

General Vermont 4-H Poultry Show Guidelines

(January 2024)

1. 4-H Exhibitor age requirement:
 - Senior: 14 years and older as of January 1
 - Junior: 8-13 years as of January 1
 - Novice: Any Youth that has shown less than 3 times
2. Conformation classes: 4-Hers may show either a commercial or a purebred bird. A purebred bird will be defined as a bird of a breed recognized in the American Poultry Association Standard of Perfection. Commercial birds are all others and shall be shown in the commercial breed classes. Conformation classes shall be based on the bird's birthdate and breed. To be competitive beyond the state level seek the advice of your club leader for direction on breed and type.
3. Showmanship classes: Since showmanship classes are judged primarily on the handler and not the bird, any bird that is part of an individual's flock may be used. Each bird can only be shown by one person per show. These classes shall be based on the 4-Hers age and experience level.
4. Uniforms: Dark pants and a white-collared shirt should be worn at all shows. Closed toed shoes shall be worn as well. A white lab coat is optional. There shall be no advertising or logos on the clothing, the exception could be a small 4-H clover emblem or club logo.
5. 4-H poultry projects shall meet all health requirements of the event. All domestic fowl, except water fowl older than 20 weeks, shall have a certificate of health from a state livestock official which shall document that the fowl have been tested and found negative for pullorum-typhoid disease or originate from a pullorum-typhoid clean or passed flock, tested within the past 12 months. This must be obtained through the state veterinarians BEFORE the show. Call 802-828-2421 to set up an appointment. Remember some events have onsite testing available. Always check with your event officials.
6. Sharing of project animals between 4-Hers is not allowed.
7. At every state and county poultry show, 4-Hers shall bring their state health forms to be matched to the birds by band number and/or description/picture. Project record books shall be up-to-date and checked by the adult designated at each show.
8. Flock replacement policy: If you lose 50% of your flock, either at once or over time, then you can replace those birds with the same number and breed of bird that you lost. Replacement birds must be roughly the same age and must not have a past show history. Birds must have died from natural causes or predation.

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