

## 4-H Project Interview Judging Overview

### Judging Process:

- Each judge will see 30-37 4-Hers throughout the day. Some may have more/less breaks than others. I encourage you to bring a book, hobby, laptop, or smart phone to occupy your down time.
- Each Judge will be given a schedule with a list of those who you will be interviewing. Look for an \* which indicates if the member needs special accommodation due to a physical or learning disability.
- Each judge will be provided with a stack of evaluation sheets, note taking supplies, project specific requirements and questions, writing utensils, complete project & exhibitor info, & hand sanitizer. Lunch, water, & snacks will be provided.

### Interview and Evaluation:

- Begin the interview by greeting the individual in a kind manor, introduce yourself and ask them to tell you a little about themselves to break the ice.
- Please spend 7-10 minutes with each exhibitor.
- You will be evaluating the exhibitor based on their knowledge of the project, quality of project or exhibit, and the completion of the project. Please do not find fault with minor details.
- On the Evaluation sheet, BE POSITIVE. Write comments & suggest improvements as needed. Do not tell or indicate to participants what place you plan to give them.
- When you are finished with the interview, hand them the yellow copy of the evaluation score sheet (You keep the white copy), and an A or B ribbon.

### Judging Requirements:

- All members are to bring the items listed for judging in the Sandusky County 4-H Handbook. All requirements include a completed project book, and some may require a poster or display. You will be informed what requirements there are for the projects you are judging.

### Grading:

- Through your interview and evaluation, you will determine what letter grade the 4-Her will receive. Majority earn A's, unless they have a very hard time answering the questions and/or it is apparent that they really didn't *do* the project.
- If a judge feels an exhibitor deserves a B, it is very important that some specific reasons are given and how the exhibitor can improve in the future.
- Take notes as needed to remember details, separate from the evaluation sheet. This may help you determine your placings later in the day.

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### Placing and Award Winner Selection:

- Use evaluation sheets and separate notes to make your decision for placings and award winners.
- You may award Honorable Mentions as you see fit.
- If you felt the member did not meet all the requirements, they can still earn an “A”, without giving them a place.
- Your judging folder will have placing sheets in them for your final decisions.
- Please consider early virtual judging sheets in your folder when making placings, these should be considered as a part of the group for awards.
- After selecting places, Please pick ONE member from each grouping of projects on your worksheet as the trophy winner in that category.

### Changes from Previous Years:

- 4-H Project Interviews are scheduled by individual 4-H projects. 4-H members were required to sign up for a time slot for each project rather than by 4-H club. In any case where someone arrives outside of their appointment, we will be there to assist in making new arrangements.
- Judges will be divided into four different rooms, labeled A, B, C & D. Last year we found this helped mitigate some of the chaos from having everyone in one large room.
- Each room will have a “room monitor” to assist with directions, answer questions, and act as a go-between for judges for anything they might need.

### Health and Safety Standards

- Masks are no longer required but may be worn by any individual at their discretion.
- Hand sanitizer, and gloves will be available if you would like to use them.
- If you are judging a cooking project, you are not required to taste the food if you feel unsafe. That is up to you as the judge to make that decision.

### Early Judging

- Some 4-Hers may not have been able to attend, so they had their project judged during early judging. The early judge's role is to interview and evaluate the 4-H project, just as you would at regular judging. You will need to consider these projects when making your final placing decision. If you have any 4-Hers who participated in early judging, you will have their judging sheet along with comments from the early judge in your folder.