

2026 Kansas 4-H State Fair Handbook Updates –

Based on Edit book

Aerospace/Rocketry – Some verbiage changes – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings. Rule Update – No perishable items left in rockets.

Agronomy – Hay class changes and packaging instructions. Soybean class number changes. Moved the order of those.

Ag Mechanics – Some verbiage changes – Rules 7-9 NEW – No sealed vessels (Must be vented, or hole drilled to allow pressure to equalize.) Tanks have to be triple rinsed, dried, and free of any residue. Any proper PPE must be worn when building their exhibits at KSF. – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings. Class changes – “Brazing” removed and “Other Metalwork” replaces.

Astronomy – Some verbiage changes – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings.

Building Block Engineering – Some verbiage changes – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings. Rule Updates – Removable cases, no bolting down, gluing, or sealing in any way. (Snap locking handles are okay.) Diorama -can be buildings, natural spaces, imaginative/fictional areas, vehicle compartments, logic puzzles, just not a picture or artwork. Weapons are not prohibited in dioramas, like battle scenes found in museums. No blood or “gore” to be added. – Educational Exhibits – may use kits and interlocking bricks but as a way to inform about something (IE Titanic), but for educational purposes, not just a kit.

Communications – New Public Speaking topic – “How has your journey in 4-H contributed to being Beyond Ready for current challenges and future goals?” Classes – Separated Project Talks from Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks.

Computer Sciences – Some verbiage changes – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings.

Electric & Renewable Energy – Some verbiage changes. Rules 3-5 – All electrical exhibits’ wiring and connections must be accessible for examination by judges. (nothing sealed) Lithium batteries must be accessible by judges, not locked. The National Electric Code (NEC) will apply for judging.

Entomology – Rules 16-17. 16 – Bagworm information. 17 – Exhibit Safety suggestions.

**** In both Entomology and Geology **** As outlined in the General Rules of the Kansas State Fair 4-H Exhibitor Handbook, “Exhibits at the Kansas State Fair are entered and displayed at the risk of the exhibitor.” For projects displayed in box-style exhibits—such as Entomology or Geology—that must be opened for judging, exhibitors may choose to include a closure mechanism on the box. While closures are not required, their use will not result in a ribbon deduction. Acceptable options include Velcro strips or hook-style fasteners. Closures should not interfere with the box’s ability to be displayed on a shelf and must not be lockable.

Notebook Rule 1 – Notebook count and layout information

Monarch Butterfly Education Display Rule 3 – Specimens of the actual Monarch Butterfly insect, caterpillars, or chrysalis MAY NOT BE USED in these displays.

Fiber Arts – NA

Foods & Nutrition – Food Gift Package restrictions.

Foods Preservation – Verbiage updates – Rule 6 – Jar and lid rules clarified.

Forestry – NA

Geology – Some verbiage updates.

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Horticulture & Landscape Design – NA

Interior Design & Architecture – NA

Photography – In Rules – Really clarifying mounting and Photo Strip information. In Awards section, clarifying photos kept for special display, etc. **DO NOT HAVE ANY WRITING ON THE BACK OF THE PHOTO BOARDS!**

Robotics – Some verbiage changes – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings.

Sewing & Textile Design – Rule 4 d. – Please use a string to tie together the hangers of exhibits that require more than 1 hanger. Examples: Dress, Jacket, top, and skirt.

Shooting Sports – NA

Shopping In Style – NA

Small Engines – Some verbiage updates. Rules 4-6 – PPE, Covering cutting surfaces, for safety.

Uncrewed Aircraft Systems – Some verbiage changes – Video update – can be on YouTube with special settings.

Veterinary Sciences – Some verbiage changes – Rule 7 – Veterinary Science Diorama layout and size information. Rule 12 – The Veterinary Science Modules are for sourcing, referencing, and learning purposes. They modules are not for project submission. Any notebooks, posters, displays, or dioramas submitted with only Veterinary Science Modules work will be disqualified.

Visual Arts – NA

Wildlife – Rule 15 – Taxidermy: The exhibitor is responsible for following all laws, rules, and regulations, and, when licenses, tags, etc., are required, to include them and/or the required information with the exhibit. For taxidermy, please refer to Kansas hunting and furbearer laws.

Woodworking – Some verbiage changes. Rule 12 – PPE reminder. Class Changes – Changing to Intermediate and Senior Woodworking classes.

OVERALL CONTEST CHANGES –

All Contest costs will be \$10.00 per person. There will be no Team charges for any contest. State office will enter all TEAM entries via the form submitted with payment, DO NOT enter TEAMS at the County level.

Crops ID Contest – All electronic communication devices are prohibited. Coaches will see samples after the contest. No Photography. Team Score = top three team members scores combined. Other clarifying information on National Contest participation.

Family and Consumer Science Judging Contest – MOVED TO DISCOVERY DAYS

Fashion Revue – Rules 8a & 8b - If the exhibitor constructed an item only (a shirt, pair of pants, a skirt) and was determined the winner at the county or district level, they may still model the item but will need to model with a purchased item. (For example: exhibitor constructed a item (shirt only), were declared the winner, in order to model the shirt, they will need to pair with a purchased item (pants/skirt/shorts etc.) This must be disclosed on the Fashion Revue Scorecard and Cost Per Wear Form. b. The item constructed and modeled must be constructed and modeled by the exhibitor only. It is not permitted for the exhibitor to sew a garment to be modeled in the KSF Fashion Revue for another person and substitute that person as the model during KSF Fashion Revue. (For example: exhibitor cannot sew an outfit for a sibling and have sibling model the outfit.)

Clarifying the responsibilities of the regions for future years.

Photo Judging Contest – Cost update.

Poultry Judging Contest – No electronics used during event. Other clarifying information on National Contest participation.

LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL

Dog Show – NA

Horse– Rules 1 – 2 – All participants must read and understand the Kansas 4-H Horse Show Rule Book. Show is open to youth currently enrolled in Kansas 4-H and the Horse Project.

Poultry – NA

Rabbits - NA

Kansas State Fair Dates

- June 16 - KICK OFF Zoom (1:30 pm)
- June 30 - KSF Work Day (10 am - 2:30 pm)
- August 17- Volunteer Sign Up Due to your local office
- August 12 - Zoom - Entry Card Printing (1:30 pm)
- September 5 - Dog Show
- September 2 – Set up at Hutchinson
- September 10 – Main Judging Day - All entries to KSF by 1 pm
- September 11 – Photo Judging
- September 12-13 & 19-20 – Contests
- September 17-19 (tentative) – Horse Show

- September 20 – (5 p.m.) & 21 (8-11:30 a.m.) - Clean up