

General Vermont 4-H Poultry Show Guidelines:

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-H members may only show their own project birds.

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 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.

6. You must submit a Vermont 4-H Poultry Approval Form for your flock listing the bird(s) in your flock by breed, sex, age, and band number if banded (see#5). Please submit this to your county educator by July 1st if you plan on showing your birds. Submit this form yearly for birds shown more than one year.

7. If you are borrowing a bird(s) for this project than you must submit a Vermont State 4-H lease/loan agreement to your county educator by July 1.

8. Sharing of project animals between 4-Hers is not allowed. Make sure the entries you are exhibiting are properly approved 4-H animals and are prepared for exhibition by your own efforts. You should not allow any adult or other people to prepare any part of your animal for exhibit (*from the N.H. Responsibilities as a 4-H Animal Exhibitor*)

9. At every state and county poultry show 4-Hers shall bring their state health forms, approval forms, and lease/loan forms, if applicable, to be matched to the birds by band number and/or description/picture.

10. Flock replacement policy: If you lose 50% or more 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. Please make sure to contact your County 4-H Educator when this occurs so that paperwork can be updated and approved.