Recognition is an integral part of 4-H. Appropriate recognition can inspire young people to go further in their endeavors, and serve as an incentive to greater accomplishments. It helps them evaluate life skills they are learning through 4-H, helps them set realistic goals, and recognizes them for achievement toward those goals.

Sunflower District Fair Judging Policy

**Only members will be seated with the judge during consultative judging.**

Parents may stand in proximity to hear comments but may not contribute to the conversation.

*(Necessary accommodations may be arranged in advance.)*

“Consultative judging brings 4-H members and judges together to evaluate project exhibits. It provides a unique opportunity for young people to learn from the experiences and knowledge of a judge. Consultative judging involves one-to-one communication in which the judge and 4-H member talk directly with each other. As such, parents/guardians should not communicate for the young person unless special accommodations are necessary and arranged ahead of time.” *(K-State 4-H Judging 4-H Project Exhibits: A Message to 4-H Members About Consultative Judging, January 2018)*

The 4-H exhibit provides youth an opportunity to show the public a result of their project efforts. The interview can provide a positive experience, allowing them to practice communication skills as they process what they learned and what was personally gained from the experience, and to feel good about their accomplishments.

**Mock judging interviews help members prepare!**

**We encourage each club and project leader to hold a mock judging session for members.**

*Parents—you can practice with 4-H members before the fair by asking these questions.*

**Practice questions:**

- What skills did you use to complete your project?
- What did you enjoy about working on this project?
- Where did you learn how to...?
- Where did you get the idea for this project?
- Who gave you help with the project cost?
- How does this exhibit fit into your project?
- How does this exhibit fit into your project?
- What did you want to achieve from this project?
- What was the most enjoyable part of your project?
- What different techniques did you experiment with?

Take time to help members work on self-evaluation:

- What problems did you have?
- How did you improve skills you needed to use?
- What would you like to do next year in this project?
- What would you change if you did the project again?
- Did you meet your standards with this project?
- How will you apply what you learned in the future?

- What was the easiest...( or most difficult)?
- How many years have you been in the project?
- Why did you choose this project?
- Have you helped anyone else learn these skills?
- Approximately how much did your project cost?
- What were your goals for this project?
- What skills did you practice?
- How did you do it (processes, steps, plans)?
- Tell me more about...
- What might have helped improve the project?

- What could you do differently next time?
- What else would you like to do in this project area?
  - One thing I’d would like to improve upon is ...
  - How do you feel about your exhibit now?
- What helped you be successful with your exhibit?