action (CIA) Registration deadline
- February 2nd: 4-H Online Volunteer Enrollment Deadline
- February 4th-5th: Ambassador Training
- February 5th: 4-H Day
- February 7th: YQCA In-person Training
- February 20th-21st: Citizenship in Action (CIA)
- February 22nd: YQCA In-person Training
- February 26th: Beef Weigh-In Set-up and Tagging

March
- March 1st: Kansas 4-H Scholarship Application deadline
- March 4th: Volunteer Salute to Excellence Award Application deadline
- March 25th-27th: Shooting Sports Instructor Training

*See the 2021-2022 Yearly 4-H Calendar for all event dates*
Find it [HERE](url)
Other News and Events

Out of County Forms
Out of County forms will no longer be needed starting in the new 4-H year! All youth enrolling in Butler County 4-H will be accepted regardless of the county they live in.

2022 Butler County Fair Dates Set!
The 2022 Butler County Fair dates have been set for July 14th-18th, 2022! We can’t wait to see what projects and skills our 4-H’ers will show off at the fair!

Butler County Fair Pre-Entry System Change
Starting in 2022, we will no longer be using ShoWorks for 4-H pre-entries at the county fair. We will be going to FairyEntry; please note that with this change, we will begin requiring pre-entry for ALL 4-H exhibits at the fair. This will be a significant change from years past, so please make note of this as you prepare for the 2022 Butler County Fair.

⇒ This also includes Cloverbuds—Cloverbuds participating in Fashion Revue will be required to pre-enter online.

Butler County Fair Rule Changes
☐ All breed swine at the Butler County Fair will require registration papers; this DOES INCLUDE MARKET SWINE. If you plan to show in a breed class, registration papers will be required at Fair check-in

☐ Market Dairy Wethers will now show under the Dairy Goat division.

Shooting Sports

Shooting Sports Instructor Training Planned
The 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory and State 4-H Office are planning for Level 1 Shooting Sports Instructor training to be held March 25th - 27th, 2022, at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Training for Coordinators and each of the Shooting Sports Disciplines will be offered.

Rifle, Pistol and Archery meetings will begin again in January
New basic classes will begin in all three disciplines. Registration will be from 6:30 to 7pm on the first night of each discipline and meetings will be from 7:00-8:00 PM. All meetings are held at the 4-H Building, and will go through the end of April. All new participants are required to attend the first meeting in each discipline. If you have any questions please call Gene Maggard at 316-742-3746.

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<tr>
<th>Spring 2022 Schedule</th>
<th>Archery</th>
<th>Pistol / Rifle</th>
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4-H Day will be here before we know it, and we are excited to be partnering with Cowley County this year! 4-H Day is a great time to showcase your talents, get feedback on your presentations and learn from others about projects and topics you might not know about!

4-H Day will be held February 5th beginning at 10:00 AM at Butler Community College in El Dorado. Please keep the following in mind:

- All 4-Hers participating in competitive events on 4-H Day must be enrolled in 4-H.
- All pre-entries are due January 14, 2022. A schedule will be developed and entrants will then be able to select time slots within each division.
- Only Club Leaders/Adult Volunteers may enter Chorus, Band/Orchestra or Gavel Games teams
- Either 4-Hers or Club Leaders/Adult Volunteers may enter musical ensembles, plays, skits, etc., but please communicate in order to avoid duplicate entries!
- Refer to the 4-H Day Guidelines for detailed event descriptions.

Register HERE for 4-H Day!
Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8-18. This program promotes food safety, animal well-being and character development. With YQCA, you’ll discover what it takes to be an informed producer, consumer and employee of the agriculture and food industries.

**YQCA is REQUIRED to be Eligible to Exhibit ALL ANIMAL EXHIBITS (Except Horses) at the Butler County 4-H Fair.**

The YQCA Deadline for Participating in the 2022 Butler County 4-H Fair is June 1st at 11:59 PM, 2022.

Youth are required to take YQCA in-person or online; if taken online, a certificate of completion must be submitted to the extension office by June 1st. Register for YQCA at [yqca.org](http://yqca.org).

All in-person classes will be held at 6:30 PM in the Butler Community 4-H Building

⇒ Thursday, January 27th
⇒ Monday, February 7th
⇒ Tuesday, February 22nd
⇒ Wednesday, March 30th
⇒ Thursday, April 7th
⇒ Monday, April 25th
⇒ Thursday, May 5th
⇒ Tuesday, May 31st

**Frequently Asked YQCA Questions:**

⇒ **Is YQCA mandatory for all 4-H’ers?**
  YQCA is required to show animals at the Butler County 4-H Fair. 7-18yr. olds must pass a web based or instructor led training.

⇒ **How much does getting certified cost?**
  The online module certification is $12, and the instructor-led training method of certification is $3.

⇒ **Does the YQCA certification ID sync with 4-H online?**
  Yes, you will sign in using your 4-H Online information.

⇒ **I only show horses. Do I need to be YQCA certified?**
  No. Right now, YQCA, is not required for 4-H Horse Project Members.

⇒ **Do 4-H’ers need to update their YQCA certification number each year?**
  Yes they do. Youth should re-certify around the same time they tested each year.

⇒ **Do I need to register before class?**
  Yes! You must register and pay online before attending an instructor-led class.

⇒ **Does Butler County 4-H get the registration money?**
  No, all registration money is online and goes to YQCA.
Butler County 4-H Enrollment Quick Tips

- 4-H Online Enrollment Link
- Butler County 4-H Website with Enrollment Information

- New 4-H Year started Oct. 1st: All youth participating between Oct. 1, 2021 and Sept 30, 2022 need to enroll (including shooting sports youth).
  Any enrollment prior to Oct. 1, 2021 needs to reenroll.

- We are working to align with the State Project list so there are a few changes:
  - Visual Arts: General Arts & Crafts along with Visual Arts: Leather Craft will all enroll under the common name Visual Arts.
  - Pigeons will enroll in Animals, Others
  - Public Speaking will enroll in Communications

- Clubs and Projects will not automatically populate when you reenroll. You will have to select your club and all projects you want to enroll in. Years in project are supposed to automatically populate when you reenroll in a project you were enrolled in the previous year.
  - If you have projects that you previously enrolled in, did not enroll in last year, but are reenrolling for the new year and need to know your 4-Her’s years in the project – please give us a call and we can look up the years for you.

- State Project list can be found HERE
Citizenship in Action 2022
Submitted by Aliah Kristin Mestrovich Seay

Would you like to have more influence in laws and rules that affect your life? Then you’ll want to go to Kansas 4-H Citizenship in Action!

Citizenship in Action will be in person for 2022. Plans are being made for programming on February 20 and 21. Youth have an opportunity to practice their leadership skills and learn how they can influence laws and rules that affect society at large. This two-day event is sponsored by Kansas 4-H Youth Development and the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. The purpose of the program is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building, but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process.

The current plan is a community conversation, including deliberating on tough conversations that matter and finding creative ways to attain common ground on Sunday afternoon (tentatively 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM with a banquet and keynote event in the evening).

On Monday the program will allow youth to see the capitol, meet with their representatives and senators, and have a more behind the scenes understanding of the legislative process.

Registration will be due Tuesday, February 1.

**When:** February 20-21, 2022

**Where:** Topeka KS

**Who:** Youth 13-18 years old by January 1 of the current year

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

**Registration Fee:** $200.00

**Registration Deadline:** February 1, 2022
The Puzzle: Putting a Meeting Together

Putting together an engaging 4-H meeting is like putting together an interesting puzzle. All 4-H meetings have three components: Business, Group Building, and Educational. Consider the time of year and upcoming events when creating your meeting plan, but each meeting should have all three components. The way people work together during a meeting, is the important part. How would your leadership team put a meeting together? Try several ways. What response would you get from your group with each of the ways you try?

Decide what type of meeting you are planning, a club or project meeting. Pick a variety from each of the three categories to get started on your meeting. This is only a start. Can you think of more things to add?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business</th>
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<th>Educational</th>
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<tr>
<td>Group decisions</td>
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<td>Old/new business</td>
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<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>Committee work</td>
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<td><strong>Group Building</strong></td>
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<td>Celebration</td>
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<td>Recreation, “new games”</td>
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<td>Team building/energizers</td>
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<td>Demonstrations/talks</td>
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*Adapted from Strengthening 4-H Club Resources, Kansas 4-H Youth Development*